



Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at 7:00 PM

Ash Wednesday: Soil, Stones, Candles



This year's experience of Ash Wednesday will provide a moment to press the pause button and reflect on the essence of life and the character of your journey through this gift

we all share. Taking place in the soft light of the day's end, we gather around a stone labyrinth and quietly allow the readings, music, and reflections to connect us to

(Continued on page 12)

Sunday, February 5, 2012 at 10:45 AM

Scout Sunday

On February 5, 2012, during the 10:45 AM service, we will celebrate the birth of scouting and recognize the newest recipients of the God & Me and God & Family religious emblems. All Scouts—young and old,



male and female, Boy Scout and Girl Scout, Lutheran and non-Lutheran,

OSLC members and non-members—are invited to join us for Scout Sunday 2012!

Boy Scout Troop 200, which is chartered by the OSLC Mission Team, will be hosting our coffee

(Continued on page 12)

Sunday, February 5, 2012 at 4:00 PM

PLTS Presents The Interfaith Amigos

Pastor Don Mackenzie, Rabbi Ted Falcon and Sheikh Jamal Rahman—known as the Interfaith Amigos—started working together after 9/11. Since then, they have brought their unique blend of spiritual

wisdom and humor to audiences in the US, Canada, Israel-Palestine and Japan. Their work is dedicated to supporting more effective interfaith dialogue that can bring greater collaboration on the major social and econom-

ic issues of our time.

Please join us on Sunday, February 5, at 4:00 PM in the PLTS Chapel of the Cross for a presentation by the Interfaith Amigos. All are welcome and there is no cost for the event.

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Highlights this month:

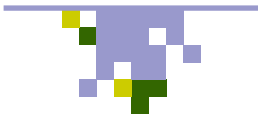
- OWLS Gift Exchange 1/31
- Scout Sunday 2/5
- Spirit Deadline 2/13
- St. Valentine's Day 2/14
- Harp Concert 2/19
- Presidents' Day 2/20
- ASH WEDNESDAY 2/22
- Wine & Tapas 2/25
- Women's Retreat 3/2-3/4



All Are Welcome!



Find Us On Facebook



God's World for Adults: Jungian Jesus

Carl Jung, the son of a Swiss Reformed pastor, brought his four psychological functions to his vision of the gospel. Through this lens, he was able to see in the Gospel of Mark the archetypal drama of consciousness itself. In this light, the Jesus story incorporates universal themes and patterns that allow us to awaken to the unfolding drama within all of life. Join author and lecturer



Illustration from Carl Jung's *The Red Book*.

Randy Verarde for this great 5-week session that examines Mark's gospel from a Jungian perspective. It will give you a new way to read and understand the good news and particularly the place of the cross at the heart of our faith journey.

Sessions are Sundays at 9:45 AM in the Chapel, beginning February 26, 2012 and continuing through March 25. Childcare is provided.

Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 12:00 PM

OWLS "Hoot" Line

On Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 12:00 PM the OWLS will gather in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and a white elephant gift exchange. Bring your appetites and a gift—something you received

for Christmas or have laying around the house that you do not need. This is your chance to dispose of it! Bring it to lunch and we will have fun seeing what sorts of "treasures" are discovered.



If you have questions, or need transportation, please call Dee Bakken at

(925) 820-7632.

"The Jesus story incorporates universal themes and patterns that allow us to awaken to the unfolding drama within all of life."

OSLC Concert Series Coming Attractions



Mark your calendars for the wonderful performances coming up on our Concert Series:

Sunday, February 19
4:00 PM

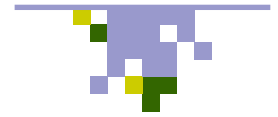
Dominique Piana, harp
(see article in this issue)

Sunday, March 18
4:00 PM

OSLC Choirs and Guest Artists: Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit, featuring Robert Ray's GOSPEL MASS

Sunday, May 6
4:00 PM

Annual Celebration of Music Concert

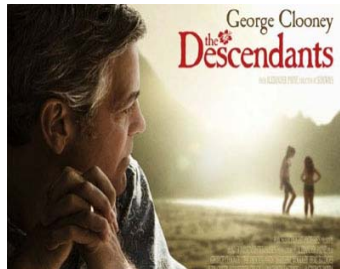


Faith and Film Discussion: *The Descendants*

It is hard to predict which movies are going to be Oscar nominees, but George Clooney films are always safe bets. On Tuesday, February 28, at 7:00 PM we are discussing the spiritual elements in the brilliant, thought-provoking, Golden Globe winning movie, *The Descendants*.

Christianity Today magazine describes it this way: “*The Descendants* is a

grown-up movie about grown-up problems, and that alone makes it rather old-fashioned... Here we



have a movie about a man struggling with the stuff of life and death—terminal illness, a tumultuous mar-

riage, infidelity, major business decisions, parenting problems, and a family in turmoil—showing grace and forgiveness to the people who have wronged him the most. This is grown-up stuff, all right, and the movie doesn't take it lightly.”

So, get out and watch this delightful and humorous movie. Then, come to church on February 28 to discuss it. —
Pastor Holly

Reflections on Our Collective Identity

Last month, over 50 folks gathered together with the Congregation Council to reflect on the past 20 years of our life together, consider who we are today, and to contemplate where we are headed. While we ran out

of Bev Tracewell's great chili, we did not run out of enthusiasm and insight into the complex and compelling story we have to tell about our emerging identity. As we compile all of the thoughts and ideas, we will display them in

the hallways for you to browse and to add your own comments. Thanks to all who attended and for the way we collectively strive to be a vibrant community of faith and hope for all. —*Pastor Dan*

*“What is prayer?
How do we pray?
How does prayer work?
Does God even hear our
prayer?”*

Book Study

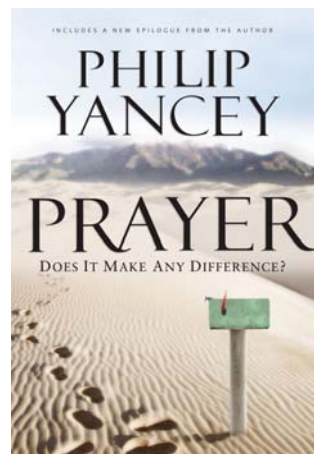
Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?

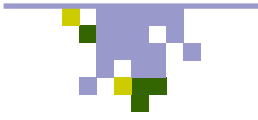
Prayer. This is a subject we are all familiar with and yet mystified by. What is prayer? How do we pray? How does prayer work? Does God even hear our prayer?

During Lent we are exploring the subject of prayer. All are invited to read and come discuss

Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference? by Philip Yancey.

Our first gathering will be Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at 9:30 AM. This discussion will go until March 20. —*Pastor Holly*





March 2-4, 2012

Women's Retreat: Being, Having & Doing Enough

Women of Our Savior's, when was the last time you took a Sabbath? When was the last time you took a day to play, meditate, spend time with family and celebrate life? I know it sounds slightly selfish to let ourselves just be, especially when there is laundry piling up, bills to pay, groceries to unload, emails to answer, proposals to read and the list goes on and on.

Author Wayne Muller writes, "We have built our lives on a ridiculous belief that if we move faster, work longer and harder (with the help of all our astonishingly swift and convenient technologies), fix everything broken, or complete every project, then we can finally say, "That is enough. Now I can rest."

We all need rest. We all need time to be silent before God. If you

are craving a Sabbath, please consider attending the 2012 Women's Retreat March 2-4, at the Bishop's Ranch in Healdsburg. Even if you don't need a rest, come just so you can experience the beautiful setting, scrumptious food and wonderful hospitality of the Bishop's Ranch.

Nestled in the middle of wine country, The Bishop's Ranch is a
(Continued on page 12)

Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 7:00 PM

Wine & Tapas Evening

"When was the last time you took a day to play, meditate, spend time with family and celebrate life?"

A diverse panel of teens, young adults, transgendered persons and those coming out in later life will share experiences and reflections on what it means to identify yourself to family and friends as Lesbian, Gay,

Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, (LGBTQ) or other sexual or gender minority. Hosted by our Reconciling in Christ Team, this evening will prove to be a powerful window into the lives of those across the spectrum of sexual orien-

tation and gender identity. It will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 7:00 PM. Childcare is provided. Please bring wine or other beverages and finger foods to share. And don't forget your families, neighbors, and friends.

Starting Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at 7:00 PM

Coming for Lent: The Evolving Face of Christianity

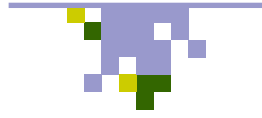
After such a great series on the Gospel of Mark last year, Rev. Vern Holmes is back to teach a shorter mid-week class on the evolving character of the Christian movement between the writing of Mark's early Gospel (approx. 70 -80 CE) to John's late Gospel

(approx. 180 CE).

Using the themes in the Gospel of John, Vern will explore the development of Christianity and the transitions from Mark's time to John's. Vern spent six weeks in Israel working with Dr. Bruce Schein studying John's Gospel. This will

be a great class for those of you who studied Mark and for those who are interested in understanding the explosion of Christianity in those first hundred years.

The class begins Wednesday, February 29, 2012 at 7:00 PM and will continue for 8 sessions.



Like Gospel Music? Why Not Sing Some?!

On Thursday, February 2, we observe Groundhog Day by inviting everyone to come join



us for the first hour of choir practice (7:00-8:00 PM) as we prepare for our March 18 concert. It's all gospel music, including Robert Ray's fantastic GOSPEL MASS (1981). You will enjoy being a "seasonal singer."

We will rehearse every Thursday night, as well as 9:30-noon on Saturday, February 11 and a dress rehearsal on Saturday, March 17. If you have to miss a couple of Thurs-

days, you'll still be just fine, and we want you with us.

If you have any questions, ask a member of Chancel Choir or Voices of Praise, or contact Martin Morley, martin@oslc.net.

Friday, March 9 at 8:00 PM

The Concordia Choir is Coming

The Concordia Choir of Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota, under the direction of the amazing René Clausen, is one of America's finest a cappella choirs. They appear in a limited num-



ber of engagements throughout the year. On Friday, March 9 at 8:00 PM they will be presenting a concert at St. Ignatius Church, 650 Parker Ave., San Francisco. Buy tickets at www.concordiatickets.com

"I am persuaded that after theology, music is the only art capable of affording peace and joy of heart ... "

The Gift of Music

Beautiful music is the art of the prophets that can calm the agitations of the soul," said Martin Luther.

"I wish to see all arts, principally music, in the service of Him who gave and created them.

Music is a fair and glorious gift from God. I

would not forego my humble share of music. Singers are never sorrowful, but are merry, and they smile through their troubles in song.

Music makes people kinder, gentler, more staid and reasonable. I am persuaded that after theology, music is the only art

capable of affording peace and joy of heart ... the devil flees before the sound of music almost as much as before the Word of God."





Our Partnership with PLTS

The Rev. Dr. Alicia Vargas has been appointed the new Academic Dean at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, effective January 1, 2012.

"It is with a sense of joy and awesome responsibility that I have accepted the position of Academic Dean of PLTS," said Dr. Vargas. "I've loved PLTS since I arrived in 1991. As a student and as a faculty member and administrator, I am proud of PLTS. With the help of God and my dear faculty colleagues, I will strive in my new position to help PLTS strengthen its thoroughly Lutheran theological formation of our next wave of faithful, evangeli-

cal and prophetic leaders for church and world in this pluralistic setting of the GTU."

Congratulations to Dr. Steed Davidson, Assistant Professor of Old Testament, on the recent publication of his new book, Empire and Exile: Postcolonial Readings of the Book of Jeremiah. Rather than view acceptance of exile as surrender, a postcolonial perspective reads selected texts as resistance and the struggle to survive in a new world. Dr. Carol Jacobson, Associate Professor of Practical Theology: Youth and Family Ministries, was on sabbatical during the spring semester of 2011.



Rev. Dr. Alicia Vargas is the new Academic Dean at PLTS.

The foci of her sabbatical were quality seminary education online, Lutheran theologies of the global south, and course construction and redesign. You can read her sabbatical report at the PLTS website, www.plts.org.

—Linda Baumhefner

"I've loved PLTS since I arrived in 1991. As a student and as a faculty member and administrator, I am proud of PLTS."

Sunday Morning Hospitality Helpers Needed

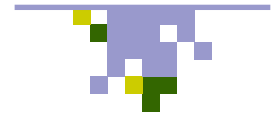


Our Savior's is a community full of blessings. Four of our blessings are Milo Yoshino, Ron Rogness, and Sandi & Marty Healy. These four faithfully make, serve and clean up the coffee hour every Sunday. They see their hospitality as a gift, a way of serving OSLC and God. They all love serving coffee!

Sundays it is a mad scramble to find people to fill in and make sure we all have caffeine and hot chocolate flowing through our veins.

If you are interested—or willing—to be part of a "fill-in" hospitality team please let me know. Sandi Healy is willing to train. —Pastor Holly

There are Sundays when they, however, are unable to serve. On these



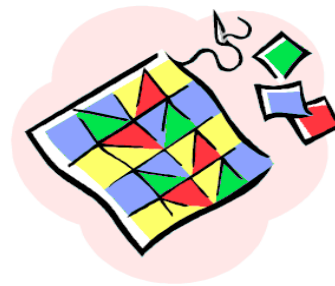
Saturday Quilting

Can't make the Thursday LWR quilting group? On Saturday, February 25, 2012 we'll be meeting in the Lounge from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and would love to have you join us! Interested in sewing together quilt tops?

Come that day

and we'll have sewing machines available and people to show you how. We'll also be tying quilts and maybe even laying out kits.

All ages are welcome. This is a great opportunity for community service hours for teens! See you there! Questions? Call Kathy Lickiss at (925) 933-



8123 or email to:
kblickiss@sbcglobal.net.

Church Funnies

Little Bits and Pieces from Church Life...

1. Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited until you try to get into their pews or their favorite church parking spot.

2. Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisers.

3. It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.

4. The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but the fly and mosquito come close.

5. When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

6. People are funny. They want the front of the bus, middle of the road, and the back of the church.

7. Opportunity may

knock once, but temptation bangs on your door for years.

8. Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.

9. The phrase that is guaranteed to wake up an audience: "And in conclusion."

10. If the church wants a better preacher, it only needs to pray for the one it has.

11. Not only are the sins of the fathers visited upon the children, but nowadays the sins of the children are visited upon the fathers.

12. Jesus does not propose to judge a man till he is dead. So why should you?

13. To make a long story short, don't tell it.

14. If your left hand doesn't know what your right one is doing, you should consider running for a job in Washington.

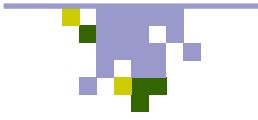
15. Some minds are like concrete, thoroughly mixed up and permanently set.

16. Peace starts with a smile.

17. I don't know why some people change churches. What difference does it make which one you stay home from?

18. A lot of church members are singing "Standing on the Promises" while they are just sitting on the premises. —From www.oldlutheran.com

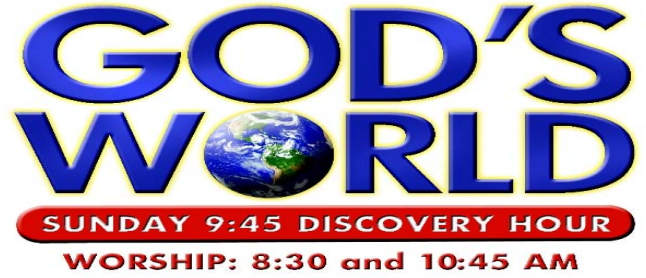
I don't know why some people change churches. What difference does it make which one you stay home from?



January 2012

Kids God's World Schedule

In Kids God's World this month we continue to follow Jesus and his teachings.



February 5

Jesus and his ministry
and K-2 milestone

February 12

God's World for All

February 19

No God's World
Presidents' Day Holiday

February 26

Jesus and his ministry
and K-2 milestone

Upcoming Milestones

Class instruction begins for all Preschool through Kindergarten children on Sunday, January 29 during God's World. The My Church Milestone welcomes our preschool children to ex-

plore all we do at church.

The Worship Milestone explores patterns of worship by taking them through the bulletin and talking about all the various ways we pay attention to God, and the ways

God pays loving attention to us.

For more information, please email Ricci Jamgotchian kids@oslc.net.

Milestone Recognition Days

All kindergartners through second graders who participate in their milestones will be recognized in a worship service on dates below.

Kindergarten-Worship

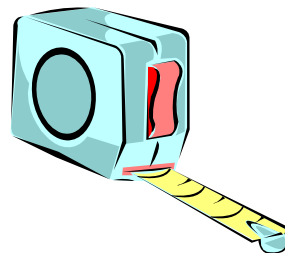
Sunday, February 12

Christina McDonnell, JJ Sanchez and Ryan Okanes

Grade 1-Prayer

Wednesday, February 22

Laura Bea, Camilla Beetham, Anna Friess, Katja



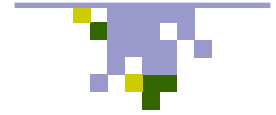
Friess, Isaac Jamgotchian and Bryce Maher

Grade 2

First Communion

Sunday, April 15

Ella Johnston, Daniel Kattari, Maya Stelzer, Marcus Vasankari and Kate Stelzer (Grade 4)



Rancho Santa Marta High School Spring Break Trip

Each year, our high school youth take a trip south of the US/Mexico border to Rancho Santa Marta in San Vicente, Mexico, for a week of living on the ranch, working on improvement projects, playing with the kids who live and go to school on the ranch and exploring how God is moving in their lives.

When thinking of Rancho Santa Marta, resist picturing it as a cattle



ranch with horses. Yes, there are pigs and sheep, but this ranch is a special education school, with a large population of orphaned youth. Rancho Santa Marta is one of the few special education

schools in Baja Mexico.

If this trip falls during your Spring break please consider coming. This is an amazing opportunity to be both God's hands in serving and God's eyes in seeing the world. This year's trip is March 31-April 7, 2012. The cost is \$180. Deadline for registration is February 29, 2012. For more information and registration please contact Pastor Holly at holly@oslc.net.

Guitar Lessons

Vince Mellone, our own guitarist from the 10:45 AM service, will be giving private lessons at Our Savior's on Thursdays after school. Vince has been teaching acoustic and electric guitar to stu-

dents of all ages for twelve years. But space is limited! Call, text, or email Vince about rates and open times at (510) 757-7010 or vincemellone@yahoo.com.



Become a Guitar Hero!

"When thinking of Rancho Santa Marta, resist picturing it as a cattle ranch with horses ... this ranch is a special education school, with a large population of orphaned youth. "

Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 4:00 PM

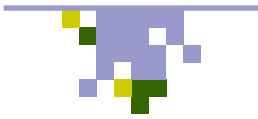
High School Youth Hang Out



High School Hang Out

High Schoolers, we are meeting on Sunday, February 26, 2012 at 4:00 PM at the Edgar's house for another fun evening of hanging out with friends, games and fantastic conversation. These gatherings are a chance to be yourself, to not be afraid to be silly,

and to share your thoughts about life and God. To get directions to the Edgar's house, contact Pastor Holly, holly@oslc.net.



A Parent's Perspective and an Interview with a Child

I thought I'd attempt to bring another perspective to how we worship and connect to God in our church community via a child and parent perspective. For those in the congregation that do not have young children, let me be the first to apologize for all the outbursts and distractions.

As a parent of a two year old and a six year old, paying attention to a sermon can at times be next to impossible as I am attempting to control the children or entertain them. Praying is generally done with one eye open to ensure one of them didn't take off. There are many times when I am unable to gain a deeper connection to the music or sermon. It doesn't mean that the time is wasted, as it is important for the children to experience God and church, it just means that I need to find other avenues to gain deeper meaning.

For me it's attending monthly Worship, Music and the Arts Team meetings, participating in the Congregation Council meetings, fellowship with fellow members and believers outside of OSLC, and listening to Christian-based radio such as K-Love. When all is right with the universe and I

can concentrate on the service, it is the little things that have spoken to my heart lately.

Gone are the times when the sermon was all I needed to gain a deeper understanding and a sense of connection.

Now it's the music; actually listening to what I am singing. It's paying closer attention to what is actually being said during the liturgical sequence, or it might be the quick minute of a prayer when I actually can clear my thoughts and have a moment to connect to something higher. It's never the same for me, but when it comes it validates my beliefs, filling my heart and soul.

Coloring and playing with the stain glass in the back of the sanctuary are the favorite activities of Camilla and Emma. With all of the stress of bringing children to church, there are reasons why we continue. They are our future congregation and will hopefully be doing great things at OSLC long after I've gone. A portion of their spiritual growth is dependent in part on their experiences at church. Lastly,

and perhaps most importantly, I owe it to my children to prepare them for life, including preparing them spiritually by introducing them to church life and to God.

I've interviewed my six year old daughter,



Camilla Beetham, and perhaps some of her answers and thoughts can add some insight.

Q: What do you like best about church?

A: Everything. I like Sunday school and snacks. Pink doughnuts are the best.

Q: What is your favorite part of the service?

A: Getting to color and watching baptisms because you get to look at babies and their families.

Q: What do you think about in service?

A: That God is with me

(Continued on page 11)

“For those in the congregation that do not have young children, let me be the first to apologize for all the outbursts and distractions.”

Worship Perspective

(Continued from page 10)

and in my heart because that is what we talked about at Sunday school.

Q: How do you know God loves you?

A: Because God loves you even when you're bad.

Q: What do you look forward to doing in church

someday?

A: I want the bread. I'm hungry.

I'd love to say that she wanted the (Communion) bread because of what it represents and symbolizes but it was because she was hungry. As she grows up, she will better understand the meaning to this sacred ritual and will continue to gain an understanding of

church and God. What personally helps me to understand the meaning of living a Christ-like life? It is when I see Camilla grow in her faith and make a connection to God. —*Brandon Beetham*

February 2: Candlemas or Groundhog Day?

The history of Groundhog Day and Candlemas is intertwined. We know, of course, that on Groundhog Day the groundhog comes out of his hole after his winter hibernation. If he sees his shadow, it means six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't, spring is right around the corner!

Candlemas had similar beliefs associated with it as it was celebrated by early European Christians. An old English rhyme goes like this:

*If Candlemas be fair and bright,
Come, Winter, have another flight;
If Candlemas brings clouds and rain,
Go Winter, and come not again.*

*If Candlemas Day be damp and black,
It will carry cold winter away on its back.
If Candlemas Day is bright and clear,
There'll be two winters in the year.*



So what exactly is Candlemas? It's the feast celebrating Jesus' dedication in the Temple. According to Levitical law, Jesus was presented at the

Temple forty days after his birth. Women were also purified from childbirth at this point, so the tradition of "churaching" new mothers also arose. Since February 2 is 40 days after Christmas, this is when this event has traditionally

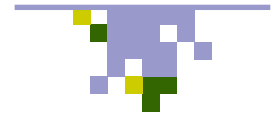
been celebrated by the church.

It's also called the Feast of Lighted Candles.

Traditionally, the clergy would bless candles on this day in the dark of winter to be carried through the streets and used for worship throughout the year to represent Jesus, the Light of the World. They

(Continued on page 14)

Your WMA Ministry Team is presenting a series of articles during OSLC's Year of Community. What happens in your head and heart during a worship service? What can you share with others about how you connect during this community experience?





Ash Wednesday



(Continued from page 1)

life in a way that harnesses the wisdom of our faith tradition. Together we will then journey into the labyrinth in candlelight.

Those who have attended this service in the past all agree it is moving and filled with moments of insight and wonder. Designed for

children and adults, this is a wonderful way to provide a little TLC for your soul and to feel grounded again. Join us Wednesday night, February 22 at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. —Pastor Dan

Scouts

(Continued from page 1)

hour between services.

All Scouts who attend in uniform will receive a special Scout Sunday patch to commemorate the day. So please save this date and get your uniform looking



sharp!

Any Scout who would like to participate as a lector, usher, greeter and the like is encouraged to contact Mark Fenske at: mdfenske@gmail.com or (925) 247-0112.

Retreat: Being, Having & Doing Enough

(Continued from page 4)

perfect setting for our retreat, with its panoramic view of the Alexander Valley, fresh organic meals and miles of hiking trails.

Space is limited. Cost is \$200. Registration begins February 1, 2012.



For registration info please contact Kathy Lickiss, (925) 933-8123, or kblickiss@sbcglobal.net. —Pastor Holly

OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1035 CAROL LANE
LAFAYETTE, CA 94549

TEL. (925)-283-3722
FAX (925) 283-4783

E-MAIL: SPIRIT@OSLC.NET
WEBSITE: WWW.OSLC.NET

SUNDAY WORSHIP
8:30 AM & 10:45 AM
NURSERY CARE AVAILABLE

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
MON - THURS: 9 AM - 4 PM
FRIDAY: 9 AM - 12:00 PM

Church Staff

Pastors: Daniel E. Senter
Holly McHale-Larsen
Music: Martin Morley
Children: Ricci Jamgotchian
Facility: Vianey Rios
Finances: Bill Klapproth
Off. Mgr: Skip Ordway
Admin.: Sally Bluhm

Spirit Volunteers

Labels: Barbara Millar
Scott Walker
Assembly: Lola Blomquist
Dick Enger
Edna Fenske
Carl Johnson
Lillian Johnson

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All articles are subject to space
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This publication is
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OSLC Mission Partners

We are extended into the world
through our relationships with
mission partners, including:
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yette, CA; Rancho Santa Marta,
Mexico; Guatemala Outreach,
Chichicastenango, Guatemala;
and New Life Band, Tanzania.

Community Prayer Requests



Prayers for Healing

Arthur Canelos,
Chris Voll-Chernin's god-
son, recovery from cancer.

**Bishop Mark
Holmerud,** as he under-
goes surgery for prostate
cancer.

Lakshmi Katari,
Janet Katari's mother-in-
law, undergoing chemo-
therapy.

Diane Norberg,
recovery from knee re-
placement surgery in Janu-
ary.

**Katherine &
Spencer Erickson,** peace
and strength to face the
illness and death of her
uncle.

Prayers for Protection & Safety

All family and
friends serving in the mil-
itary, especially Daniel
Foust, Mark Macias, J.B.
Moulton and Shane
Denbow.

Avenues of Prayer

There are two types of pray-
er requests at OSLC. To
submit requests for the commu-
nity prayer list that appears in
the Sunday bulletin and in this
newsletter, contact Sally Bluhm
at the church office, (925) 283-
3722, ext. 224, or send an
email to sally@oslc.net.

You may also fill out
the back of your Sunday attend-

ance card and hand it to an
usher. Due to the personal
nature of prayer situations, the
person(s) being prayed for must
give permission to have their
name(s) added to the commu-
nity prayer list. Prayers are pub-
lished for four weeks.

Confidential prayer
requests that you do not wish
to have published may be for-

warded to the Confidential
Prayer Network. A prayer team
will lift up your concerns.

Please feel free to ac-
cess the network with your con-
fidential concerns by calling Lee
Bellias at (925) 945-6310, or by
sending an email to Ellie An-
derson, eleonor7@comcast.net,
with your concern.

OSLC Financial Report

Year-end giving resulted in a sub-
stantial surplus in December,
reducing our cumulative deficit to
\$20,701. We still face a challenge to
achieve our goals for FY 2012, but the
situation is much more manageable
due to your wonderful response.
Thanks for making this possible.

If you have questions or com-
ments, please call. —Bill Klapproth, Fi-
nance Manager

December 2011

Offerings received	61,709
Less Benevolence	-\$6,170
Net member giving	<u>\$55,539</u>
Other income	\$13,362
TOTAL operating income	<u>\$68,901</u>
Expenses	-\$51,711
Surplus this month	<u>\$17,190</u>
Cumulative deficit (Fiscal Year)	<u><u>-\$20,701</u></u>



Candlemas or Groundhog Day?

(Continued from page 11)

were placed in the windows of homes to signify that the occupants trusted God.

We can go back even further to the pagan roots of the celebration of Imbolc on the Celtic calendar. February 2 falls halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. By this point food supplies were often low so various rituals were performed to ensure enough food until harvest time.

We can go still further back to the Ro-

man legions to find the origin of the belief that an animal would predict the remaining length of winter. The duration of winter weather was of course a crucial factor in how long the food stores must last in ancient times, so we can see why these legends and rituals developed. The Christians began the tradition of blessing the candles to counteract these pagan traditions.

The day is a great opportunity to talk about Jesus as the Light of the World. Light candles all around the house and make candles together

(you can do this using crayons or buy a simple kit at a craft store). The story of Jesus' presentation at the Temple can be found in Luke 2: 22-40 and the law behind it is in Leviticus 12.

Take advantage of the opportunity this day presents for teachable moments about cultural literacy, history, science, and God's working in the world.

Source:

homewithpurpose.blogspot.com.

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“February 2 falls halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. By this point food supplies were often low so various rituals were performed to ensure enough food until harvest time.”





- 1 Worship, Music & Arts Team - 7:00 pm
- 2 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Joy Bible Study - 9:00 am
LWR Quilters - 11:30 am
Chancel Choir - 7:00 pm
Voices of Praise - 7:00 pm
- 3 Fellowship Bridge - 7:00 pm
- 5 SCOUT SUNDAY
Worship - Classic - 8:30 am
God's World/Conf - 9:45 am
Worship - Contemporary - 10:45 am
- 7 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Bellissimo - 6:00 pm
Mission Ministry Team - 7:00 pm
Adult Faith Formation Team - 7:00 pm
- 9 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Joy Bible Study - 9:00 am
LWR Quilters - 11:30 am
Chancel Choir - 7:00 pm
Voices of Praise - 7:00 pm
- 11 OSLC Choir Rehearsal - 9:30 am
- 12 Worship Milestone
Worship - Classic - 8:30 am
God's World/Conf - 9:45 am
Worship - Contemporary - 10:45 am
Intentional Community - 4:00 pm
- 13 SPIRIT DEADLINE - 4:00 pm



- 14 SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY
Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Bellissimo - 6:00 pm
Executive Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 16 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Joy Bible Study - 9:00 am
LWR Quilters - 11:30 am
Chancel Choir - 7:00 pm
Voices of Praise - 7:00 pm
- 19 Worship - Classic - 8:30 am
NO God's World/Conf
Worship - Contemporary - 10:45 am
CONCERT SERIES - 4:00 pm
- 20 PRESIDENTS' DAY
Church Office Closed
- 21 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Bellissimo - 6:00 pm

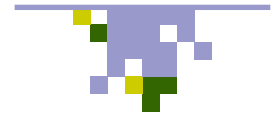


Ash Wednesday

- 22 ASH WEDNESDAY
Prayer Milestone
Ash Wednesday Worship - 7:00 pm
- 23 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Joy Bible Study - 9:00 am
LWR Quilters - 11:30 am
Chancel Choir - 7:00 pm
Voices of Praise - 7:00 pm
- 25 WINE & TAPAS - 7:00 pm
- 26 Worship - Classic - 8:30 am
God's World/Conf - 9:45 am
Worship - Contemporary - 10:45 am
Intentional Community - 4:00 pm
- 28 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Bellissimo - 6:00 pm
Faith & Film Night - 7:00 pm
- 29 Lenten Study Series - 7:00 pm



- 1 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Joy Bible Study - 9:00 am
LWR Quilters - 11:30 am
Chancel Choir - 7:00 pm
Voices of Praise - 7:00 pm
- 2-4 WOMEN'S RETREAT
- 2 Fellowship Bridge - 7:00 pm
- 4 Worship - Classic - 8:30 am
God's World/Conf - 9:45 am
Worship - Contemporary - 10:45 am
- 6 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Bellissimo - 6:00 pm
Mission Ministry Team - 7:00 pm
Adult Faith Formation Team - 7:00 pm
- 7 Lenten Study Series - 7:00 pm
Worship, Music & Arts Team - 7:00 pm
- 8 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Joy Bible Study - 9:00 am
LWR Quilters - 11:30 am
Chancel Choir - 7:00 pm
Voices of Praise - 7:00 pm



Spring Ahead March 11, 2012

- 11 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
Worship - Classic - 8:30 am
God's World/Conf - 9:45 am
Worship - Contemporary - 10:45 am
Intentional Community - 4:00 pm
- 12 SPIRIT DEADLINE - 4:00 pm
- 13 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Bellissimo - 6:00 pm
Executive Meeting - 7:00 pm
- 14 Lenten Study Series - 7:00 pm
- 15 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Joy Bible Study - 9:00 am
LWR Quilters - 11:30 am
Chancel Choir - 7:00 pm
Voices of Praise - 7:00 pm
- 17 OSLC Choir Rehearsal - 9:30 am
- 18 Worship - Classic - 8:30 am
God's World/Conf - 9:45 am
Worship - Contemporary - 10:45 am
CONCERT SERIES - 4:00 pm
- 20 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Bellissimo - 6:00 pm
- 22 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Joy Bible Study - 9:00 am
LWR Quilters - 11:30 am
Chancel Choir - 7:00 pm
Voices of Praise - 7:00 pm
- 24 Spiritual Hike - 9:00 pm
- 25 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
My Church Milestone
Worship - Classic - 8:30 am
God's World/Conf - 9:45 am
Worship - Contemporary - 10:45 am
Intentional Community - 4:00 pm
- 27 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Bellissimo - 6:00 pm
- 28 Lenten Study Series - 7:00 pm
- 29 Silent Meditation - 9:00 am
Joy Bible Study - 9:00 am
LWR Quilters - 11:30 am
Chancel Choir - 7:00 pm
Voices of Praise - 7:00 pm
- 31 H.S. Trip to Mexico Begins



**OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1035 Carol Lane
Lafayette, CA 94549

Phone: (925) 283-3722

Fax: (925) 283-4783

Email: spirit@oslc.net

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Sunday, February 19, 2012 at 4:00 PM

Dominique Piana, Harpist

On Sunday, February 19, 2012 at 4:00 PM, we are pleased to host a beautiful harp concert by the amazing Dominique Piana. Born and raised in Belgium, Dominique Piana has established herself as a performer, teacher, editor, scholar, professor, writer, composer and impresaria. Now based in the Pleasanton/Livermore area, she combines precision, fluid gesture and musicality in her performances on that most heavenly of instruments, the harp.

After one of her solo recitals, a reviewer described her playing "...like the duality of a lioness, alternating in evocative strains of tenderness and ferocity." Such virtuosic



musicianship, combined with Old World grace and charm, will delight you in this performance.

Admission is free, a freewill offering will be taken, and childcare is available.