



SHARING THE LIGHT

The mission of First Lutheran Church is to grow together in Christ through Prayer, Worship, and Education and to spread the love of Christ to our community.

April 2024 Publication of FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter Article – March 2024

Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a “title search.” Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you’ll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, “That’s mine: I had it first.”

You can’t understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor’s possessions are *his*: you don’t have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership *to you*? Paul says, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Corinthians 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God’s leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since *you* belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://www.lcms.org/stewardship)



April 2024

Ushers Craig Boehne, Dave Lassanske, and Don Lammerts

Greeters: April 7 Connie Kean
April 14 Patricia Caballero
April 21 Norma Boehne
April 28 Sharon Corey

Readers: April 7 and April 14 Richard Swanson
April 21 and April 28 Christine Geltz



Alleluia!

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

Alleluia!

Gatherings:

Soup and Sandwich, April 3, Wednesday at 12:00 noon

Load the Van to Friends in Deed, April 5, Friday at 8:00 a.m.

Mission Development Team Meeting, April 16, Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.

Board of Directors' Meeting, April 21, Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

Volunteers at Friends in Deed, April 27, Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Times, April 7, 8:30 a.m.
April 14, 8:30 a.m.
April 21, 8:30 a.m.
April 28, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School Times, Every Sunday from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Senior group (previously called the Major Leaguers) is cancelled till further notice.

Saturday Prayer Group, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. This group is currently meeting via the telephone. Let Jo Tschopp know if you want to participate.

Not receiving email special announcements and/or prayer requests??

Electronic Newsletter: If you are currently not receiving emails and would like to be included, please share your email address with the Church Administrator (Elizabeth Yu) at:

admin@firstlutherantc.org, or call:(626) 287-0968 and leave a message if you prefer to have a hard copy mailed out to you.

Pastoral Care: Pastor Scott Ganas at: (951) 795-8162 or
Board of Directors' Chairman, Judy Gunther at: (626) 833-5613.

Little Free Library

We were able to provide new children's books to the participants at our recent Easter Egg hunt. The books provided the true Easter story. Thanks to Rachel Whitcher for her generous contributions. It has been challenging to keep adult books in the Little Library. Every time Jo puts some books into the Little Free Library, they are all taken. This is unusual, we are monitoring it. Please continue to donate your appropriate books by giving them to Jo Tschopp, the ushers, or put them in the library. Thank you.



Friends in Deed



Friends in Deed volunteers are always glad to see us when we deliver our monthly contributions. Please don't forget to add a few shelf stable items to your cart when you shop. Church members and friends volunteer monthly, donating food items, and helping every fourth Saturday. Contact Jo Tschopp or Dave Lassanske for more information.

Mission Development Team

We thought the rain last Saturday would discourage families from attending our annual Easter Egg Hunt, but Vicki Trepanier and some neighbors decided differently. Instead of looking for eggs in the wet grass, the families came inside Room 8 of the Education Building and had fun looking for eggs, playing games, and participating in Easter crafts. We were all surprised! One never knows what God has planned and provides. Our next neighborhood outreach event is a Mother's Day brunch planned on Saturday – May 11th, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.



Afternoon of Singing J.S. Bach Hymns

Members and friends of First Lutheran Church of Temple City are invited to an afternoon of singing J.S. Bach hymns at the home of our former Choir Director – Tabitha Henken. Tabitha lives at: 2437 Florence Avenue, Arcadia CA 91007. Tabitha's three sons and daughter are all professional musicians. Jo went to one of her singalongs and it was wonderful. These are some of the hymns that we might sing: "Tis Good Lord to Be Here," "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," "O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild", "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God", and many others. This event is planned for: April 29, 2024 – Monday at 2:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Tabitha at: (626) 447-9506. Hope to see you there and have fun singing along!

Memorial Service



Memorials for Gene Koon

There will be a Memorial Service for this lawyer who was married at First Lutheran Church of Temple City during the 1960s. The date will be on: April 6th, 2024 – Saturday at 12:00 noon.

Sunday Worship at Home

If you are unable to attend worship, you can listen to the Lutheran Hour sermon at 8:00 a.m. on station KBRT AM 740 each Sunday.

If you have a TV and can get DirectTV, Channel 377 you can view Worship Anew at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. This service is filmed at our Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana. For those people who have a computer, the Worship Anew worship service can be viewed via the internet at any time.



You may, also, access and/or review Pastor Scott's sermon online by going to: <https://firstlutherantc.org/Media>.

News from our Missionary

Anna Rostek will visit First Lutheran Church on **April 14th, 2024** – Sunday during the Adult Bible Study segment. She shall have more updates and photos to share with us about her missionary in Burundi which is in East Central Africa.



BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH



April 25

Susan Swanson

Updates from Lutheran Social Services of Southern California (LSSSC)

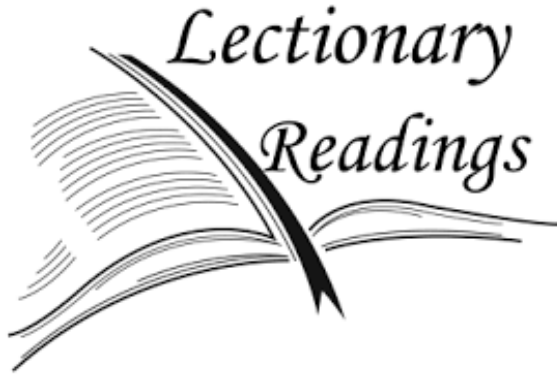
Color of Hope Gala Honoring Steve and Cathy Kienle –

LSSSC raised over \$210K at its Color of Hope Gala & Awards on October 7, 2023 among 215 guests. The elegant affair held at the historic Mission Inn in Riverside honored Steve and Cathy Kienle of Walter’s Automotive and featured a moving art project by Brian Peterson of *Faces of Mankind*. The gala theme Mission Possible – a twist on the Mission Impossible TV show – tied into the multi county social services organization and their efforts to transform the San Bernardino Central City Lutheran Mission (CCLM) into a comprehensive Community Wellness Campus.



“I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all our donors and supporters. Your unwavering belief in our mission and your generous contributions are the lifeblood of our organization. Without your support, we would not be able to do what we do – providing essential services to vulnerable individuals in Southern California,” said LSSSC CEO Dr. LaSharnda Beckwith.

San Bernardino Community Wellness Community – The groundbreaking for the addition of 140 new interim term housing units and support facilities at Lutheran Social Services of Southern California's San Bernardino Community Wellness Campus (formerly Central City Lutheran Mission) will take place on Friday, April 19 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Anyone wishing attend and see the great things taking shape over the next 12 to 14 months may contact LSSSC's Church & Community Relations representative, Paul Fournier at: Paul.Fournier@lsssc.org or call at: (714) 621-5845.



Reading the Lectionaries

Here are the lectionaries for April during the Easter season as they travel to various books of the New Testament, Psalms, and the Gospel as we go this Easter season:

	<u>First Reading</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
April 7	Acts 4:32–35	Psalm 148	1 John 1:1–2:2	John 20:19–31
April 14	Acts 3:11–21	Psalm 4	1 John 3:1–7	Luke 24:36–49
April 21	Acts 4:1–12	Psalm 23	1 John 3:16–24	John 10:11–18
April 28	Acts 8:26–40	Psalm 150	1 John 4:1–21	John 15:1–8



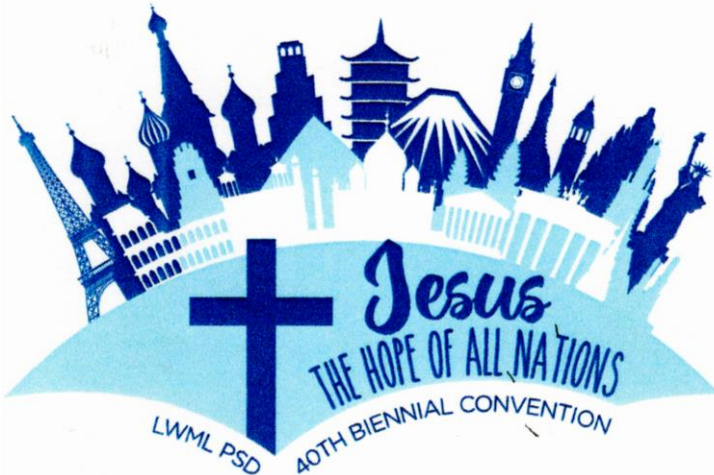
Save the Date!

LWML PACIFIC SOUTHWEST DISTRICT 40TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

JUNE 7-9, 2024

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

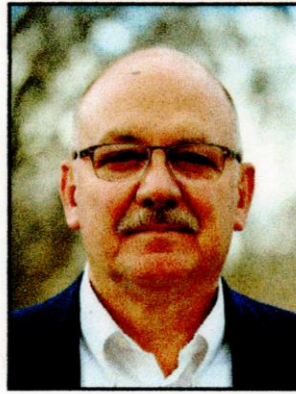
DoubleTree by Hilton
Rosemead, 888 Montebello Blvd
Rosemead, CA 91770



Mission Statement:

*We are all God's children and
celebrate the Hope we have in Jesus.*

*Praise be to the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy, he
has given us new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ
from the dead (1 Peter 1:3 NIV).*



Rev. Dr. John Mehl KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rev. Dr. John Mehl became the second Executive Director of Mission of Christ Network on January 1, 2017.

Dr. Mehl began his ministry at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Lincoln, Kansas where he served eight years as a parish pastor, before being called by LCMS Board for Mission Services as a church planter

in Moscow, Russia, in 1993. He served as the pastor of two different congregations in Moscow and supervised the "Moscow Seminars," an ongoing theological education program for Russian Lutheran pastors. In 2004 he and his family moved from Moscow to Frankfurt, Germany, while serving with LCMS World Missions as the Regional Director for Eurasia. In 2006, the family moved to Hong Kong, where Dr. Mehl served as the Regional Director for Asia until 2013. While in Asia he was a member of the leadership team that started Concordia International School, Hanoi. From 2014 to 2016 he served as the Director of Mission Partnerships and Church Relations at Concordia University, Nebraska.

John is married to Susan and they have three grown children, Katrina, Louisa and Theodore.



Melissa Salomón BIBLE STUDY LEADER

A faithful and effective servant, Melissa Salomón brings to the LCMS and LWML a special love for and commitment to the promotion of cross-cultural ministries on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. She is a highly respected leader in the LCMS Hispanic community and has been instrumental in the LWML

Heart to Heart Sisters of all Nations, our intentional focus on intercultural engagement.

She has been serving her Lord in border ministry since 1986. In 1998 she was part of a team that opened the first Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) office in Mexico. Currently, her work with 1000 Generaciones Ministry and Concordia Church and School in Chula Vista, California, allow her to engage in mission and mercy projects along the border and beyond. Melissa has served on the Board of Mission Nation Publishing since 2020 and was honored to have her life and service story memorialized in one of the Mission Nation Publications in 2021.

Melissa enjoys living near her two grown children who each have a baby, so Melissa is living her best life delighting in little Santiago Alejandro and Sofia Grace.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

9123 Broadway
Temple City, CA 91780

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL

April 2024

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Temple City, CA 91780
Office Phone:

(626) 287-0968

E-Mail : admin@firstlutherantc.org
Website : <https://firstlutherantc.org>

Rev. Scott Ganas, Pastor

8:30 a.m. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
Holy Communion every 1st & 3rd Sundays only
9:45 a.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE STUDY
Every Sunday