

The

# TLC Trumpet



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

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**When I worked** in the test kitchens of Sunset Magazine, it was the middle of summertime when we would work on the November issue. The food section of November Sunsets frequently focused on the Thanksgiving feast. One year we'd report how to prepare the traditional dishes. Another we'd stir up things with new products that were appearing in western markets. Another year, we'd give recipes for the asides to the turkey or we'd give recipes for what to do with the leftovers

One year, we went back to the basics, specifically to help cooks who were tackling roasting a turkey for the Thanksgiving feast for the very first time. I remember it because we published a mistake that the proofreaders missed. Our "traditional" bread stuffing for the turkey called for 1 cup of ground black pepper instead of 1 teaspoon! One CUP of pepper!

In the food department, all of us food editors thought, "Everybody knows black pepper. Nobody is going to actually put one cup of pepper into just, plain, old bread stuffing."

Wrong. We received letters describing disasters. We had to publish an apology, and, as I remember it, I think we even reimbursed some of our subscribers for their groceries.

The first time I ever cooked a turkey for Thanksgiving was for an article on what to do with leftover turkey and trimmings. My first, gorgeous, mouth-watering, golden, scrumptious turkey came out of the oven looking perfect. Then, I let it cool and pulled it apart so I'd have meat and carcass to develop recipes for casseroles and soups.

Humor me, because what I'm getting at is that our gift of faith meets similar fate when we follow Spirit's call to witness to and to serve others.

We can so easily communicate a mistake that we, who are familiar with faith and how it works, may think someone else will obviously notice—and then they don't. And, to reach out, especially to the broken, the needy, the searching, the unlovable, those who've turned away from God for whatever reason, we do have to pull our beautiful faith apart for their sakes.

We have to pull our faith apart to get along with each other, because our disagreements and disgruntlements disappoint and dissuade others. We may think, "Everybody knows that there will be disagreement where two or three are gathered. Nobody is going to question our faith because of this little argument." But what do our observers think? What do we teach our children?

We have to pull our faith apart to reach out as an RIC congregation to people in our community who have experienced rejection at church and who are skeptical about our statement, "Come as you are." They are thinking, "Really?" What are you thinking?

We have to pull our faith apart to be the heart and hands of Christ in the world. Our whole spectrum of morals will not feed the heart of someone who is suffering and just needs to hold a hand. In another case, going the extra mile or giving two coats instead of one coat might enable rather than empower a troubled addict.

Thanksgiving and giving in thanks are mightily complex, inexhaustible, and indispensable. Living and giving faith are recipes to nourish the soul of you and those you reach out to with the love of Christ within you.

Blessings to you this month. May you have a happy and challenging adventure of thanks.

*Love,  
Pastor Jan*



**A BIG THANK YOU** to those who answered the call to tackle a good cleaning of the TLC kitchen! Diane Land, Marilyn Schuler, and Jean Flak did the cleaning (and reportedly had an enjoyable time doing it!), and Marilyn reports that the workers were treated to a wonderful lunch provided by Betty Hiebel. Well done, good and faithful servants!

### **Thanksgiving Eve Pie Pot Luck—A TLC Tradition!**

Bring a favorite pie to share, and stay after worship on Thanksgiving Eve (Wednesday, November 26) to enjoy it with your TLC friends and family!



**Calling all adults (18 years and over)—mark your calendars and plan to be at TLC at 5:00 pm on Saturday, December 6 for a special Advent/Christmas party!** As this issue of the Trumpet goes to press, the CCC (Congregation and Community Care) committee is busy planning this year's event—a "progressive dinner all in one place!" We'll set-up and decorate 3-4 "dining rooms" in the church building, with guests changing table groups and moving to new rooms with each course (so we'll all have a chance to get to know each other better!) We'll close the evening by coming together to enjoy some wonderful entertainment in the sanctuary. Menu and cost are still being determined—watch the Sunday morning announcement sheets for details!



**A Coffee Hour Note:** We have had a wonderful response of folks willing to provide goodies for our post-worship coffee hour! Unfortunately, we have not had a similar level of response for help with set-up before and clean-up after, and these duties have tended to fall to the same few dedicated volunteers week after week! Please notice that the coffee hour sign-up sheet has three columns—one for set-up, one for goodies, and one for clean-up. If you check the list and someone has already signed up for goodies, why not take a turn and try signing up to help with set-up or clean-

up? Already bringing goodies? It would be great if you could enlist a friend and sign up for set-up or clean-up too. If each of us took a turn, these hospitality tasks would not become burdensome for anyone. For help or instructions, please contact Betty Hiebel or Gloria Feiertag.

## Attention Crafters!!!

The date of the craft fair has changed to November 7 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. If you sew, knit, crochet, paint, woodwork, or pottery, bring your crafts, book a table for \$20. This money goes to the church. We are also planning a bake sale, so we need lots of goodies. We hope their crafts go to happy recipients and that the sales help the crafters continue their hobbies. Any questions call Kathy at 526-5582 or the church office.



## Lutherans and Fair Trade Coffee

Lutherans across the U. S. are supporting small-scale farmers who care for creation as they farm. Through LWR Coffee purchases you help extend the benefits of Fair Trade to farmer co-operatives that train members in organic farming, water conservation, and restoration. In addition, for every pound of coffee, tea, cocoa and snacks purchased through the Project, Equal Exchange donates 20 cents to the LWR Small Farmer Fund. In Columbia, they help 451 farmers improve their organic farms and fertilizers. So even with a small increase in the price of a bag of coffee, please consider purchasing some for your own use or gift giving to help these small-scale farmers.

*Gloria Feiertag*

## Happy Birthday from Your TLC Family!

Marilyn Schuler	11/14
Sandi Leithe	11/26
Judy Sawyer	11/26
Michael Brown	11/28





## ***Catching up with...***

### ***The Koppen Family***

The Trumpet published its first profile of Mark and Sandy Koppen back in February 2005, so we thought it was time to update everyone on their latest, and talk a bit more this time around about their terrific daughters, Laura and Natalie, who have both been fixtures at TLC since their birth (or close to it).

As we wrote last time, Mark and Sandy became members of TLC in the spring of 1992, when they moved to Santa Rosa from San Rafael, where Laura was born. At that time Mark was just starting his career in the wine industry, working for Kendall-Jackson in marketing. Mark and Sandy had first met at the Lutheran campus ministry center at the University of Minnesota, and were married in 1984. In the 80s, living in Minneapolis, Mark worked as a paralegal and Sandy was a real estate appraiser and also in retail for the Twin Cities florist, Bachman's.

When Mark finished an MBA in 1990, he dragged pregnant Sandy out to California. Over the years, while the girls and numerous volunteer activities including TLC have kept Sandy busy, Mark has worked at a number of wineries in both Sonoma and Napa counties. He is currently General Manager at August Briggs winery, a small family-owned winery on the Silverado Trail in Calistoga.

From the time they joined TLC, Mark and Sandy have been involved with music as well as council, education, and many and various committee stints. Both Laura and Natalie are also interested in music. They have studied piano (Laura still plays), and both are choir members at their respective schools. Laura, a senior at Montgomery HS, is working hard this year to complete an "IB" (International Baccalaureate) diploma. The work that goes into this is reviewed by teachers at schools in other countries that are all part of the IB program, which has now existed for over 25 years. Part of the work required this year is volunteer/service hours, so if you have some ideas for Laura, let her know!

Laura is enjoying her senior year, with her favorite activity being a member of the Chamber Singers, the top choir at school. While not the most comfortable with performing, she will have the opportunity to follow up her chorus appearance in last year's musical "Guys and Dolls" with many choir performances this year. She is also in the midst of figuring out where to go to college next year. She has had a chance to visit many campuses in 2008, from Loyola Chicago to Seattle University to UC Davis. Keep her in your prayers about this, and her folks in your prayers about financial aid!

Natalie is in 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Strawberry Elementary, and she will move on to Slater MS next year. She has the same teacher that Laura had in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and is enjoying studying early humans, as well as doing plenty of book reports – she is an excellent reader! Nat continues to be active in Girl Scouts this year (unlike her parents, she enjoys camping), and she recently joined Casey and Fiona Becker in their troop, as her old troop disbanded this year. Nat is also active in two choirs, her school chorus, as well as performing in the Concert Group in the Santa Rosa Children's Chorus, a fine group of young singers from all over the county. While not studying an instrument right now, she has hinted that she may want to learn drums someday.

Given the talents of Sandy and the girls in the vocal department, here's one from the "I cannot believe it happened" file. In high school, Sandy tried out, with her friends, for the choir. Her friends made it, but she was...CUT! Let's hope that misguided music teacher found a different line of employment!

*George Land and Mark Koppen*



## Let's Talk Turkey

Pastors Newt Kerney and Ron Rentner are leading a group to Turkey March 16- 27. The cost is \$2349.00 from San Francisco and includes airfare, housing and most meals. Airport charges, tips, and miscellaneous fees will take the final total to about \$3000.00, still a pretty amazing price given the cost of airfare alone.

Turkey is an amazing country with a rich history. The poet Homer celebrated Greek heroes who sailed to Asia Minor ( Turkey ) across his "wine red sea." Even older civilizations occupied the central plateau of Turkey. Ancient cities like Troy and Pergamum left amazing ruins for visitors to investigate. St. Paul and his companions walked the dusty roads of Turkey - Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, and Ephesus - and brought the Gospel to the Gentiles. The letters of the Apocalypse were written to the church in Asia minor, and some of those places will be visited.

The Roman emperor Constantine moved the seat of the empire to Constantinople - modern Istanbul. The Emperor Justinian built what was the largest church in Christendom until St. Peter's was built a thousand years later. Centuries tumbled by with church councils discussing and determining some of the most important dogmatic statements that we live with in our faith. Crusaders passed through Turkey on their way to the Holy Land and later the Ottoman Turks filled the Topkapi Palace with their riches. Allied forces in WWI fought at Gallipoli, and the modern Turkish state was born with the heroics of a young man now known as Ataturk.

Good portions of the western part of Turkey will be seen, including a visit to Ephesus, one of the most significant excavated cities in the world. Pastor Newt Kerney invites you to join him for an information night on **Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM** where he will be able to talk more about the trip. Prior to the trip he will also be doing some separate teaching times for those who are going, for additional background on the country and its role in the development of Christianity. Brochures regarding the trip will be available in the (Cross and Crown) church office. You may also call him directly at 795-7853 and he will be happy to mail you a brochure.

*Submitted by Pastor Jean*



**November the 19th is the date** set for our next get together. It is a Wednesday only because I could not do a third Thursday evening and the 4th Thursday in November is Thanksgiving. Does that all make sense? We will be having our social dice game, also known as BUNCO. I will be in charge this month, unless someone else wishes to take over. Be at the Church by 6 PM with some food to share. I will put up a sign up sheet, so we don't all bring salads or casseroles or jello, you get the idea! There are prizes to be won, so don't even think about missing this fun filled, loud and boisterous evening! Hope to see lots of folks there.

*Mary Dawson*

# Special Days



November 1



November 2



November 4



**VETERANS**  
*Day*

November 11



November 27



First Sunday of Advent

November 30

## Worship:

**9:30 Sunday morning with  
Holy Communion**

**Thanksgiving Lutheran  
Church  
1225 Fulton Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401**

TLC Council:

Deb Ferronato, Congregation President  
Dave Flanagan, Vice President  
Jan Thomas, Secretary  
Sandy Koppen  
Jean Harrison  
Jean Flak

**Pastor Jean Lebbert 707-327-6292  
Church office: 707-544-0241**

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

**On the web:**

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

### **Next Trumpet Deadline!**

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be Thursday, November 27. Editor requests articles be no longer than 500 words, and 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 by Sunday, November 23.