

# TLC Trumpet



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

Volume 12 No. 2

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

February 2015

## Pastor's Page

Life during this month is like the way that the seasonal aisle in Walgreen's looks right now. There's still well picked-over Christmas stuff, and there's Valentine's Day stuff and Super Bowl stuff and Presidents' Day stuff, and Easter stuff is coming in.

The philosophy of living one day at a time is nearly impossible.

I remember a long time ago, on one of the three trips to Hawaii that I got to go on with my friends, the time I fell down in the ocean when there was a strong out-going tide. I was sitting in, like, 4 to 6 inches of water – very shallow, but the pull was so hard it would

knock me over before I could stand up or get to my knees to crawl out. For a few minutes, it seemed that I was moving in very slow motion and the world was whisking by quickly. Ever had that kind of experience?

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**All the rush and crush of life isn't what's most important. What's most important is getting back on one's feet. Whether you can do that on your own or have to reach out for help, it's wise to regain your balance.**

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I believe that one of the best gifts of wisdom that Yahweh gave to the ancient Israelites was the Sabbath commandment. All the rush and crush of life isn't what's most important. What's most important is getting back on one's feet. Whether you can do that on your

own or have to reach out for help, it's wise to regain your balance.

So, blessings to all of you this month as you enjoy and endeavor, work and worship, do and stew. May the Holy Spirit use you to bring blessings to others.

### In This Issue

Pastor's Page.....	Page 1
Worship in November.....	Page 3
Financial News .....	Page 4
Year in Review .....	Page 5
Women's Retreat .....	Page 6
Who's Who.....	Page 7
Calendar .....	Page 8

*Love,  
Pastor Jan*

## Next Trumpet Deadline!

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be **Monday, February 203rd**. Editor requests articles be no longer than 500 words. Please email submissions to:

**tlcsantarosa@sbcglobal.net**

If you do not have email, place submissions (along with your name in case any clarification is needed) in Dorothy's inbox.



Pastor Jean Lebbert: 707-327-6292

Church office: 707-544-0241

### Worship:

Sunday morning at 9:30 with Holy Communion

Thanksgiving Lutheran Church

1225 Fulton Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

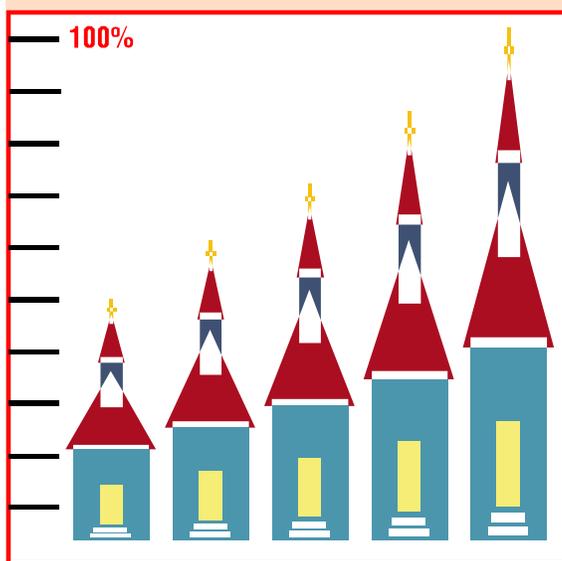
email: tlcsantarosa@sbcglobal.net

### Hours for our administrative assistant:

Church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 9-1.

### Here are our February Birthdays!

Katherine Zuest	2/3
Sandy Koppen	2/3
Deb Feronnato	2/6
Mark Koppen	2/11
Betty Speakes	2/11
George Land	2/16
Paula Seitz-Netherda	2/28



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

**All are invited** to participate in any way you can in TLC's Capital Fundraising Campaign.

We can do it together! Tell others how much you love TLC and just ask them to make a one-time donation to help us take a significant bite out of our mortgage principal.

Just imagine reducing our mortgage, reducing the amount of time and energy we spend talking about how we can't meet our expenses, and INCREASING time, energy and money toward current ministries and new ones on the horizon.

Ask your friends and family. Dare to approach co-workers and classmates. Send out a plea to everyone on your e-mail list. Post a plea on your Facebook page.

You don't have to ask for a lot. Our scheme is to ask a small amount from a lot of people.

We can do it together! It's time!

## Worship for Lent and Holy Week

**TRANSGURATION**, Feb. 15, 9:30 a.m. This year, we will enter the penitential season of Lent by physically hiding the “Alleluia,” a ritual that dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Here at TLC, we have practiced not uttering this beloved word during Lent, even on Sundays (Sundays are not counted in the forty days of Lent because they are always a mini-Easter day). The act of hiding or burying the word was created as a way for children to participate in the penitence of the season; aren’t we all children of God? May the struggle of withholding this praise word for 40 days deepen our awe at the gift of faith and the treasure of knowing whom to praise!

**ASH WEDNESDAY**, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m. We acknowledge the battle of wills that even the most faithful wage. It’s “Me vs. Christ.” Who IS the greatest? Who IS No. 1? How can we strive to reach our highest good and still put our relationship with the Divine first in our life? During worship, we will have a time of confession and forgiveness followed by the imposition of ashes.

**PALM SUNDAY**, Mar. 29, 9:30 a.m., recounts Jesus’ triumphant entry into the city of Jerusalem. We join in the cheer, “Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.” Thus begins Holy Week.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**, April 2, the one worship gathering of the year that TLC, for the most part, is free of traditions and are open to “whatever.” This year, Pastor is offering three “drop in” times throughout the day – acknowledging life’s challenges: some work during the day, some don’t drive at night, everyone has different waking/sleeping hours. So, come either at 12:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., or 7:30 p.m. for the holy stillness of prayer, meditation, and Holy Communion.

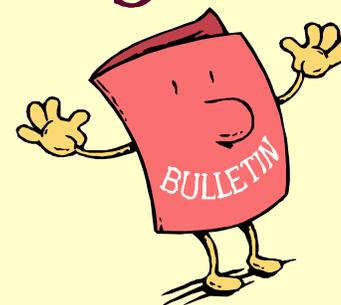
**GOOD FRIDAY**, April 3, 7:30 p.m. Oddly, Jesus’ followers still abandon him during his crucifixion. This most powerful service of the whole year usually sees low attendance. Hopefully, our journey through Lent will draw us to the cross of Christ, to the ultimate sacrifice that the Divine made for our sakes, for the sake of the whole world. Come, behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

**EASTER**, April 5, 9:30 a.m. Put on your Sunday clothes, bring a delightful dish to share, and celebrate again the resurrection. Death cannot contain the Infinite! Jesus’ resurrection gives to us the promise of our own resurrection into the realm of brilliant light! We will once again sing, from the heart, “Alleluia” Praise to Yahweh! We will hear the resurrection account from the Gospel According to Matthew. We will enjoy each other and an Easter feast.

## Worship at TLC in February

- Feb 1**      **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**  
Scriptures: Psalm 20:7; Matthew 6:7-34  
Sermon Title: Wisdom on the Mount
- Feb 8**      **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**  
Scriptures: Psalm 95:1-5; Matthew 14: 13-35  
Sermon Title: We Must Need a Little Amazement
- Feb 15**      **Transfiguration**  
Scriptures: Psalm 41:7-10; Matthew 16: 24-17:9  
Sermon Title: Blinding Light
- Feb 18**      **Ash Wednesday**  
Scriptures: Psalm 146:7c-10; Matthew 18:1-9  
Sermon Title: Me vs. Christ
- Feb 22**      **First Sunday in Lent**  
Scriptures: Psalm 32: 1-2; Matthew 18: 15-35  
Sermon Title: Forgiveness: When it IS all about you

## Worship Schedule



## A word of THANKS from the Outreach Committee

With grateful hearts the Outreach Committee thanks the members and friends of TLC for their overwhelming and generous Christmas support for THE LIVING ROOM and for ELCA GOOD GIFTS. We donated more than 50 gifts plus \$450 in gift cards to THE LIVING ROOM, and all the tags for GOOD GIFTS were taken from the tree. I don't know the final tally for GOOD GIFTS, but it had to be over \$700 sent in for various animals. What a blessing Thanksgiving Lutheran Church is to the community and world!

# Thanksgiving Lutheran Church Finance Committee

## 2014 Annual Report

Astrid Anderson, Lisa Bartlett, Jean Harrison and Sandy Koppen faithfully served as the Finance Committee for 2014. Jean served as Treasurer and Astrid served as Financial Secretary. The committee met monthly from January through June to review financial records and related matters. After June they corresponded via email due to Jean's prolonged absence. Her business required her presence in Slidell, Louisiana. All records continued to be reviewed monthly.

The deficit for 2014 was \$13,357.67 which was less than the 2013 deficit of \$20,260.72 and substantially less than projected in the 2014 adopted operating budget. Four months did not show a deficit. Everyone did an excellent job in curtailing expenses and many were able to go that extra mile in giving. Thank you. We still have cash reserves but they are being badly depleted.

The annual audit was done and there were only minor problems noted. The 2015 budget was prepared with Council, Committee and Staff input for approval at the November Congregational meeting.

All bills were paid in a timely manner and there are no overdue ones. All required tax and other reports were filed. Year end financials follow. Ten percent of our General fund money after paying the mortgage has faithfully gone to the Sierra Pacific Synod. The Easter offering was earmarked for FISH, the local food bank. The Thanksgiving offering went to Mission Investment Fund to pay down the principal. The Christmas offering went to Lutheran Social Services of Northern California.

For the first time in years congregational funds were donated to a special group. That group was Reconciling Works.

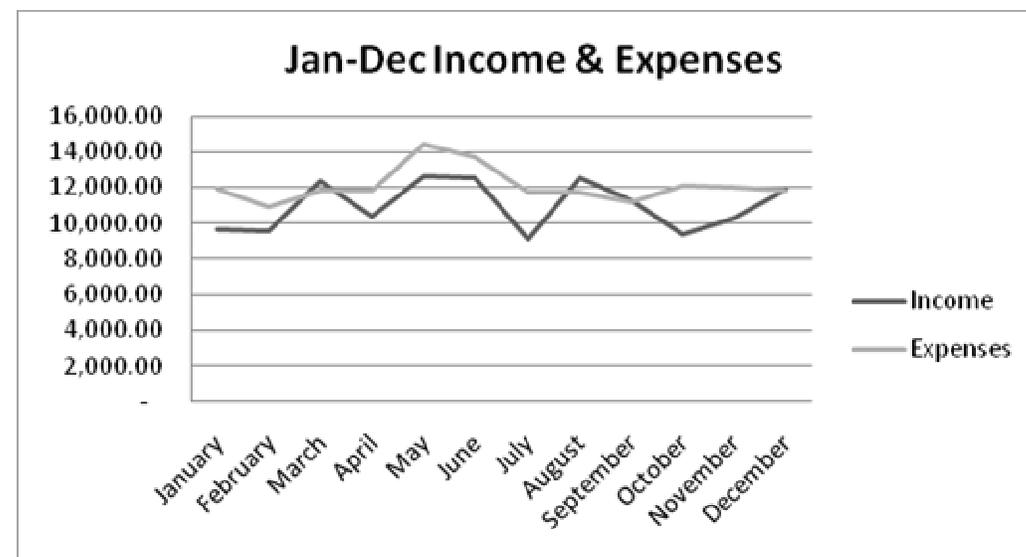
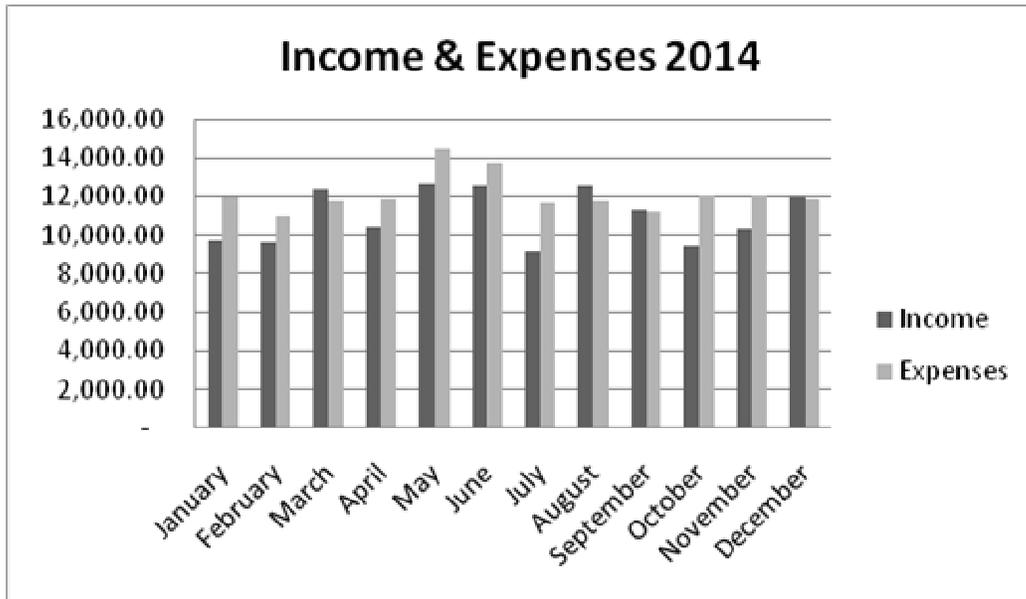
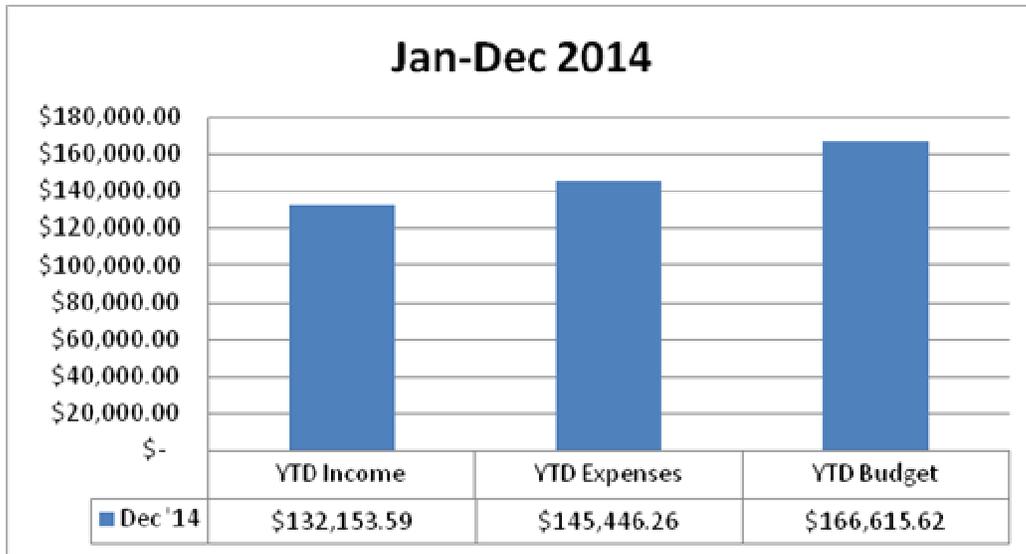
Special gifts from members were given to the Rwanda School Project, ELCA Disaster Relief, FISH, ELCA World Hunger Appeal, the ELCA Malaria Fund, ELCA Good Gifts and additional money to Reconciling Works. These all were in addition to monthly Second Mile gifts. Financial

details on these matters are in the attached report.

Our mortgage continued at \$3,500 per month until October when it increased to \$3,600 per month. We have been working closely with Mission Investment Fund and the Synod office to improve our membership numbers and giving so that we can better afford the mortgage. In 2014 \$385 in memorial funds was donated for paying additional principal on this loan and \$786 was given for the Thanksgiving holiday offering that also goes directly to principal. Members have also given additional money to help pay the mortgage. In May Council approved including a Mortgage Payment envelope once a month in the bulletin. Gifts for this purpose totaled \$1,878 in 2014. An additional \$565 in memorial funds was used to cover the mortgage payment in deficit months. As of December 31, 2014 the balance due on our loan was \$674,365.31 with an interest rate of 5.875. At the end of 2013 the balance due on our loan was \$678,627.04. Because of the lower monthly payments not as much is going towards paying down the principal as previously. Mission Investment Fund and Synod wish us to launch a Capital Campaign to reduce the principal. Pastor Lebbert presented such a plan at the Congregational meeting in November. That plan will be voted on at the second half of the Congregational meeting in January. It is hoped that the principal amount can be cut in half if this campaign is successful.

Special thanks go to committee members Astrid, Lisa and Sandy, as well as the audit team of Paul Feiertag, Jean Flak and Jon Riewe. And last but not least, thank you to all of the hard working tellers (Astrid Anderson, Lisa Bartlett, Keith Becker, Gloria Feiertag, Paul Feiertag, Sandy Koppen, and Mary Thompson) who diligently do this job throughout the year. We are a blessed community of faith.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jean Harrison Chairwoman*



## Who's Who at TLC?

### Officers

President, Marilyn Schuler

Vice President, Lisa Bartlett

Secretary, Jordan Eberly

Treasurer, Jean Harrison

Financial Secretary, Astrid Anderson

### Council Members

Lisa Bartlett

Verda Burr

Jordan Eberly

Pastor Jean Lebbert

John Riewe

Marilyn Schuler

Mary Thompson

### Committee Chairs

Jordan Eberly, Congregational Community (CCC)

Jan Thomas, Evangelism and Outreach

Jean Harrison, Finance

Pastor Jean Lebbert, Mutual Ministry

Karen Lehman, Property

Mary Thompson, Worship and Spiritual Formation

### Coordinators

Mary Dawson, Altar Guild

Ingrid and Paul Feiertag, Worship Stewards

Quilters, Gloria Feiertag

Jean Harrison, Patio Landscaping

George Land, Ushers

Jim Lehman, Website

Jim Lehman, Sound

Karen Lehman, Community Garden

Karen Lehman, Women's Retreat

Jan Loewen and Sandy Koppen, Growth Through Outreach (GTO)

Jan Loewen and Sandy Koppen, Worship Music

Please Support Those  
who Support Us



At the Mission Investment Fund, we use the money you invest to fund building and renovation loans for ELCA congregations and related ministries. Give us a call at 877.886.3522.

**TLC is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, which means we believe that God celebrates diversity in all of creation, loves us all unconditionally, and intends that all persons be valued. We welcome and accept all people regardless of their cultural or ethnic background, physical or mental abilities, socio-economic, sexual orientation, or marital status, gender, or age. God loves us exactly as we are.**

## TLC February Calendar

Thanksgiving Lutheran, Holidays in United States

Feb 2015 (Pacific Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Special Mortgage 9:30am - Worship @ 7pm - Roca de</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1pm - Bible Study @ 6pm - NA Meeting 8pm - NA Meeting</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5pm - Roca de 6:30pm - Property</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5pm - Roca de</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10am - AA 11:30am - CCC</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30am - Worship @ 7pm - Roca de</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>1pm - Bible Study @ 6pm - NA Meeting 8pm - NA Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5pm - Roca de</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5pm - Roca de</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Valentine's Day 10am - AA</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Rwanda Sunday 9:30am - Worship @ 10:30am - TLC 7pm - Roca de</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Presidents' Day</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1pm - Bible Study @ 6pm - NA Meeting 8pm - NA Meeting</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:30pm - Ash</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5pm - Roca de</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10am - AA</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Cent-sational 9:30am - Worship @ 11am - Council 7pm - Roca de</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Trumpet Deadline</p>	<p>24</p> <p>1pm - Bible Study @ 6pm - NA Meeting 8pm - NA Meeting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5pm - Roca de</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5pm - Roca de</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10am - AA</p>