



# The Lamplighter



*Our Savior Lutheran Church - ELCA, Quincy, CA*

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Lent GWOH Baby Care Kit Project**
- **Holy Week**
- **Easter Breakfast / Worship**



## Holy Week

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## PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Church Family,

If it feels like we just got done with Christmas and now Easter is on the horizon, you are correct! While Easter occurs more often in April, it does come in March every few years. This is because the date for Easter is determined based on when the first full moon occurs on or after the Spring Equinox. This year, the full moon is on March 25th, so the following Sunday is March 31st, Easter. Of course, as I am writing this, it is snowing inches and inches here in Quincy—more than we've gotten all winter season. Both the church season and the planet's seasons seem a little messed up this year.

We often talk about Lent as being a pilgrimage. This year, more than ever, I have been contemplating how Jesus walks with us in our pilgrimages of life. Our most recent Women's Bible study talked about Holy Places and how with Jesus, holiness is no longer confined to a place, but now lives and moves within him. So, when things may seem a bit messed up, as our seasons, we can rest assured that Jesus is with us, no matter what. That is something I truly appreciate.

Pastor Cathy at CUMC has been offering Zoom devotions each Wednesday, and I'm trying to attend as possible. One question she asked the group was, "what is your prayer for yourself this Lent?" I shared that I'd like to give up resentments. Sometimes, I feel overwhelmed and feel like I can't possibly take on one more thing. But then God sends someone who needs a listening ear or some other kind of help to me and I am called to change my priorities and the "to do" list I had planned. What I need to work on is not feeling resentful and instead feeling thankful for the opportunity to be a part of God's body in the world. So this Lent, I am trying to go more "with the flow" of who and what God sends my way during this pilgrimage with Jesus.

What is your prayer for yourself this Lent? How can you grow in faith or seek spiritual growth? Do you also need to find ways to "go with the flow" more and accept what comes your way, ready or not? Whether we are ready or not, Easter will soon be upon us and the resurrected Jesus will be made known to us anew. Praise be to God!

-Pr. Kendrah

**CALENDAR: MARCH 2024**

**March is Women's History Month**

- Sun. 3/3**      **Lent Week 3**
- Mon. 3/4      Song/Drum Circle 6 pm
- Tue. 3/5      Election Day
- Wed. 3/6      Chair Yoga 11 am
- Wed. 3/6      PCBH Commission meeting 1 pm @ courthouse
- Wed. 3/6**      **Midweek Lent service 5 pm**
- Sat. 3/9      SPS Conference Assembly by Zoom
- Sun. 3/10**      **Daylight Savings Time starts—Spring Forward!**
- Sun. 3/10**      **Lent Week 4**
- Sun. 3/10      Church Council meets after worship
- Mon. 3/11      Dress-a-Girl project 10 am to Noon
- Mon. 3/11      Song/Drum Circle 6 pm
- Wed. 3/13      Chair Yoga 11 am
- Wed. 3/13**      **Midweek Lent service 5 pm**
- Wed. 3/13      Community Supper 6 pm @ Methodist Church
- Thur. 3/14      Women's Bible Study 10 am
- Thur. 3/14      Women's Cancer Support Group 6:30 pm
- Sun. 3/17**      **Lent Week 5 / St. Patrick's Day**
- Mon. 3/18      Song/Drum Circle 6 pm
- Wed. 3/20      Chair Yoga 11 am
- Wed. 3/20**      **Midweek Lent service 5 pm**
- Fri. 3/22—Sat. 3/23      Follies performances at fairground 6 pm and 8 pm
- Sun. 3/24**      **Palm Sunday**
- Mon. 3/25      Drum/Song Circle 6 pm
- Wed. 3/27      Community Supper 6 pm @ Methodist Church
- Thur. 3/28      Women's Bible Study 10 am
- Thur. 3/28**      **Maundy Thursday service @ Methodist Church 6 pm**
- Fri. 3/29**      **Stations of the Cross @ OSLC all day**
- Fri. 3/29**      **Good Friday service @ OSLC 6 pm**
- Sun. 3/31      Easter breakfast 9 am
- Sun. 3/31**      **Easter service 10 am**



**Join Us For Breakfast**

**March Birthdays**

**Chris Peters**                      **19**  
**Kathy Osher**                      **28**

**March Anniversaries**

**None**

**Men's Coffee** meets at Midtown Coffee, Mondays at 8 am.

## CALENDER: APRIL 2024

### Care of Creation Month

- Mon. 4/1 Song/Drum Circle 6 pm
- Wed. 4/3 Chair Yoga 11 am
- Mon. 4/8 Dress-a-Girl project 10 am to Noon
- Wed. 4/10 Community Supper 6 pm @ Methodist Church
- Thur. 4/11 Women's Bible Study 10 am
- Thur. 4/11 Women's Cancer Support Group 6:30 pm
- Sun. 4/14 Church Council meets after worship
- Mon. 4/15 Song/Drum Circle 6 pm
- Wed. 4/16 Chair Yoga 11 am
- Mon. 4/22 Earth Day**
- Mon. 4/22 Song/Drum Circle 6 pm
- Wed. 4/24 Chair Yoga 11 am
- Wed. 4/24 Community Supper 6 pm @ Methodist Church
- Thur. 4/25 Women's Bible Study 10 am
- Fri. 4/26 Arbor Day**
- Mon. 4/29 Song/Drum Circle 6 pm



#### April Birthdays

- Maya Crump** 9
- Claudia Barnes** 11
- Grant Edwards** 19
- Karla Burnworth** 24
- Susan Bradley** 26

#### April Anniversaries

- Chris & Dave Peters** 12

### Women's Bible Study

Our new Bible Study from the Women of the ELCA's *Gather* magazine is a four-session study entitled, "**Scripture and Nature: Teachers of Faith**" by Rev. Sara Olson-Smith. Dates and sessions are scheduled as follows:

3/14 Weather—Biblical stories of extraordinary weather convict and humble us, showing us how to live faithfully.

3/28 Creatures—Human and animal interactions in Scripture can reorient our relationships with non-human creatures and deepen our trust in God.

4/11 Rivers—Through stories of biblical rivers, we receive a vision of flourishing creation.

4/25 Food—Our faithful stewardship of the earth includes paying attention to the ways we eat.



## Financial Secretary's Report through Feb. 20, 2024 by Karla Burnworth

### OSLC Deposit Report 2024

Month	Regular Plate Offering	Hall Rental	Recycling & Refund	Total
Jan.	\$ 1,940.00	\$ 193.00		\$ 2,133.00
Feb.	\$ 5,690.00	\$ 43.00	\$ 8.96	\$ 5,741.96
Mar.				\$ -
Apr.				\$ -
May				\$ -
June				\$ -
July				\$ -
Aug.				\$ -
Sep.				\$ -
Oct.				\$ -
Nov.				\$ -
Dec.				\$ -
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 7,630.00</b>	<b>\$ 236.00</b>	<b>\$ 8.96</b>	<b>\$ 7,874.96</b>



## God's Work, Our Hands Mission Project for Lent: Collection of Items for Baby Care Kits through Lutheran World Relief



Two lightweight cotton T-shirts



Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers



Two receiving blankets



One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap

Please bring any of these items to the church during Lent or donate money toward shipping. Thank you!



Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred



Two pairs of socks



Two or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8-9 oz.



Two diaper pins or large safety pins



One hand towel, dark color recommended

### Treasurer’s Report through January 2024 by Kathy Osher

GENERAL EXPENSES:		Budgeted	January 2024
	Bank Check Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Household Expenses	\$50.00	\$0.00
	Insurance - State Farm	\$3,870.00	\$3,870.00
	Office Expenses (includes web domain)	\$1,500.00	\$159.68
	Sierra Conference	\$100.00	\$0.00
2.5% of regular offerings	Sierra Pacific Synod (Tithe)	\$2,200.00	\$0.00
Registration for 2 people + Fresno hotel	Synod Assembly	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
	Taxes	\$100.00	\$0.00
	Worship Musician (\$65/service)	\$4,225.00	\$195.00
	Worship Supplies	\$750.00	\$18.99
	Education Supplies (VBS)	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$13,795.00</b>	<b>\$4,243.67</b>
<b>PASTOR COMPENSATION</b>			
	Housing	\$15,000.00	\$1,250.00
	Salary (+\$6,967 Pastor's pre-tax ) *	\$30,873.00	\$2,696.08
<b>TOTAL PASTOR COMPENSATION</b>		<b>\$45,873.00</b>	<b>\$3,946.08</b>
		<b>\$52,840.00</b>	
<b>PASTOR EXPENSES</b>			
	Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Mileage	\$1,200.00	\$12.46
(Health, Dental, Retirement)	ELCA Portico (includes \$6,967 above) *	\$24,000.00	\$2,037.19
	Substitute Pastor	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL PASTOR EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$25,200.00</b>	<b>\$2,049.65</b>
<b>UTILITIES</b>			
	Electricity	\$900.00	\$100.13
	Garbage	\$250.00	\$22.00
	Heating	\$3,000.00	\$513.19
	Telephone & Internet	\$1,700.00	\$253.22
	Water & Sewer	\$750.00	\$63.84
<b>TOTAL UTILITIES</b>		<b>\$6,600.00</b>	<b>\$952.38</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$91,468.00</b>	<b>\$11,191.78</b>



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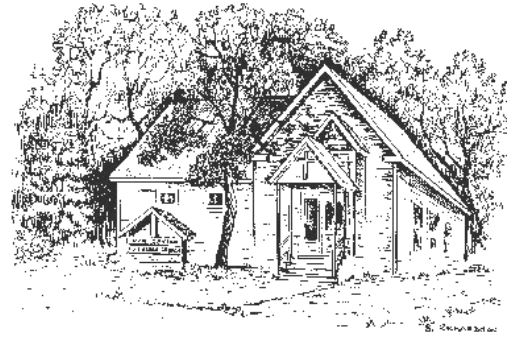
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Mission Statement: *We are a church family who worships together, serves our neighbors, and shares the love and grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

Theme Verse: **Isaiah 54:10:** *“For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the LORD, who has compassion on you.”*



**“Jesus Loves Me” by Lyn Walters**

One of the first songs I ever remember learning was as a three-year-old in Sunday school. Jesus loves me this I know/For the Bible tells me so/Little ones to him belong/They are weak/But He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me/Yes, Jesus loves me/Yes, Jesus loves me/The Bible tells me so.

The first lesson an adult newcomer to the church will learn is that Jesus loves them. And we are taught that Jesus loves us just as we are, nothing more nothing less. And as we study the faith we learn that Jesus loves everyone in the world with this same abiding love.

But what does this love of Jesus really look like? With nearly half the world engaged in some kind of evil, be it fornication, impurity, murder, theft, covetousness, wrath, deceit, insolence, envy, calumny, pride, and every kind of folly, to borrow a short list from Tolstoy, how can Jesus love everybody?

I think it goes back to how we think about the little children of the world. When our two-year-old gets into trouble we do not love him or her less. We may redirect them or discipline them or just grab them up to give them a hug but our love for our child is all encompassing and undiminished. In the same way Jesus sees us doing human things which lead to trouble, but like a good parent still loves us unconditionally.

But Jesus’s love is more than unconditional; it’s proactive. Christ sees us each as a human masterpiece. He sees what we believe would be our best selves if we were not weak but strong. When we’ve felt the very best about ourselves we catch a glimpse of how Jesus sees us.

Just before my dad died, he sent me a photo album he’d made for me from a huge box of family pictures. There were pics from my infancy to when I became a mother of my own infant. Included in this album were some of the most awful photos of me imaginable. My dad had a real sense of humor and I thought he was mocking me. I took out the offenders and burned them. After he died though I had a change of perspective. I realized that my dad had seen all of the pics as beautiful. Lovely photos of his beloved daughter. And I wished I’d have kept the album as he made it, showing his love for me even in instances where I felt I looked terrible.

If my earthly father loved me so much, how much more can Jesus, son of our Heavenly Father, love us when we feel ugly or mean? If anything, Jesus loves us more when we are ugly. So much more in need of his love are we.

