

The Masters Notes

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MASTER
SEPTEMBER 2019



From the Pastor

Summary of Churchwide Assembly, August 2019 in Milwaukee

We are local: LCM; Conference: LA Metro; Synod: Southwest CA; and ELCA Churchwide. A churchwide assembly meets triennially - to worship, vote on matters of governance and policy, and be church together for the sake of the world. This year we decided on many vital actions:

- Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was reelected for a second six-year term on the first ballot.
- A declaration of apology to our siblings of African descent, which was received by the African Descent Lutheran Association with a call for living into the words shared.
- Approved resolution declaring the ELCA is a “sanctuary church,” especially encouraging care for migrant children.
- Approved support for World Council of Church’s *Thursdays in Black*: a world without rape.
- Voted to name June 17 as a day of repentance in remembrance of martyrs, the Emanuel 9.
- Approved an official ELCA Policy Statement on inter-religious commitment.
- Approved memorials: “affirming” the Poor People’s Campaign.
- Adopted Social Statement: “Faith, Sexism, and Justice: a Lutheran Call to Action.”
- Deacon Sue Rothmeyer was elected Churchwide Secretary, leader on constitutional matters.
- Constitutional change for Deacons (rostered ministers of word and service) to be ordained.
- Celebrated 3 milestones: 50 years of women's ordination, 40 years since first woman of color was ordained, and 10 years since full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ clergy.

Along with many congregations, we pray for our Presiding Bishop every Sunday, and the work we share locally, synodically, and churchwide. As one church together we can do far more than we could do alone. God meets us all in bread and wine, water and word. See you at worship 😊

In Christ’s love, +Pastor Peg

From the President

As you may know, our council meetings are open for people to attend. We occasionally have visitors to the meetings because people are curious about how the business of the church is conducted. What you may not know is that you cannot speak at the meeting unless you request voice from the person leading the meeting, which at council meetings is the president. You also cannot come in and make changes to the council agenda.

So people may wonder what the process is for wanted the council to address a certain topic. In most cases, it is actually a committee that addresses the issues. We have multiple committees that deal with a wide range of topics, and they are happy to address any issues. If you ever have questions about who to go to, you can always talk to myself as President, Pastor Peg, or any other council member who can then refer you to the correct committee.

One thing that has concerned people recently is the sudden lack of trash bags in the bins on Sundays. This is the result of a pilot project instituted by the property committee in regards to an effort to limit our use of plastic at the church. We know there are concerns and are taking them into consideration. If you have any comments, feel free to talk to Sara McGah or myself who are both on the property committee.

Joshua Nickel, *President*

From The Minister of Music

Did you miss the music of the choir during the summer? I hope your answer is a resounding “YES!” because I think their presence makes a significant addition to our worship services. Indeed, besides singing beautiful music, the choir performs an important liturgical function. The choral music of the service is carefully chosen to highlight and enhance the themes of the readings and sermon. The hymns, solos and organ music are also chosen with these criteria in mind. Pastor Peg, John and I work together to prepare a unified worship experience—one where scripture, music, sermon and liturgy are all complementary.

There is an old story about a church service where, in a sermon entitled, “The Evils of Alcohol,” the minister admonished the congregation to throw all alcoholic beverages into the river. The choral anthem following the sermon was “Shall We Gather At the River!”

If you enjoy singing and sharing your musical gifts we would welcome your participation in the ministry of music at LCM. The choir and I invite you to the **first choir rehearsal** of the season, Thursday, September 5th at 7:30 pm. Please join us!

Former choir member **Madeline Barnicle** writes that she’s spent much of the summer traveling, with visits to Philadelphia, Chicago (for her sister’s graduation and her aunt’s swearing-in as chief judge of her district court) and on Labor Day she’ll visit friends in Buffalo. Then it’s off to Maryland to look at apartments before starting work at the Department of Defense. She writes, “In the meantime I’m learning to drive (eeeeek) and would love to pass my driver’s test before I go, but we’ll see.” We send our congratulations on her new position in Washington!

This spring we said goodbye to long-time section leader **Bret Noel**. He and his wife Sammie have also been traveling this summer in preparation for Sammie’s start at medical school in Philadelphia. Bret writes:

Art Tour with John August Swanson Saturday, September 21st

Join us for a guided tour of thirty-one original artworks by John August Swanson by the artist himself! Meet at 9:30 a.m. at LCM on Saturday, September 21st to carpool, or arrive on your own at 10:30 a.m. at The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, 555 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. Put it on your calendar now and invite a friend!

.... we started our 18 day road trip across the country and am happy to say we made it through 13 states, over a dozen National/State parks and monuments, and 5,200 miles of driving to arrive safely in Philly late last week! The road trip had so many spectacular stops it’s hard to summarize. Highlights for me were two nights camping in the Grand Tetons, driving the Beartooth Highway outside of Yellowstone, seeing the Black Hills of SD, and discovering a delicious restaurant in the middle of nowhere outside of Great Basin NP in Baker, Nevada.

Now that we’re in Philly, we’ve been working around the clock to get our new place set up and all of our boxes unpacked. We’re pretty much there and are just waiting on a couch and area rug to be shipped, which is really exciting. We love our new apartment and are starting to learn the surrounding area and all it has to offer. Philly is such an interesting and diverse city—it seems that every block is wildly different from the one next to it—and already we’ve found some pockets that we love. Despite the heat, we’re walking almost everywhere and have enjoyed how compact and accessible the downtown area is, with all of its rich history and culture.

Otherwise, I’m working remotely for UCLA part-time and also looking for a full-time job out here. Please send our best to everyone at the church and in the choir! It will be strange to go into September and not have rehearsals begin again...

New addition to the organ

This summer our existing organ bench was extended and modified with a crank handle, allowing organists of differing heights the ability to easily raise or lower the bench. We offer thanks to an anonymous donor and the Friends of Music for making this addition possible.

Percussion

And thanks to Ron Nickel for the gift of a small drum to add to our collection of percussion instruments.

David York, *Minister of Music*

Safety in the Sanctuary

The LCM ushers will be meeting on September 29th after Sunday service for a round table discussion on ‘Safety in the Sanctuary.’

All interested worshipers are invited to attend. We will share our thoughts, ideas, fears and solutions.

If you have questions, contact Steve Weiss @ vice-president@lutheran.churchofthemaster.org

This Month at LCM

Every Week:

Sunday: Bible Study –10:00 a.m.in the Parish House
 Choir Warm-up –10:25 a.m. in the Sanctuary
 Worship – 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary
 Fellowship Brunch – 12:15 p.m. in the Parish House

Tuesday: AA St. John’s Alumni – 7:30 p.m. in the Parish House

Wednesday: AA Step Study – 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Thursday: Choir Rehearsal – 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

September Events and Happenings:

September 4th: Community Law Clinic at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish House

September 5th: Choir Rehearsals Resume

September 7th: Movie Night at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish House

September 14th: Council Meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish House

September 15th: Youth Sunday and Gods Work Our Hands Sunday

September 18th: Community Law Clinic at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish House

September 21st: Art Tour With John August Swanson

September 28th: Safety In The Sanctuary Roundtable Discussion

Happy Birthday:

Kenneth Roehrs – September 11th
 Emily Jackson-Yano – September 17th
 Nancy Yamasaki – September 25th

Volunteer Schedule

September 1st:
 Steve Vanderhoof and Steve Weiss - Ushering
 Noubar Taykalderanian - Reader
 Fred Ascher - Assisting Minister
 Ronald Nickel and Barbara Browning - Counting

September 8th:
 Leah Chang and Charlotte Johnson - Ushering
 Charles Peruchini - Reader
 Deborah Kovac - Assisting Minister
 Millie Rojas and Steve Weiss - Counting:

September 15th:
 Carlos Valara and Steve Weiss – Ushering
 Fred Ascher - Reader
 Emily Jackson-Yano – Assisting Minister
 Barbara Browning and Joshua Nickel - Counting

September 22nd:
 Chris ah San and Leah Chang – Ushering
 Alexander Martin - Reader
 Deborah Kovac – Assisting Minister
 Emily Jackson-Yano and Millie Rojas - Counting

September 29th:
 Julie Johnson and Douglas Newton - Ushering
 Millie Rojas - Reader
 Fred Ascher – Assisting Minister
 Emily Jackson-Yano and Joshua Nickel - Counting

Our Prayer List

We keep in prayer: Mike Alderson, Tony Avila, Ester Cabacungan, Andrew Crean, Edita Cabacungan, Kevin Field, Sue Graves, Paul Gunderson, Tarik Hadzic, Kathy Harralson, Dumitra Ittu, Daryl Johnson, Ross Johnson, Lydia Kisha, Jonathan Kovac, B. J. Lange, Dagny Lund, Charlene MacKenzie, Frank Nakamura, Erma Nickel, Kaitlyn Nickel, Raandi Schmidt, Michael Shammo, Huiling Sun, John Warren, Hideto Yano, the Syrian people and refugees and immigrants everywhere, all who share the Holy Land, our AA Groups and our at-risk creation.

Flowers for September

September 1st: Open
September 8th: Open
September 15th: Pastor Peg
September 22nd: Sara McGah,
 In Memory of Russella
September 29th: Open

Men’s Advance - El Camino Pines - October 11-13

For information, contact Bob Huhn at Trinity Lutheran Church, Santa Barbara. Email: bob1huhn@cox.net.

Soles for Souls

On September 1st, we will start a project called “Soles for Souls”. We will work alongside African Descent Lutheran Association or “ADLA”, where we will be collecting new or slightly used shoes to be given to the homeless. We will be collecting the shoes until the end of November, the shoes that are collected will be given to Lutheran Social Services or “LSS”. They will be distributing them to the homeless in January 2020. There will be a box in the narthex for your donations. Please tie the pairs together. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Robin Nickel,
 Chair of the Charitable Works

Lutheran Church of The Master
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
a Reconciling in Christ congregation

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Movie Night

On Saturday September 7th we'll view three 20 minute documentaries covering 1) The Sermon on the Mount. 2) Jesus travels the Sea of Galilee. 3) Jesus travels north with his Apostles. A discussion will follow each topic. These movies will help us visualize Jesus in the setting of his time. Just as he is with us and present in our time! Arrive at 6:30 pm for hot buttered popcorn. Bring your favorite movie snacks and soft drinks to share. Don't forget to invite a friend or two!



God's work.
Our hands.

God's Work Our Hands Sunday, September 15th

Join us after worship and lunch to put together food bags and hygiene kits for the homeless. John Johnson, our office manager, has been busy handing them out and we need more! This is a time you can be part of this outreach to the homeless in our community.

Please contribute what you are able by Sunday September 8. Bring items to church and we'll have a container in the narthex where you can leave them. We can use individual packaged items, such as easy open cans of meat, fruit, pudding, cheese and crackers, energy/protein bars, juices and small bottles of water. We also include treats such as cookies, nuts and granola bars. The hygiene kits include wash cloths, soap, tooth brushes, toothpaste and combs.



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