

The Master's Notes

September 2016

Lutheran Church of The Master

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
a Reconciling in Christ congregation

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Craig Shepherd 2000

Thoughts from Pastor Peg

Dear Friends in Christ,

2017 will mark the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation! 500 years ago, in 1517, Martin Luther called for reform in the church, a call that continues to go out to us today! We do well to continually reform our lives and witness toward the gospel of Christ's love for all!

This past August 10th – 13th, 2016 I participated in the ELCA's *Grace Gathering* with hundreds of Lutherans from across our country to help prepare us for the 2017 observance of *Reformation 500*. I was honored to be invited to lead a workshop with Rabbi Sandmel in which we acknowledged Luther's anti-Semitic writings which the ELCA repudiated strongly in a document adopted in 1994. This document grieves the complicity of our own tradition in the history of hatred and expresses our urgent desire to live out our faith in Jesus Christ with love and respect for the Jewish people, and for all people.

It is important to admit our failures in history so we might learn from them and express our desire to more fully live our faith in Christ who calls us to love our neighbor. It is clear, Luther went against his own convictions of love toward neighbor when he wrote derogatory statements against the Jewish people. Today, in our personal lives and as a congregation, it is wise to ask ourselves and each other how well our lives reflect our convictions. When we drive in traffic, when we don't get the job we hope for, when things don't go our way, when our neighbor annoys us, when we vote, do we follow the ways of Christ's neighborly love?

I give thanks for the ministry of LCM where we are strengthened by confession and forgiveness, by Baptism and Holy Communion – water and word, bread and wine around which we gather each Sunday and which send us to be love in the world. To support our growth in these means of grace the ELCA's publishing house Augsburg Fortress has made available a wonderful free gift – their first mobile app – featuring Luther's Small Catechism!

I downloaded my free app! I hope you will too! How wonderful to have this at our fingertips! Here's how to get it: Search "Catechism" in the Apple or Google app stores, or ask me.

My favorite part of Luther's Small Catechism is his explanation of the third article of the creed: I believe in the Holy Spirit. Luther writes: "*I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth...*" ...*This is most certainly true!*

I rejoice with you that the Holy Spirit continues to "call, gather, enlighten and make holy" each of us – day in and day out. Thanks be to God for daily opportunities to respond to this love!

In Christ's love, Pastor Peg

From the President

First, I want to welcome back David York from his vacation. It's nice to have him back. Thanks to all the instrumentalists and soloists who helped out over the summer. David has them listed below.

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We have purchased an AC system for the church office. Hopefully by the time you read this, it will be installed and working.

We are doing more research on climate control options for the sanctuary. No easy solutions here. Because of the older design of the building we have a lot of costly obstacles. But, we will do what we can.

If you're interested in participating in one of our groups such as worship, property, and outreach, I encourage you to do so.

There's a core group of volunteers-you know who you are-who are involved in multiple groups. We are looking to expand the base of people involved in church activities. So please volunteer your time as you are able.

Kevin Grant, President

From the Minister of Music

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A GOOD REASON TO JOIN LCM'S CHOIR?

From an article in the Health section of the *Los Angeles Times*: "Taking up a musical hobby might strengthen throat muscles and could be a fun and effective treatment for snoring. A study published a few years ago in the journal Sleep and Breathing compared 52 semi-professional choir singers with a group of 55 non-singers and found the singers snored less." Perhaps your partner will encourage you to join the choir!

Fall choir rehearsals begin Thursday, September 8th at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We are always pleased to welcome new singers. For more information, contact David York: york1635@aol.com.

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This fall we welcome our newest section leader, baritone **David Childs**. David is a recent graduate of the vocal program at UCLA. His senior recital was performed here at LCM.

Choir member **Barbara Browning** recently made her stage debut as the Organist in Tom Jacobson's new play "Captain of the Bible Quiz Team".

Congratulations to Kelci Hahn, who was recently selected as a member of the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Kelci was one of only two sopranos accepted, out of hundreds of soprano applicants.

Kelci has been a section leader at LCM since 2009 and has contributed to our worship in many ways as a soloist, choir member and conductor. She will be leaving LCM in early September to join the music staff at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Pasadena, one of the largest Episcopal churches in the country. We thank her for her service and wish her all of the best in her new position.

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Summer Musicians

How fortunate we've been to have inspiring music provided by our soloists and instrumentalists each Sunday this summer. A special thank you to Bret Noel, Nancy Yamasaki, Tina Appel, Alexis Wesley, Kelci Hahn, John Johnson, David Childs, David Holben, Greg Sliskovich, Corinne De Vries and Leah Chang.

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Summer Rest and Renewal

In addition to family visits this summer I had the opportunity to attend the American Guild of Organist's National Convention in Houston. Over 1,200 of us enjoyed seven days of concerts, worship services, workshops and exhibit time. The organ recitals at this convention were particularly fine.

Many things ARE bigger in Texas. We visited a number of large churches for organ and choral concerts, including the 9,000-member St. Martin's Episcopal Church, which is the parish home of former president George and Barbara Bush. At St. Martin's we were treated to a space-themed recital that included a greeting from the International Space Station. One of my favorite events was a choral concert performed by the choir of men and boys from St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Fifth Avenue in New York City.

Each time I attend an AGO convention I find that I return with renewed energy and enthusiasm. I always appreciate the chance to see different areas of the country and reconnect with friends.

David York, Minister of Music

Financial Update



In August we received **\$7,559.64** in donations to our General Fund. This brings our Year-to-Date giving to **\$87,178.84**, or **60.12%** of our goal of **\$145,000.00** for 2016. Thank you for your contributions!

Emily Jackson-Yano, Financial Secretary

Helping The Homeless

John Johnson, our Administrative Assistant, has been very busy handing out our sack lunches and hygiene kits to the homeless. We are in need of more food items. The sack lunches include individual packaged items, such as easy open cans of meat, fruit, pudding, cheese and crackers, energy/protein bars, juices and water. We also include treats such as cookies, nuts and granola bars. If you would like to contribute to the hygiene kits, we need wash cloths, soap, tooth brushes, toothpaste and combs. Thank you for being a part of our homeless ministry.

Flower Chart



September 4	In Celebration of Tom Jacobson and his new play, "Captain of The Bible Quiz Team."
September 11	Open
September 18	Sara McGah, in memory of Russella.
September 25	Open

Please consider donating the altar flowers for worship. If you wish to memorialize someone or an event, please note that with your name on the flower chart. **Note: the cost in 2016 is \$15 for a single vase and \$30 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.**

Celebrating our LCM Family

Tom Jacobson's Play, "Captain of the Bible Quiz Team" is traveling to other churches after September 4th. You need to see it!

Thank Joshua Nickel for being the person in charge for the play. He was there for every performance and was appreciated by the entire play staff. He was their "right hand man." Also thank Robin Nickel and John Johnson for her helping hands with whatever was needed at each performance.

Robin Nickel is now full time at the Café Med at UCLA. Congratulations Robin!

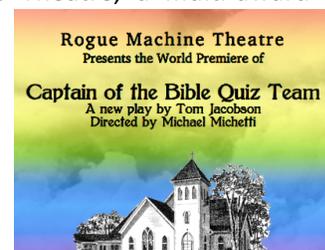
We need to take time to congratulate these members of our LCM family!

Captain of The Bible Quiz Team

Captain of the Bible Quiz Team, written by our very own Tom Jacobson, will continue its run through October 3rd at venues including LCM, St. Matthews, North Hollywood, and Hollywood Lutheran. The play is produced by Rogue Machine Theatre, a multi-award winning non-profit theatre company beginning their 9th season in Los Angeles.

A one-person performance about the recent historical events surrounding the ELCA sexuality statement and a rural Minnesota church's crisis in dealing with that change, Captain of the Bible Quiz Team is a touching and nuanced and a tour-de-force for the performer - four very different actors, men and women, rotate in the role of Pastor Landry Sorenson. The show is "immersive" in that the audience participates in hymns and various small ways and acts as the "congregation" for Pastor Landry at the pulpit.

More information, including performance dates and times, location, and tickets, can be found at captainofthebiblequizteam.com. You can also receive \$10 off the ticket price if you type CONGREGATION in the discount section of the online purchase order.



Come to our Craft Day

We will meet on **September 17th** 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.

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. Our next Council meeting will be on **Monday September 19th at 6:00 p.m.** We will hear an update from Geoff Delahanty (our investment manager for our Property Stewardship funds), followed by our regular council meeting. All are welcome to attend both.

God's Work Our Hands Habitat for Humanity



Get ready to lend your hands at the Habitat for Humanity Restore in September. We will be going to the Restore in Torrance. We will go on Saturday **September 10th**. This is our project for "God's Work Our Hands".

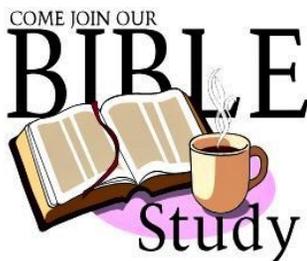
What do we do? We help organize and restock shelves, empty truckloads of furniture and even have time to do some shopping and purchase some items for ourselves or others. This year we will meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. and carpool to Torrance.

For those of you who were unable to join us last year here is a snapshot of what the Habitat for Humanity ReStores are all about. They are nonprofit home improvement stores and donation centers that sell new and gently used furniture, appliances, home accessories, building materials to the public at a fraction of the retail price.

ReStores are independently owned and operated by local Habitat for Humanity organizations. Proceeds are used to help build homes and shelters in local communities and around the world.

Please plan to attend. If you have further questions, please call Barbara Browning (310) 393-6844.

Sunday Bible Study



Reminder! 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. Leah Chang continues to lead the studies. Come, grab a donut, pour a cup of coffee, and experience the power of scripture.

Community Law Clinic



The Malakouti Community Law Clinic continues on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every Month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish House

Attorney Parviz Malakouti is 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.

Our Prayer List



We keep in prayer: Abbas, Ali, Arash, Ardavan, Bobbie Arkoff, the Family and Friends of Jason Avila, Tony Avila, Fariba, Roya, Soraya, Yasaman, David Arriola, Mary Martha Barkley, Gina Beretta, Zac Biggs, Barbara Bombach, Yuby Calderon, Francoise Campoverde, Emma Lou Candow, Tootsie Capelle, Victoria and J. W. Chavier Sr., Andrew Crean, Edita Cabacungan Donnelly and Family, Ali Farzinkia, Emmett Fisher, Ladante Fisher, the Family of Rev. Scott Haasarud, Jacqueline Hunt, Malinda J., Ted and Lynne Jackson, Betty Johnson, Merle Johnson, the Family of Roy Johnson, Mary Kay, Rossen Kirilov, the Family of Dottie Knight, Michelle Kootz, Elizabeth Kovac, Jonathan Kovac, Tobi Krawczyk, Gisela Marx, Steve Newberry, Rachel and her unborn child, the family of Adam Rambo, the Reul Family, Harley Rockoff, Millie Rojas, Rosamelida Sandoval, the Family and Friends of John Savage, Hilary Smith, Alireza Soulati, Helena Stark, Peter Stackhouse, Gordon Stark, Polina Tashlitskaya, John Warren, Kent Weed, Ryan and Ethan Wiley, 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

<p>Every Sunday</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Choir Warm-up 10:28 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 12:15 p.m.</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">September 2016 Calendar</h2> <p style="margin: 5px 0 0 0;">Please refer to CALENDAR at http://lutheran.churchofthemaster.org for updates.</p> <p style="margin: 0 0 0 0;">Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</p>					
<p><u>September Birthdays</u></p> <p>Kenneth Roehrs – September 11th Emily Jackson-Yano – September 17th Nancy Yamasaki – September 25th</p>			1	2	3	
<p>4</p> <p>Captain of The Bible Quiz Team 3:00 p.m. Sanctuary</p> <p>Captain of The Bible Quiz Team 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary</p>	5	<p>6</p> <p>AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House</p> <p>AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Gods Work Our Hands Habitat for Humanity Restore 8:30 a.m.</p>
11	12	<p>13</p> <p>AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House</p>	<p>14</p> <p>AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Craft Day 11:00 a.m.</p>
18	<p>19</p> <p>Council Meeting 6:00 p.m. Parish House</p>	<p>20</p> <p>AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Community Law Clinic 6:30 p.m. Parish House</p> <p>AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Masters Notes articles due in office.</p>	24
<p>25</p> <p>Anniversary Sunday</p>	26	<p>27</p> <p>AA St. John's Alumni 7:30 p.m. Parish House</p>	<p>28</p> <p>AA Step Study 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m.</p>	30	

Lutheran Church of The Master

September 2016 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

USHERS	READERS	ASSISTANT	COUNTERS
September 4	September 4 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost	September 4	September 4
Kevin Grant	Charles Peruchini Deuteronomy 30:15-20 and Philemon 1-21	Deborah Kovac	Emily Jackson-Yano
Hugo Zamudio			Ronald Nickel
September 11	September 11 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost	September 11	September 11
Julie Johnson	Millie Rojas Exodus 32:7-14 and 1 Timothy 1:12-17	Emily Jackson-Yano	Maria Gustafsson-Grant
Richard Levine			Joshua Nickel
September 18	September 18 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost	September 18	September 18
Fred Ascher	Fred Ascher Amos 8:4-7 and 1 Timothy 2:1-7	Deborah Kovac	Barbara Browning
Manny Cabacungan			Tom Jacobson
September 25	September 25 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost	September 25	September 25
Leah Chang	Charlene MacKenzie Amos 6:1a, 4-7 and 1 Timothy 6:6-19	Tom Jacobson	Emily Jackson-Yano
Bryan Yamasaki			Ronald Nickel
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