

Parish Rebuilder

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

619-463-6633 www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org

July 2023
Monthly Newsletter
Volume 23 Issue 7

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

Please contact Debbie in the office to discuss membership or to arrange an appointment with the pastor:

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

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Vacation Bible School

July 8-9

9:00 a.m.—3:00 pm

Quarterly Congregational Meeting

July 23rd



Luther on Baptism and on VBS

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is upon us. This year's VBS curriculum pertains to the Apostles' Creed. Not only is the Apostles' Creed part of Luther's *Small Catechism* (SC), but it is also confessed during baptism, about which Lutherans also teach in the SC. Below is an excerpt from a sermon on baptism from 1528 which Luther gave as one of ten sermons on the catechism:

“Therefore, if you are asked what baptism is, you should not answer, as the fanatics do, that it is a handful of water, which is no good, that the Spirit, the Spirit must do it; the bathhouse servant, the minister, that is, effects nothing; therefore the Spirit should be present. But you should say: Baptism is water comprehended and sanctified in God's commandment and Word, that is, a divine and holy water because of God's commandment. The fanatics, the scoundrels rip off God's Word. If I skin a cow, it isn't worth much; but if I take the meat with the hide, it is worth four guldens. Therefore say that baptism is a living, saving water on account of the Word of God which is in it. The Word of God, however, is greater than heaven and earth, sun, moon, and all angels. Don't look at the water, and see that it is wet, but rather that it has with it the Word of God. It is a holy, living, heavenly, blessed water because of the Word and command of God, which is holy. You cannot sufficiently extol it; who can ever sufficiently extol God's Word? And all this comes in baptism because God's Word is in baptism. This is the way I also speak of parents and neighbors. If I look at a father, seeing only that he has a nose, that he is flesh and blood, with bones, limbs, skin and hair, or likewise

a mother, if I do not look upon her otherwise than that, I am not seeing her at all, but trampling her under foot. But when the fourth commandment is added, then I see them adorned with a glorious crown and golden chain, which is the Word of God. And that shows you why you should honor this flesh and blood of your parents for the sake of God's Word. This the fanatics do not consider, nor can they do it, because they abominate the Word. The round halo which is painted around the heads of saints is around the heads of parents too. The golden halo or diadem came from the heathen. Later it became a garland, then flowers were added, and now it has become the bishop's mitre. This Word of power is painted around the heads of parents as a diadem, just as if the majesty and the Word of God were painted about their heads."

"So it is with baptism. Certainly when the devil sees baptism and hears the Word sounding, to him it is like a bright sun and he will not stay there, and when a person is baptized for the sake of the Word of God, which is in it, there is a veritable oven glow. Do you think it was a joke that the heavens were opened at Christ's baptism? [Matt. 3:16]. Say, therefore, that baptism is water and God's Word comprehended in one. Take the Word away and it is the same water with which the maid waters the cow; but with the Word, it is a living, holy, divine water. He who considers the words: "will be saved" (Mark 16:16) will find it [salvation]; for with his words, "will be saved," Christ puts salvation into baptism. Therefore it is impossible that this should be simple water when through it salvation, forgiveness of sins, and redemption from death and the devil is given."

"But nobody believes what an excellent thing is in these words. The fanatics laugh at us and say: You neo-papists teach the people to trust in water. But when I ask them: What do you say about these words, 'He who believes and is baptized will be saved'? they flutter away. So you say to them: We do not teach that one should trust in water, but we do teach that the water, when it

becomes one thing with God's Word, is baptism. The water does not do it because of itself, but rather because of the Word, which is connected with it. But if you take away the Word, then don't go telling us that baptism is useless water. Then it is a figment of the devil, who is seeking to sow bad seed among us. You hear your Savior say: If you believe and are baptized, then salvation follows, not because of the water, but because you believe the Word. It is not for nothing that I insist so emphatically that you say that baptism is natural, physical water connected with the Word of God. When these two come together, water and the Word of God, then it is a baptism."

"But, you say, can water benefit me? No. What then? Baptism. But isn't it water? No; for it is water connected with the Word of God; therefore it must be something other than water. That's why we declare that the water amounts to nothing, but baptism does. Therefore baptism is water with the Word of God, and this is the essence and whole substance of baptism. When, therefore, water and God's Word are conjoined, it must necessarily be a holy and divine water, for as the Word is, so the water becomes also.

"Furthermore, the benefit of baptism must also be learned. If baptism is water with the Word of God, what is its purpose, work, fruit, and benefit? It saves those who believe, as the words say. A child is baptized, not in order that it may become a prince; it is baptized in order that it may be saved, as the words say, that is, in order that it may be redeemed from sin, death, and the devil, that it may become a member of Christ, and that it may come into Christ's kingdom and Christ become its Lord. Accordingly, baptism is useful to the end that through it we may be saved. There you have the transcendent excellence of baptism. The first honor is that it is a divine water, and when you see a baptism remember that the heavens are opened. The fruit is that it saves, redeems you from sin, liberates you from the devil, and leads you to Christ" (LW 51:183-185).

Memorial Service for Marge Bitter

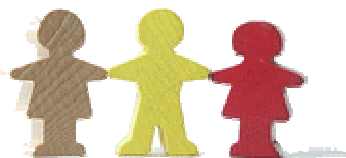
As a reminder and in response to many inquiries, the memorial service for Marge Bitter will be held on Saturday, 22 July, at 10:00 am. Marge was one of St. Luke's oldest members both in terms of age and length of membership. We are grateful for her many years of service to the gospel of Jesus Christ as a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church. Please join us to remember and honor Marge's life in Christ.



Sunday School Planning

Like so many aspects of church life, COVID threw a wrench into our regular Sunday school program. Whereas the adult Sunday school class has continued in good form, Sunday school for our younger members and attendees has been a little less structured. Teaching the faith is an important aspect of Christian living, and teaching the faith to succeeding generations is our opportunity to transmit God's gift of salvation to those who will succeed us. In other words, how can our younger members succeed us if they are not equipped to do so? If you are interested in teaching Sunday school, helping with lesson crafts, or willing to assist or collaborate with others in teaching, Pastor Mark will be holding a few Sunday school organizational meetings soon.

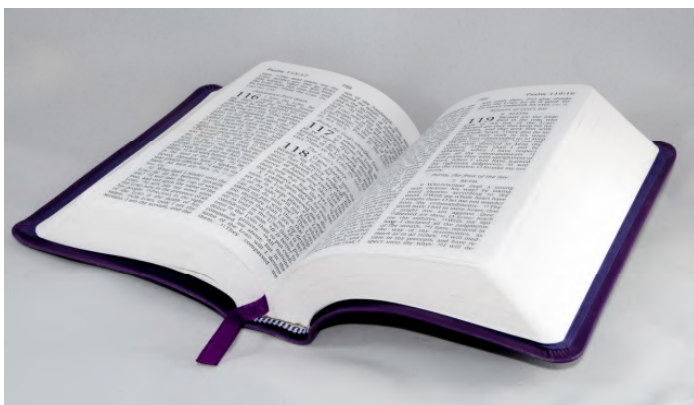
Children's Sunday School



Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Sunday, June 11, 2023 we at St. Luke's were blessed to witness the baptism of Madilyn Mae Lindstrom, granddaughter of Lori Ann Linn.





Members, do you have changes to your address, email address or phone number?

Have you noticed your special day has not been mentioned in the newsletter?

Send the office an email or give Debbie a call to update your member information.

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

July 2023 WSL Report

The Women of St. Luke's (WSL) had our **Quarterly Meeting** on June 10th in the Lower Level. At that meeting we started plans for the **Baby Shower** in August to support the Pregnancy Care Center, the **White Elephant Bingo** in September, and the **new Bible Study** which will begin on the **THIRD WEDNESDAY** of each month starting **September 2023!**

WSL also decided which organizations to disburse our funds which we have collected over the past months. This was a very busy meeting. Thanks to all who participated. Our next Quarterly Meeting is Saturday, September 16th. Please submit your agenda items for the WSL Meeting to Doris Snashall.

Report Submitted by Karen Skullerud



Music Notes

By Richard Deal

Thank you to all the choir members who have participated these past several months. Have a wonderful summer and see you September 6th!

If anyone is interested in participating in Special Music this summer please see me after a service or call me at 619-871-5133.

Save the Date!!!

Calling all Ladies!

A Ladies Retreat is being planned for

September 30, 2023.

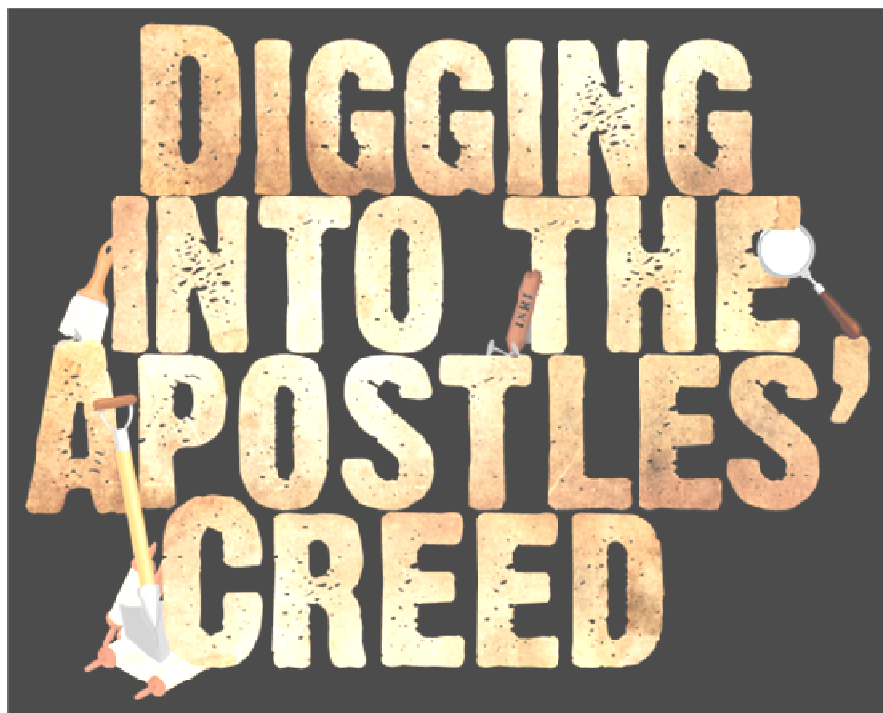
More information to come.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023

Saturday July 8th - Sunday July 9th 2023

9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

*Sunday morning Worship is part of VBS,
with a BBQ following the Worship Service.*



The theme this year is "Digging Into the Apostles' Creed."

Welcome to the dig site!

Meet Mr. Digs, Charlie and Ruby as they help us "dig into" the Apostles' Creed.

The various activities, crafts, and games provide many
ways

to emphasize the important gospel lessons.
VBS at St. Luke's includes adults.

VBS Pledge:

Hard work, strong minds, and cooperation are gifts from
God that we can use to discover and learn.

Let's Get Digging!



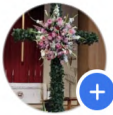


Pastor Mark continues to use Facebook Live for the sermon portion of our Sunday worship service. Please like and follow the page for more information on events.



St Luke's Lutheran C... ▾

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St Luke's Lutheran Church

@stlukeslamesa



Looking for sponsor/host

for coffee hour!

Please sign up in the kitchen to bring treats and make coffee.

July 2 — Judi Cole

July 9 — Church VBS BBQ

July 17 — Snashalls

July 23—Congregational meeting

July 30—open



(619)463-1484

7633 El Cajon Blvd # 300,

La Mesa, CA 91942

Each month our newsletter is published for free due to the advertisements of local businesses.

Please take a moment and search the last page and see if the services they provide could help you.

Happy Birthday

Judi Cole — July 12th

Martha Applegate — July 17th

Jennifer Killion — July 20th

Sarah Scott — July 22nd

Cheryl Walczak— July 23rd

Suzanne Miller— July 26th

Mel Horning—July 31st



Peter & Karen Mylerberg

July 26th

George & Karen Parcels

July 29th



JULY WORSHIP TEXT

2nd—Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson — Jeremiah 28:5-9

Psalm 119:153-160

Second Lesson — Romans 7:1-13

Gospel Lesson — Matthew 10:34-42

9th—Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson — Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalm 145:1-14

Second Lesson — Romans 7:14-25a

Gospel Lesson — Matthew 11:25-30

16th — Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson — Isaiah 55:10-13

Psalm 65:1-13

Second Lesson — Romans 8:12-17

Gospel Lesson — Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

23rd—Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson — Isaiah 44:6-8

Psalm 119:57-64

Second Lesson — Romans 8:18-27

Gospel Lesson — Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

30th—Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

First Lesson — Deuteronomy 7:6-9

Psalm 125

Second Lesson — Romans 8:28-39

Gospel Lesson — Matthew 13:44-52

JULY PRAYER CALENDAR

Pray God's WORD

1	Psalm 89:1-14	Great Is Thy Faithfulness
2	Isaiah 11:1-5	
3	Luke 11:9-13	Great is Thy faithfulness,
4	Psalm 36:5-12	O God my Father;
5	Lamentations 3:19-27	There is no shadow
6	Psalm 145:10-21	Of turning with Thee.
7	Psalm 199:10-21	Thou changest not:
8	Hebrews 2:14-18	Thy compassions, they fail not:
9	Hebrews 3:1-6	As Thou hast been,
10	Hebrews 10:16-23	Thou forever will be.
11	Hebrews 11:8-16	
12	Psalm 86:1-13	Pardon for sin and
13	Deuteronomy 32:1-4	A peace that endureth,
14	1 Thessalonians 5:12-24	Thine own dear presence
15	Psalm 91:1-13	To cheer and to guide;
16	1 John 1:5-10	Strength for today and
17	Psalm 25:1-10	Bright hope for tomorrow,
18	Psalm 111:1-10	Blessings all mine,
19	Psalm 40:1-5	With ten thousand beside!
20	1 Corinthians 10:9-13	
21	Hebrews 6:11-20	Great is Thy faithfulness!
22	Psalm 36:5-12	Great is Thy faithfulness!
23	Isaiah 40:20-31	Morning by morning
24	2 Corinthians 1:18-22	New mercies I see;
25	Psalm 121:1-8	All I have needed
26	Psalm 23:1-6	Thy hand has provided;
27	Romans 8:29-39	Great is Thy faithfulness,
28	Psalm 100:1-5	Lord unto me!
29	1 Corinthians 1:1-19	
30	2 Thessalonians 3:1-9	Lutheran Service Book—Hymn 809
31	Romans 8:31-39	Verses 1, 3, and Refrain

JULY WORSHIP TEAMS

Reader: Doris Snashall

Altar Guild: Terry East

2nd	Prayers of the People	<i>Pastor Mark Menacher</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Shirley Carrington</i>
	Communion Assistant	<i>Ted Olsen</i>
	Communion Assistants: Wine	<i>Judi Cole & Bob Urich</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Randy Engel</i>
	Acolytes	<i>G. Bruflat & Jet Bruflat</i>
9th	Prayers of the People	<i>Jillian Barnard</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Gail Knippelmeyer</i>
	Communion Assistant	<i>Gleason Snashall</i>
	Communion Assistants: Wine	<i>Judi Cole & Terri East</i>
	Greeter	<i>JoAnn Hendrickson</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Randy Engel</i>
16th	Prayers of the People	<i>MaryAnn Boullain</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Shirley Carrington</i>
	Communion Assistant	<i>Gleason Snashall</i>
	Communion Assistants: Wine	<i>Terri East & Dianne Durrenberger</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Cheri Murrell</i>
	Acolytes	<i>G. Bruflat & Jet Bruflat</i>
23rd	Prayers of the People	<i>MaryAnn Boullain</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Gail Knippelmeyer</i>
	Communion Assistant	<i>Gleason Snashall</i>
	Communion Assistants: Wine	<i>Jillian Barnard & Laurie Floren</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Bob Gray</i>
30th	Prayers of the People	<i>MaryAnn Boullain</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Shirley Carrington</i>
	Communion Assistant	<i>Gleason Snashall</i>
	Communion Assistants: Wine	<i>Dianne Durrenberger & Laurie Floren</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Dave & Kim Emerson</i>



JULY 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:00 am Altar Guild
2 9:00 am Worship	3 9:30 am—Counters	4 HAPPY 4th of JULY Office & Campus Closed	5 7:00 pm Communion	6 8:00 am Tai Chi	7	8 VBS 9:00 am—3:00 p.m. 9:00 am Altar Guild
9 9:00 am Worship VBS/BBQ	10 1:30 pm Counters	11 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Project Ladies	12 7:00 pm Communion	13 8:00 am Tai Chi	14	15 9:00 am Altar Guild
16 9:00 am Worship	17 9:30 am Counters	18 8:00 am Tai Chi	19 7:00 pm Communion	20 8:00 am Tai Chi	21	22 9:00 am Altar Guild 10:00 am Bitter Memorial Service
23 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Quarterly Congregational Mtg	24 1:30 pm Counters	25 8:00 am Tai Chi 9:00 am Project Ladies	26 7:00 pm Communion	27 8:00 am Tai Chi	28	29 9:00 am Altar Guild
30 9:00 am Worship	31					

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JULY 2023

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL

- Worship Service: Sundays, 9:00 am in the Sanctuary.
- Wednesday night Communion Service: 7:00 pm.
- Office/Campus will be closed July 4th, in observance of Independence Day.
- VBS July 8-9, 9am-3 pm; free of charge in Lower Level.
- Bitter Memorial Service July 22nd 10:00 a.m.
- Quarterly Congregational Meeting—July 23rd following worship service.
- Tai Chi Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00 am.
- Project Day Ladies Tuesdays, July 11th & 25th.

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.