

The

TLC Trumpet

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

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www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

April 2009

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday Holy Communion - April 5 at 9:30am

We remember Christ's Passion, from his triumphant entry into Jerusalem to his suffering and crucifixion outside the city walls.

Maundy Thursday Holy Communion - April 9 at 7pm

On his last night with his disciples, Jesus gave a new command, to serve in unconditional love.

Good Friday - April 10 at 7pm

A rugged cross becomes our symbol of victory.

Easter Celebration Holy Communion - April 12 at 9:30am

The tomb is empty. "Christ is Risen!" breaks into a new day and a new life in Christ. Stay after worship for the annual Easter Brunch potluck on our new patio! (weather permitting)

Easter Surprise!

A new quilt is being readied for its first appearance on TLC walls Easter. The prominent feature is a flexible cross floating upward toward heaven. The ascending cross is accompanied by swarms of butterflies. The metamorphic butterflies remind us that Jesus appeared in the form of man, died, and was resurrected into the realm of God.



Shape *The Look of the Future* TLC

Here are some Task Forces we are putting together right now.

They are opportunities for you to take part in some of the things that are happening at TLC:

SANCTUARY CHAIRS: We need a Chairs Chair (we'll call you the High Chair) and a small task force to research new chair options for our sanctuary, poll the congregation for choice, and oversee the process of obtaining them and moving the old chairs on. If you have skills in this area, talk to Jan Loewen.

STAINED GLASS WINDOW: We are getting close to the funds we need to replace the clear panes in the cross-shaped window at the front of our church with a beautiful stained glass design, created by Kyle Alexander (local artist and TLC member) and approved of at the 2008 Congregational Meeting. We are reviving this Task Force to finish the project. If you would like to be involved, talk to Pastor Jean.

LANDSCAPING THE NEW PATIO: The patio was put down in February; now we need to work on landscaping and finishing the sidewalk access to the parking lot. There are still funds from Memorials (Rocky Reed's and Margaret Heckathorn's) for this project. The Task Force will choose and meet with a landscape professional and then choreograph how they'd like to see the project through. Jean Harrison is taking the helm for this Task Force, so if you want to get on board, talk to her.

WEDDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: With the patio in place now, we have a facility that can accommodate small weddings and other occasions, so we need a task force to work with Council on developing policies, determining rental costs, creating contracts, and finding a Wedding Coordinator. If you can help in this area, please talk to Pastor Jean.

PRAYER CHAIN: Prayer is a powerful tool for healing, strength, hope, and gratitude. The corporate intercessory prayers are definitely a highlight of our Sunday morning worship. Pastor Jean is blessed whenever someone calls her for a phone prayer, when they know to turn to that power immediately.. A prayer chain is a ministry that many churches have in place for the needs of members and those in their lives. If you would like to be part of a prayer chain at TLC, please talk to Pastor Jean. In these days, we need all the help we can get!



Wanted: Choir Director!

One of the wonderful things that came to light from the time and talent sheets that were returned to the Stewardship Team a few weeks ago, is that there are a number of people interested in being a part of a choir at TLC (just wait till you hear them on Easter!). There wasn't, however, a clear signal from anyone that might be willing to LEAD a choir! The choir director would: Choose the music, set practice times, lead the choir, and work with the Worship & Music Team. Please contact Mark Koppen or Pastor Jean if you are interested.

A Little Bit of Catechism: A Few Words from Luther*

(...because the *Catechism* isn't just for kids—even when kids write about it!)

Bearing False Witness, or Not?

By Natalie Koppen

In case you were wondering, I'm writing this because my mom has more homework than I do this week. Well, I looked through the Large Catechism, and I found some interesting things said by Luther about the eighth commandment, "you are not to bear false witness against your neighbor." In his commentary, he says:

"...none has the right to judge and reprove a neighbor publicly, even after having seen a sin committed, unless authorized to judge and reprove....I may certainly see and hear that my neighbor sins, but I have no command to tell others about it. If I were to interfere and pass judgment on him, I would fall into a sin greater than that of my neighbor. When you become aware of a sin, however, do nothing but turn your ears into a tomb and bury it until you are appointed a judge and are authorized to administer punishment by virtue of your office."

I believe this means that you should not "tell on" your neighbor, even if you see them committing a crime. In effect, it says that you should not report a crime if you are not asked to. I think that this is going too far. If you saw your neighbor stealing someone's purse, you wouldn't just sit there and say, "Oh, he's my neighbor, so it doesn't matter unless a judge asks me about it," now, would you? I sure wouldn't. People would get away with crimes all the time if everyone followed this policy. I believe that Luther had good intentions—to keep people from gossiping about each other—but that if he had thought it through a little more, he would have realized that his interpretation of not bearing false witness doesn't quite work out.

*Source for Luther quotes: *The Book of Concord: The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*, Robert Kolb and Timothy J. Wengert, editors. Augsburg Fortress, 2000.



Adult Forum on Sunday, April 26!



Have you wondered if there is anything distinct about how Lutheran Christians read the Scriptures? Consider staying for this month's Adult Forum after worship on the last Sunday of the month—we'll be discussing and learning about "How Lutheran's Read the Bible." Bring your Bible and your curiosity!



TLC Women's Group

The TLC Women's Group is scheduled to meet on Thursday, April 16. We'll make it a game night so if you have a favorite game, bring it with you. And if it's not too much trouble, please bring a small snack to share. Come to the church at 7 to relax and have some fun!



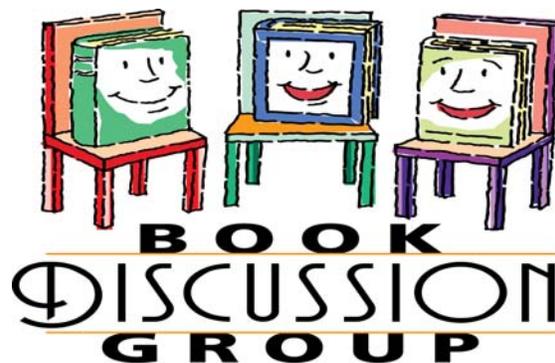
Happy Birthday to:

Sharon Kaye (Fruehling) Boschen	4/1
Katarene McPherson	4/14
Greg Bartlett	4/15
Spencer Flanagan	4/17
Lorraine Larson	4/20
Lola Burmahl	4/27

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

The Reading Group...

...Meets one more time on the current tome, "The Audacity of Hope", by Barak Obama. Meet in the "sofa room" at 7:00 on Monday, April 20. If you have any ideas of what book we might dig into next, come on the 20th or talk to Pastor Jean.



Pride Week in Sonoma County

The Sonoma County Pride Planning Committee is planning another week-long pride celebration May 31st thru June 7th. The week long event is called, *Equality On Main Street*, and will begin at noon on Sunday, May 31st. with a Pride Parade and Celebration down Main St. in Guerneville and culminate on Sunday, June 7th with a Pride Interfaith Service at 7pm at The Center for Spiritual Living on Occidental Road in Santa Rosa.

Below are several ways you are invited to participate:

Interfaith MegaChoir

The Sonoma County Pride Planning Committee is trying something new this year - investigating the possibility of developing an *Interfaith MegaChoir* made up of individuals from all the various participating places of worship. There will be a special piece of music chosen and each participating place of worship will practice the music on their own, then everyone will gather for one mega practice a week before the performance on June 7th. If any place of worship does not have a music program, there will be a list of other places potential MegaChoir members can attend a practice.

Soloists, Singers

Soloists and singers are being sought to share their gift of music on June 7th. If you are interested, submit a sample of your music to:

Charles Metz
4037 Chanate Rd.
Santa Rosa , CA. 95404

March in the Parade

All participating places of faith are invited and encouraged to march in the May 31st Pride Parade in Guerneville. If you would like to march, go to <http://www.sonomacountypride.org/> and register your group.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Charles Metz of the Sonoma County Pride Planning Committee at love.one.another@sbcglobal.net or by calling 707-541-7461

The above is edited from a letter received at TLC from Charles Metz of the Sonoma County Pride Planning Committee. ed.



Fun for those

50 or better

TLC Seniors are getting together on Thursday, April 23 at 6:00 for a potluck and game night at church!

Love Notes...

From Pastor Jean

I wrote the following version of Mark's version of the Passion for the December 1993 issue of Currents in Theology and Mission magazine. I like to read it at Easter time, and I am grateful to get to share it with you here:

"The world is going crazy.

Upstanding Jewish leaders are obsessed with killing during their celebration of an historic escape from death.

Jesus' followers make a mountain out of a flask of oil. Then, in the midst of all this talk about wasting money, one of them trades Jesus for money.

Jesus prearranges for two of his disciples to inconspicuously follow a highly conspicuous water-toting man. And it works!

A kiss becomes betrayal.

At the "trial," no one blinks an eye when the chief priests, who couldn't find one not-false witness in their assembly, now bring many accusations before Pilate.

The crowd, the jury, are uselessly susceptible, like any crowd in a farce.

Soldiers are so powerless they come in full force against one man; they are reduced to mockery, like little kids teasing a puppy.

Even our narrator lets us down: who, at this point in the Passion, cares about the whereabouts and lineage of a passer-by?

The cheap wine of the poor mingles with bitterness fit for kings. "This cup is for all to drink." All the taunting jeers hurled at The Word, which now gasps for breath, are powerful statements of truth uttered by powerless religious leaders.. The sun burns out. The Word cries out, then is suffocated for good. The temple crumbles from the top down. A soldier breathes a solitary oath.

When the crowd had all gone home for something to drink, a bit of something to eat, only a few women, not even his mother, only women who had forsaken the expectations for women and a man who was looking for the kingdom of God (okay, okay, so our narrator also gives us some wonderful little details), see the place where Jesus lay.

Everything rubble around our feet, we are left like the young man in Gethsemane, stripped of everything we thought we had and hoping to God things will be better in the morning.

May you transformed by the history and hope of the resurrection, and may the victorious claim, "Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!" invigorate your hearts and souls.

*Love,
Pastor Jean*

Getting to Know...

Dorothy Fast

If you wander into Church on certain week-days between 10-1 PM you may see Dorothy slaving over a hot computer. Our new Church Secretary brings to the office a host of computer skills that I could not begin to describe. She knows about computer graphics, desktop publishing, computer modeling, & other things that I can not comprehend. Since 1989, Dorothy has worked for various computer firms including her own business. So has her husband, Nat. They are two peas in a pod.

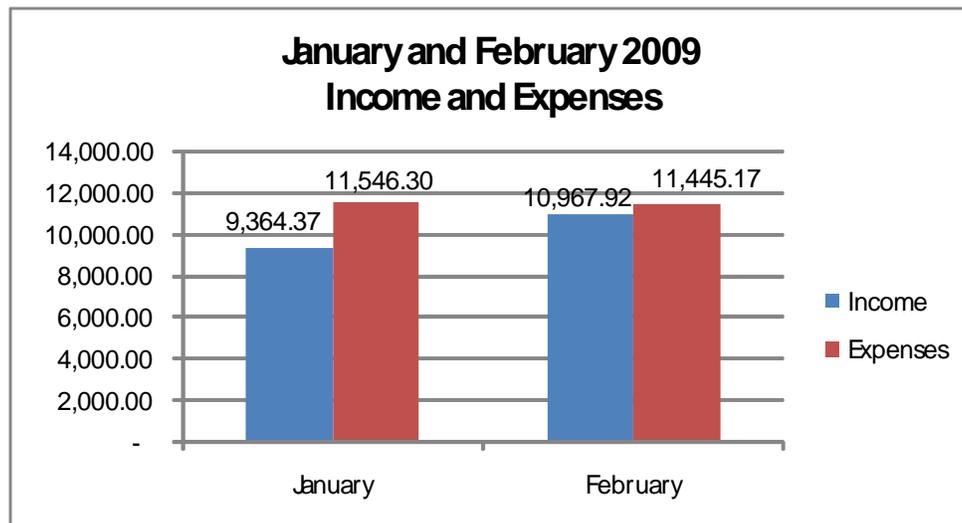
Even in their pre-computer lives, they were in the same pod. Both were Theater Arts majors in college & Dorothy has a minor in Music (piano). But they are not actors. Both were Techies . . . set design, lighting, sound. After growing up in Lodi, Dorothy went on to the University of Pacific & graduated in 1984.

They met at the Summer Repertory Theater in Santa Rosa & married in 1987. Daughter Martha was born in 1994 & Clara in 1998. The family lives in Santa Rosa on a one-acre lot with a large back yard that keeps Dorothy busy. She is the family gardener; also bread baker; also beer brewer. But the family chef is Nat. He does all the cooking for meals. This gives Dorothy time to serve as Coach for Martha's "Odyssey of the Mind" team. This is a creative competition program where a team tackles some problem (usually theatrical) & tries to achieve a solution over a period of months.

Not to be overlooked, is their dog Tiff, a black lab K-9 Companion Dog. She is not a Service Dog at this time, but is a breeder for Canine Companions. To date, she has berthed 53 puppies for the program. Whew! I'll bet she is glad to be retired!

George Land

TLC's Finances at a Glance



YTD Income (Jan. and Feb.): \$20,332.29

YTD Expenses (Jan. and Feb.): \$22,991.47 [YTD Deficit: \$2,659.18]

YTD Budget (annualized): \$26,632.21

“This **Jesus**
God raised up,
and of that all
of us are
witnesses.”

Acts 2:32, NRSV



TLC Council:

Deb Ferronato, Congregation President
Sharon Boschen, V.P.
Jan Thomas, Secretary
Jean Harrison
Jean Flak
Joan Hax

Bible Quiz

A New Testament book contains the following words spoken to a crowd: “This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.” Who said those words?

- A. Paul
- B. Peter
- C. John
- D. Luke

(answer below)

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

On the web:

www.thanksgivinglutheran.org

Next Trumpet Deadline!

The next TLC Trumpet deadline will be Thursday, April 23. 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

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, April 19.

Answer: B (See Acts 2:32, NRSV.)