



April 2019

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH The PULSEBEAT

Holy Week 2019 at First Lutheran Church



Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion-April 14

9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday Liturgy with the Passion according to St. Luke

+

Maundy Thursday-April 18

7:00 p.m.

Washing of Feet, the Last Supper, Stripping of the Altar, and Nightwatch

+

Good Friday-April 19

12 noon

The Way of the Cross

7:00 p.m.

Service of Tenebrae with the Passion according to St. John

+

Holy Saturday-April 20

7:00 p.m.

The Great Vigil of Easter

+

EASTER SUNDAY/RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD-APRIL 21

9:00 & 11:00 a.m.

Festival Holy Eucharist



Council Update: Waiting with Hope

by Carol J. Schultz, Council Secretary

First Lutheran's Lent meditations booklet is titled "Waiting with Hope" this year. Personally, I like the title phrase, although at times I'm tempted to wonder, "Just who is Hope, and where is she keeping herself these days?" (*Pause for laughter.*) One of the reasons I like the phrase "Waiting with Hope" is because it is firmly grounded in the present while beckoning us to the future. As we wait, we experience hope in the here and now, and hope by its nature points to the future. As Council members, we "wait with hope" by paying attention to what's in front of us even as we plan for possibilities to come.

Devotion. Pr. Darryl Kozak opened the March Council meeting by reflecting on Isaiah 43:19 (NRSV), "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Pr. Darryl reminded us that telling the Gospel continues even though he is leaving First Lutheran to become pastor of Peace Lutheran in Corona, CA. And it's natural to meet new experiences with anxiety, curiosity, and hope.

Pastoral Transition. President Dick Krueger announced the next pastor to serve First Lutheran will be Pr. Rich Ajer, one-time pastor of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran in La Mesa. Bishop Andy Taylor has selected Pr. Ajer to serve as First Lutheran's "bridge" pastor until we call our "settled" pastor. Pr. Ajer will arrive at First Lutheran the first week of May. Pr. Darryl will assemble a calendar of pastors to preach and preside at worship services in the interval until Pr. Ajer's arrival.

Financial Report. The Council continues to monitor income and expenses carefully. As anticipated, First Lutheran's income is running behind expenses. Treasurer Kem Taylor noted she adjusted the 2019 budget to reflect First Lutheran's mortgage will be paid off in October of this year.

New Council Member. After reviewing several possible candidates, Council members reached a consensus to name Kara Oien to fill the vacancy left by Jeremy Kaercher's resignation. Kara works as a Deputy Public Defender for the County of San Diego and frequently participates in First Lutheran's book group. Note to those candidates who said, "Ask me again in 2020"—you can count on it!

Pride Parade. Frank DeLouise has registered First Lutheran to march in the San Diego Pride Parade on Saturday, July 13, 2019. Susan White will help spearhead First Lutheran's participation. Ask Frank or Susan how you can get involved.

Property. Dick Krueger oversaw installation of new thermostats throughout First Lutheran's premises. He also reported seams around roof vents were resealed to prevent leaks during future rainstorms. To reduce costs, First Lutheran and Third Avenue Charitable Organization (TACO) will continue to share Internet service under a new contract with AT&T.

As you can see, Council members handle a wide variety of business and managerial matters. Representing the interests of our fellow congregation members is a privilege and a responsibility we take seriously. We invite you to share your questions, concerns, or appreciation with any Council member.

God's Peace to you all,
Your 2019 Council

2019 Council Officers:

President: Dick Krueger
Vice President: Frank DeLouise
Secretary: Carol Schultz
Treasurer: Kem Taylor
Financial Secretary: Anke Hartung

Council Members:

Kara Oien, Melinda Person, Marjorie Wahlsten, and Susan White.

April Birthdays

2: Melody Ruth	8: Eddie Collins	18: Sierra Schreiber	27: Stephanie Boomhower
4: Shaun Travers	10: James Boyd	19: Nathaniel Pratt	28: Rachel Line
5: Sheri Bengtson	15: Heidi Hoxie	26: Mitchell Britto	28: Martha Radatz
7: Bob Ravenscroft	16: Diana Johnson	26: Ruth Clayton	



2019 Special Lenten Offering

This has been an exciting time for our congregation as we continue to learn more about immigration and the asylum-seeking process. A family being cared for by a fellow Lutheran congregation is being assisted by our Lenten Giving project this year as we raise funds to pay for an attorney to take them through their asylum hearings. We're halfway through Lent and we have raised \$5,266.15 towards our goal of \$7,000. The family originated in Eritrea, fled to Saudi Arabia, then Turkey, then Brazil, and up to Tijuana and San Diego. They are in the United States legally as they await their asylum hearing(s). We've broken down their journey into miles and at \$.50 per mile (14,000 mile journey and \$7,000 goal) they are have made it to Panama. We need to get them to San Diego!!



You can contribute by:

1. Writing "Lenten Offering" on an envelope and putting it in the offering plate.
2. Using a Lenten Offering envelope from your box of envelopes.
3. On our website, firstlutheransd.org, click "Give" at the top of the page, select "Lenten Giving" as the fund and fill in the information.
4. If you are a Thrivent member and have Choice Dollars, the deadline for designating them to a non-profit recipient is March 31. If you haven't already done this, you can direct them to First Lutheran Church and tell Hannah DeMers, our church administrator, that you want them to go to the Lenten Offering project.

If you have any questions on this project, please contact Marjorie Wahlsten or Susan White.

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has interviewed all three candidates Bishop Andy Taylor provided in January. One individual has withdrawn, another has been released, and a third is in process. We are meeting as often as needed and coordinating schedules with the candidates to keep the call process moving. Bishop Andy has told us to expect names soon to replace the two candidates no longer in the process. He is encouraging us to remain faithful to discerning the candidate who best matches our congregation. Thanks always for your words of hope to go with our perseverance.

Facilities Focus: 2019 Adopt-a-Project

April brings the warmth of spring, and this month's Facility Focus is on outside tasks available for adoption.

Landscape & Exterior

Outstanding Tasks:

- ◇ Clean up parking lot of litter, weeds, and debris
- ◇ Remove graffiti on metal fencing along Ash Street side of property
- ◇ Replace missing plants along stairway to patio
- ◇ Power wash steps and landing to/from patio area
- ◇ Spray exterior corners of chapel to remove mold/moss growth

The church relies on the skills, time, and contributions of members and friends to complete these tasks to keep our church facility attractive and in good repair. A full list of projects available for adoption and sign park-up slips are located on the kiosk in the lounge.

Book Group Notes

Our news is NO news, as there is no meeting in April. We usually take off one of the months during Lent, and this is it. Look for a fuller report in May, as our next meeting will be Thursday, May 16, at the home of Chuck Leib, when we will be discussing our May selection: *Still Life* by Louise Penny.



All are invited to join in at any time. We usually have anywhere from 10-20 in attendance. Discussion is lively, refreshments outstanding, and fellowship is warm.

See you there?





Lutheran Disaster Response

from <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>

Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

U.S. Flooding

The situation

Heavy rainfall has caused rapid snow melt that has resulted in major flooding across at least four states. So far, three people have died and hundreds of homes and businesses have been affected. Mandatory and voluntary evacuation orders remain in place. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 200 miles of levees have been compromised in four states and historic flood levels have been recorded at 42 locations across six states. Though water is receding, more rain is anticipated in many areas, along with warmer weather that may melt snow and ice and raise water levels further.

Our response:

Lutheran Disaster Response is responding to this emergency through congregations, synods and our affiliates across Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Missouri.

Cyclone Idai

The situation

Cyclone Idai made landfall in Mozambique on March 14. It has caused widespread flooding and destruction in parts of southeast Africa, including Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. Over 200 people have been reported dead so far. With many still missing or requiring rescue, there are concerns that more than 1,000 people may have died. Thousands are awaiting rescue from near the city of Beira, Mozambique, where floodwaters are still rising.

An estimated 1.5 million people have been affected by this devastating storm, which is being reported as one of the worst weather-related disasters ever recorded in the Southern Hemisphere.

Our response:

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with our global partners and companions to respond to this disaster. In Zimbabwe, for example, ACT Alliance members are planning to provide blankets, hygiene kits, food, clothing and diapers for up to 6,000 adults and children to ensure that basic needs are met. We are also reaching out to our companion churches in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe as they assess needs in their communities and prepare to respond.

What you can do:

Pray: Please pray for the communities that are impacted by Cyclone Idai or have been affected by or lie in the path of flooding. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need. Pray that God will deliver comfort to those mourning the loss of loved ones and strength to those working diligently to care for affected communities.

Give: Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response marked either "Cyclone" or "U.S. flooding" will be used in full (100 percent) to assist those affected by these crises until the response is complete.

Volunteer Nursery Attendants

As you can see in the Worship Assistant schedule, we now have some volunteers! But you'll also notice that there are a lot of repeat names. The more people who volunteer, the less often each person will have to do it. And it's really easy! You only need to be a second pair of eyes—you can play with the kids if you want, but you don't need to change diapers or help with going to the bathroom. **Please help us take care of our kids!**

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Hannah DeMers.





Ecumenical Meeting in U.S. to Follow Up on Joint Declaration on Doctrine of Justification

from www.lutheranworld.org

Leaders of five Christian World Communions meet at the Catholic University of Notre Dame in the United States next week to discuss the significance of the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification (JDDJ) and its impact on their search for full, visible unity of the church.

The joint declaration was signed by Lutherans and Catholics in Augsburg, Germany, on 31 October 1999, effectively resolving one of the key conflicts of the Reformation. It stated clearly that the “earlier mutual doctrinal condemnations”, with which Catholics and Lutherans accused each other of heresy at the time of the Reformation, “do not apply to the teaching of the dialogue partners” today.

The declaration added that both partners will continue to work together for further clarification on subjects such as the relationship between Scripture and doctrine, ecclesiology, authority, ministry, the sacraments and the connection between justification and social ethics.

From bilateral to multilateral

Initially signed as a Catholic-Lutheran agreement, it has since been joined or substantially affirmed by three other Christian Communions, namely the World Methodist Council in 2006, the Anglican Communion and the World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) in 2017.

The document paved the way for the past two decades of progress in relations between Catholics and Lutherans, including the 2017 Joint Commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, hosted by Pope Francis and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) leaders, former President Bishop Dr Munib A. Younan and General Secretary Rev. Dr Martin Junge in the Swedish cities of Lund and Malmö.

Challenging the churches

Yet despite the extraordinary ecumenical significance of this agreement, many Christians in countries around the globe remain unaware of its existence and its implications for shared worship, study, public witness and practical service.

The Notre Dame University consultation will take place from 26-29 March with the goal of highlighting the historic importance of the declaration and exploring further developments in inter-church relations that could result from a more effective reception and implementation at local, national or international level.

The meeting will challenge leaders of the five world communions to share new and creative ways of visibly demonstrating the theological progress of the past two decades through the daily life of their local churches.

During the consultation, the university, which has a long-standing commitment to furthering ecumenical and interfaith relations, will also host two public events. On the evening of 26 March, an ecumenical prayer service will be held in the Basilica of Sacred Heart with music provided by the Notre Dame Liturgical Choir.

On 28 March, as the consultation draws to a close, a panel discussion among leaders of the different denominations will take place entitled 'From Conflict to Communion: The Future of Christians Together in the World'.

Among those attending the consultation are Rev. Dr Martin Junge, the LWF General Secretary, Cardinal Kurt Koch, President of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, Rev. Dr J.C. Park, President of the World Methodist Council, Rev. Chris Ferguson, General Secretary of the WCRC, and The Most Rev. Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon, Secretary General of the global Anglican Communion.

The Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification was the result of over three decades of ecumenical dialogue between the Lutheran World Federation and the Roman Catholic Church.

Artwork 10:10

On April 7, the four artists who have created the Stations of the Cross in the lounge for Lent will share a little of the how and why of their individual pieces. They would also enjoy hearing your thoughts and responses on what the Stations—traditional and newly interpreted—mean to you.

Please join us between services on April 7.



First Lutheran Worship Assistants – April & May

ALTAR GUILD

APRIL

9:00 a.m. Service

Dorothy Hunter

11:00 a.m. Service

Melinda Person

MAY

9:00 a.m. Service

Peggy Quintana

11:00 a.m. Service

Ruth Clayton

USHERS

APRIL

9:00 a.m. Service

*Carol McGrath, Kem Taylor,
& Dell Wilcox*

11:00 a.m. Service

*Ruth Clayton &
Melinda Person*

MAY

9:00 a.m. Service

Peggy & Tony Quintana

11:00 a.m. Service

*Ladonna Piper & Anke
Hartung*

Date	Time	Assisting Minister	Lector	Greeters	Nursery Attendants	Flowers
April 7	9:00 11:00	Nate Pratt Frank Jessie	Shaun Travers Joe Slevcove	John Hoff Slevcoves	Marjorie Wahlsten Martha DeMers	Kjonegaards
April 14	9:00 11:00	Kathryn Kanaan Beth Slevcove	Russ Hoxie Matthew Eckert	Jim & Jessica Friedrich Elizabeth Connolly	Dick Krueger Joe DeMers	_____
April 21	9:00 11:00	Jan Neuhaus Mary Ann Horton	Frank Jessie Frank Jessie	Pr. George & Ethel Falk Ladonna Piper	Mary Krueger Kathryn Kanaan	Pr. Lee Wesley
April 28	9:00 11:00	Eric Sloniker Paul Finneseth	Jeremy Kaercher Elizabeth Connolly	Marjorie Wahlsten Shelly Schreiber	Billie Thompson Paul Engel	Chuck Leib & Frank DeLouise
May 5	9:00 11:00	Richard Phillips Frank Jessie	Dennis Arenas Joe Slevcove	John Hoff Slevcoves	Lee Kaercher _____	Kjonegaards
May 12	9:00 11:00	Chuck Leib Beth Slevcove	Ronn Garton Nancy Eckert	Frank DeLouise & Chuck Leib Melinda Person	Kathryn Kanaan Martha DeMers	_____
May 19	9:00 11:00	Jeremy Kaercher Mary Ann Horton	Paul Engel Jim Lovell	Hanieh Kohan Khaki Ruth Clayton	Martha DeMers Joe DeMers	Kjonegaards



April 2019 Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 12 pm AA 12 pm AI Anon 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	2 12 pm AI Anon	3 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon 4:30 Yoga/Walk 5:45 Soup Supper 6:30 Holden 7:00 Classes	4 12 pm AI Anon	5 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	6
7 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 10:10 Stations of Cross 10:10 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	8 12 pm AA 12 pm AI Anon 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	9 12 pm AI Anon	10 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon 4:30 Yoga/Walk 5:45 Soup Supper 6:30 Holden 7:00 Classes	11 12 pm AI Anon 1 pm HICAP	12 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	13
14 SUNDAY OF THE PASSION/PALM SUNDAY 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	15 12 pm AA 12 pm AI Anon 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	16 12 pm AI Anon 6:30 Church Council Mtg	17 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon	18 MAUNDY THURSDAY 12 pm AI Anon 1 pm HICAP 7 pm Maundy Thurs Svc	19 GOOD FRIDAY 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm Way of Cross Svc 12 pm AA 7 pm Tenebrae	20 HOLY SATURDAY 7 pm Easter Vigil
21 RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD/EASTER SUNDAY 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality 4 pm German Svc	22 12 pm AA 12 pm AI Anon 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	23 12 pm AI Anon	24 9 am Acupuncture 12 pm AI Anon 4:30 Yoga/Walk 5:45 Soup Supper 6:30 Holden 7:00 Classes	25 12 pm AI Anon 1 pm HICAP	26 9 am Acupuncture 9 am Bread Day 12 pm AA	27
28 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 9 am Worship 10:10 Hospitality 11 am Worship 12:10 Hospitality	29 12 pm AA 12 pm AI Anon 4 pm Free Meal 5:30 pm Evening Clinics	30 12 pm AI Anon				

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

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

Serving Downtown San Diego Since 1888
1420 Third Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101-3193
(619) 234-6149
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

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Return Service Requested

Farewell to Pastor Darryl

On Sunday, March 24, we said goodbye to Pastor Darryl. In true First Lutheran tradition, we sent him off in style!

During the single service, he installed new council member Kara Oien, sang the liturgy to us one last time, taught us a theological word (WOW!), and gave a sermon that doubled as a thank-you speech worthy of any Oscar winner.

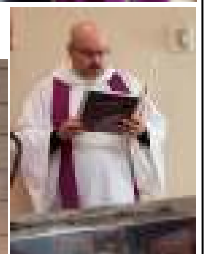


Some of our ...fondest(?) memories will be of Pastor Darryl sprinkling us with water to celebrate our baptism in Christ. So at the end of the service, Jared Jacobsen presented Pastor Darryl with a more efficient method of sprinkling people. Then, council president Dick Krueger shot him... with a squirt gun wrapped in rosemary!



After the service, we had a wonderful brunch, catered by TACO Food Coordinator Marguerite Grifka.

Thank you for making this what Pastor Darryl called his best farewell ever!



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