

The

# TLC Trumpet

Keeping you informed and sharing our experience, strength & hope in the love of Christ

Volume 4 No. 4

www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

April 2007

## O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! -Psalm 107:1

As Call Committee chairman Mark Koppen announced at worship on March 25, the Call Committee has completed interviews with pastoral candidates, and on April 11, 2007 will enthusiastically bring their recommendation to the TLC Council - that Pastor Jean Lebbert be called to serve as pastor of Thanksgiving Lutheran! The Council will then act on the Call Committee's recommendation, and will call a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of voting to approve extension of the call to Pastor Lebbert.

As of "press time," details about the congregational meeting, Pastor Lebbert and the compensation package, etc., have not been finalized, but we are looking at a tentative meeting date of Sunday, April 29, 2007.

**Please "stay tuned" and watch your mailbox—the Council will send all member households an informational letter with more complete information about Pastor Lebbert, as well as an announcement of the date and time for this very important Congregational Meeting, as soon as it is available!**

## What does "outreach" mean to you?

Does it involve knocking on strangers' doors or handing out leaflets in a crowded mall? Is it simply living a good life and being a good example? There are probably as many responses to the question as there are people at TLC, and as many varying attitudes about the whole subject.

In January, the Council appointed a Defining Evangelism Task Force, with the purpose of organizing a series of events to bring the congregation together to think about and discuss what evangelism (or "outreach" for the E-word nervous) means to us at TLC. In truth, our vision of outreach will be as unique as we are, as it should be.

The task force (Karen Lehman, Marilyn Schuler and Jan Thomas) started by interviewing key people at churches that seemed to have grown substantially in the past five years. We discovered that the subject of outreach/

*See "Outreach", page 2...*

### **Holy Week Events:**

- 4/5 Maundy Thursday**, "The Last Supper: What Does It Really Mean?" Worship with Holy Communion 7pm
- 4/6 Good Friday**, "The Cross: The Unexplainable Gift", 7pm
- 4/7 Prayer-a-thon**, 7pm
- 4/8 Easter Jubilee: A Celebration of Love!**  
9:30am. Egg hunt and Brunch after worship

*“Outreach”, continued...*

evangelism is a big topic of concern, and we are not alone in our quest for an effective outreach ministry. From those interviews, we have invited people to come to TLC and share with us their thoughts and vision of outreach, and how it can work in a congregation. The first of those speakers, Reverend Peter Rehwaldt, visited with us on March 18<sup>th</sup>. Reverend Bonnie Bell was scheduled, but had to cancel due to family illness, and we hope to reschedule with her. We are also setting up a time when Bishop Mullen will come and speak. On Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, the congregation is invited to a dinner and video-presentation, *“Developing an Outreach Focused Church,”* followed by discussion. And finally, on May 6<sup>th</sup>, the Council, leaders (and all interested) will gather for dinner and viewing another segment of *“Developing an Outreach Focused Church,”* dealing with details of developing and managing an outreach program.

Jesus calls us to be His voice in the world and invite our neighbors into relationship with Him. How will we do that? Come listen to our guest speakers, participate in the discussions and help us figure it out!

**Watch for information about these upcoming events and mark your calendars:**

**Reverend Bonnie Bell, guest preacher and Adult Forum speaker (Stay tuned for details)**

**Bishop Mullen, guest speaker during worship (date to be announced soon)**

**“Developing an Outreach Focused Church” seminar with dinner provided, April 22, 4:30 PM**

**Church leaders’ seminar, Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, dinner provided, 4:00 PM**

## Stewardship Corner



*Thanksgiving Lutheran strives to encourage all members to view their offerings of time, talent, and treasure as acts of discipleship in response to God’s gracious gifts to us, and our members have historically taken this message to heart, often going the “extra mile” in response to financial difficulties of the congregation as well as contributing generously to causes outside of the congregation! The following is brought to you by the Finance team as part of an ongoing series, “10 Stewardship Principles,” adapted from ELCA Stewardship materials available online; we hope that you will recognize yourself in these principles!*

In 2 Corinthians, we find Paul urging the urban, largely Gentile churches in Macedonia, Achaia, and Corinth to participate in a collection to aid the Jerusalem church. Paul says, “You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us.... Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ” (2 Cor 9:11,13); this leads us to:

**Stewardship Principle #2: Obey responsibly** to glorify God as a faithful proclamation of God’s word. Today, the word “obey” often makes people cringe—dogs and servants are expected to obey, but aren’t we to be *free* givers? For another way to look at the meaning of obedience, consider that the word “obey” comes from the Latin ‘oboedire’: ‘ob’ = ‘to’ + ‘audire’ = ‘hear’ or ‘listen to’. In this sense, to “obey responsibly” means to be actively listening for God and for what God might be telling us to do through the gospel, and responding accordingly. And that takes courage!



## Two Gay Pastors Fell in Love

by Paul Feiertag

One of our son Tim's very close friends is Bradley Schmeling, who recognized pastoral qualities in Tim and urged him to enroll in seminary. Bradley has been pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church in Atlanta, Georgia, since 2000. He was not secretive about being gay when called by St. John's. The congregation called him as pastor because his gifts and skills matched their needs and goals. Bradley stated that he could not sign his intent to be in compliance with ELCA policy but would inform his Bishop if his single status changed. Tim happened to be present when Bradley met Darin Easler, a former ELCA pastor whose Bishop quietly removed him from the roster when he requested an extension to his "on leave from call" status. Tim knew from the start that they were falling in love. Bradley informed his Bishop after the two of them had a commitment ceremony. The whole congregation rejoiced and supported the two of them as a couple. (It's a matter of respect, remember?)

Bishop Roland B. Warren and an Assistant to the Bishop met with the council and then the whole congregation to explain ELCA policies and procedures and the consequences of the discipline process—the requested resignation of their pastor. During questions and answers several members voiced concerns about disciplining a pastor and a congregation's ministry that had seen so much growth in every area of measurement—membership +52%, attendance +31%, children's involvement +78%, stewardship +70%—without consulting the congregation. They asked their Bishop to consider other options and to consult with other bishops.

Bishop Warren believes that the promises he made at his installation as bishop required him to pursue charges and expel Pastor Schmeling. He set the dates for the hearing and insisted that the proceedings be closed to the media and that everyone involved including family and all witnesses be prohibited from speaking about the discipline hearing (trial) until the twelve-member discipline hearing committee

(the jury) issued its report (the verdict) fifteen days after its adjournment. To everyone's surprise the report stated that "a near-unanimous committee" would find "Pastor Schmeling is not engaged in conduct that is incompatible with the ministerial office, and would find with near unanimity that no discipline of any sort should be imposed against him." However, seven of the twelve believed that until and unless the *policy* of the ELCA that is simply bad and possibly unconstitutional *is changed*, they had no choice but to expel Pastor Schmeling from the ELCA. BUT, the date of his expulsion is August 15, 2007. That is three days after the Churchwide Assembly in Chicago this summer.

In the meantime all congregations are urged to educate the voting members they send to Synod Assemblies to urge the 65 Synods of the ELCA to memorialize the Churchwide Assembly to remove or change the offensive, discriminatory language that prohibits gay clergy from serving in the ELCA after they fall in love and live in committed same-gender relationships. If all of this happens, Pastor Bradley Schmeling's expulsion will be null and void.

Our Interim Pastor Jack Lundin and Betty Heibel will attend the Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly in Reno April 19-21 as voting members. Paul and Ingrid Feiertag will attend as visitors to influence as many voters as they can. "After all, as Tim's parents we are committed to creating a church that will receive Tim as a pastor, and we want him to have the same support of a loving spouse that we have been to each other."

*A footnote, if you please: Both Pastor Bradley Schmeling and Bishop Roland Warren have appealed the decision of the discipline hearing committee. The appeals committee has 60 days after the last document is filed with them to render its decision. The appeals committee decision is final. It has the authority to find those two offensive policy statements to be unconstitutional. Will they? Be among the first to know by going to [stjohnsatlanta.org/](http://stjohnsatlanta.org/) or [elca.org/](http://elca.org/)*

## It Happened in Our Synod, Too

by Paul Feiertag\*

When our son Dan lived in San Francisco and worshiped at St. Mark's, we met a student from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary who was originally from Germany who also worshiped there. When Christian Jennert graduated from PLTS, he was called as Associate Pastor at St. Mark's. Almost everyone there knew Christian was gay, but Christian, after a period of time, was uncomfortable not being totally honest and "out of the closet" with our Sierra Pacific Synod Bishop, so he informed the whole congregation that he was living in a same-gender committed relationship and intended to inform the Bishop. Bishop Mullens met with the people of St. Mark's and asked everyone to participate in a survey of what effect Christian's being gay had on the congregation—good and bad. Several people told me that they responded: Why would you even think that there would be something bad about Christian being gay and partnered?

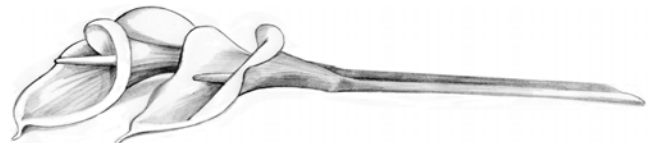
Bishop Mullen, too, takes seriously the promises he made when he was installed as bishop. However, in the Sierra Pacific Synod there have been many clergy who have "come out of the closet" and been supported in their ministries by their congregations and the Synod. When congregations or pastors have been expelled, there have been regrets, and lessons have been learned. The Churchwide Assembly in Orlando, Florida in 2005, after failing to find a solution to the issues involving gay clergy and same-gender committed relationships, urged every part of the ELCA to "concentrate on finding ways to live together faithfully in the midst of disagreements, recognizing the God-given mission and communion that we share as members of the body of Christ." Bishop Mullen's discipline in response to Christian Jennert's coming out was to write a private letter of censure for not being in compliance with ELCA policy which was to be placed in Christian's personnel file in the Synod office. Christian told me that he believes the letter is there, and so do I. The \$100,000 expense of a trial was saved. Christian is accepted and supported in his

ministry. There is respect all the way around, including for our Bishop David H. Mullens.

\*The author amended this article on July 9, 2009, to delete an error pointed out by Pastor Christian Jennert.

## Nifty Fifties to Tour the San Francisco Bay Model in Sausalito

On April 26 at 11:30 a.m. the Nifty Fifties will meet at Thanksgiving Lutheran Church to pool rides to Sausalito. Please bring something to share for a picnic when we arrive in Sausalito. That includes your own table service and something to drink. After dining we will tour the San Francisco Bay Model that was built by the Corps of Engineers and is maintained by them. It is a self guided tour and is free! There is also a small area about what went on in the area during World War II, with videos of those who actually worked on some of these ship building jobs. The video tells about all the women who worked in ship building and some of the things that were required of them. It is very interesting and cheap besides. We encourage everyone who is fifty or over to join us. We look forward to spending this time together.



News has reached us from former member Ingrid Larson that her mother, Doris Larson, also a former member of TLC, passed away quietly and peacefully at home on Wednesday, March 21. Doris was diagnosed with Leukemia four months ago.

Please include Ingrid, Dan, and their family members in your prayers. Cards may be sent to:

Dan Farrington & Ingrid Larson  
PO Box 564  
Downieville, CA 95936

## Getting to Know... Betty Speakes

You might say that Betty is a mirror of Martin Luther. She was raised Catholic and stayed with it for many years. But she was questioning some of their canons and practices. Finally, some personal incidents led to the last straw and she made the break. Years later she was playing Bunko at Sequoia Gardens. Now it was time for Sandi Leithe, Lorraine Larson, and Mary Dawson to lead her to TLC. Betty was overwhelmed by the “we lcome mat” at TLC and has been here ever since. “I LOVE the people at TLC,” she says.

Her father was “dynamite” according to her mother. Actually, he worked with dynamite, blowing holes that became the Waldo Tunnel while the Golden Gate Bridge was being built. She moved around the Bay Area, finally settling in Hessel, now a part of Sebastopol.

She married in 1955 while husband Ron was in the Air Force at Hamilton Field. Later, he went into construction, then became a house painter until his retirement. The children began arriving in 1957. In order, they are Ronald, Rochell (Shelly), and Randall. Added to the flock are 7 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter . . . all born in Santa Rosa.

Through the years, Betty ruled her domain as “Domestic Goddess.” She cared for the children, sewed, altered clothes, decorated cakes, and canned food items. She was a Room-mother at school. She formed the first unsanctioned girl’s softball teams, and was their Manager. For eleven years she was Scorekeeper for the boy’s Little League, while her husband coached all those years.

When each kid got a part-time job, they learned financial management by becoming responsible for certain household bills. Today, they still thank Mom and Dad for their “education.” At age 35 Betty got her first drivers license. Now she could get around to homes and spent 28 ½ years doing in-home care for those with disabilities.

She loves to READ. And crossword puzzles are next. Anytime the TV is on, she is also doing a puzzle. But the grandchildren supersede all of this. Her favorite at TLC is working at FISH where her heart experiences a melt-down. The joyful satisfaction of the Quilt meetings is another favorite. She is happy to be a Greeter so that she can get to know people. Betty claims that “my memory needs the extra aid of seeing name tags for me to remember.”

Betty is not one to waste time. She was in high school when she met Ron. Her mother had already met Ron and was impressed right away. Then Mom introduced him to her daughter . . . and Betty’s impression surpassed Mom’s. They were married when she was 17 and still a senior at Santa Rosa High School

*George Land*

## “Multiply there and do not decrease” **JEREMIAH 29:6**

God tells His people “I know the plans I have for you . . . plans to prosper you . . . plans to give you hope and a future” (Jer 29:11). But hope needs a nurturing environment. God didn’t give them permission to take that hope, then just sit back and do nothing. No, He told them exactly what He wanted them to do while He was working out some of the details for their future: “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce . . . Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you . . . Pray unto the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper” (Jer 29:5-7). In other words, while you’re waiting for God to turn things around, seize the moment. Become as productive as you possible can. Maximize your potential. A lot of us, while we wait for God to work, think we can do nothing when there’s plenty around to do. God said, “Pray for the prosperity of those around, because when they prosper you will too.” A lot of us don’t understand this. We’ve become concerned about one person only – ourselves. When we mess up, the only person we

*See “Jeremiah”, page 6...*

# A Lutheran Question

By Pastor Greg Schaefer

“I mean,” she said, looking down at her shuffling feet, “how did you know you were supposed to be a pastor?”

And there it was: The question she’d been dying to ask . . . the thought she’d had long before she walked into my office and that finally had been lent voice.

Of course, what she was really asking wasn’t, “How did you know that you were supposed to be a pastor?” but rather, “How do I know what I am supposed to do with my life?”

The search for meaning and direction in life did not begin with this young woman, and would not end with her. But it was to her as if she were the first person to ask this question, because of its utmost significance for her life.

As Lutherans, we have a living theology around this kind of *vocational* question. But, somehow, it’s given way to *occupational* language. While children are asked, “What are you going to be when you grow up?” Lutherans have a different question: “How is God using you in the world?” When the vocational question gets edged out in favor of the occupational one, the way one spends one’s time (occupation) and the way one lives out the Gospel call (vocation) can be set in contrast to each other.

The church is at a point in history (or, rather, has returned to the place in the cycle of history) where the theology of the *priesthood of all believers* is at the fore. Luther’s intent was not that everyone would exercise the role of pastor before a congregation but that every Christian would recognize his or her call from God: to hear the Gospel message and respond with his/her whole life, proclaiming unconditional love to the whole world in his or her own setting.

How did I know that God would use me as a pastor? I began with a conviction that God would use me, having called me in my baptism. Then, my sense of following the Spirit’s prompting, and the affirmation of my sense of call by other members of the church, led to this expression of my baptismal vocation.

Where can baptismal vocation lead? Faithful parenting, honest accounting, responsible housekeeping, public ministry . . . Whatever one does faithfully and wholeheartedly that hastens the Kingdom of God is one’s vocation.

How is God using you in the world?

*Pastor Greg Schaefer is Director of Admissions and Seminary Pastor at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Berkeley, California, and a friend of TLC.*

## Hosanna in the Highest!

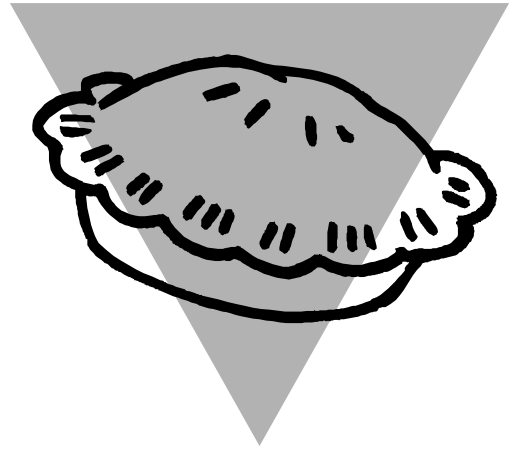


*“Jeremiah”, continued from page 5...*

tend to see is ourselves. But God says “While you’re waiting on me to do something good for you begin doing something good for others.” That’s what Paul meant, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). Then he added. “The Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does” (Eph 6:8). You see, by blessing others you literally open up a channel for God to come through when He blesses you.

*From the K-Love Radio devotional series, submitted by Judy Sawyer*

**Author/Performer/Pastor  
Appears in "Vinegar Pie:  
Down Home Stories of Love,  
Life & God's Grace"**



On April 27, Pamela Tinnin's one-woman show is coming to Thanksgiving Lutheran Church. Since 1999, "**Vinegar Pie: Down Home Stories of Love, Life, & God's Grace**" has brought tears and laughter to audiences in little theaters, at conferences, coffee houses and churches.

Directed by Lizann Bassham, Vinegar Pie shares stories of the grace that often surprises us in the midst of good times and bad. "**Vinegar Pie**" is told through the voices of women from the mountains of Kentucky where Pam spent time and came to love the land and the people. "What an evening," said one audience member, "like Garrison Keillor came to northern California."

Ordained in the United Church of Christ, Pamela Tinnin serves as pastor of Guerneville Community Church-UCC. She's also an author-performer, freelance writer, an editor for the University of California, a workshop and retreat leader and sheep rancher on a ranch on Pine Mountain just outside Cloverdale. She collaborated with two Methodist pastors on the book "Bit Players in the Big Play," released by CSS Publishing in 2004. Her articles have appeared in a variety of publications including the **San Francisco Chronicle**, **Sonoma Monthly** magazine, **sheep!** magazine, **The Clarion** and **The Shepherd**.

"**Vinegar Pie**" will be presented at Thanksgiving Lutheran Church on Friday, April 27 at 7 p.m. Admission is \$15 general, \$10 for students and seniors. A share of the proceeds will benefit Thanksgiving Lutheran Church's ministry.

All are invited to stay after the performance for pie (Vinegar Pie, of course, which we taste-tested at our last CCC meeting and found to be DELICIOUS) and conversation with each other and with the artist, Pamela Tinnin. "Come for the show, stay for the pie!"

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## **Mt. Cross Summer Camp 2007 "Standing Firm"**

We believe that camp is the place that God speaks the loudest. Camp is the place where everybody is somebody. Will you send your child to listen this summer?

God has been preparing the finest of young adults for the purpose of hanging out with your child for a week for a possible life changing experience.

Register today for summer camp through our easy and quick online registration at [mtcross.org](http://mtcross.org)



Valedictory Speech on May 27, when the graduation ceremony takes place on the SSU campus. Achieving this high honor means that Nathan has maintained a grade point average in excess of 4.0! Nathan works at Fountaingrove Country Club in “outside services”, runs track, and did his community service in the area of Health Awareness. This involved visiting schools and talking about health issues, and giving blood pressure checks at Safeway, FG Country Club and other locations. Nathan is leaning toward the sciences for his college major and has been accepted at several UC schools and Cal Poly. He plans to spend the summer working at FGCC.

## Plan Your Memorial Weekend Now!

**Beth Thompson** is graduating Cum Laude from California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, California with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, and a minor in Drama. She will be in Petaluma this summer to work and contemplate the possibility of moving to Southern California - she has her eye on working in the movie industry...

**David Minard** is graduating from Santa Rosa Junior College and setting his sights on Expression College for Digital Arts in Emeryville for a degree in Sound Engineering. David works for Circuit City installing electronics systems.

**Michael Minard** is graduating from Santa Rosa High School and will be attending Academy of Art San Francisco to study Film. He is working at Freeman Toyota in Santa Rosa.

**Nathan Schoepp** is graduating from Cardinal Newman High School and has earned the distinction of Valedictorian of his graduating class, and so will deliver the

Now is the time to start making plans for Memorial Day weekend. How about spending your weekend at Mt. Cross camp in the beautiful Santa Cruz mountains? Come join your Mt. Cross Rangers, Keith Becker and Zoe Zuest-Becker (and Fiona, Casey, and Griffin) for a weekend of Christian fellowship, fabulous food, lodging, the great outdoors, and lots of fun.....all in exchange for a little use of your talents. The misconception is that you have to do hard manual labor during this weekend. Yes, there are physically challenging jobs for those that want to do them, but there are also LOTS of other things that need to be accomplished during the weekend that don't require a buff body and the strength of a professional athlete.

If you make your plans NOW, and let Mt. Cross know you're coming, you may still be able to book a room in one of the lodges where you can sleep in a REAL bed instead of a cabin with a bunk. You can even take some time off during the weekend and drive the 10 minutes to Santa Cruz beach or boardwalk!

Talk with Keith or Zoe if you'd like more information.

**Start making your plans NOW!**



## “Die Young - As Late As Possible!”

The above is a gleeful quote from octogenarian Ashley Montagu. It represents his life goal; that is, stay young at heart! Maintain vigor and a sense of curiosity, Explore, learn, enjoy, and above all, keep the “child within you” ever playful and impish. Then live out your life that way, with that kind of “style”, for as long as you can. Keep the “youthful you” til you drop! I’d add that a modicum or two of faith in God plus a shared love for those around you, make this formula “downright upright.” Great stuff, especially for Easter People, which we are!! - people of New Life through the gift of Christ.

I had no sooner written Montagu’s prescription for living bountifully on a piece of paper, than I took a break to peruse the daily news via the Chronicle. It did not appear to me that those who made the news on that particular day were “playful, impish, or even young at heart.” Quite the opposite. There was someone stabbed in Oakland, a rape in the south Bay, chaos in Baghdad, sad life in Darfur, The Shia still making life miserable for anyone not of their ilk, Mr. Bush giving implausible speeches defending his administration, and so on. the so-called “retaliatory” bombings in Iraq and elsewhere seem to have become such commonplace occurrences that one would think that we’d get “used to” the way we live and treat each other. Mr. Montagu, where are you when we need you to remind us to “Die Young - as late as possible?”

So, I found myself in prayer; prayerful hope, to be more exact. I found myself thinking of those who very possibly wish to follow the Montagu life-formula, but either can’t because of circumstance, or are somehow conditioned into not being able to do so. I found myself praying for those I can’t name but who must risk their lives in airplanes with the US insignia on the wings in almost impossible situations; young men and women! I found myself praying for the names behind the many faces I saw briefly on channel 9

news in the city of Baghdad, of scared people running for their lives with children who haven’t the foggiest notion of what a day at Disneyland might be like. I found myself thinking of my three grandkids, hoping that they might “Die Young - as late as possible.”

God forgives us if we don’t always know the names of those sent into battles, or even of those caught up in the cashing in food stamps and who battle to stay alive and in otherwise affluent Santa Rosa. Yet God gives to us more than just the sensitivities of those moments in the Sunday prayers of intercession. God gives us New Life; the baptismal gift of knowing that in the waters of our Baptism, we have already died - so that we might now live! So that we may take the Easter gift to heart, to keep learning, expanding our horizons, keeping the “child within us” ever playful, open to all, and above all caring for this sometimes weary, war-torn, and discouraged world. And, in that Easter exercise of caring we come to know how natural it is for those who are caught up in living the gifts of New Life. It even becomes easy! For we are gifted people and when we come to live out that gift of New Life in Christ, everything around us is transformed, made new, young, vital!

Maybe you can think of someone you wish to pray for, and then say, “God of Life and love, may \_\_\_\_\_(name) die young, as late as possible.”

Who knows, you may want to slip in that prayer for yourself, too.

*Pastor Jack*



Once again, Lord, we are astounded by the incomparable and glorious event of Easter. To remember how you conquered sin and evil



An Easter Prayer

through the resurrection Jesus stirs up joy and hope within us. It comforts us greatly to know that because Christ was raised from the dead, we who are "in Christ" have the assurance of eternal life. Furthermore, to have the living Christ as our Savior and the

undergirding Holy Spirit as our daily Companion assures us of grace that never fails us.

Finally, it is a certainty that all things good and desirable are possible for those who love you, because Christ lives and reigns as King of our lives.

All praise and glory to you, loving Creator, now and forever! Amen.

**Worship:**

**Sunday morning at 9:30 with Children's sermon, Holy Communion, and education hour for all ages**

**Pastor Flak at home: 707-545-1467**

**Pastor Lundin at home: 707-996-8602**

**Church office: 707-544-0241**

**Sandi Leithe, church secretary**

**Karen Lehman, Trumpet editor**

**Council Officers:**

**Sandy Koppen, President**

**Jim Lehman, Vice President**

**Colleen Sass, Secretary**

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**On the web: [www.thanksgivinglutheran.org](http://www.thanksgivinglutheran.org)**

## Thanksgiving Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Congregation...

In faithfulness to the Gospel, we respond to God's compassionate love with openness of heart and spirit. Thanksgiving Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. We welcome and accept gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people and their families as full participating members of the congregation. We welcome and accept all people regardless of their cultural or ethnic background, physical or mental abilities, socio-economic or marital status, gender, or age. God loves us exactly as we are. This congregation welcomes you, exactly as you are.

### Editorial Guidelines/Next Deadline

The TLC Trumpet is published on or near the 1st day of the month. The next Trumpet deadline will be Tuesday, April 24. Editor requests articles be no longer than 500 words, using 12 point Arial font. Please email submissions to:

[editor@thanksgivinglutheran.org](mailto:editor@thanksgivinglutheran.org)

If you do not have email, place submissions (along with your name in case any clarification is needed) in the "Lehman" mailbox at TLC.

Thank you for keeping the Trumpet interesting and informative! *editor*