



The Parish Builder

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH - 5150 WILSON ST. LA MESA, CA 91942
www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org

September 2009
Volume 9 Issue 9

In the Big Inning

We invite you to join St. Luke's Lutheran Church.

Please contact Judy in the office to discuss membership or to arrange an appointment with the pastor:
619-463-6633 or office-sllc@att.net

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

The old joke says that baseball is mentioned in the Bible, because the Bible starts "In the Big Inning."

People can read all manner of things into the Bible. The history of Christianity has often been called the history of biblical interpretation. In other words, how different scholars and church leaders did or did not interpret scripture determines how Christian history has been made.

In contrast, what really matters is how the Bible reads sinful human beings. If one really reads the Bible, one knows that the Bible really knows human sinfulness. It has us pegged each and every time. All our human attempts to cover our sin are already exposed even before we get to those passages that lay us bare. We can neither hide nor escape. While Scripture reads our sinfulness to us, it also proclaims God's undying love for us sinners. From God's love there is no hiding or escaping. Lutherans describe this double dynamic as God's word being proclaimed in both law and gospel, respectively.

So, how can St. Luke's Lutheran Church participate in the word of God springing from the pages of the Bible into the lives of the people of our community? Simply put, as led by the Holy Spirit we need to teach and preach God's word with all our efforts, and we need to make the community aware that we want them to hear the word of God as God wants them to hear it.

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Email Us Your Email Address

*Please note our new email address!

St. Luke's hopes to increase its methods of communication. Email is a fast and cost effective way to communicate. Please send the church office your email address (office-sllc@att.net) and please indicate how often you check your email. We will not distribute your address beyond the church office and any blanket emails to the congregation will not list individual addresses.

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To this end, on 20 September 2009, St. Luke's is holding its first Open House and Community Picnic. On that Sunday after worship, we will display our Christian education and other parish ministry opportunities to the public.

We will have information tables set up in the Family Center and wherever else suitable on campus to let the community know more about what Christ has to offer our neighbors.

I would like to challenge all of us to invite ten (10) people to visit St. Luke's on Sunday, 20 September to attend church and the open house. If you think that they might attend, please also invite them to the picnic and then inform the picnic organizers how many additional people you anticipate joining us.

Special Congregational Meeting

The church Council has called a special congregational meeting to take place after worship on Sunday, 13 September 2009.

Thanks to Pastor Oltman

We wish to thank Pastor Brian Oltman for covering for Pastor Mark on 2 August. Besides making him welcome, we also tried to challenge his ability to handle emergency situations during sermon time. Concentrating on a sermon in a relatively new surrounding not knowing any of the congregation is daunting enough. So, we are grateful to him and to the members of the congregation for their collaboration taking care of Bob Becker in his moment of need.

Notes from your Council President

Forum Update:

Our thanks to those who attended the forum on Sunday to discuss our values, beliefs, and the reasons for leaving the ELCA. As discussed we seek to align ourselves with congregations that have similar values to ours, thus remaining genuinely Lutheran. We believe that, as a church, we are called to bring people to Christ, not to solve the social and political issues of the day. Your open and honest discussions were appreciated.

For those that missed the meeting, I have asked Pastor Mark to have a follow-up in early September.

The next step in this constitutionally driven process requires us to now notify the Synod of our intentions. This is followed by scheduling two required legally called congregational meetings where we will actually vote on leaving the ELCA and vote transfer to another Lutheran body. The two votes to leave the ELCA must be separated by 90 days. However, only one vote is needed to transfer to another Lutheran church body. Running in parallel to this is the work of the task force which will explore our options and have in place the required operations in a new environment.

A notification letter from the President of the Church Council will be sent to Bishop Finck on or before August 31, and we will call for the first congregational meeting to be held on Sunday, September 13. Please keep Pastor Mark, your Church leadership, and the task force in your prayers as we travel down this path. When we called Pastor Mark three years ago, we started a "new beginning," and we are now on an exciting journey in the life of our congregation!

Pastor Mark and I are always available for questions. Please contact either of us.

Yours in Christ
Richard Floegel
Council President

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL.....

ENDING WORLD HUNGER; SAVING THE EARTH

YOUR QUARTERS DO COUNT!! St. Luke's recently sent in another \$100. Thanks for your coins dropped into the quarter bank!!

THIS AND THAT:

----- How poor is poor? Each year the U.S. government sets the poverty threshold, the income level below which a household is considered poor. In the latest figures, a two-person household over age 65 is considered poor at \$12,550 a year or less. That's an income of \$1,046 a month for the household, \$261 per week, or just \$17 per person, per day.

----- 45% of the world's 2.2 billion children live in poverty.

----- Plenty of good food goes uneaten in this country every day. Gleaning is the practice of recovering food from the fields or from restaurants and food-supply companies – and it can produce a bounty. As harvesting gets under way, many nonprofit hunger organizations begin scheduling volunteers to help glean crops. Other organizations focus on finding uses for food-service surpluses. (St. Luke's delivers Panera Bakery's leftovers to TACO.) If you are interested in helping to glean, contact Martha Applegate or call Ann Evans at 582-2299. Ann heads up the Gleaners of southern San Diego County. She's always in need of volunteers.

----- Are you taking your own cloth bags into Ralphs, Vons, Albertsons, Henry's or Trader Joe's???

What started out as a simple financial incentive turned into a social movement in Ireland. After the government passed a 33-cent tax on disposable shopping bags, the results surprised everyone. Plastic bag use dropped by more than 90% within weeks.

By the end of one year, virtually all shoppers had switched to cloth shopping bags, and the once-ubiquitous plastic bags had all but vanished. Using plastic bags evolved into a social taboo – a power far more effective than the financial incentive. Still, large cities like New York (or San Diego County) have yet to implement such a tax, which an article in THE NEW YORK TIMES blames on “stiff resistance from business interests.”

NEXT MONTH: THE MIRACLE OF BANGLADESH. This country has gone from helpless to hopeful!

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR QUARTERS..... TO BE DROPPED INTO HEIFER'S QUARTER BANK IN THE NARTHEX!

PARISH POTPOURRI

More St. Luke's travelers: BEV HOLLAND recently attended a family reunion in the Charlotte/Greensboro area of North Carolina. She says her two-week trip was fabulous; do we detect a little more southern drawl?JOANN and JACK HENDRIKSON will be spending much of September in China. Among historic places they will see are the Great Wall, of course, and also the Terracotta Warriors in Xian.....Our own JUDY JONES will soon be spending a week in Hawaii, on the island of Kauai. JUDY, relax and enjoy!!.....

Congratulations to JOE PACE on the publication of his book, Happy Landing.” JOE’S experiences during World War II are graphically related, particularly his parachute jump into a German mine field. You’ll also find out that JOE came to Ellis Island inside his very pregnant mother!.....A little more humor: Always keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them; drive carefully.....it’s not only cars that can be recalled by their maker.....you may be only one person in the world, but you may also be the world to one person.

OUR ON-GOING OUTREACH

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO ARE BRINGING.....

pens, pencils and glue for children in Tijuana. The Lutheran Border Concerns Ministry appreciates all donations. Their needs are on-going.

“SUNSET BY THE SEA’

Is the Third Avenue Charitable Organization’s second fundraiser of the year, and its largest. This year’s event will occur Saturday, October 10, from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. at a beautiful seaside home in La Jolla. “Sunset by the Sea” involves a live and silent auction, an autumn harvest supper, wine and cheese tasting and chocolate.....not to mention a breathtaking view of the ocean.

Tickets are \$75 each or six for \$300, with all proceeds going to TACO. Only 150 tickets will be available for sale. **It is hoped that at least six St. Luke’s members will plan to participate; tickets** would then be \$50.

Any interested St. Luke’s members should contact the office, or Martha Applegate at 465-6005.

DO YOU HAVE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

marked on your calendar? That’s the date your Outreach Committee is sponsoring the second annual “Alternative Christmas Gift Faire.” Perhaps many remember the beautiful gifts available last year, with all profits going to the nonprofit organizations represented. More information will appear in next month’s BUILDER.

Martha Applegate

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE IS BACK

Begins: September 23rd

Dinner: 5:30 pm

Bible Study: 6:15

In the Lower Level

For the past 2 years, I have had the opportunity to assist Robin Wheeler with the Wednesday Night Live dinners. All I do, really, is assist as Robin plans, shops (sometimes 3 different stores or more), and cooks these meals. She has prepared some wonderful dishes at a nominal cost to those who partake of these dinners. So, I would encourage all to come to Wed. Night Live for a wonderful meal and fellowship and a night where you do not have to cook or do dishes!

Maureen Borchardt

Library News

Look for our own Joe Pace’s book, Happy Landing the library come September. It will be available for checkout in the Biography sections.

It’s a good read!

TREASURER NOTES

St. Luke's Financial statement is located in the Library for inspection by anyone wishing to view it.

Terry East
Treasurer

WELCA

The ladies of WELCA enjoyed a joint Bible Study on July 7 in the Lower Level. Pastor Mark led us through a study of Philippians. We shared fruit and bread and thoroughly enjoyed our time together. Thanks especially to Pastor Mark for the preparation of the extensive outline which made the study easy to follow.

At a short Board meeting after the joint Bible study, the WELCA ladies were reviewing the past year and events which had been planned and carried out. It was agreed that without the wonderful, creative work of Liz Dunnigan, none of the events would have been as special or beautiful. Liz is truly a treasure and we thank her for all her inspired decorations. We can always count on Liz, but we never take her for granted. A special thanks to Liz for all she does for us, season after season.

Ladies, please continue to pray specifically for those girls and women who receive the gift of a Solar Cooker. These women, in the past, defied death and danger to collect firewood to fuel the fires that fed their families. With the Solar Cookers, they have more time to take care of their families.

Please take a moment each day to remember these women in your prayers and ask God to protect and bless them and their families. Who knows what small act of kindness will bring someone to the Lord. The Mothers and Others Luncheon was a great success largely because we were able to purchase so many cookers . . .

Our project does not stop with the purchase of the cookers. God's power is great. Keep praying.

In September, our Circles become active again after our two joint ventures in the summer; the joint Bible Study and the Baby Shower.

Please consider joining a Circle now that fall is upon us. Deborah Circle meets Tuesday evenings, once a month. Rebekah Circle meets Thursday mornings once a month. You are heartily invited even if you cannot attend on a regular basis. See Betty Wiedmer (Deborah) or JoAnn Hendrickson (Rebekah) for more information.

Thanks once again to Shirley Carrington who put together a most wonderful Baby Shower in August. The El Cajon Teen Pregnancy Care Center was the recipient of all the layettes and baby clothes collected throughout the year by the women of WELCA. Our featured speaker was Kathy White from the Pregnancy Center who spoke to us about the focus and range of services of the center. Thank you, Shirley, for all your quiet constancy in serving.

Please contact Cathie Floegel if you would like to attend the Women of Faith Conference in Anaheim, September 11 and 12.

It sounds like a wonderful chance to connect with other Christian women and have a good time as well. Cathie's email is cathieflo@hotmail.com.

Look for WELCA exhibits at the all-church event on September 20. Be prepared to hear and see about our Project Day activities, the Solar Cooker project, our baby shower efforts and the Fair Trade coffee and tea outreach. The ladies of WELCA are busy and resourceful. Please join us!

Margi Buller

Parish Education

Have you ever wondered why the circles of WELCA were named after women? Or what exactly it is that WELCA does?

Have you ever wondered what the Saturday Morning Men's Bible study does, what they are studying?

Do you know what the adult Sunday School will be studying or what St. Luke's Academy is?

We all come to church every Sunday and most of us go to at least one Bible Study, but, do we know what all the other activities are.

Now is your chance to find out...On Sept. 20, 2009 Parish Education will present an open house in the Family Center, beginning right after church until 11:30. You will have the opportunity to read about and see all the activities that this church offers. Outreach, fellowship, Project ladies, Library, Wednesday Nite Live, Children's Sunday School.

Just what is St. Luke's Academy??

The day will not end with the Open House. Beginning at 12:30 everyone is invited to an "Old Fashion Picnic", to be held on our campus. There will be lots of food, drinks, fun and games, such as: sack races, cake walk, three legged races, go fish, and much, much more. The only thing you need to bring is yourselves and your lawn chairs, everything else will be provided.

Invite your friends and neighbors to come and enjoy the great hospitality of our church.

See you Sept. 20th...



Heartfelt Thanks

What a loving and caring family we have called "St. Luke's Church". All the prayers, cards, calls, visits and gifts have meant so *much*. It's a strange life having round-the-clock people running my household. I don't handle it very gracefully, to put it mildly! How I miss my church! The Lord bless you all. I'll soon be moving to Grossmont Gardens.

Lovingly & gratefully,
Marge Henkel

THANK YOU

My family and I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, kind words and cards before and after my mothers passing in August.

Thank you, Pastor Mark, for all your visits to see Mom the past couple years when she was in the hospital. She always said, "*He's a very nice man.*" And, she would smile. It meant so much to her.

Words truly cannot describe how fitting the memorial service was for my Mother and our family and friends.

Mom asked me the day before she passed to bring her some happiness, and with the help of God, Pastor Mark, and the "St. Luke's Family", we know she had the biggest smile on her face, as she looked down, and thought, Wow, was this all for me? They are all *very nice people*. Thank you!!

Now, I can go fishing.....

Thank you to all the ladies who prepared food, tables, and all that goes with the reception. It was wonderful and very much appreciated.

Last, but not least, I want to thank the ladies who filled in for me in the office and kept things going, answering phones, taking messages, and helping out with anything that needed taken care of. You're the best.

Everyone's kindness, love, and generosity of their time will never be forgotten by myself and my family. THANK YOU.

Judy Jones
JC, Bob and Terri Daniels
The Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren

SEPTMEBER WORSHIP TEXT

6th

Time after Pentecost

First Lesson—Isaiah 35: 4-7a

Second Lesson—James 2: 1-10 [11-13]
14-17

Gospel—Mark 7: 24-37

13th

Time after Pentecost

First Lesson—Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Second Lesson—James 3: 1-12

Gospel—Mark 8: 27-38

20th

Time after Pentecost

First Lesson—Jeremiah 11: 18-20

Second Lesson—James 3: 13—4: 3, 7

Gospel—Mark 9: 30-37 -8a

27rd

Time after Pentecost

First Lesson—Numbers 11: 4-6,
10-16, 24-29

Second Lesson—James 5: 13-20

Gospel—Mark 9: 38-50

MEMORIAL GIFTS

**Leta Fay Roberts Memorial
Dallas and Betty Murray**

**Donna Bohnsack Memorial
Glen Bohnsack**

**Don Nelsen Memorial
Glen Bohnsack**



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Darcy Barghols Patti Boekamp
 Cathie Floegel Blaine Fowler
 Bev Holland Gene Knippelmeyer
 Peter Mylerberg Bev Newak
 Ted Olsen Karen Skullerud

You can always go to St. Luke's web site to see what's happening... here is our new web page address....

www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org

DID YOU KNOW!

Our monthly newsletter is printed free because of generous people / companies that advertise. It is true, and we need to let these generous people know that we appreciate them. If you are in need of transmission work

PLEASE CALL and THANK. ...

RAPID TRANSMISSIONS

Make sure you tell them you heard about them from our newsletter!

PARISH BUILDER ARTICLES

For October 2009

Due in the office

September 16th

SEPTEMBER PRAYER CALENDAR		
1	John 1: 1-13	
2	Psalm 93: 1-5	
3	Ephesians 4: 29-32	<i>May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble!</i>
4	James 1: 12-18	
5	Psalm 16: 5-11	
6	Hebrews 11: 23-28	<i>May the name of the God of</i>
7	I Corinthians 1: 18-31	<i>Jacob protect you!</i>
8	Matthew 6: 25-34	
9	Psalm 138: 1-8	<i>May He send you help from the</i>
10	Philippians 2: 14-18	<i>sanctuary and give you support</i>
11	Mark 14: 26-42	<i>from Zion!</i>
12	Psalm 62: 5-8	
13	I Chronicles 16: 8-18	<i>May He remember all your</i>
14	I Peter 4: 7-11	<i>offerings and regard with favor</i>
15	Romans 5: 1-5	<i>your burnt sacrifices!</i>
16	Psalm 121: 1-8	
17	I Thessalonians 4: 9-12	<i>May He grant your hearts desire</i>
18	I John 3: 11-18	<i>and fulfill all yours plans!</i>
19	Psalm 119: 169-176	
20	Philippians 1: 27-30	<i>May we shout with joy over your</i>
21	II Corinthians 4: 16-18	<i>salvation, and in the name of our</i>
22	John 6: 35-40	<i>God set up our banner!</i>
23	John 1: 14-18	
24	Hebrews 13: 20-21	<i>May the LORD fulfill all your petitions!</i>
25	I John 5: 18-21	
26	Mark 12: 28-31	<i>Psalm 20: 1-5</i>
27	Romans 10: 1-3	
28	Romans 1: 1-17	
29	Psalm 95: 1-7	
30	Mark 4: 33-41	

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP TEAMS	
September Reader September Altar Guild	<i>Ted Olson Vi DeMarce</i>
6th Communion Assistant Bread	<i>Judi Dunnigan</i>
Prayers of the People	<i>Darcy Barghols</i>
Projectionist	<i>Roger Caldwell</i>
Communion Assistants Wine	<i>Darcy Barghols, Liz Dunnigan</i>
Greeters	<i>Loraine Winger, Bonnie Fuller</i>
Usher Team	<i>Randy Engel</i>
13th Communion Assistant Bread	<i>Shirley Carrington</i>
Prayers of the People	<i>Pat Swanson</i>
Projectionist	<i>Marie Handley</i>
Communion Assistants Wine	<i>Cathie Floegel, Shirley Carrington</i>
Greeters	<i>Bob Becker, Chuck Volker</i>
Usher Team	<i>George Hauk</i>
20th Communion Assistant Bread	<i>Lyle Swanson</i>
Prayers of the People	<i>Bonnie Fuller</i>
Projectionist	<i>Hazel Knippelmeyer</i>
Communion Assistants Wine	<i>Dawn Dolan, Marge Hersom</i>
Greeters	<i>Bruce Fowler, Bob & Marilyn Burns</i>
Usher Team	<i>Shirley Carrington</i>
27th Communion Assistant Bread	<i>Pat Swanson</i>
Prayers of the People	<i>Liz Dunnigan</i>
Projectionist	<i>Gail Knippelmeyer</i>
Communion Assistant Wine	<i>Vic & Marge Bitter</i>
Greeters	<i>Darcy Barghols, Dawn & James Dolan, Gene & Hazel Knippelmeyer</i>
Usher Team	<i>Chuck Hersom</i>

SEPTEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00 a.m. Facilities meeting 9:30 a.m. Project day Noon WELCA 6:00 p.m. Worship Arts 6:30 p.m. Special O. 7:00 p.m. Parish Ed	2	3 10:00 a.m. Outreach	4	5 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9-10 a.m. Altar Guild
6 9:00 a.m. Worship Service	7 9:00 a.m. Counters	8 9:00 a.m. Facilities 9:30 a.m. Project day 6:00 pm Finance 6:30 p.m. Executive Council 6:30 p.m. Special O. 7:00 p.m. Council	9 6:00 p.m. Choir pot- luck @ the Applegates 7:00 p.m. Choir prac- tice	10	11	12 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9-10 a.m. Altar Guild
13 9:00 a.m. Worship Service	14 9:00 a.m. Counters	15 9:00 a.m. Facilities crew 6:30 p.m. Special Olympics	16 7:00 p.m. Choir	17	18	19 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9-10 a.m. Altar Guild
20 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Open House 12:30 a.m. Old Fashion Church Picnic	21 9:00 a.m. Counters	22 9:00 a.m. Facilities crew 9:30 a.m. Project day 6:30 p.m. Special Olympics	23 5:30 p.m. WNL 6:15 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir	24	25	26 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study 9-10 a.m. Altar Guild
27 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:25 a.m. Sunday School 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. SLTA— First Module— "Introduction to the Christian Faith"	28 9:00 a.m. Counters	29 9:00 a.m. Facilities crew 6:30 p.m. Special Olympics	30 5:30 p.m. WNL 6:15 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir			

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WORSHIP: SUNDAYS—9:00 a.m.
September 27—Sunday school begins for all ages at
10:30 am, at various locations

Also beginning on September 27—
“An Introduction to the Christian Faith”
The First Module of St. Luke’s Theological Academy
from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm in the Church Library.

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
soli dei gloria.