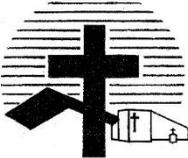
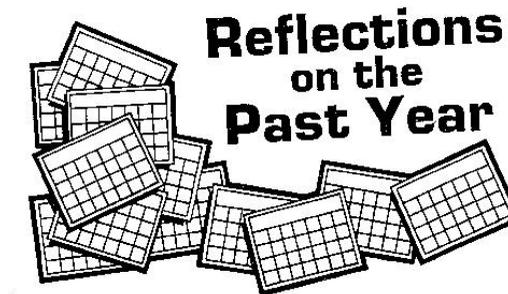


Santa Cruz Lutheran Church  
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**Santa Cruz News**  
(520) 883-2937  
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January 2018

*Building enduring relationships  
in Jesus' Name:  
- With God  
- With each other  
- And with our community*



**WE CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**...in the lives of so many in our community through our food ministry program. I can't emphasize enough that we not only make a difference to those in need, but also in the lives of our volunteers. Time and again I hear our volunteers speaking of how rewarding it is to be of service to our neighbors.

Do you know? This year we have served 11,169 folks through the food ministry program, and our congregation has provided nearly 7,000 additional non-perishable items to supplement what the Tucson Community Food Bank offers our clients. January 17<sup>th</sup> marks the 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this important ministry here at Santa Cruz. Since its inception, we have provided food, clothing, diapers, books, and smiles to 84,615 people.

**ON A PERSONAL NOTE** – as most of you know, my Mom suffered her third compression fracture this year the day Ryan and his girlfriend, Darla, came into town to celebrate an early Christmas. For the time being, you can find me at church primarily from 1:00 – 4:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday. We sincerely thank you for your concern and prayers for Mom's healing.

Many of us faced difficult challenges throughout 2017 – some more than others – but we must never lose sight of our God who loves us, our God who forgives us, and our God who is always at our side. God's blessings to you as we enter a new year, filled with new challenges. But we can always work through those challenges with the knowledge that God is with us. – Diane

### **OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

will be held on Sunday, January 28, 2018, 11:30 AM with a pot luck luncheon to follow (a sign-up for the pot luck will be posted on the Kiosk). We will review the Annual Report, vote on the proposed 2018 Budget and distribution of Sprint Funds, and hold elections for open positions.

We thank the following members for their dedicated service this past year...

**Church Council** – Paul Bean, Dianna Chavez, Melody Hensley, Vicky Hohmann, Dick Meyer, Linda Robinson, Stu Weidenschilling

**Nominating Committee** – Don Genung, Jeri Lind, Sandy Mathis-Arment

**Financial Compliance Review** – Sandra Kornelle, Carol Radler, Sandy Skinner

**Endowment Fund Committee** – Ron Buch, Chuck Conrad, Norm Davis

**Delegates to the Synod Assembly** – Melody Hensley and Jeri Lind

**Financial Secretary** – Arlen Holmes and **Treasurer** – Ruth Senkbeil

Our Nominating Committee has been in contact with members who have shown interest in filling the open positions for the above committees.

## Pastor's Page

Happy New Year and a Blessed Epiphany to all of you!

**"Giving Words to Our Faith"**... This will our theme in just a month-and-a-half as we embark upon a very early 40 day journey through the Season of Lent with one another. You may recall that we enjoyed doing this just a couple years ago as I asked people to share their own stories of faith during our Wednesday evening Lenten gatherings. (You might also remember how much we enjoyed this sharing and learning with one another.)

So once again, I am inviting two persons (10 people in all) for each Wednesday night during Lent to speak for just five minutes about their own walk with God. (You can also save me a bit of legwork and simply offer to be one of our speakers, you know!)

So... if I attempt to corner you sometime soon, it may very well be to invite you to prepare a 5-minute talk for one of our upcoming Lenten gatherings. Do be open to sharing with the rest of us just a little glimpse of your own walk with God.

Here are just a few ideas to help you begin to give voice to the faith within you...

*Why are Sunday mornings at Santa Cruz an important and necessary part of my week?*

*Why is prayer and/or devotional reading a regular part of my day?*

*How does faithful giving affect the rest of my life?*

*What matters most to me about my own practice of faith?*

*In what ways do I find myself sharing some of my faith journey with others?*

*What differences do I see in my life (or my life shared with others) because of any of the above?*



Thanks again for your willingness to be part of this year's **"Giving Words to Our Faith"**. Your sharing in this manner truly blesses us all. Speaking from your own practice of faith helps all of us put words to our own experiences as well.

*Pastor Jim*

## SERVING OUR LORD DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY

### ACOLYTES

	8:00 AM		10:30 AM
7	Yaniva Murrieta	7	Ella Daniels
14		14	Lita Lopez
21	Yasmine Murrieta	21	Jasmine Gracia
28		28	Che Lopez

### ASSISTING MINISTER

	8:00 AM		10:30 AM
7 & 14	Alice Davis	7	Stu Weidenschilling
21 & 28	Dick Meyer	14 & 21	Sandy Skinner
		28	Melody Hensley

### COFFEE HOSTS

	8:00 AM		10:30 AM
7 & 14	Ron & Ginny Buch	7 & 21	????
21 & 28	Bob & Vicky Hohmann	14 & 28	Ches Gandy

### LECTORS

	8:00 AM		10:30 AM
7	Maria Dew	7	Valerie Cook
14	Renee Riegert	14	Gay Kline
21	Glenna Knepper	21	Ellen Swancutt
28	Bob Hohmann	28	June Keiflin

### USHERS

	8:00 AM		10:30 AM
7 & 14	Norm Davis, Renee Riegert, Bob & Vicky Hohmann	7 & 14	Don Genung, Arlen Holmes, Paul Bean, Sandy Mathis-Arment
21 & 28	Jean Meyer, Glenna Knepper, Mark & Pam Kern	21 & 28	Jim & Kathy Blake, Joanie Contreras, Lisa Wood-Hromidko



**OUR CRAFTERS** will meet again on Tuesday mornings at 9:30, beginning January 9<sup>th</sup>. This first gathering for 2018 will be a pot luck get-together with time to share new craft ideas you have discovered during the break. We'll begin actual work on our projects the following Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. All are invited to attend these weekly meetings (January – May; then September till the bazaar in October).

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** – Diane will be updating our directory for 2018 (will be available to pick up the end of January). Please let us know if you would like your cell phone, home phone, and/or email address included. Be sure to tell us if any of your info has changed!



***When we pray for one another it makes a difference. Include in God's care:***

Michael	Kenny White	Mary Barkley	Ruth Senkbeil	Melody Hensley
Grandsons	Joe Rinkowski	Paula Skinner	Roxie Kuffel	Jo Conover
Leela Kallunk	Bruce VanCampen	Tammy Burch	Ellen Swancutt	Dana Chadman
Tony Oliver	Joanie Contreras	Anne Brown	John Robes	MaryAnn Leon
John Daniel	Epie Pascual	Janice and Stella	Gary Case	Samuel Clemmons
Don Hunt	Ray Necoechea	Dale Scholer	Ron, Charlotte, Steve, Gary	
Austin Hill	Lois Bradshaw	Noel Palmer	Robert Plante	Pat Millyard
Marie Corral	Susie Hager	Nancy Anderson	Dennis Roney	Holly Peterson
Sheryl Taatjes	Anita Hull	Shawna Murphy	Gene Copper	Sam & Carolyn Dodson
Paul Bean	Linda Robinson	Esther Wood	Arlie Boatwright	Maxine Schaller
Avery Johnson	Andy Nichols	Larry Havenga	Karen Meyer	Dorothy and Mark Kern
Carol Radler	Betty Layton	Kim Agamaite	family of Norma Rhoades	

***We rejoice with...***

Carlos Gracia, Kenny Morgan, Todd & Dana Scholer, Marian Tokar – newest mbrs of SCLC Jasmine and Leo Gracia who were baptized and received their First Communion on 12/10/17

***We grieve with...***

Brenda Depew and family at the passing of her sister, Deb Vonosek on November 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Chuck Conrad and family, mourning the passing of his brother, Dick Conrad on December 3<sup>rd</sup>

**THANKS...**

...to **Norm Davis, Ches Gandy, Melody Hensley, Kenny Morgan and Gene Wall** who set up our Christmas trees to be decorated at our Advent Luncheon; to **Norm and Robert Encinas** for placing our Advent star on the roof.

...to **ALL who were a part of, or helped with our women's Advent Luncheon: Melody Hensley and Freida Stehr** did a lovely job decorating the fellowship hall; a small group enjoyed a short Christmas program lead by **Gay Kline, Carol Radler, and Dana Scholer**; Gay treated us to her talents on the piano by playing carols while we decorated our Christmas trees; and we all enjoyed a pot luck of delicious salads and desserts after the program.

...to **ALL** who bought 2018 calendars to help raise funds for our Youth groups. The profits will be used toward registration fees for the National Youth Gathering in Texas this summer.

...to **Ginny Buch, Melody Hensley, Bob & Vicky Hohmann** for organizing and delivering our Christmas food boxes and gifts. A special thanks to **ALL** who donated items for the food boxes and gave generously of gifts to benefit seven families from the HeadStart Program.

...to **ALL** who participated in our Christmas Caroling – three homes were visited and a sloppy joe meal was prepared for all the carolers to enjoy as they gathered back at church.

...to **Melody and Dana** for their decorating talents on the bulletin boards in the sanctuary, fellowship hall, and the office window.

...to **Miguel Dominguez** for offering to move dirt to help protect our ramada oleanders; to **Marcello Matus** for his initial work in placing a gutter on the back of our church building; and **Kenny Morgan** for his diligent work in repairing the commode in our breezeway restroom.

***I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH for your continued support, cards, calls, and especially prayers throughout this past year as I journeyed through several medical issues. I most recently appreciated the carolers who came to my home! -- Lois Bradshaw***

**YOUTH NEWS...**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS** resumes on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Please meet Renee in the Youth Room at 9:15 AM. As always, if any adults wish to help teach a class or lead a craft, please see Renee Riegert.

**FUNDRAISER for the NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING** – on Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup> we'll meet in the fellowship hall from 1:00 till 6:00 for a Team Building Session and to bake cookies for the next day's fund raiser. And then, on Sunday, we'll sell hot chocolate and cookies after both worship times in the fellowship hall. Be sure to let Carol know that you'll be available to help.

**SUPER YOUTH GROUP!** – there's a lock-in at Beautiful Savior's Lutheran Church (7570 North Thonydale Road) beginning Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM until Friday morning at 7:00 AM. You are encouraged to bring a friend AND a snack to share. There will be worship, a scavenger hunt, bonfire, music, and more – all packed in this 12 hours! Please let Carol know if you'd like to attend.

**YOUTH FUNDRAISER** – on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> following each worship time, our Youth will be selling hot chocolate and homemade cookies baked the previous evening. Just 50¢ will buy you a steaming cup of hot chocolate; 50¢ will get you a bag of two delicious cookies. Please support our Youth and their efforts to raise funds for the National Youth Gathering. We're slowly getting to our goal! ***We would welcome any homemade cookie dough you would wish to contribute to help with our fundraiser.***



**A LOOK AHEAD...**

...**Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>** – our Parish Life Team will be hosting our annual Winter Guest Pot Luck. We'll be brainstorming a theme and entertainment at our semi-annual Parish Life meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup> (at 11:30 AM). Feel free to join us and offer your ideas!

...**Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** – our Youth will hold a yard sale from 6:30 AM – 1:00 PM. The congregation is asked to start going through all your treasures to offer new or gently used items for this sale. Proceeds will benefit funds needed for the National Youth Gathering. Kristin Smith has graciously offered to lead this fund raiser, so please contact Kristin or Carol Radler if you have questions. Lots of volunteers are needed, so please let them know if you'd like to help!

...**Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup>** – we're planning a Ladies Tea, complete with a light meal and entertainment! We'll have a hostess for each of 6-10 tables, set for six or seven women (including the hostess). The hostess will set their table with their own luncheon settings, along with a tea pot or two. We welcome your input at our Parish Life meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup>!