



July 2017

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH The PULSEBEAT

Dear faithful First family and friends,

As I write this article, I'm preparing for a final meeting with the Transition Team as they meet with the Council and the newly elected Call Committee members to review the final version of the Ministry Site Profile (MSP), which is the fundamental document for our time of transition. In fact, through your efforts of taking surveys, participating in the focused conversation small groups, and meeting with me in the one-on-ones, you played a key part in helping the Transition Team create this document. So, Thanks to each of you for helping in this important task. Now, this document will be sent to our Synodical Bishop Andrew "Andy" Taylor for final approval, and after receiving his approval, we move into the final phase of our transition time here at First Lutheran Church in San Diego.

The MSP becomes our testimony for who we are as a congregation; this document will be read and reviewed by candidates seeking and discerning the call to become our next pastor. The journey has taken us through some difficult emotions of grief and sadness and loss, but also with a heightened expectation of joy and wonder about what God has in store for us. And now, we enter this final stage.

I would like to publicly commend the Transition Team, those nine individuals who met weekly to engage in this crucial work. Even amidst the sudden death of Pastor Larry Koger in December, the Transition Team made sure to continue their work and the task of hearing from each of you about your needs and desires and hopes and dreams for our congregation. And so **Thanks** to the Transition Team members: **Chuck Leib (the chair), Allison Emery, Lee Kaercher, Dan Kjonggaard, Dick Krueger, Melinda Person, David Pohl, Shaun Travers, and Robin Withers.** Soon we will release these persons from their duties and responsibilities as members of the Transition Team. But again, *Many Thanks* are due to these nine people for working diligently on your behalf. **Great job, Transition Team!**

On July 9, I will install the members of the Call Committee and I wanted to take this opportunity to *Thank* the following nine individuals, who have been elected to serve on this Committee. **Paul Engel, Lori Gremel, Mary Ann Horton, Patricia Lindquist, Nance Lovell, Richard Phillips, Ladonna Piper, David Pohl (representing the Transition Team), and Carol Schultz (representing the Council).** I would ask each of you to hold these nine people in prayer during their work.

It is indeed an exciting time here at First Lutheran Church. And, as always, I am blessed to be among you.

Peace and Joy,
Pastor Darryl



Monastic |deals for the |deal Life

A Weekend Retreat led by Pastor Darryl and Beth Allen Slevcove

Have you ever wondered how monks "get away from it all" and live apart from the world? Have you ever thought about deepening your spiritual life with this 1500-year-old tradition? Then you're invited to join Pastor Darryl and Beth Slevcove as they lead a weekend retreat on exploring, discussing, and incorporating monastic practices and disciplines in our secular life.



The retreat will be held at the Old Mission San Luis Rey, Friday-Sunday, October 13-15. The cost is \$225.00 per person, double occupancy or \$275 per person, single occupancy, which includes all meals. The retreat is limited to 20 people. **Deadline to register is August 20.** For more information, please speak with Pastor Darryl or email him at pastordarryl@firstlutheransd.org.



Council Update: "Don't Push the River"

by Carol J. Schultz, Council Secretary

Perhaps you didn't know that Council meetings begin with a devotion chosen and presented by a Council member or the pastor. Our June devotion was a meditation written by Fr. Richard Rohr, founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Titled "Don't Push the River," it addresses trust and describes a keystone of the Council's approach to our work. In part, this meditation reads:

"I believe that faith might be the ability to trust the river, to trust the flow and [God] the Lover...Faith does not need to push the river precisely because it is able to trust that *there is a river*. The river is flowing; we are in it. The river is God's providential love—so do not be afraid...To stay in God's holding means that I have to let go of myself, at least to some degree. I have to be able to hold a certain degree of uncertainty, ambiguity, and tension. Paradoxically, this leads to a much calmer and more content way of 'being in control!' All the frenzy and fear disappear."

2017 Council Officers:

President: Kathryn Kanaan
 Vice President: Dan Kjongegaard
 Treasurer: Kem Taylor
 Secretary: Carol Schultz

Council Members:

Mark Deffner, Joe DeMers, Anke Hartung, Sylvia Herman, Dick Krueger, Carol McGrath, Aaron Robinson, and Robin Withers.

With that meditation as a foundation, Council business included the following key items.

1. **Call Committee.** The most significant action the Council took was selecting members of the Call Committee that will continue the task of finding our next pastor. As you recall, the Transition Team is the first of two groups engaged in this task; the Call Committee is the second. The Transition Team just completed drafting First Lutheran's Ministry Site Profile, which will go to the Synod. With this information, the Synod will identify pastoral candidates for the Call Committee's consideration. After reviewing applications for the Call Committee, the Council used a written ballot to select Paul Engel, Lori Gremel, Mary Ann Horton, Patricia Lindquist, Nance Lovell, Richard Phillips, Ladonna Piper, David Pohl (Transition Team liaison), and Carol Schultz (Council liaison). The Council is grateful to everyone who submitted an application to serve on the Call Committee!
2. **Budget and finances.** The Council continues to monitor income and expenditures closely to maintain a balanced budget. For example, we agreed to spend general revenue to repair the broken stained glass window now and to defer tree trimming on the premises until next year. In addition, donated funds will pay to replace the burned-out exterior lights with long-lasting LED lights.
3. **Website.** After reviewing three proposals, the Council chose White Wonder Studios to create a WordPress website to replace the current HTML-based website. Key factors in making this selection were affordability, expertise, and consultant's responsiveness. A WordPress format is much easier to update than HTML and, with a modest amount of training, the Office Administrator will be able to keep the new website current.
4. **Nursery attendants.** Several months ago, both of First Lutheran's nursery attendants resigned. Since then, the congregation has relied on Panda's Agency, a placement service, for two nursery attendants, which costs significantly more than budgeted. The Council has advertised these positions widely without success. Balancing the need for a nursery with the need to manage costs, the Council approved hiring one nursery attendant from Panda's and requesting congregation members to fill the other position on a rotating basis starting August 1.

As Council members, we appreciate the trust you have placed in us and we welcome your questions and comments on matters that you care about.

God's Peace to you all,
 Your 2017 Council



Welcome New Members!

June 25 was an exiting day at First Lutheran: we had two baptisms and welcomed 5 new members!



Dan & Audrey Altenburg are both originally from Wisconsin. Audrey works in Data Warehouse Management and her hobbies include triathlons. Dan is in sales, and he enjoys woodworking. Their 8-month-old son, **Hudson**, was baptized here at First on June 18 (right, with sponsors *Clint & Denae Steeves*). Their congregational sponsors are Joe & Beth Slevcove.



Loren Harrell is a familiar face around First Lutheran. He has been one of TACO's guests, and then a volunteer—you can see him hard at work washing dishes every Monday and Friday. In October, he was hired to be First's Janitor, and you can see what a terrific job he's doing! Loren is a native San Diegan who loves reading in his free time. His congregational sponsors are Dick & Mary Krueger.



Desiree Kuster is also a San Diego native. She is also a new Christian. She enjoys nature walks and going to movies. She was baptized at the 9:00 service, joined by friends including her "godsister" and baptismal sponsor, Yvonne Jackson. Her congregational sponsors are Sylvia Herman and Kem Taylor.



Dawn Moats is our third San Diego native. Her hobbies include reading, music, drawing, and walking. She is very thankful to join her new church family here at First. Her baptismal sponsor is Kathryn Kanaan, who is also her congregational sponsor.

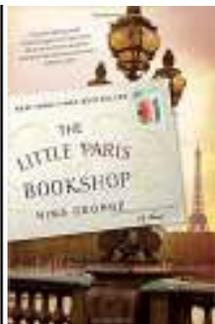
And on May 14, **Adeline Baker** was baptized. Here she is being held by her sponsor and godmother, Julie Moore Rode. Her parents, **Anna & Brandon Baker**, and older brother **Harrison** were unable to join at this time due to other commitments, but they will hopefully be joining soon!



Please help us to make all of our new members feel welcome!



Book Group Notes



Can't fit in a trip to France this summer? Well, settle into your armchair (or beach chair) and enjoy our July selection, *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George. Monsieur Perdu runs a floating bookstore in a barge on the Seine River. Perdu has an intuitive feel

for the exact book a reader needs. He mends broken hearts and souls, but the only person he can't seem to heal is himself. Filled with warmth and adventure, *The Little Paris Bookshop* is a love letter to books---books that can take the human soul on a journey to heal itself.

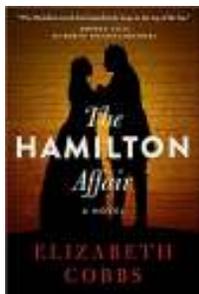
Join us for lively discussion and warm fellowship on Thursday, July 20, 7:00PM at the Community Room of Susan White's condo in Banker's Hill.

Hosted by Sylvia Herman & Mary Krueger.

Looking ahead: Our August selection is *The Hamilton Affair* by Elizabeth Cobbs. It's a longer one, so you may want to get started early.

Also, in August we will be choosing titles for the rest of the year and 2018.

Please be thinking about suggestions.



Collecting Bottle Caps for Luther Glen!



Want to support camp in a unique way? Luther Glen is collecting bottle caps for recycling and sustainable education around the farm! The goal is to collect enough bottles caps to create outdoor classrooms. With the visual of bottle caps, we want to teach children about what goes into our landfills. Any and all caps that secure the tops of bottles can be used (water bottles, Gatorade, milk cartons, juice, etc.). Save your bottle caps and send them to Luther Glen!

Jan Neuhaus will be First Lutheran's contact person for this effort. You can contact her at 619-922-6888 or mjneuhhaus52@gmail.com.

San Diego Pride Parade

Saturday, July 15 @11AM

There's still time to sign up if you would like to march! Just add your name and contact information to the sign-up sheet on the kiosk, or you may let Joe DeMers know that you are interested. Also, there will be t-shirts available for \$15—even if you aren't marching, you can show off your First Lutheran pride! To order a shirt, just contact Joe. You can reach him at jdemers620@gmail.com or 619-829-3323.

Landscaping Group

**July 8
9-10:30AM**

If you're willing to get your hands dirty and help make the outside of the church a more welcoming place, please come and help out. Bring some gardening gloves and whatever tools you have, and help beautify the church!



New Martin Luther Movie Screening in San Diego

Email from St. Peter's by the Sea

We are reaching out in regards to a screening that St. Peter's by the Sea is organizing for the new film, *Martin Luther: The Idea That Changed the World*, on AUGUST 14TH in SAN DIEGO at the READING CINEMAS TOWN SQUARE 14 (4665 Clairemont Drive, 92117) at 7:30PM.

The film tells the rousing adventure story that was Martin Luther's life, following his bold quest for truth—a journey that would reshape the church, and the world.

Here is the trailer for the film: <https://vimeo.com/154364811>

We think that the members of your church would be interested in this film, and are hoping that you could share this event with your community. Unlike traditional movie showings, this screening will only happen if 100 tickets are reserved before the deadline on AUGUST 7TH.

You can see more information about the event as well as purchase tickets to the screening through the Event Page: <http://luthermovie.link/sea>

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at St. Peter's by the Sea Lutheran Church at 619-224-2894 or email office@stpetersbythesea.org



Traditions at First Lutheran

As First prepares to tackle the next step in discovering our new pastor, I would like to take a moment of your time to ask you to think on two traditions of our church family. While the call committee is busy finding the pastor God plans for us, we are also called to continue to strengthen the bonds we share at First Lutheran as a congregation, friends, and ultimately family.

One such tradition is our annual Christmas party. I know it is just under six months away, but this is also a very large commitment of time, energy, and emotions. I feel as though the whole congregation attended and brought friends. These Christmas parties have been joyous and memorable events celebrating the birth of our savior and also the love of our congregation. It is a tradition that many in our congregation have missed these past two years. Though we cannot resurrect the parties of years gone past, we can make new memories and find new ways to celebrate the holiday together. Please consider if you would like to host, co-host, assist, or in any way help shape the future Christmas traditions of our congregation.

Another tradition that is precisely twice as near is our Congregation's annual picnic in September. We have traditionally gone to Golden Hill Park with half the congregation bringing desserts and the other half a healthier selection of sides; the grill masters prepare a feast of hamburgers and hot dogs, of both the traditional and vegan variety. There have always been a few activities for the child in us all, and the actual children of the congregation. These events do not happen by themselves, naturally, and so while everyone loves to chip in, we do require a few leaders to take charge and organize the rest of us. That leader could be you.

As you think about these two traditions at First, what memories come to your mind? How do you picture them in the future? How do you see yourself taking part? Where do you see yourself contributing?

If you are willing to assist in shaping these traditions for the future, please contact a council member or the church office.

—Aaron Robinson, Church Council Member

Lutheran Night at Dodger Stadium

Saturday August 12 vs. the Padres @6:10PM

Join family and friends for a fundraising event at Dodger Stadium to benefit Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Southern California! A donation to LSS is included in the price of each ticket. Lutheran Social Services of Southern California has a legacy of meeting the needs of the poor, underserved and powerless regardless of race, creed, or orientation since 1946, uniting with individuals, churches, businesses, civic leaders, government agencies, and other stakeholders for one goal; breaking the cycle of poverty one family at a time.

The seats for Lutheran Night are in the Preferred Reserve section at \$28.00 per ticket and in the Infield Reserve section at \$32.00 per ticket (both on the third base line). If we get a group of 20 or more, there will be a significant discount in fees. Groups of 20 or more also enjoy additional special benefits, including a welcome greeting on the message board and preferred seating options. Purchases of 40, 60, or 80 tickets receive additional incentives that may include a free bus parking pass or free tickets.

The first 40,000 fans in attendance will receive a Great Dodger Moments Coin #6 - Sandy Koufax Perfect Game.

If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office.

July Birthdays

1: Timothy Rupe	9: Connor Fekas	16: Kristine Krueger	26: Ethel Falk
1: Nancy Eckert	11: Dennis Arenas	17: Peggy Quintana	27: Melinda Person
2: Marty Topp	13: Elizabeth Moss	20: Nicole Wilcox	30: Jason McKay
4: Audrey Altenburg	14: Franz Engel	26: Allena Slevcove	30: Niyana Wilcox
6: John Pew	16: Linda Bright	26: Felice Wilcox	



First Lutheran Worship Assistants – July & August

ALTAR GUILD		USHERS	
JULY	AUGUST	JULY	AUGUST
9:00 a.m. Service <i>Peggy Quintana</i>	9:00 a.m. Service <i>Carol McGrath</i>	9:00 a.m. Service <i>Tony and Peggy Quintana</i>	9:00 a.m. Service <i>Pat Hendrickson & Merv Rettenmund</i>
11:00 a.m. Service <i>Melinda Person</i>	11:00 a.m. Service <i>Ladonna Piper</i>	11:00 a.m. Service <i>Ladonna Piper & Luke Williams</i>	11:00 a.m. Service <i>Ladonna Piper & Robin Withers</i>

Date	Time	Assisting Minister	Lector	Greeters	Refreshments	Flowers
July 2	9:00 11:00	Kathryn Kanaan Paul Finneseth	Sylvia Herman Joe Slevcove	John Hoff Slevcoves		Ladonna Piper
July 9	9:00 11:00	Eric Sloniker Gary Muhlbach	Carol Schultz Luke Williams	Pat Hendrickson Elizabeth Connolly		Pr. George & Ethel Falk
July 16	9:00 11:00	Richard Phillips Luke Williams	Jan Neuhaus Robin Withers	Kem Taylor Ruth Clayton		Renea Aswegan
July 23	9:00 11:00	Jeremy Kaercher Mary Ann Horton	Will Pierce Elizabeth Connolly	Shaun Travers Melinda Person		Pat Hendrickson
July 30	9:00 11:00	Chuck Leib Robin Withers	Pat Hendrickson Nancy Eckert	Chuck Leib & Frank DeLouise _____		
August 6	9:00 11:00	Brian Shuman Gary Muhlbach	Jim Ehlers Joe Slevcove	John Hoff Slevcoves		Martha & Bill Radatz
August 13	9:00 11:00	Richard Phillips Paul Finneseth	Hannah DeMers Martha Radatz	George & Ethel Falk Elizabeth Connolly		



July 2017 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 4TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	3 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY 12 pm AI Anon	5 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon 1:15 Bible Study 5 pm Dental Clinic 6:30 Bible Study	6 12 pm AI Anon	7 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 9 am UCSD Clinic 12 pm AA 7 pm CODA	1 <hr/> 8 9 am Volunteer Landscaping
9 5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	10 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	11 12 pm AI Anon	12 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon 1:15 Bible Study 5 pm Dental Clinic 6:30 Bible Study	13 12 pm AI Anon 1 pm HICAP	14 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 9 am UCSD Clinic 12 pm AA 7 pm CODA	15
16 6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	17 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	18 12 pm AI Anon 6:30 pm Church Council	19 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon 1:15 Bible Study 5 pm Dental Clinic 6:30 Bible Study	20 12 pm AI Anon 1 pm HICAP	21 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 9 am UCSD Clinic 12 pm AA 7 pm CODA	22
23 7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	24 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	25 12 pm AI Anon	26 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon 1:15 Bible Study 5 pm Dental Clinic 6:30 Bible Study	27 12 pm AI Anon 1 pm HICAP	28 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 9 am UCSD Clinic 12 pm AA 7 pm CODA	29
30 8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality 3:00 German Svc	31 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics					

Monday evening clinics include acupuncture, medical, dental, and legal services.

The PULSEBEAT
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 Edited by Hannah DeMers

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First Lutheran Church
 The Rev. Darryl W. Kozak, Intentional Interim Pastor
 Jared Jacobsen, Director of Music
 Hannah DeMers, Church Administrator

First Lutheran Church
 A *Reconciling in Christ* congregation since 1989
 Deadline for next month's Pulsebeat is **the 15th, noon.**

The Pulsebeat
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San Diego, CA 92101-3193

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TACO Corner

Special thanks this month to those of you who helped us with our Same Day fundraisers! To the dozens of volunteers involved in our Homeless Treasures fundraiser at Clairemont Lutheran Church & our Empty Bowls fundraiser at Tierrasanta Lutheran Church. And to the leaders of those events, Martha Radatz & Sandra Taylor respectively. It can be a Herculean effort to make these events happen. We are so grateful. We know so many people and churches are involved in making what we do down at Third & Ash happen. As our Volunteer Coordinator, Brad, often says, "Without our volunteers none of this would be possible."

We do have some outstanding needs: TACO could desperately use socks. We have gone from having close to a thousand pairs to almost none. We are constantly reminded by our guests how much difference a pair of socks can make, and there is such appreciation for a new pair. All of us at TACO hope to see you soon, and appreciate all the kind words and prayers. Check out our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/TACOSDFb/) for updates and photos!

TACO has completed their 7th annual Homeless Treasures Rummage Sale! A huge thank you to Clairemont Lutheran for graciously hosting this event for an entire week! We had a tireless group of devoted volunteers, at least 35+ of you volunteered your time and muscles to raise over \$7500!!! TACO APPRECIATES YOU! TACO gives thanks for the items donated, for the funds raised, for awareness of TACO to the community at large, and for



taking care of our environment by reusing discarded items.



First Lutheran Church - the Heart of Christ in the Heart of the City