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Mission Statement:

Celebrating God's love and forgiveness, we serve others.

Core Values:

Prayer, Accessibility, Service, Communication, Education, Worship, Youth, Healthy Relationships

Our Vision:

Following Jesus' example "we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, nurse the sick, and visit the imprisoned as we see Jesus in the faces of those we serve."

Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP TEA

David Yantis, musician and song writer, will present a musical medley of some of his best songs for our women.

Please consider being a hostess for a table of 10.
If you can only attend as a guest, please come.
Hostess or Guest - sign up with **Joan Harshman**
By
e-mailing her at joanharsh@cox.net
or calling her (619) **426-1231**



As part of our fund raising, the women will feature baskets for a silent auction at our tea.

If you would like to help by contributing a basket or special item, please contact:

Betty Vest 691-9231 e-mail beevee4@cox.net
Or
Pat McCoole 426-7674 e-mail amccoole@aol.com

EXCITEMENT...POSSIBILITIES...A BEGINNING

As some of you know, I feel strongly about our Christian Education ministry for the children & youth and about our Music ministry. Now I have something to share with you that really excites me with its possibilities. Let me explain.

The people involved with both education and music met during the first week of January to think, dream and begin to develop a merging of these two ministries. All present were eager to build on our strength...a vibrant music ministry. So it is proposed that we begin, in a modest way, to combine a more in depth children's music ministry with teaching Bible stories, church seasons, composers, history, etc. More than playing bells, chimes or singing, children would learn music theory and history AND Sunday School would be enriched and strengthened by being a part of this. We would not have traditional Sunday School classes, with the exception of the Pre-school class. We would instead have a Music Education ministry.

All of this could possibly be organized into quarters that would coordinate with the school schedule, and would culminate most quarters with a program/worship featuring the music education students. Some students may want to help with simple costumes, staging, lighting, sound and other areas. Parents would be asked to actively support the Music Education ministry.

The beginning will be modest, with the goal being to move toward musical productions in the future.

St. Mark's can help meet a need for music education in our area since schools are being forced to delete music from their curriculum. Children would have fun and learn without realizing they are in an educational setting. Having the goal of a program, will keep everyone motivated and participating. St. Mark's can promote this ministry out in the community and meet a need, while building our own music, education, and youth programming.

We plan to begin this combined ministry on Feb. 7 and culminate with a modest music program on March 21. Would you like to be a part of a ministry with such exciting possibilities? Please let Pastor Ron or Brett know. Look for more details to come.

Share the excitement! Just imagine & dream of the possibilities!

Nancy Dreesen
Church Council President



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HOMEBOUND MEMBERS
PASTOR SEIBER (619) 575-7212



Visitation
Ministry

If you or someone you know has a need and would like a visit from Pastor John, please call the church office at **(619) 427-5515**.

Please keep these people in your prayers. Remembering that most of them might appreciate visits from you.

Hilda Aubol	Esther Kort
Rocky Beebe	Olive Kramp
Betty Burgess	Lorrie Malonne
Kaho Chester	Arthur Mosen
Helen Dearmin	Ken Voight
Carol Graham	Jack Wahlquist
Florence Harris	Nora West
Peter Honrud	Bob Whittier



PRAYER QUILTING CORNER

We are blessed to be a blessing -
 Through Our Hands, Our Hearts, Our Prayers.

Please join us at Prayer Quilting Saturdays. No experience is necessary, and there are many ways you can help - putting quilts together, sewing, ironing, putting in ties for prayers, even threading needles.

We meet for quilting and fellowship one Saturday a month from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Jacobson Hall. Lunch is provided.

Come check us out and stay to help.
 Questions (?) or to request a prayer quilt -
 call Roz Nelson at 619 - 422-5463.

PRAYER QUILTING SATURDAY DATES

Put them on your calendar
 FEB 20th, MARCH 20th

Five families to pray for:
 January 2010

Warren Goetze
 Erv & Mickie Goschke
 Mary Grounds
 Reuben Haas
 Eric, Julianna,
 Alexandra & Lucas Haase

Church Attendance
 12/09 12/08

Week 1	242	298
Week 2	256	363
Week 3	284	318
Week 4	167	181
Week 5	n/a	n/a
Total	949	1160

An update: As of 12-31-09, the Video System designated account has a balance of \$16,100. With our \$25,000 goal, we need an additional \$8,900 to make the system a reality.
 Nancy Dreesen

Valet Parking for Sunday Worship



If you or your loved one(s) have mobility issues that make it difficult for them to attend Sunday worship, we now can help.

Several members have agreed to meet those folks at the rear of the church near the Conference room, help them with walkers, wheel chairs, etc., and then park the car for you.

In order for this plan to work, we do need to know that you are coming and the approximate time of your arrival.

You may either call:
 the Church Office (619-427-5515) during the week
 Or call Pastor John (619-575-7212) on Saturday to notify us.

When you come:
 please use the I Street entrance near Project Hand and the stop near the bench outside the rear of the Worship Center

Results of the January 24 Annual Meeting elections:

For a 2-yr-term on Church Council:

Sheri Barker
 Frank Carson
 Karl Larsen
 Julie Lopez
 Diane Nissen
 Ann Pering
 Steve Spahn

For a 3-yr-term on Memorial Endowment Committee
 Betty Torres

Synod Assembly representatives (1 man & 1 woman)
 Brett & Colleen Perkins

2010 Nominating Committee (up to 6 members):
 No one was selected at this time. The 2009 Nominating Committee and Council will work together to obtain people to serve.

Nancy Dreesen
 Church Council President



“I want to be known as a man who wins, As a fellow with nerve and pluck Who finishes everything he begins and As one who can whip his luck.”

Did you know that Brett Perkins Book ‘Frantic Francis’ the story of Francis Schmidt has been in the book stores? Brett was the ‘Guest’ speaker at the January Fellowship Francis Schmidt made a lasting contribution to football that still guides the game today.

In addition to praying for all those affected by the earthquake in Haiti, we have the opportunity through St. Mark's and the ELCA to send money to Lutheran World Relief which is already on the ground there.

Money can be given to St. Mark's in the next week or two and designated for Haitian relief.

I have just learned that a Luther College grad named **Ben Larson** died in the earthquake. His parents are both pastors, his mom a former Bishop of the LaCrosse Synod, and friends of mine.

So we could pray for Judd and April Larson as well.

I am including several paragraphs from the presiding Bishop's letter for information about these efforts.

Pastor John

From Bishop Mark Hanson:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America already is responding through the Lutheran World Federation's Haiti Program. Given the devastation caused by this earthquake, the ELCA has committed an initial \$250,000 from ELCA International Disaster Response for Haiti and has authorized an additional \$500,000 as congregations respond both to the immediate needs and long-term rebuilding efforts.

We give thanks to God that LWF staff escaped injury from the earthquake. We also give thanks that we have trusted and effective partners on the ground in Haiti who already are at work helping earthquake survivors.

The ELCA is the largest regular supporter of the LWF's program in Haiti, which helps communities escape the deep poverty in which so many Haitians live. Since staff is already in place, no precious time will be lost in shaping an effective response

The work of providing food and shelter and in helping people to rebuild their lives is under way.

We give thanks also for our partners in this work. The LWF staff in Haiti also was tapped to coordinate the responses of Protestant and Orthodox churches throughout the world through Action by Churches Together (ACT).

In addition, the ELCA, in coordination with the Florida-Bahamas Synod, will be working to provide disaster support to and possibly through the emerging Lutheran church in Haiti.

Ben Larson was our counselor at Sugar Creek Family Camp in WI a few years ago--we attend almost every Aug. with our son Greg and family. You couldn't find a more caring and Christian young man. His mother April was Greg's Bishop when he was in WI for ten years and they became close family friends.

Ben's wife and his cousin got out of the building, but he didn't.

Prayers are needed for all people in Haiti right now, including those arriving to help, as well as for those who are suffering from the loss of loved ones.

Thanks,
Dorothy Geier

St. Marks Blood Drive

St. Marks is sponsoring a blood drive on Sunday, April 11. The Blood Mobile will be in our parking lot 8:00 a.m.-11:30 p.m. We need a minimum of 28 pints of blood, so please plan ahead and sign up in advance. All donations received on April 11, whether from St. Marks, Grace Lutheran, our friends or community members, will be credited to the St. Mark's SMLC account because we are sponsoring the blood drive.

Let's "Go for the Gold," so to speak, and encourage every member over 18 to participate. Students who are 18 years of age can receive high school Community Service credit for donating.

Please consider donating to celebrate the fact that Steve Antis found a bone marrow donor and was kept alive in the meantime by generous donors from the community, to celebrate the life of someone you love, or in memory of someone you love.

☺

Sheridan Barker - Thank you!

SMLC - The code stands for St. Mark's Lutheran Church. This account is available for any St. Mark's member to donate to, and provides credits for withdrawals (at no charge for the blood) for St. Marks members.

WELCA Future Dates

Saturday, **March 6, 2010**, Women of the ELCA, Pacifica Synod "Spring Gathering" (1 day event) will be held at Christ Lutheran Church. Carpools will be leaving from St. Mark's to attend.

Contact **Sue Connors** if you are interested (427-6033).

Sunday, **March 14, 2010**, 4 p.m. in the sanctuary: The Watchers on the Hill are coming from Oceanside (20 players) to present a dramatic presentation of the people at the cross. It is a spiritually moving program (sponsored by our women) for the entire church. (Friends and other churches welcome). A potluck is planned for after the program in Jacobson Hall. Come and bring others to be blessed for the Lenten/Easter season.

Questions? Contact **Jill McGrew** (619) 216-3801

May 22, 2010, Mothers/Daughter/Others luncheon.....details to be announced.

Circles are meeting again to learn more about our faith from the Apostle Paul (Romans). Attend any circle and study Lesson 4 from the December issue of the Lutheran Woman Today magazine.

Meeting times are on the St. Mark's website or contact Jill McGrew (619) 216-3801.

Please contact Pastor Ron directly if you anticipate an upcoming hospital stay.

His phone number is (619) 632-7709

His email address is rhovick@cox.net.

February 2010

Five families to pray for:

Warren Goetze

Erv & Mickie Goschke

Mary Grounds

Reuben Haas

Eric, Julianna, Alexandra & Lucas Haase