

# The Master's Notes

## September 2015

### Lutheran Church of The Master

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

10931 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025  
(310) 473-1055 Fax (310) 478-7805

churchoffice@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org  
<http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org>

The Reverend Ioan Iltu, Pastor  
iiltu@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org

Joshua Nickel, editor  
mastersnotes@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org



Craig Shepherd 2000

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### **FROM THE PASTOR**

In honor of 75 years of ministry and to help ensure another 75 years, the church has launched the “75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign” aiming at the goal of raising \$75,000 to be received over the next five years. I have pledged 10% of the goal, or \$2,500 this year and \$1,000 each year over the next five years thereby fulfilling my commitment at the campaign’s end in 2020.

The Council will select one building project to complete with up to 1/3 of the money. The 2/3 or more of the funds will go to our Foundation. I wanted to say a word about the good work our Foundation does.

The Foundation was setup with the idea that Lutheran Church of The Master will have good ministry to do even during lean years of growth and giving. LCM will never need to go without a fulltime pastor because of wisely invested generosity during the tenure of Pastor Richards. The Foundation sustained us from 2001-2010 when many long time members died and the economy went into recession.

During growth years when giving is up, as in the last five years, the Foundation ensures that we have the resources to capitalize on ministry opportunities. God’s good purposes don’t have to sit on the sidelines because we are stuck paying back old debts from lean years. Because of such wisely invested generosity, LCM has been able to pursue 3-5 ministry areas each year where as other churches our size only reach out for one goal at a time. High quality worship, building improvements, generous benevolence, new ministry experiments are all within our grasp in good years because of our Foundation.

The Foundation supports our worship, carrying the

majority cost of our soloists and instrumentalists, which adds beauty to our worship not just on special occasions but on nearly every Sunday of the year. The Foundation pays for our education and evangelism efforts. This year the Foundation will donate about \$10,000 in benevolence efforts to outside worthy causes and in past years has done much more. When one of our investments underperformed, creating a \$30,000 shortfall for this year, the Foundation provided our budget with \$21,000 in emergency funds. The result is that our ministry didn’t have to slam on the breaks in 2015.

The Foundation is a wonderful blessing that smoothes the rough patches and makes the most out of good years for God’s ministry at LCM. Please consider being part of LCM’s wisely invested generosity with me by making a pledge to our “75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign”.

*Ioan Iltu, Pastor*

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

By now you’ve all heard that Robin Nickel, our church secretary of the last several years, has resigned. We wish her well in all her endeavors and thank her for her years of service.

We have a very special service event coming up. John and Mary Savage, long time members of our church, need help fixing up their house. John is suffering from a prolonged illness and needs our help and prayers.

It will take place on September 5<sup>th</sup>. we are hoping for a large group of volunteers to work on the house. There will be many projects, including painting, minor repairs and maybe yard work. See the announcement on page 2 for more info.

*Kevin Grant, President*

## WORK DAY AT THE SAVAGE HOME

SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2015  
9:00 A.M.



The Savages are preparing their home for sale so they can purchase a more wheelchair friendly home for John Savage. We have the opportunity to help on Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. There will be many things to do, preparation for painting, painting and other helpful tasks. This is a great opportunity to help long time members of our church family. Please contact Barbara Browning (310) 393-6844 if you are willing to help. We will meet at the church at 9:00 a.m. and carpool to North Hollywood. Lunch will be provided. Thank you in advance for your willingness to help.

## FROM THE MINISTER OF MUSIC



LCM Choir and David

British composer John Rutter is one of the best-known and successful composers of choral music, Christmas carols and anthems writing today. Born in 1945, he founded his own choir, the Cambridge Singers, in the early 1980's and with them he has recorded extensively. He was chosen to compose an anthem for the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton held at Westminster Abbey.

I recently ran across a video entitled *The Importance of Choir* and I like what Rutter has to say:

Choral music is not one of life's frills. It's something that goes to the heart of our humanity, our sense of community, and our souls. You express, when you sing, your soul in song. And when you get together with a group of other singers, it becomes more than the sum of the parts. All of those

people are pouring out their hearts and souls in perfect harmony, which is kind of an emblem for what we need in the world, when so much of the world is at odds with itself... that just to express in symbolic terms what it's like when human beings are in harmony. That's a lesson for our times, and for all time. I profoundly believe that.

By his words it may sound as though he's describing a professional chorus but he continues, "Musical excellence is, of course, at the heart of it, but even if the choir is not the greatest.... it has social value, a communal value. A church or school without a choir is like a body without a soul."

LCM is fortunate to have a fine choir made up of professional singers, students and wonderful volunteers. During the academic year the choir leads worship each Sunday. Would you like to join a musical group that provides a "sense of community" and an opportunity to offer service to God and the church? There is a place for you in the choir at LCM!

Rehearsals begin **Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** And yes, we will be preparing music by John Rutter!

*David York*, Minister of Music

## NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS



With the departure of Robin Nickel as our administrative assistant, the office will be staffed by church volunteers until a new administrative staff person can be hired. Office hours will be 9:00am – 1:00pm on Tuesday to Friday, and closed on Mondays. Thank you Bryan, Fred, Maria, John, Barb, Katherine, Sara, Joshua & Ken for all stepping up and taking a piece of all the administrative responsibilities required to keep the church running.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE



In July and August we received **\$23,371.32** in donations. This brings our year-to-date giving to **\$96,992.66**, or **62.58%** of our 2015 goal of **\$155,000**. Thank you for your ongoing support of our mission!

*Emily Jackson-Yano*, Financial Secretary

## 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN



As part of our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, Lutheran Church of the Master is hosting a special fundraising opportunity. The money will go toward a major capital improvement project for the church, with the balance going to the LCM Foundation. Our goal is to raise \$75,000 over five years. Your donation can be given in one of three ways:

1. Outright gifts (please write "75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign" on your envelope or on the memo line of your check)
2. Five-year pledges (please fill out the enclosed pledge form)
3. Planned bequest/estate trust gift – Please contact Emily Jackson-Yano

Please contact a member of the Stewardship Committee if you have any questions.

### WORK DAY SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup> 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

We need your help to prepare for this special day. Please join us if you can. Chores include, but are not limited to:

- Table and chair set-up
  - Decorations
  - Food and drink preparation
  - Other tasks (yet to be determined)
- Please join us, we need your help.

### 75 YEARS IN WEST LOS ANGELES LET'S CELEBRATE!!!! SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2015



The official celebration of Lutheran Church of The Master's 75th Anniversary will be held on Sunday, September 27th, 2015. The day will begin with a special worship service followed by a complimentary celebratory luncheon with a special program and friends from past years. Be there for the opening of the time capsule from 1940! Don't miss it!!!!!!

## FLOWER CHART



- September 6 Open  
September 13 David York,  
in anticipation of another wonderful  
year of music with the LCM Choir.  
September 20 Sara McGah,  
in memory of Russella.  
September 27 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 19<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!

## COMMUNITY LAW CLINIC



We are pleased to continue to host the Khosravi-Malakouti Community Law Clinic on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every Month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish House

Attorneys John Khosravi and Parviz Malakouti are be available to answer your questions regarding your legal problems. Each clinic participant will receive a private 15-minute session to ask questions about a wide variety of civil legal matters. Criminal law issues will not be addressed at the clinic. The service is completely free of charge to participants. Languages spoken include English, Spanish, Persian, and French. Parviz Malakouti is a California licensed attorney and a graduate of UCLA and the University of Miami School of Law. John Khosravi is a California licensed attorney and a graduate of UCLA and Loyola Law School.

## COME TO OUR MEETINGS



All Council 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 meeting will be on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## TO CONTACT PASTOR ITTU



To meet with Pastor, contact him directly at his church e-mail address: [iittu@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org](mailto:iittu@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org) You may also call the church office - Pastor has his own church voice mail - to leave him a private message just call (310) 473-1055 and after the outgoing message begins, press 2 and the # key.

## SIMPLY GIVING

You may wish to consider making your contributions online. Contributions may be made to Lutheran Church of The Master with the secure Electronic Giving service of Vanco Services and Thrivent for Lutherans, using the Simply Giving link on the church website:

**[lutheran.churchofthemaster.org](http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org)**

click on the Give Online tab.

There is no cost to you for this program. You may donate to the church either in one-time contributions or in an ongoing arrangement for regular offerings. You may have your offerings debited directly from your checking or savings account or from your credit card - you manage the donation frequency and the donation amount for each fund you wish to support. Register by clicking on the Give Online tab to communicate directly and securely with Vanco Services. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact the church office (310) 473-1055.

## 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 Barbara at (310) 393-6844.

## OUR PRAYER LIST



**We keep in prayer:** Abbas; Ali; Arash; Ardavan; Fariba; Roya; Soraya; Yasaman; David Arriola; Gina Beretta; Barbara Bombach; Françoise Campoverde; Emma Lou Candow; Andrew Crean; Terri Duggan; Ali Farzinkia; John Hunt; Ted and Lynne Jackson; Cpl. Adam Johnson; Betty Johnson; Merle Johnson; Rossen Kirilov; Elizabeth Kovac; Jonathan Kovac; Gisela Marx; Steve Newberry; The family of Amber Paul; Rachel and her unborn child; Harley Rockoff; Theodore Roehrs; Millie Rojas; Rosamelida Sandoval; John Savage; Hilary Smith; Alireza Soulati; Helena Stark; Peter Stackhouse; Polina Tashlitskaya; Vi Venter; Kent Weed; William White; Wayne Williams; Hideto Yano; 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.

# 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 2015 CALENDAR</b>  Please refer to CALENDAR at <a href="http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org">http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org</a> for updates.  <b>Church Office Hours:</b> Mondays – Closed Tuesday – Friday - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.					
<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>	1	2  Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	3	4	5  Work Day at the Savage Home 9:00 a.m.	
6	7	8  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	9  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	10  Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	11	12  Council/Budget and Finance Meeting 9:00 a.m.
13	14	15  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	16  Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	17  Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	18	19  Crafts Day 11:00 a.m.
20	21	22  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	23  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	24  Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.	25	26  Work Day 9:00 a.m.
<b>27</b> LCM's 75th Anniversary Celebration  String Orchestra Project Rehearsal 4:00-7:00 p.m. Sanctuary	28	29  AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House	30  AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary			

# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MASTER

## SEPTEMBER 2015 SCHEDULE

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

USHERS	ACOLYTE	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
September 6	September 6	September 6 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 6	September 6
Kevin Grant	Jeremy Nickel	Charlene Mackenzie Isaiah 35:4-7a and James 2:1-10, 14-17	Yalda Riahi	Emily Jackson-Yano
Bryan Yamasaki				Joshua Nickel
September 13	September 13	September 13 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 13	September 13
Julie Johnson	Jeremy Nickel	Isaiah 55:6-11 and James 3:1-12	Emily Jackson-Yano	Maria Gustafsson Grant
Carlos Valera				Ronald Nickel
September 20	September 20	September 20 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 20	September 20
Fred Ascher	Jeremy Nickel	Maria Gustafsson Grant Jeremiah 11:18-20 and James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	Deborah Kovac	Barbara Browning
Manny Cabacungan				Joshua Nickel
September 27	September 27	September 27 9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	September 27	September 27
Maria Gustafsson Grant	Jeremy Nickel	Fred Ascher Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 and James 5:13-20	Tom Jacobson	Emily Jackson-Yano
Julie Johnson				Tom Jacobson