

TLC

Trumpet



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

Volume 8 No. 10

www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

October 2011

Pastor's Page

Fall is my favorite season.

As I write that, it occurs to me that there isn't a sense of changing seasons in Bible stories and hardly a mention of weather. Even in the Wandering stories in Exodus and Numbers – I always picture the Hebrews wandering in the exact same arid, sunny clime, never slogging through the rain, shivering in the snow, peering through thick fog, frolicking in spring's floral flaunting, or even dripping with sweat caused by summer heat. The only time someone sits and sweats is when they are sweating out a spiritual dilemma.

The stories are bereft of details, like weather, names, emotions, descriptions, so that they serve as "one story fits all," all who crawl into them to encounter God. They are invitingly stark, so that you can fill in the details with your own life, your

Jesus squeezes the whole Law ...into the halves of a single nutshell: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart and soul and mind" (one half) "And your neighbor as yourself"

own need, your own seeking. And encounter the Spirit you need.

This month in worship at TLC, the stories of the Wandering in the Wilderness will come to their end, at Deuteronomy and the edge of the Promised Land. We have a couple more of Jesus' parables from the 22nd chapter of Matthew. There's an emphasis on the Law this month, beginning on Sinai, when Yahweh gives the Ten Commandments to Moses and concluding in Matthew 22, when Jesus squeezes the whole Law (to get a sense of how the Law starts expanding after the first Ten, keep reading after Exodus 20 and right on into Leviticus) into the halves of a single nutshell: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart and soul and mind" (one half) "And your neighbor as yourself" (t'other half).

I will be gone a little bit this month. Gonna

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Next Trumpet Deadline!

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be Friday, October 21. 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. Submissions may be edited for space.

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

New hours for our administrative assistant

The office hours are Monday from 8:30-11:30, and Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 11-2.



October Birthdays

Blessings for a wonderful celebration of the gift of life to these TLC members:

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Casey Becker | 10/5 |
| Martin Sass | 10/22 |
| Cindy Heiller | 10/23 |
| Erin Netherda | 10/24 |

The public and your pets are invited to our



Blessing of the Animals is a tradition that the church celebrates to commemorate St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint to all animals

- 🐾 Pet Parade
- 🐾 Individual Blessings
- 🐾 Joint Choir Performance
- 🐾 Animal Story Sharing
- 🐾 Pet Portraits
- 🐾 Hot Dog Bobbing
- 🐾 Refreshments for Canines, Felines, and Homo Sapiens

Thanksgiving Lutheran Church
1225 Fulton Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

Gift of GAB

Bu Jean Flak

September 18, 2011

I have always believed that it is no great crime to talk about money in church! The trick is to do it without making everyone feel guilty. Let's see if I can accomplish that.

First of all, we have not had as bad a year thus far as we thought we might have. We passed an unbalanced budget at our annual meeting expecting that things would be really dire. But they are not as dire as we thought it might be. See how I am trying not to pile on any guilt! How am I doing? Our less dire situation is in part because many of you chose last year to increase your pledge. Think about how that went for you, did all your bills get paid, did you have food on the table, did you do something fun once in awhile, did you feel good about your pledge?

Flak and I increased our pledge by \$25 a month last year. It was a bit of a stretch for a couple of months and then it didn't matter anymore. I can't really tell you what we have given up as a result of that increase. I hope that those of you who increased your pledge had the same experience. This year we would like to do

the same thing. Here's the deal - our income has gone down the last 2 years by 15% and may go down again for next year. We are making some changes in our expenses for next year and so we think that we can increase our pledge. I think it's a step in faith.



There is no question in my mind that this is a scary time for all of us. Congress isn't helping much to take the scare away. Perhaps you like me have had a sleepless night or two trying to figure out how you are going to survive all this.

I challenge you all to keep your eye on the goal of helping TLC be a welcoming, worshipful, caring community. Help us to reach out to the surrounding community, to support those in our community and world. You can make a difference! What would happen if each of our pledges was raised by \$1, \$5, \$10 or more - what would we really have to give up? What would we gain?

This is what I think - we are a great, faithful people, loved by God, who can respond in many ways to our call to be a died for follower. It's up to each of us how we will choose to respond - what will your response be?

Pastor's Page

Continued from page 1

be leading a retreat for women clergy of the Synod - we'll be looking at the texts for Advent - and the retreat begins the 2011 Professional Leaders' Conference. The Conference is held at Asilomar this year. Ahh, the Pacific coast in October is glorious. The next week, Janet and I get our annual autumn Sabbath in Yosemite Valley. Ahh, fall at the Falls is fantastic! And finally, my recorder group is giving a concert in Oakland! Phew! I'm going to have to make sure I take time to NOTICE the weather this month!

Paul Feiertag has found guest preachers through Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

to come while I'm away, and on the 9th, Keith Becker will give his My Faith Works talk. So, you will experience a fall-like variety of voices and perspectives!

Enjoy! Take it all in!

And do be aware that you, your presence, your faith, is the most glorious thing of all.

*Love,
Pastor Jean*



October 2011 at Thanksgiving Lutheran

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| 25 9:30 AM Sunday Moming Worship 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 26 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anon | 27 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon | 28 6:30 PM Council 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 29 | 30 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 1 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anon 12:00 PM CCC Meeting |
|  2 9:30 AM Sunday Moming Worship 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo 4:30 PM Blessing of the Animals | 3 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anon 7:00 PM Mutual Ministry Meeting | 4 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon | 5 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo 7:00 PM Outreach Meeting | 6 | 7 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo |  8 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anon 4:00 PM TLC Community Garden Harvest Picnic |
| 9 9:30 AM Sunday Moming Worship 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 10 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anon | 11 4:30 AM Chris Ed Meeting 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon | 12 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo |  13 6:30 PM Monthly Potluck | 14 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 15 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anon 10:00 AM Finance Committee Meeting |
| 16 9:30 AM Sunday Moming Worship 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo |  17 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anon | 18 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon | 19 6:30 PM Council 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 20 | 21 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 22 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anon 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo |
| 23 9:30 AM Sunday Moming Worship 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 24 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anon | 25 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon | 26 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 27 6:00 PM HHR Game Night and Potluck | 28 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 29 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anon |
|  30 9:30 AM Sunday Moming Worship 1:00 PM Casa de Alfararo |  31 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anon | 1 1:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon | 2 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 3 | 4 7:00 PM Casa de Alfararo | 5 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anon 12:00 PM CCC Meeting 1:00 PM Leaders Retreat |

TLC Group News

Join the Potluck Fun

Thursday, October 20th at 6:30 bring your favorite German dish for our annual Oktoberfest. Dinner will be followed by prayers and communion. All are welcome.



Chris Ed Corner

Be sure to stay after Worship on October 23rd for an exciting skit on Reformation for both our Adults and young people. Celebrate our Lutheran Heritage.



Pennies From E-Scrip

Take advantage of the e-scrip program and register your Safeway card and credit cards. Then, every time you use them in a transaction, you will earn pennies for TLC! It makes good cents!

Go to www.escrip.com and click on "1-Sign Up" and follow the directions using TLC's ID #: 137963301.

Thanks!



Stewardship News

On Sunday, October 9, 2011 the community of Thanksgiving Lutheran Church will receive Pledge materials for 2012. Included with these materials will be a letter from the Stewardship Committee a pledge card, a weekly giving guide, and a preliminary budget. Please read this material carefully and prayerfully. On Sunday, October 16, 2011 the Stewardship Committee will make a presentation to the congregation. And then on Sunday October 23, 2011 each of us will be asked to lay our pledges on the Altar as a sign of our commitment to Thanksgiving Lutheran Church for the year 2012. God Bless us each one as we express our faith in this way.

Quilters Honor First Responders

On September 11th our TLC quilters joined other Senior Volunteers from Sonoma County to honor our "first responders" in memory of September 11th.

Our TLC quilting group brought a basket of cookies, brownies and cupcakes to the firefighters at Station 2 on Stony Point Rd.

I am passing on a big "thank You" from the group. They were very surprised and appreciative



Coat Drive Coming!

Cindy Heiller and **Mary Weber** are heading up a coat drive sponsored by our Heavenly Hell Raisers. Beginning October 16, all TLC members are encouraged to bring clean, gently used coats to church. Cindy and Mary will store them in plastic bags as they accumulate and then see that they get distributed in the community. So, clean out those neglected corners of your coat closets and poke through garage sales and thrift stores. Working together, we can provide warm coats to our neighbors who have none.

Please - Be Our Guest!

So We Can Say **THANK YOU!**

*The gardeners from the TLC Community Garden
are hosting the*

4th Annual Harvest Picnic
Saturday, October 8 at 4:00
On the TLC patio.

Here's what you do:
Just Show Up!
Don't bring anything
Don't help set up
Don't help clean up



We're tidying up around the garden to get ready for company, and everyone is preparing a dish that includes ingredients from the TLC Community Garden.

We want to make sure we have enough food and drink, so please call 887-9348 to let us know you'll be coming!



Finance News

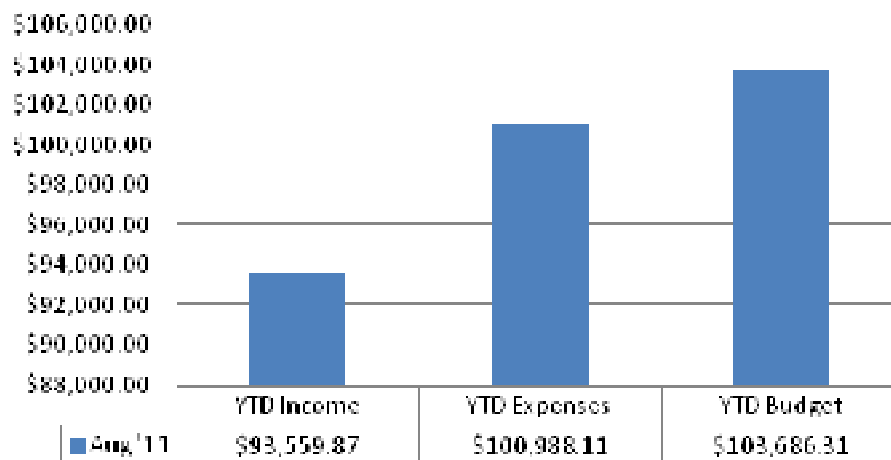
Our August deficit was \$443.33 bringing our year to date deficit to \$7,428.24. The good news is that this is \$5,862.08 better than we had projected. The bad news is that our savings are slipping away. The good news is that all bills are paid. Please keep this situation in your thoughts and prayers. Many thanks to all who keep their pledges current, all who give and all who give that little extra. We have much to be thankful for.

Remember too that Pledge Sunday is fast approaching. This will be your time to let us know what you can give. Please consider increasing your pledge. Our expenses do increase each year. Keep this in your prayers.

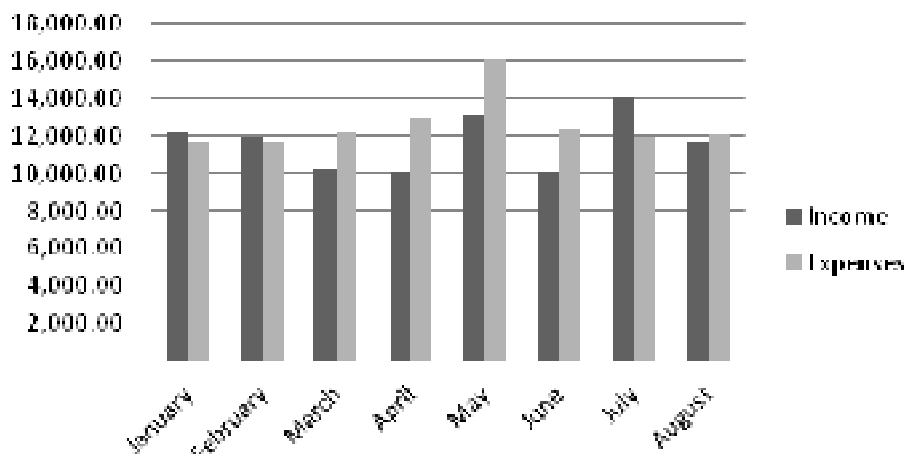
Our gifts

As of September 18th TLC has given \$916 to the Rwanda School Project, \$535 to Second Mile Gifts, \$50 to the ELCA for Hurrican Relief and \$69.78 to the ELCA World Hunger Relief month of potlucks project. The latter is donations at the Thursday night potlucks in July and August. We can be proud of ourselves.

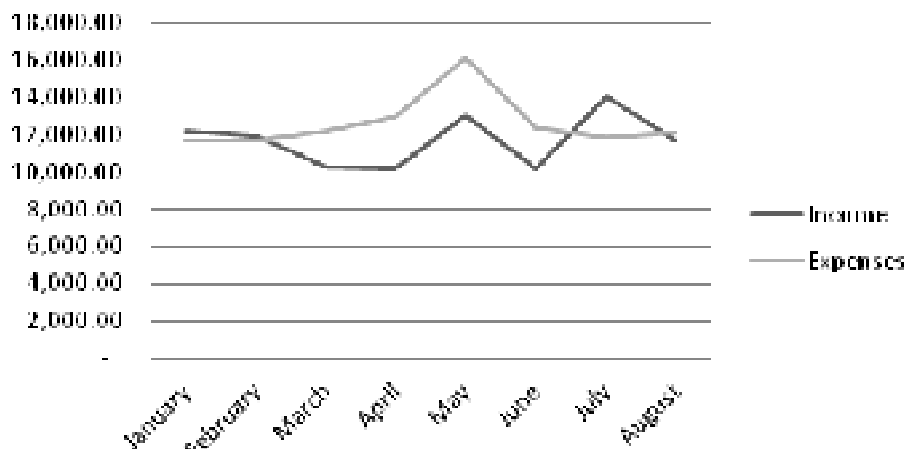
August 2011



Income & Expenses 2011



Jan-Aug Income & Expenses



Worship in October

10/2 Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Scriptures: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46
And later: **Blessing of Animals** Join us on the patio at 4:30 with your beloved pet

10/9 17th Sunday After Pentecost

Scriptures: Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14
This week: **My Faith Works: Keith Becker**

10/16 18th Sunday After Pentecost

Scriptures: Exodus 33:12-23; Psalm 99; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22
This week: Guest Preacher Debbie McAllister, PLTS Seminarian
Plus: Gift of G.A.B. to kick off our 2012 Giving Pledges

10/23 19th Sunday After Pentecost – Pastor on Vacation

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46
This week: Guest Preacher Karen Johnson, 2011 PLTS graduate

10/30 Reformation Sunday

Scriptures: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46;
Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36
Emphasis: Reformations within our lifetimes



Calling all Crafters and Bakers.

The time has arrived to start planning for the Holiday Craft Bazaar. The date of this fabulous affair is November 10th, from 10-5, and 11th from 1pm to 9pm both days.

Reserve a table for both days for the small sum of \$25 and start accumulating the items you desire to sell for the holidays. Bakers are needed to bake items such as cookies, cakes, etc. to donate for sale. These baked goods will be available for purchase. All proceeds from the baked goods sale and table reservation fees go to Thanksgiving Lutheran Church.



For further information contact Kathy Flanagan, 707-526-5582 or see her at TLC on Sunday mornings.



Wanted: Trumpet Reporter

Pastor Jean is seeking someone who is willing and able to work with her on researching and creating substantial articles about TLC members, ELCA activities, and theological insights for our monthly newsletter. Fantastic opportunity with eternal benefits and no monetary remuneration. Must be able to be edited.

TLC Executive Committee:

Jean Flak, President
Keith Becker, Vice-president
Mark Koppen, Secretary
Jean Harrison, Treasurer

Council Liaisons to Committees:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Christian Education | Jean Harrison |
| Congregation and Community Care | Karen Lehman |
| Finance | Astrid Anderson |
| Outreach and Evangelism | Pastor Jean Lebbert |
| Property | Keith Becker |
| Stewardship | Jean Flak |
| 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 | Jim Lehman |
| Property | Jan Loewen |
| Stewardship | Jean Flak |
| 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 Groups Coordinator:

Karen Lehman

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.