

Parish Rebuilder

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - 5150 WILSON ST. LA MESA, CA 91942

www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org

September 2017
Monthly Newsletter
Volume 17 Issue 9

We invite you to join

St. Luke's Lutheran Church

Please contact Amy in the office to discuss membership or to arrange an appointment with Pastor Mark:

619-463-6633 or office-sllc@att.net

Office hours:

Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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Upcoming Events

Children's Choir

Rehearsals begin September 3rd

SLTA courses

Begin September 10th

Bake Sale & Used Jewelry Sale

September 23rd

A Little Excursion to Wittenberg

As many are aware 2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In 1517, Martin Luther published his 95 Theses against Indulgences. That set in motion a chain of events that led to the rediscovery of the doctrine of justification by faith alone apart from works of the law, particularly human rules created by the institutional church. Luther and his colleagues changed the course of history in ways which have benefitted the world to this day.

Luther's break with the theologically dubious traditions of the papal church were fueled by his reading of the Bible. Instead of bringing human reason to interpret scripture, Luther brought scripture to interpret fallen, sinful humanity. This approach always strikes the world both as other worldly and as unworldly. Sadly, later Lutherans quickly "corrected" the situation by turning and returning the Reformation into a revised form of ossified church where reason took precedence over scripture. Today, western societies have jettisoned scripture for what they believe are rational, human principles rising above the supposedly superstitions and fractious nature of the Christian religion.

A quick glance at the world around us, however, shows that those who consider themselves so very enlightened are still in the dark with respect to the human condition which theologians call sin. Secular humanists think that they can resolve humanity's ills with the right (or the left) policies or politics or protections or ... All those endeavours, however, still amount to works of the law, works righteousness, which may temporarily restrain human sin but which is unable to resist or resolve the inbred death dealing power of sin. Perhaps more ironically and confusedly, secular humanists believe that if they get rid of God they will simultaneously get rid of human sin. Why, then, is the

world beset like never before with the telltale signs of human of human sin, such as despair, denigration, and destruction? Getting rid of God does not seem to be working, but the secular humanists keep working at it, unsuccessfully.

During the last week in July, I attended the 13th International Luther Congress for Luther Research in Wittenberg, Germany. Academics and scholars from around the world gathered to present papers and engage in lively exchange of ideas and insights brought to the fore through studying the works of the great reformer. Luther taught at the University of Wittenberg. His theology permeated the known world, and likewise, people from all over the known world came to Wittenberg to learn from Luther. The Luther Congress demonstrated that this dynamic is still alive today, but is it well?

An undercurrent at the Luther Congress was felt through the differences among the Luther academics and scholars present. These differences have existed since Luther's death when the Lutherans sought either to improve on Luther through their own agenda or sought to re-pristinize Luther as he originally was. These differences always raise the question what it means to be a Lutheran, which in its own way is the question of what it means to be a Christian.

When Luther appeared before Emperor Charles V and was asked to recant his writings, he replied, "Since then your sere Majesty and your Lordships seek a simple answer, I will give it in this manner, neither horned nor toothed. Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the pope or in councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. May God help me. Amen" (LW 332:112-113).

Are we Lutherans still bound by scripture and thus freed by the gospel to be justified by faith

alone, or do we seek instead to bind scripture in the same way that we are bound to sin and seek our own righteousness through our own works?

St. Luke's Theological Academy (SLTA)

St. Luke's Theological Academy (SLTA) is offering five courses this autumn: Foundations of the Christian Faith, Old Testament, Christian History, Liturgy and Church Music, and Biblical Interpretation. These ten (10) week courses can be applied to a "Diploma" in Theological Studies from SLTA. More information is available via the Academy tab on the church's website. Please browse the course selection and register online!

Children's Choir - 03 September

St. Luke's Children's Choir starts rehearsals on Sunday, 03 September, 10:15-10:35 in the children's music room. St. Luke's Music Director, Renée Calvo, is looking forward to rehearsals and to the children singing at least once per month. So, mark you calendars and plan to practice.

Sunday School 10 September

St. Luke's Sunday School resumes on Sunday, 10 September. We look forward to continuing our life long learning to become confident and competent theologians in the priesthood of all believers. This lifelong learning is a whole congregational endeavor. To mark the 500th anniversary of the Reformation the adult Sunday School class will be reading Luther's Smalcald Articles, a punchy presentation of the faith as faced by its adversaries at the time of the Reformation.

Reformation Sunday Celebration

29 October

Mark your calendars for a special Reformation Celebration on Sunday, 29 October, to be hosted by St. Luke's Lutheran Church! On that day, local Lutheran churches will combine efforts to celebrate through learning and feasting. Starting at 4:00 pm, local pastors will offer 10-15 minutes presentations on engaging theological topics. These presentation will be interspersed with

rousing congregational hymn singing. The education will close with a "Get one past the pastors" 30 minute time of Q&A. Then, at 5:30 pm the feasting will begin! This is an event not to be missed. Please invite family and friends.

Many Thanks to Pastor Cole

We also wish to thank Chaplain/Pastor Dan Cole for covering for Pastor Mark on 20 August while he brings Grace back to university in Colorado. It was very kind of Dan to make himself available at short notice when the Menacher travel plans fell into place.

Pastor Mark

Book Club

Join us for Book Club on September 27th at noon in the library as we discuss "*The Rosie Project*" by Graeme Simsion. "*The Rosie Project*" is the tale of Don Tillman, an Australian genetics professor, who has spent his days organizing his life with the expectation that it will reduce inefficiency, improve himself as a person, and make him an all around happier person. Don comes up with the idea of the Wife Project, a questionnaire that would help find the perfect mate.

Please read the book before and join in the discussion and potluck light lunch.



...Register Online

THEOLOGY FAITH DOCTRINE

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THE CHRISTIAN FAITH?

ST. LUKE'S THEOLOGICAL ACADEMY (SLTA)

- Seeks to enhance your theological knowledge for mission and ministry.

FALL Courses begin September 10, 12 & 14, 2017

- Foundations of the Christian Faith**
- Mark Menacher, PhD
- Introduction to the Old Testament**
- John Kent
- Introduction to Christian History**
- Mark Menacher, PhD
- Liturgy and Church Music**
- Rob Lawson
- Principles of Biblical Interpretation**
- Paul Willweber

REGISTER ONLINE:
<http://www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org/academy.php>

Courses are held at
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
 5150 Wilson Street
 La Mesa, CA 91942
 619-463-6633

Women of St. Luke's

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up that which is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance -----Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

Many of us remember the Pete Seeger song based on this sung by Judy Collins and later the Byrds. Each of us have our own "wheels": sometimes those wheels intersect with thousands like our birth-dates and times, but less frequently do those who share a birth date die on the same date. Sometimes our wheels intersect with others in a different way: we share joy with those who weep: we share happy memories with those who mourn: we share our food and money with those whose plantings were un-wise or yielded little

We all shared summer; some of us had great vacations, some sad losses, some shared fellowship, a great craft fair, but for the most part we slowed down a bit and smelled the roses. We all now must focus on the tasks at hand.

WSL sold tickets for the basket opportunity drawing at the craft fair and bought lovely gifts and goodies from the crafters. Thank all of you who bought tickets and all of you who helped. The funds from this event are passed on to local charities that WSL supports.

Mark your calendars for September 23rd from 9:30 to noon for a used jewelry sale. This year we are also adding a baked goods sale! Stop by for some coffee, browse and buy some second hand jewelry and delicious homemade goodies. Contact Liz Dunnigan for how you can help with baked goods, set up and break down!

Circle Bible studies are now back in session. Sharing our understanding of the Bible gives each of us and deeper appreciation. Many "aha" moments are experienced. Rebekah circle will meet on September 12th and before Bible Study there will be a guest speaker, Noor Shaba. Ms Shaba was a translator for the Armed Forces in Iraq, she will share her testimony about how she came to know Jesus. Everyone is invited to her speak and stay for Bible Study afterwards. Call Betty Wiedmer for more information. Please come; your contribution may be the "building up" moment for the person in a despairing moment.

Nancy Kearns

BAKE SALE & "SECOND TIME AROUND" JEWELRY SALE

September 23rd, 9:30am -noon

Lower Level

Enjoy free coffee while you buy!



St. Luke's Stewards

This is the first of an ongoing look at some of this congregation's STEWARDS. You will read about their professions and perhaps learn a little of where they came from and how they came to be at St. Luke's.

TED OLSEN, St. Luke's vice president for eight years, is retiring from his position as a Senior Agricultural Standards Inspector at the end of 2017. Probably the most interesting aspect of this position is that Ted is a Dog Handler. Drake, a lab retriever mix that Ted trained nine and a half years ago, and who has been working with Ted these many years, will be retiring with him.....as his very own dog!! (There are just thirteen other inspectors with similar positions in the entire state.) Ted's actual employer is the County of San Diego Department of Agricultural Weights and Measures Plant Health and Pests Prevention Division.

Ted and Drake came together in Georgia at the National Detector Dog Training Center run by the United States Department of Agriculture. All the dogs at the training center come from shelters and rescue groups. Drake "ages out" in January; Ted thinks he might as well retire when Drake does. These two coworkers, as part of the Pest Interception Program, inspect parcels, looking for plant matter, soil, and live animals at the FedEx Terminal, Amtrak, United Parcel Services, and the United States Post Office.

The post office actually offers the most challenges. If a suspicious scent is located by Drake in a particular parcel or box, there is a detailed process then followed. Their days are long: four 10-hour days each week. Fruit flies, as many of us who have "traps" in our trees know, are the greatest threat to California's agriculture, and are frequently intercepted, along with other serious pests and diseases.

Since these two professionals are still actively working, Drake stays in a special kennel when he's not "working." If allowed to go home with Ted, the feeling is he (Drake) might lose his focus on doing his job when he is with his handler.

Ted is originally from the Bay area, and attended the community college there, later transferring to San Diego State. Perhaps members reading about Ted's work and his coworker will have additional questions. He's more than happy to answer them!

Martha Applegate



Ted Olsen and Drake

Photo courtesy of San Diego Union Tribune

Parish Potpourri

St. Luke's Choir has begun its regular weekly rehearsals.....at 7 p.m. Thursday evenings. More choir members are needed; if you enjoy singing, now is the time to get involved.

The recent SING ALONG held at the Applegate home was lots of fun and singing and eating for over twenty people. Perhaps we can do it again at Christmas time!

Pastor Mark reports a terrific "reformation" trip to Germany in August. It was fun, yes, but there were many hours of study involved. Pastor Mark and Janet, in mid-August, took Grace back to Colorado where she is about to begin her sophomore year at Boulder. Emily Rose continues her studies at the Univ. of California at Davis.

Angie and George Hauk will soon be enjoying a cruise to Alaska, always a scenic and beautiful place to visit. Doug, Darcy and her sister Roxy will be traveling along the Blue Ridge Mountains and Appalachian Trail from North Carolina to Three Oaks, M. In Three Oaks they will celebrate the sesquicentennial (150 years) of the township where they were born along with a family reunion of Darcy and Roxy's relatives.

SOME HUMOR (Riddles)

What gets wetter the more it dries?.....A towel.

Why did Humpty Dumpty have a great fall?

He wanted to make up for a lousy summer.

Did all the animals on the ark come in pairs?.....No...the worms came in apples.

Where was Solomon's Temple?.....

On the side of his head.

What promise did Adam and Eve make after they were thrown out of the Garden of Eden?.....They'd turn over a new leaf.

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL

Many individuals who "give goats" as a Heifer International donation know that besides being "cute" they change the lives of many in poverty. Remember the book, BEATRICE'S GOAT? Sheep, as well as goats, are so very useful and their wool is a part of many of the products in our lives. The waxy substance that sheep sweat, called lanolin, is extracted from shorn wool and used in cosmetics, moisturizers, shaving cream, coatings for propellers and other boat surfaces to prevent barnacles, lubricant for brass instrument tuning slides, rust-proof coatings for industrial equipment, etc., etc.

Please think about how much your gift actually gives to Heifer International.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE QUARTER BANK
IN THE NARTHEX!!
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN IT IS THERE???

Third Avenue Charitable Organization TACO

EAT, DRINK and BE SHARING!!

Support social outreach for San Diego's homeless, low-income elderly and working poor. This is TACO's fall fundraiser. It will be an evening of food, friendship and fundraising. There will be tacos, brats and beer, silent and live auctions.

Saturday, September 23, 2017

Calvary Lutheran, 424 Via de la Valle
Solana Beach, Ca

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$35 advance, \$40 at door

Martha Applegate

WORSHIP TEXT

September 3rd

13th Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson — Jeremiah 15: 15-21

Second Lesson — Romans 12: 9-12

Gospel — Matthew 16: 21-28

September 10th

14th Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson — Ezekiel 33: 7-11

Second Lesson — Romans 13: 8-14

Gospel — Matthew 18: 15-20

September 17th

15th Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson — Genesis 50: 15-21

Second Lesson — Romans 14: 1-12

Gospel — Matthew 18: 21-35

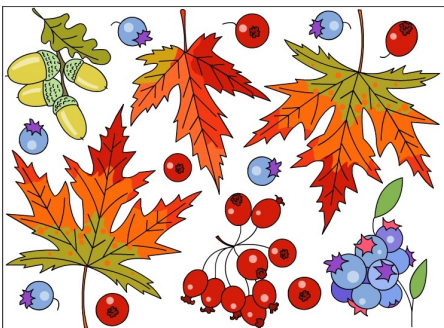
September 24th

16th Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson — Jonah 3: 10-4:11

Second Lesson — Philippians 1: 21-30

Gospel Lesson — Matthew 20: 1-16



Happy Birthday

Beverly Holland	September 2nd
Cathy Floegel	September 4th
Paige Yerger	September 4th
Peter Mylerberg	September 5th
Patti Boekamp	September 6th
Beverly Newak	September 8th
Ted Olsen	September 8th
Karen Skullerud	September 9th
C.E. Crossley	September 20th
Shirley Crossley	September 24th
John Busker	September 25th
Darcy Barghols	September 30th

Happy Anniversary

Louis & Lois Alfeld

September 9th

Gerry & Karen Skullerud

September 9th

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary

Dick & Martha Applegate

September 13th

Jim & Dawn Dolan

September 27th

Gary & Sarah Scott

September 28th

Did we miss your special event? Please let Amy in the office know your birthday or anniversary so we can honor you and yours next year!

September Prayer Calendar

“Name Above All Names”

1	Isaiah 9: 6-9	
2	Matthew 1: 18-25	<i>“Jesus, Name of Wondrous Love”</i>
3	Luke 1: 26-33	
4	Philippians 2: 5-11	Jesus! Name of wondrous love!
5	John 1: 1-18	Name all other names above!
6	John 1: 29-34	Unto which must every knee
7	Matthew 3: 13-17	Bow in deep humility.
8	Mark 1: 29-34	
9	Mark 2: 5-12	Jesus! Name of priceless worth
10	Matthew 8: 14-17	To the fallen sons of earth,
11	Matthew 12: 15-21	For the promise that it gave—
12	Matthew 13: 34-35	“Jesus shall His people save.”
13	Luke 4: 16-21	
14	John 16: 20-24	Jesus! Name of mercy mild,
15	Luke 24: 44-49	Given to the holy Child,
16	Acts 2: 22-24	When the cup of human woe
17	Acts 3: 1-10	First He tasted here below.
18	Acts: 3: 1-10	
19	Acts 3: 13-17	Jesus! Only name that’s given
20	Acts 4: 5-12	Under all the mighty heaven,
21	Colossians 3: 16-17	Whereby man, to sin enslaved,
22	Hebrews 1: 1-4	Bursts his fetters, and is saved.
23	Hebrews 1: 5-9	
24	Hebrews 3: 1-6	Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
25	Hebrews 7: 23-25	Human name of God above!
26	Hebrews 9: 11-14	Pleading only this, we flee,
27	Hebrews 12: 22-24	Helpless, O our God, to Thee.
28	1 Peter 2: 4-6	
29	1 John 1: 1-4	<i>Hymn #900 vss. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6</i>
30	Jude 24-25	<i>Lutheran Service Book</i>


SEPTEMBER WORSHIP TEAMS

	Reader	<i>Marge Hersom</i>
	Altar Guild	<i>Utley family</i>
	Sound Technician	<i>Matt Kirk</i>
3rd	Communion Assistant—Bread	<i>Ted Olsen</i>
	Prayers of the People	<i>Pastor Mark Menacher</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Gail Knippelmeyer</i>
	Communion Assistant—Wine	<i>Darcy Barghols and Thelma Pace</i>
	Greeters	<i>Ellis Petersen and Loraine Wininger</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Randy Engel</i>
	Acolytes	<i>Stuart Olsen and Paige Yerger</i>
10th	Communion Assistant—Bread	<i>Judi Dunnigan</i>
	Prayers of the People	<i>Randy Engel</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Tania Salas</i>
	Communion Assistants—Wine	<i>Liz Dunnigan and Terry East</i>
	Greeters	<i>JoAnn Hendrickson</i>
	Usher Team	<i>George Hauk</i>
	Acolytes	<i>Brooke Klomp and Madison Klomp</i>
17th	Communion Assistant—Bread	<i>Ted Olsen</i>
	Prayers of the People	<i>Whitney Utley</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Gail Knippelmeyer</i>
	Communion Assistants—Wine	<i>Judi Dunnigan and Liz Dunnigan</i>
	Greeters	<i>Marilyn Burns & Marie Handley</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Chuck Hersom</i>
	Acolytes	<i>Stuart Olsen and Paige Yerger</i>
24th	Communion Assistant—Bread	<i>Terry East</i>
	Prayers of the People	<i>Martha Applegate</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Richard Utley</i>
	Communion Assistants —Wine	<i>Darcy Barghols and Thelma Pace</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Randy Engel</i>
	Acolytes	<i>Brooke Klomp and Madison Klomp</i>

Thank you to all of those who assist with worship services each month. Our congregation is all the better with your participation.

If you would like to help in any of the above areas, please let Amy in the office know.

September 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 9:00am—6:00pm Applegate Craft Show	2 9-10 am Altar Guild 9:00am—4:00pm Applegate Craft Show
3 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Choir	4 Labor Day—office/ campus closed	5 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Counters	6 11:00 am Staff	7 8:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Choir	8	9 9-10 am Altar Guild
10 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Choir & Sunday School 4:00 pm SLTA	11 9:00 am Counters	12 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:30am Project Day 12:30 pm Rebekah Circle 7:00 pm SLTA	13 11:00 am Staff	14 8:00 am Tai Chi 10:00 am Deborah Circle 7:00pm SLTA 7:00 pm Choir	15	16 9-10 am Altar Guild
17 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Choir & Sunday School 4:00 pm SLTA	18 9:00 am Counters 7:00 pm Council mtg	19 8:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm SLTA	20 11:00 am Staff	21 8:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm SLTA 7:00 pm Choir	22	23 9-10 am Altar Guild
24 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Children's Choir & Sunday School 4:00 pm SLTA	25 9:00 am Counters	26 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:30 am Project Day 7:00 pm SLTA	27 11:00 am Staff Noon Book Club	28 8:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm SLTA 7:00 pm Choir	29	30 9-10 am Altar Guild

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Dated Material
September 2017

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL

- Children's Choir begins September 3rd.
- Worship Service: Sundays, 9:00 am in the Sanctuary.
- Happy Labor Day; office closed September 4th.
- Sunday School for all ages: Sundays beginning September 10th.
- St. Luke's Theological Academy courses will begin September 10th on Sundays, Tuesdays & Thursdays

St. Luke's Mission Statement:

We are called as a community of Christians saved by grace

—through faith alone in Jesus Christ—

to spread the Holy Gospel in word, sacrament, and action

solī deo gloria.