

# CROSS CURRENTS

First Lutheran Church Newsletter—July-August 2016

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Pastor e-mail: [pastor@firstluth.com](mailto:pastor@firstluth.com)

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## **Pastor**

Rev. Kevin L.  
Kolander

## **Music Director**

Gail Christensen

## **Church Council**

### **President**

Rob Sandberg

### **Vice President**

Dave Anton

### **Secretary**

Susie Mericle

### **Treasurer**

Cheryl Cheek

### **Financial**

### **Secretary**

Gail Christensen

### **Education-**

### **Director**

Judy Adler

### **Evangelism**

### **Director**

Bob Brown

### **Stewardship**

### **Director**

Mark Steiner

### **Trustees**

Duane Van Patten

Jesse Washington

Leo Fay

## **Elders**

Reed Steiner

Justin Morris

Don Crow

Larry Hall

Michael Sunshine

## **From the Pastor's Desk**

Dear family and friends of First Lutheran,

Since we are headed into the season of summer and considering the heated climate of our nation's unrest, the following words from an old friend are offered to keep our focus on things real and eternal.

The season of Summer and into the Fall is the longest time in the church calendar (23-27 weeks). The Sundays during the Pentecost/Trinity cycle develop three great themes. The first is Baptism and its graces. Every Sunday is a reminder of Baptism and a small Easter. The second theme is preparation for the second advent of the Lord. It is treated in detail on the three final Sundays of the church year. The remaining theme, the burden of the Sundays midway after Pentecost, may be summarized as the conflict between the two camps. Although we are placed in the kingdom of God, we remain surrounded by the kingdom of this world with all its evils. Our souls are laboring under Adam's wretched legacy and waver continually to and fro between two allegiances, and like Paul in Romans 8, the whole creation groans and we earnestly look forward to the new creation.

By these great themes the liturgy covers the whole range of Christian life. In Baptism the precious treasure of the Spirit was conferred. Through it we are God's children and may call God Father. Through it we have become temples of the Holy Spirit, heirs and brothers of Jesus Christ. Nevertheless, Baptism has not yet translated us to a paradise without toil or trouble. Rather, we are sent out into a troubled world to work and struggle. We must guard the holy land of our souls against hostile attack. We must learn to know and conquer the enemy, and such is the task that will continue until we have taken our final breaths.

The Church serves as both the heroine, who teaches us the art of warfare, and our strong fortress and shield in the conflict. Through Holy Communion, she bestows aid that repeatedly frees the soul from the entanglements of temptation. How does she do this? Courage and strength and perseverance flow from the Word of God in the Service of the Word, and they flow in even fuller measure from Holy Communion. Of ourselves we are helpless creatures, wholly unable to withstand the attack, but in Holy Communion another battles for us. The Mightier One, Christ vanquishes the mighty. By means of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, we are enrolled and strengthened in our Captain's forces. And thus Christ's battle becomes our battle and His triumph our triumph, and His wondrous strength renders us invincible. —

*John Bruno Parsch, 1884-1954 Parish priest, leading figure in the liturgical movement and the church year.*

(Cont'd from page 1)

*The world against me rages, its fury I disdain;  
 Though bitter war it wages, its work is all in vain.  
 My heart from care is free, no trouble troubles me.  
 Misfortune now is play, and night is bright as day.  
 "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness (TLH 192:5)*

*O God, the Giver of all that is good, by Your holy  
 inspiration grant that we may think those things  
 that are right and by Your merciful guiding  
 accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost,  
 ever one God, world without end. Amen.*

Blessed Trinity season my friends in Christ  
 ---PK

**Official Acts:**

Baptism-12 June 2016, Emilia Jean Steiner  
 Received into Membership-29 May 2016  
 Juan & Claire Nava transfer from St Paul's,  
 Orange, CA  
 Steve Martinez from Roman Catholic Church

**Add to your Church Directory:**

Juan & Claire Nava  
 28844 Margarita Rd...email c.e.nava@hotmail.com  
 Lake Elsinore, CA 92532  
 Phone 714-471-0013

**Acolytes**

**July 3-Will**

**10-Christian**

**17-Zach**

**24-Emilyn & Morgan**

**31-Luke**

**August 7-Christian**

**14-Will**

**21-Zach**

**28-Emilyn & Morgan**

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**Attendance**

	May	1	5	8	15	22	29
Worship	100	26*	89	95	98	96	
Communed	-	-	78	83	86	79	
Bible Class	38	-	**	28	38	35	
Sun. School	11	-	**	8	8	10	

\* Ascension Service

\*\* Mother's day Breakfast

**Stewardship—**

Month of May 2016: Not Available

Income -

Expenses

Jan Thru May 2016: Not Available

Income

Expenses

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**Our Family & Friends**

Praying for Our Church family & Loved Ones

Detviler's daughter Heidi, David Neebe (tests), Mark Steiner (PT), Pat Lenhart (healing), Geri Daughtrey (son Ivy), Bob & Lois Salchow (son in law, Gary), Travis Wilson (enlisted), Bob Linn (friend of FLC), Debbie Anderson (is a grandma), LWML & LCMS conventions, 18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Good Shepherd, Haiti, safe travels for those vacationing, travel prayers for the Vicar and Ivy.

Members & loved ones serving in the Armed Forces

Austin Wilson, Robert Steiner, Pat (granddaughter, Jessica), Mary Kenagy- nephew Joshua, Nancy Purcha-3 grandsons, Brenda Romanek-brother, Alan & Helene Peterson- son Erick, Francine Wellington-grandson, Andrea Hall- nephew.

Pray & Visit Our Homebound Bud & Betty

Leonhart, Madeline & Jack Dulmatch, Kay & Don Foster, Delores Zegestosky, Beverly Christiansen, Joann Pomo.

Pray for our Lutheran Pastors Rev. Thomas

Bernard (Lutheran Church of Haiti, West Indies), Rev. Gary Rohwer (Muslim ministry, Dearborn, MI), LCMS chaplains Rob Mueller & Dann Ettner.

Away at college Noah Kolander & Lana Brannon.

Loved ones died Detviler (son in law, Tom).



**Serve the Lord with Gladness...Psalm 100:2**

All ladies are invited to join us the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. to enjoy the blessings of a Bible Study with Pastor Kolander, hymn singing, a short business meeting and the fellowship of sharing a theme lunch together. Each month we celebrate our members' birthdays by singing their favorite hymns. The mites that we collect, in the little purple and white boxes, support the LWML Mission Goal of

\$2,000,000 for 2015-2017. Each month we pray for a project and that we may reach the goal set for it. The July project is *Opportunities in Uganda, Women of the Pearl and Seminary Completion...\$100,000*, the August project is *"In Their Hands and Upon Their Hearts" Lutheran Bible Translators Angola, Botswana, Ethiopia, Namibia...\$50,000*.

In May we hosted the LWML Citrus Zone 18 Spring Rally. Our theme was THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT Galatians 5:22-23, eight of our ladies and Pastor Kolander gave heartfelt illustrations of how the Spirit's Fruit has worked in their lives during the worship hour. Pastoral Counselor Wenz installed Leigh Yeasley[Good Shepherd Menifee] as our 2016-2017 Zone President. All were blessed with delicious pasta, fruit dishes, fruit shaped cookies, and good fellowship during lunch at the close of the rally. For the July 5 meeting, A Summer Picnic, the theme for our lunch. On June 24-26 Nancy P., Francine W., Diane S., and Betty V. attended the PSD LWML 36<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention at St. John, Orange, CA and will report on District news.

On August 2, we will honor the birthdays of Judy Adler, Lore Tucker, Melody Anton, Bev Leckie, and Ana Currier. For lunch we will go to a local restaurant.

We thank you, our church family, and appreciate the support you give to our LWML Missionary Projects.

**Betty Van Patten, President**

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**Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**July Birthdays**

- 2-Susan Morris      20-Rob McCoy
- 7-Brian Casey      21-Emma Casey
- 7-Reed Steiner      21-Jonathon Sunshine
- 11-Don Currier      23-Cheryl Cheek
- 13-Rick Goss      23-LeAnn Lone
- 14-Will Rosenblatt      24-Austin Kolander
- 19-Leonard Cloer      25-Paul Niehouse

**August Birthdays**

- 3-Bob Arp      21-Luke Kolander
- 4-Don Crow      21-Barbara Mc Dermott
- 9-Judy Adler      24-Pat Crow
- 12-Sherm Terry      24-Melody Anton
- 15-Terri Pinto      24-Lore Tucker
- 15-Jerry Rice      26-Bev Leckie
- 19-Steve Marrale      29-Ana Currier
- 21-Andrea Hall

**July Anniversaries**

- 3-Bob & Yolanda Arp
- 5-William & Lezlee Neebe
- 5-Jim & Linda Warner
- 9-David & Kathleen Neebe
- 12-Duane & Betty Van Patten
- 14-Ralph & Nancy Purcha
- 23-Paul & Donna Niehouse
- 30-Dave & Debbie Anderson

**August Anniversaries**

- 9-Maurice & Susan Kaneshiro
- 11-Rob & Joyce McCoy
- 12-Bud & Betty Leonhart
- 17-Kevin & Christina Kolander
- 18-Don & Ruth Denviler
- 18-Pat & Kelly Kyle

**July Flower Schedule**

- 3—Susie Mericle---in memory of Mom
- 10--Duane & Betty-- 30th Anniversary
- 17--Lore Tucker- Birthdays
- 24--Erla Cloer for Leonard's Birthday

**August Flower Schedule**

- 7—Don Crow's Birthday
- 14--Kolander's 30th Anniversary  
Pat & Kelly's Anniversary
- 21--Bonnie Harlow In Memory of Husband  
Harry & Son.
- 28-- Jim and Sue Rohrbach Anniversary

**Cleaners-**

- July**-Antons
- August**-Kenagy

**Ongoing Ministries**

- E-Prayer—Pastor Kolander

**Greeters---**Susan Kaneshiro & Brenda Romanek

**After Services Refreshments.....**

- July 3-** Yolanda Arp, Dana Davidson, Diane Sandberg
- 10-Pat Eide, Tiffany Casey, Linda Bosch
- 17-Shirley Brown, Judy Adler, Christina Kolander
- 24-Ruth Denviler, Andrea Hall, Bonnie Harlow
- 31-Potluck-Kathy Gilbert, Bill Clough. Helene Peterson

**After Services Refreshments (cont'd)**

**August-7-** Susie Mericle, Sue Rohrbach, Betty Van Patten, Francine Wellington

14-Helen Rice, Jaime Wilson, Susan Kaneshiro

21-Susan Morris, Hedder & Karol Steiner

28-*Potluck*-Maurice Kaneshiro

Jesse Washington

**Vacation Bible School--**Dave & Melody Anton announced the annual Vacation Bible School is scheduled for August 3 thru 7, 9-12 a.m. The theme for this year's school is **Camp Discovery!**

Volunteers will be needed for the five day event--as in past years the decorations used to fit the theme have been extensive and colorful! Volunteers will be needed for the many jobs associated with the event; watch for a signup sheet which will be posted in the Narthex.

**NOAH's Trip to Vienna**

Having never been out of the country before, Austria was unforgettable. Our plane ride lasted a grueling 12 hours, and I was more than happy to have landed. On our first day in Vienna, we toured a cemetery which housed the tombs of famous composers such as Beethoven, Gluck, Schubert, Johann Strauss, and Brahms. We then visited Mozart's "Figaro House" where he lived and wrote many of his masterpieces. That night we sang our first concert at the St. Stevens Cathedral. Upon entering the cathedral, Steffenie (my girlfriend) and I both began joyfully laughing at the surreal experience, which I still can't quite believe. Our tour guides were very helpful along the way, explaining the significance and history of each cathedral which we sang in, and of the country itself. The following week consisted of tours of the Schonbrunn Palace, Melk Abbey, Mozart's birthplace, a riverboat tour of the Danube, the singing of mass at Postlingberg Church, and the Sound of Music Tour. From the intense architecture of the cathedrals to the extravagant Hapsburg Palace or even the small house where Mozart was born, there was only God to thank for this amazing opportunity. I am so thankful that God has guided me through the first year of college and choir. Next year, if all goes well, I will be going to Germany with the Concordia Choir and singing for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in the Wittenberg Castle Church. Thank you all so much for your support, love and Prayers!

**Noah Kolander**

**4-**

**Father's Day Brunch**

A Great Big THANKS to Linda Bosch & Sandra Gray for organizing the Father's Day Brunch--- A special thanks to the lovely ladies who provided table service---you are the best!!

**Senate Bill 1146**

As currently written, California Senate Bill 1146 (SB 1146) would significantly challenge Concordia University Irvine's—and all Christian colleges and universities in California—ability to continue offering a Christ-centered education to our students. The most troubling provision of this bill limits the religious liberty to integrate faith and learning throughout the educational experience. The bill effectively eliminates the religious exemption under current law that allows religious colleges and universities of all faiths--Lutheran, Buddhist, Catholic, Evangelical, Jesuit, Jewish, Muslim, and Roman Catholic--to operate in accordance with their beliefs, including the freedom to hire only Christian faculty and staff. If passed without amendments, the new law would also very likely disqualify students attending California faith-based Christian colleges and universities from eligibility for Cal Grants, a key state-level student aid program.

**SB 1146 Update from President Krueger**

Dear Concordia family and friends,  
My thanks to those of you who voiced your strong opposition to California Senate Bill 1146 by contacting members of the California Senate and Assembly and by helping us get the word out about the threat this proposed legislation has for many Christian universities like Concordia and the students they serve.

Our efforts had a positive impact on many in the Senate and Assembly, but, unfortunately, SB 1146 was approved two days ago by the Higher Education Committee of the Assembly by a margin of 8-2. As adopted by the Higher Education Committee, SB 1146 severely limits Concordia's ability to live out our convictions in a manner consistent with our religious tenets. The bill limits our religious freedom by keeping us from teaching and applying our Christian beliefs in all of our classes and co-curricular programs and by punishing us for adhering

to moral codes of conduct consistent with our Lutheran Christian faith.

I am again asking for your support and help. Next Tuesday, June 28, SB 1146 goes before the Assembly's Judiciary Committee for consideration. I'm asking you to contact the chairman of that Committee, Assemblyman Mark Stone, and voice your strong opposition to SB 1146 because of the threat it poses to Christian higher education in California.

And I am asking you again to contact your state representatives in the Assembly and Senate, voicing your strong opposition to SB 1146, arguing that the religious freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment must be preserved. If those of us concerned about the erosion of religious liberty cannot stop or amend to our satisfaction SB 1146 in the Judiciary Committee, if the full Assembly adopts the bill, and if Governor Brown signs the bill in to law, we may be forced to seek satisfaction in the courts. Because SB 1146 does not protect our religious freedom to proclaim and live out our Lutheran Christian beliefs, Concordia University Irvine opposes SB 1146 unless amended.

### **How You Can Help**

We need to convince members of the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly to stop or amend SB 1146. This requires your action prior to the Committee's next meeting on Tuesday, June 28. Please help:

**Step 1** — Pray. Pray for this moment in California history when our deeply held beliefs are being challenged. Pray that Concordia is able to continue to educate students in a way that is consistent with our Lutheran Christian convictions.

**Step 2** — Spread the Word. Forward the link to this article to parents, students or alumni of faith-based colleges and universities, churches or others who value religious freedom for faith-based institutions. Anyone who has an affinity for faith-based higher education in California should know about this ill-conceived and dangerous bill. Express your concerns about this bill on social media using hashtag #SB1146

**Step 3** — Contact California legislators. Contact Mark Stone, Chairman of the Assembly's Judiciary Committee. Email/phone call. If you are a California resident, send an email or make a phone call to your California Assembly member today

Email them using the following format for their address:

### **Assembly Members:**

assemblymember.lastname@assembly.ca.gov

### **Senators:** Senator.lastname@senate.ca.gov

Whether by phone or email, the message is simple: identify yourself and express your concerns about the narrowing of religious freedom this bill would impose on Concordia and all of California's faith-based colleges and universities, and the negative effect it would have on many California students.

We will provide updates on SB1146 on the Concordia University Irvine website at [cui.edu/sb1146](http://cui.edu/sb1146) as we receive them. Please check back regularly to stay updated. Thank you for your prayers and support in this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Kurt Krueger  
President  
Concordia University Irvine

**Concordia Irvine Summer Concerts** *Concerts On The Green* are again scheduled this summer for the enjoyment of Lutheran families and their guests. The concerts are free, and according to ) several First Lutheran families who have attended, are both entertaining and diverse in nature! Attendees are encouraged to bring their beach chairs or blanket and a picnic dinner---an umbrella to protect from the late afternoon sun might be considered! The concerts are held on Sunday afternoons and are two hours in duration, from 5 to 7 p.m.

**July 12- *Stone Soul*** will be presenting Soul and Motown classics of *Stevie Wonder, Ray Charles, The Temptations* and more!

**July 19-*Broadway Star Ivan Rutherford*** who played the leading role in *Les Miserable* and has played in other musicals including *West Side Story, South Pacific and Titanic!* Mr. Rutherford will present from these musicals as well as other familiar songs!

**July 26-** Unique repertoire from the *Great American Songbook, Phil Jeffrey and his Band, Musique Noir*, will take you back to the Frank Sinatra era together with musical gems from Tony Bennett, Bobby Darren and MORE!

## Message from Synodical President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison

LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison shares his thoughts about the recent election that returned him to office and what the Synod will be focusing on in the next few years. The “number-one” priority, he says, will be “Every One His Witness,” the church body’s new evangelism effort to “teach people how to share Jesus with those who don’t know him.”

In a new, four-minute video released June 17, LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison shares his thoughts about the recent election - which returned him to office for a third term - and what the Synod will be focusing on in the next few years.

In the video, Harrison thanks voters for their “very strong show of support” in the triennial election, which he calls “a very humbling kind of thing, and also healthy” because it underscores for elected leaders that they are “dispensable.” He also thanks the other two candidates for president — the Rev. Dr. David P.E. Maier and the Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer — for standing for election, and reads a comment from each from their statements in the June 2016 *Reporter* and *Reporter Online* (see “[Nominees for president answer Facebook followers’ questions](#)”).

Among the priorities of the LCMS in the next few years is “especially, number one, ‘Every One His Witness,’ our new evangelism effort that is rolling out this summer. And I hope that we get the entire Synod involved in this strong effort to teach people how to share Jesus with those who don’t know him,” Harrison says in the video.

“Number two, we will continue to stand in the face of this culture and confess Jesus Christ as Lord,” he says. “We’ll stand by our universities. We’ll stand by our parochial schools. We’ll stand by our church workers and congregations. And we will do so with joy, knowing that it is a blessing to suffer for the name of Jesus and for the sake of sharing His saving message.

“And finally, three, we will continue to stand as a beacon, God willing, for the truth of the Lutheran confession as it is confessed in our *Book of Concord*, and as it is testified to in the Holy Scriptures. And we will continue to see, God willing, some very exciting things happening as world Lutheranism continues to

shift in a dramatic fashion.”

As believers in “Jesus and His blessed forgiveness,” Harrison adds, “let’s forgive one another, let’s love one another and let’s challenge one another to live in joy, and outreach, in the name of Jesus, for the blessing of the world.”

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## Short and Sweet

Some people are kind, polite and sweet-spirited --- until you try to get into their pew

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but the fly comes close.

Most of us spend the first six days of the week sowing wild oats, then we go to church on Sunday and pray for a crop failure

Do you know the three times that most people are in church? When they are hatched, matched and dispatched.

Quit griping about your church; if it were perfect, you couldn't belong.]

If a church wants a better pastor, it can get one by praying for the one it has.

A lot of church members who are singing "Standing On The Promises" are just sitting on the premises.

We were called to be witnesses, not lawyers.

Every evening I turn my troubles over to God - He's going to be up all night anyway.

I don't know why some people change churches - what difference does it make which one you stay home from?

Young man, the secret of my success is that at an early age I discovered I was not God.

If your left hand doesn't know what your right hand is doing, you should consider running for a job in Washington.