

The Courier



VOLUME 71 - NUMBER 1 – JANUARY 2018



*“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon **you**. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon **you**, and His glory will be seen **upon you**.” Isaiah 60:1*

It's not yet Christmas as I write this, and I am preparing this just before we gather for our early Christmas Eve Service. Already thoughts about Epiphany is quickly moving us out of the Christmas season and moving us toward Lent! I want to keep Christmas season for as long as I can, but the Church Year Readings will not let me stay! I must move on....

Epiphany marks the time when “the True Light, Jesus Christ, came into the world.” The significance of Epiphany is that it is celebrated at the darkest time of the year, when the days are gradually getting longer, but still days are short and the nights longer. There are people who are profoundly depressed during this time of the year for a number of reasons; Christmas was a chore, a reminder of missing family and friends, limited resources, over extended pocketbooks from Christmas spending will now start showing up...and so on and so on.

It was into this very world of broken hopes and dreams, of limited resources, that God sent His Son to proclaim the light of HOPE. If you can relate with any of the situations above, then God has a Word for you: “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons and daughters. And because you are His children, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts...” (Galatians 4:4-7). Everlasting life is not just about heaven. It is about LIGHT coming into a dark world. It's about God sending His Son to redeem you.

It's about joy breaking into a heart that's depressed. It's about the presence of God giving comfort and hope HERE AND NOW. As you draw near to the presence of the light, do not be afraid. Stay a while, but move forward with Jesus at your side, and you will discover the very heart of God. But do so at the risk of having the darkness inside destroyed. You will be changed... the light cannot help but reflect off you. And this is our witness to the world... we are loved...we are valued...we are redeemed... we are HOLY...because God came into the world. Let's walk this journey together, encouraging and supporting each other, just as we did throughout Christmas.

HAPPY NEW YEAR,
Pastor Garry

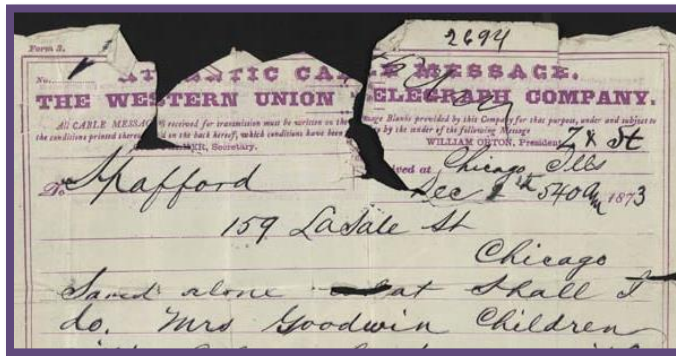
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE "Give Thanks to God"

December 27, 2017, in "Our Daily Bread" Poh Fang Chia wrote, "as a new believer in Jesus, I kept a thanks journal. It was a little booklet I carried everywhere I went. Sometimes I would record a thanksgiving right away or at the end of the week during a time of reflection. "

"Think about it: How has the Lord shown His love toward you today, this week, this month, and this year? Don't just look for the spectacular. His love is seen in the ordinary, everyday circumstances of life. Then consider how He has shown His love toward your family, your church, and to others. Let your mind soak up the extent of His love for all of us."

As we begin a New Year with God, our Father; Jesus Christ, our Savior; and the Holy Spirit, our Advocate, we can **give thanks to God** that all will be well with our soul.

This reminds me of a hymn "When Peace, Like a River", which was written after traumatic events in Horatio G. Spafford's life. The first was the death of his son at the age of 2, and the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which ruined him financially (he had been a successful lawyer, and had invested significantly in property in the area of Chicago that was extensively damaged by the great fire). His business interests were further hit by the economic downturn of 1873, at which time he had planned to travel to Europe with his family on the *SS Ville du Havre*. In a late change of plan, he sent the family ahead while he was delayed on business concerning zoning problems following the Great Chicago Fire. While crossing the Atlantic, the ship sank rapidly after a collision with a sea vessel, the *Loch Earn*, and all four of Spafford's daughters died. His wife Anna survived and sent him the now famous telegram, "*Saved alone ...*". Shortly afterwards, as Spafford traveled to meet his grieving wife, he was inspired to write these words as his ship passed near where his daughters had died.



When peace like a river, attendeth
my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught
me to know
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Refrain:

It is well, (it is well),
With my soul, (with my soul)
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

For me, be it Christ, be
it Christ hence to live:
If Jordan above me
shall roll,
No pang shall be mine,
for in death as in life,
Thou wilt whisper Thy
peace to my soul.

But Lord, 'tis for Thee,
for Thy coming we
wait,

The sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul.

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
A song in the night, oh my soul!





I'm so grateful that God is personally with each of us, loving us, providing for our every NEED. Our God is an amazing God!

And how awesome it is to experience His presence here at St. Luke's. He reveals Himself through every person and activity. I thank Him!

Thank you...

To those who served on Council in 2017

To those who helped in any way around church

To those who were faithful to Worship in their attendance

To those who invited someone to "come and see"

To those who spoke

To those who listened

To those who prayed consistently and constantly

Thank you all for being Children of God!

Starting January 2018, the following leaders will serve Our Lord through St. Luke's:

President:	Perry Saupe
VP:	Carl Coleman
Secretary:	Cia Salisbury
Treasurer:	Cheryl Coleman
Preschool Chair:	Leslie Andersen
Property Chair:	OPEN
Evangelism/Hospitality:	Pam Garcia
Stewardship:	Bob Erickson
Christian Education:	Candice Pearson/ Andrias Patterson
Mission and Outreach:	Susan Lande
Worship and Music:	MaryAnn Saupe (Cia Salisbury assisting)
Mutual Ministry:	OPEN (elected position)
	Bob Erickson (Pastor appointee)
	Nena/Norma Reed (Pastor appointee)
	OPEN (Elected position)
Synod Assembly: Female:	Bonnie Mohr
Male:	Hans Heimburger



JANUARY 2018

Preschool Newsletter

St. Luke's Christian Preschool

Happy New Year

Resolution: Explore more, play harder, share often

It's hard to believe that 2018 is already upon us. December was filled with a lot of holiday fun and cheer! The St. Luke's staff would like to express much gratitude for all the delicious goodies, presents and heart felt sentiments from our amazing families. As you can see in the picture above, we had a wonderful time at our Staff Christmas celebration- THANK YOU BOOSTERS for providing safe & fancy 😊 transportation.

Ring in the NEW YEAR!...

January is a time for reflection & commitment. As the staff gear up for Parent Teacher conferences, we take time to reflect on our teaching styles, children's progress and re-commit ourselves to giving each child the individual attention and best care possible. As parents, we ask that you too partner with us. Strong relationships between teachers and families in a child's education correlates to academic achievement, improved student behavior as well as higher self-esteem. Please take the time to sit down with us during Parent / Teacher Conferences. Parents know their children best; your input, concerns and interest in your child's preschool experience is valued and appreciated by his/her teachers.

Carnival

Saturday, April 21, 2018

You're probably wondering why I'm ALREADY talking Carnival- however, it will be here in the blink of an eye. We need your help in contacting local companies for silent auction donations. No donation is too small, all donations are tax deductible.

Oh What a Special Night!



monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday
1	2 School Resumes	3	4	5
8	9 Ms. Pearson Returns	10	11	12 Parents Night Out 1/13 →
15 School Closed	16	17	18 Booster Meeting 7 PM	19
22	23	24	25	26
PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES				
29 Sunbeam Conference Continued	30			





- 1/1 Maria Hartley
- 1/3 Carl Coleman
- 1/5 Krysten Patterson
- 1/11 Jim Mehegan
- 1/14 Margaret Wall
- 1/15 Kim Frederick
- 1/18 Ethan Reed
- 1/23 Nils Magnuson
- 1/25 Margaret Castillo
- 1/28 Joseph Alsonso
- 1/28 Amber Magnuson
- 1/29 Gale Wall
- 1/30 Whitney Pelayo

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- Jan 1 New Years' Day - CLOSED
- Jan 10 Kids Club Confirmation
- Jan 13 Undecorate Tree/Sanctuary Parents' Night Out
- Jan 15 MLK Day - CLOSED
- Jan 17 Kids Club Confirmation
- Jan 21 Council Meeting
- Jan 23 Preschool Board Meeting
- Jan 24 Kids Club Confirmation
- Jan 31 Kids Club Confirmation



- 1/1 Fernando ♥ Dani Ran-Castillo (4)
- 1/3 Norm ♥ Kellie Bernd (37)
- 1/16 Gerardo ♥ Pam Garcia (30)
- 1/17 Randy ♥ Cia Salisbury (31)

If anyone's birthday or anniversary is not listed,
please let the office know

The Courier is the newsletter of
St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran
Church & Preschool

Our website address is

Stlukeslongbeach.org

Facebook ~ [stlukeslutheranchurchlb](https://www.facebook.com/stlukeslutheranchurchlb)

Email:

SLLC90808@gmail.com

SLCP90808@gmail.com

Church Office: (562) 429-5967

Preschool: (562) 420-7308

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Contemporary Worship @ 9:00 AM

Mingle Time @ 10:00 AM

Adult Bible Study @ 10:15 AM

Traditional Worship @ 11:00 AM

Youth C.R.E.W. @ 5:00 PM

MIDWEEK

Kids' Club @ 4:00-5:00 PM – Wed.

Come visit us soon!

You are welcome here!



Rev. Garry F. Mohr – Pastor

Nic Chaffee – Contemporary Music Director

Dr. Marc Skuster – Organist

Bill Bode – Choir Director

Perry Saupe – Office Volunteer/President

Laura Hunter – Church Secretary

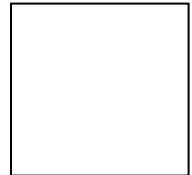
Candice Pearson – Preschool Director

Dr. Clifton Patterson – Youth Minister

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church

"To know God's Love and Share It!"

St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church
& Christian Preschool
5633 East Wardlow Road
Long Beach, CA 90808



**Change
Service
Requested**