The First Edition

Easter to Pentecost | April—May 2018

First Lutheran Church and School + Torrance, California
A Caring Community of Christian Faith for All People since 1926

Our Mission:

We welcome all God's children
to embrace the grace of Jesus
Called and sent
to serve and speak
God's love in daily life

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www.flchurch.org

First Edition Submission Deadline
May 10

Easter: Un-Afraid, in and for the World!

So [the women] emerged and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. (Mark 16:8)

Afraid. That's the word that sticks out in Mark's Easter Story (Mark 16:1-8). Many of Mark's elements of the incident mirror the other gospels — the women at the empty tomb, the announcement of the resurrection, the call to spread the word of Easter. But Mark alone records how terrified — and silent — the women were, as they fled from that moment that changed their lives and ours.

And before we judge these faithful women too harshly, let's remember what they faced on that life-changing morning — the villainous events of Good Friday, the death of their Teacher and Friend, the ignominy of his treatment by religious leaders and Roman authorities, the rush to inter his remains without the dignity of a proper burial — and now a strange proclamation that death was not the end of their journey, but it's very beginning. I'd have been afraid, for sure. And I suspect you would have been as well.

This Eastertide — the 50 Day Season of Resurrection Joy — we will do something different each Sunday, something that may seem odd to you, and that may even make you afraid. Each Sunday we will emphasize the calling that each and every one of us has to proclaim the message of Easter in our daily lives in the world.

It begins with the word we hear at the end of every worship service: *This worship is ended, but now the service goes on in the world!*

This statement is more than a simple play on the words "worship" and "service." It is an outright summons to every man, woman and child who Jesus died and rose for, to bear that liberating and life-changing Word out into our lives as companions, citizens, servants, and saints — and for us to be Un-Afraid.

In our workplaces and households, in our practice of citizenship, in our daily choices, decisions, and behaviors — all of us are called to lift high the cross, to offer our prayers and our labors to shed Christ's grace abroad and across the many aspects of our living. Like those women of old, we are commanded to make Christ known, to announce that the world can be new, that justice can reign, that kindness can triumph, that, indeed, Christ is risen.

So join us each and every Sunday of this joyous Easter Season, as we acknowledge and celebrate the many vocations we represent here at FLCS — through our work in various industries, classrooms, hospitals, and other workplaces. Remember our calling to be faithful citizens in society and for the Reign of God. And, most of all, remember what those women learned in time — that this is a moment to be resolute, to be vocal, to be servants, and, most of all — to be Un-afraid — that our world may know Christ's Easter hope!

Bill Hurst

Taste of the Town "Belt Buckle Ball" Gala on May 12th

This year's Gala & Silent Auction, "**Belt Buckle Ball**" will be a tremendous different kind of Faith Hall. Those who attend a delicously fun, exciting evening of great food and entertainment! This will be the place to be for some good old "Country fun, complete with hay bales and fried chicken! We'll stretch the night away with Jimmy and the Boys, and line dance until our feet ache! If you don't know how to line dance, we'll be happy to teach you. Just be sure to wear comfortable cowboy boots, and prepare yourself for an amazing night!

Tickets for the event are a very reasonable **$50 per person**, which includes all food, entertainment and wine and beer from the finest food available in the South Bay is being offered by dozens of great restaurants, and the variety surely will delight all who attend. Free Child care for children age 12 months to as old as you need, will be provided for a free will donation. Parents can enjoy the evening while little ones have fun as well!

Funds from this year's event will be a major benefit to the entire school and church community. **21st Century "Sight and Sound" Project for the Faith Hall Center**. This upgrade includes an automatic theater screen for video presentations (much for the increasing number of multimedia events and programs used by our school and church year round). Additional theater lights will be added and upgrades to the professional audio system. These improvements will make our Faith Hall Center a true multimedia event space for all!

Principal Tammy Kirkpatrick says, "You do not want to miss this wonderful evening spent with our First Lutheran community! By coming, you will also be a part of making a tremendous difference in our Faith Hall. Pastor Hurst adds, "Town provides an opportunity for our entire FLCS family to come together to support continued growth and community ministry. Through the proceeds of these events, well over $30,000 has been raised to support improvements and the reach of regular school functions. There are many ways this year's Taste of the Town support

Auction Items

Many gifts are needed, and we hope that our church school family will reach out to contacts in the community to provide such gifts. In past years, we've received wonderful resort weekends, golf packages, technology items, signature clothing, jewelry, show tickets, etc. Anything you donate or sponsor is much appreciated.

Event Volunteers

Many members are needed to make this the greatest event ever, with tech, food & beverage, hospitality, and management and the auction.

Preparing baskets and auction items

Decorating the TOTT event space is a big job and the planning team is looking for as much help as possible. Please seek out any member of FLCS who have attended for any questions or help.

Call the Church or School Office at 310-921-0100 to find out more.

Tickets will be sold at the door, and invite friends, family, and neighbors to the Taste of the Town "Belt Buckle Ball" at 5pm in the church courtyard. Tickets will also be available in the Scrip office and online at www.firstlutheranlcs.com. Tickets will be limited to 250, so don't buy tickets early, and support this wonderful fundraiser.

Cursillo Renewal Weekends

Each year, the community Lutheran Cursillo of Southern California (LCSC) holds renewal week'ends to support people in their walk with Christ. Dozens of FLCS members joined men and women from throughout the SoCal area strengthening and renewing their lives as disciples of Jesus Christ.

If you would like to consider attending a Cursillo weekend, the next set of weekends are:

- May 6 3 for Men
- June 1 07 for Women

Please seek out any member of FLCS who have attended for any questions or help experiencing a fresh with Spirit in your walk with

April and May at FLCS — "Living Faith" in Our Daily Lives

Services and events call a óRisenô people to tak

Easter Season 2018 will be very special at FLCS, as we observe a two month emphasis on Ministry in Daily Life (MIDL). Each week during the Easter Season we will focus on different ways people live out their faith in the ñMIDLò of workplace, home, and society, as we bring Easter joy into our daily contexts, commitments and commitments.

Plan to join us for each of these special Sundays as we acknowledge those who have lived out their faith in the day to day world of work, citizenship and household.

¶ **April 8 – Scout Sunday** | We thank our many Girl and Boy Scout troops and dedicate our lives as Christ's people in soc

¶ **April 15 – Healthcare** | We give thanks for all those who care for others and practice the healing arts among the disabled, hurting and infirm.

¶ **April 22 – Education** | Today we bless school staffs and training professionals as the focus on this Sunday. We give thanks for all who serve as teachers.

¶ **April 29 – Technology** | From aerospace, corporate leadership to industrial centers, today we give thanks for all who serve in the vast array of secular callings in which so many are employed.

¶ **May 6 – Arts & Culture** | Our thoughts and offer thanks for the creative gifts of caring women in our and remember the crucia households in sharing teaching ethics & s

¶ **May 12 – Stewardship Sunday** | We celebrate those who bless our lives through the

¶ **May 13 – Town Gala**

¶ **Sun May 13 – Family & Ho**

¶ **May 20 (Pentecost) Sunday | FLCS Annual Meeting**

Annual Meeting Sunday

¶ **Brief Communion service at 83**

¶ **Festival Communion & Unity Se**

¶ **Rite of Confirmation**

¶ **Recognition of Ministries i**

¶ **Celebration Brunch & Annual M**

Mark your calendars, and plan t every weekend as we gather our our energies in the joyful work

Women of the ELCA

Bonnie Gill

I really like the Litany of Repentance we have been singing in church on Sundays. "Search my heart, look deep within my soul; See if there be anything at all that might keep me from hearing You, knowing You, loving You." Hope this Easter gives you peace in your heart.

On March 2nd, six women from FLC attended the CWU , World Day of Prayer. It was well attended. The topic was "All God's Creation is very good." Guest speaker was Nancy Shrodes from Heal the Bay. It is an environmental non profit group that is making the coastal waters and watersheds safe in the greater LA area. It was a very good program.

Look for future flyer about the next Church Women United. It will be on Friday, May 4.

Women Bible studies available:

Women Bible Study	1st Saturday	10am Library
Sarah Circle	2nd Monday	7pm Library
Morning Glories	each Monday	9am Fireside room

Thought for the day: A thankful heart is just l freshens all the day.

Shepherd News

We are constantly amazed how caring people are in our chu especially our 50 shepherds, wh in touch with their families at Our shepherding ministry links toge faith.

We hope you are enjoying the ne cards tailored to the special e acknowledge throughout the year

Lyrics from Marty Haugen come t season:

Shepherd me of God,
Beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears,
From death into life.

Your Shepherd Coordinators,
Wendy Jones and Debby Zagorin

Intern's Corner: "Nobody Told Me…"

Vicar Brenda Gre

What a blessed and beloved eight months we have spent together! How time comes to pass so quickly, I do not know. Come to think of it, there are a LOT of things I donôt know, such as…

Nobody told me...

...that the "Grapevine" was not a peaceful vineyard with flowing vines and grapes aplenty (and that it really was a bustling, high-speed, nerve-racking, life-threatening area of highway that would signal the end of the journey that brought me to you!)

....that the folks who met me in the parking lot would have boundless energy to help move me, my millions of boxes, plus a piano AND an organ AND the aforementioned, freaked-out cat into this amazing space that would be my home for the next year.

...that the house you provide your Interns is an incredible blessing to one whoôs been used to living in 425 square feet. Room for sounds! Privacy! Room to stretch out BOTH of my arms! I have actually LOST things in the multiple bedrooms, and have been more productive, more studious, and more at home than I have been in years in my cheerful abode on Flower Avenue.

....living next to a school would be a lot like living next to an *Amusement Park*, complete with children playing every game under the sun, Phys Ed classes -- jumping jacks, whistles blowing, high-pitched screams here and there, bouncing balls flying over the fence into my yard (bemusing the cat), and giggles, giggles, giggles. Just like Disneyland... minus the Dole Whip.

Nobody told me...

....that countless people work *behind the scenes* for EVERY service we hold, preparing the bread, pouring the wine, washing the table, lightin[g] ... straightening the bulletins, greeting ... on computers, reco[...] and a million other duties. Whether i[...] evening or Sunday ... caring people who ... week are a blessin[g]

...how quickly temperatures ... throw you for a loop ... all get when even a ... starts to blow thro[ugh] ... how MELTINGLY HOT ... Room can become whe[n] ... that ginormous fire ... the trees around ca[mpus] ... they are trimmed ea[ch] ... crazy that summer wind can be ... when trying to air out ...

...the committed people who ... FLCS are to the boo[k] ... committees of which ... Meetings are produc[tive] ... downright amusing, ... are constructive and ... nature, and this church/school community gets more ... more energy than I ...

...how we keep an eye out for each other, noticing when people are absent from a service, ... one another when s[ick] ... writing notes of enc[ouragement] ... cheer to members ne[eding] ... even calling one an[other] ... and inspire.

Nobody told me...

...how enthusiastically you greet this spunky ... midst, and accept the mischief and ... serene and zany prayerful ... unbelievable. You ... what a joy it has been to simply be myself among you, and share radical hospitality.

...how powerful it is to pray with ... sacred songs with our ... *Chapel* ... in what a ... Bible readings ... church/school ... shape m[...] Pastor, how someone c[...] sense of humor ... close to my ... be dem[...] or h[...] from him ... to invite

Friends, you are a wo[...] people whom I love de[...] honored to learn alon[g] you. I pray for cont[...] ... walk to[...] ...

Vicar, Brenda

Be joyful in hope, pa[...] affliction, faithful
(Romans 12:12)

FLCS Annual Meeting May 20

10am Sunday Service, brunch and Congregational meeting emphasize unity and mission

What a great day it will be! On Sunday the people of First Lutheran will gath celebrate Godôs goodness in Word and Sac confirm a group of young women and men, e brunch together, and hold the FLCS Annual sharing prayers and visions in Godôs grac .

Lutheran congregations may convene meeti time of the year, to consider special t or concern. This congregation s third Sunday of May each year for a annual meeting of our voting assembly. At this meeting we receive reports from staff members and ministry committees, helping us to see the breadth and reach of our many activities. We also review the past year s finances, and consider giving and spending plans for the coming year. Elections for FLCS leaders are also conducted.

The schedule for the day is:

- **8:30am: Brief Communion Service**
- **10am: Unity Service of Holy Communion**
- **11:15am: Community Brunch**
- **12:00N: FLCS Annual Meeting**

To encourage young families to attend, childcare will be provided this year. We hope that all our members will join us on this special day of Unity and planning, as we express our deep oneness in Christ, gather for fellowship and fun, and set in place plans to move this

Study Series: "We Are the Lord's"

April and May Focus on End of Life

In Romans 14, Paul speaks w particularly in the Easter Season:

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord, so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Because of the gift of eternity challenges of human mortality w and offer the gift of love to others

You are invited to join Vicar B April, as we explore four uniqu dying. Participants are welcome t come to all sessions. As Vicar journey together.ò

April 1 **The Gift of Life**: Explore the fascina restorative world of Vicar and Brendaôs time as a hospital Cha these donations can be to peopl expression of hope, and the com such a donation.

April 8 **The Gift of Death**: Include decisions during a time of illn and conflict. *Do my loved ones know my wishes? Is this what Mom would have wanted?* Let us name our express our concerns together, mystery of death, all the while hope in the Gospelôs promise of

April 15 **Crafting a Funeral**: We'll explore and some understanding the marks of a Ch that is an occasion for thanksg the resurrection. While Jesus mi Christ's funeral is for those who are ye components that can personalize your life as a whole.

April 22 **Essential Touch**: Those left behind grief is both normal and necess complex. The work of grief can be guide our final session, as we how to find hope in healing our

Mission Beyond 2900 — Bread for the World

Mary Stewar

Through bipartisan advocacy, appealing to ñmake hung

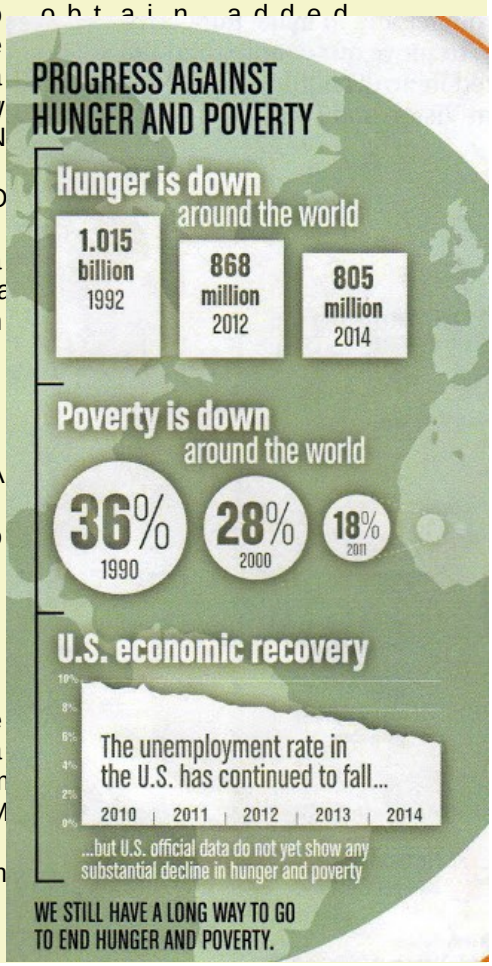
Bread for the Wor
as "a collective
urging our nationô
end hunger at home
Each year, Bread d
emphasis and theme
provides factual i
reason for this em
sample letters for
write to their Sen
Representative.

When we hear about
rights, most peopl
religion, freedom
freedom of the pre
"peaceably to asse
petition the gover
grievances." are al
First Amendment. Th
for the Bread for
Letters is "For Such

Unlike Queen Esther
life when she actes
the King of Persia
are protected by the
when we act as advo
power for those in

In 2016, the most
available, over 41
including 13 millio
households that strugled to put foo
on the table. This is especially tru
Native Americans, African Americans
and Latinos. Of the 40 million Americans
poverty line in 2016, more than 20 million
children.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
Program (SNAP) moved an estimated
3.6 million people out of poverty in
2016. Over 7.6 million low
women and children received nutrition
education and health referrals through
WIC program. The earned income tax
credit and the refundable portion of the
child tax credit helped move many
people out of poverty. These programs
are working to provide better lives
Americans.



GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD

An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need. Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell on the market. With one gift, you can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.

Cow

A cow's milk, meat, fertilizer and calves can quickly strengthen a family's financial security.

$500

Honey Bees

Bees pollinate plants and boost crop growth – helping the wider community. Soaps and candles can be made from their wax and sold at the local market.

$20

Goat

Fresh milk from a goat is very nutritious and can be used to make products like yogurt and cheese to sell at the market.

$50

Oxen and plow

A pair of oxen will help create record-breaking harvests, provide natural fertilizer for the fields and give families the gift of time.

$1000

Fish

A fish farm and training in good business economics can provide a lifetime of meals for a community.

$250

Sheep

A sheep's wool can be sold at the local market for extra income or be made into hats, sweaters, coats and blankets to keep family members dry.

$125

Pig

Within months after birth, piglets grow to weigh over 200 pounds – bringing a big payoff at the market.

$30

Chicks

Chicks begin laying eggs at just a few months old, offering nutritious, protein rich meals for families who are hungry.

$10

Give through your congregation, by visiting www.ELCA.org/goodgifts
or by sending a check to ELCA Good Gifts, P.O. Box 71764, Chicago, IL 60694-1764.
Please indicate your gift in the memo line of your check.

“Garden of the Saints” Proclaims the Gift and Hope of Eternal Life

Memorial wall and columbarium niches available

The FLCS ñGarden of th
memorial garden and
stands as a lovely d
campus, an outdoor s
loved ones who have
boldly proclaim our

The Garden stands in
the north end of the
lot, next to the ent
to the Sanctuary are
designed to accommod
this a very affordab
for families and indi
of repose for those

Over the past months
committals have take
sometimes following
at other times at th
families. With the r
second phase of the
nearly 300 niches in
that means that there are many available.

A Remembrance Wall also sur
fountain, and this area pro
loved ones and proclaim our
wall accommodates up to 112
plaque costs $500, and prov
who we remember and hold in

FLCS members and friends ar
place in the Garden now, jo
already secured a niche.

The price of a GOS niche is
niches in the South Bay are
purchase a niche (for two u
other campus affili
$4,000. Details a
and plaques) is also availa

If you have any questions,
Garden, please seek out GOS
Palmer or Pastor Hurst, and
in making arrangements for

Join us in giving thanks to
repose and remembrance, as
our blessed dead, and procl
forever in Christôs loving

Navajo Yard Sale August 3-4

Mission event a caring

Our annual yard sale for the Na
Mission in Auguisz t 3 at 8 a.m. We d 4 at 1 p.m.
that this yearôs sale will be
volunteer team.

Deliveries will be accepted
Look for drop area signs. Please
around and see if you have any
Please no sofas, large chairs

If you would like to learn abou
http//www.nelm.org. NELM has no
on donations to keep the missio
receive goes to the Mission.

We need volunteers for the
possible. Pick a time and day.
daily. We start at 7:00a.m.
Thursday to set up. Yard sale
3:00p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

What we are unable to sell will
to benefit the needy. If you
the Church Off-92 at (310) 32
with our sale, and all the grea

Faith-Walk: "Spaces and Places"

Debby Zagorin

Godôs grace gives us much mor raw

I enjoy projects, and usual ious stages of progress. My fav lea suspended for irregular per spac during construction, without end I find that I more quickly spre out, as flexible work periods do no es. And since I havenôt had to sessions, when that time come satisfaction in knowing that I have seen a task to its end and am refreshing a clean s t undertaking. Iôve also come to realize t ngs away in an orderly fashion is a huge key to success.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Whatôs that old saying? ñA place for everything and everything in itôs place.ò Those words of advice date bac to the 17th century! When I think my number of receptacles come envelopes, bags, toy chests, family stored rubber bands lots of items are some sort stores plants, computers st stores the earth and its be

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me, Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me, melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

And, from my favorite kn wal, t Spice of the Living Go my of a storage place: the garden information, even gravity storage place, though, the

If I had to choose just one limelight has to be directe Webster doesnôt even-mea space, but other websites al designated for the storage occasionally useful items of reputation of a junk drawer always preserve mine. In f in my own home, I must conf drawer storage places. I was places only hold useful, we catalogued items. My broth after just a few minutes of created a mound of unrelate garage sale merchandising. me, however, I did find a c immediate use.

lôm having a bit of fun wit me think about my internal or out of balance with my w out why, the better off I am sources to resolve my disco does not seem to produce

So next time lôm feeling out out by cleaning my spiritual seems to help me more readi acknowledge the good gifts with some not so good thoug

Text-to-Give: the Basics

New tools help us to shar

Serving our Neighbors in Need

Stillman Sawyer Family Services Center
820 Lomita Blvd, Harbor City
(310)-198365

To more effectively serve our South Bay neighbors, FLCS partners with various organizations. The Stillman Sawyer Family Services Center provides bagged groceries, rental assistance, and utility bill assistance for needy individuals and families. They also provide job search assistance when appropriate (some clients are not well enough to work).

People served by the Center include individuals and families, homeless and traditionally housed. This means a variety of foods are appropriate. Canned meats are welcomed. Pop-top cans of Vienna sausages are appreciated by homeless people. Families can use canned ravioli or spaghetti, Spam, tuna. Boxed dinners are also good.

For a balanced diet, canned fruits and vegetables are helpful. These can be individual (pop-top) or family-sized containers. The Center does not prepare food for distribution, so they do not need restaurant sizes of mayonnaise or other foods.

The Stillman Sawyer Center does not usually distribute clothing. Instead, clients receive vouchers for the Salvation Army store. Clothing donations received at FLCS are taken to Lutheran Social Services, 1611 Pine Avenue, Long Beach.

Food and clothing donations may be dropped off at Fellowship Hall at any time. Thanks to the donors and the various people who deliver the donations.

Note: Grocery bags, sample (travel) size toiletries, and feminine products are also needed .

Contact Us

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FIRST LUTHERAN DAY SCHOOL
Tammy Kirkpatrick, Principal
ext. 102
Kris Olson, Assistant Principal
ext 155
School Offices :: ext. 100 or 106

FIRST LUTHERAN EARLY EDUCATION CENTER 310-0923
Shirley-Director ext. 113
EEC Office :: ext. 113

ADDITIONAL CONTACTS
Human Resources :: ext. 140
Finance Office :: ext. 108 or 148
Campus Center Bookstore ext. 107

Worship Notes: flowers & candles speak our faith

Throughout the year, the presence of Chancel Flowers and Sanctuary Lights are such a blessing to us here at First Lutheran.

The Flower Chart is in the entryway, and gifts are welcome and needed. The church office can help with more information, but sponsoring flowers is easy. Flower donations are $50 for each week.

In addition, we need sponsors for the weekly Sanctuary Light which hangs in the chancel to the right of the large wall cross. Weekly donations are $5. Please contact us if you want to offer a gift for these most sacred and appropriate symbols of our faith, and a blessed Holy Week and Easter Season to all!

Recent Flower and Candle donors:

Dave & Marlene Bender
Orvis & Kathy Nelson
Tom & Cynthia Motta
Pam & Dave Sheerin
Mike & Maria Voigt