



# The Lamplighter



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

## PASTOR'S LETTER

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Labor of Love—  
GWOH 9/14**
- **New Worship  
Service Start Time  
9:30 am on 9/29**
- **Oktoberfest /  
Bunco 10/26**



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Dear Church Family,

Fall is just around the corner—the nights are getting cooler, gardens are producing here in the mountains, and some leaves are just beginning to turn colors. I love this time of the year! There is a sense of comfort and coziness in our homes at night but still enjoyable temperatures outside during the day. Kids are back to school and involved with many activities while most adults continue our normal schedules. Summer vacations are over for many, but I'm looking forward to my long awaited vacation in October.

Yes, I will be gone two weeks starting Oct. 4th and going through Oct. 17th (on a cruise from Italy to Greece). That means I'll be off two Sundays (the 6th and 13th). However, Pr. Cathy from the Methodist Church (and possibly one of our own members) will be preaching while I am gone. This is feasible since as of Sept. 29th, we will be changing our start time to 9:30 am (see page 2 for an explanation). The Methodist Church services are also changing, to start at 10:30 am. It is hoped that our staggered start times will allow us to coordinate efforts to share preaching, musicians, and special music on occasion. We can now have a choir made up of folks from both churches, and the choir can sing at both churches. I am excited and hopeful that our partnership with the Methodist Church will be strengthened and will lead to good things for both churches going forward.

One combined event between the two churches coming up this fall is our Oktoberfest and Bunco party on Sat. Oct. 26th. We will have a potluck in our fellowship hall followed by Bunco in the back of our sanctuary. We did this for the first time last year and it was a lot of fun. We will likely have some cool prizes, but just enjoying each others' company is the primary goal. Please plan to join in for good food and fellowship!

Of course, we also have our own things going on in the next couple of months. Please see page 4 to learn more about our "God's Work Our Hands" projects and how you can be involved. In addition, our Women's Bible Study is resuming in September. On the last Sunday of October, we will celebrate the Reformation and our church's founder, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther. Please participate in as many of these opportunities as you feel called. Each opportunity can strengthen our relationship with God.

-Pr. Kendrah

**CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER 2024**

- Sun. 9/1 Americana Festival fairgrounds
- Mon. 9/2 Labor Day**
- Wed. 9/4 Chair Yoga 11 am**
- Wed. 9/4 20,000 Lives meeting 11 am at fairgrounds
- Wed. 9/4 PCBH Commission meeting 1 pm
- Wed. 9/4 Hospice Volunteers meeting 2 pm at library
- Thur. 9/5 Women’s Bible Study 10 am**
- Sun. 9/8 Church Council 11 am**
- Wed. 9/11 Chair Yoga 11 am**
- Wed. 9/11 Community Supper 6 pm @ CUMC**
- Wed. 9/11 Wild and Scenic Film Festival 6:30 pm at Town Hall Theatre
- Thur. 9/12 Women’s Cancer Support Group 6:30 pm**
- Sat. 9/14 LABOR OF LOVE (GWOH)—we serve lunch, prep @ OSLC 10 am**
- Sun. 9/15 Hospice Fundraiser 5:30 pm @ Brewing Lair
- Mon. 9/16 Dress-a-Girl 10 am to Noon**
- Mon. 9/16 Song/Drum Circle 6 pm**
- Wed. 9/18 Chair Yoga 11 am**
- Wed. 9/18 Hospice Board 2 pm
- Thur. 9/19 Women’s Bible Study 10 am**
- Wed. 9/25 Chair Yoga 11 am**
- Wed. 9/25 Community Supper 6 pm @ CUMC**
- Sat. 9/28 Sierra Pacific Synod Budget Discussion via Zoom 9 am**
- Sun. 9/29 NEW START TIME FOR WORSHIP—9:30 AM**



The Methodist Church is losing their pianist of 32 years (Alice King) at the end of September. In order to accommodate our wonderful, talented Elsie playing at both our church and the Methodist Church on Sunday mornings, both churches are changing their start times. Since our services are usually shorter, we are going first (9:30 am) so that Elsie has time to get to the Methodist Church at 10:30 am without rushing. We appreciate your patience and flexibility to make this work.

**September Birthdays**

- Elizabeth McAllister 11
- Lori Simpson 29
- Lyn Walters 29
- Kari O’Reilly 30



**September Anniversaries**

None

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

**CALENDER: OCTOBER 2024**

**Wed. 10/2 Chair Yoga 11 am**  
 Wed. 10/2 PCBH Commission meeting 1 pm  
**Thur. 10/3 Women’s Bible Study 10 am**  
**Fri. 10/4 to Thur. 10/17 Pastor on vacation**  
**Wed. 10/9 Chair Yoga 11 am**  
**Wed. 10/9 Community Supper 6 pm**  
**Thur. 10/10 Women’s Cancer Support Group 6:30 pm**  
**Mon. 10/14 Indigenous People’s Day**  
**Wed. 10/16 Chair Yoga 11 am**  
 Sat. 10/19 Mountain Harvest Festival at fairgrounds  
**Sun. 10/20 Church Council**  
**Mon. 10/21 Dress-a-Girl 10 am to Noon**  
**Mon. 10/21 Song/Drum Circle 6 pm**  
**Wed. 10/23 Chair Yoga 11 am**  
**Wed. 10/23 Community Supper 6 pm**  
**Thur. 10/24 Women’s Bible Study 10 am**  
**Sat. 10/26 Oktoberfest and Bunco 5:30 pm with CUMC**  
**Sun. 10/27 Reformation Sunday**  
 Thur. 10/31 Safe Trick-or-Treat 3 pm—5:30 pm downtown Quincy



**October Birthdays**

<b>David Levine</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Jan Cook</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Heron Albrecht</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Acer Albrecht</b>	<b>30</b>



**October Anniversaries**

<b>Grant &amp; Cindy Edwards</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Gene &amp; Becky Mills</b>	<b>25</b>

**Women’s Bible Study**

Our new Bible Study from the Women of the ELCA’s *Gather* magazine is entitled, “**After Certainty**” by Rev. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni

**9/5 Session One: Curiosity**—Holy curiosity can lead us, like our Biblical ancestors, to where God’s love in Jesus transforms “what is” to “what could be.”

**9/19 Session Two: Community**—Salvation is not a reward for our certainty, but a gift granted in and through community.

**10/3 Session Three: Compassion**—Jesus’ teachings and the apostle Paul’s writings urge us to choose compassion over correctness—offering us guidance in a polarized time.

## Financial Secretary’s Report through August 30, 2024 by Karla Burnworth

Month	Regular Plate Offering	Hall Rental	Recycling & Refund	ELCA World Hunger	LWR Baby Kit Fund	Refund	Total
Jan.	\$ 1,940.00	\$ 24.00					\$ 1,964.00
Feb.	\$ 5,690.00	\$ 212.00	\$ 8.96				\$ 5,910.96
Mar.	\$ 24,500.00	\$ 64.00	\$ 37.68	\$ 15.40			\$ 24,617.08
Apr.	\$ 3,234.00	\$ 330.00			\$ 100.00		\$ 3,664.00
May	\$ 8,368.00	\$ 132.00	\$ 50.88			\$ 10.20	\$ 8,561.08
June	\$ 4,450.00	\$ 32.00	\$ 46.03		\$ 200.00		\$ 4,728.03
July	\$ 8,806.00	\$ 68.00	\$ 6.40				\$ 8,880.40
Aug.	\$ 8,820.00	\$ 117.15			\$ 79.88		\$ 8,417.03
Sep.							\$ -
Oct.							\$ -
Nov.							\$ -
	\$ 65,208.00	\$ 979.15	\$ 149.95	\$ 15.40	\$ 379.88	\$ 10.20	\$ 66,742.58



### God’s Work, Our Hands Mission Projects

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the LWR Baby Care Kits and to those who helped put them together! We have 12 wonderful kits (representing over \$1,000 in goods) which we will bless during worship on “God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday, September 8th. We will deliver the kits to a collection site in Redding or Sacramento this fall.

According to the ELCA’s website regarding GWOH day, “This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — **one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor**. Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life — flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.”

### **GWOH—Labor of Love Lunch**

We have another opportunity for folks to do a GWOH project on **Saturday, September 14th**. Our church has been asked to serve lunch to the Labor of Love crew at Pioneer Park. We will meet at the church at 10 am to assemble sandwiches. Then we will transport the lunch items to the park around 11:30 am. We serve lunch around noon and clean-up around 12:30 pm. A sign-up for food items and volunteer times will be passed around during worship the first two Sundays of September. Please plan to participate as you are able. **Thank you!**



**Treasurer’s Report through July 2024 by Kathy Osher**

<b>GENERAL EXPENSES:</b>		<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Jun-24</b>	<b>Jul-24</b>	<b>YTD Spent</b>	<b>Balance</b>
	Bank Check Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Household Expenses	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23.59	\$26.41
	Insurance - State Farm	\$3,870.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,870.00	\$0.00
	Office Expenses (includes web domain)	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$197.89	\$812.12	\$687.88
	Sierra Conference	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
2.5% of regular offer-	Sierra Pacific Synod	\$2,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,200.00
Registration for 2 people + Fresno hotel	Synod Assembly	\$1,000.00	\$747.44	\$0.00	\$1,297.44	<b>-\$297.44</b>
	Taxes	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
	Worship Musician (\$65/ service)	\$4,225.00	\$325.00	\$260.00	\$2,340.00	\$1,885.00
	Worship Supplies	\$750.00	\$12.23	\$0.00	\$427.41	\$322.59
	Education Supplies (VBS)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$13,795.00</b>	<b>\$1,084.67</b>	<b>\$457.89</b>	<b>\$8,770.56</b>	<b>\$5,024.44</b>
<b>PASTOR COMPENSATION</b>						
	Housing	\$15,000.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,250.00	\$8,750.00	\$6,250.00
	Salary (+\$6,967 Pastor's pre-tax ) *	\$30,873.00	\$2,561.54	\$2,561.54	\$18,065.32	\$12,807.68
<b>TOTAL PASTOR COMPENSATION</b>		<b>\$45,873.00</b>	<b>\$3,811.54</b>	<b>\$3,811.54</b>	<b>\$26,815.32</b>	<b>\$19,057.68</b>
		<b>\$52,840.00</b>				
<b>PASTOR EXPENSES</b>						
	Continuing Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Mileage	\$1,200.00	\$13.40	\$432.15	\$755.83	\$444.17
(Health, Dental, Re-	ELCA Portico (includes	\$24,000.00	\$2,037.20	\$2,037.20	\$14,260.35	\$9,739.65
	Substitute Pastor	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL PASTOR EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$25,200.00</b>	<b>\$2,050.60</b>	<b>\$2,469.35</b>	<b>\$15,016.18</b>	<b>\$10,183.82</b>
<b>UTILITIES</b>						
	Electricity	\$900.00	\$86.18	\$87.21	\$680.40	\$219.60
	Garbage	\$250.00	\$50.74	\$22.00	\$182.74	\$67.26
	Heating	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,125.94	\$874.06
	Telephone & Internet	\$1,700.00	\$109.00	\$109.00	\$1,186.60	\$513.40
	Water & Sewer	\$750.00	\$64.45	\$72.17	\$455.83	\$294.17
<b>TOTAL UTILITIES</b>		<b>\$6,600.00</b>	<b>\$310.37</b>	<b>\$290.38</b>	<b>\$4,631.51</b>	<b>\$1,968.49</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$91,468.00</b>	<b>\$7,257.18</b>	<b>\$7,029.16</b>	<b>\$55,233.57</b>	<b>\$36,234.43</b>





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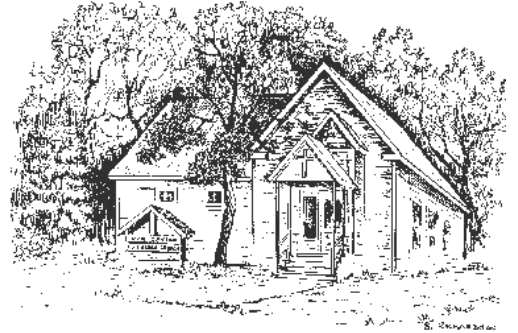
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Mission Statement: *We are a church family who worships together, serves our neighbors, and shares the love and grace of our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

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.”*



### **“A Message from God” By Lyn Walters**

One morning I received an email saying I would be bitten by a snake on August 7th and there was no way to avoid it. The Bible is filled with portents and precognitions.

A rainbow is a sign of God’s love for mankind and the earth and His promise not to destroy them again by catastrophic flood.

I also think of Jacob, that great dream interpreter, who predicts while in prison that the king of Egypt will restore his chief butler to his former place of honor but will order his chief baker to be hanged and left for the birds to eat, both in a matter of three days.

The whole Hebrew people lived for a time under the influence of the great prophets who foretell God’s will to His people.

A heavenly dove is a sign of God’s love for His Son with whom He is well pleased on the shores of the Jordan.

Jesus himself forecasts his crucifixion and resurrection by telling his disciples that he is the temple which will be destroyed and rebuilt in three days.

Predictions and symbols are things which the Bible treats seriously. So what do you make of a premonition that falls into your lap like my snake bite email?

First, I asked myself what it meant exactly. Would I be bitten by a literal snake? Or was it a symbolic thing? Like I’d be hit while driving by a Dodge Viper? Or even worse was it a metaphorical snake bite such as becoming seized by an evil thought or desire?

“Fear not,” are often among the first words spoken by angels to whom they are appearing. I think of Mary in the first chapter of Luke. Angels, literally messengers from God, are not agents of fear although they might appear frightful.

God does not deal in hexes. Therefore a prediction of a snake bite is suspect on its face. Granted, humans have instincts that sense and guard them from danger. In this way we can look at fear as a kind of gift from God which helps us avoid and ward off evil.

But no. God’s messages whether signs, premonitions, dreams, or angels, deal in the language of love. God’s messages are optimistic and life affirming. They may seem scary at first because they are often meant to challenge you to spread your creaky wings and soar to higher places. God’s messages may offer more freedom than you are comfortable with, a life with fewer boundaries. God’s messages are always about living a life that is more lively.

So you can rest assured that getting bitten by a snake on August 7th or anything else like that isn’t even in God’s territory even if God is in the details.

