

# The Master's Notes

## September 2014

### Lutheran Church of The Master

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
*a Reconciling in Christ congregation*

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Craig Shepherd 2000

#### FROM THE PASTOR

Happy 74th birthday Lutheran Church of The Master!  
You don't look a day over 72.

In your time you've gathered families, loved youth, built up leaders for the church, fostered music and the arts, reached out with compassion to LA's hurting and lonely, and been at the forefront of justice. So I ask you Lutheran Church of The Master is there more in front of you or behind you? Have you done more things than you will do?

I turned 34 this year. While I know I'm still very young, I sometimes think on the idea that I've lived more years at this point than I will work. How have I navigated the last 30 something years? What's in store for me in the next 30 something? And with life expectancy increasing I may have another 30 something after that to eventually consider. (My considerations exclude the unlikely event of a zombie apocalypse, which I also think about from time to time.)

I've heard people say that 5 years ago they weren't sure whether Lutheran Church of The Master was going to be around for their elder years. How are you feeling these days? Is that a love put in action at this church that is worth keeping around for another 25... 50... 75 years? Are we busy at with good work that God wants in LA? We want and need to grow to 100 people in worship, but is there something here that more than 100 people need in their lives? Is there 100 years worth of ministry in us?

I believe God is doing and will continue to do great things with us. I am excited to discover with you what God has in store for us at Lutheran Church of The Master.

*Ioan Iltu, Pastor*

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Since the installation of the church's security cameras, there have been no new vandalism incidents. (Thank God.) While having a camera system doesn't guarantee security, it has definitely been a deterrent. The cameras are fairly inconspicuous, yet the vandal(s) seem have noticed them immediately.

The picture quality is pretty darn good. I have been able to view the cameras from home and so has Joshua Nickel. However, the update speed over the internet is frustratingly slow. I'm trying to determine if the bottleneck is at the church's router or with our internet provider and what we can do about it. If you would like to see the video feed at church, just ask Joshua or me next Sunday.

Ideally, there should be a link on our web site, so any member could check up on the church at any time. I'm checking the feasibility of that and how much effort is involved.

Meanwhile, it's a relief to know that church is a little more secure and it frees us to focus on Worship, Music and other projects. Thanks again to everyone who was involved.

*Kevin Grant, President*

#### FINANCIAL UPDATE

In July and August we received in donations \$9,672.00 and \$10,755.71, respectively. This brings our total YTD giving to \$96,715.46 or 66.61% of our 2014 goal of \$145,200.00. Thank you for your continuing support!

*Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary*

## **FROM THE MINISTER OF MUSIC**

*Twice a year, a group of interesting and impactful people gathers for the weeklong TED experience – which attendees have described as "the ultimate brain spa" and "a journey into the future in the company of those creating it." It's a winning formula of brilliant, curious minds and groundbreaking content in an immersive and focused environment.*

At a recent TED talk, Stacy Horn spoke on "Good Vibrations": her experiences of singing in a choir and the positive impact this experience has had on her life.

During her 20's, Stacy found herself at a particularly low point in her life-- lonely, unhappy and struggling with sobriety and fractured relationships. One evening while sitting on her living room floor she focused on the positive childhood memories she had of singing Christmas carols as well as the time she spent singing in a school choir. That night she made a determination to become involved with a choir.

Stacy found a local community chorus and then had to face her first hurdle, an audition. Before singing a note she begged the conductor to let her in saying, "I promise, you'll never even hear me!" After listening to her sing, the conductor told her that while she didn't have a "great" voice, she sang in tune so he promptly handed her a Messiah score. All 230 pages of it!

For thirty years Stacy has been singing with this chorus and she calls the experience one of the most rewarding of her life. She says, "I don't care what kind of mood you are in when you walk into a choir rehearsal, when you walk out you're feeling better, guaranteed!" She cites scientific studies that offer evidence that singing lowers anxiety and stress and builds positive endorphins.

She also spoke of the human connection one makes with the other singers and the opportunity one has to share an experience that's both transporting & intimate. While listening to a recording of one of the choir's performances she realized that "my mediocre voice is part of that wonderful sound!"

**Like Stacy, it's not crucial that you have a fantastic voice to sing in the choir at LCM. Voices of singers with less experience join each week with professional singers to offer exciting music for worship. So.....even if you consider your vocal talents "mediocre", YOU will be welcome to join us as together we create a "wonderful sound."**

**Rehearsals for the fall season begin Thursday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**

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On Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 4 p.m., the choir of LCM will join the choir of St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Long Beach for a service of Evensong. Music by composers C. Herbert Brewer, Harold Friedell, and Alfred V. Fedak will be presented.

Father Stephen Williams and Pastor Ioan Ittu will officiate. David Feit-Pretzer and David York will conduct. All are welcome.

St. Gregory's Episcopal Church  
6201 E. Willow St.  
Long Beach, 90815

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We offer congratulations and best wishes to choir section leader Katie Perkins who was married to David Bruton on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014.

*David York*, Minister of Music

## **NEW PARAMENTS ARE COMING SOON!**

### **"LIGHT, PROMISE AND POWER"**

Be alert and watchful, because there will be new worship paraments appearing on the altar, the pulpit and the lectern. They have been expertly painted by our own John Johnson. To make these paraments, John used acrylic paint on green canvas and let some of the cloth show through since green represents "Ordinary Time," the longest season of the church year. Even though the paraments hang separately on the lectern, altar and pulpit, the image is continuous, showing God's LIGHT shining on humanity backed by his PROMISE in the rainbow and his POWER coming to us through the dove of the Holy Spirit. Thank you John for sharing your time and talent with us in such a special way!

## **SEPTEMBER FUN EVENT: DIET OF WORMS**



Chalk Repertory Theatre will present a reading of Tom Jacobson's very Lutheran play, *Diet of Worms*, at 3:00 p.m. in our church sanctuary on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. Five Cistercian nuns try to fight the Reformation by performing short plays from the Old and New Testament Apocrypha--with unexpected consequences. It's a backstage comedy with theological implications and written to be performed in a church. Admission is free. Come help Tom and Chalk Rep refine the script for possible production next year at LCM!

## THANK YOU

I want to express my thanks to all who made possible and who attended the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in July of my Ordination into the ministry of Word and Sacrament. You all made the day a very wonderful celebration and I appreciate so much the kind words and cards that I received. I will always remember the Anniversary Day celebration with gratitude to God and to all of you.

*Pastor Robert Richards*

## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MASTER'S 74<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Mark your calendar for Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, the "74<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" of Lutheran Church of The Master. Please join us for worship and then a special luncheon on the grass area outside the Parish House. We will be celebrating our accomplishments during 2014 and plans for the rest of the year and the year 2015. Next year, 2015, is the BIG one, "75 Years" and we will be celebrating all year. Please plan to attend!

## COME TO OUR MEETINGS

All Council, Budget and Finance, and other Committee meetings are open meetings. Anyone may attend the meetings to observe the proceedings as a guest and is welcome to request voice from the chair. The Council is posting the Council meeting agenda, minutes, and reports in the Parish House for your information. If you have any questions about the meetings or materials, please consult with Kevin or Pastor. Our next Council & Budget and Finance meeting will be on September 8th starting at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## FLOWER CHART

- September 7 David York,  
In anticipation of another wonderful  
year of music with the LCM Choir.
- September 14 Fariba Kharazmi,  
In honor of the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary of her  
baptism.
- September 21 Sara McGah,  
in memory of Russella.
- September 28 In honor of LCM's anniversary

If you wish to memorialize someone or an event, please note that with your name on the flower chart. **Just a reminder that the cost is \$20 for a single vase and \$40 for both vases.** When paying for the flowers, please include the payment in your offering envelope and **make sure to write "flowers" on the envelope.**

## COME TO OUR CRAFT DAY



We will meet on September 20<sup>th</sup> to knit or paint or do any other crafts you may like to do. This is a time to come together and enjoy each other's company while doing crafts we love. Come to the Parish House at 11:00 a.m. - a light lunch will be served. If you are interested or if you have any questions, please contact Barbara Browning at (310) 393-6844.

## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

You can study the Bible **every Sunday morning!** We Meet at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish House and study each week's lessons in advance of the service with Pastor Ittu. Our study of the Bible is in keeping with our Synod's commitment to the ELCA initiative "Book of Faith: Lutherans Read the Bible." Come, grab a donut and a cup of coffee, and experience the power of scripture!

## OUR PRAYER LIST



**We keep in prayer:** David Arriola; Sister Susannah Bede; Gina Beretta; Barbara Bombach; Emma Lou Candow; Carol Clarke; Andrew Crean; Faye Daroeian; Chandra Drazich; Robert Duvall; Jane Fan and Alex Lin and family; Scott Ferguson; Karen Friedman; Leah Hoffmitz; Lois Jackson; Ted and Lynne Jackson; LCpl. Adam Johnson; Betty Johnson; Irwin Keyes; Deborah Kovac; Elizabeth Kovac; Jonathan Kovac; Amy Manning; Gisela Marx; Steve Newberry; Harley Rockoff; Dr. Alvaro Rojas; John Savage; Hilary Smith; Helena Stark; Millie Ross-Clunis Stephens; Corinne Weitzman; The plight of the Syrian people; Members of our AA Groups.

Names may be added to the prayer list by filling out a prayer card in the pew racks or by contacting the office by email. Names will remain on the prayer list for 3 months.

## FELLOWSHIP BRUNCH

Are you interested in contributing something to our weekly fellowship brunch such as sandwiches, pizza, dessert, or anything of your liking? If so, please contact the church office by Friday at noon or call Barbara at (310) 393-6844.

# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MASTER

<b>EVERY SUNDAY</b>  Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Choir Warm-up 10:28 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m.	<b>SEPTEMBER 2014 CALENDAR</b>  Please refer to CALENDAR at <a href="http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org">http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org</a> for updates.  Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.					
	1	2  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	3  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	4  Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	5	6
7  String Orchestra Project Rehearsal 4:00-7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	8  Council/Budget and Finance Meeting 6:00 p.m.	9  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	10  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	11  Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	12	13  Diet of Worms 3:00 p.m.
14  String Orchestra Project Rehearsal 4:00-7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	15	16  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	17  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	18  Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	19	20  Crafts Day 11:00 a.m.
21  String Orchestra Project Rehearsal 4:00-7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	22	23  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	24  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	25  Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	26	27
28  Anniversary Sunday  String Orchestra Project Rehearsal 4:00-7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	29	30  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House			<b>September Birthdays</b>  Kenneth Roehrs – September 11 <sup>th</sup> Emily Jackson-Yano – September 17 <sup>th</sup> Nancy Yamasaki – September 25 <sup>th</sup>	

# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MASTER

## SEPTEMBER 2014 SCHEDULE

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

USHERS	ACOLYTE	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
September 7	September 7	September 7 13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 7	September 7
Julie Johnson	Jeremy Nickel	John Johnson Ezekiel 33:7-11 and Romans 13:8-14	Tom Jacobson	Barbara Browning
Robin Nickel				Ronald Nickel
September 14	September 14	September 14 14 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 14	September 14
Maria Gustafsson Grant	Jeremy Nickel	Emily Jackson-Yano Genesis 50:15-21 and Romans 14:1-12	Deborah Kovac	Sara McGah
Julie Johnson				Joshua Nickel
September 21	September 21	September 21 15 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 21	September 21
Fred Ascher	Jeremy Nickel	Maria Gustafsson Grant Jonah 3:10-4:11 and Philippians 1:21-30	Yalda Riahi	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Manny Cabacungan				Millie Rojas
September 28	September 28	September 28 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 28	September 28
Kevin Grant	Jeremy Nickel	Charlene Mackenzie Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 and Philippians 2:1-13	Emily Jackson-Yano	Emily Jackson-Yano
Bryan Yamasaki				Tom Jacobson