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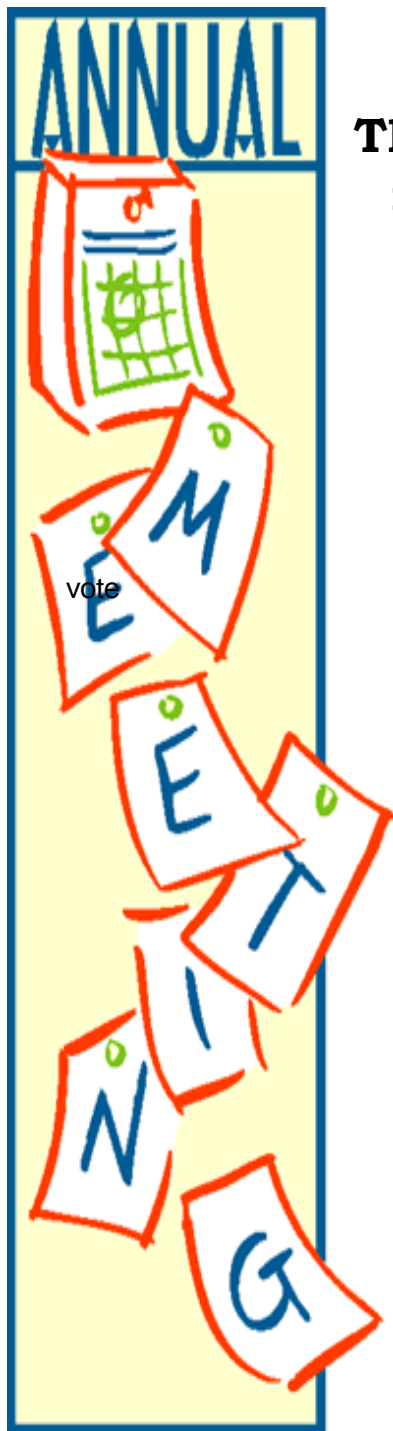
# TLC Trumpet

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

Volume 4 No. 11

www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

November 2007



## The Thanksgiving Lutheran Church Council requests the honor of your presence

on

**Sunday, November 4**

at

**11:00 am**

(following worship)

The following items will be on the agenda, and your presence and vote are important!

- ◆ We will discuss and vote on the **2008 Budget Proposal** (materials have been mailed to your home address)
- ◆ We will elect **three new Council members** for two-year terms. We are pleased to have a terrific slate of candidates for these positions:
  - o Jean Harrison
  - o Jan Thomas
  - o Debbie Ferronato
- ◆ We will elect a member for the **Audit Committee** for a two-year term: We are seeking a volunteer/nominee for this position. (The Audit Committee will be conducting an audit of our financial records early in 2008. Lisa Bartlett and Diane Land are the current members, serving the second year of their term.)
- ◆ **Pastor Jean's "State of the Congregation" address**, as well as a sharing of our thoughts about Outreach through "Bringing, Including, and Celebrating."

***Please make every effort to attend!***



## Progressive Dinner

It's almost here! The Congregation and Community Care (CCC) Committee is going all-out with plans for a gala Progressive Dinner planned for 5pm on December 1. What better way to get into the spirit of the holidays!

The evening begins at the home of Betty Hiebel for hors d'oeuvres and liquids. At this time the location of each person's host-home will also be revealed. We will then disperse to our host-homes for a dinner that is sure to please.

Following dinner, we "progress" to Church for the nightcap. Delectable desserts...if you have room, decoration of the Christmas Tree . . . if you wish, and a Christmas carol sing-a-long...if you like. And who can resist when it's Pastor Jack Lundin seated at the 88 ivories!

Of course, a small fee must be assessed to participants so we can pay host families for their food preparation. We won't know the exact amount until we see what the attendance will be. For that purpose we ask you to **sign up in the Narthex by Sunday, November 11.**

If you are willing to prepare and host a meal for 6-8 people (including yourself), there is a sign-up for that as well. The food will be provided and we will use a standard menu prepared by Pastor Jean (our own personal former Sunset food editor) that is so easy to follow, she even tells you when to use a hot-pad! Sign up today!



There will be a Christmas Craft Bazaar on Nov 30th from 11am to 7pm at TLC. Tables are available to display and sell crafts. Table rentals are \$20. There will be a bake sale along with the bazaar. It is on November 30th from 11am to 7pm. If you have any questions please call Kathy Flanagan at 526-5582 or see her at church.

Please add these new members to your directory:

William (Bill) Reed and Lucille (Luci) Arpi  
2028 Ludwig Avenue  
Santa Rosa, CA 95407  
544-4988  
His REED122533@aol.com  
Hers LARPI32@aol.com

Bruce and Kathy Alexander and Kyle  
112 Leisure Park Circle  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
542-8390  
alexakk@sbcglobal.net

Lola Burmahl (husband is Lyle)  
176 Sequoia Circle  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
546-0491

# Come Home

By Nancy Nelson, pastor  
Coastside/Half Moon Bay

This summer I went/came home.

I went home emotionally as I spent a week on a small lake with my best friend since the first day of high school. In some ways, we haven't changed a bit. In others, it was a wonderful time of discovery and growth. We laughed and cried. I rode in the boat watching Sam try to stay on the inner tube while being whipped far outside the wake. As families, we just spent time sitting on the porch, looking at the lake, talking.

I went home physically as I drove around Chicago, remembering pieces of my past. I had dinner with a roommate from college. We visited my cousin and aunt. We watched videos of me and my family. Jim and Sam got to see me as a teen-ager and got to see my mom as she was with her family. The 'going home' was particularly poignant as we came down the hill to see Hudson Lake, Indiana, where I spent most of my summers as a kid. I went to the cottage we once owned. I walked down the cement stairs to the lake. We drove the road that was so spooky and dark those nights I walked it as a teen-ager. I took some seed pods with me from plants my mother had planted 40 years ago. They sit on my dresser in a little bag, waiting. I'm a little afraid they won't grow.

Yet in the midst of all this 'going home' I found as we boarded our plane, that I was, without a doubt 'coming home'. I even confess that as I wandered around the Windy City, I found myself preferring San Francisco (a shocking and unexpected shift that causes me to feel vaguely traitorous).

Home is a powerful image that evokes strong feelings — hopefully, but not always, positive. Ideally, home is safe, warm, familiar, comfortable — the place where you can be fully yourself even while you experiment with who you are becoming. Home can be more than one place with more than one family. Which brings me to the very subject you knew was coming: your church home and your church family.

My hope and prayer is that each and every one of you is planning to come home to church. Many of you were already planning to do just that. You were home last week or the week before and you'll be back this week or the next. Some of you may have been away a little longer. Maybe you need to hear that there's a family reunion — it happens weekly. You're welcome, you're missed.. Sometimes a person needs to be invited to come home. If you need to be invited, you are.

Occasionally, like in the old days when the street lights go on, a person needs to be called home. Okay. Listen. It's your name. You're being called. It's time to come home.

We're growing. We're changing. New people are joining the family. The furniture is being moved around or changed all together. How we spend our week is shifting. But it's still home — your home. And it's time for supper. So come home.

See you soon.

From the [SPS] e-service of the synod vice president. “ ‘Building Healthy, Multiplying Congregations’ .. a guiding principle of the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) “

“Home is where the heart is.”

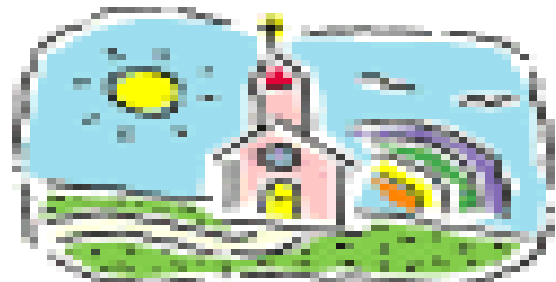
*Pliny The Elder c.23-79, Roman Neoplatonist*

“Home is where there's one to love us.”

*Charles Swain*

“I live in my house as I live inside my skin: I know more beautiful, more ample, more sturdy and more picturesque skins: but it would seem to me unnatural to exchange them for mine.”

*Primo Levi 1919-1987, Italian Chemist, Author*



## Let's Generate Some TLC Dollars – the EASY Way!

**What if** each time you did an online search TLC received a cash benefit? **What if** when you shopped online a percentage of the sale went to TLC? This is the idea behind **GoodSearch.com** and **GoodShop.com!**

**GoodSearch.com** is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

**GoodShop.com** is a new online shopping mall which donates a percentage of each purchase to your favorite cause - TLC! Just go to GoodSearch.com, click on the "shopping" tab (just above the search box), then click on the logo of the store where you want to shop, and then shop as you normally would. No username or password is required. Yes, it's that easy! Hundreds of great stores including Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting TLC.

Just go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and enter Thanksgiving Lutheran Church as the charity you want to support. And, be sure to spread the word!

### HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO TO MAKE SURE YOU UTILIZE GOODSEARCH EVERY TIME:

Go to GoodSearch.com and follow the easy instructions to make GoodSearch your homepage or just bookmark GoodSearch to your homepage toolbar. Making one of these easy changes will help you remember to use GoodSearch! If you feel a little nervous when it comes to computers, just ask Jim or Karen Lehman – they'll be happy to help you!

	September, 2007	Year to Date	Budget
<b><u>Received</u></b>			
Building Fund (Mortgage)	2,846.10	24,180.25	
General Fund (envelopes + loose)	7,545.60	58,324.06	
All Other	755	7411.05	
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED</b>	<b>11,146.70</b>	<b>89,915.36</b>	
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>			
Mission Support	754.06	6,268.60	9,500.00
Staff	5,057.67	38,616.59	52,200.00
Mortgage	1,964.33	19,587.94	33,600.00
All Other	1,984.23	23,088.31	35,677.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>9,760.29</b>	<b>87,561.44</b>	<b>130,977.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,386.41</b>	<b>2,353.92</b>	

•Our expenses this year have generally exceeded our income. However, since we began the year with a general fund balance of \$3053.72, our cash flow has been adequate—we are close to breaking even.

•Building fund income has covered our mortgage expenses to date (remember, however, that this year's mortgage payments are "interest only.")

•We are currently meeting our Mission Support commitment!

•If you would like further details about income and/or expenses, please see the monthly Finance Report posted on the bulletin board in the hallway or speak to a member of the Finance Team (Jan Loewen,

# Nifty Fifty +

## YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED — AND ENCOURAGED

by Paul Feiertag

On Thursday, November 15, the Rialto Cinemas Lakeside at 551 Summerfield Road in Santa Rosa is showing "FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO" as a benefit fund raiser for Face To Face, Sonoma County's AIDS service organization. The Nifty 50+ Club will be attending this movie, Winner of the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Seattle International Film Festival, as its November activity. This provocative and entertaining documentary is so important that all members and friends of TLC are invited to join the Nifty 50+ in viewing this film. The plan is to meet next door to the theater at Mary's Pizza at 5 PM and then go to the movie after eating together. Starting time is 7:15 PM. We expect this one-time showing to be sold out, so we plan to purchase tickets early. **Please call Paul & Ingrid at 838-8964 to let them know if you will attend the gathering at Mary's Pizza prior to the movie or just the movie.** Tickets are \$9.50 (\$6.50 for seniors 65 and above). It would be good to have a chance to talk about the movie afterward; and that will be announced later, if it works out. Another option is to send Paul an e-mail (phj@sonic.net) with the number of tickets you will need—regular and/or senior. The following is quoted from the Film Synopsis:

"Through the experiences of five very normal, very Christian, very American families — including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopalian Bishop Gene Robinson — we discover how insightful people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child. Informed by such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Harvard's Peter Gomes, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg and Reverend Jimmy Creech, FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO offers healing, clarity and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of scripture and sexual identity."

The film is for Christian straight friends and families. It fills the need of people just like the members and friends of TLC who have friends who are gay. We all know that our gay friends are gifts of God to us and to our congregation. We know that it is a lie when Christian preachers condemn gay people to hell. This film teaches us the words to say when a religious person quotes THE BIBLE in an attempt to stop further conversation on the subject. One of the families in the film, Jake Reitan and his parents, we met at Churchwide Assembly in Indianapolis in 2001, I think. I can't wait to see and hear Bishop Gene Robinson's parents tell what they learned from the son they gave birth to who went on to become the Bishop Gene Robinson that the whole Christian world talks about. What can we learn from them that will help us talk about our friends and family members who just happen to be gay?



**Have you read Pastor Jean's Bio?** Do you need to give directions to our church to someone? Well you're in luck! It's on the TLC Website. Would you like to direct someone to our RIC statement? Did you misplace your copy of the Trumpet newsletter? No Problem! Plus, it's in color! past issues too! Can't find a copy of our Relational Covenant for your next meeting? Yes we even have that too, in printable PDF format. Want to find out what's happening with the Community Garden? Yes, It's there too. And, coming soon...Church services in audio. If there's information you need or think that someone else might, hopefully you will find it at the TLC website. Visit [www.thanksgivinglutheran.org](http://www.thanksgivinglutheran.org) to find these things and much more.

*(This graphic is in full color in the web version of the Trumpet! Wow!)*

# Scripture Readings for November

## November 4 All Saints' Day (Daylight Savings Time Ends)

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 Exiled Saint's Vision

Ephesians 1:11-23 All in All

Luke 6:20-31 Jesus defines the saints

## November 11 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost (Veteran's Day)

Job 19:23-27a I know that my redeemer lives

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17 Do not be quickly shaken or alarmed

Luke 20:27-38 Will I have One Mother-in-Law in Heaven or Seven?

## November 18 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Malachi 4:1-2a Burning vs. glowing

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Warning against idleness

Luke 21:5-19 A little less than gorgeous picture of discipleship

## November 22 Thanksgiving

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 "A wandering Aramean was I"

Philippians 4:4-9 Rejoice in the Lord always

John 6:25-35 True bread vs. manna in the wilderness

## November 25 Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6 A righteous branch will shepherd

Colossians 1:11-20 May you have strength for Christ's incoming

Luke 23:33-43 Today you will be with me in Paradise



Psalm 119:11

## “ABRAHAM...OBEYED AND WENT, EVEN THOUGH HE DID NOT KNOW WHERE HE WAS GOING.” HEBREWS 11:8

The Columbia space shuttle's guidance system only kicks in when it's several miles up in space. What's the point? God's guidance system kicks in when you're in motion. That means you've got to get off the launching pad! Are you stuck in the same spot praying "Lord, I won't make a move until I hear from You," while He's saying, "you'll hear from Me once you've done what I've already put before you to do?" Sometimes we know what God wants, but we don't like it. So we pray hoping He'll change His mind and rubber-stamp what we desire.

The Bible says, "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going". When you follow God you'll go out not knowing as much as you'd like to. Counselors, study groups, committees, business plans and projections notwithstanding, there comes a time when you have to move in the direction God is pointing. Will you have unanswered questions and unspoken concerns? Absolutely. Just like your car's headlights don't shine around the next corner or over the next hill, God will give you directions on an 'as need to know' basis. That's why Paul writes: "We walk by faith, not by sight". Actually, it's the only way to go! It keeps you close to God, dependent on Him, and helps you remember Who the credit for all your successes belong to. And by the way, God's guidance system usually takes a lifetime to learn.

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



## Getting to Know...Mary Weber

Another Charter Member of TLC, Mary recalls when she joined in 1986, her oldest boy, Ben, and Alex Willse were the only kids in Sunday School. Compare Children's Time then to what we have now!

A lifelong California girl, Mary was born in Oakland, lived in Marinwood, San Rafael, Terra Linda, Sacramento, and then settled in Santa Rosa for her high school years at Piner High. In 1977, having just enrolled at Santa Rosa Junior College, she met her future husband, Tom, a recent Long Island transplant who had just enrolled at Sonoma State University.

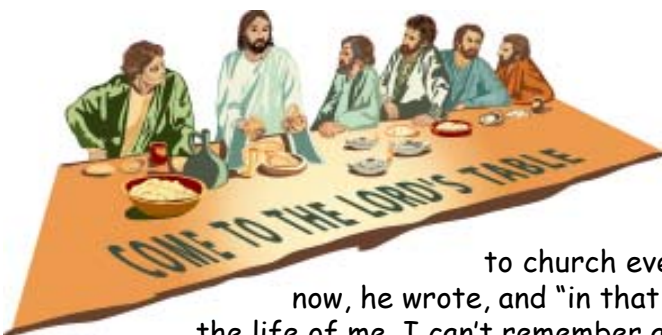
Mary and Tom exchanged vows in 1980 and quickly began their family. Their boys followed in intervals of 3 years; Ben in 1980; Jeff in 1983; David in 1986; and Michael in 1989. With four growing boys (Can you imagine?), her days were joyously filled with noise covered in dirt! During the week her taxi service was busy with Little League, soccer, Boy Scouts, Swimming and Music lessons, Karate, IEP's, and a slew of doctor visits for multiple ear infections! On weekends, Tom took over "child rearing" while Mary was released for housekeeping jobs...at other people's houses, that is! (I was not brave enough to ask Mary when she had time to clean her own home!) Eventually, she and Tom were divorced. Still, fulfilling one of her goals for them, all the boys lived in one area from K-12, all of them attending Piner High; 3 graduating from there, and the last from Santa Rosa High.

Born into a good Catholic family, her mother widowed when she was 2, Mary was the youngest of nine. Ultimately, she sought an alternative and received a referral to Thanksgiving Lutheran. In TLC she found a familiar service, yet more individual attention and no longer felt 'lost in the sauce'.

Mary is going into her 7th year at Freeman Toyota where for 6 ½ years she was a delivery driver with a 200 mile a day route. Six months ago, she transferred into the accounting department as an Operator/Receptionist with some accounting duties. She misses watching the seasonal changes of the vineyards, and all of her customers, but is looking forward to the earning potential in Accounting.

With her free moments she has enjoyed quilting and dancing (Mary has won several blue ribbons at the county fair for quilting, and once won 1st place in a Western Waltz competition! She also enjoys West Coast Swing, and Night club 2-step). Additionally, Mary has sung in several choirs over the years including the one at TLC, led by Diane Marten. She also performed in an a capella trio with Diane and Sandy Koppen, called "Travelin' Light". Mary hopes that someday soon, TLC will once again get to enjoy a choir.

Due to family obligations, Mary had to be absent during the call process, but she is absolutely thrilled with the wonderful choice that has been made in calling Pastor Jean to TLC!



## Spiritual Food Served up Weekly!

A church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone every Sunday for thirty years now, he wrote, and "in that time I have heard something like 3000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them, so I think I am wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all!"

This started a real controversy in the Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote the clincher which follows: "I have been married for thirty years now and in that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. For the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this! They all nourished me and gave me strength that I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today!"

# Thanksgiving Eve Worship

## “A Visit with President Abraham Lincoln”

For our Thanksgiving Eve worship service this year, we are honored to have as our guest President Abraham Lincoln\* who declared that the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of November be set aside for a national day of thanksgiving. He will be giving excerpts of this declaration as well as sharing other stories about his fascinating service to our country. Be sure to come for this special worship event. The worship service will be followed by the traditional pie potluck. Bakers, knock out your knock-out pie to share with your faith community.



(\*Due to his amazing physical resemblance of the great man, Abraham Lincoln, Roger Vincent began researching Lincoln and started presenting Lincoln stories in 1984. He is a member of the Association of Lincoln Presentors. Roger portrays Lincoln with warmth and sincerity. His stories are full of little known facts and are guaranteed to be an experience that you will cherish. He has shared his presentation with elementary, junior, and senior high school students as well as Historical Societies, Rotary Clubs, church sponsored events and other special event occasions. He is truly an incarnation of history.)

Worship starts at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. Please invite family, friends, and neighbors to meet President Lincoln and worship with us.

### Thanksgiving Eve Pie Potluck Time!

Bring your favorite Autumn pie for the TLC traditional pie potluck fellowship after the Thanksgiving Eve Worship service! You bring the pie and a serving utensil, and CCC will provide the coffee, tea, and other beverages.



### Special dates

- *All Saints' Day, November 1, 2007*
- *World Community Day, November 2, 2007*
- *Daylight-Saving Time Ends, November 4, 2007*
- *Veterans Day, November 11, 2007*
- *Bible Sunday, November 18, 2007*
- *National Bible Week, November 18-25, 2007*
- *Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 2007*
- *Christ the King Sunday, November 25, 2007*

### Abraham Lincoln

gave his second Inaugural Address on March 4, 1865, as the Civil War was raging. He said, “Fondly do we hope -ferventlydo we pray - that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away.”

Lincoln’s next paragraph is especially appropriate for Veterans Day:

“With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation’s wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan — to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations.”

When President Lincoln finished his classic oration, he reportedly kissed the Bible and left the platform. He was assassinated the next month.



# VETERANS DAY



# *Community Garden!*

**Come to the Master Gardener demonstration  
*and* learn more about  
the TLC Community Garden Project!**

Topic: Composting, followed by Q&A on  
composting and gardening in general

**Thursday, November 15 6:30pm**

at

Thanksgiving Lutheran Church  
1225 Fulton Road  
(at W. College)  
Santa Rosa

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Do you know anyone who would love to have their own garden?  
Would you or someone you know enjoy meeting and working  
alongside others from the TLC neighborhood?  
Get in on the “ground” floor of this community project!  
Plots currently available - reserve yours soon!

*(Next garden workday: Saturday, November 3 from 9-noon)*

***For more information, visit the TLC website  
at [www.thanksgivinglutheran.org/garden](http://www.thanksgivinglutheran.org/garden)  
Email: [TLCGarden@thanksgivinglutheran.org](mailto:TLCGarden@thanksgivinglutheran.org)  
or call 887-9348***



## **A Final Thought...** **From Pastor Jean**

In the five months that I have been at TLC, I have heard many visitors remark about how warm and friendly this congregation is, and they are absolutely right! I am still thrilled by the love with which you have embraced me, and I hope that every new member gets embraced in the same way.

I mention this now because we are moving into the cold and dark season of winter, during which we get swept up in celebrations of the Light. This is a busy, busy time of the year for the faithful, and we get focused on all the stuff that we need and want to get done for all the celebrations.

I hope that all of your preparations and celebrations are blessed and joyful. And I ask you, especially when you are at TLC, to be mindful of our visitors and of members who are absent. Your gesture of genuine warmth and welcome will be a priceless gift to them—and a gift to your heart too. I ask that you come a few minutes earlier to worship, so that you can get your pre-service business done and have time to look around and notice unfamiliar faces and people who are sitting alone. Move yourself over and sit with them. I assure you that God will be able to find you if you are not sitting in your usual place, and you will be able to worship sitting in a different place.

Maybe none of this needs to be said, but ever notice how the remarkable happens when we actually express the stuff that we think doesn't need to be expressed? Things like "I love you", "I missed you last week", "I notice that you haven't been coming to church for a while", "I am glad you are here."

By the way, TLC, I love you.

*Pastor Jean*

Please Remember:

Pastor Jean is ALWAYS available on her cell phone, so don't hesitate to call - ESPECIALLY in an emergency! Whether it's a seemingly mundane question about church business or you need a little TLC (in this case, tender loving care!), Pastor Jean is here for you. So call. Anytime. Really.



### **Next Trumpet Deadline!**

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be Wednesday, November 21. Editor requests articles be no longer than 500 words, using 12 point Arial font is a plus!

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*

**Pastor Jean Lebbert 707-327-6292**

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

**Worship:**

**Sunday morning at 9:30 with Children's Sermon, Holy Communion, and education hour for all ages**

**Thanksgiving Lutheran Church**

**1225 Fulton Road**

**Santa Rosa, CA 95401**

**email: [tlcsantarosa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tlcsantarosa@sbcglobal.net)**

**On the web: [www.thanksgivinglutheran.org](http://www.thanksgivinglutheran.org)**