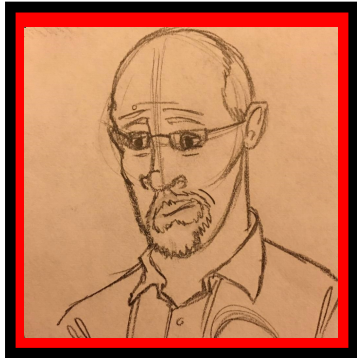


# S. Luke Lutheran Church

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Issue 02/25

February 2025



**Dan Tisdel**

*Pastor*

## Pastor Dan's Musings:

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

As most of you know, I got married on New Year's Day. And now, in a few days, my wife Cristina and I will celebrate our first Valentine's Day as a married couple! It will definitely feel a bit different for us. Each year, each Valentine's Day has had very different contexts for us as a couple. It'll be extra special because, this time, we actually live together!

Love is, of course, a very common theme in scripture, especially in the New Testament, but really it can be found throughout the Bible. The passage above, from first Corinthians, is a very common passage to hear at weddings. Greek purist pastors, though, sometimes cringe when this passage is chosen. The reason is simple. In Greek, there are several words for love. **Eros** is physical romantic love between partners.

**Storge** is love toward our parents, siblings, children and other family

members. **Philia** is the kind of love we have for very close friends, brotherly or sisterly love.

**Agape** is the fourth and final Greek word for love and it might be the most challenging. This is the kind of love that we should have for all people, and also for our enemies. It is a selfless kind of love that Christians must have in regard to acting in the best interest for all human beings. Agape is the word used in the passage from 1 Corinthians. Now, go back and read that passage while thinking it is asking you to use THAT kind of love with strangers or even people you don't like. Read it like this...Jesus calls me to love THAT person...that means I need to be...patient, kind, not envious.... Go ahead and read it that way, thinking off someone you struggle with. Go ahead...I'll wait right here.

If you found it difficult to think that way, that's the point. The kind of love we are called to is truly radical. And it isn't easy. It's easy to love those that already love us back. But to truly love the stranger? Or to love the person who you think is morally or ethically wrong? Yeah, that is tough. But it is exactly where our God wants us to be.

You know the other passage about love that uses the word Agape?

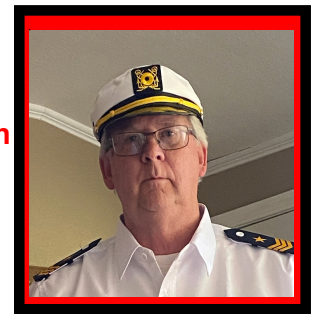
Matthew 5: 43-48

<sup>43</sup>"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup>But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

<sup>46</sup>For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup>And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than

others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup>Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Love isn't always easy. But we are directly commanded by Jesus to love those we think are the most unlovable. Maybe this Valentine's Day we can think of ways to do that a bit better.



**Kirk Autsen**

*Council President*

## Council President's Corner

February starts off with the Super Bowl. Not sure if your team is in there (mine isn't), but it is amazing how much importance is put on this game. The multimillions of dollars that are spent for our entertainment. Some idolize some of the players or teams and are fanatical to nth degree. It is something that us Christians should take note, how can we be over the top for Jesus. Can you imagine standing in line to get the best seats in Church, paying hundreds of dollars to get the front pew. The Gospel should excite us enough to tell family and friends and even strangers of God's love for us that he sent his only Son to die for us. Jesus drove down the field himself and scored that final touchdown for all humanity because of the love for us. We as Christians need to show our union in Christ to extend his love to others so all can share in the victory of life through Him

*Continued on Page 2*

## Council President's Corner

*Continued from Page 1*

who has saved us. As we start this new year comes many challenges, our budget is the highest it has ever been in our history but with good reason, having opened up our preschool again and buying a parsonage, having a new Pastor and all the programs we support. St. Luke is entering its 68<sup>th</sup> year which started in a garage just a few blocks away with a few dozen people. They had a big challenge to find a site to build a new Church and it is our challenge to keep that vision going. It is a different time with a different demographic, but the need is still there to share the Gospel to those around us, the message is still needed in this world, maybe more than ever but we need your help to continue and your support both financially and service. So please pray for our Church and our continued commitment to God that we go forth and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Heavenly Father, Continue to bless our congregation as we do your will and keep us focused on you and what you've done for us, in Jesus name. Amen.



- Feb. 06** - Jordan Mandac
- Feb. 07** - Trinity Johnson
- Feb. 10** - Julious Villa
- Feb. 11** - Trish Wadsworth
- Feb. 12** - Ryan Peters
- Feb. 14** - Rebecca Nissen
- Feb. 17** - Paul Mitchell
- Feb. 19** - Nathaniel Su
- Feb. 20** - Austin Yoder
- Feb. 22** - Lucas Morales
- Feb. 23** - Walt Wilser
- Feb. 24** - Ashlyn Mooney
- Feb. 25** - Henry Hayes
- Feb. 28** - Natalie Smith

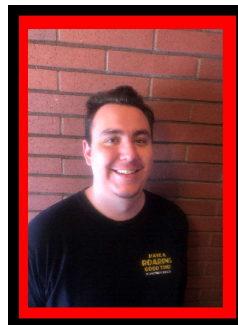


**Julianna  
"Juli"  
Buccellato**  
*ACP Director*

Hello,  
ACP has once again had a very busy month. The children were happy to be back with their friends after the Holidays. We hosted a play date for the Sunnyvale/Santa Clara chapter of Las Madres on Sat. Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>. We had 9 families in attendance. We will hopefully be hosting more playdates in the future. We are getting ready for our Feb. 1st Open House. Many families begin their search for a Preschool at this time of year. Please help us spread the word about ACP. There are flyers on the table in the Church entry way. Please keep ACP in your prayers as we start registration for the 2025-2026 school year!  
Thank you,  
Juli Buccellato

**Grant  
Hannon**  
*Youth Director*

### Youth News



Hi Everyone!

Happy 2025! I hope you all had a great holiday season and a wonderful new year! This year there are a lot of things coming up that should be fun and exciting for the youth.

In January we had the 5th annual cookie bake off and got to celebrate and crown a new champion. We also had a great time as a group in December having the Christmas party

and throwing snowballs at each other at Pastor Dan's house!

Looking toward the future we have lots of things planned for February. Keep an eye on the announcements and during service to see what is going on in the life of the youth!  
- Grant



—  
Grant Hannon  
*Youth Director*  
719-761-1799

St. Luke Lutheran Church  
1025 The Dalles Ave. Sunnyvale, CA  
(408) 736-9216



**Gary & Patricia Walz: 41 yrs. -  
February 12, 1984**

**Alex Rubio & Suzanne Strohmaier-  
Rubio: 25 yrs. -  
February 19, 2000**

## The Gospels Unveiled: Uncovering the Intricate Tapestry of Their Construction

Starting February 16th and running for three weeks, Pastor Dan will lead us in an Adult Forum during fellowship time on the in-depth study of the Gospels in context. Understanding the who, what, when, where, and why of the writings can open up our understanding of the teaching of Jesus. Who wrote the Gospels and who were they writing to? When were the Gospels written? Why do the Gospels differ in places and agree in others? What the heck does "Synoptic" mean? You will be surprised at what you will learn! Grab coffee and a doughnut and join us during fellowship time!

# The Church Calendar - February 2025

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| <p style="color: blue;">1st Sunday of Advent</p>  |  |  |  |   |  | <b>1</b>  |
| <p><b>2</b> <b>Presentation of Our Lord</b></p> <p>10:00 AM In-Person Worship &amp; Live Stream (Sunday School during Worship Service)<br/>11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall)<br/><b>11:15 AM Annual Congregational Meeting</b><br/>2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall)<br/>6:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Outpost)</p>  | <p><b>3</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 &amp; Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)</p>  | <p><b>4</b></p> <p>7:30 AM - 10:30 AM 2nd Harvest Food Bank Distribution (Kurtz Hall)<br/>10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)</p>   | <p><b>5</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)<br/>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Tech Study (Kurtz Hall)<br/>6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary)<br/>7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)</p>  | <p><b>6</b></p> <p>10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ACP Chapel (Preschool)<br/>7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)</p>  | <p><b>7</b></p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Sunny Chinese Learning Center Chapel (Sanctuary)</p>  | <p><b>8</b></p> <p>10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Andy's Dance Group (Kurtz Hall)</p> |
| <p><b>9</b> <b>5th Sunday after Epiphany</b></p> <p>10:00 AM In-Person Worship &amp; Live Stream (Sunday School during Worship Service)<br/>11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall)<br/>11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Confirmation Class (Youth Outpost)<br/>2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall)<br/>6:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Outpost)</p>  | <p><b>10</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 &amp; Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)</p> | <p><b>11</b></p> <p>10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)<br/>11:30 AM Witness Meeting (Kurtz Hall)</p>   | <p><b>12</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)<br/>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Tech Study (Kurtz Hall)<br/>6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary)<br/>7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)</p> | <p><b>13</b></p> <p>10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ACP Chapel (Preschool)<br/>7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)</p> | <p><b>14</b></p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Sunny Chinese Learning Center Chapel (Sanctuary)</p> | <p><b>15</b></p> <p>9:00 AM St. Luke Work Day</p>                         |
| <p><b>16</b> <b>6th Sunday after Epiphany</b></p> <p>10:00 AM In-Person Worship &amp; Live Stream (Sunday School during Worship Service)<br/>11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall)<br/>11:15 AM Adult Forum<br/>11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Confirmation Class (Youth Outpost)<br/>2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall)<br/>6:00 PM Youth Group (Kurtz Hall &amp; Youth Outpost)</p> | <p><b>17</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 &amp; Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)</p> | <p><b>18</b></p> <p>7:30 AM - 10:30 AM 2nd Harvest Food Bank Distribution (Kurtz Hall)<br/>10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)<br/>7:00 PM Council Meeting (Kurtz Hall)</p> | <p><b>19</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)<br/>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Tech Study (Kurtz Hall)<br/>6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary)<br/>7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)</p> | <p><b>20</b></p> <p>10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ACP Chapel (Preschool)<br/>7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)</p> | <p><b>21</b></p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Sunny Chinese Learning Center Chapel (Sanctuary)</p> | <p><b>22</b></p>  |
| <p><b>23</b> <b>7th Sunday after Epiphany</b></p> <p>10:00 AM In-Person Worship &amp; Live Stream (Sunday School during Worship Service)<br/>11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall)<br/>11:15 AM Adult Forum<br/>11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Confirmation Class (Youth Outpost)<br/>2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall)<br/>6:00 PM Youth Group (Kurtz Hall &amp; Youth Outpost)</p> | <p><b>24</b></p> <p>7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 &amp; Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)</p> | <p><b>25</b></p> <p>10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)</p>   | <p><b>26</b></p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)<br/>12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Pastor's Tech Study (Kurtz Hall)<br/>6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary)<br/>7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)</p> | <p><b>27</b></p> <p>10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ACP Chapel (Preschool)<br/>7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)</p> | <p><b>28</b></p> <p>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Sunny Chinese Learning Center Chapel (Sanctuary)</p> |   |



# February 2025 Calendar of Worship Volunteers

If you are unable to serve any of the positions below, please get a substitute and notify Letty by 12 PM on the Wednesday prior to your date of service at (408) 736-9216 of the change. Thank you!

| <u>Readings</u>  | <u>Acolytes &amp; Crucifier</u> | <u>Assisting Min/Cantor</u> | <u>Eucharist</u>             | <u>Lectors</u> | <u>Altar Guild</u>                       |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|--|
| <b>February 2, 2025 - Presentation of Our Lord</b>                                 |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| <b>Children's Message: Pastor Dan Tisdell</b>                                      |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| Mal 3:1-4<br>Psalm 84<br>Heb. 2:14-18<br>Luke 2:22-40                              | TBD<br>TBD                      | Sue Hutchins<br>Setting III | Kirk Autsen<br>Danae Moreno  | Mark Shroyer   | Shirley Loo<br>Denise Tsang<br>Tim Tsang |
| <b>February 9, 2025 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany</b>                                |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| <b>Children's Message: Kirk Autsen</b>   |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| Isa. 6:1-13<br>Psalm 138<br>1 Cor. 15:1-11<br>Luke 5:1-11                          | TBD<br>TBD                      | Roy Tuason<br>Setting IV    | Sue Hutchins<br>Denise Tsang | Grant Hannon   | Shirley Loo<br>Denise Tsang<br>Tim Tsang |
| <b>February 16, 2025 - 6th Sunday of Epiphany</b>                                  |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| <b>Children's Message: Grant Hannon</b>  |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| Jer. 17:5-10<br>Psalm 1<br>1 Cor. 15:12-20<br>Luke 6:17-26                         | TBD<br>TBD                      | Kirk Autsen<br>Setting IV   | Laura Rubio<br>Danae Moreno  | Mark Kent      | Shirley Loo<br>Denise Tsang<br>Tim Tsang |
| <b>February 23, 2025 - 7th Sunday of Epiphany</b>                                  |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| <b>Children's Message: Andy Wadsworth</b>  |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| Gen. 45:3-11, 15<br>Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40<br>1 Cor. 15:35-38, 42-50<br>Luke 6:27-38 | TBD<br>TBD                      | Wil Mandac<br>Setting IV    | Tim Tsang<br>Denise Tsang    | Oliver Smith   | Shirley Loo<br>Denise Tsang<br>Tim Tsang |
| <b>March 2, 2025 - Transfiguration of Our Lord</b>                                 |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| <b>Children's Message: Pastor Dan Tisdell</b>                                      |                                 |                             |                              |                |  |
| Exod. 34:29-35<br>Psalm 99<br>2 Cor. 3:12--4:2<br>Luke 9:28-43a                    | TBD<br>TBD                      | Chris Frye<br>Setting IV    | Kirk Autsen<br>Danae Moreno  | Tim Tsang      | Shirley Loo<br>Denise Tsang<br>Tim Tsang |

## FEBRUARY GREETERS - FRONT DOOR

February 02 - Doug & Doriann Shreve  
February 09 - Joyce Masterson  
February 16 - Doug & Doriann Shreve  
February 23 - Joyce Masterson

## FEBRUARY GREETERS - SIDE DOOR

February 02 - Don & Loretta Merry  
February 09 - TBD  
February 16 - Don & Loretta Merry  
February 23 - TBD

## Donate Hygiene Items



### For sleeping and cleanliness:

Backpacks, sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, sheets, towels, washcloths, soap, toothpaste and tooth brushes, deodorant, shampoo, disposable razors and shaving cream, band-aids, lotion, laundry pods.

**For ladies:** Feminine products, makeup, lipstick, hairclips.

**Clothing:** For men, women and children - clothing, hats scarves, gloves, underwear. The greatest need is for men's clothing.

**Shoes & Socks:** For all sizes but especially larger men's shoes.

**Water Bottles:** Reusable and 8 oz disposable

— **The Witness Team**



## PERSONAL CARE CAFE SERVES THE HOMELESS - HOW YOU CAN HELP IN THIS SEASON

St Luke families have been very generous, donating many useful and essential items to the Personal Care Cafe sponsored by Hope Lutheran, Santa Clara and supported by other Lutheran congregations. The need continues...

Items needed include anything you might need on a camping trip without a store nearby.

# *St. Luke Lutheran Church*

1025 The Dalles Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087  
(408) 736-9216  
[www.stlukechurch.org](http://www.stlukechurch.org)

## **Worship Times**

**Sunday Worship Service** \* (In-person and streaming)

10:00 AM

**\*Sunday School \***

**(during Worship Service)**

**Fellowship after worship**

11:15 AM

**Confirmation Class**

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**Youth Group**

6:00 PM

# To:

