



November 2018

# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH The PULSEBEAT

**Dear faithful First family and friends,**

Greetings in the Name of Christ!

If you're like me, you've probably wondered, "Where have the last few months gone?" It seems like it was only a short time ago that summer was here, the months of relative quiet with fewer obligations. And now, November is already upon us! November: the time of the year when our schedules become more complex as we prepare ourselves for the "big holiday seasons" of shopping, cleaning, and cooking. Yet even though it's only November, it's hard to remember that the holiday season hasn't arrived yet. After all, if you've been to a local store lately, you will have noticed that even before Halloween arrived, you could find Thanksgiving *and* Christmas items already available. (And before we know it, Valentine's Day candy will fill the shelves.) It's amazing how one holiday blends into another holiday these days, with barely any separation between them. When does one end and the other start? A few years ago while serving as the interim pastor for First Lutheran Church in Fullerton, I called this extended holiday season "HalloThanksMas." It seems that this has become our reality in society nowadays.

Thankfully, in the Church, we keep these holidays in their proper place. It's not Christmas yet, nor is it even Advent; Thanksgiving is still a few weeks away. And although many in our congregation have been planning and discussing these occasions, you may not know it. We haven't decorated; that will come later. We still see "green" Sundays. Instead, we in the Church live in the present; we'll wait for the holidays to arrive at their proper time.

In the liturgical sense, we are in the "last days" of the Church Year, the days in which we turn our attention to the "last things": the coming of Christ who will reign forever. We will celebrate the Feast of Christ the King (also known as the Reign of Christ) on November 25. So it is only after one time or season in the Church Year ends that we begin another, that is, we—the Church—keep these events in their proper time and place. Or do we?

We may anticipate the end times, we may even celebrate Christ the King, on a certain day, but for us, *Christ reigns now!* That "event," that "celebration," is upon us even as we remain in our present day-to-day living. Christ's reign came corporately 2000 years ago for the Church; for each of us individually, that reign came with our Baptisms when we were brought into God's family through those Spirit-filled waters. When I think about it, maybe Christ's Reign *is* like what we see with Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations intertwined with each other. Maybe we *do* mingle the events and celebrations together after all. Christ as the King—Christ



as the One who is reigning—is upon us. Christ's reign is an event that is here now; and yet it's an event—a reign—that happened before you and I were born; and it is an event that will continue to happen into the future. We don't need to decorate nor put up displays for this; it's here now!

Thanks be to God that that celebratory event—the Reign of Christ—is with us each day! Thanks be to God that we live with the knowledge and confidence that our God reigns—now—as the true Shepherd of our congregation even amidst our ongoing time of transition! Thanks be to God that we share in this amazing event—Christ reigns—forever!

Rejoice, then, that the Lord is King; rejoice, then, that Christ reigns—now and always.

Peace and Joy,

The Rev. Darryl W. Kozak  
Intentional Interim Pastor

## Pastor Darryl's Palm Springs Vocal Group

As many of you know, Pastor Darryl sings with *A Cabbello*, an all-male 15-member vocal group based in Palm Springs. Their next concert is "Buckingham Suite," and features the music of George Frideric Handel, Andrew Lloyd Webber, and the British rock group Queen. The concert is Sunday, November 18 at 4:00pm in the beautiful Annenberg Theatre in downtown Palm Springs. For more information, or to purchase tickets, please visit [www.acabbello.org](http://www.acabbello.org).



## Council Update: Behind the Curtain

by Carol J. Schultz, Council Secretary

It had to happen. I'm sitting in front of my computer searching for an idea to introduce the monthly Council update, and I've got nothing! What I can say is, as Council members, we work together with goodwill and positive energy month after month. In fact, we frequently laugh during meetings. And I've heard not all Councils can make that claim. So, when you're reading these articles describing your Council's actions, you can imagine you're looking "behind the curtain" at lively, good-humored discussions resulting in decisions and follow-up. Not that we all think alike; we don't. But we look for ways to communicate our differences without being confrontational. Personally, I'm grateful for each and every one of my Council colleagues.

So, without further ado, here's a summary of October's meeting, which began with Susan White's reflection about patience and knowing God is with us in difficult times.

**Finances and Stewardship.** The Council reviewed a nine-month summary of revenues and expenditures in preparation for drafting the 2019 budget. Based on end of September numbers, the Finance Committee projects net income at the end of 2018 will be 79% of the amount budgeted, which means ending the year with a deficit that will be met by spending savings. A month-long stewardship program launched on Sunday, Oct. 14, with Pr. Dave Nagler, Christ Lutheran, preaching and First Lutheran members Margie Wahlsten and Beth and Joe Slevcove sharing their personal experiences as members. Pledges collected during the stewardship program will provide an important basis for projecting revenues in 2019.

**Council size.** First Lutheran's bylaws allow the Council to determine its size between nine and thirteen members. The Council decided to reduce its size from ten to nine members in 2019. Because Council members have three-year terms, one-third (i.e., three) of the seats will become vacant each year. Council members may serve two consecutive terms, and the incumbents for all three seats becoming vacant at the end of 2018 are eligible and willing to serve another term. They are Anke Hartung, Carol Schultz, and Margie Wahlsten. The election will be held at the annual congregation meeting on Dec. 9, 2018.

**Phone System.** The Council approved a proposal for replacing the 15-year old phone system with a wired VOIP system at a savings of \$1,320 per year.

**TACO Use Agreement.** Council members Dick Krueger and Carol Schultz have been working with Bill Radatz and Jim Friedrich, TACO Board members, to draft a written agreement spelling out TACO's use of space and facilities in First Lutheran's building. TACO has an agreement with the UCSD Medical School, and First Lutheran has agreements with other organization that utilize its space. In addition, First Lutheran's and TACO's insurance broker has recommended a written agreement. Key sections of the agreement include TACO's payments to First Lutheran, use of designated spaces by TACO, and both organizations' respective responsibilities for maintenance and expenses. This topic was informational; both the Council and TACO Board will consider voting on the agreement at their respective meetings in November.

Representing the interests of First Lutheran is a privilege and a responsibility your Council members take seriously. Please share your questions, concerns, or appreciation with any Council member.

God's Peace to you all,  
Your 2018 Council

### 2018 Council Officers:

President: Dick Krueger

Vice President: Frank DeLouise

Treasurer: Kem Taylor

Secretary: Carol Schultz

Financial Secretary: Anke Hartung

### Council Members:

Joe DeMers, Jeremy Kaercher,  
Melinda Person, Marjorie  
Wahlsten, and Susan White.



## Ray Young Memorial

During the 11:00 a.m. worship service on All Saints' Sunday, November 4, we will set aside time to pay our respects and remember our dear friend Ray Young, who died August 29. He only has one surviving family member, who lives in Canada. She is not able to be here, but as a congregation, we wanted to make sure to commend Ray to the eternal love of God's Nearer Presence. And All Saints' Sunday seemed the most appropriate time.



## The Journey Continues

by *Jeremy Kaercher*

On Sunday, October 21, First Lutheran Church celebrated the 130th anniversary of our congregation, honoring to the exact day the first sermon given by the Rev. Edwin Wagner, founding pastor and direct descendant of Martin Luther. Ours is a unique heritage in all of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Pastor Darryl dedicated considerable time in the past year researching if other ELCA churches had such a distinctive lineage to the great reformer of faith. He has found none.

In this season of our stewardship, we have also celebrated the ministry that takes place today at First Lutheran. We have heard congregation members share how our church family has supported, lifted, encouraged, and even led them to spiritual and personal healing. What began in 1888 is alive and well in 2018 at the oldest continuing ELCA church in southern California. We are proud of that history. Thanks be to God!

During these weeks we have been blessed by demonstrations of the unbounded grace of God in the life of our church. We have heard from Pastor Darryl and guest pastor Dave Nagler in sermons, and from congregation members through their testimonies of God's abundant, generous—and usually quite unexpected—love. Stewardship is our opportunity to give thanks to God, and return His love through our commitment of ourselves and our financial resources.

Each FLC member household shortly will receive its annual 2019 pledge materials in their home mailbox. Prayerfully consider making a pledge to the ministry of First Lutheran Church for the coming year. Our goal is 100% participation by our members. (Regular visitors to First Lutheran can also participate. Contact the church office.) Please return your completed pledge either by mail in the enclosed return envelope or with you to Sunday worship to be collected with the week's offering on or before November 11 when our pledges will be dedicated and blessed during worship.

In these weeks we are re-dedicating our church to the significant ministry that has taken place in downtown San Diego. Our financial pledges to First continue the legacy begun 130 years ago. Our tithes provide for the excellent staff—clergy and administrative—who oversee all that happens here. Our contributions maintain the award-winning campus and facilities. Our financial commitments sustain the worship and study from which our spiritual growth and personal transformation result.

As we anticipate welcoming our next called pastor in 2019, your monetary pledge, freely offered to the extent you are able, will support our 131st year of ministry. Every pledge, regardless of size, helps us build our next operating budget. Each pledge, large and small, determines how our ministry can grow. We hope you will join in supporting the continuing journey with Christ of First Lutheran Church.

### Dates to Remember

- November 4:** All Saints' Sunday—bring pictures of saints who have gone before us
- November 4:** Daylight Saving Time ends—set back your clocks!
- November 11:** Stewardship campaign ends
- November 12:** Veterans Day observed—office closed
- November 22:** Thanksgiving
- December 2:** Fair Trade Fair
- December 9:** Annual Congregational Meeting Part 1
- December 16:** Christmas Pageant
- December 24:** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- December 24-January 2:** church office closed
- December 30:** Holiday Potluck after single service

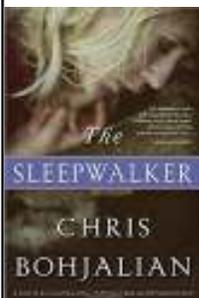
### Message from the Call Committee

by *Pat Lindquist*

Our work in September was 'behind the scenes' and we now have a positive report for the congregation. Bishop Andy Taylor came personally to our early September meeting and helped us cull from the loss of our desired candidate the essentials of our criteria for a new candidate. His 'personal ear' was supportive. He was as good as his word offering to help us. In a short time, he had given us the name of a new candidate and authorized us to go directly to a meeting with this individual. We have arranged a face-to-face interview in early November. That is a positive sign that we are 'on the move'. Pastor Darryl spoke on First Lutheran's 130th Birthday Sunday about the endurance of this church. His sermon hit the spot that tells us prayers for our continued life together have precedent, and do work!



## Book Group Notes



Our November selection, *The Sleepwalker* by Chris Bohjalian, is a mystery about a sleepwalker gone missing and how her family deals with her disappearance and the police investigation. Mr. Bohjalian's website states, "When Annalee Ahlberg goes missing,

her children fear the worst. Annalee is a sleepwalker whose affliction manifests in ways both bizarre and devastating. Once, she merely destroyed the hydrangeas in front of her Vermont home. More terrifying was the night her older daughter, Lianna, pulled her back from the precipice of the Gale River bridge. The morning of Annalee's disappearance, a search party combs the nearby woods. Annalee's husband, Warren, flies home from a business trip. Lianna is questioned by a young, hazel-eyed detective. And her little sister, Paige, takes to swimming the Gale to look for clues....but where is the body?"

This author also wrote our May selection, *The Sandcastle Girls*.

Please join us for warm fellowship and dynamic discussion on Thursday November 15 at Ingrid Galchenko's home. As always, reading the book is not a requirement. Also worth noting is that EVERYONE is welcome to join us.

## Survey Results

Thanks to all who completed the survey that was distributed at our FLC/TACO celebration on October 21. The results have been tabulated and are provided below:

### 1. Are you in favor of more fellowship events?

Yes = **51** No = **0** Unsure = **1**

### 2. If yes, how often should we have them?

Quarterly = **36** Semi-annually = **10** Other = **7**  
(ranged from biweekly to annually)

### Comments received:

- Form interest groups to meet periodically (e.g. sewing, music, cooking, lunch, etc.)
- Have Bible studies
- Have Potlucks
- See movies and have a discussion afterward
- Return to having an annual picnic
- Bring back Second Sunday Socials (**2 comments**)
- Events like these promote getting to know one another better (**2 comments**)

The Council appreciates your taking the time to complete the questionnaire and will be addressing the next steps at our November meeting.

### Church Cell Phone Numbers

Pastor Darryl: 619-990-4589

Hannah: 619-977-2646

### Church Email Addresses

Pastor Darryl: [pastordarryl@firstlutheransd.org](mailto:pastordarryl@firstlutheransd.org);

Hannah/Church Office: [administrator@firstlutheransd.org](mailto:administrator@firstlutheransd.org)

Gifts  
Crafts  
Foods  
(and food sampling)

**Sunday**  
**Dec. 2**  
10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

12th Annual  
**Fair Trade Alternative Gift Fair**  
At First Lutheran Church  
1420 Third Ave. (3rd and Ash) San Diego

## Fair Trade Alternative Gift Fair

### Featuring:

Handcrafted gifts from around the world

Fair Trade food items and food sampling

Opportunities to learn about and support a variety of service organizations

**Sunday, December 2, 2018, 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM**

**At First Lutheran Church, 1420 Third Ave., San Diego 92101**

Call Martha at 619-575-2845 for more information



## Outreach Reach-Out

by Chuck Leib

One of the outcomes from the extensive study performed by the Transition Team was that more than 50% of members at First were interested in exploring outreach opportunities that may exist, in addition to the outreach efforts we are currently committed to. To that end, a 10:10 was scheduled for October 7 for just that purpose. Members were asked prior to the 10:10: ***Is there a local organization that you feel would be a good fit for First Lutheran's outreach?*** Members were then given the opportunity to provide a short (3-minute maximum) presentation, briefly describing what the organization does, what its outreach needs are (money, volunteers, both, other) and why they felt it would be a "good fit" as a First Lutheran outreach.

We had a nice selection of presentations that morning!

Presenter	Organization	Possible Involvement
Joe DeMers	<b>San Diego Street Choir</b> SanDiegoStreetChoir.org	Singers; FLC sponsorship of an event; Donations; TACO guests as singers
Colleen Howard	<b>Voices for Children</b> speakupnow.org	CASAs (Court Appointed Special Advocate); Representing a child in Court; Take children on outings; Be a consistent person in a child's life
Mary Krueger (presenting for Debby Hays)	<b>Monarch School</b> monarchschoools.org	Donations toward the work of this school for homeless children; Some "in-class" opportunities; Volunteers
Chuck Leib	<b>GLSEN</b> glsen.org/chapters/sandiegocounty/ourchapter	Sponsor an event for this organization that strives to make sure every student, in every school is treated with respect regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression; Donations
Bill Radatz	<b>Survivors of Torture International</b> notorture.org	Volunteer Ambassadors; Befrienders; Interpreters; Volunteer Drivers; Annual Fundraising Event Volunteers; Greeter at Special Events; General Volunteers
Jim Friedrich	<b>Bread For The World</b> bread.org	Set annual donation goal toward ending hunger world-wide and at home; Educate others about this crisis
Mary Krueger	<b>Serving Seniors</b> servingseniors.org	Volunteer; Serve meals; Host a social event; Share gifts.
Chuck Leib (presenting for Kathryn Kanaan)	<b>Shower of Blessings Ministry</b> standrewsepiscopal.org/showers-of-blessings.html	Become a host congregation offering showers, and possibly haircuts, through a traveling shower unit to those with no access to a shower.

This was an important first step at examining other opportunities that may exist for individual or family involvement as well as involvement for the congregation, as a whole. Please watch for future updates regarding outreach opportunities at First Lutheran.

## November Birthdays

4: Jenny Mehlow	9: Donn Rosenauer	21: Mary Ann Horton	26: James Lovell
5: Lori Gremel	10: Owen Carter	22: Dorothy Hunter	26: Gretchen Ravenscroft
7: Rachel Alli	13: Ellen Ehlers	23: Dreceon Richards	
8: Tricia Schoenfeld	13: Amy Munroe	25: Michelle Laseman Vitale	
9: Isabelle Lovell	19: Mark Deffner	25: John Poeschl	



## First Lutheran Worship Assistants – November & December

### ALTAR GUILD

#### NOVEMBER

9:00 a.m. Service

*Peggy Quintana*

11:00 a.m. Service

*Ruth Clayton*

#### DECEMBER

9:00 a.m. Service

*Marjorie Wahlsten &  
Jessica Friedrich*

11:00 a.m. Service

*Ladonna Piper*

### USHERS

#### NOVEMBER

9:00 a.m. Service

*Tony & Peggy Quintana*

11:00 a.m. Service

*Ladonna Piper & Marty Topp*

#### DECEMBER

9:00 a.m. Service

*Sharon Province & John Hoff*

11:00 a.m. Service

*Ladonna Piper &  
Melinda Person*

Date	Time	Assisting Minister	Lector	Greeters	Nursery Attendants	Flowers
November 4	9:00 11:00	Jeremy Kaercher Frank Jessie	Lynne Falcon Matthew Eckert	John Hoff Slevcoves	_____ _____	Kjonegaards
November 11	9:00 11:00	Chuck Leib Paul Finneseth	Shaun Travers Jim Lovell	Chuck Leib & Frank DeLouise Shelly Schreiber	_____ _____	Debby Hays & Mark Holmerud
November 18	9:00 11:00	Frank Jessie Mary Ann Horton	Melody Ruth Elizabeth Connolly	Shaun Travers Elizabeth Connolly	_____ _____	Ruth Clayton
November 25	9:00 11:00	Brian Shuman Beth Slevcove	Russ Hoxie Frank Jessie	Kathy Boeckelman Ruth Clayton	_____ _____	Melinda Person
December 2	9:00 11:00	Nate Pratt Paul Finneseth	Frank Jessie Joe Slevcove	Jim & Jessica Friedrich Slevcoves	_____ _____	Ladonna Piper
December 9	9:00 11:00	Kathryn Kanaan Mary Ann Horton	Jeremy Kaercher Matthew Eckert	Rebecca Kjonegaard Marlene Garich	_____ _____	_____
December 16	9:00 11:00	Richard Phillips Beth Slevcove	Dennis Arenas _____	Loren Harrell Shelly Schreiber	_____ _____	_____



# November 2018 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12 pm Al Anon	2 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	3
4 ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY END DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	5 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	6 12 pm Al Anon	7 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm Al Anon	8 12 pm Al Anon 1 pm HICAP 6:30 TACO Board Mtg	9 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	10
11 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	12 VETERANS DAY OBSERVED (OFFICE CLOSED) 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal	13 12 pm Al Anon	14 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm Al Anon	15 12 pm Al Anon 1 pm HICAP	16 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	17
18 26TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	19 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	20 12 pm Al Anon	21 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm Al Anon	22 THANKSGIVING DAY (OFFICE CLOSED) 12 pm Al Anon 1 pm HICAP	23 (OFFICE CLOSED) 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	24
25 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality 3 pm German Svc	26 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	27 12 pm Al Anon 6:30 pm Church Council	28 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm Al Anon	29 12 pm Al Anon 1 pm HICAP	30 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	

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

**The PULSEBEAT**  
is a publication of  
First Lutheran Church  
Edited by Hannah DeMers

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1420 Third Avenue  
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[www.firstlutheransd.org](http://www.firstlutheransd.org)

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  
First Lutheran Church  
1420 Third Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92101-3193

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
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San Diego, CA  
Permit No. 194

**Return Service Requested**

### Wanted: Worship Assistants

We really need some new volunteers, especially for the 11:00 service. The positions are **assisting ministers, lectors, ushers, greeters, nursery assistants, and altar guild.**

If you are willing to fill one of these vital roles, please contact the church office.

### Daylight Savings Time

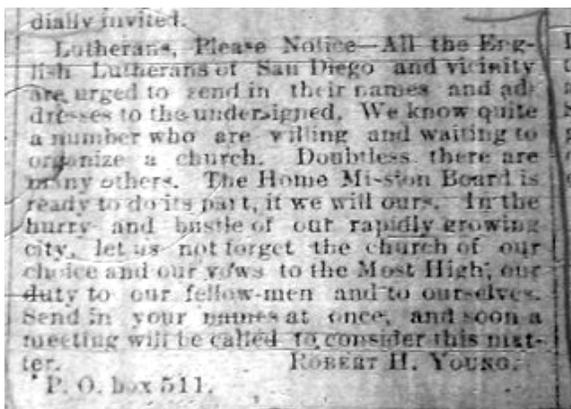
Ends!

**Sunday, November 4 @ 2:00 a.m.**

Don't forget to set your clocks **back** 1 hour before you go to bed—you wouldn't want to miss that extra hour of sleep!

### Calling All Lutherans!

"Lutherans, Please Notice - All the English Lutherans of San Diego and vicinity..." was the opening line of a small article published in the San Diego Union newspaper on December 18, 1887. This short notice was the early beginnings of the founding of First (English) Lutheran Church of San Diego and is an interesting tidbit of history as we celebrate our 130th year of doing ministry in downtown San Diego. A search in SDSU Library's early San Diego newspaper collection (microfilm) located the small article.



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