

THE LUTHERAN LIGHT

A Letter from the Pastor



Dear disciples of Jesus:

"...the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing."

Ezekiel 47

Each year from September to October, the Christian family unites for a worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. It is a special season where we celebrate God as Creator and acknowledge Creation as the divine continuing act that summons us as collaborators to love and care for the gift of all that is created. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for Creation. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our well-being is interwoven with the well-being of the Earth.

We rejoice in this opportunity to safeguard our common home and all beings who share it with us. This year, the theme for the Season is **"Living Water"** Inspired by Ezekiel 47:9 and 12.

Dr. Anne Burghardt, General Secretary of The Lutheran World Federation writes the following message for this year Season of Creation:

"Ezekiel's vision of 'Living Water' invites us to see God's life-giving grace and sacramental presence flowing into places of desolation, renewing both creation and human community. In a world facing a severe ecological crisis, this river becomes a call to repent from systems that exploit land, water, and vulnerable peoples. Creation is not a commodity but a communion of interdependent life entrusted to our care."

We recognize the unjust burdens many still carry in their daily struggle for water, health and survival. The Lutheran World Federation affirms that justice for creation cannot be separated from justice for people, especially those most impacted by climate change. The Season of Creation invites us to let God's living water reshape our communities into spaces of healing, equity, and hope, both tangible and eternal."

Have a blessed Season of Creation.

Your Pastor, The Rev. José Luis La Torre Cuadros.

URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST LUTHERAN'S PRESIDENT:

I am writing to the members of the congregation and friends of the church about urgent needs at our church. The roof on the sanctuary has to be replaced. Several leaks in the roof have developed over the past several months which we have temporarily repaired. The current roof is 30 to 40 years old and in poor condition. It would be very unwise to attempt another winter with the current roof. We need to get a new roof installed this summer before any fall/winter rains. We have an experienced contractor available to do the job and the cost is estimated to be 22,000 to 25,000 dollars. Also, the doors on the Fellowship Hall need to be replaced. The estimated cost is 3,000 to 5,000 dollars for the doors. Any donations and/or extra tithing would be greatly appreciated to help us complete these tasks in a timely manner. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

God's Peace, Chuck Schonauer

Call/Text (530)570-9388, Email: chschomauer@yahoo.com

First Lutheran Church—St. Paul's Lutheran

A Letter from Vicki Keeney

The first time I really became aware of what God's grace was, was when I served on the organizing church council for a mission Lutheran Church in Beaverton, Oregon. The council president kept reminding us of that grace. As I thought about this article Bob Morrison's voice kept coming back to me.

Grace is God's free and unmerited favor for sinful humanity. I used my NIV edition of the *Life Application Study Bible* to read scriptures pertaining to grace and its explanations as a basis for this article. Since the editors have done a much better job of explaining the scriptures from Paul's letters to the Ephesians and Romans I am using their words.

Ephesians 1: 7&8 "Grace is God's voluntary and loving favor given to those he saves. We can't earn salvation, nor do we deserve it. No religious, intellectual, or moral effort can gain it, because it comes only from God's mercy and love. Without God's grace, no person can be saved. To receive it, we must acknowledge that we cannot save ourselves, that only God can save us, and that our only way to receive this loving favor is through faith in Christ."

Romans 6:1 "If forgiveness is guaranteed, do we have the freedom to sin as much as we want? Paul's forceful answer is **By no means!** Such an attitude—deciding ahead of time to take advantage of God – shows that a person does not understand the seriousness of sin.

We know how this unmerited gift from God effects our lives, but I have often thought about how can we share this gift with others. While traveling with my niece Jenni this past 10 days I watched this sharing with great admiration. As she dealt with hotel clerics, cashiers, travel guides and many others I learned how to share the gift of grace. Somewhere in her conversation with these people, she always asked "How is your day going?" with eye contact and a caring voice. It was amazing how they would respond to her question. Even the most solemn of them would end this encounter with a smile on their face. How do we share the unmerited gift of grace from God-----by treating others with the same love God shows to us. Easy to always do?, **no**, but it will come with practice.

Vicki Keeney

A Lettter from St. Paul's President

Dear friends in Christ, here we are again in the midst of our hot valley summer and over half way through another calendar year. I can't say I have any big news to report in this addition of the newsletter but I always take comfort in the peace and sanctuary of our little family at St. Paul's and being with you all when we aren't traveling or otherwise occupied. We ahs our semiannual congregational meeting last month and finalized our plans and schedule for the remainder of the year. We are on budget for the most part and appreciate the continued support of our members and friends. Octoberfest will be our next big project on October 4. With all the preparation that goes into this major fundraising event we need all the help we can get with the cabbage cutting , potato salad prep and set up. Unfortunately, Pastor has to miss it this year but we wish him a successful trip to Peru and a safe return. We look forward to having Ana back as our cantor and are anxious to hear more about her experience at Interlochen. Lenus has been working on refinishing the doors on the church and we give thanks for that. The summer sun does take its toll. The past few lessons in our worship have been centered on Jesus's parables from Mathew. Parables are the way Jesus used allegory to teach his disciples and through scripture, all of us. With the help of scripture and the Holy Spirit the mystery of God's plan is revealed.

God's blessings to you all, Spike Schonauer

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

INTERLOCHEN ARTS CAMP *By Anna Cason.*

I would like to start by thanking everyone who has supported me in my getting up to this point; whether you donated or went to the fundraising recital, go to these churches on Sundays, be it once, twice, or every week, or you watch the live streams, you have helped boost me to be the musician that I am now, and the musician that I am to be in the future. For that, I give each and every one of you a thousand thanks. Thanks to your support, I was able to attend a three-week course at Interlochen Arts Camp for Intermediate Classical Voice, which I will now describe, albeit briefly, for not even in these few weeks afterwards could I fully remember the grand experience during my time at camp. During about the middle of the first day of Interlochen (June 28th), we were all divided into groups based upon our majors, and walked to our first artistic obligation, which was a meeting describing what our time at camp would look like. Later, we had our first gathering, an extravagant assembly of every student attending camp, at least 1,500, probably 1,700-2,000 students. It was such a wonderful experience there, seeing that there were so many other teenagers who were as interested in the arts as I am. The next day, we started our regular day schedule. The mornings begin with us waking up at 6:45 to the call of trumpets. 10 minutes later, we were dressed in our uniforms and lined up for announcements and camp songs. We then would split into our specific units and, depending on the day, get breakfast, or do Kapers, our daily chores... usually graded while we were at classes or eating lunch. After our last class was over, mine being Operetta Workshop, we could either choose to have some time on main camp, where we could get ice cream and other “necessities” from the Scholarship, or to have time on our phone. Afterwards, we would get some dinner, and then have Rec time until 9:00, and then have lights out at 9:45. I would have to say that my favorite part of camp was the feeling of inclusivity and love within the community of students; for the first time, I felt that I was really a part of a body of peers my age who loved me for everything that I am. Along with that, the knowledge that I gained in regard to singing was wonderful, as was expected. Even in the three weeks that I was gone, I feel that the things that I learned, both about music and of community, will last me a lifetime. During our last full day of camp, we had our three performances: A Choir Concert, our Voice Recital, and finally, our Operetta. For the voice recital, I sang *Thy Hand, Belinda*, by Henry Purcell, with my friend, Ayva, acting as Belinda beside me. For the Operetta, *Iolanthe*, by the great duo, Gilbert and Sullivan, I played the role of Lord Tolloller, a man “of no capacities whatsoever!” As he describes himself. Overall, I had a wonderful time at camp, and I hope to return next year! Once again, I want to give all of my gratitude to everyone who has helped to support me. I really don't know what I could have done without everyone one of you!





Prayer Requests

Katy V, Gary M, Audry J, Patricia,

*Kathy & Harold vB, Samantha W, Tyler W, Joyce, Maite & Eric T,
Mo C, Sharon R, Phil A*

Bible Study

Hosted by Doug Boone &

Paul Griffin

Tuesdays at 10 AM

At

First Lutheran's Hall



August Birthdays



4 Daniel Turnbull

5 Meghan Gingerich

Carrie Walsh

10 Francine Machado

11 Ian Turnbull

George Toney

16 Lenus de Reus

17 Phil Anderson

24 Keith Testerman

26 Pastor Jose Luis

29 John Tolley

30 Tanya Foster

Art & Soul

Wednesdays 1-3 pm

Art and Soul will be meeting every
other Wednesday for the summer
starting June 3rd, 2026.

Post your work
so we'll all learn from each other.

Call with questions.

Glenys 530-680-5653



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls are lovingly made by a team of knitters and crocheters who make them with prayers for folks who need extra support or care at challenging times. If you know someone who might benefit from a prayer shawl, please contact Connie Boone at (530-717-0997) or leave a message at the church office.

Worship at First Lutheran Church

Worship Roll	<i>Aug 2</i>	<i>Aug 9</i>	<i>Aug 16</i>	<i>Aug 23</i>	<i>Aug 30</i>
Pastor	<i>Jose Luis</i>	<i>Jose Luis</i>	<i>Jose Luis</i>	<i>Jose Luis</i>	<i>Jose Luis</i>
Lector	<i>Diane K</i>	<i>Paul G</i>	<i>Jackie S</i>	<i>Karen T</i>	
Prayers	<i>Vickie</i>	<i>Vickie</i>	<i>Vickie</i>	<i>Vickie</i>	
Slide show	<i>Frances</i>	<i>Jill</i>	<i>Paul</i>	<i>Gary</i>	<i>Jill</i>
Gathering Hymn	<i>All Who Hunger</i>	<i>Oh, Sing to the Lord</i>	<i>O, for a 1,000 Tongues to</i>	<i>Christ is Made the Sure Foun.</i>	<i>Lift High the Cross</i>
Hymn of the day	<i>You Satisfy the Hungary</i>	<i>Precious Lord, Take My Hand</i>	<i>Where's a Wide-ness in God's</i>	<i>You Are Holy</i>	<i>Will You Come and Follow Me</i>
Sending Hymn	<i>Hallelujah! We Sing Your</i>	<i>Shout to the Lord</i>	<i>Jesus Shall Reign</i>	<i>The Church's One Foundat.</i>	<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>
First Reading	<i>Isa 55:1-5</i>	<i>1 King 19: 9-18</i>	<i>Isa 56:1,6-8</i>	<i>Isa 51:1-6</i>	<i>Jer 15:15-21</i>
Psalm	<i>145:8-9,14-21</i>	<i>85:8-13</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>26:1-8</i>
Second Reading	<i>Rom 9:1-5</i>	<i>10:5-15</i>	<i>Rom 11:1-2a, 29-32</i>	<i>Rom 12:1-8</i>	<i>Rom 12:9-21</i>
Gospel	<i>Matt 13:31-33, 44-52</i>	<i>Matt 14:22-33</i>	<i>Matt 15:[10-20]21-28</i>	<i>Matt 16:13-20</i>	<i>Matt 16:21-28</i>

Worship at St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volunteer 1	<i>Lenus de</i>	<i>Bob R</i>	<i>Patti R</i>	<i>Ernie P</i>	<i>Spike S</i>
Vol. 2 Flowers	<i>Myrna L</i>	<i>Rachelle M</i>	<i>Beth Nall</i>	<i>Patti R</i>	<i>Natalie T</i>
Gathering Hymn	<i>Before You, Lord We Bow</i>	<i>I Know That My Redeemer</i>	<i>The King of Love My Shep.</i>	<i>Let the Whole Creation</i>	<i>Joyful. Joyful We Adore Thee</i>
Hymn of the day	<i>O Holy Spirit Enter In</i>	<i>Praise and Thanksgiving</i>	<i>O God of Mercy</i>	<i>Where Cross the Crowded</i>	<i>Praise the Lord O Heavens</i>
Sending Hymn	<i>On What Has Now Been Sow</i>	<i>Son of God, Eternal Sav</i>	<i>Guide Me Ever</i>	<i>Oh,for a 1,000 Tongues</i>	<i>With the Lord Begin your Task</i>

Worship at First Lutheran Church

Worship Roll	<i>Sept 6</i>	<i>Sept 13</i>	<i>Sept 20</i>	<i>Sept 27</i>	
Pastor	<i>Jose Luis</i>	<i>Jose Luis</i>			
Lector	<i>Diane</i>	<i>Paul</i>	<i>Jackie</i>	<i>Karen</i>	
Prayers	<i>Connie</i>	<i>Connie</i>	<i>Connie</i>	<i>Connie</i>	
Slide show	<i>Frances</i>	<i>Jill</i>	<i>Paul</i>	<i>Gary</i>	
Gathering Song	<i>As We Gather at Your Table</i>	<i>All Creatures Worship God</i>	<i>Gather Us In</i>	<i>The Trumpets Sound, the A</i>	
Song of the Day	<i>In All Our Grief</i>	<i>In the Singing</i>	<i>All Saints of Old</i>	<i>Oh That the Lord Would</i>	
Sending Song	<i>Earth and All Stars</i>	<i>Praise the Lord, Rise Up</i>	<i>Lord of All Hopefulness</i>	<i>Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Th</i>	
First Reading	<i>Ezek 33:7-11</i>	<i>Gen 50:15-21</i>	<i>Jonah 3:19- 4:11</i>	<i>Ezek 18:1- 4,25-32</i>	
Psalm	<i>119:33-40</i>	<i>103:[1-7]8-13</i>	<i>145:1-8</i>	<i>25:1-9</i>	
Second Reading	<i>Rom 13:8-14</i>	<i>Rom 14:1-12</i>	<i>Phil 1:21-30</i>	<i>Phil 2:1-13</i>	
Gospel	<i>Marr 18:5-20</i>	<i>Matt 18:21-35</i>	<i>Matt 20:1-16</i>	<i>Matt 21:23-32</i>	

Worship at St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volunteer 1	<i>Susan T</i>	<i>Janet W</i>	<i>Lenus de</i>	<i>Bob R</i>	
Vol. 2 Flowers	<i>Susan T</i>	<i>Kathy VonB</i>	<i>Janet W</i>	<i>Kathleen Z</i>	
Gathering Hymn	<i>Holy Spirit Truth Devine</i>	<i>Holy God We Praise Your</i>	<i>O Word of God Incarnate</i>	<i>My Hope is Built on</i>	
Hymn of the day	<i>Take My Life that I Mat Be</i>	<i>Praise to the Lord the Al- mighty</i>	<i>O Jesus I Have Promise</i>	<i>Sing to the Lord of Harve</i>	
Sending Hymn	<i>On Our Way Rejoicing</i>	<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>	<i>Lead On O King Eternal</i>	<i>God of Grace & God of Glor</i>	

Happenings @ First

Food Pantry

Distribution Mondays 10-12, Wednesdays 3-5

Commodities

August 20, Sept. 18

(Food arrives the day before)

Green bag days

Second Saturday of every even month

St. Paul's Oktoberfest will be on October 4th

To prepare, cabbage cutting for sauerkraut will be August 30
in the

Lutheran Hall, after church (12:00) and bacon frying for
German potato salad will be

September 22 in the
Lutheran Hall at 5pm. Come if you can!

Thank You

Doug and I are truly blessed to have such a wonderful,
supportive Church family. Thank you for your gifts of
prayer, encouragement and food. You are truly God's hands
in this world.

Energy Report

To view the current energy report (solar), visit the First Lutheran of Orland website at www.orlandlutheran.com/

September Birthdays



1 Jesse Krueger

Carla Alban

3 Nabcy Lovell

6 Todd Testerman

Chuck Schonauer

8 Robert Mattice

9 Stephen Batchelder

11 Dennis Anderson

12 Sharon Heise

19 Olivia Testerman

26 Kelly Summerday

Kevin Askeland

Cindy Batchelder

30 Barbara Testerman

Harvest Time

First Lutheran Church
19 Colusa Street
Orland, CA 95963

