

TLC Trumpet



Welcoming. Inclusive. Joyful. Serving the Community. Thanksgiving Lutheran Church

Volume 12 No. 10

www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

October 2015

Pastor's Page

As I sat down to write this month's Pastor's Page, I wanted to compose a strong piece on emergency preparedness. Thoughts got in the way:

What am I talking about, I'm not any kind of example of emergency preparedness. I've given it a try over the years, but everyday living makes a mess of keeping a nice, neat, thoroughly-stocked kit always on hand. Have you seen my office? I know pretty much where something is, but I work best in mess.

I remember when the fire in the Oakland hills was raging and thinking that evacuating our home might become a possibility. I was in my last year of seminary, working on my Master's thesis and final papers. I loaded all of my school work, including the incredibly bulky computer I had at the time, into the trunk of my car, just in case. Preserving the present most important to the immediate future seemed more important than

anything else.

Mom was like, "We're not going to have to evacuate."

We didn't, and I learned that I was loading fear into the car more than anything.

I don't want to discount being prepared. We live in a complicated world and disasters of many kinds are always possible.

So, what wisdom and inspiration can I give you?

Occasionally take a mental inventory of all that you have. Notice how much you have—how blessed you are. You might mentally separate the necessary from the nice-to-have. If you are the kind of person who can, keep the necessities all together – or at least always know right where they are.

In the everyday, work at NOT avoiding the hard stuff—that's great opportunity to build the ability to give you control over fear.

Finally, maintain good relationships with God, family, and the folks in your faith community. These are the firsts you will turn to for help, the best emergency kit for strength, peace, love.

Oh, and be prepared to be that for others too!

*Love,
Pastor Jan*

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Next Trumpet Deadline!

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be **Monday, October 26th**. 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

Hours for our administrative assistant:

Church office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:30-1:30.



A Glad and Happy Birthday this Month to

Casey Becker	10/5
Cindy Heiller	10/23
Erin Netherda	10/24

Go Purple October 15

On October 15, join millions worldwide and wear purple in solidarity with LGBT youth

Were you ever bullied? Or perhaps you saw it happen to others and didn't know how to help?

Then you know the terrible impact of bullying on young people - especially LGBT youth, who are disproportionately bullied just for being who they are.

8 out of 10 LGBT youth report being bullied (Source: GLSEN's 2013 *National School Climate Survey*). **That's simply unacceptable.** But we can confront this global bullying crisis by standing against it.

October 15 is GLAAD's* Spirit Day. Wear something conspicuously purple, and when somebody asks you about it, tell them, "I'm GLAAD to, if it will put a stop to bullying, especially of LGBT youth."

Thanks for joining us,

Zeke Stokes

*Vice President of Programs, GLAAD
Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against
Defamation GLAAD.org*

Stand against bullying.
Take the pledge now.

JOIN MILLIONS



TLC Book Group

The TLC Book Group will be reading John Grisham's *Sycamore Row* in October. We will meet on Monday, October 9th at 7:00PM at Jean Flak's home. We have had lively discussions about the books we have read the past couple of months. Please join us in October and add your voice to our discussion.

For more information, please contact Lisa Bartlett, GLBartlett@sbcglobal.net

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast for October will be held on Saturday the 24th at 9am at the Village Café in the Raley's Shopping Center at Fulton and Guerneville Roads. Let Nicholas Brie know if you plan to attend so he can give the Café an accurate count of how many will be there so they'll have a table ready. 7 0 7 - 6 8 7 - 5 2 4 1 or n.brie@comcast.net Thanks.

A Concert with TLC friend Bobby Jo Valentine!

He will be performing material from his new album - songs of faith, hope and love! 2:00 on Sunday, October 11th at TLC, \$15 donation

Can It Possibly Be Pledge Time Again?

Yes, it seems it can. Once again it is time to give your prayerful consideration to how you can support Thanksgiving Lutheran Church for another year. Our annual pledge drive isn't only a time to think about how much money you can give, it is also a time to reflect on your unique talents and how they can be used in God's work. Fall is a good time to do this. On October 4th Marilyn Schuler will present a Gift of GAB (God's Abundant Blessings) during worship. At that time pledge packets will be handed out. The packet will contain a copy of the proposed budget for 2016 minus a pledge income figure. Members and friends will have two weeks to reflect on whether or not to pledge and on how much to pledge. Then on October 18th we will place our pledges on the altar. Pledging helps your leaders plan expenses and projects and also helps remind people to give. All gifts are most welcome though and very much appreciated. If you prefer not to pledge that is okay. If you have questions about this please contact any of your Council or Finance committee members. Thank you for participating in this important part of church life.

Worship in October

Reformation is in the air this month at TLC. On the first week, with Pastor Jean and many of our musicians away, we are treated again to the ministry gifts of Nicholas Brie and welcome to the keyboard again a beloved Bethlehem member, Elaine Bowers. On Oct. 11, TLC leaders will conduct a panel discussion over the issue of temporarily reforming TLC's leadership structure. On Oct. 18, our proclamation challenges us to how Christ moves us to reform our wills to a higher will. Finally, we celebrate our heritage as church reformers on Reformation Sunday.



October 4: 19th Sunday After Pentecost

Nicholas Brie Preacher/Presider

Scriptures: Job 1:1-12, 2:1-10; Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12; Mark 10: 2-16

Music Leader: Elaine Bowers

Special: Nicholas' birthday celebration; Blessing of Animals, 3:30 p.m.

October 11: 20th Sunday After Pentecost

Scriptures: Exodus 18; 1 Peter 2:5-9; John 17:17-23

Sermon Title: Jethro—A Tie That Binds

Music Leader: Classic Band

Special: Forum to discuss proposal; Council

October 18: 21st Sunday After Pentecost

Scriptures: Job 38:1-7, 34-41; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

Sermon Title: Faith's Greatest Test

Music Leader: New Band

Special: Sign Up Sunday

October 25: Reformation Sunday

Nicholas Brie Preacher/Presider

Scriptures: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

Music Leader: Leilani

Special: Cent\$ational \$unday



Finance Update

There was once again a deficit in August but at least this time it was only \$143.21. That is a big improvement. Income was \$11,618 while expenses were \$11,761.21. The deficit through the end of August is \$13,477.28. That is an average of \$1,684.66 per month or \$421.17 per week. There has been a deficit seven of the eight months. Income is \$86,291.43 and expenses are \$99,768.74. Thank you to everyone who keeps their pledges current and special thanks to those who have given extra. The bills are paid and there is still money in the bank so that is the good news. Please keep this situation in your prayers.



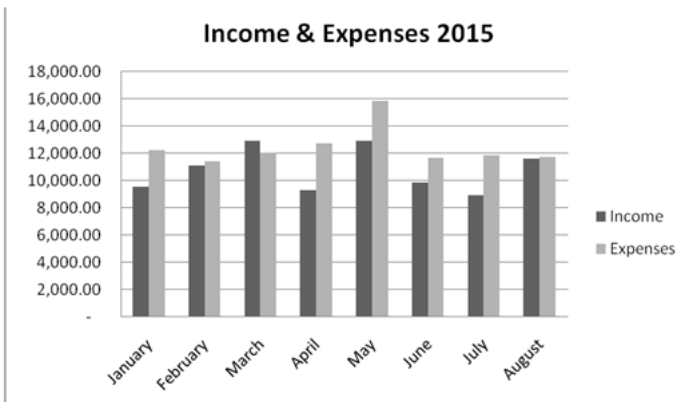
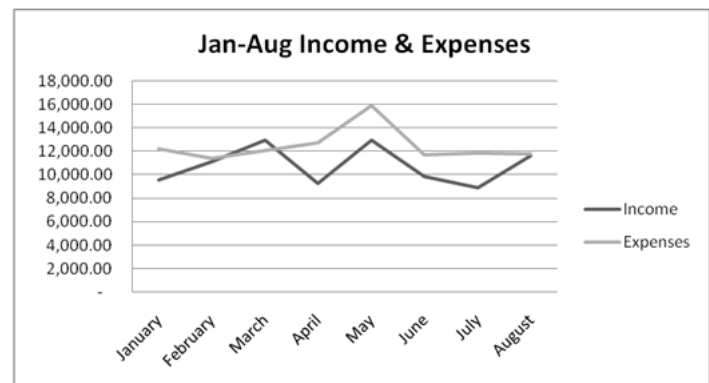
Gifts to Others

TLCers continue to be generous to others less fortunate than themselves. Through 9/20 the following amounts have been donated by individual remembers to the following programs:

- 2nd Mile groups -\$415
- Reconciling Works-\$150
- FISH-\$425
- ELCA Malaria Fund-\$505
- ELCA Disaster Fund-\$175
- Rwanda School Project-\$743

These monetary gifts are in addition to the food and other items regularly placed in the blue FISH barrel in the narthex, the school supplies drive and other such projects.

Thank you for your wonderful support for these good projects.



Budget Update

A proposed budget has been prepared for 2016. Every committee and others submitted their requests for expense figures. The Finance Committee and Council have approved this proposed budget to be handed out with the 2016 pledge packets. It does not include a pledge income figure. That will be added after the pledge drive is over. The budget with the figure will then be presented at the November 15th congregational meeting for the approval by the entire congregation. Many thanks to all who helped with this.

Synod's Second Mile Giving Program Reforms

The Sierra Pacific Synod has changed the way folks can participate in the Sierra Pacific Synod's Second Mile Giving program. This program sprang from a Synod Assembly about a decade ago when beloved ministries had to be cut from the budget. (Yes, it was happening even way back then.) A resolution was brought to the house and passed that people be given opportunities to go a second mile in their giving in order to continue supporting those ministries.

Present financial conditions require this new phase. Now, instead of the Synod staff designating a specific group each month for Second Mile gifts and communicating to all of the congregations, the choice is going to individuals to decide to which group they are moved to support.

Second Mile Ministries are:

- ELCA Disaster Fund
- Sister Synod- indicate which one
- Lutheran Social Services of Northern California
- Cal Lutheran/Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary
- Mt. Cross/Lutheran Outdoor Ministries
- Lutheran Office of Public Policy
- San Francisco Night Ministry
- Lutheran-Episcopal Advocacy in Nevada
- California Lutheran University

Additional programs, not Second Mile programs but options for you are:

- ELCA World Hunger Appeal
- ELCA Malaria Campaign
- Missionary Sponsorship-indicate which one
- Lutheran World Relief
- Reconciling Works
- Rwanda School Project

Always, when you give, do it gladly and with gratitude for all that you have and for all the good these ministries and programs do throughout the world. Just imagine if TLC *alone* had to do all of these things!!!! We are one part, the sum of which is greater than the whole.

IMPORTANT REQUEST: When you make a Second Mile Offering, please note on your check to which agency you wish your gift to go so that your Financial Secretary and Treasurer will know.

Thanks

Astrid Anderson and Jean Harrison

The Restructuring Proposal

At the November 15 Congregational meeting, you will be voting on whether or not to temporarily reform the leadership structure of TLC. How did this all come about?

The proposal comes after several years of discussion, deliberation, and revision in Council meetings. The conclusion was that the Congregation needs to be given the choice to stay with the status quo or try the new structure. Because it is proposed for only a temporary time, there is no need to change TLC's constitution and by-laws.

During the months of June and July, parts of the proposal were presented in worship.

In August, the entire proposal was made available to the Congregation, and a Task Force met to design a plan of implantation.

On September 22, Council met with Committee Chairs to discuss the proposal and so that Chairs could add their input.

In worship on Oct. 11, in lieu of a sermon, there will be a debate – as a way of bringing out thoughts that may have been expressed among congregational members. A short forum will be offered afterward for Congregational reaction.

Included in this issue of *The Trumpet* is the entire proposal. Please read it over, and bring it with you to the meeting on November 15.

Your voice is important.

Seniors In Transition Program

The Seniors in Transition program is a small group ministry that provides a forum where seniors can explore options for life transitions in a supportive environment over 8 weekly, 2 hour sessions.

Congregation Contact

Name: Astrid Anderson
Phone 707-539-4552
E-mail: zurihegl@gmail.com



Health Ministries of
Sonoma County
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Santa Rosa, CA
Program Coordinator
Chrislyn Carson
Phone: 707-239-6332
E-mail: windsorcarson@gmail.com



It's human nature to put off or even ignore life's difficult decisions. The challenge of aging may intimidate us.

The Seniors in Transition program offers a supportive environment where you can explore options for independent living and alternatives when living on your own is no longer safe or desirable.

Having a choice has always been important in life, and it is especially important during this time. Classes include speakers, small group discussions and tours of local senior communities. These classes will assist you with identifying future needs and choices to meet your needs.

If you are interested in participating sign up with your congregation's contact.

This program is scheduled to start on Wednesday, January 20th, 2016.

Proposed Temporary Leadership Panel of Thanksgiving Lutheran Church

Introduction

The system of leadership defined in TLC's Constitution and By-laws is a structure for a membership that is larger than our current membership. Admirably, due in large part to the passion and dedication that members hold in their hearts for TLC, we have kept the system running. One strong benefit of continuing to operate under this system is that we know how to work under it and we are comfortable with it. The strain of maintaining this system, however, is significant and is affecting the health of the congregation.

Your Council is proposing a temporary restructuring of leadership. This system does not eliminate any of the things that we are doing at TLC. The primary goals of the temporary structure are:

- To reduce the number of leadership positions from 16 to 9
- To provide a system of turnover by term limits for elected leadership positions
- To increase congregational support by having most leadership positions be elected
- To engage more congregational members in leadership and ministry opportunities
- To strive to achieve a stronger balance of inreach and outreach ministries
- To strengthen communication among members and to community

In place of a Council and Committees, there's a Leadership Panel consisting of Officers and Ministers:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer (appointed)
Financial Secretary (appointed)
Minister of Spiritual Formation & Expression
Minister of Welcome & Connections
Minister of Campus Use & Maintenance
Minister of Talents and Treasures

Ideally, all ideas, requests, opportunities, desires from anyone in the congregation, members and visitors, will be channeled to the Leadership Panel for consideration. The Panel will keep a Ministry Calendar and will strive to insure a balance of activities that will glorify God by proclaiming the Gospel of God's love through nurturing members, serving the community, and supporting the wider expression of the ELCA.

At its August 2 meeting, Council appointed a Task Force whose function is to design a plan of implementation that will be included in the proposal that the Congregation will vote on in its next Congregational meeting, which will be held on November 15.

Job Descriptions

DUTIES OF PRESIDENT

Work with Pastor to develop agenda and opening devotion for meetings of Leadership Panel; call and moderate meetings of Leadership Panel

Work with Secretary to inform congregation of Leadership Panel decisions through weekly announcements, monthly newsletter, website, etc.

Work with Leadership Panel to set dates and develop agendas for Congregational meetings and moderate these meetings

Near the beginning of each year, work with Pastor to plan and lead a Leadership orientation retreat to nurture relationships, orient members new to the Panel, assess the overall health of the congregation, develop leadership skills, inform leaders of wider church events, develop church calendar. Begin and end this meeting with a Bible passage and prayer.

Conduct annual reviews of paid staff

Attend annual District/Conference meetings

Be a part of the Mutual Ministry Committee

DUTIES OF VICE PRESIDENT

Weekly, pray for the members of the Leadership Panel

A week before each Leadership Panel meeting, check with Secretary to make sure that any minutes of meetings have been distributed to all Panel members and the Office Administrator

Work with Leadership Panel to determine, obtain, and present staff gifts at the end of the year

Work with Pastor to determine special acknowledgements to be announced at January Congregational meeting

Two weeks before a Congregational Meeting, check with Secretary to make sure minutes of last meeting have been made available to congregation

Chair the Mutual Ministry Committee

Assume the duties of the President whenever they are unable to perform them

DUTIES OF SECRETARY

Record and create a draft of minutes of all Leadership Panel meetings

At least one week before Leadership Panel meeting, distribute drafts to all Panel members

Upon approval of minutes, give a final copy to Office Administrator

Record and create a draft of minutes of all Congregational meetings

At least 2 weeks before next Congregational meeting, make sure draft is distributed to congregation

After minutes are approved, give a copy to Office Administrator

Create and deliver miscellaneous communication on behalf of Panel and/or Congregation, including writing highlights of meetings and submit them for inclusion in monthly newsletter and website

Participate in meetings of Mutual Ministry Committee

DUTIES OF MINISTER OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND EXPRESSION

(In general, assumes responsibilities of Worship and Music, Christian Education, and Youth Committees)

Work with Pastor to oversee aspects of spiritual formation and expression, including:

Quarterly, meet with Pastor to discuss worship services following this schedule as nearly as possible:

January – plan April, May, and June (Easter and Pentecost)

April – plan July, August, September (Summer ideas – we sometimes leave the Lectionary)

July – plan October, November, December (Reformation, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas)

October – plan January, February, March (Epiphany, RIC Sunday, Lent)

Recruit and support overseers for Altar Guild, Worship Stewards, Musicians and Music Selection, Forums, Bible Study, other spiritual education offerings, new member orientations

Conduct or recruit someone to conduct a forum once a year on a prayer topic

Create a Task Force to investigate ways TLC can nurture spiritual needs of youth in the community

DUTIES OF MINISTER OF WELCOME AND CONNECTIONS

(In general assumes responsibilities CCC, Evangelism and Outreach, and Christian Education committees)

Work with Leadership Panel to recruit and oversee individuals to take on tasks of welcome, fostering connections, and developing caring relationships, including

Schedule and train Sunday morning greeters and work with Pastor and Office Administrator on visitor follow-up

Oversee connections to wider community through TLC Website, TLC Facebook Page, Banners, local newspapers and radio stations, local events such as Santa Rosa Parade, Joint Ministry Events, and Conference/District/Synod gatherings, as well as Santa Rosa congregations; oversee service projects, such as donations to F.I.S.H. and The Living Room, special collections such as sock drive and school supplies.

Oversee ways connections are made within TLC congregation, including Sunday refreshment times, set up of narthex, bulletin boards and kiosk, directory, photo albums and archives, congregational meals, receptions for special occasions, celebrating milestones (ie. Birthdays, graduation, anniversaries)

Work with Pastor to visit members who are hospitalized, rehabilitating, or homebound, and reconnecting with members who have been absent from the congregation for a prolonged period.

DUTIES OF MINISTER OF CAMPUS USE AND MAINTENANCE

(In general, assumes duties of Property)

This minister oversees all aspects of TLC's campus, including:

Building maintenance: repairs, upkeep, replacements, cleaning, etc.

Grounds and landscaping upkeep and improvements

Furnishings, sound equipment, office equipment, kitchen needs, storage, keys

Required inspections, such as Fire Dept. and City inspections

Contract and maintain contact with all outside groups using facility, including Community Garden, Cielo Azul, AA and NA groups, Roca de Salvacion, weddings, and other special events

Contract with paid services, such as janitorial services, gardeners, window cleaners, etc.

MINISTER OF TALENTS AND TREASURES

(In general, assumes responsibilities of Stewardship and Finance committees)

Work with Pastor to oversee activities that foster good stewardship practices of using talents and treasures in fulfilling Christian service, including

Work with Panel to appoint annually a Treasurer and Financial Secretary to oversee their responsibilities as described in our constitution and by-laws, including duties of the Audit Committee.

Work with Treasurer to make sure regular reports of our financial status are communicated to Panel and Congregation

Oversee annual pledge drive and ordering and distributing of offering envelopes

Work with Treasurer and Pastor to complete and file annual report Forms A and C to Churchwide; distribute copies to Leadership Panel and include in Annual Report

Provide education to congregation on first-fruits giving

Work with Financial Secretary to make sure we maintain, distribute, and archive accurate giving records

Conduct Spiritual Gift assessments with new members

Determine and oversee Memorial projects

Chair the Nominating Committee

Who's Who at TLC?

Officers

President, Marilyn Schuler
Vice President, Lisa Bartlett
Secretary, Jordan Eberly
Treasurer, Jean Harrison
Financial Secretary, Astrid Anderson

Council Members

Verda Burr
Mary Dawson
Pastor Jean Lebbert
Mary Thompson

Committee Chairs

Jordan Eberly, Congregational Community (CCC)
Jan Thomas, Evangelism and Outreach
Jean Harrison, Finance
Pastor Jean Lebbert, Mutual Ministry
Karen Lehman, Property
Keith Becker, Stewardship
In Hiatus: Youth, Christian Education, Worship,
and Music

Coordinators

Mary Dawson, Altar Guild
Ingrid and Paul Feiertag, Worship Stewards
Quilters, Gloria Feiertag
Jean Harrison, Patio Landscaping
George Land, Ushers
Jim Lehman, Website
Jim Lehman, Sound
Karen Lehman, Community Garden
Karen Lehman, Women's Retreat
Jan Loewen and Sandy Koppen, Growth Through
Outreach (GTO)
Jan Loewen and Sandy Koppen, Worship Music
Mary Weber, TLC Facebook Page

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.

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.



TLC October Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:30 Worship 11:30 Council Meeting 7p Roca de Salvacion	28	29 1p Bible Study 6p NA Meeting 8p NA Meeting	30 5p Roca de Salvacion	1	2 5p Roca de Salvacion	3 10 AA Meeting 11:30 CCC
4 9:30 Worship 3:30 Blessing of the Animals 7p Roca de Salvacion	5 6:30p Property	6 1p Bible Study 6p NA Meeting 8p NA Meeting	7 5p Roca de Salvacion	8	9 5p Roca de Salvacion <i>Dorothy out of office</i>	10 10 AA Meeting
11 9:30 Worship 11:30 Council 2pm Valentine Concert 7p Roca de Salvacion	12	13 1p Bible Study 6p NA Meeting 8p NA Meeting	14 5p Roca de Salvacion	15	16 5p Roca de Salvacion	17 10 AA Meeting
18 9:30 Worship Forum following worship 7p Roca de Salvacion	19 7p Book Club	20 1p Bible Study 6p NA Meeting 8p NA Meeting	21 5p Roca de Salvacion	22	23 5p Roca de Salvacion	24 9 Men's Breakfast 10 AA Meeting
25 9:30 Worship 7p Roca de Salvacion	26 Trumpet Deadline	27 1p Bible Study 6p NA Meeting 8p NA Meeting	29 5p Roca de Salvacion	29	30 5p Roca de Salvacion	31 10 AA Meeting 11:30 CCC

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1225 Fulton Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

