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January 2017

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Happy New Year...The journey has begun!

“What exactly is an interim?” – “What will you be doing?” – “Do we need to get the Call Committee together?” ... these and similar questions I was asked recently. They are all very good questions! But before I want to give any answers let me first explain briefly what we are about to do during weeks and months ahead.

The role of the interim pastor: An interim pastor ‘bridges’ the time during a pastoral vacancy *and* helps the congregation to prepare for the next settled pastor. The Synod suggested this procedure for Gethsemane and your leadership council agreed to it. So I became your interim pastor through the appointment of our bishop.

During the interim process five core tasks will be addressed:

- a closer look at Gethsemane’s history and heritage (where did we come from and what is shaping us *today*?)
- an honest assessment of Gethsemane’s realities and context (*who are we* in this time and in this place, and *what is God asking us to do and be in the future*?)
- reviewing practices and procedures in the area of Gethsemane’s leadership (*how are we doing things*?) and re-newing our ways of communication and commitment
- strengthening all of Gethsemane’s relationships (with the Synod, the larger church, the community, partners in ministry etc.) and finally
- a new/renewed commitment to Gethsemane’s future.

It is the work of the congregation to tackle and wrestle with these tasks. Some of the work will be taken on by the Transition Team which is already in place. The Transition Team will work closely with the interim pastor and will ‘manage’ the transition. Some of the work will require the input of the whole congregation. When the actual call process begins, a Call Committee will be appointed by the council to work closely with the bishop and his staff.

My work, the work of the interim pastor, is to walk with you, initiate some of the steps needed, be a resource for addressing these tasks, to provide an unbiased soundboard through a fresh view from the outside, to keep up the questions, to cover the basic pastoral needs, to assist in drafting the Ministry Site Profile (which in a nutshell functions as a ‘business card of the congregation’ and as a ‘job description’ for the next settled pastor), and finally, to work myself out of the job. The overall goal is to prepare and get ready for the next pastor who will answer the call to Gethsemane Lutheran Church in San Diego.

There is much more that could be said about the interim process. Therefore we will set some time aside after worship for bible study and an initial conversation on Gethsemane’s time of transition:

The difference between change and transition **January 8**; Endings affect our present **January 15**;

The interim time **January 22**; New beginnings **February 5**.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me. Generally I will be in the office on Mon, Tue, and Wed, if traffic allows roughly from 9:30am to 3pm.

However, there might be exceptions; so feel free to call ahead and make an appointment:

(o) 858.277.6572 (c) 949.705.9966

For a brief update on what’s going on check out frequent entries on my facebook page: “Pastor Karin”. Also don’t forget to hit the ‘like’-button. This will ensure you of receiving my posts automatically.

One last and maybe most important thing: Please pray for the congregation, for your leaders, for a fruitful and blessed interim journey, for the Synod staff, for the pastor out there who will answer the call to Gethsemane, and for me. Your prayer will help to make room for the Holy Spirit! (Trust me, it works!)

Traveling with you this promising journey into 2017.

Yours,

Pastor Karin



San Diego Project Heart Beat

Project Heart Beat has one main goal: "To save lives through early defibrillation and educate society on simple recognition and response to SCA (Sudden Cardiac Arrest)."



AEDs are designed to be used by non-medical personnel. The new generation of AEDs analyzes a victim's condition and, if necessary, delivers an electrical shock to the heart to reverse sudden cardiac arrest. Ease of operation with clear voice directions and automatic analysis enables a person with minimal or no training to use the device.

Our AED equipment is located in the Garden Room. Be familiar with its location. Read the insert that will be in your bulletin this month and check out the demo of the AED that is available online at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMhSWnu0ST8>

Many Thanks...

We are very appreciative of the gift given us at Christmas and also of the support and appreciation you share with us all year long. Thanks and God bless you!
s/Staff

Thanks to Joetta Koishor who completed her term on Council. Thank You for your willingness to serve. Thanks also to new members Kelly Greason and Richard Norton.

Who is that (masked) man? That's Bob Juhasz decorating the palm trees by the preschool office with lights. We thank all those who were available to decorate for the holidays both inside and out. Jeffrey Jenkins, Alan Nations, Jerry Class, Jerry Albert, Roxanne Rosengarten, Richard Norton, Tom Templeton Kelly Greason, Frank Mazzone, Hildie Class, Barbara Gandolfo, Katy Meindl, Sheila Peterson, Linda Peters, and any elves we may have missed seeing.



January Happy Birthday

Julie Pfizenmeier	2ND.
Jeanie Williams	3RD.
Katy Meindl	19TH.
Chuck Doane	19TH.
Debbie Attwood	21ST.
Eileen Neuman	30TH.
Pat Wiedower	30TH.

Around the property and grounds...

2016 gave us many projects around the grounds and many of you were involved in the success of these. Helping fund our projects is always a blessing. As we look at our new entrance sign, drive on our new concrete and asphalt, see the new shrubs and trees growing and watch the preschool garden and the fairy garden take shape we are seeing God's wonders. Chuck Cheek and Roger Nies spent many an hour working on drainage issues along Shawn Avenue along with the everyday tasks Chuck accomplishes for us that go unseen by so many. Arline Blood spent hours grooming, clipping and clearing landscape making way for the new plants and Ellen Wagner pruned under the pine tree clearing for a better sight line for security.

Thank you to those providing unseen tasks for us throughout the year.

Remember:

Like us on Facebook
Search: christisrisen2day



Connecting to the Serra Mesa community...

- * Serra Mesa Community Council
 - * Friends of Ruffin Canyon
 - * Serra Mesa Village
- * Serra Mesa Planning Group
 - * Food Pantry
- * Community Garden and Orchard
 - * Friendship Lunch

These organizations are on our monthly calendar to invite Serra Mesa residents to support our neighborhood.

OUR biggest need is support of the Friendship Lunch... Jean Knapp, Richard Norton, Hildie Class, Ellen Wagner, Becky Baker, Earline Trinkle, Linda Peters, Kathleen Hoot, and Pastor Gloria did a wonderful job of keeping this outreach alive in 2016 and for that we are very grateful. The sign-ups for 2017 are in the narthex and January is our month. Please consider helping with this project and speak to Jean or Richard for details or call Peggy in the office.

It is a great time of fellowship over lunch. We need soup, rolls and dessert, setup, servers, and cleanup weekly for our designated months.

We also continue to collect non-perishable items for the food pantry to be delivered weekly. A basket is in the narthex.



Super Bowl Sunday is coming

February 5th

The Super Bowl Sunday tradition continues and offers us the opportunity to have fun and do some good at the same time. Boxes will be labeled with the participating teams along with a box for "I Don't Care!" where you can put cans (plural) or packages of food to "vote". If you arrive on the 5th without cans or packages, you may give \$\$-each \$1 counts as one can or package. Can we predict the winner??

All proceeds will go to the Serra Mesa Food Pantry. Help us support our neighbors in need.



Recycle Cards for the Children of St. Jude's Ranch

I am again collecting **all types of cards** for the St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Las Vegas. Residents earn allowance money by assembling cards for sale. Hallmark and American Greetings will **NOT** let their cards be reused so please do not include these. The collection box will be in the narthex from January 1-29. If you put your name on your donation I will have a drawing for a free set of cards!!

In 2012 we collected 2,200 fronts and 4,500 in 2013. With the restrictions, it will be a challenge but let's see what we can do this year.



Let me know if you

want to buy any of the finished cards at \$17.00 for 10 cards (a value at \$1.70/card.).



Thanks, Linda Juhasz

Mission Possibilities...

January to May brings us opportunities to serve.

Storefront "First Monday" serving nights to bring dinner to the teens at the Storefront Teen Shelter are January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, and May 1. Becky Baker is our Coordinator for this outreach and is willing to help people volunteer. Supplies such as snacks and hygiene items can be brought to the basket in the narthex at any time.

The Chili Cookoff and Cookie Chillout for Agape House, the Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at SDSU, April 23. What will be our winning strategy this year? Any ideas??

The NAMI Walk will be Saturday, April 29, at NTC Park in Liberty Station. We participate each year to provide support and commitment to the destigmatization of mental illness. Who wants to walk?

Empty Bowls for Third Avenue Charitable Organization takes place in the spring. Stay tuned for more information. The soup and bread provided by local restaurants and the soup bowls by local potters make this an amazing day.

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**Check out our Website
at
www.gethsemanesd.org**



*Gethsemane Lutheran Church...
grounded in the gospel, anchored in Word
and Sacrament, traditional yet creative,
seeking to be God's people in this time
and place.*

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



A Labyrinth for prayer
and meditation is in our
front yard and available
to all on a 24/7 basis.

*We Gather Weekly to
Worship...Every Sunday...*

*8:00am Contemplative
Communion*

(except January 1—ONE 9:30am service)

*9:30am Liturgy of Word,
Prayer, and Meal*