



first lutheran
church

Rest. Heal. Grow. Love. Serve. Belong.

the torch



Volume 9, Issue 7
November 2016

Musings

Start Spreading the News

What do you think of when you hear the word “evangelist?”

Is it someone who delivers great sermons? A good Sunday school teacher? How about one of those itinerant preachers who set up their tents as they go from town to town?

Years ago you would have been right with such descriptions of an evangelist, but these days... not so much.

One magazine article tells the story of a fellow who searched for job openings for evangelists, and of the 611 matches, **none** were for churches. **All** were for secular companies like Microsoft.

I’m sure you’re thinking, how can that be? For the answer to this question, we have to go back to the definition of an evangelist, which is one who brings a message of good news.

Apparently companies today believe that their products — like the latest Samsung phone, an iPad, or a car with a rearview camera that will keep you from backing into or over anything or anyone — are good news for all of us.

All of these things are good news in a way. They change our lives, they change how we do

things, and people get really excited over them.

But ask yourself this. What do *I* really get excited over? What good news do I bring to my family and friends? Is the best news I can share with them really how many megapixels my new phone’s camera has?

Sisters and brothers, if we have asked Jesus into our hearts to be the Lord of our lives, then we are called to be evangelists in some way, shape, or form. We bring people the **best news** there is! We bring life-saving news. The news that Jesus Christ is Lord of all, and that through His sacrifice on Calvary’s cross, He offers all who believe acceptance, forgiveness, and eternal life.

That is truly wonderful news. Great news! Yes, even better news than a 12-megapixel camera.

Pastor Mike



Deadline to submit items for the next issue of The Torch: Monday — November 28, 2016



Advent by Candlelight

Friday, December 2 at 6:55 pm

The countdown begins. Only one month left till our 8th annual Advent by Candlelight on Friday, December 2. “Sing We Now of Christmas” is the theme, and as you can guess, we will be doing some singing. We’ll take a look at the history of a few well-known Christmas carols to see how they came to be. There will also be vocal solos and duets, Helen Steiner Rice readings, and of course, Scripture readings.

Sign-up sheets will be by the Patio Room each Sunday now through November 20. If you are inclined to host a table, we have twelve available. As a table

host or hostess (yes, men ARE included), remember that you only need to decorate your table and provide a dessert for the guests at your table. (This is a dessert-only evening, not a full meal.) If it sounds like too much, consider co-hosting with a friend. It’s easier when you share the responsibilities.

Hosts and hostesses invite guests, but there’s always room for all who wish to attend. There will also be a sign-up sheet for space-available seating. If you would like to attend, don’t be shy—sign up! If you are later invited to join a table, we’ll just move your name over to the appropriate place. We have been fortunate in the past seven years that no one has been turned away. If you want to come, add your name to the list. We do our best to seat everyone who wants to attend.

Come to enjoy the ambience, the music, the dessert, the message, and the fellowship. It’s what we do at First Lutheran, and it’s all good!

Talk to Juanita Eddings (tutame@att.net or 741-3083) or Barbara Franckowiak (barbara@flcyc.org or 673-8894) if you want more information.

EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

Wednesdays at 5:30 pm

COMMUNITY DINNER

(If you would be willing to help cook, please see Pastor Mike or check the sign-up sheet. We can always use people to clean up the dining room and wash dishes.)

Sunday, November 6 at 10:00 am

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE

Installation of Sean Jones and Richard Prickett as deacons. Rev. Robert Newton, C-N-H District President, will deliver the message.

Saturday, November 19

GOOD SEED CHURCH COMMUNITY DINNER

Sunday, November 20 *(between worship services)*

LWML BAKE SALE

Wednesday, November 23 at 6:45 pm

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Thursday, November 24

THANKSGIVING DAY—OFFICE CLOSED

Friday, November 25

OFFICE CLOSED

NOTE: For a full calendar of events, please see Sunday announcements, the online calendar... or contact the church office.

LWML Chatter

“Be still, and know that I am God.”

Psalm 46:10a

It takes great effort to be quiet and still. The outside world would have us be active and surrounds us with noise. We ourselves turn on the radios, stereos and TV’s. Nature supplies noise through barking dogs, meowing cats, singing birds, bounding waves, strong winds, thunderstorms, etc.

Why should we be still? The psalmist answers with the “and.” We need to remember that our almighty and loving God is in charge. Take time to be quiet. Turn off the noises and listen.

We know the story of Elijah who ran away from Jezebel and fled to the mountains. God spoke to him in a small voice [1 Kings 19:12].

“Listen, God is calling”

Hymn 833

“Come, unto Me, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28

More . . .

Be sure to look at the attachments to your newsletter.

Every month we include the LCMS Pray for Us Calendar, prayer requests submitted by co-workers in the

Lord’s mission. Here you’ll find daily prayers for those in mission at home and abroad.

This month you’ll also see a flyer about “text giving.” There are many ways to contribute to the ministries of FLC—cash or check in the Sunday offering, online, and the latest method... via text.

thanksgiving
gather
thankful family
blessed grateful
together blessings
november



Serving at FLC

Readers

10:00 am

Nov 6 **Barbara Franckowiak**

8:30 am

Nov 13 **Barbara Swift**

Nov 20 **Buck Foster**

Nov 27 **Ellen Hackerd**

10:30 am

Nov 13 **Gail Clutter**

Nov 20 **Tim Dorcy**

Nov 27 **Barbara Franckowiak**

Communion Preparation

Nov 6 & 20 — **Vannett**

Look Who's Celebrating in November

Birthdays

6 **Pat Kiesow**

7 **Don Reeves**

16 **James Thornton**

17 **Lotte Steurer**

18 **Betsy Olivera**

19 **Dalton Putman**

21 **Ann Buffey**

23 **Virginia Washburn**

27 **Caden Jones**

29 **Ellen Hackerd**

Anniversaries

10 **Sean and Samantha Jones**

23 **John and Linda Magenheimer**



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Our Mission Statement

Bringing the Word of God and Christ's gift of salvation into every life as the hands and feet of Jesus, meeting physical and spiritual needs.

850 Cooper Ave - Yuba City CA 95991

Phone: (530) 673-8894 + FAX: (530) 673-3454

email: office@flcyc.com + On the web at www.flcyc.org

We Are First Lutheran Church.