



Santa Cruz News

(520) 883-2937

www.santacruzlutheran.org

Building enduring relationships

in Jesus' Name:

- With God

- With each other

- And with our community

January 2023



THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Epiphany January 6, 2023

Dear Members and Friends at Santa Cruz Lutheran Church,

I write this during my “Vacation Time”. The week leading up to Christmas was overwhelming in so many ways: So many members of our congregation were dealing with Covid. We had a break in the line from the Water Main and we were facing the real possibility of not being able to have Church Services on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. But with God’s Grace we celebrated Christmas with more people in Church than we have seen since the beginning of the Pandemic.

In addition to our Bible Study on the book of Job that is led by Stu Weidenschilling on Sunday Mornings, I plan to teach a Class on the Creeds and Confession of the Lutheran Church called “Roots of Our Faith”. We will look at the Apostles’ Creed, the Nicene Creed, Luther’s Small and Large Catechisms, and other Historical Statements of Faith that have shaped our Church and our relationship with the Roman Catholic Church and other Christian Churches. Please let me know if you are interested and whether Tuesday or Thursday afternoon or evening would be a better time for you.

I will be teaching a similar class on Saturday Mornings at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church through the Synod’s Diakonia Training Program. This class will be offered both online through Zoom and in Person.

We face a challenge in 2023: The Rental Contract that we had with the Sprint Phone Company that we had for many years allowing them to have a Signal Tower on our Church Property was terminated in June of 2022. This was primarily because Sprint was “bought out” by T-Mobile. Their equipment was removed and their rental payment of nearly \$10,000 was also terminated. Santa Cruz has wisely used the revenue that we received from this Rental Agreement primarily for outreach and mission including our “Mission Support” to the Synod and not for local operating expenses. But this means that beginning in 2023, these Mission and Outreach Efforts will need to be funded by our own tithes and offerings. The Budget that is proposed by the Church Council may look very similar to previous years, but you need to be aware that it actually calls for a significant increase in your financial support since we will not have the revenue from Sprint that we had in previous years. I realize that pledges have already been made for 2023, but I would ask you to consider giving more than you had made in your Plan for Giving back in November.

It is my hope and prayer that 2023 will be more peaceful and filled with even more hope and joy than 2022.

A Blessed New Year to you

Pastor Robert Jones

Thanks to....

...To Dana & Todd Scholer and Kristin Smith for taking care of our grounds and memorial garden.

..Thanks to Carol Radler for overseeing maintenance needing done on our property.

...Kenny Morgan for doing work around our church and grounds.

...to all those who volunteer to work in our Food Pantry and unload the trucks.

...to Mark, Carol, Alice, Chuck and Bill for sharing their gifts of music on Sundays

...to Bill & Cheryl Barychuk and Ruth Hendryx for going to the main Food bank and picking up the extra food that we give out on Wednesdays.

...to Joanie and Melody for doing grocery rescue.

...to Kenny White for taking care of the marquee.

...to all who "Just step" up to help with worship services.

...to Noella Reidinger and Beverly Palermo for preparing bulletins for worship and also getting newsletters folded for hand out and mailing.

YOU'RE INVITED

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR **LADIES LUNCH BUNCH**

FRIDAY JANUARY 20, 2023 12:30 pm

To be announced

Sign up sheet on table at back of sanctuary.

We have been gathering once a month for over a year now.

We had 18 ladies at our December luncheon with a gift exchange.

Join us. You may sit next to a lady you don't know very well. It's a fun time.

Coming in January 2023

- January 1** 2023 giving envelopes are now available
January 3 Pastor Bob will return from vacation.
January 8 Potluck hostesses Joanie and Cheryl
January 15 Annual reports available
January 15 Council Meeting
January 20 Ladies Lunch bunch
January 29 Annual meeting following service
January 29 New member rosters will be available



16-1969 Ron & Sandi

Geuder

9 - Gay Kline

9 – Teresa Kissel

12 - Betty Hossler

22 - Cody Wood-Hromidko

26 – Sandi Geuder

28 - Louise Conrad



Needing volunteers...

If you would be willing to host coffee and refreshments on Sunday's following worship, please sign up on the sheet on the kiosk.

We would like to have a potluck on the first Sunday of each month.

Please sign up if you are willing to host.

Everyone likes to gather and visit and eat but it is not easy to get volunteers.

January 2023 Schedule

- 1** **Music accompanist** Ann Devinney
 Cantor Carol Radler
 Assistant Minister Alice Davis
 Lector Alice Davis
 Ushers Mark & Teresa Kissel
 Acolyte Marliza Andrade
- 8** **Music Director** Mark Herr
 Cantor Chuck Glen
 Assistant Minister Melody Hensley
 Lector Melody Hensley
 Ushers Mark and Pam Kern, Brooklyn
 Acolyte Jaden Johnson
- 15** **Music Director** Mark Herr
 Cantor Bill Devinney
 Assistant Minister Kenny White
 Lector Kenny White
 Ushers Diane White and Joanie Contreras
 Acolyte Guillermo Andrade
- 22** **Music Director** Mark Herr
 Cantor Carol Radler
 Assistant Minister Joanie Contreras
 Lector Joanie Contreras
 Ushers Cheyl Barychuk and Ruth Senkbeil
 Acolyte Brooklyn Johnson
- 29** **Music Director** Mark Herr
 Cantor Alice Davis
 Assistant Minister LeAnne Mitts
 Lector LeAnne Mitts
 Ushers Kenny Morgan & Norm Davis
 Acolyte Marliza Andrade

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS.

The Church Calendar. This was printed in 1931.

It's titled "Morbus Sabbaticus" which translates to "Sunday Sickness"

I have posted this before but it is always appropriate

"Sunday Sickness"

The symptoms vary, but it never interferes with the appetite.

It never lasts more than twenty-four hours at a time.

No physician is ever called.

It always proves fatal in the end, to the soul.

It is contagious.

The attack comes on suddenly every Sunday;

no symptoms are felt on Saturday night, and the patient awakes as usual, feeling fine and eats a hearty breakfast.

At about 9 o'clock the attack comes on and lasts until about noon.

In the afternoon, the patient is much improved and is able to take a ride and read the Sunday newspaper.

Patient eats a hearty supper, but the attack soon comes on again and lasts through the evening (for those who have Sunday evening church).

Patient is able to go to work Monday as usual.



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I don't know where this is, but it makes me glad that I live in Tucson.



**When we pray for one another it makes a difference
Remember in your prayers this week...**

Bella(15 yr old with throat cancer) Kathy Blake
Chuck Conrad Alice Davis Sandi Geuder
Richard Harmon Larry Havenga Betty Hossler
Kayden Hoang Kasey Hunt June Keiflin
Gay Kline Roy Munguia Patty Ruane
Dana & Todd Scholer Debbie Stevens Freida Stehr
Lester Stehr Glenn Thiess Laurie Wellner
Kenny & Diane White Myrna Wunder

Continued prayers for...

Gene & Rose Copper Carolyn Dodson
Allan & Brenda DePew Ron Geuder Joyce Havenga
Mark & Lisa Koch Gary V Esther Wood
Fred Young & Lillian Kusy

Active Duty Members in the Military

Rey Alvarez Anjelica Corral
Connor Hensley William Hohmann
Eric Lopez Melissa McAdams Kenneth Marstall
Stephen Marstall Dillan Schneider
Gene Copper 10 Years in Marines

Some interesting facts about Epiphany

The word epiphany means a manifestation, usually of divine power.

What happens on the night Epiphany?

As discussed above, Epiphany **celebrates the Three Wise Men that came to give gifts to the baby Jesus**. The holiday is sometimes also called Reyes Magos, which means Wise Men.

What is the message of Epiphany?

Epiphany means **Hope and joyful revelation**, just as it did then. The Magi had Hope in the Star that God placed before them. They followed that light of Hope until they found Jesus – realizing that this infant King would save the world. We too, today, need to follow the light of Hope that God has given us through Jesus

Don't Take Down Your Christmas Tree Until January 6—Here's Why when it comes to holiday decorations, there are two kinds of people: Those who take down their [Christmas trees](#) on December 26, and those who aren't quite ready for the season to be over. And while taking down the Christmas tree is usually a bit less fun than putting it up, there's actually another good reason many people wait to do it. So, if you've been looking for an excuse to keep listening to Christmas music and admiring your yuletide decor for a few more weeks, you're in luck: Tradition says you should be celebrating the Christmas season (and leaving your decorated tree up) all the way through January 6.

[According to Christian tradition](#), January 6 marks the day the three kings actually arrived in Bethlehem after Jesus was born, so this day signals the official end of the Christmas celebrations. It signifies a celebration that's just as big as the one on Christmas Day. And while we'll welcome any excuse to leave the red and gold ornaments and multicolor strand lights up a little longer, [tradition says it's actually unlucky to take your tree down](#) before this date. So if you're in favor of leaving the decor up as long as possible, use this excuse when your family asks why the tree is still up past New Year's.

A note from Carol..Church Council President

Your SCLC Council has been working on:
a 2023 proposed budget
nominations for Council,
Nominating Committee
Revenue Compliance Team
Synod Assembly Representatives.

All will be available for perusal two weeks prior to our Annual Congregational Meeting on January 29, 2023.

The Music Committee joyfully reports several new contributions toward our proposed Audio Upgrade project. As of 1/1/2023 we will have reached the \$9,000 mark on our thermometer. THANK YOU!! Look for new fund raisers in which you can participate in 2023 to complete our \$12,000 drive.

Thank you to: Glenna Knepper and Kenny Morgan for helping prepare & display our Christmas Eve Luminaries, and Pioneer Landscaping for their contribution of 6 bags of sand for that project. What a beautiful sight and path to our Christmas Eve Worship.

Andy's Irrigation, Kris Smith & friend Mike, and John Peebles for installing the new timer & external GFI for our Memorial Garden Irrigation system.

Bev Palermo, Noella Reidinger and Diane White for helping get the bulletins ready for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Worship.

Zoom Meetings:

FRIDAY EVENING Lectionary Study 6:00 pm

Time: This is a recurring meeting Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82943666767?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82943666767?pwd=REJ3dVJ1d2wxdjd2TDJlIbVB2R3Jrdz09)

[pwd=REJ3dVJ1d2wxdjd2TDJlIbVB2R3Jrdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82943666767?pwd=REJ3dVJ1d2wxdjd2TDJlIbVB2R3Jrdz09)

Meeting ID: 829 4366 6767 Passcode: 100921



Blessings for a Happy and Healthy 2023

We are so blessed to have our winter guests with us again this year.

We enjoy our time with you.

January 2023