



October 2018

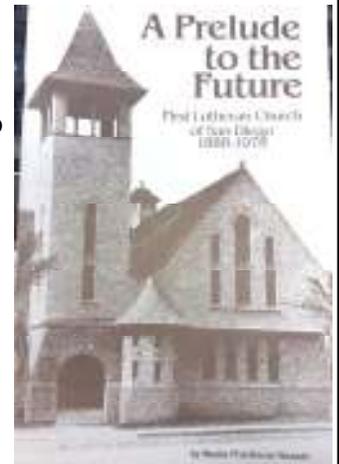
# FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH The PULSEBEAT

**Dear faithful First family and friends,**

Greetings in the Name of Christ!

Can you believe it's October already? Fall has arrived, as has apple season—the fruit, not the iPhones and other electronics (although maybe the Apple corporation coordinates its release of new products with apple season). In fact, for probably some 30 years, I have wanted to visit Julian and its apple picking events; maybe this is the year I finally make it! OK, I didn't intend to write about apples. Instead, this October, I want to highlight a much more important event for our congregation.

In many of my sermons this past year, you most likely heard me frequently mention that 2018 is the 130th Anniversary of our congregation. Founded in 1888, First Lutheran Church is the oldest ELCA congregation in California and this is something to be proud of and to celebrate. In fact, in Beata Mazade's book *A Prelude to the Future*, which she researched and wrote in 1978 to mark the 90th anniversary of our congregation, she discovered that our founding Pastor Edwin Wagner was a direct descendant (11th generation grandson) of Martin Luther. From what I've been able to research on my own, First Lutheran Church is the only Lutheran congregation in the United States that has such a lineage and heritage. With that brief introduction, this brings me to the celebration being planned in a few weeks.



In Mazade's book, she shared that Pastor Wagner preached his very first sermon as our founding pastor on October 21, 1888. (Prior to this date, our church was being served by other pastors, but none had been called as our official pastor until summer, 1888.) And so this October 21—exactly 130 years to the day—marks the first time that Pastor Wagner preached that first sermon. We want to celebrate this occasion! Last year, we gathered for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, but this year we literally bring it “closer to home,” and focus on ourselves and what it means to be “The Heart of Christ in the Heart of the City.”

**On October 21, 2018, we will gather as a family of faith for one service at 10:00 a.m. Following the service will be a time of food and fellowship.** I would like to invite members of our congregation who are clergy to “vest and process” and join us that morning for worship. During this time as we continue to seek and eventually call a new, permanent pastor, I think it's important for us to celebrate the ministry, mission, and especially the people who make up our community. And I can't think of a better time than the 130th Anniversary of our congregation to do this.

So we can best prepare for the day, the fellowship, and the food, please RSVP to Hannah DeMers at [administrator@firstlutheransd.org](mailto:administrator@firstlutheransd.org), or write your name on the “October 21 Celebration” sign up sheet in the Narthex, or call the church office.

God has certainly blessed us so we can be a blessing to others. Let us then celebrate those blessings on October 21 and live out our calling to be Christ to the City!

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: Seasons

by Carol J. Schultz, Council Secretary

How often have you heard someone say—or maybe you’ve said it yourself—“San Diego doesn’t have seasons.”? And if by seasons, we mean wide variations in temperature and weather conditions then yes, that statement would be true. But I’d like to share a different perspective—I think the sun determines the seasons. The Autumnal Equinox on Sept. 22 officially began the season of fall. The sun’s arc is lower in the sky than just a few weeks ago. Its light is less intense, and it sets noticeably earlier. If we pay attention, the signs of fall in San Diego tell us to prepare for shorter, cooler days to come. In life, too, sometimes we need to look for more subtle signals to understand what’s happening around us.

The Council met on Sept. 18 to take care of the business of First Lutheran Church as our congregation continues in a “season” of transition between permanent pastors. Joe DeMers opened the meeting with a reflection on Psalm 27’s wisdom, “Wait for the Lord.” He encouraged us to know God is with us and has not abandoned us even when times seem difficult. A summary of items the Council considered follows.

**Finances and Stewardship.** The Council noted no significant changes in financial trends; contributions are somewhat below budget and so are expenses. In October, the Finance Committee will present a nine-month review of revenues and expenditures to the Council and will begin preparing the 2019 annual budget. A month-long stewardship program will launch on Sunday, Oct. 14, with Pr. Dave Nagler, Christ Lutheran, preaching and a First Lutheran member sharing a personal viewpoint about stewardship.

**Community and Fellowship.** TACO is in the early stages of planning an Appreciation Day for First Lutheran’s congregation in October. The Council proposed combining this event with a planned celebration of the 130th anniversary of the first sermon preached by the Rev. Edwin R. Wagner at First Lutheran on Oct. 21, 1888. Dick Krueger and Frank DeLouise are presenting this proposal to the TACO Board for consideration/approval at its Sept. 29 Board meeting. The Council also agreed to give future consideration to scheduling meals for the congregation several times throughout the year to enhance a sense of community.

**Service/Outreach Opportunities.** Between worship services on Oct. 7, congregation members will have an opportunity to present their ideas for outreach to specific nonprofit organizations in San Diego as a way to increase First Lutheran’s interaction with the surrounding community. Dick Krueger, Frank DeLouise, and congregation member Chuck Leib are coordinating this event, which picks up on a goal identified by the Transition Team.

**TACO Department of Environmental Health License.** The County of San Diego’s Department of Environmental Health requires TACO to have a license for use of First Lutheran’s kitchen. Property Committee member Kathryn Kanaan is working with TACO’s Food Coordinator, Marguerite Grifka, to complete the County’s requirements. TACO will have the lead responsibility for meeting the County’s requirements, and the license will tell First Lutheran what the impact will be for its use of the kitchen.

**Safety and Behavior Policy.** Last year, First Lutheran and TACO jointly agreed on guidelines and procedures for addressing risky behavior on the premises, for example, someone displaying a weapon. Since then, Frank DeLouise, TACO Executive Director Jim Lovell, and TACO RN Lori Herman have drafted language that incorporates cleanliness and hygiene procedures into the Safety and Behavior Policy. Council supported the draft language by consensus, and Frank is presenting the draft to the TACO Board for consideration on Sept. 29.

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.

### 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.

God’s Peace to you all,  
Your 2018 Council



*The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. (Ps. 24:1)*

*by Jeremy Kaercher*

The calendar turns to October and a new season begins. We continue to journey with Jesus toward a time when First Lutheran Church welcomes a new called pastor. We do not yet know when that will be. We are in an in-between time, a time not unlike the approaching season of Advent, when we wait hopefully and expectantly for a new thing in the life of our faith community. Yes, we are anxious for that next chapter, for new stories to be written in our history. But that time is not yet here. When will it come? It will be in kairos time—God's perfect timing. Until then, we move forward in faith as Christ's body in downtown San Diego fully equipped with every spiritual gift for ministry in Jesus' name.

In times past when our called pastors left us for new challenges and congregations, the members of First continued in outreach and service and a prayerful life together just as we are tasked to do today. We are blessed that Pastor Darryl continues with us. Nevertheless we wait, trying to be patient. I invite us to join in thanks to the One who truly has lead our church since First Lutheran's founding in 1888.

I was praying recently about this in-between time, and was reminded what it means to be stewards of the ministry entrusted to us. If you are like me, I typically associate "stewardship" in terms of our tithing and sharing our financial resources with the church. However, it also occurred to me that stewardship is about sharing ourselves with God to serve His purpose in building the earthly kingdom.

Rev. Herb Mather is a retired United Methodist pastor who writes, "Stewardship is another way of talking about ministry, and it would revolutionize ministry if people could think of it in terms of stewardship—that we are accountable to God for what we do and with what he has trusted to us." Our First Lutheran ministry continues on, dependent only on Christ.

First's fall stewardship campaign begins Sunday, October 14, and concludes November 11, when we will celebrate our gifts, our talents, and our discipleship. Each week we will hear church family members explain why this place in downtown San Diego is their faith home, and how they share Jesus' call to love our neighbors. At this same time Church Council will look toward the coming year and the financial resources available through our stewardship for ministry and prayerfully how to possibly expand it as well. We hope that during these five Sundays you will be inspired by the stories you hear, and be renewed in your own ministry—whatever it may be—as a First Lutheran member.

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*

1 Peter 4:10

## First Lutheran Outreach 10:10

One of the outcomes from the Transition Team's interaction with the congregation was that there was significant interest in exploring other outreach initiatives that we, as a congregation, could add to those already supported. This assistance may be financial or non-financial (e.g. such as volunteering) or both.

Is there a local organization that you feel would be a good fit for First Lutheran's outreach? If so, please plan on attending a 10:10 on Sunday, October 7, where we will explore, as a group, additional outreach opportunities. At that time, you will be asked to provide those in attendance with a short presentation (no longer than 3 minutes) regarding the organization that you would like the congregation to consider. Presenters are asked to describe briefly what the organization does, what its outreach needs are (money, volunteers, both, or other) and why you feel it would be a "good fit" as a First Lutheran outreach.

If you have questions please contact Chuck Leib, Frank DeLouise, or Dick Krueger. All who want to present their outreach suggestion are asked to please call or email Hannah DeMers (administrator@firstlutheransd.org) and let her know the name of the organization that you plan to present. She will track how many presenters we have and if there are any duplicates. Each person will be limited to ONE organization to highlight unless time remains after all have completed the first round of presentations.



### Gluten-Free Communion Process

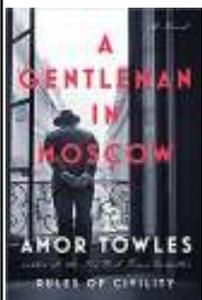
We have implemented a new process for those who prefer gluten-free wafers for Holy Communion. As a way to reduce contaminating the gluten-free wafers with the loaf of bread, our assisting minister will now hold a covered container with the gluten-free wafers. If you prefer the wafer, please indicate this when coming forward for Holy Communion. The assisting minister will then remove the cover from the container and you'll take one of the wafers yourself. This is one more way we strive to be a welcoming community of faith while accommodating the needs of our worshippers.

### Attention Assisting Ministers and Lectors!

Pastor Darryl would like to meet with all the assisting ministers and lectors for a review of these important worship roles.

He will meet with the Assisting Ministers for one hour on Saturday, October 27, 1:00-2:00 p.m. After a brief break, he will meet with the lectors 2:15-3:00 p.m. on the same day. He hopes to meet with as many as are able to attend this session.

If you have any questions, or aren't able to be there, please email Pastor Darryl at [pastordarryl@firstlutheransd.org](mailto:pastordarryl@firstlutheransd.org). Also, if you have considered serving one or both of these roles, you're encouraged to be part of this afternoon's review. Thanks!



### Book Group Notes

*He can't leave his hotel. You won't want to.*

Our October selection, *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles, is about a man who is ordered to spend the rest of his life under house arrest inside a luxury hotel for a poem deemed incendiary by the Bolsheviks. Here he meets Nina, a precocious young girl who holds the keys to the entire hotel, wonders what it means to be a princess, and who will irrevocably change his life. Despite being confined, the Count lives an absorbing adventure filled life, filled with "capers, conspiracies and culture." Of this entertaining novel *The Washington Post* noted, "How delightful that in an era as crude as ours this finely composed novel stretches out with old-World elegance."

Please join us for warm fellowship and dynamic discussion on Thursday October 18 in the Community Room of Susan White's condo complex. Francie Montgomery and Sherri Bengtson will host. All are welcome!

Looking ahead: November's selection will be *The Sleepwalker* by Chris Bohjalian.

### Mark Your Calendar!

The Fair Trade Fair is scheduled for December 2, the first Sunday in Advent. Plan to attend this festive event—and if you are interested in helping with the fair, we can use you! Please contact Martha Radatz at 619-575-2845 or [m28rz@icloud.com](mailto:m28rz@icloud.com) to find out more. An opportunity to become more involved at First Lutheran Church!

### Singers Wanted:

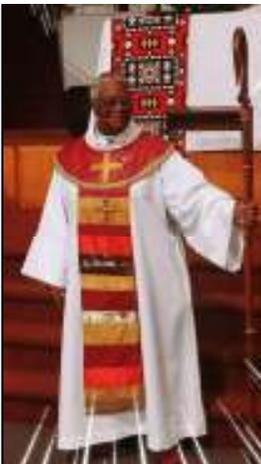
The San Diego Mannskor (Norwegian Men's Chorus) would like to invite any male singers to come and sing! You don't have to be Norwegian—all men are welcome. We sing sacred and folk music, in both English and Norwegian, which we will teach you! We practice on Tuesdays, beginning October 9 at 7 p.m. at the House of Norway in Balboa Park. Please contact Jon Holmerud (619-370-8569 or [holmerud@cox.net](mailto:holmerud@cox.net)) if you have questions.

### October Birthdays

- |                     |                        |                      |                             |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1: Martha DeMers    | 10: Darren Street      | 16: Monica Paul      | 23: Noah Miller             |
| 1: Brian Oltman     | 11: Peter Kim          | 16: Suzanne Pew      | 27: John Davis              |
| 5: Shelly Etzel     | 11: Stephen Munroe     | 17: Ruthann Maxwell  | 27: Jessica Grumm-Friedrich |
| 6: Kara Oien        | 13: Lia Pierce         | 18: Hudson Altenburg | 29: Gerard Yablonsky        |
| 8: Russ Hoxie       | 14: Nance Lovell       | 18: Mahary Berhan    | 30: Bill Bengtson           |
| 8: Daniel Thomas    | 15: Daniel Diepholz    | 18: Olivia Etzel     |                             |
| 9: Donna SanFilippo | 16: Frank DeLouise Jr. | 19: Marie Ruth       |                             |
| 10: Carol McGrath   | 16: Sylvia Herman      | 22: Troy Hanson      |                             |



## ELCA First Black Female Bishop



On Saturday, September 22, the Rev. Patricia Ann Curtis Davenport was installed as bishop of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She was elected overwhelmingly in May—the first African American woman elected to the post in a denomination whose 3.5 million congregants are 96 percent white. The service was led by ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.



## Augusta Victoria Hospital in Jerusalem Needs Your Help!

*from elca.org*

**Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH), located on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem, needs your urgent help. Owned and operated by the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), it is the main cancer and kidney center serving Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.**

AVH and five other East Jerusalem hospitals rely on funding each year from the United States and the European Union to cover approximately half the costs of patients referred to these hospitals. Currently, the AVH is owed over \$38 million of a total of \$80 million to the six East Jerusalem hospitals. **However, several media reported on Sept. 7 that \$25 million in 2017 U.S. government funding that was designated for AVH and the other East Jerusalem hospitals would not be released.** Approximately half of the \$25 million would be for AVH. The large amount owed to AVH is due to the high cost of cancer medications. It is especially urgent that this action be challenged in order to ensure ongoing treatment and to avoid putting cancer patients in jeopardy.

Augusta Victoria Hospital is able to operate because of the support of LWF member churches, like the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and long-standing partnerships with countries like the United States. In the last decade, the U.S. government, through USAID, has invested nearly \$10 million in AVH to bolster its capacity as a cancer center. In addition, the U.S. government has provided tens of millions of dollars in aid over several years to help cover the costs of the cancer patients and others referred to AVH and the other East Jerusalem hospitals.

AVH was internationally accredited for quality assurance and patient safety as a hospital and health care facility in 2013 and reaccredited in 2016. AVH is also regularly inspected and licensed by the Israeli Ministry of Health.

The delay in the disbursement of the 2017 funding is contributing to an acute and severe cash flow crisis for AVH and the other hospitals. It is the intention of the LWF to continue to provide lifesaving treatment to patients from the West Bank and Gaza, but AVH needs the U.S. government to release the 2017 funding as soon as possible so the hospital can make payments to pharmaceutical suppliers of cancer medications, pay salaries and avoid a major interruption in the treatment of patients.

The ELCA provides ongoing support to Augusta Victoria through your gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response. **Give now and your gifts will be used over and above our church's ongoing, annual support in order to prevent interruptions to the lifesaving, critical care provided to children and other patients.** Go to <https://community.elca.org/augusta-victoria-hospital> to donate.

In addition to financial support, please urge our elected officials to continue funding to Augusta Victoria Hospital by calling the White House hotline (202-456-1111) or going to <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/> and writing a comment in its comments submissions area.



## First Lutheran Worship Assistants – October & November

### ALTAR GUILD

**OCTOBER**

**9:00 a.m. Service**  
*Russ & Heidi Hoxie*  
**11:00 a.m. Service**  
*Melinda Person*

**NOVEMBER**

**9:00 a.m. Service**  
*Peggy Quintana*  
**11:00 a.m. Service**  
*Ruth Clayton*

### USHERS

**OCTOBER**

**9:00 a.m. Service**  
*Dell Wilcox, Kem Taylor,  
 Colleen Howard, & Sharon  
 Province*  
**11:00 a.m. Service**  
*Ruth Clayton & Anke Hartung*

**NOVEMBER**

**9:00 a.m. Service**  
*Tony & Peggy Quintana*  
**11:00 a.m. Service**  
*Ladonna Piper & Marty Topp*

Date	Time	Assisting Minister	Lector	Greeters	Nursery Attendants	Flowers
October 7	9:00 11:00	Richard Phillips Luke Williams	Margie Wahlsten Joe Slevcove	John Hoff Slevcoves	_____ _____	Marjorie Wahlsten
October 14	9:00 11:00	Kathryn Kanaan Paul Finneseth	Rachel Line Elizabeth Connolly	Dennis Arenas & David Oakes Melinda Person	_____ _____	Russ & Heidi Hoxie
October 21	10:00	Jan Neuhaus	Frank DeLouise	Marjorie Wahlsten	_____ _____	Ruthann Maxwell
October 28	9:00 11:00	Eric Sloniker Beth Slevcove	Chuck Leib Nancy Eckert	_____ Marlene Garich	_____ _____	_____
November 4	9:00 11:00	Jeremy Kaercher Luke Williams	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 Luke Williams	Shaun Travers Elizabeth Connolly	_____ _____	Ruth Clayton



# October 2018 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	<b>2</b> 12 pm AI Anon	<b>3</b> 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon	<b>4</b> 12 pm AI Anon	<b>5</b> 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality 2:00 pm Blessing of Animals	<b>8</b> 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	<b>9</b> 12 pm AI Anon	<b>10</b> 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon	<b>11</b> 12 pm AI Anon 1 pm HICAP	<b>12</b> 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	<b>15</b> 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	<b>16</b> 12 pm AI Anon 6:30 pm Church Council	<b>17</b> 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon	<b>18</b> 12 pm AI Anon 1 pm HICAP	<b>19</b> 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  10 am Worship 11:10 Reception	<b>22</b> 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	<b>23</b> 12 pm AI Anon	<b>24</b> 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon	<b>25</b> 12 pm AI Anon 1 pm HICAP	<b>26</b> 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	<b>27</b> 1 pm AM Mtg 2:15 Lector Mtg
<b>28</b> REFORMATION SUNDAY  9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality 3 pm German Svc	<b>29</b> 12 pm AA 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	<b>30</b> 12 pm AI Anon	<b>31</b> 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon			

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

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### Dates to Remember

- October 7:** Outreach Opportunities 10:10
- October 7:** Blessing of the Animals service
- October 14:** Stewardship campaign kickoff
- October 14:** Pastor Darryl & Pastor Dave Nagler pulpit exchange
- October 21:** 130th Anniversary Celebration
- October 28:** Reformation Sunday—wear red!
- 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

### Featuring Jared Jacobsen!

On Sunday, October 28, Jared will be the featured organist at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, located in Balboa Park. The concert will begin at 2:00 p.m. and lasts for 1 hour. There are no tickets; all concerts are free and open to the public.

Jared will be playing Halloween music, including a possible spooky sing-along!

### Blessing of the Animals Service

**Sunday, October 7  
2:00PM**



Again this year, Pastor Darryl and Jared will be leading a Blessing of the Animals liturgy on Sunday, October 7 at 2:00pm. All pets—furry and scaly and feathered, both large and small—and their guardians/owners are invited to attend this worship service as we bless these creatures and critters who give so much love to us. For any questions, please speak with Pastor Darryl or Jared.



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