

CROSS CURRENTS

First Lutheran Church Newsletter—May/June 2016

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Pastor e-mail: pastor@firstluth.com

Web page: www.firstluth.com

Pastor

Rev. Kevin L.
Kolander

Music Director

Gail Christensen

Church Council

President
Bob Brown

Vice President

Dave Anton

Secretary

Susie Mericle

Treasurer

Cheryl Cheek

Financial Secretary

Gail Christensen

Education-

Director

Melody Anton

Evangelism

Director

Open

Stewardship

Director

Rob Sandberg

Trustees

Duane Van Patten
Jesse Washington
Tom McDermott
Maurice Kaneshiro

From The Pastor's Desk:

Dear Lutheran Family & Friends,

“As a son with the father” (Phil. 2:22)

For the last few months or so we have been praying that God would make a way to bring us a young man to serve as our vicar. Even as I write this letter, we have received a note from our district president stating that First Lutheran Church will be assigned a vicar at the seminary Call Service on April 26th. In a couple of months (together with his new wife) he will be leaving Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN and join us for his year of internship. Since it's been over ten years since the last vicar was here, there are probably a few questions and points of interest that may benefit us before we begin this adventure together in July.

Generally speaking, a man who aspires to the Office of the Ministry, spends four years in college (either Lutheran or public) and then attends another four years of graduate studies at one of our LCMS seminaries (either St. Louis or Fort Wayne). After successfully completing his second year of studies at the seminary, he is eligible for a year of vicarage (internship) at a congregation that is assigned to him by the council of presidents. After completing his vicarage, he returns to seminary for one final year of study and then again, when he is deemed ready to wear the stole, he is assigned his first parish at one of our 6000+ congregations in the United States (other men may remain for more concentrated studies or specialized degrees).

While the details of a vicar's activities may vary somewhat from place to place, in general, they will include: *preparing and preaching sermons* with his supervising pastor, *studying & teaching*, which may include confirmation class, Bible class, Sunday School & VBS, *visiting the sick, homebound and unchurched*, *learning administrative and organization* workings of the congregation (Sunday bulletins, church council, church rosters, finances), *lead Sunday services and assist with Holy Communion*, and being submerged in the life and times of a Lutheran congregation who has adopted him like a son. During the year the pastor will complete two reports for the seminary covering areas of personal & pastoral strengths and weaknesses, etc., and then a final report when he has completed his year of service. (cont'd page 2)

(cont'd from page 1)

As such, everything the pastor does that involves Word and Sacrament ministry in the parish will be explained, discussed and modeled for him. Sometimes, the vicar may not yet have come to the firm conviction that he wants to serve in the parish ministry. But where conviction has not yet crystallized, a year with a congregation and pastor, will encourage such students in the hope that the practical experience which it offers might help them overcome their wavering. With the Lord's guidance, both the supervising pastor and the congregation will have their impact on this decision.

The seminary appreciates congregations like ours. Not only do the vicars benefit, but the congregations and supervisors do as well, since they have been a part of the work which the Saviour has entrusted to His church to make disciples, train them, and send them out with the Gospel.

Together with you, I am looking forward to this coming year. I am grateful to God, even though we are sinners/saints, this parish is a healthy house, and it makes me glad that we are loved by God, love one another and have much to offer this young man and his beloved wife for a year.

Your Pastor

OFFICIAL ACTS-

April 2-Nick Pomo Memorial Service

April 17-Jenny Fay's baby, Alice, Baptized

Church Directory—Please advise Bob Mericle of changes or corrections to the Church Directory!

Service Stewards

May Elder- Reed Steiner

Ushers- Helen Rice

Bob Fuhr

Bob Brown

Luke Kohlander

Acolytes

May 1-Zach

8-Will

15-Christian

22-Zach

29-Will

June Elder-Larry Hall

Ushers- Dave Anton

Lee Mein

Ron Romanek

Not Listed

Acolytes

June 5-Will

12-Christian

19-Luke

26-Zach

Church Council Notes

Membership report to Synod:

FLC 2015 Membership

- Total Souls--152
- Communicants--136
- Baptized Children--16

Juan & Claire Nava requested transfer to FLC from St Paul Orange.

Attendance

	March	1	4	8	11	15	18	22	25	29
Worship	105	50	93	60	94	46	86	52	111	
Communed	94					84				104
Bible Class	35		30		33		35			35
Sun. School	9		N/A		N/A		13	10		11

Quick View of Financial Stewardship—

- **Year Thru March 2016:**

Income- Not Available

Expenses - Not Available

Our Family & Friends

Members and our loved ones serving in the Armed Forces—Austin Wilson, Frank & Pat (granddaughter, Jessica), Robert Steiner, Mary Kenagy- nephew Joshua, Nancy Purcha-3 grandsons, Brenda Romanek-brother, Alan & Helene Peterson- son Erick, Francine Wellington- grandson, Andrea Hall-nephew, Don & Ruth Detviler- grandson, LCMS chaplains: Rob Mueller & Dann Ettner.

Travis Wilson is exchanging his civilian garb to Army Khaki! Travis leaves for basic training on June 6th. Upon completion of basic training he will be (cont'd page 3)

assigned to the Military Police Training School located at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.
God's Blessings, Travis!

Pray & Visit Our Homebound Bud & Betty Leonhart, Madeline & Jack Dulmatch, Kay & Don Foster, Delores Zegestosky.

Pray for our Lutheran Pastors Rev. Thomas Bernard (Lutheran Church in Haiti, West Indies) & Rev. Gary Rohwer (Muslim ministry in Dearborn, MI).

Loved Ones recently died Silvia Carter, Bob Arp (Sister Carol, Joanne Pomo (Husband Nick)

Our Homebound - Betty Leonhart, Jack & Madeline Dulmatch, Don & Kay Foster, & Delores Zegestosky

College Students:- Lana Brannon, Noah Kohlander



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 May project is *LCMS Global Seminary Initiative International Student Scholarships*...\$100,000, the June project is *Training Teachers and Leaders Concordia Seminary ST. Louis*...\$100,000. The April Spring Tea entitled *The Sweet Aroma of God's Love* was inspired by 2 Corinthians 2:15 and the vision of Nancy Purcha. She and the LWML ladies provided a beautiful event where the guests were able to see, hear, feel and taste God's love for all. **Rosemary Agnew of Grammy's Thrift Store,**

Lake Elsinore, was the guest speaker and an excellent example of how God's love works through us. Rosemary narrated a slide show of feeding the homeless hot meals and explained how some are no longer homeless, thanks to the connections they made through **Grammy's**. The Thrift store provides free clothing, shoes, food items, fire wood and camping equipment to the homeless. Our ladies gave Blessing Bags (filled with sundry and hygiene items) to share with the homeless and a free will offering with our prayers to help support the ministries Rosemary and her family provide.

At the May 3 meeting, we will sing hymns chosen by Ida Williams, Francine Wellington, and Helen Rice to celebrate their birthdays. Cinco de Mayo is the theme for our lunch.

On May 14, our society will host the Citrus Zone 18 Spring Rally. Ladies from 7 churches will attend a Bible Study, business meeting, some entertainment, and lunch.

On June 7 we will honor the birthdays of Ruth Detviler and Sandra Gray.

St. John Lutheran Church in Orange is hosting the PSD LWML Convention June 24-26. All ladies are welcome. Five of our members have registered to attend. We thank you, our church family, and appreciate the support you give to our LWML Missionary Projects.

Betty Van Patten, President

Birthdays and Anniversaries

May Birthdays

1--Beverly Christiansen 16-Ellie Niehouse

1--Duane Van Patten 20-Bob Brown

2--Larry Hall 21-Lezlee Neebe

4--D.J. Brannon 21-Francine Wellington

4--Morgan Kyle 25-Kay Foster

5--Sue Segade 26-Helen Rice

9--Keagan Kieta 30-Stasiu Kieta

11-Ida Williams 31-Natalie Sunshine

June Birthdays

1--Linda Warner 21-Sandrs Gray

8--Maurice Kaneshiro 21-Kathleen Neebe

16-Ruth Detviler 23-Kim Sunshine

16-Neil Steiner 26-Silvia DePillo

20-Elizabeth Porter 27-Ron Niehouse

21-Lea Brannon 28-Mark Steiner

May Anniversaries

12—Sherm & Joline Terry

June Anniversaries

6--Robert & Aggie Steiner

28--Dave & Melody Anton

May Flower Schedule1—Duane Van Patten's B'day, Morgan Kyle's
Birthday

8—Open

15—Open

22—Helen Rice's Birthday

29—Open

June Flower Schedule5—Susie & Bob's sis-in law Laura Davis 99th
Birthday

12-- Open

19--Pat Lenhart, Kathy Neebe Birthday

26-- Open

Cleaners-**May**-Kolanders**June**-Kyle**Ongoing Ministries**

E-Prayer—Pastor Kolander

Greeters---Susan Kaneshiro & Brenda Romanek

After Services Refreshments.....**May 1**-Susie Mericle, Sue Rohrbach, Betty Van
Patten, Francine Wellington

8-Mother's Day Breakfast

15-Susan Morris, Hedder Steiner, Karol Steiner

22-Jesse Washington, Maurice Kaneshiro,

Helen Rice

29-Potluck-Ellie Niehouse, Bev Leckie,
Kelly Kyle**June 5**-Erla Cloer, Ana Currier, Joline Terry

12-Ida Williams, Nancy Purcha, Lore Tucker

19-Father's Day**26-Potluck**- Kim Sunshine, Leo Fay, Tom
McDermott

Vacation Bible School--Dave & Melody Anton announced the annual Vacation Bible School is scheduled for August 1 thru 5. 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.

MISSION NEWS.....
from Our Church in Haiti



Dear Brothers, Sisters & Supporters of the ministry of the Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church, Port-au-Prince, Haiti:

Grace and Peace to you from God our Lord and Savior Jesus! We give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good and His mercy endures forever.

The Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church is more than delighted to write this in which she is expressing her thankfulness and gratitude to each one of you for your continuing prayers and support. More than ever, we need to continue to stay in God's presence, preach His inspired Word, and administer the Sacraments as we are facing difficult times. Only in Him that we can we find relief and strength permitting us to endure the difficult times. The instability of our nation causes a lot of trouble among the citizens and in the different neighborhoods. As you probably know, Good Shepherd is ministering in four places in the Port-au-Prince area: **Delmas, Village of Peace, Leogane and Village Coraceess**. We have a tight schedule. Since the beginning of the ministry we always have two worship services in each of these places (a worship service in the morning and an evangelism service in the evening where non-converts are invited to join us). But nowadays the evening service at Village of Peace is held at 4:00 pm because of the gangs that are performing there. From 6:00 pm to 6:00 am the members of the community need to be at home to make sure that they are at 50% safe. It is a complicated situation. And in all these matters we ask the question "*who cares?*"? The answer is "*only God cares*". "*If God is for us, who can be against us?*"

The cholera problem is another issue. Hundreds of people have already passed away. They cannot survive because the health care down here is a luxury. At a certain point, sometimes we even get discouraged but after all we come to the conclusion that our God is faithful, merciful and compassionate. Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope:

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him (Lamentations 3: 21-24)." What a friend we have in Jesus, my friend!

Thanks be to our Redeemer, in the midst of great distress and calamity, as a loving Father, He is always there to help His children. In spite of our sins and iniquities our God does not abandon us. That is why we say together with the psalmist David "I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me (Psalm 13:6)."

Thanks be to Him, in spite of all our different congregations and schools are making great progress. The Word is taught, the Sacraments are administered, believers are committed and new members are joining us.

Due to this chaotic situation that is going on down here and that affect our entire beings your constant prayers remain a necessity for us.

Brotherly yours in the resurrected One,

Pastor Thomas Bernard.

Haiti Grappling With Protracted Cholera Epidemic

Haiti is still grappling with a pernicious cholera epidemic nearly five years after the disease's first appearance in the country. Cases spiked from 1,000 per month last summer to 1,000 per week in the fall, according to Haiti's Ministry of Public Health and Population. There were nearly 8,400 cases in January and February alone and 82 deaths—twice as many cases and three and a half times as many deaths over the same period last year. Beyond Port-au-Prince and its suburbs, the Artibonite and Centre regions—the hub of operations for Zanmi Lasante (ZL), Partners In Health's (PIH) sister organization in Haiti—have been among the hardest hit, especially the communities of St. Marc, Mirebalais, Hinche, and Lascahobas. There were 5,179 cases across all PIH/ZL sites in 2014. The worst spike was over the last four months of the year,

peaking at 808 cases in November alone. That monthly tally slowly declined and then bumped back

up to 540 cases in March this year. So far, PIH/ZL staff are seeing two or three times as many patients in 2015 as they did over the same period last year.

This wave of cases is like a recurring nightmare for Dr. Ralph Ternier. A big part of his job as ZL's director of community care and support is to prevent the disease's spread, which can be as simple a task as reminding patients to wash their hands with soap and water. But patient follow-through is the tricky part. They often ask him, "Where am I going to find soap and water?" That's the reality for many Haitians. About 40 percent lack access to clean water, and only one in four have access to a sanitary toilet, according to the World Bank. Even if they do have safe water and proper sanitation, "many Haitians are so poor that they're literally choosing between buying soap one day or buying food for their family or for their children," Dr. Louise Ivers, PIH's senior health and policy advisor, told NPR in a [recent interview](#). The World Bank reports that more than half of Haitians live under the national poverty line of less than \$2.50 per day. *Cholera spreads when people come in contact with contaminated sewage, usually through consuming unclean food or water.*

This happens with relative ease in communities without proper latrines, and where torrential downpours during Haiti's rainy seasons in the spring and fall cause daily flash floods. People who contract cholera suffer excessive vomiting and diarrhea and can die of severe dehydration within 24 hours. Haiti never knew cholera until 2010. That's when the United Nations flew in a group of peacekeepers from Nepal, whose capital had recently suffered an outbreak of the disease, and set them up in a camp with poor plumbing. Contaminated sewage leaked into a tributary of the longest river in the country, the 200-mile Artibonite. Since the first person was diagnosed in October 2010, there have been more than 739,000 cases of cholera and 8,900 deaths, according to Haiti's Ministry of Public Health and Population. So why does cholera continue to plague Haiti, and PIH/ZL sites, five years after the initial outbreak? (Cont'd page6)

(cont'd from page 5) "We haven't gotten rid of the reasons for the transmission of the bacteria, and that's because there's such poor water and sanitation," Ivers says. Since the outbreak began, "there have been no transformative water and sanitation activities, and so the underlying problem is still there. I think that's why the number of cases has started to go up again."

Synod Notes for May

May 5 – Ascension Day

Acts 1:11 "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ is ascended – and Christ will come again. We live our lives in this world in the sure confidence of the world to come. We live as people who know our Lord Jesus – and who know that He is coming back. This makes all the difference in how we approach our stewardship and care of the things of this world.

May 8 – Exaudi

1 Peter 4:10 "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." Grace is God's undeserved mercy toward us. And what do we have that is not a gift flowing from God's grace? He gives all these gifts so that we may use them in service toward one another. And chief among the ways we serve one another is to support the Church's work of bringing more of God's grace to more of God's people. And that's what it means to be a steward!

May 15 – Pentecost

Acts 2:1 "When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place." Notice that Pentecost is actually an Old Testament festival: it happens around the time when the wheat and oats are ready to be brought in. In the New Testament this becomes a picture and foreshadowing of the great harvest of humankind that God means to bring in through the preaching of His Word. God gives the seed, and God brings about the harvest – through the work of His Church.

May 22 – Holy Trinity

Isaiah 6:3 And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" Three times the angels cry out: "Holy, Holy, Holy!" which is an indication of the threeness in God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is the Name we are baptized into. We have been made a part of God's family. And so we are now called to live lives that are in harmony with our new family: we are to be godly, to live in God's image. As God is loving, and kind, and generous – so are we called to be.

May 29 – Trinity I

Luke 16:19 "There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day." This is often called the story of "The Rich Man and Lazarus." But it should really be called the story of "The Two Rich Men and Lazarus." The other rich man in this story is Abraham. Obviously, these two men used the gift of riches that God gave them in very different ways. The life and decisions of Abraham flowed from faith; the rich man's life and choices flowed from

Concordia University Irvine Arts presents:

May 1- Spring Choral Concert

2-Spring Honors Recital

5/28-6/12-"Romeo & Juliet"

Ticket reservations are available on line;
Support your University!!

A Funny for closers!

This man goes into a restaurant for a breakfast while visiting a nearby home town for a holiday. After looking over the menu he says, "I'll just have the eggs benedict." His order comes a while later and it's served on a huge fancy chrome plate. He asks the waiter, "What's with the fancy plate?" The waiter replies, "There's no plate like chrome for the hollandaise!"

First Lutheran Church Newsletter

Cross Currents

May/June 2016

MAY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
¹ Easter +5 9 a.m. Bible Class 10:30 a.m. Worship With Lord's Supper Evangelism Mtg	² 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	³ 10 a.m. LWML Meeting ^{7:30 p.m. AA Meeting}	⁴ 10:30 a.m. Bible Class Choir 5:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Elder's Mtg	⁵ Ascension Day Service 7:15 p.m. (pie nite)	⁶ Bible Study Nite 6 p.m. Potluck 7 p.m. Bible Study	⁷
⁸ Easter +6 9-10 Mother's Day Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Worship	⁹ 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	¹⁰ ^{7:30 p.m. AA Meeting}	¹¹ 10:30 a.m. Bible Class 7 p.m. Church Council Choir 5:30 P.M.	¹² ^{7:30 p.m. AA Meeting}	¹³ Bible Study Nite 6 p.m. Potluck 7 p.m. Bible Study	¹⁴ LWML Zone Rally FLC 9 a.m.
¹⁵ Pentecost 9 a.m. Bible Class 10:30 a.m. Worship With Lord's Supper	¹⁶ 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	¹⁷ ^{7:30 p.m. AA Meeting}	¹⁸ 10:30 a.m. Bible Class Choir 5:30 p.m.	¹⁹ ^{7:30 p.m. AA Meeting}	²⁰ Bible Study Nite 6 p.m. Potluck 7 p.m. Bible Study	²¹
²² Holy Trinity Sunday 9 a.m. Bible Class 10:30 a.m. Worship With Lord's Supper	²³ 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	²⁴ ^{7:30 p.m. AA Meeting}	²⁵ 10:30 a.m. Bible Class Choir 5:30 p.m.	²⁶ ^{7:30 p.m. AA Meeting}	²⁷ Bible Study Nite 6 p.m. Potluck 7 p.m. Bible Study	²⁸
²⁹ Pentecost +1 9 a.m. Bible Class 10:30 a.m. Worship With Lord's Supper	³⁰ 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	³¹ ^{7:30 p.m. AA Meeting}				

June 2016

NOTE—June 20-25 Pastor & Wives Retreat (Pastor Away)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Elder's Meeting 7:30 p.m.	2 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	3 Bible Study Nite 6 p.m. PotLuck 7 p.m. Bible Study	4
5 Pentecost +2 9 a.m. Bible Class 10:30 a.m. Worship With Lord's Supper Evangelism Mtg	6 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	7 LWML Meets 10 a.m. 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	8 10:30 a.m. Bible Class Choir 5:30 p.m. 7 p.m. Church Council	9 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	10 Bible Study Nite 6 p.m. PotLuck 7 p.m. Bible Study	11
12 Pentecost +3 9 a.m. Bible Class 10:30 a.m. Worship Voter's Meeting	13 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	14 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	15 10:30 a.m. Bible Class Choir 5:30 p.m.	16 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	17 Bible Study Nite 6 p.m. PotLuck 7 p.m. Bible Study	18
19 Pentecost +4 9 a.m. Bible Class 10:30 a.m. Worship With Lord's Supper	20 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	21 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	22 10:30 a.m. Bible Class Choir 5:30 p.m.	23 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	24 Bible Study Nite 6 p.m. PotLuck 7 p.m. Bible Study	25
26 Pentecost +5 9 a.m. Bible Class 10:30 a.m. Worship Elder Led Matins	27 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	28 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting	29 10:30 a.m. Bible Class Choir 5:30 p.m.	30 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting		