

MAY 2016

Hollywood Spotlight: News for members and friends
Hollywood Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
A Reconciling in Christ congregation

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From the Pastor

Dear members and friends of Hollywood Lutheran Church,

Are the Alleluias still ringing in your ears? We continue celebrating Resurrection in the Easter season for two more weeks. Those celebrations lead us to Pentecost as we rejoice that the gifts of the Holy Spirit have been given to us. There are seven gifts of the Holy Spirit described in Isaiah 11. The expectation was that the Messiah would possess these gifts. We pray to receive these gifts in Baptism and in Reaffirmation of Baptism (Confirmation). These are the gifts we pray for:

Wisdom allows us to keep God central in our lives and value the importance of our community of faith.

Understanding is the gift to comprehend the meaning of God's Word.

Counsel is the ability we are given to make choices in following our Lord.

Might is the guidance of the Spirit to do what we know is right.

Knowledge allows us to ponder the mystery of faith and apply insight to our lives.

Fear of the Lord is our amazement in the presence of our God, the One who is always with us.

Joy is the deep pleasure we experience in prayer and praise.

That's quite a list, isn't it? These gifts are freely given by our loving Lord who wants us to use them generously and often. Such use allows us to grow in faith and witness effectively. And, best of all, these gifts don't run out. We cannot overuse them and have nothing left. In fact, using these gifts allows our Lord to replenish them. We will always have enough.

Even more important is the fact that these gifts can be used in community. And when we do that, as

members of a congregation of believers, the gifts increase in effectiveness. Each time I think my gifts are insufficient, other believers can build me up through sharing their gifts. Each time I falter, others can help me gain my balance again. In the sharing of these gifts, the gifts and results grow to the glory of God.

Use the gifts generously that the Spirit has given to you. Share the bounty and build up the body of Christ!

I look forward to seeing you in worship.

- ***Pastor Jim***

MAY Assisting Ministers and Lectors

Assisting Ministers

5/1 A. Johnston & K. Nelson
5/8 M. Mohr & A. Johnston
5/15 M. Achterberg & K. Nelson
5/22 T. Goulet & K. Rogers
5/29 M. Mohr & D. Conrad

Lectors

B. Richards
L. Rostedt
M. Mohr
D. Conrad
T. Scott

New Members

On Easter Sunday, March 27th, we welcomed three new members!

We received **Patricia Henderson** through baptism, and **Ernesto Munoz** and **David Collett** through affirmation of faith.

Together we give thanks and praise to God who gathers us together in community.

We welcome them as brothers and sisters in Christ into the mission we share of bearing Gods creative and redeeming word to all the world.

A Message from the Vicar

As we continue to make our way through the Easter season, we encounter stories of the resurrected Jesus appearing to his disciples. Often it takes the disciples a while to realize that they are in the presence of Jesus. They witnessed the in-breaking of God's reign in Jesus' life of teaching and healing, and yet they still struggle to recognize it in these post resurrection appearances. To be fair, I think we too are caught off guard by the in-breaking of God's reign in our everyday lives. This idea that we might miss something so grand reminds me of a time when I couldn't see something as big as a mountain.

When I moved to Seattle I found a renewed desire to begin taking photos again. I was most excited about being able to catch the pink and purple glow of the sunset reflecting off of Mount Reiner while the city was beginning to glow with street lights. I was actively looking for this mountain that seemed to be so iconic to this city. It turned out that I couldn't see it.

Yes, Seattle is known for being a very grey and rainy place. But it is actually quite sunny and the mountain ranges that surround Seattle are very visible. In my first month, I experienced many sunny days and maybe one or two rainy days – not what I expected at all. Even in all of that sunshine and outdoor time, I still hadn't seen Mount Reiner.

After about a month of living in Seattle I began to think that I would never see Mount Reiner, and that hope for a grand photo began to diminish. Around that time, the office staff of the church took a retreat across the Puget Sound. We visited sights, talked about our hopes for the year ahead, and ate lunch on the beach of the Sound. Wading into the brackish waters, my colleague said, "It's so beautiful today, even Mount Reiner is out!" I excitedly began to scan the horizon, looking for a tiny blip of a mountain. I still couldn't see it! "Where? I can't see it, where is it?" "Right there," she said and pointed off in the distance. "I'm sorry," I replied, "I can't see it." At that time, she picked a landmark and traced across the horizon, and then began

drawing upward, up and up, and finally rounding the top and moving downward.

I finally saw Mount Reiner. It was bigger than I had imagined. I was looking for something small, insignificant. I forgot to look up into the clouds. And once I saw it, I couldn't un-see it. I noticed how I could see the top above the trees as I drove to work, or the way it seemed to be framed by the buildings when I took a different route into the city. Some days were simply breathtaking as the snow and light seemed played with one another.

I think the presence of the Resurrected Christ, and the constant in-breaking of God's reign in our lives is a lot like this. Once we see it, or experience it, we cannot un-see the world without it. Often these in-breaking moments are far bigger, far more breathtaking, than what we could have imagined. And sometimes we need someone to help trace out God's presence in our world. Especially when our view seems hazy with hateful and discriminatory speech, or the pain of lives filled with anxiety, grief, and broken relationships with one another.

We have those people who have traced out God's love. And we are called to be people who not only seek out those sightings of God's in-breaking, but to be people who trace the outline of God's presence for the whole world.

Who might need to know this awesome reality of God in your life today? Go and trace the pattern of God's love for them in your actions and with your words.

- Vicar Mandy



A Note from the Council President

We hope that this newsletter finds everyone well and full of hope.

One of the problems of a small congregation such as ours is volunteerism. With so few active members and so many volunteer positions to fill I hope that everyone will pitch in and help out in best way they know how.

One way to help out is by serving on the Church Council. Every year there is at least one turnover on the Council and this year is no exception. This is my sixth year on Council. I have served as President twice, Vice President once and two consecutive years as secretary. As per our Constitution, I must leave the Council for at least one year leaving a vacancy for a new member and a new President. Council only meets once each month on the second Tuesday of the month for two hours or less. By joining the Council you are not obligated to be President but you get the chance to help run Hollywood Lutheran.

Another way to help, is to volunteer for one of the many committees there are. One of the committees that really needs help and support is the Food Pantry Committee. At the moment I order and pickup food from the L.A. Count Food Bank as well as stock the shelves. On Wednesdays I distribute the food with the help of Bill Richard, Mandy Achterberg and Ron Brown. For the delivery part, I have a couple of volunteers who are not Church members but come to the Pantry each week. They, like me, want to keep the Food Pantry alive.

That being said, we need more help. There is chicken to be bagged each week and often I have to bag bulk rice. Usually I do these functions on Tuesdays. At the first of the month I do the reports that are submitted to the county. Help with any of these jobs would be great!

How about helping the Hospitality Committee? You could help get people to sponsor Fellowship Hour, help make coffee and the worst job, help up clean up after Fellowship Hour.

There other volunteer positions available. If you are able and interested, please see Pastor Bessey or Vicar Achterberg to find a spot for your particular talents.

Here's hoping that you will get out there and volunteer soon!

May God Bless You All

Tom Scott, Council President



"In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

A message from Joan Riedell

Dear church family,

Please accept my deepest thanks and appreciation for your thoughts, calls and prayers during my recent recovery. Each day is better and better. And I'm remembering to slow down a bit. Ah, and sometimes wisdom comes. Thank you and look forward to seeing you soon again.
THANK YOU.

Joan Riedell

Prayer concerns of the community

Jennifer Lineberger, Luisa Jensen, Charles Campbell, Gail Watson and Monica Schober for healing;

Father Hans Kroneberg for trust in your mercy;

Tanya White, Karin Levitan, Joyce Avirette, Mary Hohmann, Cecelia Ortega and Edward Tursa for wholeness and wellbeing;

Raoul Tapia Sr., Mike Glover, Sam Gros, and Lyndia Lowy fighting cancers;

Raynard Lang, Linda Hohmann, Bobby and Mario Melendez for hopefulness and strength.

And all military service men and women who are deployed or serving our country.

Your Gift of Flowers

If you would like to donate flowers for a Sunday morning service, it is easy and affordable.

Each week I pick up flowers and provide arrangements for the front of the altar and the memorial table. The cost is \$30.00. If you would like to donate flowers in memory of someone, or to honor a special person or occasion, please contact the office by Thursday. You can pay for the flowers with a check on Sunday morning. Please designate the donation on your check.

If you would like a larger arrangement or something special, please let us know as soon as possible. This cost is higher.

Also please let us know if you have any questions.

Blessings and Joy to all.

Your humble servant,
Ted Goulet
HLC Sacristan

May Hospitality & Flower Sign-ups

May 1st - Pot Luck _____
May 8th _____
May 15th _____
May 22nd _____ Vicar Mandy _____
May 29th _____

May and June Birthdays

5/16 Ray Huff
5/13 David Collett
5/23 Joyce Avriette

6/20 Brian Anderson
6/24 Janet Weber

A Candle is Lit in Memory of

Brian Asawa -

- lifetime friend and colleague of Tim Leon

Diana Baumeister - *lifetime friend of Joan Riedell*

Beverly Mariano -

- friend and neighbor of Karla and Bill Richards

Michelle Yale - *- avid volunteer & longtime friend of Joan Riedell*

Ways to support the mission of Hollywood Lutheran Church

GIVE ON THE WEEKENDS

Place your check or cash in the offering plate during the Sunday Worship service.

Please make checks or money orders out to Hollywood Lutheran Church.

Food donations for the food pantry may be dropped off at the Church Tuesday through Friday 10 am - 4 pm. Thank you in advance for your donations.

GIVE ONLINE

Here you can give a one-time gift or sign up for recurring giving.

[PayPal](#)

AMAZON SMILE

If you make online purchases through Amazon you can select Hollywood Lutheran Church to receive a percentage of your purchase to support our mission and outreach. Click on the link below to learn more.

[Amazon Smile](#)

VOLUNTER

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the food pantry. We have opportunities on Mondays and Wednesdays. If you enjoy interacting with people and are looking to serve in your community, please contact the office by phone (323) 667-1212 or by email

hollyluth@sbcglobal.net.

This newsletter consists of contributions from members of Hollywood Lutheran Church. If you wish to make a submission for the June Newsletter, please email a word document to hollyluth@sbcglobal.net by May 24th. Contact Vicar Mandy Achterberg or the church office administrator, Megan Mellbye for any questions or comments regarding the monthly newsletter.

May 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Congregational mtg Acts 16:9-15 Rev 21:10,22-22:5 AMs: Andrew Johnston, Kat Johnson Lector- Bill Richards	2	3 2:00 PM Worship/Music Committee meeting	4 11AM Food Pantry	5 2:30-4 Choir Rehearsal 6pm Vicar's Book Study	6	7
8 Mother's Day Acts 16:16-34 Rev 22:12-14, 16-17,20-21 AMs: Mike Mohr, Andrew Johnston Lector- Lori Rostedt	9	10 7 PM Church Council meeting	11 11AM Food Pantry	12 2:30-4 Choir Rehearsal	13	14
15 Pentecost Acts Acts 2:1-21 Or Gen 11:1-9 Rom 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21 AMs: Mandy Achterberg, Kat Nelson Lector-Mike Mohr	16	17	18 11AM Food Pantry	19 2:30-4 Choir Rehearsal	20	21 2:30-4:30 Mariposa Ministry
22 Prov 8:1-4, 22-31 Rom 5:1-5 AMs: Ted Goulet, Karla Richards Lector-David Conrad 12:15 Vicar's Committee, Hoick	23	24	25 11AM Food Pantry	26 2:30-4 Choir Rehearsal	27	28
29 Holy Trinity 1 Kings 8:22-23, 41-43 Gal 1:1-12 AMs: Mike Mohr, David Conrad Lector- Tom Scott	30 Memorial Day	31				



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