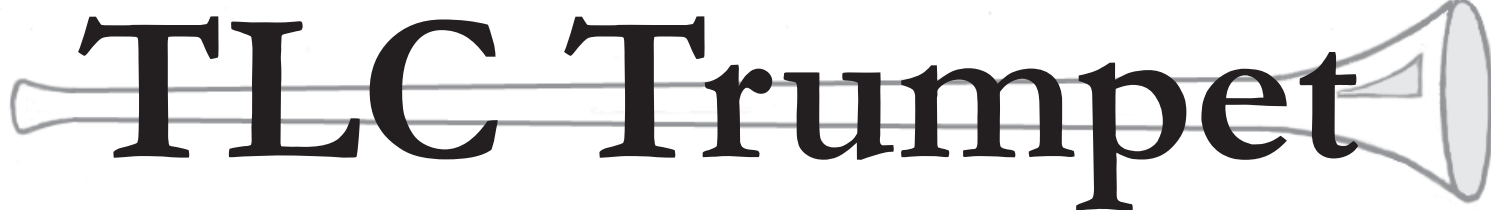


The

# TLC Trumpet



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

Volume 4 No. 2

www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

February 2007

## All Good Things Must Come to an End

They say all good things must come to an end. I'm not so sure about that because God's love is a very good thing and it will never end. Perhaps things related to humans are a little more finite. And that is the way with ROASTED (Reaching Out Among Students To Encourage Devotion). After a full year of promoting and hosting ROASTED, we just did not hit any form of critical mass in our attendance. Promotion included mass mailings (40 postcards/letters each month to various churches and individuals), newspaper ads, and flyers passed out to many kids at several schools.

Two of our biggest promoters were Kirsten Bartlett and her friend Olivia Jessen. They have become two of my favorite people. But, just like with Jackie Paper, ROASTED made way for other adventures for Kirsten and Olivia.

We (the youth and I) want to say that we had so much fun with ROASTED and we appreciate the support that we received from the adults in the congregation throughout the year. We couldn't have done it without you. The espresso machine will not go to waste. We will continue to make espresso drinks once a month and the proceeds will go into the youth fund for other projects.

We will go out with a bang, as far as ROASTED goes. We have two bands coming

*See "Roasted", next page...*

## Call Committee Update

Greetings to all on behalf of the Call Committee – we have had a productive start to 2007, with the finalization of the Congregational Mission Profile (copies are available if you wish to review; it is also now on our church website), and work on interview questions for prospective pastoral candidates.

Our next event is another meeting in early February with Rev. Bill Wong, our liaison with the Sierra Pacific Synod on the call process. At this meeting we expect Bill to deliver to the committee a slate of candidates to review and potentially interview. One issue we have in finding candidates is the part-time nature of the position we have set up; pray that God will lead the right candidate to us! We will move as quickly and as prayerfully as possible with the interview process, which is a process confidential to the committee. Once we feel we have found the right candidate for us, we make a recommendation to the congregational council, and a congregational meeting is called to vote on the call. Everyone will have a chance to meet the candidate after the council meeting and before the congregational meeting.

I also should point out that any pastors interested in being our pastor can contact the synod office to discuss with Bill and throw their hat in the ring; I can get them Bill's contact information if needed. Pastors from certain

*See "Call", next page...*

*“Roasted”, continued...*

on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Their promoter (and mother) says that they ROCK. It will be a loud obnoxious time and we are looking forward to it!

The last ROASTED will be March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The artist that will appear is Kathy Schallart. She is a folk Contemporary Christian singer who would be great for adults and kids alike. Since it is our last ROASTED, and given the type of artist she is, we are opening ROASTED up to **all ages**. We really would love to see you all attend. If you would like to check out her music, go to: [www.kathyschallert.com](http://www.kathyschallert.com).

With all that being said, the youth are not giving up and going away. We are already planning mission projects for the future. The personality of the current youth group has changed and they, as a group, have a heart for people in need. They want to reach out and help in the community and beyond. We will begin by volunteering at FISH (watch out, Stan and Marilyn!) and are looking at additional mission/outreach projects. More to come on those plans!

Be proud of your youth, TLC! They are on fire and have hearts of gold. Wait till you see what 2007 is like! YEEE HAAAWWWW!

*Jan Loewen*



*“Call”, continued...*

other denominations can also be eligible for a call to TLC; I can give anyone more information on this if you know of anyone interested.

*Mark Koppen, Chair  
Call Committee*

## “Cleanliness is next to...”

by Pastor Jack Lundin

Waaaaay, way back - in the good old days of the first Christians trying to figure out how to worship God, someone in the crowd mentioned that handling the bread which was to be shared in the Eucharist, it might be a good idea for the celebrant to have clean hands. In those days it was a custom for the host of a party to have servants wash the feet of each guest as they entered the hosts home. Remember the story in the gospels about the host who refused to wash Jesus' feet, which prompted a woman in the crowd to not only wash his feet but to pour expensive perfume on him.

Those early days saw not only unpaved streets - hence the foot washing on those who came in sandals, but hygiene was merely an afterthought for the ancients - except in the receiving of the Host at the eucharist. So they “invented” the Lavabo! That's latin for bowl for washing the hands before handling the bread.

I thought of this not long ago when I heard lots of “cha-choo's” and other little sneezes amid the crowd coming to our Eucharist one Sunday.

A while back - when I had a few cha-choos going myself, I instructed the acolyte in the use of the Lavabo, and all of us at the altar used it that Sunday.

It seems to me that we might make this a practice at TLC, not only because early Christians thought of it long ago, but because it makes sense in the prevention of the spreading of germs and whatnot. Agree?

Lets try it, shall we?

Happy healthy communing!

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**When it came time** for the pastoral prayer at the church Abraham Lincoln attended, the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, in Washington, D.C., the president stood up. Because most of the worshipers remained seated, someone asked the president why he stood. The president responded, “When my generals come into the Oval Office, they stand for their commander-in-chief. Isn't it proper then, that I stand for my commander-in-chief?”

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## Council News

**Mission Investment Fund:** Good News! The Mission Investment Fund (MIF) has considered the Mission and Financial Plan we submitted in December (a copy of the plan is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway by the mailboxes) and will allow us to make “Interest Only” payments on our mortgage for 2007—this is a lower payment than what we asked for in our plan. Pledge commitments received to date indicate that we should be able to cover these payments from Building Fund giving without needing to use additional General Fund offerings for this purpose—if Building Fund pledges come in as planned, we hope to be able to apply some funds to principle as well. MIF will check in with us in September to see how we are coming along with our Mission and Financial Plan, and will then determine an appropriate schedule for 2008.

**Council Officers for 2007:** Sandy Koppen will continue as President, Jim Lehman will continue as Vice President, and Colleen Sass is our new Secretary.

**Council Liaisons:** Each TLC Council member serves as a liaison to one of our Ministry teams. As liaison, the Council member’s role is to serve as a conduit for communication between Council, Ministry teams, and Congregation members. 2007 Council liaisons are as follows:  
Finance/Stewardship Team- Sandy Koppen  
Congregation and Community Care (CCC) Team - Kim Santiago  
Education Team - Colleen Sass  
Property Team - Dave Flanagan  
Worship Team - Mark Willsey  
Evangelism and Spiritual Outreach Team - Jim Lehman

**Stay tuned** for “next steps” as we move forward as Council and Congregation—working, praying, worshipping, and celebrating together in 2007!

**Help Wanted:** Do you have “bookkeeping” gifts that you are willing to share with TLC? Our current Treasurer, Carol Loewen, has asked to step out of the **Treasurer** position, so **we must find a new individual for this important job!**

Duties of the Treasurer include:

- Pay bills and financial obligations of the congregation in accordance with established policies.
- Maintain disbursement records.
- Maintain and reconcile the bank account(s) of the congregation.
- Prepare monthly reports of amounts received and disbursed for general, building, and designated funds; balances-on-hand for each fund; accounts payable; and budget vs. expenses by budget line item, subtotals, and totals.
- Advise the Council president or pastor of immediate or anticipated financial issues.
- Serve as a member of the Finance Committee (this committee meets once a month.)

Our records are currently maintained on Quicken, but we would like to switch to Quickbooks for Non-profits in 2007. If you think you might be able to offer your time and talents by serving as Treasurer, please speak with Sandy Koppen or any Council member!

### **Thrivent/Redwood Empire Food Bank Challenge Results:**

In November, TLC members contributed \$286 in response to a special offering challenge from Thrivent and the Redwood Empire Food Bank. Jim Roessler, of the Redwood Empire Food Bank recently shared news of the results: “Thank you Thanksgiving Lutheran....We had about 5 Lutheran Churches who responded and we raised \$1507, and Thrivent added \$500 for a grand total of \$2007....just right for the new year!!! Thanks to these gifts, we are able to feed over 50,000 people every month in Sonoma

*see “Council”, next page...*

“Council” continued...

County...together we are fulfilling our mission of ending hunger in our community.”

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**The TLC Congregational Council  
Requests YOUR presence at our  
Annual Congregational Meeting “Part 2”  
Sunday, February 11, 2007  
11:00 am (after Worship)**

The congregation is required to hold a two-part annual meeting each year—part 1 is held in November for the purpose of voting on a budget, electing Council members, etc.; part 2 is normally held in January, and the Council presents the Annual Report, synod convention delegates are elected, goals for the year are discussed, etc. In addition to these items, the Council also hopes to report on our Awareness-Trial-Commitment analysis and next Mission Planning steps, and the Call Committee should be able to report on their latest meeting with Rev. Bill Wong. We hope to make this a brief meeting; please mark your calendar and plan to attend!



**Editorial Guidelines/Next Deadline**

The next Trumpet deadline will be Tuesday, February 20th. 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*

## Memories of George and Betty Smith

By Pastor Flak

When George retired from the San Francisco police force, he and Betty moved to Santa Rosa, and ended up at Faith Lutheran Church on Newanga, where I served for twenty years, and eventually they transferred their membership to Thanksgiving Lutheran Church. (People used to ask me – what does Newanga mean? I said, with a straight face: “It’s an old Indian word that means – up the road to Faith Lutheran Church!” You would be surprised at how many people actually believed that!)

George kind of fancied himself a “winemaker”. He brought a bottle of his latest vintage to our Men’s Club one night, and a few of us were brave enough to try a sip. It was the kind of wine that required two sips, because we couldn’t believe that it was that bad with just one! His good friend, Royce Slewing, sipped, looked across the table and with a pained expression on his face, said, “Oh, George, how could you?!”

As bad as George was at making wine, he raised excellent artichokes in his garden. My guess is that it was about 20 years ago that George had just divided his artichokes when I showed up one afternoon. That is how Jean and I began to raise and enjoy FRESH artichokes right from the garden.

Well, it is time for those George Smith “Memorial Artichokes” to once again be divided. Therefore, I am offering anyone who would like to preserve your memory of George and Betty Smith, and also like to raise your own fresh artichokes, to give me a call (545-1467) and we will share and also remember faithful servants of the Church.

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**RULES TO BE HAPPY**

1. Free your heart from hatred
2. Free your mind from worries
3. Live simply
4. Give more
5. Expect less

*submitted by  
Judy Sawyer*



## Getting to Know...

### Nora Wilson

This star of the TLC Band was born and raised in Bird City, Kansas, right in the corner where three states come together. With 19 others, she graduated from Bird City High School in 1971. Most of them had been in school together since kindergarten. Life was simple for a girl growing up in this wheat/mixed farming area: school, church, 4H, and piano lessons.

Nora began playing piano at age 8 and has never stopped. Her home is well-stocked with a World War One piano and two organs. She played for St. John's Lutheran Church in Bird City for some 20 years. With that resume, no wonder that Mark Koppen grabbed her quickly to play with the other specially selected members of TLC's elite Band.

Turns out TLC charter member Mary Dawson isn't our only Postal Service Veteran! Nora was a mail carrier in Bird City. She had a rural route where she drove her car 122 miles each day. Finally, she left the Bird City cross-roads and went to Denver to seek her fortune. While attending medical assisting school, she met and married Terry Wilson.

After a few unspectacular years back in Bird City, the young couple moved to California where Terry has relatives in Sebastopol. Today, they live close to Graton on a block that is populated primarily by Terry's relatives. This is handy for the relatives because Terry is everyone's handyman. He is a jack-of-all-trades who can fix any piece of equipment ever invented and used by mankind.

When not on call to do relative's repair, he is a bus driver and trainer for Laidlaw. His job is school buses and his specialty is the Bus Rodeo competition. He is a regular at state meets where you go only by qualifying for an invitation.

Nora has worked for Pediatric Associates in Santa Rosa for 20 years, doing billing, referrals, and as receptionist. Music is

her favorite pastime, first on piano, then organ. She also enjoys sewing and gardening.

On her arrival in Sebastopol in 1986, there was no TLC. Nora began attending Bethlehem Lutheran Church. While commuting there, she noticed a sign that a new church was to be built. And finally it was. That's when Nora came to us . . . and began warming the ivories.

This coming May will mark the 25th year for Nora and Terry. Not bad for a "mail-order bride," as Nora describes herself. Try to follow this: Back in Denver, Terry placed an ad in the newspaper. Nora's friend answered it and began dating him. Eventually, she left town and gave him Nora's number. He used it, they met, it was love at first sight, and they were married within a year.

*George Land*



## A Note of Thanks...

Betty Hiebel would like to thank everyone for the loving support she's received since the loss of her daughter, Kathy. The help at Kathy's service and ongoing hugs, love and prayers are most appreciated. Please keep Kathy's fiancée, Maury, and her son, Matt, in your prayers as well.

Donations in memory of Kathy, along with some other memorial funds, are being designated for a future patio at TLC.

## A Change of Address...

Jan Loewen  
4810 School St.  
Santa Rosa, CA 95409.  
Same phone number

## A TravelBlog...

From the 5th to the 19th of January, Pastor Greg Schaeffer led a group of 16 seminary students (from PLTS, Luther, LSTC, Wartburg, and Southern) on a January term course to Mexico City, studying the root causes of poverty. If you'd like to tag along visit Pastor Greg's weblog at <http://whereispastorgreg.blogspot.com/>

## “EVERY DETAIL WORKS TO YOUR ADVANTAGE AND TO GOD’S GLORY” 2 Corinthians 4:15

When you were a child, do you remember being irritated whenever your favorite television program was interrupted for 30 seconds by a test of the Emergency Broadcast System? Those emergency system tests are a lot like the trials that come into our lives. They’re unscheduled, usually unwelcome interruptions and they always seem to come at the worst possible time. But unlike the test patterns on television, life’s trials don’t last for 30 seconds and then disappear. No, they can last for days, weeks, even years. And the exact reason for them may never be completely clear to us. Trials can make us feel helpless, but we do have control over one vital element of a trial – how we respond to it. Understand this: trials are indispensable to our spiritual growth. In fact, we cannot grow as we should without them, as much as we might wish we could. It’s your test that leads to your testimony!

Paul writes, “Every detail works to your advantage and to God’s glory: more and more grace...more and more praise! So we’re not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace” (2Co 4:15-18). And Job adds “But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold” (Job 23:10). It takes a lot more heat to produce gold than it does tin. So which do you want to be?

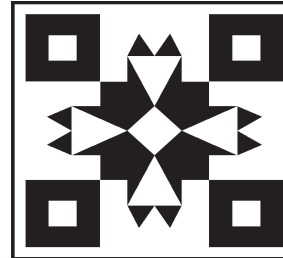
*From the K-Love Radio devotional series  
Submitted by Judy Sawyer*

## Quilting Notes

**The group meets** at Lorraine Larson’s home in the Sequoia Mobile Home Park (next to the church) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 10am – 2:30pm, and is always ready to welcome new people, with or without sewing

experience. Just bring a sack lunch and willing hands and you’ll fit right in!

**The fundraiser continues** until the drawing on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The prize is a beautiful quilt,



pictured in full color on the kiosk in the narthex area. Tickets are 6 for \$5 or a dollar each. Funds raised will be used to buy much-needed supplies to continue quilting. See

Sandi Leithe or Lorraine Larson to buy your tickets.

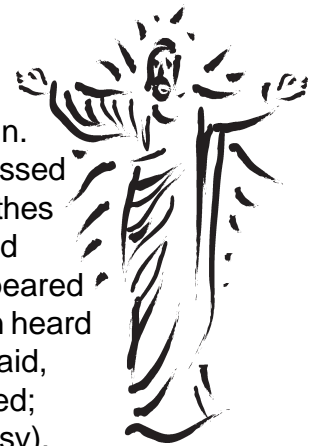
**If you would like to donate materials** to the effort, sheets of cotton-type fabric for quilt backs are always needed, and the group would like to make some smaller quilts specifically for children, so children’s prints would also be welcome donations.

Completed quilts are given to the YWCA Women’s Shelter, providing warmth and comfort, and it’s something families can take with them when transitioning into permanent housing.

Lorraine says, “We’re all enjoying our time together and getting more creative all the time.”

## Bible Quiz

In Mark 9 Jesus took three disciples to a high mountain. While there, the men witnessed amazing things. Jesus’ clothes became dazzling white, and then Elijah and Moses appeared to them. The disciples then heard a voice from a cloud that said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” (Mark 9:7, nrsv). Suddenly, Elijah and Moses vanished and the disciples were alone with Jesus.



*Who were the three disciples who witnessed the Transfiguration?*

- A. Peter, Andrew and John
- B. Peter, James and John
- C. Peter, James and Andrew
- D. James, Matthew and John



# R.O.A.S.T.E.D.

A coffee house for High School Youth



**Don't get wasted, get ROASTED**

Reaching Out Among Students To Encourage Devotion.

**Live Entertainment by:**

**Chasing Truth**

**With special guests: Switch Syndrome**



**When: The FIRST Saturday of the Month**

**Next: February 3, 2007; 7:30pm to 10pm**

**Where: Thanksgiving Lutheran Church**

**1225 Fulton Road (Fulton & College) Santa Rosa**

**What: All Coffee Drinks \$1**

**Coffee Supplied by Starbucks**

**Question? Call: 707-544-6512**



TLC Youth Page:

[www.thanksgivinglutheran.org/youth/index](http://www.thanksgivinglutheran.org/youth/index)



## Special Dates in February

**African-American History Month**  
**American Heart Month**  
**American History Month**  
**Children's Dental Health Month**  
**International Friendship Month**  
**National Embroidery Month**  
**National Grapefruit Month**  
**Responsible Pet Owner Month**  
**Return Carts to the Supermarket Month**  
**Creative Romance Month**  
**International Twit Award Month**  
**Canned Food Month**

- 1 Serpent Day
- 2 Groundhog Day  
Purification Day
- 3 Cordova Ice Worm Day\*
- 4 Rosa Parks' Birthday  
Create a Vacuum Day
- 5 National Weatherpersons Day
- 6 Lame Duck Day
- 7 Charles Dickens Day
- 8 Boy Scouts Day  
Kite Flying Day
- 9 Toothache Day
- 10 Umbrella Day
- 11 Boy Scout Sunday  
National Inventor's Day
- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 National Gumdrop Day
- 16 Do a Grouch a Favor Day
- 17 Random Act of Kindness Day
- 18 Transfiguration of the Lord
- 19 Presidents' Day  
National Chocolate Mint Day
- 20 National Hoodie-Hoo Day\*\*
- 21 Ash Wednesday
- 22 Washington's Birthday  
Be Humble Day
- 18-24 Brotherhood/Sisterhood Week
- 24 National Tortilla Chip Day
- 25 First Sunday in Lent  
Quiet Day
- 26 National Pistachio Day
- 27 International Polar Bear Day

\*Google it!

\*\*At high noon everyone hollers "Hoodie Hoo!" to chase away winter and make way for spring.

## It's About Time...

All that really belongs to us is time; even he who has nothing else has that.

**Baltasar Gracian**

An unhurried sense of time is in itself a form of wealth.

**Bonnie Friedman**, *in New York Times*

Time is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for you.

**Carl Sandburg (1878 - 1967)**

There are some things that cannot be hurried. We cannot hurry the process of grief, for instance. We cannot rush the project of growth. We cannot speed the effects of hurt. We cannot hasten the coming of love. We must not attempt to flit through the search for God and then, failing in the enterprise of a lifetime, call it fruitless.



Time...is given not for the sake of perfection but for the sake of discovery.

**Joan Chittister**,  
*Illuminated Life -  
Monastic Wisdom  
for Seekers of Light*

**God...  
has appointed  
a time for  
every matter,  
and for every  
work.**

**Ecclesiastes 3:17**

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

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

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

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**Santa Rosa, CA 95401**

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