



## 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.*

October 2019

Publication of **FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

### The Antidote to Halloween

Halloween has changed over the years since I was a boy. For one thing it has gotten bigger. Halloween used to be a brief holiday lasting only a couple of days, and it was mostly for kids. We'd make simple costumes out of stuff we had around the house and then go trick-or-treating. Maybe we'd have a party, but that was about it.

Now Halloween is for adults as much as it is for children, and it is celebrated for over a month, not just on October 31. Halloween has passed up Easter as the second most popular holiday in America, and more and more costumes are "store bought". They can be very elaborate and very expensive, too.

Halloween has not only gotten bigger – it has also gotten "badder" (pardon my English). I've noticed that Halloween costumes have increasingly tended toward the negative, with a lot of children dressed up as demons, witches, vampires, zombies, and even slashers. Halloween seems to have grown darker in tone, not just scary but downright menacing.

I won't speculate on the reason for this trend, but I would like to offer an antidote. On September 29 we Christians celebrate Saint Michael and All Angels Day. We remember the fact that the Bible references God's angels far more often than it mentions the devil and his angels. That's a way of reminding us that God's power for good is far greater than Satan's power for evil. On September 29 we celebrate what Psalm 91:11 tells us: "[God] will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways". In other words, each of us has a "guardian angel", and Jesus tells us that these guardian angels "always see the face of my Father in heaven" (Matthew 18:10). So your angel has a direct connection to God – and so do you!

The antidote to a negative Halloween is the same antidote we Christians have for all the scary and menacing times in our lives. That antidote is faith, a word that means "trust" in the Bible. We can trust our heavenly Father at all times, because He loves us so much that He sent His only Son into the world to live, die, and rise for each of us. That same heavenly Father also sends His holy angels to watch over us and keep us constantly and eternally in God's care.

So, I hope you have a happy Halloween – and also a happy Saint Michael and All Angels Day. Whether you have a costume or not, God loves you and will always be there for you!

Pastor Ken





**First Lutheran Church**  
**SONshine House Preschool**

October 2019

Dear Church Family,

Happy Fall! This month we celebrate our Lord with our theme Falling for Jesus! Let's Fall and Follow Jesus bringing the Good News to everyone!

We had an awesome first month! We started off the new school year with our Meet the Teacher Night. Our fabulous team of teachers met with parents and shared the new and exciting things their child will be learning this year. We had a great attendance for our first event. We appreciate our teachers for working late that day to provide valuable information as well as meet and connect with our new families. We ask that you continue to pray for all our teachers as they serve this ministry with energy, commitment and dedication.

The fun did not stop there. We had our first Back to School Sunday service and Brunch! This was such an amazing day of worship and fellowship. A big thank you to Pastor Frese for the powerful children's and adult message. A big thank you to our church family who greeted families as they arrived, helped with passing out the program, set up the beautifully decorated tables, helped with clean up and of course a special thank you to all that helped with the delicious meal and treats that we all got to enjoy! This was such a blessed event for all of us. As the Mission Development team continues to plan for this year, we can only look forward to what else is to come!



The District is doing many different things this year, but the theme is intentionality and connection! This is so relevant for all of us. Let's challenge ourselves, move out of our comfort zone and take that first step of sharing the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ! We have many events coming up and ask that you prayerfully seek the Lord and challenge yourself for our next church and school event and reach out to our families, introduce yourself, ask questions, share and even pray together! Let Jesus always be present in All that we do!

**Upcoming Events:** Please come join us and participate in our upcoming events. We have everything covered but would love your presence and again to be intentional on connecting with our families.

**Oct. 11 Pumpkin Carving:** if creative or just love this time of year come on over and help our  students carve a pumpkin.

**Oct. 31 Costume Parade:** come join us as we take a small march around our parking lot to show off our costumes. Come dressed or not, walk with us or sit and cheer our little guys on!

**Oct. 31 Annual Trunk and Treat 6-8pm:** We need a **LOT** of help with this event, but we are specifically looking for "Cars" to participate. Doesn't take much, google Trunk and Treat decoration ideas, set up and just sit back and enjoy. We had about 200 people walk through last year! How exciting! We need 20 cars to make this event successful! If you can volunteer your car, please contact Judy Gunther [judithjgrn44@gmail.com](mailto:judithjgrn44@gmail.com). Thank you and God Bless!

Blessings,  
Jill Vidal  
Director





# October



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

**Altar Guild:** Jo Tschopp

**Greeters:**

October 6	Judy Gunther
October 13	Jean Hyland, Betty Nelson
October 20	Connie Kean
October 27	Norma Boehne

**Worship Times:**

First Lutheran Church English Worship 8:30; Bible Class & Sunday School 9:45-10:45

Grace Lutheran Church: Taiwanese Worship 11:00

Banner Church 10:00-3:00

Generations Church 10:15-2:15

**Gatherings:**

Board of Directors, Sunday, October 6, 11:00

Major Leaguers Luncheon, Thursday, October 10, 1:00

Pumpkin Carving, at preschool, Friday, October 11, call for time 626 285-3380

Mission Development Team, Sunday, October 20, 11:00

Round Table, Friday, October 25, 10:00

Tuesday Bible Study, each Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Room

Preschool Chapel each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday Prayer Group, 9:00-10:00 a.m. contact Jo Tschopp for location

Load the van for Friends in Deed Wednesday October 30, 10:45

Trunk and Treat Thursday, October 31 6-8pm

502<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, October 31



**Birthdays** The month with the most **presidential birthdays** is **October** with six. The **presidents born** this month are John Adams, Rutherford B. Hayes, Chester A. Arthur, Theodore Roosevelt, Dwight David Eisenhower and Jimmy Carter. We have no recorded church member birthdays in October.

**Not receiving email special announcements and/or prayer requests??** If you are currently not receiving emails and would like to be included please share your email address with Jo Tschopp at [jo@tschopp.org](mailto:jo@tschopp.org) or (626)355-9433. If you would like to be a member of the Prayer Chain & commit to pray for the requests contact Jo.

**Pastoral Care:** Please contact Pastor Ken Frese (310) 398-3741; Jo Tschopp (626) 355-9433.

**Be Informed:**

If you are interested in what is happening at the monthly Directors' Meetings, the monthly financial reports, the reports from SONshine House, the Round Table and other congregational activities you can find the reports in a binder located in the church office. The notebook is updated monthly. Kathy Janetzke or Jo Tschopp can direct you to it.

# Burn the Mortgage!

Our intentional effort to pay off the church mortgage is slowly moving in the right direction. In September we were able to make an extra principal payment of \$340 bringing the total additional principal payments to \$11,892. The balance on the loan is \$259,962.80; perhaps you would be led to donate funds above your regular offerings to help wipe out this debt. We are small but God has been providing for First Lutheran for 75 years. Do you think we could burn the mortgage sooner than expected? Every little bit helps, think creatively about your finances; perhaps you could come up with a gift from some unexpected income.

## Mission Development Team

The Back to School Worship Service on September 15 was amazing. The participation of SONshine House was very special and meaningful. Many preschool families came with grandparents, siblings, and other



relatives. Pastor Frese planned the service to be worshipful and visitor friendly. The culmination with 90 people joining hands, even across the aisles, for the Lord's Prayer was unifying and uplifting. The brunch served in the Fellowship Room was delicious; it was exciting setting up more chairs at the last minute.

The Mission Development Team with Jill Vidal, preschool director, and Generations Church, are working on the October 31 Trunk & Treat event. Christine Geltz and Peter Dille are collaborating on the church website with new features included.

Pastor Ted Hartman will be leading us in worship on December 1. After the service there will be a Thanksgiving brunch. Plan now to attend and invite former members and students. We are generating a database of former members and students to join with us in celebrating 75 years of ministry and blessings in Temple City.

Please join this team as we meet October 20, 11:00, lunch will be served. We are enthusiastic about the possibilities for the future ministries of First Lutheran.

## Major Leaguers

It's October; time to eat bratwurst, sauerkraut, potatoes, homemade applesauce and a dessert. Invite friends to come with you to the senior luncheon on Thursday, October 10, 1:00pm. An added attraction will be a guest speaker.

## Sunday School Backpacks

Thirty backpacks filled with school supplies donated by our Sunday School families were recently taken to the San Diego office of Lutheran Baja Concerns Ministry. They will be given to children enrolled in the activities of Lutheran churches in Baja.

## Tuesday Bible Study

On Tuesday, October 8, 11:00 we will begin our study of 1 Samuel. If you like Bible history and learning about the power of God leading nations and individuals this is the study for you.

## Friends in Deed

First Lutheran is well known at the Friends in Deed food pantry as we monthly take in our food donations. Our team of volunteers is there every fourth Saturday to work. It is so easy to toss a few grocery items in the shopping cart and contribute them. Thank you to all who contribute and volunteer.

## Reading the Lectionaries

	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>Epistle</u>	<u>Gospel</u>	
Oct. 6	Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4	II Timothy 1:1-14	Luke 17:1-10	
Oct. 13	Ruth 1:1-19a	II Timothy 2:1-13	Luke 17:11-19	
Oct. 20	Genesis 32:22-30	II Timothy 3:14-4:5	Luke 18:1-8	
Oct. 27	Genesis 4:1-5	II Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18	Luke 18:9-17	4



# Borchard Prayer Letter

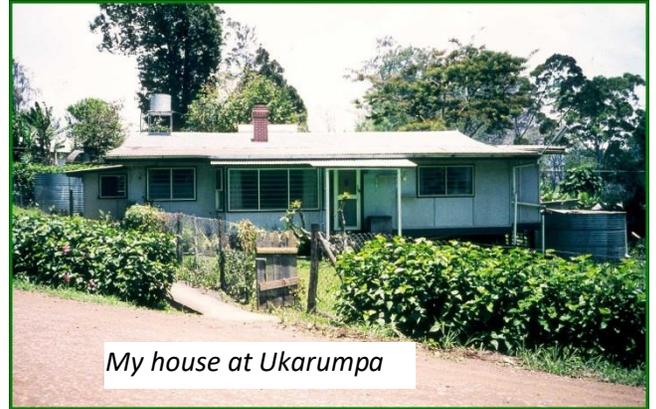
Papua New Guinea

October 2019

Dear Praying Friends,

## ***Trip to Papua New Guinea October - November***

I am scheduled to leave the USA on October 11, and to arrive in Papua New Guinea on October 13. The next day I will fly up to the translation center at Ukarumpa where my house is located. I will stay there until November 13. I am hoping that my friend Ruth Snyder will be able to go with me to PNG this time. By the time you get this prayer letter we will know whether or not she has been able to go. If you want to stay up-to-date on what is going on email me at [Janet.Borchard@LBT.org](mailto:Janet.Borchard@LBT.org), and I will put you on the list to get my email prayer updates.



My house at Ukarumpa

While in PNG I plan to work with the Ipili translators to go through Exodus chapters 9 – 14 to get those chapters ready to be reviewed by other Ipili speakers in what we call the village check. Sometime after I leave PNG the Ipili translators will go to the Ipili area to do that village check. ***Please pray for wisdom for me, Pastor Mandita, and Margret as we go through these chapters together.***

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We have confirmed with the translation consultant, Yauko Kasave, that he will do the consultant check of the Ipili translation of the book of Ruth. This check will happen during the first full week of November. It will be the first check that Mandita, Margret, and I will do with a consultant. We will be having two Ipili people who have not worked on the translation come to be a part of this check. It is important to have these people participate in the check so the consultant can make sure the translation communicates well to Ipili people. ***Please pray that the consultant will find any parts of the translation of Ruth that still need to be improved. Also pray the translation team will learn from this consultant check ways to improve how we translate in the future.***

We had hoped that Yauko would also be able to check chapters 1 – 8 of Exodus, but he will not have time to prepare and do that check, so we will schedule that consultant check for another time.

## ***Mandita's Current Work in the Ipili Area***

As I am writing this letter Mandita is out in the Ipili area building a house which will also be a language project office. Last year he fixed up an older house, but at that time he found out that he would need to build a new house so then he started preparations for the new house, and now he is continuing work on the house.

He took some more SD cards and audio Bibles containing the Ipili videos and Scriptures to be sold to Ipili people. He also plans to make arrangements for the people who will come for the consultant check. We are hoping that he might be able to attend a meeting of the Ipili Churches Council to report on the Ipili language work. The head of that council has expressed interest in the work so we are hoping the group will recommend that congregations support the work.

## ***Ipili People Are Interested in Learning to Read Their Language***

During recent trips to the Ipili area people have been telling Mandita and Margret that they want to learn how to read their language. They tell them that although they enjoy listening to the Scriptures they would also like to be able to read them. So, during my time in PNG we want to look into what the possibilities are for training reading teachers. Margret has come up with an idea where a person in each denomination would learn how to train teachers for each congregation in their denomination. ***Please pray for us as we research how this could happen, and come up with a plan of action.***

***\*\* Please continue to ask the Lord to send someone to take over as the advisor for the Ipili work. \*\****

Your Partner in Bible Translation,  
Janet Borchard