

TLC Trumpet



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

Volume 9 No. 5

www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

June 2012

Pastor's Page

(Hint: read through the following at your normal reading speed and be delighted and amazed)

The ohetr day, Paul Fteierag bghrout in a nsweletetr taht had an atirlce in wichh the wdros were all jblumed up lkie tihs. The acrtlie was abot how our mnids can unmjuble the wrods, as long as the fsrit and lsat ltteres were clcterroy ptsioinod! So, we don't atcalluy see what we are atcalluy sneeig. Our minds make the ajtmusendt for us. I aslo noectid taht if I tyeptd in the wrods all jlumebd up, that the cutpomer wulod amautotilclay umbnjule them as well. Whoa!

Of cuosre, I cuold idammeiltey see a way to gvie groy to God wtih tihs garet pheemonenon. It's lkie biasptm. In biasptm, we die to our old slef

and are roerbn with a sripit that aucmttoaiaily resadujs us so that we can see God ahirgt! Is that a push? Or is it wotrth podnering?

Are biazpted fkols betetr able to see God wehn lfie gtes all jlumebd up? I wish sticiensts wolud run taht test –we'd be albe to tout a purecios coodimnty to a wlord in need of snieeg more God!

Isanted of choas, we see carteion. In tiems of darnesks, we bow our hedas and pary. In the fcae of dateh, we see rresuection. When tiems are bad, we cilam our rghit to gnodoess. When pitorriies are jbmuled, we actutollmaiy put God fisrt and eyervtinhg esle evellutnay flals itno palce.

Tulry, the gesreatt gfit in lfie is dinyg in biasptm to new lfie in Crisht!

Love,

Pestor Jaen

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Next Trumpet Deadline!

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be Friday, June 22. 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

June hours for our administrative assistant

Church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 10-1, and Friday 11-2.



Happy Birthday to these TLCers!

Fiona Becker	6/1
Deborah Baggett	6/7
Zoe Zuest-Becker	6/16
Kirsten Bartlett	6/18
Stan Schuler	6/19
Mary Dawson	6/30

TLC Highlights

Sonoma County PRIDE Interfaith Service "Gay By Nature!"

The Sonoma County Pride Interfaith Service along with the Russian River Sisters' Sonoma County Pride Planning Committee is excited to inform you that the 2012 Pride Interfaith Service will be held on June 10th at 7 pm. The theme for both the Pride Interfaith Service and the Sonoma County Pride Celebration is "Gay By Nature!"

Our host congregation this year is
Christ Church United Methodist
1717 Yulupa Ave. Santa Rosa, CA 95405.



TLC Group News

Vacation Bible School

Once again our youth are invited and encouraged to attend Vacation Bible School at Bethlehem Church. This year's theme is Bible Investigators; Discovering God's Gifts of Love. Come be a junior detective and track down the clues. The dates are Sunday June 24th through Thursday the 28th. The time is 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Dinner will be served on Sunday only at 5:45pm. The cost is covered by TLC and includes a free tee shirt. Return the registration form to Jean Harrison by June 3rd. Adults and older youth are most welcome to volunteer to help. Just talk with Jean.



Fourth of July Event at TLC! Although the inter-faith event was cancelled, here at TLC we still want to celebrate our country's independence! On **July 4th at 2 p.m.**, TLC would like to invite you to join us for a Barbeque/Pot luck event here on our patio. We'll have decorations, a bible trivia contest, a TLC-Bingo! game, and FOOD and beverages. Please bring a meat/protein to grill for your family as well as a salad, dessert or side dish. CCC committee will provide beverages. Let's take time to enjoy our country's freedom with some fun and fellowship! See Jordan Eberly for details. No sign up is required!!



More BS* You Won't Hear in Church!

(*Bible Stories, of course!)

Join Sandy Koppen on **Sunday, June 24** after worship for the sixth session of *BS You Won't Hear in Church*, a Bible study series developed by PLTS graduate Tim Feiertag. In this series we are looking at some interesting, mostly Old Testament, Bible stories that we don't hear in the 3-year church lectionary. (Each session stands on its own, so don't worry if you have missed the previous sessions—all are welcome!) This month: God speaks through underwear? Have you ever done anything "crazy" for God?

**June 24 (Session 6):
"Jeremiah's Symbolic Under-pants" (Jeremiah 13: 1-11)**

Pastor's 5 year anniversary.

It has been an amazing FIVE years since our dear Pastor Jean has joined our congregation! We want to invite you to help us celebrate this anniversary **Sunday, June 10th** immediately after service for a special cake. Maybe we could bring some fun "memories" of Pastor's last five years at TLC, too. For more information, please check with a CCC committee member. See you there!

Fellowship/Coffee Time

The CCC committee would like to encourage everyone to sign up for set up, clean up and/or treats to be enjoyed after services on Sunday mornings. With summer visitors here and nice weather calling us out onto our patio, refreshments are a nice way to "hang" out, visit with each other and catch up on church news and fun. Signup sheets can be found on the bulletin board in the hallway. CCC committee members are always willing to help you set up/clean up if you haven't done this yet. Thanks!!



Monthly Potlucks

California Cuisine to be featured at monthly potluck

We can all try to cook like Alice Waters on June 21 as we try our hand at California Cuisine dishes for the themed potluck. Be there at 6:30 pm for delicious food, good company, meaningful prayer and communion around the dinner table. All are welcome. On July 12th we begin our weekly salad suppers through August at 7 pm.

A Transwoman Discovers God's Inclusive Plan for the Church

By Paul Feiertag

Tim's email described a transwoman's presentation on Matthew 19:11-12 at the Lutherans Concerned "Building an Inclusive Church" training in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Jesus had just concluded a very harsh teaching on divorce and remarriage which caused his disciples to conclude that it's better then not to marry at all. Jesus' response to them was, "Not everyone can accept this teaching, but only those to whom it is given. For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by

It's good to be reminded that the concepts of being homosexual or transgendered were not remotely understood until the 20th century. This is still so new that we have to learn from the folks who experience it themselves.

others, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let anyone accept this who can."

The transwoman at Tim's training interpreted this is an example of Jesus affirming the place of those outside the sexual-familial-religious systems of Jesus' day. She understood herself as one who made herself a eunuch for the sake of the kingdom. Tim noted that we don't hear Matthew's version of this event in Jesus'

ministry in the Revised Common Lectionary, however we do hear Mark's shorter parallel version that does not include the affirming references to eunuchs. Tim wanted to discuss this in our next phone call.

Mark's Gospel never mentions eunuchs. Luke's Gospel does not include this episode of Jesus' teaching, however he does relate Philip baptizing the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8:26ff. So I wondered why Matthew had inserted eunuchs into Mark's story line--and five times at that.

The answer may be in First, Second, and Third Isaiah. Chapters 1-39 are the only part of the whole Book of Isaiah from the time of the actual prophet Isaiah--First Isaiah. It ends with the king of Babylon castrating the male members of the royal family, preventing any further children. They were made eunuchs, and so Isaiah's prophecy ends. Second Isaiah ends at 55:13 with the promise of a new Exodus into a new land where "an everlasting sign shall not be cut off." Third Isaiah begins, "Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed" 56:1.

Who gets included first, you ask? Isaiah 56:3 specifically includes the foreigner/proselyte and the eunuch! God said, YES!

Yes, to us who do not trace our lineage to one of the twelve tribes of Israel; and yes, to all those "outside the sexual-familial-religious

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.

systems of Jesus' day" as the transwoman at the training put it. I think Matthew used "eunuch" five times in 19:12 because it was the only word he knew of to describe people who did not conform to the sexual norm, and he wanted to emphasize God's inclusion of them, too.

It's good to be reminded that the concepts of being homosexual or transgendered were not remotely understood until the 20th century. This is still so new that we have to learn from the folks who experience it themselves. That is why it is so exciting to belong to a Reconciling in Christ congregation where sexual diversity can be affirmed and celebrated. I'm also thankful for all who teach the church today to be as totally inclusive as we are becoming. Truly, it is God's vision of the church.



From the CCC Committee



Fellowship Committee

(current members: Gloria Feiertag, Marilyn & Stan Schuler, Ingrid Feiertag, Jordan Eberly, Joan Hax, Kathy Flanagan, George Land, and Lisa Bartlett. We are always looking for fun-loving folks to join our committee!!)

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Jottings from Jean Flak...

Did you hear Jesus Phreak being promoted on KJZY - thanks KJZY and Karen Lehman....Bobbi Adams brought Ilene Friend by TLC to say hi to Pastor Jean....Flak's are going to a family gathering at the end of May....lots of folks are having health issues - Sharon Boschen, Lorraine Larson, Betty Speakes, Lola Bumahl, Kim Lehman - remember them in your prayers.... Jesus Phreak was a big success in many ways, thanks everyone....Nora Wilson's mom died in Kansas and Nora is back with us now and needing lots of hugs....Lorraine Larson had surgery for her cancer on May 16...Roger Larson is taking an Exelon pill and it seems to be helping him, he is also taking cinnamon....George and Diane Land were in Anchorage helping their grandson graduate from high school....also graduating are Fiona Becker and Keir Skinner - congratulations....Mark Koppen was off to Illinois to bring daughter Laura back for the summer....sister Natalie will be in the Chamber Singers at MHS next year....Natalie also got a journalism award from the Press Democrat - nice job Natalie!...a flu bug is going around, be careful...



Finance Update

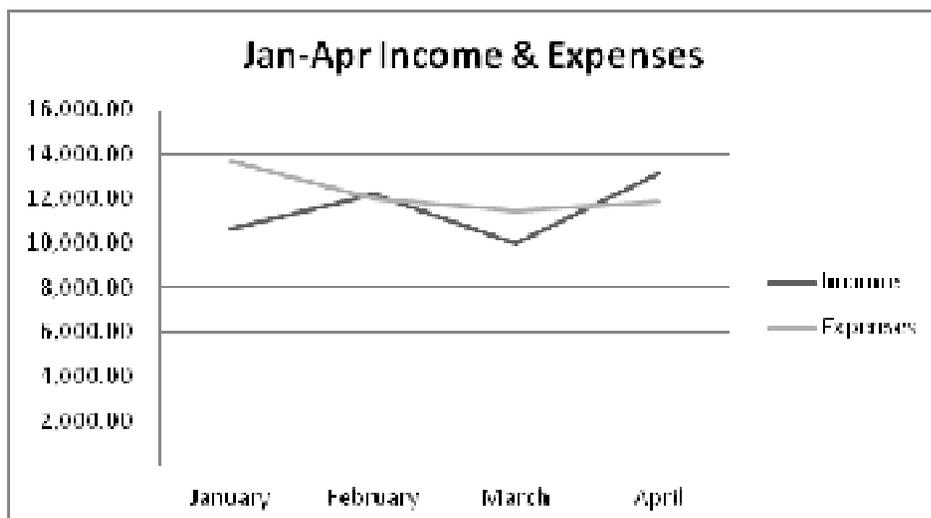
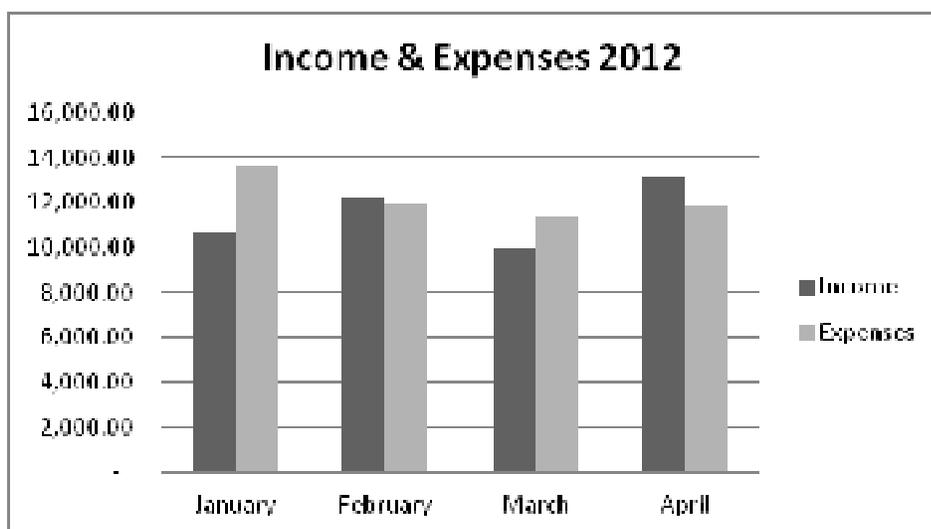
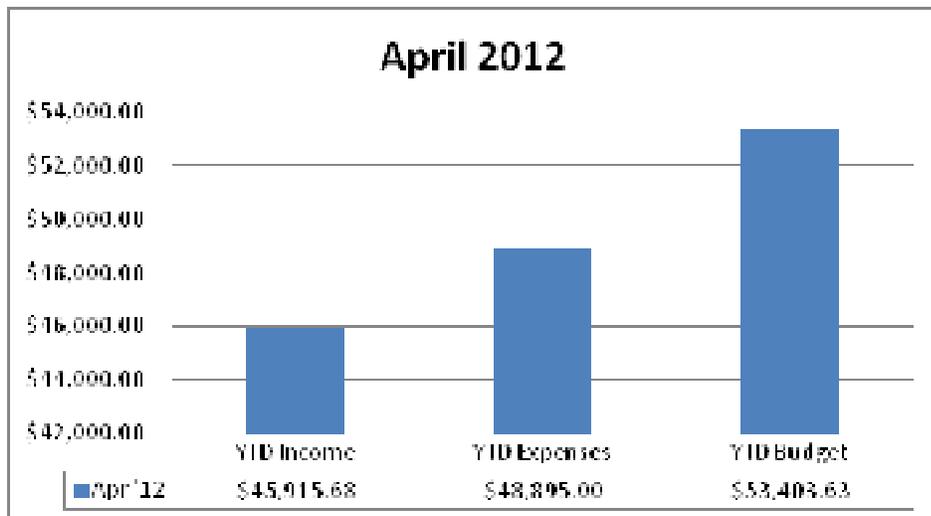
Finance News

Financial Updates

April was a good month financially. Income was ahead of expenses for the month by \$1,287.32. As of the end of April our deficit for the year is \$2,979.32. We had projected in the budget a deficit of \$12,019.36 through this date so we are doing much better than we thought we might. Our average monthly deficit has been \$993.11. The budgeted deficit is \$3,004.84. Expenses are staying within budget and income is a bit better than expected. Thank you to all who keep their pledges current. And special thanks to those who give that little extra. It most certainly helps. As of May 2nd the principal balance on our mortgage was \$699,674.86 which is excellent news.

Gifts to Others

Through the end of April TLCers have contributed \$255 to 2nd Mile Projects, \$498.01 to the Rwanda School Project and \$80 to the ELCA Malaria campaign. The Easter offering of \$927.75 went to FISH.



TLC Executive Committee:

Keith Becker, President
Astrid Anderson, Vice-president
Mark Koppen, Secretary
Jean Harrison, Treasurer
Mary Thompson, Financial Secretary

Council Liaisons to Committees:

Christian Education	Jordan Eberly
Congregation and Community Care	Lisa Bartlett
Finance	Astrid Anderson
Outreach and Evangelism	Mary Weber
Property	Keith Becker
Stewardship	Keith Becker
Worship and Music	Mark Koppen
Youth (in hiatus)	

Committee Chairs

Christian Education	Jean Harrison
Congregation and Community Care	Jordan Eberly
Finance	Jean Harrison
Mutual Ministry	Pastor Jean Lebbert
Outreach and Evangelism	Jan Thomas
Property	Jan Loewen
Stewardship	Keith Becker
Worship and Music	Mary Thompson
Youth (in hiatus)	

Who's Who In Worship

Altar Guild Coordinator:

Diane Land

Greeters Coordinator:

Jan Thomas

Asst. Ministers Coordinator:

Ingrid Feiertag

Musicians Coordinator:

Mark Koppen

Offering Teller Coordinator:

Paul Feiertag

Readers Coordinator:

Ingrid Feiertag

Ushers Coordinator:

George Land

Who's Who In Special Taskforces

Community Garden Coordinator:

Karen Lehman

Landscaping Coordinator:

Jean Harrison

Quilters Coordinator:

Lorraine Larson

Women's Retreat Coordinator:

Karen Lehman

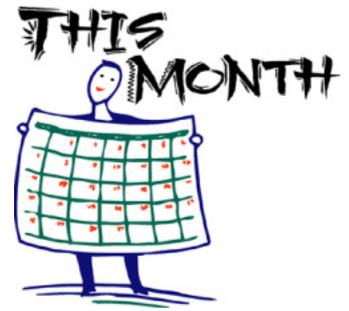
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What if you, as a member of the ELCA, could grow your personal finances while helping to grow the church?



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



June 2012 at Thanksgiving Lutheran

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM Adult Forum 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	28  6:30 PM Council 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous	29 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	30 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	31	1 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	2 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous
3 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM TLC at Gay Pride Festival 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo 7:00 PM Gay Pride Interaith Worship	4 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 PM Outreach Meeting	5 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	6 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	7	8 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	9 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous
 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM Pastor's 5th year anniversary 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	11 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous	12 1:00 PM Bible Study 4:15 PM Christian Ed Meeting 8:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	13 6:30 PM Property Meeting 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	14  6:30 PM Monthly Potluck	15 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	16 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous 10:00 AM Finance Committee
 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	18 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 PM Mutual Ministry	19 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	 6:30 PM Council 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	 Bay View Trip	22 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	23 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo
24 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM Christian Education 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	25 6:30 PM Church Council Meeting 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous	26 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	27 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	28	29 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo	30 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous