



# The Messenger

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
Paradise, California

November 2011

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## The Pastor's Pen

**Rev. Mark C. Stenbeck**  
Pastor

**John Hantelman**  
Lay Assistant

**Cheryl Mock**  
Day Care Director

**Del Wade**  
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God has promised that no matter what happens in this world, He has taken care of our eternity. John 6:47 says, "**Truly, truly, I say to you, if you believe you have eternal life.**" That is God's unbreakable promise to you. And it is just that simple. In Mark it says, "**He that believes and is baptized will be saved.**"

This is God's promise to each and every one of us. Through faith in Jesus Christ, we can live forever. "**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved.**" But we still live in the world don't we? What does Paul say about facing the sinful world in which we live. He says, "**let your requests be made known unto God.**" God wants to do more for us than we can even think to ask. God says, "**Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.**" God says, "**pray without ceasing.**" God commands us to pray, because He has promised to listen, to hear, and to answer.

We want to note here that part of the way God answers is **through His people.** We in the body of Christ are to care about each other and want to help each other. If the cares and concerns and worries of this world are hanging over us we are to share them with our brothers and sisters and let them pray and react and help us. And then when they need our help, we are to pray for them, and cry with them, and lift them up when they fall. The Apostle Paul tells us what the ultimate result will be when we can give our needs to God. "**And the peace of God which is above all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ.**"

Christians are happy people. Happy here on earth because we have our priorities straight. We know what is important and lasting. Christians can be happy because we know that eternal life is much more important than anything that will happen in this world. The world searches for this kind of peace in many wrong places. Drugs, alcohol, food, money, power etc. but they don't find the peace they want deep inside. Only in a personal relationship to Jesus Christ, do we find the peace we need to survive in this world and prepare for the next.

As you gather with your family and church family to celebrate Thanksgiving, give all the thanks and honor and praise to the God who loves and forgives you.

## PHEBIANS



Bev Knaak opened our October Phebian meeting with a devotional on LWML mites. This was in conjunction with LWML Sunday that had been celebrated on Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Those present received a copy of the September 2011 Treasurer's Report. The Phebian account has \$111.85 available in Unrestricted Working Funds. On a monthly basis, the Phebians continue to support LWML mites, LCMS World Relief, Care Net Pregnancy Resource Center and the Larsen Family in Guatemala through Lutheran Bible Translators. On LWML Sunday, the special collection for California-Nevada-Hawaii LWML Mission Grants raised an amazing \$807.17. We thank again our Church family for their continuing support and generosity.

Last minute details were finalized for the Smiles Luncheon which was held on Thursday, October 6, 2011. The menu was chicken casserole, jello salad, green beans, rolls and cupcakes. As always, those present enjoyed John Hantelman as MC and the Daycare children's singing. An additional thank you to the Daycare kids and their teachers for making the decorative placemats for the luncheon. Thank you again to the **many** who helped put smiles on the 108 faces of those attending. This was also quite an increase from the 70 we served last year.

At the Phebian meeting, our special guest speaker was Ruth Hantelman who shared "her story" with us. This was the second in

our three part series-"We All Have a Story". While Ruth's path in life led to nursing as did Thelma Hostetter's, how God called her to nursing and then ultimately to mission work and her continuing work in Paradise with CareNet was by a different path. A good reminder to us that God has chosen a path for each of us that is individually our own.

The Zone 12 Fall Rally was held at Grace Lutheran Church in Gridley on October 15th. The theme of the Rally was "Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord is the Rock Eternal." Isaiah 26:4. Janet Niemeyer, Founder of the Caring for Women Center in Oroville was guest speaker and Pastor Zabdi Lopez led us in Bible Study. Janet shared her story on how the Lord led her to start the Center and the work of the Center. Bible study included small group discussion on how to bring people into our churches. Linda Allen, District LWML Recording Secretary was also in attendance and brought us up to date on District events and Mission Grant Proposals. The Phebians issued an invitation for all to come to Paradise for the May 12, 2012 Spring Rally. An offering was taken for the Caring for Women Center and a special offering was taken for LWML District Mission Grants. Zone Officer elections for 2011-2013 were held at the Rally. Current and newly elected Zone Officers are: Kathy Richardson (Paradise), President; Martha Dubke (Red Bluff), Vice President; Kathy Pfeifer (Redding) Secretary; Kerry Link (Red Bluff), Treasurer.

At our November meeting, we will hear Lovetta Ewing's Story and also work on a craft item for the Bake and Craft Sale. If you

have craft items for the sale contact Sharon Kemp (872-2666). Carol Arrington is in charge of the baked items (872-9160). Proceeds from the sale go to Bethesda community homes (Good Shepherd). The Bake and Craft Sale is scheduled for November 20th.

November's Phebian Human Care project will be crafts and baked items for the Good Shepherd/Bethesda sale on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Our next meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, November 7th and hostesses are Carol Arrington and Cyndi Eiler.

In His Service,

Kathy Richardson, President  
Bev Knaak, Vice President  
Judy Joksch, Secretary  
Andrea Bowen, Treasurer

## ALTAR GUILD MEETING

There will be a meeting for members of the Altar Guild on Saturday, November 12 at 10:00 a.m. This is for both our new and returning members. If you have your guidelines, please bring them with you to the meeting (new members will receive theirs at the meeting). The 2012 schedule will also be set. If you are interested in joining the Altar Guild, please see Kathy Richardson. The faithful work of the Altar Guild is truly appreciated.





## MEETINGS

### Circuit Forum

Sunday afternoon, November 13<sup>th</sup> Pastor Mark and a lay delegate from our congregation will gather at St. Paul, Red Bluff with other members of the North Sacramento Circuit and nominate a circuit counselor and vote on possible motions to be made to the April 2012 California-Nevada-Hawaii District Convention

### Annual Voters Assembly

Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> we will hold our Annual Voters' Assembly meeting.

All members of our congregation who are age 18 or older are eligible to become voting members and help us make the decisions that guide our congregation. For the most part our congregation's routine decisions are made by the monthly meeting of the members of the Church Council. That is why the election of officers and board members is an important duty of the Voters' Assembly. The voters select those who will lead the congregation in the coming year. We also adopt the budget guidelines that guide us in the following year. This year we will also elect our delegate to the CNH District Convention who will have the privilege to cast our congregation's vote for the president of synod.

We hope you will join us Sunday afternoon, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

We are blessed that with the use of pre-printed reports, budget drafts, and officer slates our meetings are not lengthy and quickly cover the necessary business.

Our "Pie Fellowship" after the meeting has also become an annual tradition so come join us and get an early piece of Thanksgiving Pumpkin Pie.



### CNH Pastors' Conference

The recent pastor's conference held at the Hilton Hotel in Stockton was an excellent conference. The main speaker was Pastor & Professor Larry Harvala who led a seminar on revitalizing preaching. With humor and good common sense, he led us through the sessions which were thought provoking and interesting. His sense of humor greatly added to our time together. There were the usual "Ole and Lena" jokes that seem prevalent in the LCMS. Lena brought Ole to the doctor and wanted to know what was wrong with him. The doctor looked at Ole who had a stalk of celery sticking out of one ear and a carrot sticking out the other. The doctor said, "Well, for one thing, he doesn't seem to be eating right." (Insert groans here).

Speaking of being the District President of the North Dakota District he mentioned that two of his assistants had licenses to carry concealed weapons and frequently wore their pistols. At one conference where the preacher was particularly bad and long winded, the president whispered to his assistant "Do you have your

gun with you?" To which the assistant asked, "To use on him or yourself?"

The middle afternoon is left open for fellowship and recreation. Some golf, some play tennis, some sight-see and this year some went to shoot clay pigeons at a local range. As I mentioned in a sermon, the picture of the 15 or so guys with their shotguns was posted with the caption, "New CNH Conflict Resolution Committee".

The evening after recreation afternoon, is the banquet. The food was good this year and seemed to be enjoyed by all. One portion of the program was to mention that one of our LCMS Chaplains was to be awarded the St. Martin of Tours Award which is given for 20 years of service as a military chaplain. They asked all recipients to stand and be recognized. I was proud to be one of the four who could stand and also to realize that two of the other three had served under my chaplain command and I had personally assisted the 4<sup>th</sup> in receiving his commission into the chaplaincy. Mostly I guess that just means I am the "old man" among the Chaplains who have served more than 20 years from our District.

I thank the congregation for annually budgeting funds so that I can attend this "required" conference. I usually say, "I go for the fellowship and a break in the routine and if the program is any good that is gravy." There was lots of gravy this trip and it was good to be with my brothers in faith who I had not seen since before Ellie's most recent battle with cancer.

## Just what you always wanted.... But not very much!

From time to time I am asked if I have a copy of my sermon available. And from time to time I then print them out for whoever is making the request.

Recently college student Ben Hall, who is taking some time off and staying with family and working in Canada, emailed to let me know that his girlfriend's pastor was posting his sermons on a blog so that people could view them in print. He shared that it was fairly easy to do.

So I have created a blog. If you go to:

[oslcpardise.blogspot.com](http://oslcpardise.blogspot.com)

you can find recent Sunday sermons that have been posted.

Longer term, we may be able to add this feature to our website or even provide audio "podcasts," but for now we hope this feature will be helpful to a few of you.

## Sound System

Recent intermittent problems with our sound system have been resolved by the replacement of the "mixer." With this replacement we seem to have also improved the sound coming from the pulpit and lectern mikes as well as with the lapel mike that Pastor uses. Our thanks to Tolar Audio/Video who diagnosed the problem and located a new mixer to fit with our "old" system.



## Stained Glass

We are in preliminary discussion with an artist to consider putting stained glass in the windows of the overflow area of our sanctuary. Pastor and family are interested in a window showing Christ and children in honor of our day care ministry and in memory of Ellie. Bev Knaak is interested in providing a window that would honor our congregation's service to community and country in honor of Mel. Other preliminary thoughts include a possible depiction of "The Widow's Mite" in honor of our LWML and their ministry.

If and when drawings are produced, they will be shared for comment and consideration.

## Health And Wellness Ministry

From time to time we call your attention to articles contained in or extracted from the Mayo Clinic Health Letter. Some are too lengthy to attach to The Messenger, but we can make them available for those interested in the subject. We also frequently post them on the H & W bulletin board in Luther Hall.

"Peripheral Neuropathy" is a condition that produces potentially disabling nerve problems especially in your hands and feet. A copy of this article is posted on the H & W bulletin board.

"Maximizing your Benefit from Chemotherapy" is a six page report that is a bit too long to post on the bulletin board. We all know of some of our members or family or friends who have or are battling cancer, and this "special report" may be helpful (Subtitle: Supportive strategies to improve qualities of life). If you want a copy of this Special Report ask any of our H & W board or Jean in the church office for a copy.

FLU SHOTS: it is time to get our preventative shots for flu season. If your doctor gives them, this is best or most drug stores are now administering the shots. Medicare will pay the cost if you are covered by Medicare. Otherwise check with your medical insurance plan or drug store. November is a good time to get flu shots. Don't delay. Or ask your doctor.

*Al Rubke*

## Thank You



Thank you to our church family for your prayers and support and all of the kindnesses that you have shown us. Thank you to those who made arrangements for the shower and to those who were able to attend and for the wonderful gifts. We are blessed to be part of a such a caring congregation.

*Shane, Kari & Kaimbree Tosse*

## Day Care

Fall is here and the weather is getting cooler. The days are getting shorter and the evenings a little longer. The children are needing jackets in the early mornings. We have had our first good rain to clean the air of summer dust and pollen. The mornings are crisp and fresh and our big toy needs wiping off in the morning from the dew and rain. Our trees will soon be losing their leaves and we will be raking up piles for the children to jump in. This is one of the best parts of fall.



As I was walking up to Timothy Hall to get the van ready for daily van runs, as I do every day, I was looking up at the beautiful sky admiring the moon. It was a full moon. I heard the weather forecaster say the night before that it was called the “hunter’s moon” as opposed to last month’s full moon which was called the “harvest moon”. As I continued walking, I looked down at the sidewalk and there was a dew on the ground that looked like tiny crystals. It glimmered and was very beautiful. At that moment I stopped and thanked God for this beautiful place he has given us to live in. This month we will have Thanksgiving and I hope everyone of you will stop and thank God for all His Blessings and for everything we have. Thank Him also for all the beautiful children He has blessed the Day Care with.

The classes will begin many fall projects in the month of November. If you are around, please check out the Pre-School bulletin board, “Look Who We’ve Fallen For”. We would love to have you come and see the children’s art work on the bulletin boards.

The Pre-K class has been working on a unit about space. They are learning some facts about the planets, what keeps us from falling off the earth, and the most important aspect of all is who made the earth and who put it all in place. The children are learning that God is the one who has made us and our beautiful world along with space.

The children will be fixing harvest feasts for the month of November as well as doing many other art activities for harvest time. The rest of the year is extremely busy and we will keep you up to date on all of our activities.

♥ in Christ  
*Miss Cheryl*

### Angel Tree Update

We have not yet received our assignment for “angels” from Prison Fellowship Ministry. We called the Sacramento office and they said the children they had from our zip codes had already been assigned and they were waiting on the prison chaplains to complete a second chance contact of prisoners to see if there would be any additional children added to the list for this year.

So, we can only wait and see what we are given over the next few days. As you know from past years, once we have the names of children and their caregivers, the Board of Outreach makes a connection to get sizes and colors for the suggested clothing items, and a verification of the ‘fun gift’ the prisoner had selected from the ‘gift catalog’. Once that information is verified, we can put up the angel tags for that child.



The last day to have the gifts (wrapped and brought to church) would be December 18<sup>th</sup>. If we allow two weeks to have the members buy and prepare the gifts, we would be able to put tags out as late as December 4<sup>th</sup>.

If the Angel Tree program gets names of the needy children to us by November 15, the Board would have time to make contacts for the process of gift verification.

Our hope is that this will be within their time needed to gather those last few names of needy children. However, if we do NOT have names by the middle of November, it will probably be necessary to find some other way to make Christmas special for a different set of needy children. We will let the congregation know if that happens, and what our alternative plans will be.

*John Hantelman*  
Board of Outreach

## The Library

Fall is here and the rain and colder weather is coming. What a perfect time to curl up with a good book.

Our library has such a variety of books, videos and DVD's. For those of you who love a true love story "*Kitty, My Rib*" is just right. It is the true story of Martin Luther and his wife Katherine. She was an ex-nun and her marriage and life with Luther was made in heaven.

For history buffs, especially U.S. history, there is a book title "*Civil War Curiosities*". It contains strange stories, oddities, events, and coincidences of the war. One interesting section is Chapter 4 "*Clergymen - Fought Like Hell*" Ministers on both sides of the war put off their robes and fought. They were often made the heads of their regiments.

"*The Genesis Flood*" is the latest donation to our library. First published in 1961, the book's subtitle is "The Biblical Record and its Scientific Implications". Some chapter titles are "*Basic Arguments for a Universal Flood*", "*Modern Geology and the Deluge*", and "*Paleontology and the Edemic Curse*".

These three books will be standing upright on the library shelves. You are encouraged to check out the library, especially during the celebration of the Reformation. To check out a book or video, just sign your name, date, and title of book on the clipboard. When you return the book, cross out your name and place the book in the box next to the library.

*Lovetta Ewing*

## National Youth Gathering

Believe it or not it is time to talk about the National LCMS Youth Gathering which is held once every three years. The 2013 event will be held in San Antonio, Texas.



Our congregation began its involvement in this National event way back in 1983. That year we didn't get our kids registered in time for the LCMS event so we ended up traveling by motor home all the way to the Canadian Lutheran Youth Gathering that was being held in Toronto, Canada. We have had a group attend the LCMS event each time since 1986.

We are blessed that this year our adult sponsors will be Kerry and Dan Hall who agreed to serve more than a year ago so that they could plan the time off to go. I hesitate to list past sponsors because I am sure to omit someone but among others the adult sponsors have been Jean and Fred Orsborn, Kathy and Doug Houston, Ellie and I, Dick Long, Marlene Bess, Laurel and Michael Ferretti, and Ruth and John Hantelman.

The teens are asked to register the fall before the event and we suggest that they deposit \$20 a month into the youth treasury so they will have enough to cover their registration. The congregation provides the transportation, food and motel expenses and usually treat the group to an extra event in the

local area such as a swamp boat ride, going to Disney World, Cape Canaveral, touring Bourbon Street, etc.

Another requirement for our teens is that the year prior to the National event they be regular in both church and youth Bible study as we consider the "team building" time prior to the event an important part of the process. They are also asked to assist at any youth fund raising events and be part of the "report back" service we hold upon their return.

We also thank the Phebians who provide a portion of their Yard Sale income to provide some spending money to each team that goes. And we thank the many members who offer special assistance to anyone with a financial need as we want to make the trip available to all of our youth.

More details will follow in the weeks to come.

### ***Upcoming Youth Events***

**October 30**

Assist with Bratwurst  
Potluck


**November 6**

"*Puss in Boots*"  
Animated Film

**November 13**

Thanksgiving Shopping  
for Help 4 People

# November 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Thanksgiving		<b>1</b>  9:00 Braille 4:45 Bd Outreach 6:00 Church Council	<b>2</b>  9:30 Bible Study 7:30 Choir	<b>3</b>  	<b>4</b>  	<b>5</b>  9:30 Health & Wellness Ministry
<b>6</b>  12-3 Youth	<b>7</b>  9:00 Braille 9:30 Phebians	<b>8</b>  9:00 Braille	<b>9</b>  9:30 Bible Study 7:30 Choir	<b>10</b>  	<b>11</b>  	<b>12</b>  10:00 Altar Guild Meeting
<b>13</b>  3:00 Circuit Forum- Red Bluff  12-3 Youth	<b>14</b>  9:00 Braille	<b>15</b>  9:00 Braille	<b>16</b>  9:30 Bible Study 7:30 Choir	<b>17</b>  	<b>18</b>  	<b>19</b>  Bake and Craft Sale Set Up
<b>20</b>  Craft and Bake Sale  2:00 Voters' Mtg  12-3 Youth	<b>21</b>  9:00 Braille	<b>22</b>  9:00 Braille	<b>23</b>  NO Bible Study 7:30 Choir	<b>24</b>  10:00 Thanksgiving Worship Service  Office/Day Care Closed	<b>25</b>  Office/Day Care Closed	<b>26</b>  
<b>27</b>  12-3 Youth	<b>28</b>  9:00 Braille	<b>29</b>  9:00 Braille	<b>30</b>  11:00 Advent Service 11:45 Soup Lunch 7:30 Choir	<b>Our Savior Lutheran Church</b> 6404 Pentz Road Paradise, CA 95969 530-877-7321		

# November 2011

## Happy November Birthday to:

Carol Arrington	11/5
Art Larsen	11/7
Cynthia Schatz	11/7
Cheryl Mock	11/11
Barbara Richardson	11/11
Loree Fillmore	11/13
Laurel Ferretti	11/15
Robert Mangold	11/15
Ray Morlock	11/15
Mallory Ojan	11/15
Karen Moras	11/17
Anita Washburn	11/17
Josh Orsborn	11/19
Don Zimmer	11/26
Dottie Deffner	11/27
Jerry Kahovec	11/29

## Happy November Anniversary to:

Bill ♥ Edith Scott	11/11
65 years together	
Shane ♥ Kari Tosse	11/26
6 years together	

**Elders:** November 13: 8:00 a.m. - Al Rubke; 10:30 a.m. - Karl Hostetter  
November 27: 8:00 a.m. - Karl Hostetter; 10:30 a.m. - Al Rubke

**Ushers:**  
November 6 8:00 Lee Bess, Jerry Kahovec, Mike Kemp and Mike Lange  
10:30 Ryan and Curtis Eiler  
November 13 8:00 Al Coulon, Joe Hirko and Cal Richardson  
10:30 Larry Bonesio and Roger Klaves  
November 20 8:00 Michael Ferretti and Ken Scott  
10:30 Chuck and Hilary Fleischmann  
Thanksgiving 10:00  
November 27 8:00 John, Keith and Mike Diefenderfer, Don and Chris Long  
10:30 Steve and Karen Mueller, Del Wade

**Acolytes:**  
November 6 8:00 Jacob Abel  
10:30 Samantha Mathistad  
November 13 8:00 Jacob Abel  
10:30 Michael Williams  
November 20 8:00 Jacob Abel  
10:30 Emily Hall  
Thanksgiving 10:00  
November 27 8:00 Jacob Abel  
10:30 Jason Berg

**Altar Guild:** Nanette Morgan and Anita Washburn

