



## 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.*

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**September 2023    Publication of    FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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### Stewardship in the First Commandment

The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word “enchiridion” is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for “handbook.” The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian person needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.

Luther starts with the Ten Commandments.

The First Commandment:

You shall have no other gods.

*What does this mean?* We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I)

We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him.

Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us. He has promised as much — and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him.

In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment:

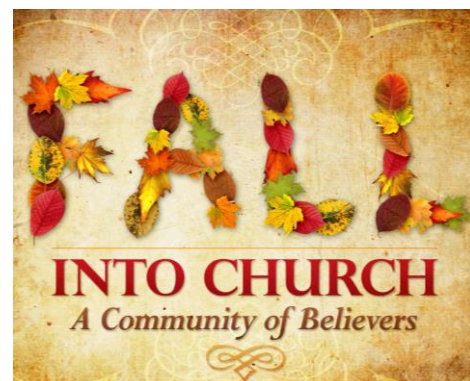
This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has none doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave. (LC I 5–9)

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don't have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect our belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God's work.

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



# September 2023



**Ushers** Craig Boehne, Dave Lassanske, and Don Lammerts

**Greeters:** September 3 Sharon Corey  
September 10 Pat Caballero  
September 17 Sharon Corey  
September 24 Norma Boehne

**Readers:** September 3 and September 17 Richard Swanson  
September 10 and September 24 Christine Geltz

## **Gatherings:**

Load the Van to Friends in Deed, September 1, Friday at 8:30 a.m.

First Wednesday Soup and Sandwich, September 6, Wednesday from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

Mission Development Team Meeting, September 13, Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

Volunteers at Friends in Deed, September 16, Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

Mission Development Team's Taco Dinner, September 23, Saturday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Worship Times, September 3, 8:30 a.m.  
September 10, 8:30 a.m.  
September 17, 8:30 a.m.  
September 24, 8:30 a.m.

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

## **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](mailto: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.

## Friends in Deed



Our next food delivery trip to Friends in Deed in Pasadena is scheduled for September 2. For over 125 years this partnership and collaboration of congregations, and other groups have been meeting the needs of economically challenged people through the Food Pantry, Street Outreach & Housing, the Women's Room, Bad Weather Supplies, and Eviction Prevention and Rental Support. When our food items are delivered, they generally are

immediately put on the shelves ready for the customers to select as they shop for items appropriate for their particular needs. A big thanks to our shoppers who are so very generous.

## Mission Development Team

This team of busy people are getting ready to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month by having a Taco Night on Saturday, September 23, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The taco grill will be bringing a choice of three different meats, plus beans, rice, salsa, and drinks. Desserts will also be available. This is an event the entire family can enjoy with activities planned for the children.



On August 27, we celebrated early the anticipated November birth of Jiaming's and Yuting's child with a baby shower. It was a joyful occasion and fun to see the different gifts that the ladies gave, which included a few hand-made items. Styles of clothing, diapers and accessories have changed through the years but the miracle of a new life remains.

## Missionary News from Anna Rosteck

“Hello! I have continued to provide counseling to missionaries throughout Africa, and I finished chemo. I have an appointment with a surgeon on the 29th of August to discuss a liver resection or ablation. My teammates in Burundi came to Montana, and we were able to discuss our future plans for our ministry in Burundi. We are getting new teammates, one of whom is a psychologist and is eager to do trauma healing with me. I am very excited to anticipate their arrival. The plan is still for me to head back to Africa around January or February. Thank you so much for your prayers, support, and cards. I feel so loved by your congregation.”



## **First Wednesday Soup and Sandwich**

You won't want to miss the September 6 gathering, as we greet a member of Temple City's Committee on Aging. This presenter will be able to share services, and activities especially planned for senior citizens in Temple City.

At our October get-together meeting, we will welcome Mary Sneed – Director of the Temple City Historical Society Museum. Temple City will be celebrating their Centennial event. Mary shall share some of that history with us. Because some of our members have been living in the city for decades, it will be fun to re-live history and learn of Temple City life in 1923.

## **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>.**

## **Community Prayer Box**

Our last two prayer requests ask for assistance in obtaining employment. Let's pray that people seeking jobs would be guided into good positions that use their particular skills and abilities. Pray also that employers would provide adequate training, salary, benefits and healthy work environments. And, pray that workers everywhere would perform their responsibilities well.



1 Corinthians 15:58

*<sup>5</sup>Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*

# Lutheran Social Services of Southern California (LSSSC)



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CASE STATEMENT

On our way to solving homelessness and building wellness for thousands more men...  
[www.lsssc.org](http://www.lsssc.org)



### YESTERDAY & TODAY

Since 1994, the Central City Lutheran Mission (CCLM) of San Bernardino has operated the only large-scale shelter of its kind for men experiencing homelessness. In 2015, CCLM became part of the Lutheran Social Services of Southern California (LSSSC) family of community sites and program services. LSSSC immediately began providing more than just shelter. With a team of more than 15 staff and hundreds of dedicated volunteers, we also offered case coordination, housing counseling, employment search assistance, street outreach, peer support training, and much more.

Over the last 5 years, the *San Bernardino Sun* newspaper has reported that the number of people in the Inland Empire experiencing homelessness has grown by over 175%. While the demand for temporary shelter and services grew at LSSSC, the demand for more stable longer-term housing and services also grew. Our steady growth has produced new challenges, yet even greater opportunities to make a lasting difference for men to achieve stability and lasting self-sufficiency.

### OUR PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

For the past two years, LSSSC has planned for, and now has undertaken, one of the most forward-thinking solutions to not just end homelessness but to also provide community wellness.

While maintaining the legacy and appreciation for CCLM, we will transform the current site's nearly 3 acres of land in the vicinity of the Interstate 215 corridor into a Community Wellness Campus. This project will revitalize the community and allow for housing and supportive services to be delivered.

### CAMPAIGN MILESTONES

1. Quiet Phase - Celebration Goal \$22,800,000

At this point, we will have raised 60% of project funds & begun new construction with reconstruction of existing building near completion. Major naming opportunities will be available to initial donors.

2. Public Phase - Challenge Goal \$10,100,000

At this point, we will have raised an additional 30% of the total goal with mid-range gifts between \$k-25k. A portion of men will be housed in both the shelter and the portion of housing units that have been completed. Naming opportunities will have been made publically available.

3. Final Phase - Transformational Goal \$3,100,000

This final phase will conclude with gifts from \$100-\$5,000 and will include opportunities for memorial and honorary tributes such as on pavers and bricks. The last touches, such as landscaping, art, and decor, will be completed. A celebratory open house will include all supporters.

### AT A GLANCE

#### PROJECT BENEFITS

- LSSSC owns the land & buildings
- \$5 million in support already given by the City of San Bernardino
- Proven evidence-based program success
- 140 supportive housing units added to the 30-bed shelter
- The addition of new community services building with access and programs for the whole neighborhood

#### PROJECT CHALLENGES

- \$24 million additional funds needed for building project completion
- \$6 million needed to expand professional staffing and programming



**DR. LASHARANDA BECKWITH**  
 President & CEO Lutheran Social Services of Southern California

"Our long-term goal is to see a Community Wellness Campus in every area of Southern California we serve. Our vision and our expertise position LSSSC to best develop and implement this innovative project in a manner not yet experienced or seen before."

# YOUR CHURCH CAN HELP OUR MISSION POSSIBLE

We have a goal to raise \$325,000 towards our community wellness campus to house and help 140 additional homeless men each day in Southern California. Your church and church members can help our upcoming gala in the following ways:

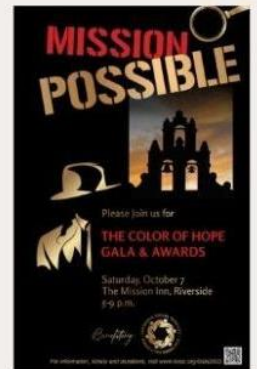
- Sponsor the event: [www.lsssc.org/GalaSponsor](http://www.lsssc.org/GalaSponsor)
- Donate a basket, gift cards, airline miles or other items to our live and silent auction.  
[www.lsssc.org/AuctionDonation](http://www.lsssc.org/AuctionDonation)
- Buy a table for your church and come as a group to show your support and enjoy an evening out for a great cause.
- Volunteer on our committee or the day of the event (call Paul Fournier - (714) 621-5845)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 25-27 - LCMS Pastor's Conference in Cathedral City. Come visit our table or our hospitality suite.
- TBA - Granada Hills/San Fernando Valley Ministry Summer Networking Event
- October 7 - **The Second Annual Color of Hope Awards & Gala**. Theme: "Mission Possible" at the Mission Inn, Riverside.

## FOR YOUR CHURCH BULLETIN

Your Oct. 7 opportunity to support Lutheran Social Services' gala, fundraiser and awards to build housing for more than 600 homeless men per year. Get information and tickets to the LSSSC 2023 Color of Hope Gala and Awards.  
[www.lsssc.org/Gala2023](http://www.lsssc.org/Gala2023)



## FREE STUFF FOR YOUR CHURCH

- Want free LSSSC Coloring and Activity Books for your church, school, pre-school or VBS? See [www.lsssc.org/NO](http://www.lsssc.org/NO) or call Paul.
- Every church that gives on a monthly basis will receive a free custom bookmark for everyone in your congregation. Contact: Paul Fournier at (714) 621-5845
- Contact us for free delivery of copies of our quarterly magazine, ENGAGE.



## Lutheran Social Services of Southern California (LSSSC) - continued



Paul Fournier, Church, Community and Business Representative for LSSSC

### **YOUR CHURCH LIASON PAUL FOURNIER**

Have I been to your church or been introduced to your congregation? Church secretaries, lay volunteers and pastors, I have a treat for you personally if you pick up the phone or email me back to just say hello and let LSSSC know how we can help your church do effective philanthropy and help your neighbors in need. Reach me at (714) 621-5845 or email me at [paul.fournier@lsssc.org](mailto:paul.fournier@lsssc.org). The first 10 people to contact me this month get a Starbucks gift card just for reaching out. Let's talk, pray or whatever you would like. I'll be blessed and so will you.

*"We are the mission field right here in Southern California, doing the 'heavy lifting' of being the hands and feet of Jesus."*



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Chula Vista - Project Hand Food Bank
- San Diego - Senior Companion Program
- San Bernardino - Central City Lutheran Mission - Churches to Provide Sunday Dinners for Homeless Men in Our Shelter
- Long Beach - Food Pantry Distributions
- Gala & Awards - Riverside Mission Inn 10/7

For info, email: [volunteers@lsssc.org](mailto:volunteers@lsssc.org)

A promotional graphic for a podcast. It features a large, professional microphone in the foreground. To the right, there is a portrait of Dr. Tiffany Mitchell. Text includes "Listen to our Podcast", "Get ENGAGED with Dr. Tiffany Mitchell", "Join Us!", "featuring special guests from ENGAGE Magazine", and "New Guest Each Month!". At the bottom, there are logos for Spotify, a speaker icon, and YouTube. A circular logo for LSSSC is also visible in the bottom left corner of the graphic.

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT LSSSC

Check for opportunities on Indeed:  
<https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Lutheran-Social-Services-of-Southern-California/jobs>

## Birthday this month

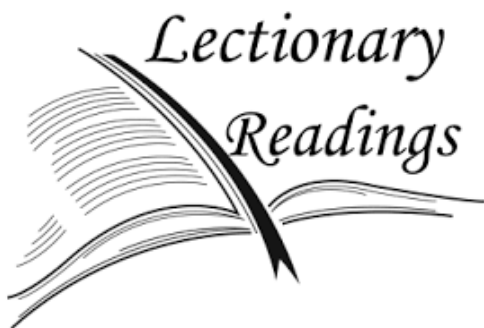


*Geri Novak  
Norma Boehne  
Craig Boehne  
Christine Geltz*

*September 5  
September 11  
September 13  
September 29*

## News from Temple City's Parks and Recreation

We would like to invite Temple City Church groups to be in Temple City's Centennial Celebration parade on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>! *Please expect street closures between Kauffman Avenue and Golden West Avenue beginning at 7 a.m. on that day.* The parade will start at 9 a.m. and will walk from Las Tunas Drive on Cloverly to Kauffman and dispersing at Temple City Park. This will be the kickoff to the Centennial Celebration Fall Festival event at Temple City Park that day. We hope you all can be part of this exciting event. For more information, please contact either Ana Casillas at: (626) 285-2171, extension 4510 or via her email [acasillas@templecity.us](mailto:acasillas@templecity.us), or Iliana Flores at: (626) 285-2171, extension 4122 via her email at: [iflores@templecity.us](mailto:iflores@templecity.us).



## Reading the Lectionaries

Here are the lectionaries for September as they travel to various books of the Old Testament, Psalms, and the Gospel:

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>Psalms</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>
September 3	Jeremiah 15:15–21	Psalms 26	Romans 12:9–21	Matthew 16:21–28
September 10	Ezekiel 33:7–9	Psalms 32:1–7	Romans 13:1–10	Matthew 18:1–20
September 17	Genesis 50:15–21	Psalms 103:1–12	Romans 14:1–12	Matthew 18:21–35
September 24	Isaiah 55:6–9	Psalms 27:1–9	Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30	Matthew 20:1–16

**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

9123 Broadway  
Temple City, CA 91780

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**  
**DATED MATERIAL**

*September 2023*

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FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
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Temple City, CA 91780  
Office Phone: (626) 287-0968

E-Mail : [admin@firstlutherantc.org](mailto:admin@firstlutherantc.org)  
Website : <https://firstlutherantc.org>

*Rev. Scott Ganas, Pastor*

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