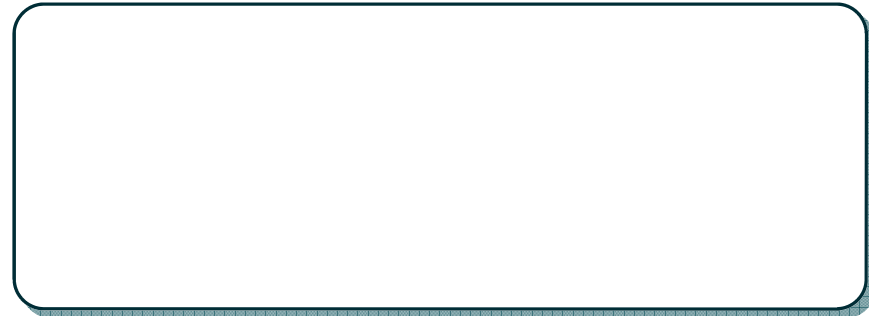




Lutheran Church of the Incarnation
1701 Russell Boulevard
Davis, CA 95616

Deadline for March Pillar: February 18

Phone: (530) 756-5500
Email: office@lcidavis.org
Web: www.lcidavis.org



FEBRUARY 2012

CONGREGATIONAL PLANNING MEETING

LCI STAFF

Lutheran Church of the Incarnation
**Congregational Planning Meeting
for our Facilities Renovation Project**

Sunday, February 5, 2012
Fellowship Hall ☞ 12:00 p.m.

Please join us as we take our first steps in planning for our facilities renovation. We will gather at noon for a potluck lunch, followed by a planning meeting. At the meeting, we will begin to set renovation priorities. We will also discuss how decisions will be made and how folks can get actively involved in the renovation planning process.

Come and be a part of the process! We need the input of our community!

The Rev. Dan Smith, Pastor

pastor@lcidavis.org
church office phone (530) 756-5500
emergency pastoral care cell (530) 219-3735

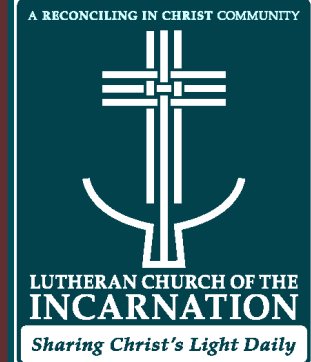
Laura Anderson, Administrative Assistant
office@lcidavis.org phone: (530) 756-5500

Sharon Cuthbertson, Worship Musician
music@lcidavis.org phone: (707) 751-0607

Anthony Lien, Choir Director
choir@lcidavis.org phone: (530) 758-5896

Kirsten Moore, Youth Leader
youth@lcidavis.org phone: (916) 214-2859

Cathy Young, Nursery Care Lead
phone: (530) 756-5500



February 2012

Our Mission

*Sharing Christ's
Light Daily*



Our Vision

*We are seeking to be
an inclusive,
multi-generational
congregation living
in the grace of God,
and a sanctuary that
equips us for service
in the community
while bringing the
good news to all.*



Our Values

- Community
- Leadership
- Giving
- Worship
- Spiritual Growth

The Posted Pillar

to keep the Pillars Posted

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

We have now *officially* concluded our GIFT Capital Campaign, through which we raised almost \$920,000. Wow! This is an amazing outcome! As a faith community, we all should feel proud of this. We now enter the planning phase of our facility renovation project. The *purpose* of this project, as I see it, is not merely to build a building, but to *facilitate the sharing of Christ's light*, which is our mission as a congregation. We are poised to make some significant changes to our *physical* plant to help us do this. As we move into this planning process, here are a few key ideas that I'd like us to keep in mind:

1. **We are not in a rush.** A friend of mine once said something very wise to me: "Life is too short to rush." This is a *spiritual and theological* process, and we need to make time and space to listen to the Holy Spirit's nudging toward God's preferred future for us as God's people. We *must* celebrate what God has done through our capital campaign and prayerfully consider our next steps in light of this.

2. **Everyone has a voice, but decisions still need to be made.** This is also a *communal* process. We all care about this church, so we will do our best to make sure everyone is fully informed about the process every step of the way. There will also be ample opportunities for those who so desire to get actively involved in the facilities renovation planning process. We will talk more about the leadership structure of the facilities

renovation project and about ways for folks to get involved at our **congregational planning meeting this Sunday, February 5**, at noon in the Fellowship Hall. I urge everyone to come.

3. **No one person will get everything they want.** As a baptized or confirmed member of this congregation, your voice matters. But each of us must recognize that ours is only one opinion among many. (This also applies to the pastor's opinion, by the way.) Since human community is flawed and imperfect due to sin, this project will also be imperfect. However, as a people who are both "saint and sinner," we should be able to see it as *blessedly* imperfect (and hopefully keep our sense of humor about it).

4. **Prayer, process and communication are critical.** Because the facilities renovation is a *spiritual, theological and communal* process, our renovation plans will likely take time to develop. We must trust that God is at work through this community to accomplish God's plan through us. It is important to bathe this process in prayer and faithful conversation as we look to the future. *Trust the process.*

As I have said from the beginning, the purpose of this project is about more than facility renovation. "Renovation" means renewal, and so really what we are doing is not a building project so much as a renewing of how we facilitate the shining of

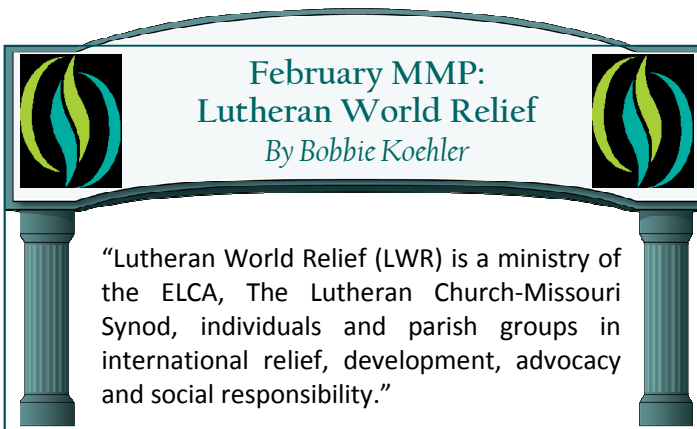
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Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Education

10:30 a.m. Blended Worship



"Lutheran World Relief (LWR) is a ministry of the ELCA, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, individuals and parish groups in international relief, development, advocacy and social responsibility."

You can make a difference in the world—and you may well already *have* made a difference in the world—through Lutheran World Relief. How might you have shared in the work of LWR? Here are just a few of the ways:

- † You may have contributed through the offering or online to **LWR Disaster Response** appeals, the Hunger Appeal, Stand With Africa, and Fill the Well, among others. More than \$12.6 million in aid went to people in need in 2011.
- † You may have donated \$10 for a treated bed net to the **Lutheran Malaria Initiative**, which brings together a worldwide network of partner churches, missionaries and service providers in an effort to eliminate malaria deaths in Africa by 2015. Worldwide, malaria kills nearly a million people, the majority of them pregnant women and children under the age of five.
- † You may have drunk a "cup of justice" during our Sunday morning fellowship time. LCI uses **LWR fair-trade coffees, teas and cocoas**, which along with chocolates are available for purchase most Sundays in the Fellowship Hall.
- † You may have contributed materials for **LWR kits** in 2011. LCI assembled 13 personal care kits and 13 school kits, and contributed 30 pounds of soap, 6 fabric kits and donations to the October 2011 Ingathering. Thirty-three churches from Northern California and Nevada contributed 42 baby care kits, 765 school kits, 435 personal care kits, 146 fabric kits and almost \$4,000 to the quilt and shipping funds.
- † You may have been a part of the LCI Parish Quilters, who made 38 warm **LWR quilts** in 2011. Or, you may have donated money so that LWR could sort, pack, ship and deliver quilts and parish kits to people in 26 countries.

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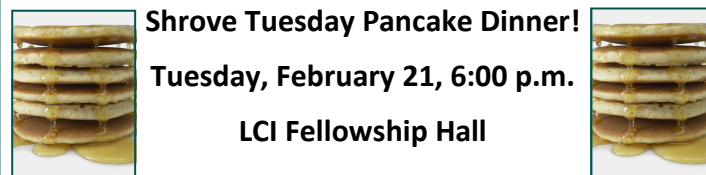
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† You may have purchased gifts at one of the **LWR Fair Trade Fairs**, or ordered gifts directly from their website (lwr.org/handcraft). Your purchases provide self-sufficiency and a stable income to the artisans who can then send their children to school, feed their families, and invest in their communities.

Thank you for the many ways you have helped – and will continue to help – Lutheran World Relief fulfill its mission of "Sustainable Development. Lasting Promise." If you'd like to read more about LWR, the largest relief agency in the world, please visit lwr.org and lwr.org/handcraft.

February Adult Education Forum February 12, 19 and 26

In the adult forum on Sundays, February 12, 19 and 26, we will be screening the film, *Renewal*, which documents the religious environmental movement in this country. The film will complement the preach-in on global warming on February 12, which LCI will observe as part of the California Interfaith Power and Light movement. We will watch a portion of the film each week and have a brief time for discussion afterwards. Please join us! For more information, contact Pastor Dan or Craig Lundgren (lundgren.hamilton@att.net; [530] 750-7708).



Come, on the eve of Lent, and enjoy some delicious food, fellowship and fun! Judi and Dick Berry are hosting a Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner. On the menu will be:

- * LCI-flipped pancakes
- * Sizzling sausages
- * Log Cabin syrup
- * Juice and milk
- * Fair-trade coffee, tea and cocoa
- * "Sacred Plum Jam" from the LCI tree

If you would like to help with set-up, cooking and/or clean-up, please see the sign-up sheets available on Sunday mornings in February. Warm thanks in advance for your help!

Donations will be gratefully accepted.

For more information, contact Judi Berry at (530) 753-6437 or at judiberry@sbcglobal.net.

From the Pastor ... cont. from p. 1

Christ's light. And certainly, renovating our physical campus is an important part of this renewal. But it doesn't stop there.

It is my hope and prayer that a few years from now, at the end of our facilities renovation, we will look back and see how this *process* led us closer to God and to each other. If this happens, then it seems to me that our *project*, whatever it looks like physically, will have been a success. This means having an attitude of "letting go and letting God lead." The degree to which we are willing to do this, I believe, is the degree to which we are able to grow as a Christian community and as Christ's disciples, and to share his light with a world that *desperately* needs to see it.

I am very excited about this project, and hopeful about our future as a congregation, as I trust you are also. You will remain in my prayers as we look ahead to what God has in store for us next.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dan

Dinner Groups are Back!

By Beth Tanke

Last year Ellen Kolarik resurrected a program begun by Peter Hernes several years ago to help LCI members and friends get better acquainted with one another. Interested participants are divided into groups of three family units. These groups meet for an informal meal as often as participants desire – usually 2 or 3 times in a 4-month period. Every 4 months the groups are resorted. Participants can join or take a pass during each 4-month segment.

A family can be a single, a couple, one or more adults with kids, or friends who would like to participate together. UC Davis students are welcome and encouraged to participate as individuals or groups. Groups usually share a potluck supper, rotating the dinner through each of the 3 family homes. However, groups may also decide to meet for breakfast, lunch, or coffee, or at a restaurant, or for a picnic in the park.

Interested participants just need to sign up, and they will be matched with 2 other families and given contact phone numbers and e-mail addresses. There will be a sign-up sheet for the first 4-month cycle in Coffee Alley through February 12. Alternatively, you can contact me (beth@tanelaw.com) or the church office to sign up.

Planned Giving in the Future of LCI

By Vern Holmes

The generous response of the LCI community to our recently concluded GIFT capital campaign has ensured that we will be dealing with some exciting choices for our campus over the next few years, choices that will enhance our ministry today, tomorrow and well into our future.

While the facilities renovation project funded by the GIFT campaign will necessarily be a primary focus over the next several years, I want to keep before us some of the other ways that a congregation can make commitments and plans for its future. Each of these elements should be understood in the context of a congregation's overall stewardship for the financial support of its mission. This overall plan has several components, including:

- annual budget campaigns
- periodic capital campaigns
- designated giving
- endowment and ongoing planned giving programs.

Back in December, we completed our annual budget campaign, as well as a periodic capital campaign. Designated giving – to a monthly minister partner, for example – is always available to members of our community. As an outgrowth of our Growing in Faith Together capital campaign, we now turn our attention to completing the final piece of our overall stewardship ministry: a planned giving program.

A Planned Giving Team comprised of Bob Kerr, Paul Kolarik, Tony Tanke, Richard Wheeler, and I will be working towards the possibility of creating a mission endowment fund for LCI. Team meetings will be the fourth Monday of each month. Watch for monthly articles on planned giving in the Pillar, where we will keep you updated on our progress and invite feedback. For more information in the meantime, please feel free to contact me at vernonholmes@sbcglobal.net or at (530) 661-4928.



Safe Church Training
Sunday, February 12, 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Sunday School Building

The Safe Church training is an annual training for staff, Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, parents and anyone who has contact with children under 18 at LCI. The meeting will consist of a review of the Safe Church Policies that are in place at LCI. The training is open to anyone. If you work with LCI's kids, please plan to attend.