



## 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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Not too long ago we celebrated the Festival of Pentecost – the great day when the Holy Spirit was poured out on Jesus’ disciples and inspired them to launch the Christian mission “in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (*Acts 1:8*). Starting with just a handful of ordinary people, that mission has now truly gone “to the end of the earth” – to every continent, every country, and every culture in the world. What a stunning and breath-taking story!

On Pentecost Peter preached a memorable sermon in which he quoted the Old Testament prophet Joel. God said through Joel, “I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams” (*Acts 2:17*). I think the members of First Lutheran Church are ready to start dreaming and to receive God’s vision for the future of our church. The Mission Development Team of our congregation met recently, and I was excited to hear all the fresh ideas that the members of that team generated – from scratch! We started with nothing, and when the meeting was over, the whiteboard was filled with possibilities for our future. The ideas just kept coming and coming – kind of like the Holy Spirit was being poured out on people in Temple City!

You and I are blessed to be a part of the breath-taking story of Pentecost, and I would like to encourage you and every member and every friend of First Lutheran to start dreaming: dream about our future and pray for God’s vision for our future. Share your ideas with other members and with the leaders of our congregation. It’s an exciting time for our church. Even though we are only a handful of people – just like that first Pentecost – we have the same Holy Spirit! That Spirit raised Jesus from the dead, turned ordinary people into amazing missionaries, and launched a mission that continues to grow and grow and grow to this very day – and will never stop growing.

Happy Dreaming!  
Pastor Ken Frese

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