

WE CONGRATULATE

Sandi Marotto won several blue ribbons in the Flower Arrangement category at the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show and won the award for the Best Amateur-Novice Flower Arrangement.

The Dos Pueblos Engineering Academy's Robotics team won the regional FIRST (for Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) competition in San Diego which qualifies them to compete at the national level in April. **Anjali Daniels** is a member of the DP Engineering Academy and will have the opportunity to participate in this Robotics competition in her senior year. **Lisa Daniels** is on the Board of Directors for the Dos Pueblos Engineering Academy Foundation which actively supports the activities of the Academy and is currently involved in a \$3 million matching fund campaign.

Kristin Boehm was a semifinalist in the *National Merit Scholarship Program*. Semifinalists, which are less than 1 percent of high school seniors, must have an outstanding academic record, be endorsed and recommended by the school principal and earn high SAT scores.

IN THE NEWS

Larry Hammett has been elected to the Board of trustees of the Santa Barbara Historical Museum for a three-year term. He previously served as second vice president, was a member of the Executive Committee and served as chairman of the museum's Art Auction Committee

WE WELCOME

Kim and Graham Hurvitz welcomed new daughter **Natasha** into their family. Natasha was born on November 9 here in Santa Barbara. Natasha joins big brother **Trevor**, age 5 and big sister **Isabella**, age 7. **Bob and Judy Dague** are the proud grandparents.

Ronda and Kevin Johnson were doubly blessed with the arrival of twin boys, **Landon Brooke and Auston Michael**, on December 10 in Santa Barbara. Landon and Auston have a big brother, **Colton**, age 5. **Bob and Judy Dague** are the proud grandparents of these babies too!

AYERS:

Erik Herzog, Jack Allen, Jim Shaw, Rigmor Elbek, Hans & Tove Steenstrup, Ken Siegele.



David Sedgwick, piano student of Sharon Sanborn, is giving a Senior Piano Recital on Sunday, April 20 at 2:00 PM in the sanctuary here at Trinity. A senior at San Marcos, David is active in piano as well as trumpet and has received many awards and scholarships. The program will consist of Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, MacDowell, Ginastera and Balakirev. Members of Trinity are welcome to come and join us for an afternoon of wonderful music!

Save the date...the Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, June 8 following a single worship service at 9:30 am.

Thank you to Nancy Sittig for coordinating the Transition House dinner for March. Thank you also to food donors, Ellen Ahlers, Jane Maddalon, June Brusse, Jean Wollenberg, Len & Doris Wedman, Cindie Trieger and Marilyn Reginato and to servers Laurie Richardson and Henry Sarria.

House sitting, small apartment or house needed for an interim pastor in Santa Barbara by the end of April. Please contact Corinne Satterthwaite at 683-7548 x22 if help out.

The Social Justice Discussion and Action Group will meet again here at Trinity on Sunday, April 6. The time to be announced.

Did you know that America consumes 22.7 metric tons of stuff per person, 50 percent more than Europe?

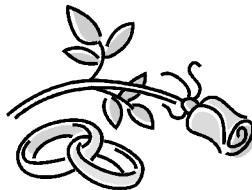
APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



Larry & Astrid Hammett	2	Keith & Dorothy Munding	14
Hal & Val Oquist	2	Ray & Connie Duarte	17
Robert & Janet Seiler	10	Bennie & Kathy Olson	18
Marshall & Nancy Sittig	10	Flora & Eli Tarziu	23

Please call the office with any corrections or additions to this list.

MAY ANNIVERSARIES



Len & Erica Lamensdorf	4	Dorrance & Betty Anderson	12
Erik & Ulla Jorgensen	8	Jim & Jane Maddalon	18
Graham & Kim Hurvitz	9	Bob & Bernice Phillips	18

Please call the office with any corrections or additions to this list.



ING IN WORSHIP IN APRIL



ALTAR GUILD: Astrid Johansen, Dale Oftebro, Chris Olson

READERS

8:00 AM

10:15 AM

First Sunday
Second Sunday
Third Sunday
Fourth Sunday

Lisa & Anjali Daniels

Joan Petersen
Rich & Andrea Lashua
Ruth Bloch
Dorothy Burkhart

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8:00 AM

10:15 AM

First Sunday
Second Sunday
Third Sunday
Fourth Sunday

Brittany Bailey, Anjali Daniels
Austin Lokre, Mason Field
Brittany Bailey, Anjali Daniels
Austin & Brandon Malde-Zoradi

Jack Trieger
Nathan Tufvesson
Lorena Moore-Karppinen
Thomas Perez

GUEST TABLE

10:15 AM

First Sunday
Second Sunday
Third Sunday
Fourth Sunday

Ron & Dale Oftebro
Betty & Dennis Lewis
Dennis & Betty Lewis

...ing will be Sunday, April 20, beginning at 4:00 PM at the home of Jane Huhn. The book selected is *The State Boys Rebellion (A True Story)*, by Michael D'Antonio. This is a blurb on the book jacket:

“Forced into institutions where they were drugged, sterilized, abused and neglected, tens of thousands of normal children were victims of a misguided campaign to improve the national gene pool. A handful fought back, and survived to tell the inside story of America’s eugenic era.”

As a courtesy to the hostess, **please RSVP by April 18** so she will know how many to expect. You may RSVP by calling Jane at 682-2189 or E-mailing or calling Cindie in the church office (telcsb@aol.com or 687-1577).

We look forward to seeing you on April 20, and bring a friend.

OUR UNUSED PROPERTY

Over many years we have, from time to time, considered to what use we could put our unused 3+ acres. That property has contributed little to our programs other than a little



ground to stage our annual Christmas Tree Lot each December. It costs us little except for some real estate taxes for ground that is not directly used for our worship of God. Recently we have become aware that California Lutheran Homes (CLH) is interested in developing a senior housing facility in Santa Barbara. We have followed-up on that interest and have met with representatives from California Lutheran Homes and its affiliated property development organization. It would appear that there is a very definite potential to develop our unused property for a senior housing project through CLH. To do so we would

need to either sell or enter into a long term lease with CLH or its development organization for that unused acreage. We have scheduled a presentation by CLH and its affiliated development organization to be held at 9:15am on Sunday, April 27th. We invite you to attend. Your Congregation Council will continue to explore this option and would look forward to your thoughts and comments,

SMALL GROUPS



Small group leader training

Anyone who is interested in becoming a small group leader, please contact the church office. Training will take place the end of March-beginning of April.

Spring Session of Small Groups

The six-week spring session of Trinity's small groups begins the week of April 6 and continues through the week of May 11. Signups will take place March 30 and April 6.

Come join us and bring a friend!

How are we doing financially?

February Income:	\$25,359.44	YTD Income:	\$270,152.07
February Expenses:	\$37,843.19	YTD Expenses:	\$298,152.77
Net:	-\$12,483.75	Net:	-\$28,000.70

Generous God/Generous People – For those of you that have not had the opportunity to turn in your pledges yet, there still is time to get them in before our Annual Meeting n June. Please place your completed pledges in the regular offering basket on Sunday mornings, drop them by the office, or mail them in. We need as many as possible by the end of April to determine our budget for next year. Thanks – The Stewardship Program

The Halo Chronicles March 2008

The Ladybug class (2-3 year olds) has been busy celebrating spring with the theme of new life and growth. Following their Easter break the children are preparing to plant in their class garden. They are learning the importance of sunshine and water for a plant to grow. The kids also enjoyed an early Easter egg hunt.

The Bumblebee class (3-4 year olds) focused this month on insects and birds. They made delicious chocolate nests and lovely bird feeders for their yards, as well as many art projects highlighting their topics. Before their Easter break, the children dyed eggs with their teachers and then also had fun with an early Easter egg hunt.

The Butterfly class (4-5 year olds) studied bears and also enjoyed Easter activities. The children focused their attention on many bear themed activities, including a magical “teddy bear parade,” where the kids created teddy bear floats that were viewed by the Ladybug and Bumblebee kids. They too had an early Easter egg hunt. Always a big hit in the classrooms!

We look forward to the annual Spring Carnival, which will take place on Saturday, April 26th at 11:00am. The carnival will be full of fun with games and animal petting for the children, a fun raffle with great prizes, and a silent auction. Please join us for the festivities!

A note about Little Angels Preschool Application Process...

As a reminder, the school admission policy is as follows:

1. Siblings of currently enrolled students
2. Trinity Lutheran Church members
3. Wait list will then be screened for the most suitable applicant

Ministries

Spring is here! He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Take this time to make a renewal within your family to be more intentional about faith at home...it's never too late to commit to a fresh start! I'm running a series on faith formation at home, and how what you do the OTHER six days of the week, regardless of how often you attend worship services, is where it all REALLY begins. In that spirit, here are some reminder notes:

Maybe Sunday morning is legitimately a bad time for your family to focus on God; but be prepared to offset that time elsewhere in your schedule. Five or ten minutes every day for six days will have more of a cumulative impact than one hour on Sunday morning.

If you need tips on how to play that out at home, come to church, or even give me a call or an email (kidzndrumz@aol.com) and we'll talk about ways to get that faith journey moving. Here's why it's important:

"I'll bring my children when they're old enough," many parents promise, not quite clear when that age will be. Any age is an appropriate age to join the church, but for parents there may be no age when bringing children to worship is an easy task. But what it comes down to is a pair of rock solid truths: Children

Need the Church and the Church Needs Children. Here are examples of each:

Why do children need the church?

-Children experience the beauty of music and art as expressions of human creativity and of worship.

Why does the church need children?

-Children serve as reminders of grace. We all receive Christ's presence as a gift, not because we are worthy.

Thought for the month:

Faith formation at home is not boning up on theology; if you're worried that your four year old (or fourteen year old) will see through how much you really do or don't know about church doctrine, the Bible, etc., you're worried about the wrong questions.

Kids naturally hate school because from their limited perspectives, they're tasked with finding a bunch of meaningless answers. However, faith is the exact opposite: it's finding *meaning when there is no clear answer*. Do we brush it aside, explain it away, or be honest enough to admit we don't know and commit to finding some answers together? Only when we are brave enough to take members of our family and ACT on a question do the true relationships begin to form.

Shalom,
Rich Lashua Director of Christian Education and Youth & Family Ministry

Home Style Healthy Cooking Sessions At the Sims Home

Enjoy Candlelight dinner with fellow cooks!

April 26th May 31st

Leah Diamond will lead a group of 8-10 adults
in preparing a complete vegetarian meal,
focusing on seasonal vegetables.

Some recipes are gluten and dairy free.

Meals are served and enjoyed by the group.

Event begins with appetizers and drinks,
beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Recipe copies are provided and discussed.

Mealtime is approximately 7:00.

Evening concludes around 8:00.

Participation fee of \$26 covers all of the above.

Receipt of payment reserves a space.

Checks are payable to Leah Diamond Williams.

RSVP to Judy Sims, 687-3262 (cell: 403-2988)

As space is limited, please call as soon as possible.

Hope you can join us for a delicious experience!

Trinity Lutheran Church in Santa Maria will be leading a trip to the Oberammergau Passion Play 2010. Pastor Carl has led many tours abroad including this trip previously, Reservations are now being taken and space is limited. For more information please contact Bob Huhn at 682-2189 or Pastor Carl Nielsen at 922-6601.

Call Committee Progress

The Call Committee has now interviewed 4 pastoral candidates in 2008. We have attended worship services of two of these pastors and heard sermons from a third pastor online. The search has been narrowed to three of these four. On March 17 the Committee extended an invitation to one candidate to return for a second interview. This candidate is in the discernment process since two other congregations have approached him as well. So we are waiting and praying.

The purpose of the second interview is for the candidate to meet with our staff, discuss the specifics of compensation and housing, and for both parties to decide if this is a match. I have formed a housing task force to work with an incoming pastor and provide options for housing. Once both parties are in agreement, the proposed candidate and compensation package would be approved by the church council. Thereafter a congregational meeting would be scheduled and both the pastor call and compensation package voted on.

The Call Committee has worked diligently this year on your behalf. This process has taken longer than any of us would have imagined. However the Lord doesn't usually work on our time table. Sometimes we are asked to wait and watch. We pray for patience, discernment and ask the Holy Spirit to lead us to the candidate who is the best fit for Trinity.

In service of our Lord,
Bob Huhn
Call Committee Chair

Parish Nurse

April 2008

Parish Nurse Hours Mondays

Call for appointment or email

stollrn@aol.com



April 16, 2008

Get an Advance Directive

What is an advance directive?

In 1983, California became the first state to create a durable power of attorney specifically for health-care decisions. Today all adults can benefit from thinking about what their healthcare choices would be if they are unable to speak for themselves. These decisions can be written down in an advance directive so that others know exactly what they are. Advance directives come in two main forms:

A "healthcare power of attorney" documents the person you select to be your voice for your healthcare decisions if you cannot speak for yourself.

A "living will" documents what kinds of medical treatment you would or would not want at the end of life.

April is the time to get your financial house in order and it is also a perfect time to review or complete your *advance directive*. Being in good health is the best time to make these important decisions. Research has shown that the majority of people believe having an advance directive is a good idea however; most people have not actually completed the process. Many attorneys may include an advance directive as part of the estate planning process to be sure review your current documents. In addition check that

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Call for appo

(0754x103)



phone number of your physician, your healthcare agent and your alternative agent are up to date. In addition make sure your physician and healthcare agent have a copy. Review your decisions. Are your wishes still the same? Have you reviewed your wishes with your healthcare agent? Per Steven Frank, estate planning attorney in Santa Barbara, if your advance directive was completed before 2000 you probably should update it. In July 2000 the Health Care Decisions Law consolidated California's previous advance directive laws to make it easier for individuals to make their preferences known through written and oral communication.

To further guide you in the right direction I have attached information below that is provided by www.nationalhealthcaredecisionday.org. For all of you who do not have an advance directive and would like one I will have the document "5 Wishes" available on Parish Nurse Sunday April 27th. For all of who have already completed your document...*Congratulations!*



Resources to assist you in discussing and making healthcare decisions are:

- **AARP**-End of Life Planning
- **Aging with Dignity**- Five Wishes
- **American Bar Association**- Tool kit for Health Care Advance Planning
- **American Health Lawyers Association**-Guide to Legal Issues in Life Limiting Conditions
- **American Hospital Association** –Put it in Writing
- **Caring Connections** –offers free, state specific advance directives for all 50 states and DC that meet the legal requirements for each state. Call 800-658-8898
- **Center for Practical Bioethics** – Caring Conversations Workbook
- **Natural Resource Center on Psychiatric Advance Directive** – offers general and state specific information on psychiatric advance directives.
- **The Will to Live Project** – provides state specific forms for designating an agent and stating healthcare wishes.

Save the Date! **Saturday April 19th**

Trinity Women's Spring Coffee Gathering



Sharing our Memories Forward

9:30 AM-11: 30AM Trinity Fellowship Hall

Think of a special moment, a memory, or an event that you would like to pass forward to your son, daughter, granddaughter, grandson, or to a close friend. Think about what would you like to say, or present to them about what they have meant to you in your life.

What we create not only shows what we have done but also what we believe and what we value. There are many special events in our lives and you may just want to start thinking about creating a special treasure for that birthday, baptism, graduation, confirmation, first communion, or wedding.

So put on your creative hat, bring your ideas, special mementos, and be prepared to have fun with our guest, Jeanette Carpenter, a scrapbook artist, as we share and become creative in bringing our Lutheran faith forward.

All crafters, card makers, digital scrappers, stampers, sewers, quilters bring your talents
Bring an old friend/ invite a new friend

Sign-up on the church patio. Donation \$5.00 and childcare will be provided.

FORNICATION

Last month brought us the Spitzer scandal and images of his beleaguered spouse Silda grimly looking on as the New York governor apologized to the citizens of his state for his moral lapses. People were saying, in New Agey fashion, that Spitzer “has to work through his issues.” But my thought was “This man needs Jesus.”

Here was a guy once touted as “Sheriff of Wall Street” for his fierce crusades against financial players who were not playing by the rules. But my gut feeling, given his relentless self-promotion and take-no-prisoners policies, is that Spitzer’s moral dudgeon was disconnected from spirituality. One thinks of another crusader, William Wilberforce, as a counter example. He was anchored in the promises of God. He had a living relationship with Jesus Christ. This kind of centering and grounding seems to have eluded the fallen politico.

From a Christian point of view, what is going on in this case? St. Paul, in his first letter to the Corinthians, calls it *porneia* or fornication in English. “The body,” he writes, “is meant not for *porneia* but for the Lord.” It is inconceivable to him that a person, whose body is a “member” of Christ, should make his body a “member” of a prostitute, i.e. be united with her (note the exclusive preoccupation with males). “Shun fornication!” thunders the apostle.

Now let’s be frank. The Bible is anything but univocal when it comes to matters sexual. One thinks of those randy patriarchs with their multiple wives and countless concubines. Or of Tamar, unreproved for her fling at turning a trick (Genesis 38...consult it when the kids aren’t around). Then there’s the monstrous Lot who, at Sodom, went uncensored for pimping for his daughters.

Given the ambiguous picture the Bible draws about sex, it’s unsurprising that Christians continue to debate the contours of a faithful and consistent biblical sexual ethic. We discuss things of which scripture is ignorant, like transgendered persons and those involved in loving, committed, non-exploitive same-sex relationships. And just now, our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is circulating a Social Statement on Human Sexuality that, officials emphasize, is a *draft* only.

Surely we must remain open to the future tutelage of the Holy Spirit and sensitive to the dilemmas of people in real life situations. Yet one need not be a fundamentalist or a

focus on the Family to uphold, defend and celebrate certain perspectives on sex and relationships that we believe, as near as we can tell, are divine.

One perspective involves marriage. The church teaches that it is not only an institution conducing to the safety of children and the stability of society which, in evolutionary terms, it clearly is. Marriage is also a calling...not all have it...to a relationship of mutual, self-givng love. It is a ministry, one with one. It is to be ended only by death, which means that every divorce, however necessary, involves tragedy and sin.

The church speaks of God when it speaks of marriage. In the Bible Jesus knew, God is pictured as “marrying” Israel, his “bride.” When Israelites run after idol lovers, they are adulterous. In the New Testament, the church is the Bride of Christ, for whom he died and to whom he is faithful. From the Latin *fides*, faith, faithfulness, fidelity: they’re all involved in marriage which exists in a fallen, sinful world. Those who enjoy the gift and task of marriage are called to be self-emptying Christs, one to another, and to resist the temptations of a louche world.

Like I said, Eliot Spitzer needs Jesus.

Bruce Wollenberg

Is There a Draft in Here?

The 2001 national Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America mandated that a social statement on human sexuality be developed by the church. Last month a draft statement was released by the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality chaired by Bishop Peter Strommen of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod and composed of lay and clergy from around the country – a psychologist from Puerto Rico was also included.

The draft is available in the church office. A single copy can be obtained without cost at www.elca.org/faithfuljourney or by calling 800-638-3522ext2996.

Social statements offer a framework for moral discernment for members and congregations, and serve to set policy for the denomination and guide its advocacy. They deal in what I know as “middle axioms” – principles that fall somewhere between very general moral principles (love your neighbor) and detailed policies (we should pass tax bill such-and-such).

On the whole I like this document. It is grounded in sound biblical and confessional theology. It takes the measure both of the complexity of the subject and the seismic changes, social and institutional, over the last fifty years. “These include,” in the draft’s enumeration, “changes in gender roles and expectations, family planning, attitudes toward the body, sexual practices, forms of sexual exploitation, fertility management, forms of courtship, partnering and family life. The draft goes on to note the connections between these changes and broad economic, technological and demographic ones. The draft recognizes that a variety of factors can make it difficult to behave according to God’s will and scriptural norms and values.

Although many passages reflect a cautious tone, I like the way it can be straightforward and unequivocal. “The church does not support non-monogamous, promiscuous and transient sexual relationships or casual sexual encounters. Indulging immediate desires for satisfaction, sexual or otherwise, is to ‘gratify the desires of the flesh.’” Gal. 6:16

Marriage is a covenant of commitment, blessed by God, that allows persons to flourish in a context of trust, intimacy and safety. The draft assumes that marriage is for life and is between a man and a woman.

I am disappointed that, in the matter of same-gender committed relationships, the draft recognizes that the ELCA is not of one mind on the subject, *and lets it go at that*. Perhaps this is all we can expect at the present time. But I wish the church would lead

championing the full inclusion of sexual minorities in civil society and in the life of the church. Would we lose members if the ELCA took a bold stand for the sake of love and justice? Surely. But that is only an observation, not an argument.

The draft's opening spiritual discussion is richly scriptural and thoroughly Lutheran. The incarnation of Christ in our fallen world means that "neither 'bodiliness' (including bodily desire) nor materiality (all of creation) rightly can be equated with sin." Sexuality is part of who we are as creatures of God. Yet sexuality, like any other aspect of our existence, can be an arena for sin and for hurting rather than helping the neighbor. Yet we understand ourselves as justified by grace, and thus freed from self for ministry to the common good. Grace does not liberate us to do whatever we want, but turns us toward the neighbor to do what is best for her or him. As the draft puts it, through the gospel "God called, claimed and sent us to bear God's mercy to our neighbor."

This is the basis of Lutheran sexual ethics.

bgw