

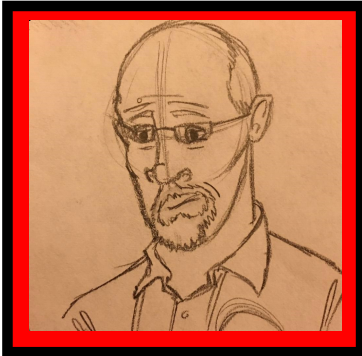
St. Luke Lutheran Church

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Issue 09/26

September 2026

Ecclesiastes 1: 4-11



Dan Tisdell, Pastor

Pastor's Musings

The Circle of Life

One of the primary songs in the movie "The Lion King" is called "The Circle of Life". The lyrics to the first verse are as follows:

From that day we arrived on the planet
And blinking, stepped into the sun
There's more to see than can ever be seen
More to do than can ever be done
There's far too much to take in here
More to find than can ever be found
But the sun rolling high through the sapphire sky
Keeps great and small on the endless round

It's the circle of life
And it moves us all
Through despair and hope
Through faith and love
'Til we find our place
On the path unwinding
In the circle, the circle of life

The lyrics are really lovely and uplifting and I think fit in well with a faith-based narrative. It reminds me a lot of the book of Ecclesiastes, with verses like the following:

⁴A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. ⁵The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises. ⁶The wind blows to the south, and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. ⁷All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they continue to flow. ⁸All things are wearisome; more than one can express; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, or the ear filled with hearing.

⁹What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun. ¹⁰Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has already been, in the ages before us. ¹¹The people of long ago are not remembered, nor will there be any remembrance of people yet to come by those who come after them.

Some see this passage as hopeless. I see it as being, simply, real. We are only on this earth for a short time. And in 100 years, a blink of the eye in terms of the life of the earth or the timeline of all humanity, we will likely rarely be remembered, if at all. So, the message of Ecclesiastes is basically to enjoy life now, to live well now, to love extravagantly now, because there might not be a tomorrow. It calls us to live in the now.

The circle of Life song AND many passages from scripture remind us that time is always moving forward. Schools are starting back up for the fall now, we are shifting to our fall schedule at church, football has returned, and everything feels a bit different as we start to get out of the summer. We need to remind ourselves that this is a blessing and not something to be

afraid of. It's something to embrace fully. We know time is fleeting and we have little time to make an impact here on earth. What will your impact be in the circle of life? How have you shown the love and grace of God through your words and actions. When you are near the end of your life, will you have regrets?

I don't have children and I often wish that it would have happened for me, because one of the few ways we can make a direct impact on the future of the world is to raise our children well. But even those without children can make a vital impact on people's lives. I think our church community gives us the best chance to really make a difference in the world as we flow through the circle of life. It reminds me of a Walt Whitman quote that is used in the movie "Dead Poets Society"

*Oh Me! Oh Life! By Walt Whitman
O Me! O life! of the questions of these recurring,
Of the endless trains of the faithless,
of cities fill'd with the foolish,
Of myself forever reproaching myself,
(for who more foolish than I, and who more faithless?)
Of eyes that vainly crave the light, of the objects mean, of the struggle ever renew'd,
Of the poor results of all, of the plodding and sordid crowds I see around me,
Of the empty and useless years of the rest, with the rest me intertwined,
The question, O me! so sad, recurring—What good amid these, O me, O life?*

Continued on Page 2

**Grant
Hannon**
Youth Director
**Youth
News**



**Juliana
"Juli"
Buccellato**
ACP Director



Hi Everyone!

This year feels like it has gone by so fast it's crazy. I cannot believe it is already September and we have rally day here in a few Sundays. Rally Day this year will have games, food, and a lot going on as we have partnered with ACP for another exciting kickoff to the new season of programming for our youth, kids, and young adults. This falls confirmation class will be fun and full of learning about the history and context of some of our favorite Old Testament stories. Youth group will have some meaningful topics to help our youth make real change in the world.

Looking back on this last month of summer we had two great trips that really capped off a great few months. The youth went to splash-and-dash at Lake McSwain out past Merced. The inflatable amusement park on the lake was a blast and so much fun! With 30 ft drops, slides, and obstacle courses on the lake it kept us busy and entertained for hours, And no one froze in the cold water! We also ended the month at great America with roller coasters and one of our favorite trips that has become a real tradition amongst the youth. A great end to a great summer!



—
Grant Hannon
Youth Director
719-761-1799

St. Luke Lutheran Church
1025 The Dalles Ave. Sunnyvale, CA
(408) 736-9216

Hello,

The school year at ACP is off to a wonderful start! Thank you to everyone who volunteered to paint and complete projects around campus. Our newly built shed has been painted, the borders around the tan bark and sandbox have been stained, new shelves have been installed in the two-year-old classroom, and new paper towel dispensers are in place. There is always a list of small projects that help keep our school running smoothly, so if you enjoy hands-on work and would like to help with future tasks, please let me know.

We kicked off the year with Teacher Work Week. During that time, teachers completed required licensing training, deep-cleaned and organized their classrooms, and prepared for the new school year. They also learned more about Play-Based Learning, Process Art, and ways to incorporate Loose Parts into classroom activities. The recycled materials you have generously saved for us are being put to great use in these projects. We currently have enough supplies and will let you know when we need more.

Our school continues to grow! We are beginning the year with 40 enrolled children, supported by six full-time teachers and three part-time teachers. Enrollment will remain open until we reach capacity, and we are still

seeking one additional full-time teacher. Please continue to keep our students and teachers in your prayers.

Looking ahead, ACP hopes to host another Halloween Carnival on Sunday, October 25. An event of this size requires many volunteers, especially to help run carnival games. Many of these activities can be managed while seated, so there are opportunities for everyone to contribute. Please let me know if you are willing to help.

Juli Buccellato



Alex & Nadine Carlton: 34 yrs. -

September 19, 1992

Zak & Liz West: 14 yrs.

September 1, 2012

Pastor's Musings

The Circle of Life

Continued From Page 1

Answer.

That you are here—that life exists and identity,

That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse.

As we enter another season, another turning or the circle of life, I ask you, what will your verse be?

SEPTEMBER GREETERS **- FRONT & SIDE DOOR**

Sep. 06 - Doug & Doriann Shreve

Sep. 13 - Don & Loretta Merry

Sep. 20 - Doug & Doriann Shreve

Sep. 27 - Don & Loretta Merry



Sep. 03 - Matthew Pang
Sep. 07 - Susan Hutchins
Sep. 10 - Tyson Manullang
Sep. 13 - Letty Lucero
Sep. 15 - Wendy Callahan
Sep. 15 - Kaia Berkland
Sep. 16 - Tim Su
Sep. 17 - Elena Celli
Sep. 18 - Alex Carlton
Sep. 18 - Clem Bauerly
Sep. 20 - Dennis Feick
Sep. 21 - Fernanda Moreno
Sep. 22 - B Bauerly
Sep. 24 - Brian Rubio
Sep. 26 - Chris Frye
Sep. 28 - Bee Robles



**Emily
Bradshaw**
Council
President

Hi St. Luke,

I, Emily Bradshaw, am the new president for the next year, you might know as one of the Sunday School teachers, one of the college kids that helps out with Youth Group, or from just seeing me around. Last month I was a little busy with VBS, work, and school prep, so I was unable to write an article for the newsletter. Hope you can understand.

In case you don't know me or would like to know me better, allow me this brief introduction.

As I mentioned at the start of this article, I am one of the two Sunday School teachers at church where I come up with crafts for the kids and teach them about the bible

along with my co-teacher. I also help out with Youth Group and other Youth activities, such as VBS and Sports Camp, where I act as a leader and mentor to the youth with the help of Grant.

Outside of church I work an after-school care job, and I am now going to San Jose State University to study film, specifically screenwriting. In my free time I enjoy playing Dungeons and Dragons, watching movies with my friends, and reading comics.

A couple of things being worked on right now are trying to have adult forums more regularly and hiring an HR consultant to help us keep up with current and new laws.

If you see me around feel free to come talk to me.

- Emily Bradshaw



**Beth
Stauter**
Director of
Music/
Organist

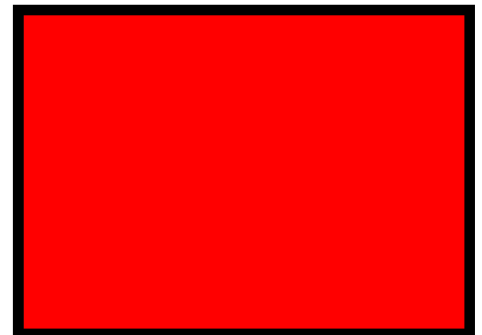
The View from the Organ Bench

What a pleasure it is to look down from the choir loft each Sunday and see the congregation united in worship. As I think back on music over the 25 years or so that my family has worshipped at St. Luke, there are many people who have been a part of that journey. From preworship music through the end of the postlude, music helps to drive the service, and I had an excellent teacher in our former organist, Claudia Zichtermann, about the role of the organist in keeping the service moving. I look forward to hearing the congregation sing to

familiar hymns and to feel their way into new songs. I love hearing the contribution of the bells to worship and the joy that Wil Mandac brings to rehearsals and performances. Our dedicated choir and its director, Chris Frye, enhance the service and provide community to many. Chris has spent years developing the choir's repertoire and music library, and it is a joy to work with him as the choir accompanist. I appreciate Andy Wadsworth's dedication and contribution to the worship service each week as he provides our communion music. Pastor Dan has encouraged us as a congregation to include more sung liturgy, and this summer's work of learning two new worship settings has been both a challenge and a delight. From the congregation's first hesitant notes at the beginning of summer to our joyful participation in Setting 7 and Setting 8, we can be proud of the offering of praise to the Lord that we can bring each Sunday. I look forward to being the director of music, in addition to my position as organist, and look forward to collaborating with the congregation as we make music together.

-Beth Stauter

Second Summer Picnic - August 16, 2026



The Church Calendar - September 2026

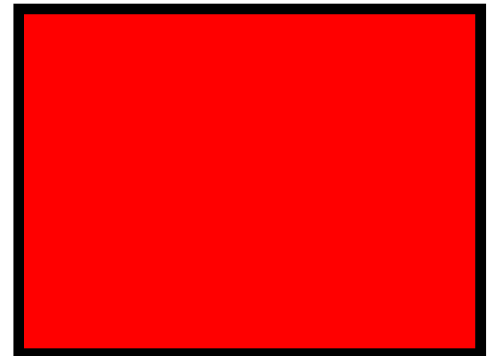
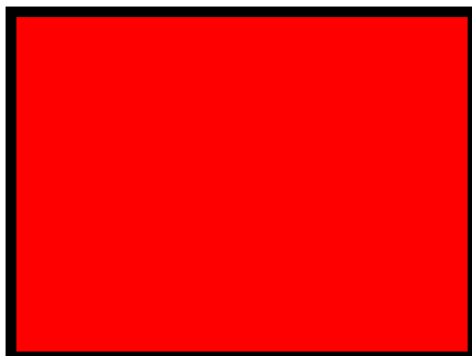
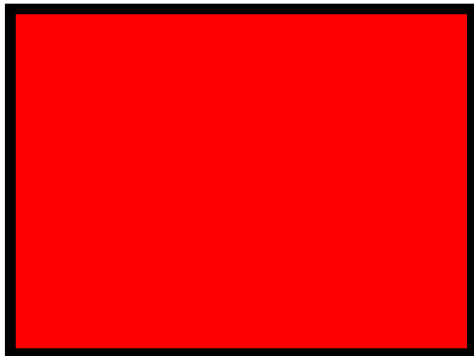
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM 2nd Harvest Food Distribution (Kurtz Hall) 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ACP Chapel (Preschool) 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office) 6:00 PM Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	2 8:00 AM Hood Suppression System Inspection (Kurtz Hall) 10:00 AM Coffee Chat (Zoom) 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM CCIC (Kurtz Hall)	3 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Andy's Square Group (Kurtz Hall)	4 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM CCIC (Various Locations)	5
6 15th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream 9:30 AM - 1:20 PM CCIC (Various Locations) 10:45 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall) 2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall) 6:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Outpost)	7 9:30 AM ACP Music Class (Kurtz Hall) 7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 (K.H.)& Scout Troop #442 (Sanctuary)	8 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ACP Chapel (Preschool) 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office) 12:00 PM Witness Meeting (Kurtz Hall) 6:45 PM ACP Board Meeting (Kurtz Hall)	9 9:00 AM Standpipe Inspection (Sanctuary) 10:00 AM Coffee Chat (Zoom) 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM CCIC (Kurtz Hall)	10	11 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM CCIC (Various Locations)	12 12:00 PM Rally Day Prep (Sanctuary) 1:30 PM Nelson & Alice's Wedding Photo Shoot (Sanctuary)
13 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream 9:30 AM - 1:20 PM CCIC (Various Locations) 10:45 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall) 11:00 AM RALLY DAY 6:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Outpost)	14 9:30 AM ACP Music Class (Kurtz Hall) 7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 (K.H.)& Scout Troop #442 (Sanctuary)	15 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM 2nd Harvest Food Distribution (Kurtz Hall) 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ACP Chapel (Preschool) 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office) 7:00 PM Council Meeting (Kurtz Hall)	16 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom) 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM CCIC (Kurtz Hall)	17	18 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM CCIC (Various Locations)	19 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM St. Luke Work Day
20 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream 9:30 AM - 1:20 PM CCIC (Various Locations) 10:45 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall) 11:00 AM Confirmation Class (Outpost) 11:00 AM Sunday School (MEB) 2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall) 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Food Truck Night 6:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Outpost)	21 9:30 AM ACP Music Class (Kurtz Hall) 7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 (K.H.)& Scout Troop #442 (Sanctuary)	22 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ACP Chapel (Preschool) 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)	23 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom) 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM CCIC (Kurtz Hall)	24	25 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM CCIC (Various Locations)	26 10:00 AM Andy's Squaredance Workshop (Kurtz Hall) 5:00 PM Court of Honor - Troop #493 (Kurtz Hall)
27 14th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream 9:30 AM - 1:20 PM CCIC (Various Locations) 10:45 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall) 11:00 AM Confirmation Class (Youth Outpost) 11:00 AM Sunday School (MEB) 2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall) 6:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Outpost)	28 9:30 AM ACP Music Class (Kurtz Hall) 7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 (K.H.)& Scout Troop #442 (Sanctuary)	29 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ACP Chapel (Preschool) 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)	30 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom) 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM CCIC (Kurtz Hall)			

September 2026 Calendar of Worship Volunteers

If you are unable to serve any of the positions below, please get a substitute and notify Letty by 12 PM on the Wednesday prior to your date of service at (408) 736-9216 of the change. Thank you!

<u>Readings</u>	<u>Acolytes & Crucifier</u>	<u>Assisting Min/Cantor</u>	<u>Eucharist</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>
<u>September 6, 2026 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost</u>					
Children's Message: Beth Stauter					
Ezek. 33:7-11	TBD	Walt Wilser	Grant Hannon	Adeline Skov	Altar Guild Team
Psalms 119:33-40	TBD	Setting VIII	Danae Moreno		
Rom. 13:8-14					
Matt. 18:15-20					
<u>September 13, 2026 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost</u>					
Children's Message: Kirk Autsen					
Gen. 50:15-21	TBD	Sue Hutchins	Tim Tsang	Sally Hedman	Altar Guild Team
Psalms 103:[1-7]8-13	TBD	Setting VII	Denise Tsang		
Rom. 14:1-12					
Matt. 18:21-35					
<u>September 20, 2026 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost</u>					
Children's Message: Grant Hannon					
Jonah 3:10--4:11	TBD	Chris Frye	Danae Moreno	Mark Kent	Altar Guild Team
Psalms 145:1-8	TBD	Setting III	Penny Bauerly		
Phil. 1:21-30					
Matt. 20:1-16					
<u>September 27, 2026 - 18th Sunday after Pentecost</u>					
Children's Message: Pastor Dan Tisdell					
Ezek. 18:1-4,25-32	TBD	Wil Mandac	Grant Hannon	Tim Tsang	Altar Guild Team
Psalms 25:1-9	TBD	Setting IV	Hal Shieh		
Phil. 2:1-13					
Matt. 21:23-32					
<u>October 4, 2026 - 19th Sunday after Pentecost</u>					
Children's Message: Pastor Dan Tisdell					
Isa. 5:1-7	TBD	Tim Ambrose	Kirk Autsen	Adeline Skov	Altar Guild Team
Psalms 80:7-15	TBD	Setting IV	Sue Hutchins		
Phil. 3:4b-14					
Matt. 21:33-46					

Title



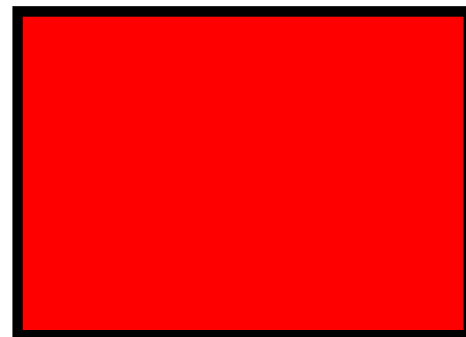
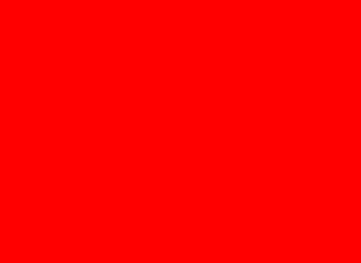
St Luke families have been very generous, donating many useful and essential items to the Personal Care Cafe sponsored by Hope Lutheran, Santa Clara and supported by other Lutheran congregations. The need continues...

For sleeping and cleanliness:
Backpacks, sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, sheets, towels, washcloths, soap, toothpaste and tooth brushes, deodorant, shampoo, disposable razors and shaving cream, band-aids, lotion, laundry pods.

Clothing: For men, women and children - clothing, hats scarves, gloves, underwear. The greatest need is for men's clothing.

Water Bottles: Reusable and 8 oz disposable

A collection of winter clothing and accessories. At the top, a red jacket and a green sweater with a sun design are hanging on hangers. Below them, there's a pile of folded clothes, including a purple and yellow item. In the center, a green beanie with a pom-pom sits next to a pair of purple gloves. To the left, a pair of yellow rubber boots is shown. In the foreground, a yellow blanket is rolled up. To the right, there are several boxes and containers, possibly for storage or cleaning supplies.



1025 The Dalles Avenue
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(408) 736-9216
www.stlukechurch.org

Youth Group - 6:00 PM

To:

