

TLC Trumpet



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

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www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

June 2013

Pastor's Page

A few weeks ago, Janet and I got to go back to Yosemite. Every time is different from all the others. This year part of the character of the trip was gift cards! We had the gift certificate that you presented to me at Christmas; we had the AT&T Rewards Card from purchasing our iPhones, and we had four "Shell" gift cards that Janet earned at IDEXX for perfect attendance! Pretty cool to have others pay for a chunk of our vacation!

Even though every trip differs from the others, the memories we relive every time we go there are always the same. We've been going to Yosemite for many years now, so practically every place we go in the Park has a memory or more for us.

I heard an account once about a storyteller who went to Australia to collect stories. While

there, he asked a guide to take him on his Walkabout route. A Walkabout guide is a storykeeper. He is the one who, as you walk about, tells the stories that belong to a place as you pass through it. It is a revered tradition, such that the guide is required to tell the whole story whenever he is in that place. The thing about this account was that they took it riding in the visitor's car instead of walking. Travelling so much brisker in a car, the storyteller, as I was told, was hanging out the window the whole route, talking as fast as he could to get the stories told.

At the 2013 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly, the keynote speaker, Rev. David Lose (pronounced *lows*) addressed many issues that contribute to the overall decline in participation in church. One issue he brought up is that Christians don't relate Bible stories to events in their lives like they used to. We are bombarded with many other stories: television, movies, books, YouTube, advertisements, video games, etc. So, we are more likely to say, for example, "You know, that reminds me of last week's episode of *Scandal*" than we are to say, "You know, that reminds me of the story of David and Bathsheba."

Of course, one has to know the stories in the Bible, and that knowledge wanes when participa-

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Next Trumpet Deadline!

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be Monday, June 24. 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 Friday 10-2.



Blessings to our June Birthday Folks:

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

Roma

On May 28, we received the sad news that Roma-Dakini Alexander had died. Roma was a long-time and faithful visitor at TLC, a beautiful friend to many, a delightful, inquisitive presence in our Tuesday afternoon Bible study. The following Sunday, we had a brief remembrance of her in the worship service and read together her beloved Psalm, Psalm 23. We commit her to eternal rest in the light of Christ.

Below is an excerpt from an article you can find if you "Google" Roma!

ACHS Graduates its First Masters of Science in Complementary Alternative Medicine Student

Portland, Oregon--Oct. 7, 2010--Congratulations Roma-Dakini Alexander, M.S., (R) (T) (F) C.R.T., the first student to graduate from the American College of Healthcare Sciences (ACHS) Masters of Science in Complementary Alternative Medicine (CAM) degree program. Launched in 2008, the ACHS Masters in CAM was the first program of its kind to be accredited in the U.S.

"I always had a passion for herbal medicine," says Alexander. "I come from Europe and my grandmother was a Shamanic medicine woman. I was very happy to find a college that offers an MS in CAM and is also accredited by the U.S. Department of Education and Council for Higher Education Accreditation."

Alexander is a licensed radiation therapist and is radiation therapy program director for the Kaiser Permanente School of Allied Health Sciences in Richmond, California. She plans to use her ACHS CAM education to organize seminars and meetings, such as the interaction of drugs with herbs and supplements, and to share her knowledge with other medical professionals.

TLC Group News

Monthly Potlucks turn to Summer Mode

This year we will not have weekly potlucks over the summer but we will continue with monthly ones. A large bowl of greens will be provided by the Christian Education committee as well as bread and beverages. Bring something to top the greens or another type of salad. Salads are always so refreshing a fare in the hotter months. First such gathering will be Thursday June 20 at 6:30 pm. It might even be nice enough to gather outside on the patio. Other such potlucks are set for July 18th and August 15th. Prayers and Communion follow supper. Fellowship is always great. Please join us.



Women in Acts Have Some Mighty Interesting Tales

Do join the Adult Forum on June 23rd as Sandy Koppen masterfully leads us through the stories of the Women in Acts. You'll learn a lot and have a good time too. Adult Forums are the 4th Sunday of each month just after Fellowship and goodies.



Finance Committee

The Finance committee will meet on either June 16th or the 23rd after church at Jean Harrison's house.



Labels and Box tops for Education

Please continue to cut them from your cans and cereal boxes, etc. There is a small container on the ledge of the pass-through to the kitchen where you can deposit them.

For those who are new to the congregation, we send these to Mosaic at Bethphage Village, which is a home in Axtell, NE, for people with developmental disabilities. It is an affiliate ministry organization of the ELCA.

HHR Invites Everyone to Crossroads Gardens June 22

Everyone is included in the invitation to Crossroads Gardens in Schellville. The gardens are whimsical, the gift shop is full of stuff that you could buy for your next epic movie, there is a resident bulldog that has claimed title to a plastic bucket, a large blue lawn chair that you might want to have your picture taken sitting in, and a cafe to get stuff for a picnic or bring your own goodies for a picnic. We will car pool from church at 11 a.m. on the 22nd. There is a sign up sheet on the kiosk in the narthex. Come and enjoy!



Vacation Bible School

Our young people are encouraged to put on their cowboy hats and join the fun at Bethlehem Lutheran Church for "Way Out West" Vacation Bible School. It starts with a picnic supper on Sunday June 23 and continues throughout the week in the evenings until the 27th. TLC pays the registration of any of our youth who attend. Jean Harrison has registration forms.

Worship Highlights in the Month of June



June 2: Second Sunday After Pentecost – “The Wide Arms of Grace”

Psalm 96; 1 Kings 8:22-23, 41-43; Galatians 1:1-12; Luke 7:1-10

Highlights: Sonoma County Gay Pride Parade; **worship here at 8:30 a.m.**

June 9: Third Sunday after Pentecost – “Revivals”

Psalm 30; 1 Kings 17:17-24; Galatians 1:11-24; Luke 7:11-17

Highlights: 5th Session of Book of Concord class; Worship Committee meeting

June 16: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – “The Bold Ones”

Psalm 32; 2 Samuel 11: 26-12:10, 13-15; Galatians 2:15-21; Luke 7:36-8:3

Highlights: Gift of G.A.B.; Fathers Day

June 23: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – “Sows’ Ears Purses”

Psalm 22:19-28; Isaiah 65:1-9; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

Highlights: Adult Forum on women’s stories in Acts of the Apostles.

June 30: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – “Being Taken Up”

Psalm 16; 1 Kings 19:15–16, 19–21; Galatians 5:1, 13–25; Luke 9:51–62

Highlights: Council

Pastor’s Page

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tion in worship, Bible studies, and Christian Education classes (aka church life) dwindles. We cannot blame the devil for letting God become irrelevant to our lives.

On Sundays in my sermons, I am going to try to make the scripture readings more relevant to life, and I have a challenge for those of you who are wonderfully active in the life of TLC: would you make an intentional effort to bring up the Bible in conversations during the week? You could mention a favorite verse. You could find a way to relate a Bible story to what you’re talking about. You could, as you watch your favorite TV shows or take in a movie, figure out a biblical example that plays out the same plot; then, catch

yourself before you mention the show and mention instead the Bible story! (Whoa, that requires major discipline).

It’s up to all of us to keep God in the lime-light and to let others know the blessing of God’s love that we experience. Up to the challenge?

*Love,
Pastor Jan*

Jean's Jots

Marilyn Schuler got a new car, have you noticed..Jean Flak, Mary Weber and Pastor Jean went to the Synod Assembly in Fresno....Pastor Jean and sister Janet have enjoyed another trip to Yosemite...Cindy Heiller is house training Astrid Anderson's puppy...Diane Land has finished her chemo therapy....Nora Wilson is progressing in her therapy, be sure to remember her in your prayers....Sharon Boschen is feeling better....my thanks to Paul Feiertag for each month taking Flak to the TASC meeting in Dublin...two ducks have been visiting the Flak's pond and some chomping on the grass, they leave at about dusk and come back the next afternoon...Pastor Jean will be leading a women's retreat at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on June 29...there is a hole in our midst with the death of Roma....



2013 is a grand year for Thanksgiving. We

have not one but two anniversaries to celebrate! It is the 25th Anniversary for the congregation with the first service being held on April 17, 1988, and the first service in our current church was celebrated on July 6th 2003.

Plans are well underway for a gala celebration on Sunday July 14th. Worship will include some special music and prayers celebrating the Anniversaries. Then a light luncheon will follow on the patio with entertainment. Members and friends past and present are invited. Others who use our property are invited. Our neighbors are invited. Scrapbooks, mementos and photos from the past as well as a timeline will be featured. This is a celebration of who we were, are and will be. And it is free to all. Please plan on joining the fun, prayers, food and fellowship. See you all then!

Synod Assembly Report

This year the Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly was held on Saturday, May 4-6, 2013 and was themed ***Always Being Made New***. Having joined Thanksgiving Lutheran Church 25 years ago, I felt it was appropriate for me to take a turn going as the 'Lay-Rep' for TLC. Little did I know how much fun I was volunteering to have. I feel very blessed that I was able to squeak out the time for the trip with Pastor Jean and Jean Flak.

The assembly held several highlights for me including meeting some of the major players in the synod (including Bishop Evariste Mugabo from Rwanda), hearing great speakers, using tally tech that teachers had spoken about in my classes, attending workshops—as well as seeing Jean getting to walk in the Pastor's Parade! Among the inspirational speakers were

Keynote speaker Dr. David Lose and Bible study leader Rev. Susan Briehl. I truly wish I could have boxed them up and brought them back for you all to hear. I took extensive notes, but trying to relay even a segment of what they had to share is beyond my skill as a storyteller. You simply had to be there; I'm so glad I was.

Two bits that resonated with my current outlook, especially as a student at SRJC, which I would like to share with our congregation, were some segments of Dr Lose's first keynote address and the two workshops that I attended. From my perspective as a business student and going with the theme of ***Always Being Made New***, both were related to bringing technology into congregations.

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Synod Assembly Report

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Dr. Lose's keynote address focused on positive outlook, new opportunities and embracing mysteries. In a nutshell, gleaning from his 11 steps to renew interest in faith communities, a few that I am grudgingly pulling from his wealth of information are the following:

- Focus on opportunities. Answer needs. Ask what the congregation/community needs from the church. What can we provide that will be missed in five years?
- Learn to fail faster and smarter. Failure is the secret to success because then you learn what doesn't work.
- Tell a better story. Tell God's story so that it offers meaning, purpose and identity. Come to know [God] in church, so that you will recognize [God] out there – in your work world, in your home life, in a stranger's face.



In addition to that powerful address, I was able to choose two workshops from many that were offered. In my opinion, I hope that in the future more time will be allotted for workshops, as I felt that both could have been longer and taught so much more. I chose to go to **Media in Worship** and **Social Media and Websites**. Of course, this is another subject that is too vast to go into here, but the key ingredient is the notion that

I find myself wondering what new opportunities can we provide to share the gospel and to serve?

part of renewing interest in the faith life of congregations is what we offer to the 20-40 year old demographic that is missing from TLC. At the suggestion of Dr. Lose and the workshop leaders, an effort needs to be made to meet that group where they are—attached to technology.

During his second lecture, Dr. Lose showed us and clip from West Wing. One of the main characters was quoting Leviticus and



telling us that his purpose was to 'Be of Service' and to determine how best to be of service by asking directly. Since the assembly, I have found myself wondering about ways that we can meet those who are searching for God in their lives outside of the church doors. How can we be of service to them, to answer their needs, to find opportunities to meet them where they are and show God's story through fresh approaches. How do we embrace the mystery of technology as a tool to do God's work? Dr. Lose concluded that second address saying, "We are not [in church] just to hear, just to listen. We are called to work—to serve, not perfectly, but as we are able."

I find myself wondering what new opportunities can we provide to share the gospel and to serve?

In Christ,

Mary K. Weber

2013 Synod Assembly Resolutions

Resolutions Passed

Resolution 2013-1 Regarding Sierra Pacific Synod Compensation Guidelines

Establishes baseline compensation for full time pastoral leaders at \$49,000 a year and edits existing guidelines for health care benefits to try and maintain current benefit levels.

Resolution 2013-2 Support of the ELCA Malaria Program

Encourages congregations to support the Malaria program.

Resolution 2013-3 Regarding Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Status

SPS acknowledges its status as an RIC synod in print and electronic media as appropriate.

Resolution 2013-4 Regarding Reconciling Works

SPS declares Reconciling Works/San Francisco Bay Area as an Affiliated Lutheran Organization of the SPS.

Resolution 2013-6 Commemorating Justice and Advocacy

Synod Council establishes one Sunday a year as Justice and Advocacy Sunday.

Resolution 2013-7 A Call to Study the Kairos Palestine Document

SPS encourages congregations and members to study the Kairos Palestine document, visit Palestine and support our denominational partners in Palestine.

Resolution 2013-8 Preventing Gun Violence in the United States

SPS affirms the moral imperative to reduce violence, death and injury caused by guns.

Resolution 2013-9 Healthy Food for the Poor Among Us

Congregations and individuals are encouraged to increase donations of healthy food to food pantries and food banks and to encourage the establishment of community gardens and other sources of healthy food.

Resolution 2013-10 Stewardship of all God's Creatures

Encourages everyone to treat wild, domestic and research animals compassionately and responsibly.

The following four resolutions were passed *en bloc* as Memorials to the upcoming 2013 Churchwide Assembly:

Resolution 2013-11 Memorial in Support of Legislation Prohibiting Employment Discrimination on the Basis of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity

SPS encourages the Churchwide Assembly to call on Congress to pass legislation that would prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.

Resolution 2013-12 Memorial Calling for Conversations about Ministering to Same-Gender Couples and Families

Invite and encourage conversations regarding ways the church can advocate for equal protection for same-gender couples and their families.

Resolution 2013-13 A Memorial in Support of the Uniting American Families Act (UAFSA).

Call upon the President and elected officials in Congress to support passage of the Uniting American Families Act (UAFSA).

Resolution 2013-14 Memorial Supporting Legal Protections for Same-Gender Couples and Their Families

SPS memorialize the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to urge all branches of government to recognize the freedom to marry for all persons and to encourage and undertake further conversations on this topic.

Resolutions Defeated

Resolution 2013-5 Living Within Our Means

Develop an income based operating budget for FY 2015/16 that is in balance without the use of any reserve funds.



Financial Update

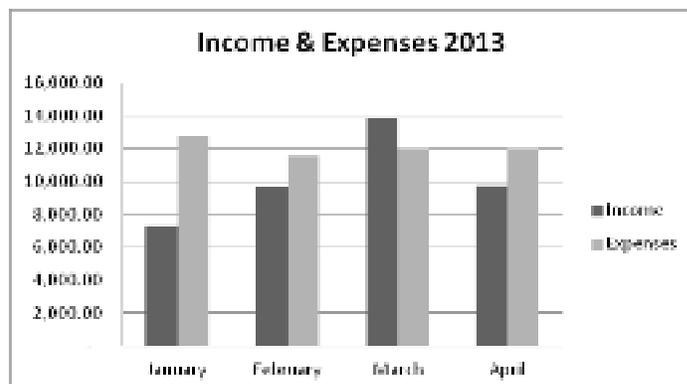
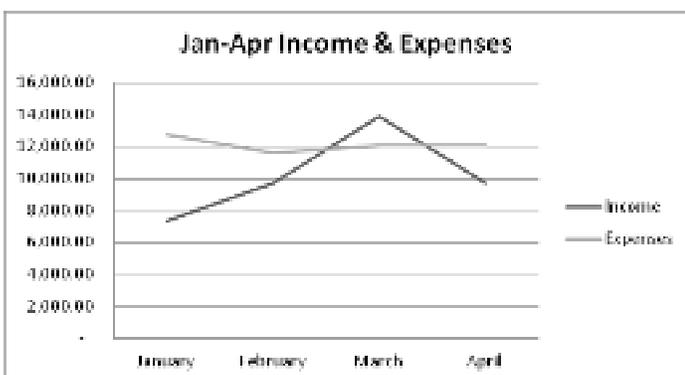
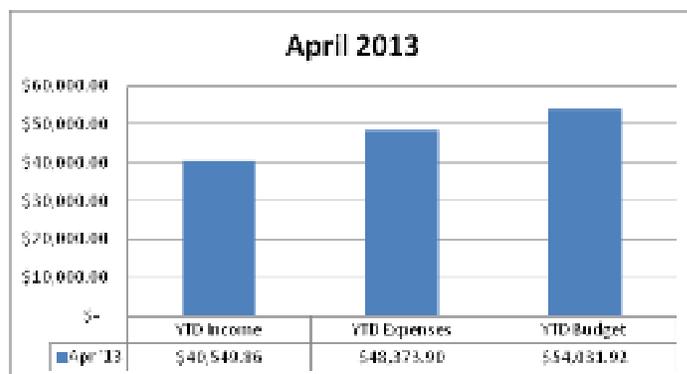
The good news is that the deficit for the year is not as bad as that shown in the budgeted adopted in November. The bad news is that we continue to have a fairly substantial deficit and that our savings are being depleted at an alarming rate. Expenses have been pared to bare bone but income just isn't enough to pay the mortgage, salaries, upkeep on the property, office supplies and a bit for programs. In April the deficit was \$2,503.26. That brings the yearly deficit to \$7,825.27 on average for the month, or \$3,911.64 per month and \$434.63 per week. There will be an even higher deficit for May. Thank you all for your attention to and prayers for this.

Other Ways to Help Increase Income

There are additional ways members and friends can support our TLC Mission in addition to giving. Designating your Thrivent Choice dollars to Thanksgiving helps a lot. Designating the church for your e script eligible purchases helps too. We receive direct deposits throughout the year from these. You can also use good search as your search engine and earn money for us. Shopping through the good search site is another great way to help us. Yearly we receive a check from Good Search. Look for details soon on another way to shop on line and earn a share for TLC!

Giving to Others

As always TLCers continue to give generously to others in our community, country and the world at large. Through May 26th \$320 has gone to Second Mile Projects, \$331 to the Rwanda School Project, \$20 to FISH, \$25 to ELCA Disaster Relief, \$75 to ELCA World Hunger and \$857 to the ELCA Malaria Project. This is in addition to the countless pounds of food given at Lent in the wheel barrel and throughout the year in the blue barrel in the Narthex. Thank you for being so generous to others.



June 2013 at Thanksgiving Lutheran

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 3:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	3	4 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon	5 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	6	7 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	8 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous
9 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 3:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	10	11 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon	 6:30 PM Property Meeting 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	13	 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	15 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous
 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 3:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	17	18 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon	19 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	 6:30 PM Potluck	 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous 11:00 AM HHR Garden Tour
23 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 3:00 PM Roca de Salvacion		25 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon	26 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	27	28 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	29 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous
30 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM Council Meeting 3:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	1	2 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon	3 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	 Office is closed	5 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	6 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anonymous

TLC Executive Committee:

Jordan Eberly, President
Keith Becker, Vice-president
Lisa Bartlett, Secretary
Jean Harrison, Treasurer
Astrid Anderson, Financial Secretary

Council Liaisons to Committees:

Christian Education	Cindy Heiller
Congregation and Community Care	Barbara Kling
Finance	Lisa Bartlett
Mutual Ministry	Pastor Jean Lebbert
Outreach and Evangelism	Mary Weber
Property	Keith Becker
Stewardship	Keith Becker
Worship and Music	Jordan Eberly

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:

Mary Dawson

Greeters Coordinator:

Jan Thomas

Asst. Ministers Coordinator:

Ingrid Feiertag

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:

Gloria Feiertag

Women's Retreat Coordinator:

Karen Lehman

**Please Support Those
who Support Us**



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