

TLC Trumpet



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

Volume 12 No. 1

www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

January 2015

Pastor's Page

A true story from my sister, Janet.

On Sunday, Dec. 21, Janet went out to lunch with one of the other Practitioners at the Center for Spiritual Awareness in West Sacramento. They went to a Denny's restaurant. Over lunch, they got into a conversation about spiritual things they had read. The conversation led to them talking about what happens to you when something another person says to you hits you wrong. Janet had been reading a book by a Buddhist that offered the wisdom that when this happens, the other person pushes a button, but that you need to be aware that the button was already there; the other person didn't put the button there.

They delighted deliciously in their lunch discussion, and when they got up to leave, a

woman who had been sitting at a table near them stood up and said to them that she had been wishing she could have left her table and joined the two of them, that she was inspired by their conversation. They said, "Well, you should come our church next week. It is just down the street!" And she said that she would like to!

I feel that this is what Bishop Mark Holmerud, our Synod Bishop, is hoping for in encouraging us to talk about what Jesus means to us. I know that there are small groups of TLC folks who go out for lunch after worship sometimes. This incident Janet shared with me makes me wonder if we could form a group that would go out to lunch—not every Sunday, but maybe once a month—and if we could focus our lunch conversation on faith issues and insights, maybe share inspirational things we have been reading, for our benefit and maybe even to touch the hearts of eavesdroppers! We could invite that Sunday's visitors out with us—even throw in together to cover the cost of their lunch!

Anyway, I'm throwing the idea out there. I know that there are lots of meetings on Sundays—but they are all still very much in-reach related. Members walk into rooms for meetings while visitors walk away. My hope for 2015 is that

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Next Trumpet Deadline!

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be **Friday, January 23**. 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, Wednesday, and Friday 9-1.



Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

Michelle Eisenhart	1/12
Kier Skinner	1/15
Joan Hax	1/19

Michelle has taken a job over on the east coast. Her gentle presence will be missed at TLC.

Kier (Jim and Jean Harrison's grandson) is in Reno, Nevada with his Dad, Kristi, and Rhys. He is enjoying being with his family, keeping in touch with Jean and Jim, and taking on odd jobs.



A Dream of Reconciling Works

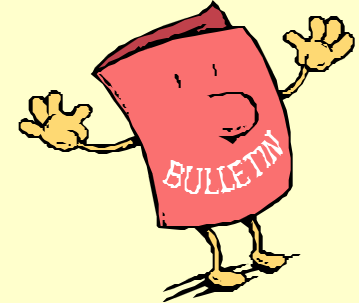
It was good seeing Dan and Tim Feiertag the other day, and Tim gave a powerful presentation of his experience far, far away. And then he told us about a dream that involves TLC, a dream right on our own doorstep.

Reconciling Works is setting a goal to find three people from every RIC congregation who would pledge to sending them \$25 a month for the year. Yes, it's a capital fundraising campaign. If they accomplish this goal, they will not have to spend any resources on further fundraising and can strengthen their good cause.

Cindy Heiller, who, as a TLC Council member, proved her gifts at immediate treatment, stepped up right away. SO, TLC needs ONLY two more angels! Polish your halo, check your personal budget and see if you can be one of them.

Worship at TLC in January

Worship Schedule



Jan 4 **2nd Sunday of Christmas**

Scriptures: Matthew 2: 13-23; Psalm 11:1-3

Sermon title: Having a Baby Brings a Lot of Changes

Installation of 2015 Council. Discussion Forum follows worship and fellowship: "Do We Want to Adopt a New Mission Statement?"

Jan 11 **Baptism of Jesus/Nicholas Brie preaches and presides**

Scriptures: Matthew 3:1-17; Psalm 2:7-8

Sermon title:

TLC Women's Retreat at Bishop Ranch concludes with worship there this Sunday. Special thanks to Nicholas Brie for preaching and presiding and to Maryellen Birkland for leading music.

Jan 18 **2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

Scriptures: Matthew 4:1-17; Psalm 91:1-12

Sermon title: In the Shadow of the Almighty

Final Discussion Forum about TLC's mission statement: 11 to 11:30. Council meets following the Forum.

Jan 25 **3rd Sunday after Epiphany/RIC Sunday**

Scriptures: Matthew 5:1-20; Psalm 1: 1-3

Sermon title: Daring to Shine

Congregational Meeting following worship and fellowship.



Pastor's Page

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we will continue to find ways to emphasize outreach, to be a more conspicuous presence of Christ's love and wisdom in the community. I continually to gratefully applaud Jan Loewen and Sandy Koppen for the creation of the GTO (Growth Through Outreach) vehicle (perfect choice of words, huh?) and the good work of Jan Thomas and all of the Evangelism and Outreach Committee. The Advent Giving Tree was a hit. Caroling at Sequoia and bagging apples at the Redwood Food Bank were both loving ways to

serve. The Rose Parade—well, we won a trophy and \$300 and walked down the downtown streets waving TLC's radical welcome at all the crowds!

My wish for TLC in 2015 is that we have a thank-filled and prosperous year.

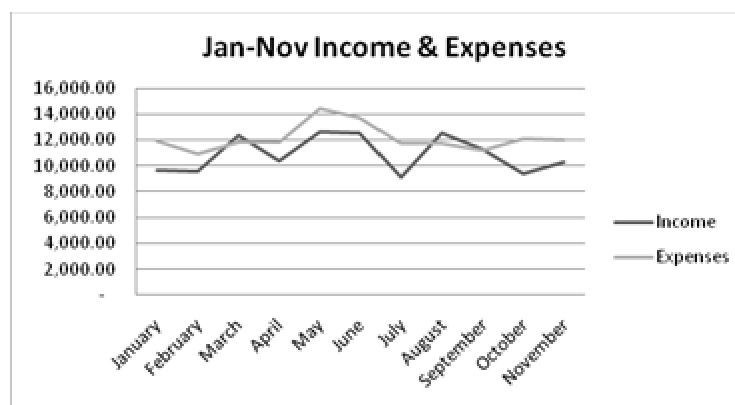
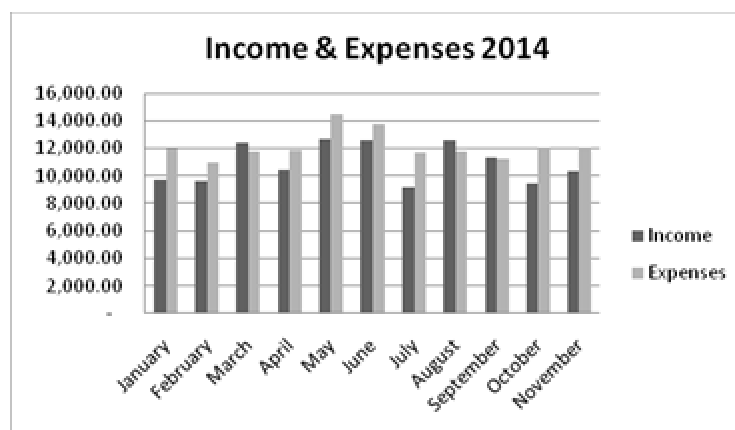
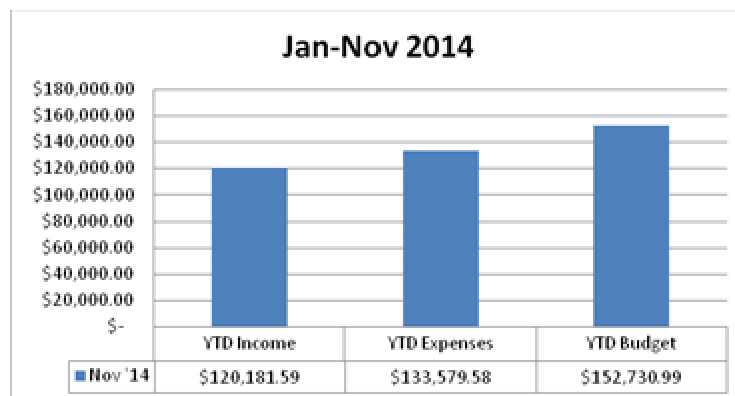
*Love,
Pastor Jan*

November Finance Update

Once again we had a deficit month in November. The deficit was \$1,702.56 with expenses of \$12,014.81 and income of only \$10,312.25. Our year to date deficit as of the end of November is \$13,447.99 far better than the budget projection for the year but still a substantial amount. Our total expenses for that time period were \$133,564.58 with income of only \$120,116.59. The average monthly deficit is \$1,222.54 or \$305.65 per week. It appears extremely likely that December will also have a deficit. Cash reserves are dwindling. Many thanks to all who keep their pledges current and special thanks to those who give that additional amount. Your gifts are what keep us serving the Lord here at the corner of Fulton and College in Santa Rosa, California, USA, the world.

We are Givers

Despite our deficits our people continue to give. Gifts to others through December 14 are as follows: 2nd Mile projects \$675, ELCA malaria eradication \$95, ELCA Disaster Relief \$25, ELCA Hunger \$15, FISH (local food bank) \$779, Reconciling Works \$20, ELCA Good Gifts \$640, the Rwanda School Project \$1,019.65 and \$20 of Christmas offerings had been given for Lutheran Social Services of Northern California. More will be given for the latter. In addition \$786 was the total Thanksgiving holiday offering which goes to pay down the principal on our mortgage loan and \$2,078 has come in to help pay the mortgage in deficit months. Every little bit helps to keep us afloat and to help others. Thank you for being such generous people.



20th Annual Women's Retreat

The 20th TLC Women's Retreat is Friday evening, January 9th through lunch on Sunday, January 11th, 2015! Please plan to take this time out for yourself! It's an opportunity to get to know your sisters in Christ a little more, and will be a weekend filled with laughter, learning, sharing (as you are comfortable doing so), and beautiful scenery. Plus - you don't have to cook all weekend! Our leader will be Debbie McAllister, a PLTS graduate waiting for a call. She has led many retreats and we look forward to getting to know her better!

We will be at Bishop's Ranch in Healdsburg and the cost is \$225 per person for the full weekend. That's 2 nights and 5 meals in the gorgeous Sonoma County wine country! You can't beat the price! Feel free to pay incrementally as you are able - just put it in the offering plate on Sundays and make sure you mark the memo on your check 'Women's Retreat'. If you have any questions or have not yet received your letter of invitation with the registration form (or you need more so your friends can register), please contact Karen Lehman at 887-9348.

PASTOR'S PROPOSAL

At the 2nd half of TLC's 2014-2015 Congregational Meeting, you will be asked to vote on the proposal for a Capital Fundraising Campaign that the Council presented and Pastor designed. As the date for this meeting (January 25) draws near, Pastor will send out another e-attachment of the campaign packet that participants will receive. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE E-MAILS, PLEASE ASK PASTOR TO GIVE YOU A COPY.

Mission Investment Fund and Sierra Pacific Synod Bishop, Mark Holmerud, have requested that we hold a Capital Fundraising Campaign. The monies from Cent\$ational \$unday and the 4th Sunday Mortgage principal offerings help, but we need to comply with this request and make a concentrated effort to significantly reduce our mortgage.

Please take the time to peruse Pastor's proposal and come to the meeting on January 25.

Thanks. Pastor Jean

Mission Forums

“Do We Want to Adopt a New Mission Statement?”

This is the focus of two Discussion Forums this month: January 4th and January 18th.

Do you know what TLC's mission statement is? After I asked the above question at the November Congregational Meeting, I started noticing that we don't publish it anywhere. I suspect that the majority of the congregation doesn't know what it is, and I am sure that no visitors have any idea.

Our mission statement is supposed to give focus to our purpose for existing. It should guide the direction that all of our ministries take and inform outsiders what they are coming in to. Is our current mission statement, dating back to 1992, the rudder for our discipleship?

Let's talk. Come after worship and fellowship on Jan. 4th and 18th and join the discussion.

Thanks. Pastor Jean

Who's Who at TLC?

Officers

President, TBD

Vice President, TBD

Secretary, TBD

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 January Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Cent-sational 9:30am - Worship @ 11am - Council 7pm - Roca de		29 1pm - Bible Study @ 6pm - NA Meeting 8pm - NA Meeting	30 New Year's Eve 5pm - Roca de	1 New Year's Day	2 5pm - Roca de	3 10am - AA 11:30am - CCC
4 Special Mortgage 9:30am - Worship @ 7pm - Roca de	5 5:30pm - Mutual	6 1pm - Bible Study @ 6pm - NA Meeting 8pm - NA Meeting	7 Chair Reports due 5pm - Roca de	8	9 Women's Retreat 5pm - Roca de	10 10am - AA
11 Women's Retreat 9:30am - Worship @ 7pm - Roca de	12	13 1pm - Bible Study @ 6pm - NA Meeting 8pm - NA Meeting	14 5pm - Roca de 6:30pm - Property	15	16 5pm - Roca de	17 10am - AA 3pm - Pet First
18 Rwanda Sunday 9:30am - Worship @ 11am - Council 7pm - Roca de	19 Martin Luther King	20 1pm - Bible Study @ 6pm - NA Meeting 8pm - NA Meeting	21 5pm - Roca de	22	23 Trumpet Deadline 5pm - Roca de	24 10am - AA
25 Cent-sational RIC Sunday 9:30am - Worship @ 11:30am - Congrega 7pm - Roca de	26	27 1pm - Bible Study @ 6pm - NA Meeting 8pm - NA Meeting	28 5pm - Roca de	29	30 5pm - Roca de	31 10am - AA



Thanksgiving Lutheran Church
1225 Fulton Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95401



A happy New Year! Grant that I
May bring no tear to any eye
When this New Year in time shall end
Let it be said I've played the friend,
Have lived and loved and labored here,
And made of it a happy year.
~*Edgar Gues*