

TLC

Trumpet



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

Volume 10 No. 9

www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

September 2013

Pastor's Page

Tn 2 Corinthians 5:17 Paul writes, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

I am not sure if "newness" is a legitimate word, but newness is happening at TLC. I am praying that all of us will be open to what is ahead and willing to let go of the past.

I have enjoyed the newness of our 2013 summer theme: Random Acts of Grace: RAGTIME. I know that I was truly blessed and inspired by the stories some of you shared of how you took up the spiritual discipline of opening your compassion into awareness of the needs of others. Taking your faith in what Jesus taught into your everyday life and standing up and sharing what happened is really one aspect of religion that makes it a treasure.

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There is more newness coming in our Sunday morning gatherings. Beginning the second week of September, we will leave the Revised Common Lectionary and give a try at a new lectionary, called the Narrative Lectionary. This regime of readings comes out of Luther Seminary and is designed to give folks an overview of the Bible. I found out about it in the conversations at the Gateway Conference Clergy gatherings. We meet once a month, and last October I stepped into the newness of being the Conference Dean.

September 8 is also the day that ELCA congregations across the country will be observing the 25th anniversary of the ELCA synod! An important part of the celebration is the request from Churchwide for all congregations to get out into the community on that day and serve. We have two ways that TLC members can participate: either bring a baked good to church that morning for President Jordan Eberly to take to the Gospel Rescue Mission or bring a non-perishable food item with you and join me at the installation of the new pastor of Cross and Crown—Pam Schaefer. These food items will be donated to NOAH, a food program in Rohnert Park.

Back to the Narrative Lectionary: from Sept. 8 up to Advent, we will focus on prominent pericopes of the Old Testament. Some of the stories you may already know and love; however

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Next Trumpet Deadline!

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be **Friday, August 23**. 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

August hours for our administrative assistant

Church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, and Friday 10-2.



Blessings to our TLC September Birthday Celebrants:

Jan Thomas 9/2

Astrid Anderson 9/4

Paul Feiertag 9/8

Julie Schoepp 9/24

Kathy Alexander 9/28

Mary Thompson 9/29



You and your pets are invited to our

- 🐾 Music
- 🐾 Fellowship
- 🐾 Blessings

5th
Annual

Blessing

Sunday,
October 6,
3:00 p.m.

of the

Animals

A tradition celebrating St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint to all animals

For all the unconditional love, devotion, and joy they bring you, have your pet blessed.

If you've lost a pet this year, bring a photo for our time of remembering.

Thanksgiving Lutheran Church
1225 Fulton Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95409

TLC Group News



Monthly Potlucks and Communion

Thursday September 12th marks the return of our regular potlucks with prayer and communion. Join us around the dining table. All are welcome. Bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share. Beverages and bread are provided. No time to cook? Come anyway there is always more than enough for everyone.

ELCA God's Work Our Hands Sunday

In honor of the 25th Anniversary of the formation of the ELCA a national celebration is set for Sunday September 8th. Congregations throughout the United States are joining in special worship experiences and opportunities for giving. Thanksgiving Lutheran will join with them. If you wish to give in honor of this occasion please bring a home baked goodie to church that Sunday. These will be delivered to the Redwood Gospel Mission to provide dessert for the hungry guests they serve. Here is a wonderful way to extend the summer theme of Random Acts of Grace into the Fall!

Women in Acts Forums Come to an End

Sandy Koppen presents the last of her series on the Women in Acts on Sunday September 22nd after our Fellowship Time. She's done a splendid job and this should be a wonderful end to a great series. Do plan on attending

Jean's Jots

Did you enjoy seeing Astrid Anderson's puppy...Welcome to Verda Burr, Jon Riewe and Rob Boyd, our newest members...how about Mary Thompson, isn't she doing great after hip surgery...we all enjoyed Griffin Becker playing a rag...Thanks to Xan Spencer for playing the piano for worship...Sandy Koppen and daughter Natalie have found a house and have movedHarrison's had a big limb off their magnolia tree fall on Saturday evening after the Luau... the band is working on a date to play againNatalie Koppen is learning to drive...Casey Becker wants to go to college in Hawaii...Gateway Conference will be at TLC on September 29...the Blessing of the animals will be on October 6...all three Joint Ministry events will be at TLC - we are a busy bunch...the Worship and Music Committee and the Band are searching for a pianist/choir person - keep them in your prayers....Fiona Becker is heading back to school in Savannah - she's driving

Pastor's Page

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there are many who do not have a grasp of the time line of these ancient scriptures. From Advent to Easter, our focus will be on the Gospel According to John. Finally, from Easter to Pentecost, the focus will be on the Acts of the Apostles. It's a new take on the old, old stories.

There will also be newness in our worship music as we seek a way to fill the void of Nora. The Worship and Music Committee and TLC Band members and other TLC musicians are working on a job description and a search for a new music minister. I am grateful for Jan Loewen, Sandy Koppen, and Karen Lehman for stepping into the music leadership role in the meantime. And I know that Spirit will supply our need. We all just need to be open.

There's newness in our ELCA Churchwide expression with the election of a new Bishop: Elizabeth Eaton. Also, at the 2014 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly, which will take place in Burlingame, we will elect our next synod's bishop. The

Rev. Mark Holmerud will be the incumbent, but newness is happening! I encourage you to pray and be open to being the TLC voting member. We will determine our voting member at our congregational meetings. I know that "usually" we "elect" whoever stands up. In the spirit of newness, I am asking all of you now to pray for spiritual guidance. Let's let Spirit do the electing for a change.

Newness has its good points and its tough points. God promises to "make all things new," so it is a good spiritual discipline to be open, to be willing to accept the new, to be courageous to let go of the past. The only thing you really have control over is your reaction, your acceptance. Blessings on your stewardship over your control.

*Love,
Pastor Jean*



You Are Invited to Celebrate with Cross and Crown Lutheran Church in the Installation of Their New Pastor: Pam Schaefer

Bring a non-perishable food item to donate to NOAH as a service project in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the ELCA!

When: Sunday, September 8, 3 p.m.

Where: Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, 5475 Snyder Ln, Rohnert Park, 94928

Why: To celebrate with and support a sister congregation

In her capacity as the Dean of the Gateway Conference, Pastor Jean will officiate for this service; so you come and support her too!

Pastor Pam received her Masters of Divinity degree from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley. She also has a degree in mathematics from San Francisco State University and has taught middle and high school math. This will be Pam's first call as a solo pastor.

Worship Highlights for September



Sep. 8 Creation by the word; light, life; it was good

Scriptures: Genesis 1:1-2:4a; John 1-5

Music: Jan Loewen and Sandy Koppen

Sep. 15 God keeps promise to give Abraham and Sarah a son. Abraham is asked to sacrifice Isaac, but God provides the lamb

Scriptures: Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14; John 1:29

Music: Zan Spencer

Special: Gift of G.A.B.

Sep. 22 Jacob obtains a blessing; dreams of a ladder; receives God's promise

Scriptures: Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17; John 1:50-51

Music: TLC Band

Special: International Sunday; Adult forum

Sep. 29 God reveals the name "I AM." Moses is reluctant messenger, but God

uses him to deliver Israel

Scriptures: Exodus 2:23-25; 3:10-15; 4:10-17; John 8:58

Music: Zan Spencer

Joint Ministry Events in 2013

It's been a little while since we've joined up with Faith and Bethlehem. Fortunately, we all have faith in new life! Here are joint ministry events in the works for 2013:

Fifth Annual Blessing of the Animals

Dogs, cats, bearded dragons, rabbits, birds – we've had them all at this fun and furry worship event. This year, again, we will meet at TLC. The day is Sunday, October 6. Starting time is 3 p.m. Pastor Jean will be the liturgist. Pastor Brian from Bethlehem will provide music. Pastor Tim from Faith will offer the memorial prayer for pets that have died over the past year (bring a photo if you have one for this prayer). All three pastors will be available to bless the animals. If you don't have a pet, come anyway. This worship event is fun!

Third Annual Blue Christmas

(but first time as a joint ministry event)

Christmas is a difficult time for those who are in mourning or making a difficult transition. Our Blue Christmas worship offers a solemn sacred space, stillness for your heart and soul in the midst of frantic holiday preparations, permission to stop and receive Spirit's consolation. Pastor Tim Carnahan from Faith will be the preacher this year. The worship event will be held on Thursday, December 19, at 7 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship and Holy Communion

This year, this worship event will take place at TLC, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Pastor Jean will be the preacher. Come and worship the newborn king.

Making the Promise of Health Care Reform a Reality in Sonoma County

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Health Ministry will be hosting a *Sunday Luncheon Forum* on September 22nd, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service (around 11:45am).

This educational forum will provide us with the latest information on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in Sonoma County. We will learn about eligibility requirements for subsidized health insurance as well as how we can help make the promise of health reform a reality in Sonoma County.

Our guest speaker is Pedro Toledo, the Director of Community and Government Relations for the Redwood Community Health Coalition. The RCHC is a network of 16 community health centers and clinics in the counties of Sonoma, Marin, Napa and Yolo. Pedro also oversees Healthy Kids Sonoma County. He is an advocate for affordable health insurance and access to health care. Pedro earned a BA and MA from Stanford. He also earned a law degree from Cornell University.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1300 St. Francis Road

Santa Rosa

539-5252



Finance News

Monthly Update

Our savings continue to dwindle. In July the deficit was \$2,320.68. This means the year to date deficit is \$16,141.23 which on average is \$2,305.89 a month or \$576.47 a week. Available designated funds that can be used to cover future deficits are \$6,045.48. Please keep this situation in your thoughts and prayers.

Pledge Sunday Set

October 13th will be Pledge Sunday this year. Look for a new revised pledge packet at the beginning of October. Start considering now what you can do for the coming year to support Thanksgiving Lutheran church.

TLCs Generosity

TLCers continue to help others. Individual gifts as of August 22nd for this year are as follows: FISH \$20, ELCA Disaster Relief \$70, ELCA Hunger Fund \$75, ELCA Malaria Eradication \$857, 2nd Mile giving \$510 and the Rwanda School Project \$545. Thank you!

2014 Budget Figures Due

September 8 is the deadline for committee submissions for the 2014 budget which will be approved by the congregation at the meeting on November 17th. Please turn in your requests to Jean Harrison. If anyone has anything they wish included in the budget please contact any member of the Finance Committee. They are Astrid Anderson, Lisa Bartlett, Jean Harrison and Sandy Koppen. Thank you

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.

Highlights from August Council Meeting

Pastor's Report: Note upcoming events. Beginning September 8, TLC will switch from the Revised Common Lectionary to the Narrative Lectionary – explanation in Sept. Trumpet.

Joint ministry events include Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 6. In discussion, it was urged that we invite the members of Roca de Salvacion. Pastor intends to talk to Pr. Umberto Flores; Jordan offered to translate the flyer into Spanish. There are two Conference events that Pastor is urging TLC members to attend: Sep. 8 installation of new pastor at Cross and Crown in Rohnert Park and Sep. 29 annual Conference Assembly, to be held for the first time ever at TLC (because Pastor is the Conference Dean).

Treasurer's Report: We have been averaging a monthly deficit of \$2500-2700. Before the end of the year, we may likely have depleted our reserves and have to look seriously at cutting budget lines. The issue is not expenditures; it is income. There was much discussion at how we can increase income without drastically changing the ministries of TLC. No clear conclusion or solution yet.

Other items of business:

Jean Harrison has been working with Kenwood Hearing Solutions and installer Ray Anderson. A hearing loop consists of an inconspicuous wire and a modem that will work with our sound equipment and provide enhanced sound to worshippers who wear hearing aids. It was moved and seconded to cease the monthly collection for the Rwanda School and instead solicit monies for this hearing loop until the necessary funds for the hearing loop are accumulated. This equipment will be a selling point for TLC for all who wear hearing aids. Brochures explaining the loop will be distributed to the congregation for their information.



Upcoming Council Meetings:

- **September 22, 2013 12:00 PM**
- **October 27, 2013 12:00 PM**
- **November 24, 2013 12:00 PM**
- **December 29, 2013 12:00 PM**

ELCA Elects First Female Bishop

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Northeastern Ohio Synod, was elected Aug. 14 presiding bishop of the ELCA at the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. She was elected on the fifth ballot. There were 889 votes cast, and 445 votes were needed for an election. Eaton received 600 votes and the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, ELCA presiding bishop, received 287. Eaton is the ELCA's first woman presiding bishop-elect.

The churchwide assembly, the chief legislative authority of the ELCA, is meeting here Aug. 12-17 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. The theme for the triennial assembly is "Always being made new." This year

marks the 25th anniversary of this church.

"We are a church that is overwhelmingly European in a culture that is increasingly pluralistic. We need to welcome the gifts of those who come from different places, that is a conversation we need to have as a church," Eaton told the assembly shortly after the election.

Prior to becoming synod bishop, Eaton served as pastor for ELCA congregations in Ohio. She earned a Master's of divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass., and a Bachelor's degree in music education from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio.

Experience a Deeper Church at the Conference Level

Attend the Gateway Conference Fall Assembly, held for the first time ever at TLC!

The majority of Christians experience the community of saints at the congregational level, like the majority of beach goers experience the ocean by lying on the sand. However, there is wonder and vigor and heartache and encouragement to be experienced when you go in deeper—into the ocean or the church.

Simply: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is divided geographically into Synods, led by a bishop. TLC belongs to the Sierra Pacific Synod (SPS), and our Bishop is the Rev. Mark Holmerud. Synods are large geographical areas; the SPS covers Northern California and Northern Nevada. For the sake of equal representation and voice, Synods are divided into Districts, and Districts are divided into Conferences. TLC belongs to district A and to the Gateway Conference. Each Conference has a dean who serves as liaison to the Bishop's office and who pastors the pastors of the Conference. Pastor Jean is the current Dean of the Gateway Conference. The pastors in a Conference meet monthly for communication from the Bishop and for self-care.

District meetings are held during the annual Synod Assembly; the business at these meetings mostly consists of nominating candidates to serve on Synod Assembly or on Mission Teams or as Voting Members to the Churchwide Assembly (We just had one last month in Pittsburg). To be prepared for those meetings, Conferences meet annually in the fall. These fall meetings are also the only opportunity that congregational members have to meet and greet pastors and members of the other congregations in their Conference and to meet with a representative from the Bishop's office.

As Pastor Jean is the Dean, TLC is hosting the Gateway Conference Fall Assembly for the first time ever – which gives TLC members incentive to get up off of the sand and jump into the see-what-it's-all-about-now!


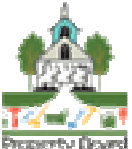



The Gateway Conference Fall Assembly will be held on Sunday, September 29, at 3 p.m.

Program consists of:

- A Healing and Prayer Mass
- Some jazz music
- Meeting with Katy Grindberg of the Bishop's office
- Awareness Talks about Senior Abuse and SPS Youth opportunities
- Wine and Cheese Reception on our Patio

YOU ARE ALL INVITED!!!!

TLC August Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 11:30 AM Special Flooring Meeting 3:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	2 	3 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anon small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon	4 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	5	6 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	7 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anony mous
8 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 3:00 PM Installation of Pastor at Cross and Crown 3:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	9	10 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anony mous small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anony mous	11  Property Board 6:30 PM Property MTg 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	12  5:30 PM Christian Ed Meeting	13 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	14  Finance Committee 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anony mous 10:00 AM Finance Meeting
15 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 AM Stewardship Meeting 3:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	16	17 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anon small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anon	18 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	19  5:30 AM Pot Luck Dinner	20 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	21 HHR Laguna Walk and Talk 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anony mous
22 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 12:00 PM Council Meeting 3:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	23	24 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anony mous small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anony mous	25 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	26	27 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	28 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anony mous
29 9:30 AM Sunday Morning Worship 3:00 PM Gateway Conference 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	30	1 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Narcotics Anon small group 8:00 PM Narcotics Anony mous	2 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	3	4 7:00 PM Roca de Salvacion	5 10:00 AM Alcoholics Anony mous

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

**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

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