
THE VISITOR

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Westchester, California

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The Mission of Our Savior Lutheran Church
*“To communicate to our community the love of Jesus
and the changeless Word of God in today’s changing world.”*

On February 17th we will join Christians around the world in observing the season of Lent. Lent is a deeply spiritual time as we reflect on the tremendous love and sacrifice of Jesus for us so that we might have forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. The price of our redemption was overwhelming. As Dr. Martin Luther said in explaining the second article of the Apostles Creed *“Jesus, my Lord, has redeemed me a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.”* As Jesus Himself said, *“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”* (John 15:13 NIV)



Dr. Luther went on with his explanation to state that Jesus made this supreme sacrifice *“so that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true!”*

In Jesus we have been redeemed from all sins, including the sin of selfishly wanting to use all of God’s blessings for our own needs and wants rather than using them to His glory and the welfare of our neighbor. Selfishness is not part of good stewardship! Here is a definition of good and godly stewardship: *“God’s redeemed stewards, in cooperation*

with and encouragement from fellow redeemed stewards, freely and joyfully manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes."

Lent provides us with an excellent opportunity to reflect on what is really important and worth spending our lives and resources on. During this 2010 season of Lent may God's Holy Spirit help us to understand that God wants to use us as instruments in His hands to touch the lives of others in ways that make an eternal difference. As we are led to accept this truth we will better understand what it means to use our time, our skills and talents, and our financial resources in loving and sacrificial ways.

The ministry and mission work Our Savior Lutheran church does among our members, our regular attending non members, our visitors, school and church staff, and preschool children and families is only possible because of your financial support. The offerings gathered each Sunday along with the volunteer time and talents of people like you is what keeps God's mission going here. The generous giving of your time, talents, and treasure is needed. It is greatly appreciated also.

What a time of spiritual growth the season of Lent can be for us all as we strive to spend our lives and resources on things that really matter and last beyond our lifetimes. God's

redeemed stewards want to make this world a better place because we have been here. May the love and sacrifice of Jesus so impress us that we will want to reach out in loving and sacrificial ways.

"God's redeemed and maturing stewards do the right things for the right reasons and strive for excellence in all they do."

Pastor Umbenhaur

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YOUR STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

In December we passed a church budget for the period of Jan -Jun 2010. In order to balance that budget, we projected offerings of \$7500 per month. We feel that this amount is realistic. The congregation was giving about this amount over long periods of the past two years. During the summer and second half of 2009, however, the offerings were significantly less. We were even forced to dip into our rainy-day fund to meet payroll expenses. In an effort to provide you with some feedback on how we are doing at balancing our budget we will be providing information like this...

Our recent monetary stewardship:

Offerings required to balance the budget: \$7,500 per month.

December 2009 offerings: \$7,089

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CELEBRATE LOVE

Friday, February 12th from
7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

An evening of **FUN, FELLOWSHIP,**
SWEET THINGS and a **MOVIE!**

\$5.00 p/p—free child care provided.
Sign up today in the Narthex!

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Please add these prayer needs
to your daily prayers.

That God send more children and
families to our pre-school so we may
share the Gospel of Jesus with them.

That God strengthen our faith and
love that our stewardship overflows to
His glory and building of a lasting
ministry at Our Savior.

For healing—Evelyn Trollope.
Our men and women in the armed
services. Our government officials.
Our NATION. For the people in Haiti.

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Amore

CHILDREN OF OUR



SAVIOR PRE-SCHOOL

Dear Family and Friends of Children
of Our Savior Pre-school,

We had a wonderful winter month
for January. We sure were blessed with
lots of rain. Though we had to spend a
lot of time indoors, the children as well
as the teachers did okay. We read lots
of stories and played fun games.

We are getting ready for our biggest
fundraiser of the year. That's right our
6th Annual Trike-A-Thon. This will be
held Friday, March 26, 2010. Please
save the date and join us for a B. B.
Que lunch which will be prepared by
Ronda's dad Ron Quamme and her
uncle Gary Quamme, they will be
grilling on dual b.b.que's to make sure
things are ready in a timely manner.

March 1st through March 7th we will
be celebrating National Lutheran
Schools Week. Please join us on
Thursday, March 4th for a Continental
Breakfast which will be held between
the classrooms.

This month we will be talking about
Valentines, Rocks and Minerals,
Presidents, and Community Helpers. If
you would like to read a story to one of
our classes, we would love to have
you, just let me know when you can
come and visit.

Chapel is held on alternating
Thursdays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m.,
please join us as Pastor Umbenhaur

brings stories of the Bible alive to the little children.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and Blessed month.

Serving His Children,

Ronda Pata

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ALTAR GUILD

Greetings! Our new year has begun and some of us have made a few resolutions.



Diana Kennedy will be your contact for February.

Please notice there are new charts in the Narthex for ‘Flowers’ and ‘Refreshments’ sign-ups for 2010.

Our next Altar Guild meeting will be February 25th at 1:00 p.m. in Pastor Rex’s office.

God’s Blessings,

Ruth Long, Altar Chairperson

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ABLAZE/FAN THE FLAME

The multi-year initiative of our national Lutheran church body continues to grow as more and more individuals and congregations become enthused about what, under God’s grace, is possible. Bob Shockley, our Elder of Education passed along to me the following information which was reported on a Synodical Facebook posting as of the end of 2009. Over \$53 million has been pledged so far, and the inflow of those funds are already beginning to make an impact

in seminaries and training centers in such countries as Taiwan, Russia and Kazakhstan.

In our own congregation, you may be interested to know that in the few months we have been underway with the ingathering phase, Treasurer Ed Fickenscher reports nearly \$1400 has already been received. Perhaps the most visible portion of this to many of you was the mini Christmas stockings which were a popular opportunity to participate. That initiative alone resulted in an inflow of \$324. Thanks to so many of you for your response thus far as we join with thousands of our fellow Lutherans in the Great Commission of spreading the Gospel to nations of the 21st Century, including our own.

Don Tietjen, Congregational Coordinator

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THE EXTRA MILE MINISTRIES K9 CRISIS RESPONSE MINISTRY

Faith Lutheran Church in Whittier, CA is now the home of the Extra Mile Ministries K9 Crisis Response Ministry. This ministry is a vital link in the ministry of national response to crisis/disaster.

These specially trained comfort dogs work with experienced handlers and team members in stressful situations which are often chaotic and unpredictable. The team helps victims,

emergency personal, and family members cope emotionally and spiritually. In doing so the team is able to help renew faith and restore hope. The team brings Christ-like compassion and mercy utilizing the dogs as instruments, creating a healing bridge connecting those in crisis and the crisis team. As those who face traumatic situations begin to pet and touch the K9, the power of God opens the door of opportunity to help and serve. Knowing the physical power of touch and its effectiveness, a much deeper healing can take place that is beyond description. The team provides a ministry of presence and offers Christ crisis tools of mercy and grace.

Support of this ministry, through prayer and financial contributions, is always welcome. Donations can be mailed to:

The Extra Mile Ministries
c/o PSW District
2206 Luz Way
Oceanside, California 92056

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SOUTH BAY LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

January 25-29 was Interim Week at SBLHS. The school chooses the week between semesters to go out into the community to do community service and out of the classroom experiences.

On Monday and Tuesday the students and staff worked all day, 9-2:30, at the World Vision Storehouse in Commerce.

On Wednesday half the students remained at World Vision while the other half went to the LA Regional Food Bank.

Thursday half the students were at Westchester Villa and the other half were with Heal the Bay (between Dockweiler and Santa Monica) on clean up.

Friday found all the students at the Science Center and California Afro-American Museum for their out of classroom experiences.

What a wonderful experience these junior and senior high school students had serving the Lord through serving others. “Whatsoever you have done to the least of these my brethren you have done it unto me!”

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UNDIE SUNDAY

The LWML has this February again chosen as its “Gifts from the Heart” to hold its annual “Undie Sunday” on February 14. Societies will collect packages of new socks and underwear to be donated to the Orphan Grain Train Warehouses in the upper Midwest where they will be made available for distribution to areas of disaster in our country and around the world.

We are asking each family in our church and preschool to purchase packages of socks/underwear for either men, women or children. A collection box will be provided in the narthex and preschool office. You may bring in your donation any time in the next two weeks. If you do not have the time to go shopping, I will gladly accept monetary donations and shop for you.....Beverly

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FEBRUARY PRESCHOOL BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Sophia Hummel
- 3rd Gabby Felkel
- 3rd Tyler Muir
- 5th Thomas Taja
- 6th Miles Linder
- 14th Sophia Gharibeh
- 14th Louis Church
- 15th Jonas Ross
- 16th Gavin Rizzo
- 16th Maya Rizzo
- 17th Henry Nehring
- 20th Esteban Grisales
- 21st Drake Anderson
- 21st Kai Sripipatana
- 23^{re} Isaac Matias
- 24th Elijah Matthews
- 27th Isabella Grim



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FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 6th Cathy Meier
- 8th Joel Kellum
- 10th David Tietjen



- 14th Melanie Shockley
- 16th Beverly Tietjen
- 20th Ryan Umbenhaur
- 22nd Madison Kellum
- 25th Roy Niebuhr
- 26th Ethan Shockley
- 27th Franklyn Moreshead

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FEBRUAYR ANNIVERSARIES

- 4th Kathleen & Dana Moreshead

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FLOWER CHART & REFRESHMENT CHART

There are still dates that you can sign up for—don't be left out!!

Flower Chart: 2-7—3-7, 14, 21—5-2, 9—7-4, 7-18, 7-25—8-1—9-26—10-3, 10-10, 10-17, 10-24, 10-31—11-28, 12-6, 12-12, 12-19, 12-26.

Refreshment Chart: 2-7, 2-14—3-14, 3-21, 3-28—4-11—5-2, 5-9, 5-16, 5-23—6-6, 6-20, 6-27—7-4, 7-11, 7-18, 7-25--8-1, 8-8, 8-29—9-12, 9-26—10-3, 10-10, 10-17, 10-24, 10-31—11-7, 11-14, 11-28—12-6, 12-12, 12-19, 12-26.

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A NEWBORN'S CONVERSATION WITH GOD.

A baby asked God, "They tell me you are sending me to earth tomorrow, but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless?" God said, "Your angel will be waiting for you and will take care of you."

The child further inquired, "But tell me, here in heaven I don't have to do anything but sing and smile to be happy." God said, "Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you. And you will feel your angel's love and be very happy."

Again the small child asked, "And how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me if I don't know the language?" God said, "Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak." "And what am I going to do when I want to talk to you?" God said, "Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you how to pray." "Who will protect me?" God said, "Your angel will defend you even if it means risking its life."

"But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore." God said, "Your angel will always talk to you about Me and will teach you the way to come back to Me, even though I will always be next to you."

At that moment there was much peace in Heaven, but voices from Earth could be heard and the child hurriedly asked, "God, if I am to leave now, please tell me my angel's name."

God said, "You will simply call her, Mom."

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TERRORIST GROUPS OPERATING IN CHURCHES

Latest news reports are that five terrorist cell groups have been operating in many of our churches. They have been identified as: Bin Sleepin, Bin Arguin, Bin Fightin, Bin Complainin, and Bin Missin. Their leader, Osama Bin Lucifer, trained these groups to destroy the Body of Christ. The plan is to come into the church disguised as Christians and to work within the church to discourage, disrupt, and destroy.

However, there have been reports of a sixth group. A tiny cell known by the name Bin Prayin is actually the only effective counter terrorism force in the church. Unlike other terrorist cells, the Bin Prayin team does not blend in with whoever and whatever comes along.

Bin Prayin does whatever is needed to uplift and encourage the Body of Christ. We have noticed that the Bin Prayin cell group has different characteristics than the others. They have Bin Watchin, Bin Waitin, Bin Fastin, and Bin Longin for their Master, Jesus Christ to return.

Which cell group do you belong to?

And guess what... no church is exempt!

However, you can spot them if you "bin lookin".

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WHAT'S IN A NAME...?

Martin Luther King, Jr., was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. He was the son of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr. and Alberta Williams King. King's father was born "Michael King" and Martin Luther King, Jr., was originally named "Michael King, Jr.," until the family traveled to Europe in 1934 and visited Germany. His father soon changed both of their names to Martin Luther in honor of the German Protestant leader Martin Luther.

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