



HARK! THE HERALD

The Newsletter of St. Luke's Anglican Church, Merced, CA

September 2016



From the Pastor's Desk

Fall is a time of new beginnings. Children and grandchildren return to school. Here at the church, we hear the traffic of Merced College students rushing to class by car and foot. We have many new students, staff, and faculty for UC Merced moving to town. It is a time of students becoming excited about learning new subjects and entering into new adventures. New Year's Day seems to be the time when people make new resolutions that they usually break. Fall is the time when people sign up for classes, start new jobs, move to new places, and make real commitments. Fall is a time for real growth.

I have started making a monthly checklist of books to read, skills to work on, and new tasks to begin. I am enjoying seeing my list shrink as I complete items throughout the month. I am also finding that a monthly checklist is just about right for me. My checklist for "today" and "this week" tend to focus only on urgent tasks. My ideas for "this year" can easily become a day dream about things I might or might not ever start (much less finish). My list for "this month" gives me room to start new things when I have the time, to focus past the urgent, and to make small but significant changes. Starting things "this month" helps me grow.

This month at St. Luke's, we will be starting two new opportunities for growth. I hope you will get involved in at least one.

The Anglican Class: What does it mean to be Anglican? Why do we worship the way we do at St. Luke's? What is our history? Our liturgy? Our theology? What do we have in common, and what are the differences, with other Christians?

Sunday mornings, every other week, after the service (beginning 30 minutes after the service)

All are welcome, whether you have been at St. Luke's for 60 years or first heard of Anglicanism last week.

Required for those seeking confirmation (along with our introduction to Christianity class, which was completed by some last year, and will be offered again)

Reading for the class:

The Anglican Way: A Guidebook by Thomas McKenzie

This is an easily read introduction to Anglicanism, available through Amazon. If you would like to take the class, please order it as soon as possible. I also recommend it, even if you cannot attend.

Bible Study: I will also begin offering a weekday morning Bible study on Wednesdays at 10am.

Every week, we hear readings from the Old Testament, at least one psalm, the New Testament epistles, and a gospel. Most weeks, the sermon focuses on the gospel reading, but gives much less attention to the other readings. Beginning this fall, our Bible study will focus on the books of the Bible that we do not hear as much preaching on. The books we choose will match up with the Sunday readings. However, we will focus beyond the readings for each week, on the “big picture” of each book.

Our first readings will be on 1st and 2nd Timothy. Often called “the Pastoral Epistles,” these letters from the Apostle Paul include teaching about leading churches, but they go far beyond that. They teach all of us how to be a church, and how to live out the gospel together. We will explore these letters throughout much of September and October.

Don't just listen to the Epistles read on Sunday! Come learn about and discuss them during the week!

Finally, I would like to note one minor change about **announcements**. I have heard from many of you (especially on the Worship Commission) that we would benefit from shorter, simpler announcements during the Sunday service. We come to worship, prepare our hearts before the service, and are ready to enter into the liturgy at 9am!

I am so glad to hear this, and we are looking for ways to help with this. Max Dalrymple, at the request of the worship commission, has offered to help create a new bulletin board which we can use to highlight announcements as people enter or exit church. This will free us from having to provide so much information before the service begins. I will still



Christian Nurture at St. Luke's

Sundays

Children's Church meets in Norvell Hall during the worship service and is for children in the primary grades. They follow a liturgy designed for them that is based on the gospel lesson for that Sunday.

Church Growth Commission

The commission will meet again on Saturday, September 10, 2016 - 10:00am in the Emma Hunt Room.

Brainstorming and discussion are encouraged! Our group usually involves from 8-12 people once a month for an hour. So please join us or just email Shirley at Luke22935@aol.com.

Remember

First Friday Family Fellowship time has changed to 6—8 pm.

Up-Coming Events

SEPT 2—First Friday Family Fellowship 6—8 pm in Norvell Hall.

RSVP to Victoria Schuller @ 631-2590

Bring an appetizer and drink.

SEPT 4—Sisters of Prayer 10:30 am

SEPT 5— Labor Day Office Closed

SEPT 10 —Growth Commission 10 am

SEPT 13 —Men's Night Out Location TBA 6—8 pm

SEPT 15 —Vestry Meeting 5:30 pm

SEPT 18—Worship Commission 11 am

Pantry News

September Needs:

Peanut butter, cereal, and canned fruit.

Thanks so much for your donations in August!



welcome everyone on Sunday mornings, and I may briefly mention one or two key announcements. However, this will be primarily to point people toward the bulletin board, the Herald, or announcements in their bulletins. We are hoping to greatly reduce the length of announcements in the service.

In order to do this, I am asking that anyone who has an announcement that they would like to share to please email it to me no later than Thursday at noon on the week they would like it to be shared. If you are unable to email the announcement, please bring a written copy to the church by that time. This will allow me give the announcement to Max or otherwise post it before Sunday. Only “emergency” announcements (such as sharing that someone was admitted to the hospital in the last day or two) will be shared otherwise.

Thank you for your understanding, as we seek to focus more and more on worshipping our Lord!

Tote Bag Project

Yes, we have sold 36 to parishioners and friends! More will be coming. These might make good Christmas gifts at \$10.00 each. See Nancy Wickstrom if you want to place an order.

Coffee Hour Ministry

SEP 4 Karlyne Paul, Victoria Schuller, Nevin & Stephanie Koepnick

SEP 11 Trudy Holck,

SEP 18

SEP 25 Maria Laurel, Darby Minturn

Alpha Pregnancy Help Center

700 Loughborough Dr. Suite A

Merced, Ca. 95348 (209) 383-4700



Surrendering the Secret

Heal the Heartbreak of Abortion

a Bible study designed to heal the heartbreak of abortion

Fall Groups Forming Now

for confidential information

on healing

please contact



“

I am so thankful for this experience and God's faithfulness

even to the doubters (Which I was) because I was

once an

”

Diocese of San Joaquin Defense Fund

Make check payable to St. Luke's Church, earmarked for the Defense Fund.

By representing the Diocese, they are representing us.

Remember them in your prayers during the final process.

News from the Diocese may be found at: www.dioceseofsanjoaquin.net.



Weekly Services

Sundays

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion [Children's Church meets during the Service]

Church Staff

The Most Rev. Dr. Foley Beach, Archbishop,
Anglican Church in North America

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Eric Vawter Menees, Bishop

The Rev. Ryan Bradley, Rector, E-mail: rector@stlukesmerced.org

Mrs. Mady Montague, Choir Director;

Mrs. Patti McClain, Administrative Assistant; Mrs. Sue Linardos, Sexton

Members of the Vestry

Class of 2016

Mrs. Sylvia Bankson, Mr. Richard Blank, Mr. Fred Dutton

Class of 2017

Mrs. Linda Meyer, Sr. Warden; Mr. Mike Waite, Jr. Warden; Mr. Rob Mercurio

Class of 2018

Mr. Ed Gardner, Mrs. Kathy Hill, Mrs. Maria Laurel

Mrs. Karlyne Paul, Treasurer; Mr. Jim Hill, Clerk

Diocesan Convention Delegates

Norman Montague, Calvin Nixon, Shirley Vaughn-Hulbert; Karlyne Paul, alternate.

Contact Us

St. Luke's Anglican Church

Office Business Hours:
M - F 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Phone: (209) 383-1888

FAX: (209) 383-4935

Web site:

www.stlukesmerced.org

E-mail:

office@stlukesmerced.org

ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR
HARK! THE HERALD IS THE
20TH OF EACH MONTH.

Send articles to:

office@stlukesmerced.org

Visit us at our website:

www.stlukesmerced.org

A Welcoming Family...Worshipping Christ...Sharing His love with others

St. Luke's Anglican Church

350 W. Yosemite Ave.

Merced, CA 95348

Address Service Requested

PLACE
STAMP
HERE