

# St. Luke Lutheran Church

Sunnyvale, CA

Issue 10/01

THE EPISTLE

January 2010

It's hard to believe we have entered the second decade of the third millennium of the Christian era. Will this new year be just more of the same? Probably, to some degree... but it will be new in ways beyond our expectations.

- Sarah and Abraham had no idea when a certain year began that it would be the year God called them to leave their homeland and venture to a new land, a land of promise.
- Paul couldn't have guessed that he would be bowled over by a crucified radical prophet, who had come back to life, and now called him to follow as he traveled a road to Damascus.
- Peter would never have thought that he would leave his fishing boat and follow the itinerant preacher who was

## WHAT WILL THE NEW YEAR BRING

making such waves around Judea.

- Deborah would never have predicted that she would be called to lead Israel during a time of national crisis.

2010 brings opportunities for change, new experiences of God's grace, challenges to faithfulness, and the possibility of a renewed heart. We are invited to find joy in serving as we expand our outreach to our community. We will need to pray for strength to set healthy boundaries, and the wisdom to say "no" when necessary.

May there be more connectedness with Jesus, simpler living, and a natural sharing of the good news. May our hearts become hearts of flesh



**A Message From Pastor Bob McKee**

where they have been like stones. Perhaps we will have more room in our lives for truly living and less time for silly conflicts and abusive people.

You may find that this is the year you have victory over old enemies. You may discover and use new gifts. You might take some risks that allow you to venture into unknown territory.

God help us as we move into this New Year with joy and anticipation of the Spirit's work among us!

Glad to be serving Jesus with you,  
Pastor Bob



**Bob Grimes**

Director of Youth and Family Ministries

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.*

*Isaiah 43:19*

What could we possibly do to "top" Christmas last month and the frenzied aftermath leading up to New Years? God tells us in Isaiah that he is doing a new thing. He does things that we don't expect or anticipate like creating streams in the wasteland. So what can

## Youth and Family News

we expect in January 2010? God is always working, endlessly creative and gracing us with his love. We no longer have to tell people "same ol, same ol" when asked "What's going on in life?" Because God is doing a new thing in our lives every day, every new year.

Do you perceive it? Are you looking for it? Is the anticipation killing you? I hope so because God is on the move and we need to be in on it. Prayer and Bible reading are the best options for

getting in on the plans from the ground floor up. When we involve ourselves in relationships with His children He will create opportunities for us to serve and care for His needy loved ones and we will be blessed in

turn. January 5<sup>th</sup> is our monthly service to the Sunnyvale Armory. The whole family of St. Luke including the youth can step up and serve a meal to the homeless at the Armory on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Do not miss the new things God is doing because these service opportunities are like springs of water in the desert!



## President's Corner

Joyce Masterson

### Getting To Know Your Council Members -



**Name:** Oliver Smith

**Position on council:** Stewardship Chair Elect

**Family:** Beth (Wife), Naomi (Kindergarten), Natalie (Preschool)

**Personal history including church history:** I was born and raised in Cincinnati. I attended Miami University and graduated with a BS in Physics. I worked at GM in Detroit for five years but left it for sunny Santa Clara in 1999. I met Beth within two weeks of my arrival in California. Pastor Bob conducted our wedding ceremony at St Luke in April 2002.

**Occupation:** Project Manager for HP Enterprise Services

**Hobbies:** Golf, Snow Skiing, Soccer, Gardening, Fantasy Football

**Volunteerism:** I coached girls soccer teams in Michigan for eight seasons; most of the girls came from poor or dysfunctional families.

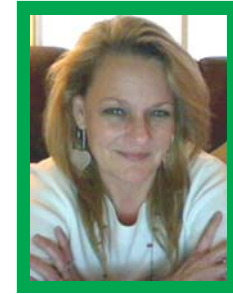
**What brought you to St. Luke?:** Beth and I were looking for a Lutheran church to join once we met and got engaged. We wanted to make sure our children were brought up in a proper Christian setting.

**What is your favorite thing about worshipping at St. Luke?:** The fact that I am surrounded by true believers and not those who just go to church out of obligation or guilt.

**What vision do you have for St. Luke?:** I would like to see our membership demographics better reflect the cultural and ethnic background of the Silicon Valley.

**Do you have a favorite Bible verse and if so, what does it mean to you?:** "But he who endures to the end will be saved." — Matthew 24:13. The verses before this one talk about the earthly things that may lead you astray or cause you to lose your faith. But if you are grounded in the Word and remain steadfast, you will be spared from damnation and granted eternal life.

## AMAZING CREATIONS PRESCHOOL



**Debbie  
Hogue**  
*Amazing  
Creations  
Director*

Greetings from Amazing Creation's Staff:

We hope all had a wonderful and blessed Christmas vacation. This month at ACP we are beginning the NAEYC self-study toward national accreditation. This is an exciting time to be apart of a preschool program. Encourage all your family and friends with preschoolers to come join our adventure toward national accreditation.

If you haven't already, below is an easy way to help support ACP in raising money for program improvement. If you have enrolled in the past please note that you must enroll yearly. Thank you for all of your support!



Help support ACP by registering at the link below!

eScrip Group ID – 149331359

<https://secure.escrip.com/jsp/supporter/registration/step1.jsp>

## JANUARY GREETERS

January 03 - John & Mary Krogman

January 10 - Lenore Forfang & Anna Buskirk

January 17 - Jerry & Jo Zichterman

January 24 - David & Kathy Moore

January 31 - Doug & Doriann Shreve



# The Church Calendar - January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> New Years Day Office Closed	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 2nd Sunday after Christmas  9:00 AM Trad. Service 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemp. Service 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study 12:00 - 2:00 PM Confirmation (Jr. High)	<b>4</b>      6:30 PM Senior Bell Choir	<b>5</b> 9:30 AM Dove Ladies Bible Study@TracyLauth'sHouse	<b>6</b> 10:00 AM Men's and Women's Bible Study    7:30 PM Senior Choir Practice	<b>7</b> 10:00 AM Preschool Chapel    6:30 PM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM Contemporary Service Practice	<b>8</b> 10:00 AM Preschool Chapel	<b>9</b> 8:30 AM Family Breakfast 9:15 AM Elder Meeting 10:00 AM St. Luke Jr. Bells Practice
<b>10</b> Baptism of Our Lord  9:00 AM Trad. Service 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemp. Service 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study 12:00 - 2:00 PM Confirmation 4:00 - 5:00 PM Daisy Scouts	<b>11</b>     6:30 PM Senior Bell Choir  7:00 PM Mondays with God - Angela Kendall's House	<b>12</b> 9:30 AM Dove Ladies Bible Study@TracyLauth'sHouse   3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Homework nHangout	<b>13</b> 10:00 AM Men's and Women's Bible Study    7:30 PM Senior Choir Practice	<b>14</b> 10:00 AM Preschool Chapel    6:30 PM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM Contemporary Service Practice	<b>15</b> 10:00 AM Preschool Chapel	<b>16</b> 10:00 AM St. Luke Jr. Bells Practice
<b>17</b> 2nd Sunday after Epiphany  9:00 AM Trad. Service 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemp. Service 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study 12:00 - 2:00 PM Confirmation (Jr. High)	<b>18</b>     6:30 PM Senior Bell Choir  7:00 PM Mondays with God - Angela Kendall's House	<b>19</b> 9:30 AM Dove Ladies Bible Study@TracyLauth'sHouse   3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Homework nHangout	<b>20</b> 10:00 AM Men's and Women's Bible Study    7:30 PM Senior Choir Practice	<b>21</b> 10:00 AM Preschool Chapel    6:30 PM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM Contemporary Service Practice	<b>22</b> Confirmation Retreat 10:00 AM Preschool Chapel	<b>23</b> Confirmation Retreat 10:00 AM St. Luke Jr. Bells Practice
<b>24</b> 3rd Sunday after Epiphany  Confirmation Retreat  9:00 AM Trad. Service 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemp. Service 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study 12:00 - 2:00 PM Confirmation 4:00 - 5:00 PM Daisy Scouts	<b>25</b>     6:30 PM Senior Bell Choir  7:00 PM Mondays with God - Angela Kendall's House	<b>26</b> 9:30 AM Dove Ladies Bible Study@TracyLauth'sHouse   3:00 PM - 4:30 PM Homework nHangout	<b>27</b> 10:00 AM Men's and Women's Bible Study    7:30 PM Senior Choir Practice	<b>28</b> 10:00 AM Preschool Chapel    6:30 PM Men's Bible Study 7:00 PM Contemporary Service Practice	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM Preschool Chapel	<b>30</b> 10:00 AM St. Luke Jr. Bells Practice
<b>31</b> 4th Sunday after Epiphany  9:00 AM Trad. Service 10:15 AM Fellowship 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Contemp. Service 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study 12:00 - 2:00 PM Confirmation (Jr. High)						

# January Calendar of Worship Volunteers

<u>Readings</u>	<u>Acolytes &amp; Crucifier</u>	<u>Assisting Min/Cantor</u>	<u>Eucharist</u>	<u>Adult &amp; Youth Lectors</u>	<u>Alter Guild</u>
<b><u>January 3, 2010 - Second Sunday after Christmas</u></b>					
<b>Background Worship: Beth Stauter</b>					
Jer. 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Eph. 1:3-14 John 1:1-18	Jessica Carter  Kayla Carter	Kirk Autsen Setting IV	Al Neubieser  Kayla Carter	Hugh Riddell  Janet Riddell	Lenore Forfang Wendy Callahan Laura Dhanaraj
<b><u>January 10, 2010 - Baptism of Our Lord</u></b>					
<b>Background Worship: Georgine Acly</b>					
Isa. 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	Katherine Zilg  Kevin Callahan	Lisa Pierce Setting I	Sue Hutchins  Kevin Callahan	Oliver Smith  Mary Lou Robson	Janet Riddell Lisa Pierce
<b><u>January 17, 2010 - Second Sunday after Epiphany</u></b>					
<b>Background Worship: Beth Stauter and Monica Nissen</b>					
Isa. 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 1 Cor. 12:1-11 John 2:1-11	Jackson Clarno Setting III Neha Dhayanand	Sue Hutchins	Angela Kendall  Neha Dhayanand	Ken Scott Shirley Loo Larry Brown	Georgine Acly  Kathy Moore Bee Robles
<b><u>January 24, 2010 - Third Sunday after Epiphany</u></b>					
<b>Background Worship: Margaret Steen and Kathleen Peters</b>					
Neh. 8:1-3, 5-6 & 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Cor. 12:12-31a Luke 4:4-21	Tyler Biggs  Katherine Zilg	Carol Czyzewski Setting IV	Jerry Zichterman  Katherine Zilg	Kevin Carter  Lon McEachern	Dee Lillie Dessa Griffith
<b><u>January 31, 2010 - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</u></b>					
<b>Background Worship: Amy and Andrea Tsang</b>					
Jer. 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 1 Cor. 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30	Jessica Carter Setting III Kayla Carter	Tim Tsang	Lisa Pierce  Kayla Carter	Roy Tuason  Joyce Healy	Lisa Pierce
<b><u>February 7, 2010 - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</u></b>					
<b>Background Worship: Claudia Zichterman</b>					
Isa. 6:1-13 Psalm 138 1 Cor. 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11	Jessica Carter Setting IV Kayla Carter	Dawna Anderson	Kirk Autsen  Kayla Carter	Ben Smith Wendy Callahan John Krogman	Lenore Forfang  Laura Dhanaraj

If you are unable to serve any of the above positions, please get a substitute and notify Letty at (408) 736-9216 of the change. Thank you!

# January Calendar of Contemporary Service Volunteers

Readings

Greeter(s)/Usher(s)

Readers

Communion

January 3, 2009 - Second Sunday after Christmas

Jer. 31:7-14  
Psalm 147:12-20  
Eph. 1:3-14  
John 1:1-18

Mike Colligan      Chris Zilg

Ken Scott

January 10, 2010 - Baptism of Our Lord

Isa. 43:1-7  
Psalm 29  
Acts 8:14-17  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Chris Zilg

Mike Colligan  
Char Henderson

January 17, 2010 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Isa. 62:1-5  
Psalm 36:5-10  
1 Cor. 12:1-11  
John 2:1-11

Mike Colligan

Chris Zilg  
Joyce Masterson

**Carol Schweizer  
Sue Hutchins**

January 24, 2010 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Neh. 8:1-3, 5-6 &  
8-10  
Psalm 19  
1 Cor. 12:12-31a  
Luke 4:14-21

Chris Zilg

Tim Su  
Char Henderson

January 31, 2010 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Jer. 1:4-10  
Psalm 71:1-6  
1 Cor. 13:1-13  
Luke 4:21-30

Mike Colligan      Chris Zilg

Ken Scott

February 7, 2010 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Isa. 6:1-13  
Psalm 138  
1 Cor. 15:1-1  
Luke 5:1-11

Chris Zilg

Mary Stahlke  
Mike Colligan



**ALTAR FLOWERS FOR JANUARY**

- Jan 03** - St. Luke Members, God's many blessings
- Jan 10** - No Flowers
- Jan 17** - No Flowers
- Jan 24** - No Flowers
- Jan 31** - Sally Hedman, in honor of Eric & Monica's 1st Anniversary

**JANUARY WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARIES**

*David & Lourdes Johnson:  
6 yrs. - January 18, 2003*



Sara Pearson - Intern

### Intern(al) Musings...

California has the majestic Redwoods, Lebanon has the Biblical Cedars, and Senegal has the quirky Baobab. All magnificent trees, with storied histories and unique claims to fame. During my years in Senegal, my family's compound hosted a large Baobab, or *Guie* tree. The Baobab is a distinctive looking tree—it appears to be planted upside down as its branches resemble root systems—gnarled and thick branches. They are purported to be the largest tree by volume, some growing as wide as 70 feet, with bark that is gray and granite-textured. They are also quite old, some purportedly over a thousand years, although the exact age of the trees and species are unknown since it does not have countable growth rings like other trees. Instead, the inside of the tree is a sort of expandable holding tank for water, which helps it to be strong and healthy despite the harsh weather conditions that it grows in. In fact, the Baobab is known for being a tree that thrives in the heat of countries like Senegal. They rise up out of the Savannah like mythical creatures, refusing to believe that the temperature is over 110 degrees and that the sun is beating mercilessly from the sky.

The reason that the Baobab comes to my mind this time of year is due to the fact that they produce leaves, flowers, and fruit in the months of December through February. While this may not seem so strange to us, living in rainy Northern California, in Senegal right now it is the heart of the dry season, and the rains will not come until late July or early August. The Baobab, however, refuses to give into the harsh climate, the endless dry months, or the seemingly fearful

dormancy of most other plants and trees. Instead, it sprouts nutritious leaves and large greenish pods of chalky fruit that are high in Vitamin C and calcium. The consumption of certain parts of the tree is used to cure stomach ailments, ward off Malaria, loosen stiff joints, and ease colds. It is truly a life-giving tree, especially during the driest, harshest weather that the area has to offer. To me, the Baobab represents a little act of defiance, a simple metaphor for what it means to be a person of faith and hope. While an oasis full of fruit trees, springs of water, and lush greenery would be preferable to a single tree amidst the expanses of hot sand, the reality of many of our lives is that we do not always have opportunities to be an “oasis” to our world and neighbors. Instead, our faithful actions are often subtle and may be completed without much fanfare or observance by others. From small moments like holding doors, donating food, taking time to recycle, calling a senator, or getting involved in any number of justice-oriented activities; all of the little acts that we do make a difference! And while we may wish that we had the gifts, guts, or gumption to inspire like Martin Luther King Jr, Gandhi, or Desmond Tutu, the truth of many of our lives is that we do not have that sphere of influence. But, like the Baobab, we can find satisfaction in the “small acts of defiance” in a world and “climate” that so desperately needs symbols of God’s love and peace for all people and things.

In Peace,  
Intern Sara P

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Jan. 1 - Richard Duesbury
- Jan. 2 - Sally Colligan
- Jan. 3 - Cam Do-Nguyen
- Jan. 4 - Tyler Biggs
- Jan. 5 - Rhonda Biggs
- Jan. 5 - Carolyn Christian
- Jan. 5 - Margaret Steen
- Jan. 5 - Henry Wang
- Jan. 7 - Jon Jensen
- Jan. 8 - Daniel Lee
- Jan. 9 - Ben Smith
- Jan. 11 - Donna Hovland
- Jan. 11 - Amy Tsang
- Jan. 13 - Will Della Maggiore
- Jan. 13 - Kim Bain
- Jan. 13 - Emma Mitchell
- Jan. 15 - Sara Pearson
- Jan. 17 - Marlene Custer
- Jan. 17 - Loloma Rant
- Jan. 17 - Clifford Yee
- Jan. 18 - Joe Howard
- Jan. 19 - Oliver Smith
- Jan. 20 - Kelsey Hayes
- Jan. 21 - Janet Riddell
- Jan. 21 - Rachel Bodsky
- Jan. 24 - James Morales
- Jan. 26 - Kelsey Carpenter
- Jan. 27 - Jeanette Kersten

# Sunday School News

Happy New Year! Bravo to all the children who took part in another beautiful telling of the real meaning of Christmas. Special thanks to Lorrie Peterson, this year's Pageant Director; Deborah Sutherland, our Musical Director; Angela Kendall, Sumitha Pauli, Iris Morales, Lisa Pierce, Amy Tsang, Andrea Tsang and Elena Wang for providing all the support assistance; and to all you parents for helping your child(ren) learn the songs and bringing them to all the rehearsals! Thank you!

Refreshed from two weeks of Christmas break, we are ready to dive right back into our Firelight curriculum and continuing with our unit on The Miracles of Jesus: Stormy Seas, on January 3, 2010. Towards the end of January, we will begin a new unit, The Miracles of Jesus: Sharing Lunch.

Thank you for your continued contributions to Sunday School. The Sunnyvale Community Services certainly appreciate the ongoing donations of canned foods and our sponsored child, Logi Samsu, greatly appreciates our ongoing support of his education and financial assistance of daily life in Indonesia. We are extremely blessed here at St. Luke and sharing our love with our community and global

neighbors is just one way we can put a smile on God's face.

Have a Blessed New Year,  
Denise Tsang  
Sunday School Superintendent

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## *St. Luke Lutheran Church*

1025 The Dalles Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087  
(408) 736-9217  
[www.stlukechurch.org](http://www.stlukechurch.org)

### ***Worship Times***

**9:00 AM Traditional Service**  
Weekly Communion

**10:45 AM Contemporary Service**  
Communion every 3rd Sunday

*To:*

