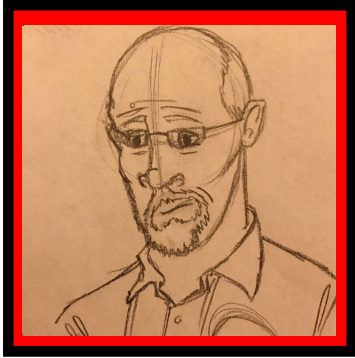


St. Luke Lutheran Church

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Issue 3/24

March 2024



Dan Tisdell

Pastor

Thoughts From Your Pastor . . .

"The Wheel of Time turns, and Ages come and pass, leaving memories that become legend. Legend fades to myth, and even myth is long forgotten when the Age that gave it birth comes again. In one Age, called the Third Age by some, an Age yet to come, an Age long past, a wind rose in the Mountains of Mist. The wind was not the beginning. There are neither beginnings nor endings to the turning of the Wheel of Time. But it was a beginning." – From "The Eye of the World" by Robert Jordan

There is a book series called "The Wheel of Time" which was written by the author Robert Jordan. It is a fantasy series of fourteen very lengthy books. Robert Jordan passed away after writing the 11th book and eventually another author took on the task of completing the series, with the permission of the estate of Mr. Jordan.

Part of the overriding concept of the series is that seasons come and seasons go and humans are only on the earth for a miniscule period of time relative to the rest of creation. Rocks and trees and oceans and mountain ranges last much longer. Collective memories shared among communities last much longer than humans too. In

the books, there is always the implication that sometime in the past, the same, or similar struggles happened, and we just don't remember them.

I had a conversation on Ash Wednesday about how some bad theology gets recycled too. As in, human beings have a bad habit of thinking about God in ways that aren't helpful. And we often have trouble breaking free of that type of thinking, even over centuries. One of these is called the "Theology of Glory" and basically says that if you pray enough, give enough to your church, and don't break any moral laws, then everything will be great for you. The inverse idea also happens with this faulty theology...if you are sick, or poor, God must be cursing you.

Let me state right now that this is not what we believe. Bad things happen to good people, and it is unfortunate. But God walks with us through all of it. That sort of thinking has had a resurgence in the last fifty years or so, but it also existed at the time of Christ, and you can find examples of it in scripture. Some of it I call "chosen people" language, and it is particularly destructive in today's world. It enables a "we are right so everyone else is wrong" mentality that isn't healthy for any community and it is what has been happening in Israel and Palestine.

This is why I love the book of Ecclesiastes so much. The most famous passage can be hard to read and accept sometimes:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

³For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ²a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; ³a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break

down, and a time to build up; ⁴a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; ⁵a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; ⁷a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; ⁸a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. ⁹What gain have the workers from their toil? ¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.

I don't WANT there to be a time to die, a time to mourn, or a time for war. Yet, our lives are temporary, we will eventually pass away, we will mourn the losses of friends and family, and unfortunately human beings can't seem to stop making war against each other.

During Lent, we have two directions we can go with this information. We can get depressed and withdraw into ourselves or we can embrace that we are only here for a short while and we should make the most of the time that we have. We can love each other to a ridiculous level. And while it is unlikely we will be remembered as anything but a footnote a thousand years from now, if we recognize that the wheel will keep turning and life will go on, then, especially during Lent, we can think about our own impact on the world and on each other as individuals. I believe that we can change the world, but we always assume it would take huge efforts to do that. Really, I think it's the little steps that matter, that really last and

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Thoughts From Your Pastor . . .

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are spread throughout the ages to come, long after we are forgotten.

So, during Lent, maybe it's a good idea to think about how we impact others. As I write this, I am reminded of a great line from an amazing movie called "The Dead Poets Society" and in it, Robin Williams plays a teacher who inspires his students to change the world. At one pivotal point he quotes Walt Whitman. And then the character played by Williams answers the question posed by Whitman.

"To quote from Whitman, "O me! O life!... of the questions of these recurring; of the endless trains of the faithless... of cities filled with the foolish; what good amid these, O me, O life?"

Answer. That you are here - that life exists, and identity; that the powerful play goes on and you may contribute a verse."

The powerful play of the kingdom of God goes on and on, much like the "Wheel of Time" turns on and on, and one day will go on without our physical presence...and we are here to contribute a verse. So, the question in Lent might be...what will your verse be?

Mike Colligan
Council
President



Letter from your Council President

Matthew 17:20-21 – "For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."

I wanted to spend some time this month thinking about our Amazing

Creations Preschool (ACP). As many of you know, we had set aside February and March as a time to focus on the future of ACP. There have been so many other projects and initiatives going on this past year that ACP almost got lost in the shuffle. But things had to be done in a certain order to get to where we are now. As of this writing, we expect the Mitchell Education Building (MEB) remodeling project to be completed on March 1. This will be the culmination of years of planning and discussion with Artik (our architect), Swenson (our builder), Cupertino Co-op Nursery School (CCNS, our first tenant), the MEB Task Force, and many others.

With the completion of construction and a lease agreement with CCNS, our attention turned to the need to lock in our second MEB tenant. While relaunching ACP was always a consideration, it had remained as one of two options. The other option would be to search for another third-party preschool to lease at least 2 of the 3 remaining rooms. Whether we decide to go with ACP or a third-party, we know that we need to have the additional rental income to pay for the \$1,200,000 construction loan from Mission Investment Fund (MIF). Our loan payments will be about \$8,200 per month. CCNS rent will begin at \$4,200 per month and increase over time. That leaves \$4,000 per month that we need to cover with rent from a second tenant. It's a very reasonable amount to expect. And I'm confident that given enough time, we would eventually find a third-party preschool for this purpose. But rent and income are only part of the picture. Let's talk about the most important reason for

doing the whole MEB remodel in the first place.

The Mitchell Education Building is a youth ministry. It always has been, and it always will be. While rental income is nice to have, it is not St. Luke's mission to be a landlord. If that is what we wanted to do, we could just subdivide the property and lease condos. Our mission is to bring the good news to our community, to take a stand for Jesus Christ through our words, our actions, and in the way we conduct our lives. There are several preschool options in our area. But not all of them provide the option of chapel time and religious instruction. In fact, publicly funded preschools cannot directly support any religious affiliation. Therefore, we believe the community needs this option. We have the facility. We have the calling. All we need is the support of our members.

The Executive Committee spent an enormous amount of time and energy putting together a business plan for ACP that shows how much seed money it would take to relaunch ACP in the 2024 fall semester. Some of the costs are related to playground redevelopment, some are for capital improvements in the classrooms, and there is initial salary funding for the preschool director. It is important to get a director on board as soon as possible to plan the curriculum, to hire teachers, and to begin marketing the school. MIF had carefully considered our ACP business plan and found it to be sound. This was not the case with other third-party preschool tenants that we considered. ACP has an income plan that starts slowly and

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The Church Calendar - March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:00 PM Joint Youth Event w/Immanuel Lutheran	2 9:00 AM - 12 PM Special Work Day - ACP Play Yard (weather permitting)
3 3rd Sunday in Lent 10:00 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream (Children's Sunday School during Worship) 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz) 11:30 AM Confirmation 2:00 PM Round Dancing (K.H.) 6:00 PM Youth Group	4 7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 & Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)	5 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM 2nd Harvest Food Bank Distribution (Kurtz Hall) 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)	6 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom) 6:00 PM Lenten Soup Supper 6:45 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM Choir Practice	7 7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)	8	9 10:00 AM - 12 PM Synod Conference Meeting (Sanctuary, Kurtz Hall & Youth Outpost)
10 4th Sunday in Lent 10:00 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream (Children's Sunday School during Worship) 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz) 11:15 AM Youth Fundraiser - Bake Sale 11:30 AM Confirmation 2:00 PM Round Dancing (K.H.) 6:00 PM Youth Group	11 7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 & Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)	12 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office) 11:30 AM Witness Meeting (Kurtz Hall)	13 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom) 6:00 PM Lenten Soup Supper 6:45 PM Lenten Service 7:30 PM Choir Practice	14 12 PM Executive Committee Lunch Meeting (Kurtz Hall) 7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)	15	16 10:00 AM Elder's Meeting (Kurtz Hall)
17 5th Sunday in Lent 10:00 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream (Children's Sunday School during Worship) 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz) 11:15 AM Build-A-Butterfly (Kurtz Hall) 11:30 AM Confirmation 6:00 PM Youth Group (Kurtz Hall & Youth Outpost)	18 7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 & Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)	19 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM 2nd Harvest Food Bank Distribution (Kurtz Hall) 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office) 7:00 PM Council Meeting (Kurtz Hall)	20 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom) 6:00 PM Lenten Soup Supper (Kurtz Hall) 6:45 PM Lenten Service (Kurtz Hall) 7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	21 7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)	22	23
24 Passion/Palm Sunday 10:00 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream (Children's Sunday School during Worship) 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz) 11:15 AM Build-A-Butterfly 6:00 PM Youth Group	25 7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 & Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)	26 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)	27 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom) 7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	28 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	29 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	30 4:00 PM Easter Vigil (Decorating the Sanctuary & Campus)
31 8:45 AM Easter Breakfast (K.H.) 10:00 AM In-Person Easter Worship & Live Stream (Children's Sunday School during Worship) 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz) 11:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt (Lawn Area)			SCLC CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION 			

February 2024 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 & Crucifier</u>	<u>Assisting Min/Cantor</u>	<u>Eucharist</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>
March 3, 2024 - 3rd Sunday in Lent					
Children's Message: Grace Alexandrou					
Exod. 20:1-17 Psalm 19 1 Cor. 1:18-25 John 2:13-22	TBD TBD	Chris Frye Setting IV	Lisa Pierce Denise Tsang	Grant Hannon	Wendy Callahan
March 10, 2024 - 4th Sunday in Lent					
Children's Message: Grace Alexandrou					
Num. 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Eph. 2:1-10 John 3:14-21	TBD TBD	Linda Baginski Setting III	Laura Rubio Danae Moreno	Oliver Smith Jacob Su	Georgine Acly Bee Robles
March 17, 2024 - 5th Sunday in Lent					
Children's Message: Grace Alexandrou					
Jer. 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 Heb. 5:5-10 John 12:20-33	TBD TBD	Tim Tsang Setting III	Lisa Pierce Denise Tsang	Kathleen Peters Ryan Peters	Roy & Theresa Tuason
March 24, 2024 - Passion/Palm Sunday					
Children's Message: Grace Alexandrou					
Isa. 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Phil. 2:5-11 Mark 15:1-47	TBD TBD	Walt Wilser Setting IV	Tim Tsang Denise Tsang	Mark Kent Danae Moreno	Shirley Loo
March 31, 2024 - Easter Sunday					
Children's Message: Grace Alexandrou					
Isa. 25:6-9 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Acts 10:34-43 John 20:1-18	TBD TBD	Sue Hutchins Setting III	Lisa Pierce Sue Hutchins	Tim Tsang Jordan Mandac	Shirley Loo
April 7, 2024 - 2nd Sunday of Easter					
Children's Message: Grace Alexandrou					
Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1--2:2 John 20:19-31	TBD TBD	Chris Frye Setting X	Tim Tsang Denise Tsang	Oliver Smith Jacob Su	Wendy Callahan

MARCH GREETERS - FRONT DOOR

Mar. 03 - Doug & Doriann Shreve
Mar. 10 - Joyce Masterson
Mar. 17 - Doug & Doriann Shreve
Mar. 24 - Joyce Masterson
Mar. 31 - Doug & Doriann Shreve

MARCH GREETERS - SIDE DOOR

Mar. 03 - Don & Loretta Merry
Mar. 10 - TBD
Mar. 17 - Don & Loretta Merry
Mar. 24 - TBD
Mar. 31 - Don & Loretta Merry

SCLC CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



builds over time as enrollment grows. We expect that over the first 3 years ACP enrollment will grow to the point that we not only service the MIF loan but produce positive income.

What is it going to take for ACP to be a success? First, we need about \$300,000 of seed money to cover our relaunch costs. The first \$86,000 was obtained with a disbursement from the Endowment Fund. We are asking members to prayerfully consider pledging amounts above and beyond their normal giving to help us reach this goal. Second, we need the time and talent of members to help us in a variety of ways. There will be several tasks to get the ACP facility up and running inside and out. If you have something you can contribute to, please contact a member of council, and let us know. Finally, we need your prayers. We can do all things through Christ which strengthens us! God bless you!

Mike



Grant Hannon
Youth Director
Youth News

Hi Everyone,

I hope you all had a great time at the fundraiser! Doing the Italian Dinner was so much fun and it was great to see all the youth working together. I hope you all enjoyed the food and thank you all so much for all the donations.

Our next fundraiser will be in late March & I hope you all will attend that event as well.

As for what is going on in the life of the youth, We are doing a joint event with Immanuel Lutheran Church in Los Altos as they are traveling with us to New Orleans. It will be great fun to go do escape rooms and spend time with them.

We are also approaching Easter and Build-A-Butterfly is back for another year! We will have tables out the two Sundays leading up to Easter for you all to make butterfly crafts that will help fill the sanctuary with so much joy and life during Easter.

Thank you all so much for continuing to support and nurture the lives of the youth here at St. Luke.

—
Grant Hannon
Youth Director
719-761-1799

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



Frank & Marlene Custer: 39 yrs. -
March 30, 1985

Miguel & Joanna Villa: 15 yrs. -
March 30, 2009

Markus Martianto & Marlene Pool-Martianto: 5 yrs. -
March 17, 2019



Mar. 07 - Lauren West
Mar. 07 - Hal Shieh
Mar. 08 - Grant Hannon
Mar. 10 - Linnea Shieh
Mar. 10 - Grace Alexandrou
Mar. 10 - Julious Villa
Mar. 07 - Chuck Wilkening
Mar. 11 - Harrison Manullang
Mar. 14 - Lorrie Peterson
Mar. 14 - Jackson Clarno
Mar. 14 - Markus Martianto

Mar. 17 - Janelle Pang
Mar. 22 - Maggie Cogdill
Mar. 22 - Cordelia Shieh
Mar. 23 - Nadine Carlllton
Mar. 25 - Nicole Colligan
Mar. 27 - Laura Dhanaraj
Mar. 28 - Joyce Masterson

Grace Alexandrou
Children's
Ministry
Director



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Dear St. Luke,

Happy March! Spring is almost here, and I can hear the birds singing in the trees.

As the new season approaches, I like to keep Matthew 6:25-26 in mind. "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

It's so easy to fall into a mindset of worry when things don't seem to be going your way. My friends, keep hope alive in your heart, have faith and trust that God will provide your every need.

We have an upcoming event for the children in Sunday school that will be sponsored by The Women of St. Luke. We will be going to golf land and connecting more with the families that attend. Easter is March 31st this year and we will be hosting our annual Egg Hunt after church. Tell your friends and families who have children who may want to attend. All are welcome.

Blessing!
Grace

ASHES TO GO - ASH WEDNESDAY - 2-14-2024



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - 2/14/2024



LENTEN SOUP SUPPER/SERVICE - 2-21-2024



ITALIAN DINNER - YOUTH FUNDRAISER - 2-25-2024



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



ITALIAN DINNER - YOUTH

FUNDRAISER

- 2-25-2024



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

Worship Times

Sunday Worship Service * (In-person and streaming)

10:00 AM

***Sunday School ***

(during Worship Service)

Fellowship after worship

11:00AM

Confirmation Class

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Youth Group

6:00 PM

To:



