

# Parish Rebuilder

St. Luke's Lutheran Church - 5150 Wilson Street, La Mesa, CA 91942

[www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org](http://www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org)

June 2024  
Monthly Newsletter  
Volume 24 Issue 6

## The Gift of the Catechism

**We invite you to attend**

**St. Luke's Lutheran Church**

Please contact Lupita in the office to discuss a visit or to arrange an appointment with Pastor Mark:

619-463-6633 or [office-sllc@att.net](mailto:office-sllc@att.net)

Luther states in his German Catechism, now known as the Large Catechism, "I must remain a child and pupil of the catechism, and remain that but gladly" (Großer Katechismus, Bekenntnisschriften der ev-luth. Kirche, p. 548).

So, when was the last time that you read part or parts of either Luther's Small or Large Catechism? Do you remember? If you remember, what part or parts did you read, and why? If you have not read part or parts of either catechism lately, why not?

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It is not uncommon that many a Lutheran, having had the Small Catechism forcibly applied to their lives during our perhaps more or most rebellious years, may be quite happy never to open the booklet again. Some may still have nightmares of being pursued through darkened church corridors by a deranged catechism teacher hauntingly demanding, "What does this mean?" Others, though not having been traumatized by catechetical instruction, may nonetheless have feared for their lives having been overwhelmed by sheer unrelenting boredom. (Obviously, boring catechism teachers have left an indelible impression on the character of this pastor's preaching.)

→ Happy Father's Day ←

As mentioned in the January 2022 edition of The Parish Rebuilder, the word catechism originates from Greek word κατηχέω (catechéo). The Greek prefix "kata" means "down" or "opposite/against." The word "echo" refers to "sound" or "noise." So,

most simply, a catechism is a bounced or repeated sound or noise. In times when most people could not read or write, learning orally by question and answer was necessary. Thus, in the course of time *κατηχέω* (*catechéo*) became a general term for instruction, and it assumed a specific meaning in the Christian church. The term catechumen refers to someone preparing for full membership in the church.

In that light, we might be thinking to ourselves, “Well, that explains it. Since I am a longtime member, I don’t need none of that there entry level church stuff, right? I mean, I put good money in the plate, most Sundays anyway, right?” Admittedly, it would be hard to disagree with such sound theological reasoning, but why then did Luther adamantly state that he “must remain a child and pupil of the catechism, and remain that but gladly”? Does such a sentiment only apply to Luther?

In case you have forgotten, the Luther’s catechisms have five chief parts: the Ten Commandments, the Apostles’ Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, Baptism, and the Lord’s Supper. If that does not sound familiar, it is past time to reread the catechism. In Luther’s thinking, the Ten Commandments describe God’s gracious will for our lives and our powerlessness over sin. The Apostles’ Creed reminds us to whom we can turn for our salvation from sin. The Lord’s Prayer teaches us to ask for God’s gracious word and will to lead and protect us. Finally, the parts on Baptism and the Lord’s Supper describe for us what Christ has done and continues to do for each of us when we gather for worship.

Perhaps more importantly than what we receive from the catechisms personally is what the catechisms teach us communally as witnesses to Christ. In other words, the catechism prepare us in our mission as the church. By baptism, we all have been incorporated into the body of Christ.

So, what would you tell someone if he or she asked what such incorporation means? (No, being incorporated into Christ does not automatically turn you into a 501(c)3 IRS tax exempt entity.)

In most circumstances when asked who we are, we would offer a name and, if necessary, would perhaps produce a driving licence or social security number. In other situations, we might brandish our heritage, education, or tax bracket to portray ourselves to others. Each one of us has a variety of ways to describe who we are depending upon the circumstances. So, what does it mean to be part of the body of Christ? Are you right now “thanking God” that no one tends to ask us that question? Nonetheless, what if they started to ask? What would you say?

Believe it or not, that is the purpose of the catechisms. The catechisms were not (merely) designed to torture teenagers or to educate entry level church catechumens. In very succinct form, the catechisms offer us the necessary tools to bear witness to the lengths to which God has gone to create us, to redeem us from our sinful selves, and then to call us through the Holy Spirit into his service as part of Christ’s body.

Read again the third article to the Creed and Luther’s explanation thereof:

“I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.”

“What does this mean?”

“Answer: I believe that by my own reason or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ, my

Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth and preserves it in union with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church he daily and abundantly forgives all my sins, and the sins of all believers, and on the last day he will raise me and all the dead and will grant eternal life to me and to all who believe in Christ. This is most certainly true.”

In other words, God has given humanity the unfathomable gift of the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ who saves us by grace alone through faith alone. You are both part of and an example of that good news. Please study your catechism, and then look for opportunities to share its gifts to those who are yet to be called, gathered, enlightened, and sanctified, like you, in Christ’s church.

Jesus



### Thanks to Richard Deal

In June, the choir will begin a couple months recess. The church very much thanks Richard Deal for his musical expertise and his careful and prayerful direction of the choir over the past year. Particularly memorable are all his efforts with the cantata during Holy Week and Easter. Even though the choir will be less active in the summer month, Richard will still continue to lead the church in worship of God. If you might be willing to provide special music during the choir recess, please contact Richard.



## Book Recommendations

*St. Luke's has the good fortune to have a couple of authors associated with it. Here is a little information about two recently published books.*

### *Axel – The Mysterious Tapestry by Adelpha L. DeGuzman*



*Adel DeGuzman has assist St. Luke's in recent months helping the church to streamline its bookkeeping practices, undertaking some auditing, and helping to move the church's payroll and bookkeeping to a new platform. Adel trained in forensic accounting, and she has held many important finance positions, including working for the Catholic Diocese of Los Angeles. We thank Sheila Stubbs for recommending Adel to us.*

*To Adel's book (featured in the LA Times Festival of Books), this "imaginative adventure novel transports both youth and adult fans of fantasy into a fascinating world intertwined with mystery and intrigue and propelled by exciting, unexpected plot twists and turns.*

*On this world, it was believed that the retrieval of twelve special gems would create the weapon needed to defeat the enemy and save the kingdom. These gems could only be retrieved by the prophesized Chosen One who would be called upon to show courage and face grueling trials. However, if he refused the call and fled, the kingdom could be destroyed."*

*Adel's book is available on Amazon.*

### *The Consigliere: A Mafia Lawyer's Quest to Choose Love Over Revenge by Donna Masotto*

*Donna was recently received into membership at St. Luke's. As mentioned that Sunday, Donna loves being with family and having dinner with friends; and best of all, she loves playing pickleball and taking long bike rides on the bay. Donna is mother of three and grandmother to six. She is a secretary at a law firm in La Jolla, and she published her first novel in 2019. Below is information about her book.*



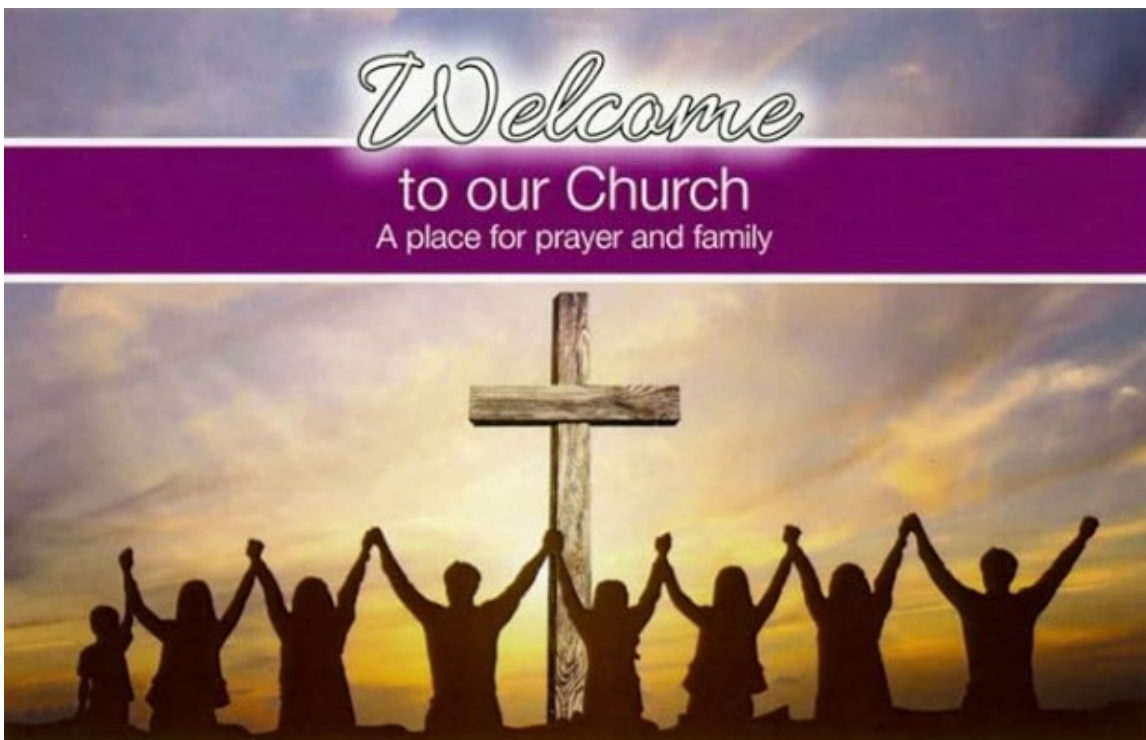
*"In a most personal and riveting work, Novelist, Donna Masotto, presents The Consigliere. A middle-aged mafia lawyer, Declan Quinn, believes his life is meaningless after the tragic drowning of his eight-year old daughter. At a crossroads between misery and peace, he shuns his duties as the Consigliere and embarks on a search to find the sister he abandoned when he joined the mob thirty years ago. But first, Declan must confront his Don and face the past that haunts him. Inspiring and insightful, packed with themes of renewal and redemption, The Consigliere is a story of a man in search for second chances and a life of happiness and meaning."*

*Donna's book is also available on Amazon.*

## VBS with VBQ in July

*As a reminder, this year's Vacation Bible School (VBS) will again be a weekend event scheduled for 20-21 July! Saturday, 20 July, will be a full day of fun learning for children aged Kindergarten through sixth grade. Educational opportunities will be available for adults too. Sunday will continue the activities with worship, final VBS lessons, and the a congregational VBS BBQ, aka VBQ.*

*The Parish Education committee is closer to selecting the VBS curriculum. VBS at St. Luke's is a whole parish event. If you wish to volunteer to help with decorating, teaching, crafts, games, food preparation, cooking, and cleaning up, please contact Tania Salas.*



## Welcome New Members

*On Sunday, 28 April, St. Luke's welcomed Donna Masotto and Dana Towers into membership. Dana and Donna love being with family and having dinner with friends; and best of all, they love playing pickleball and taking long bike rides on the bay. Dana is a retired operating engineer, working on a concrete boom pump assembling many high-rise buildings and bridges in San Diego. Donna is mother of three and grandmother to six. She is a secretary at a law firm in La Jolla. The Parish Rebuilder can reveal that "they are delighted to be a part of the St. Luke's Lutheran family!"*







# JUNE WORSHIP TEXTS



Laurie Floren	6/9
Emily Rose Menacher	6/11
Jillian Barnard	6/20

## Second Sunday after Pentecost

— June 2, 2024

First Lesson — Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Psalm 81:1-10

Second Lesson — 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Gospel — Mark 2:23-28 (3:1-6)

## Third Sunday after Pentecost

— June 9, 2024

First Lesson — Genesis 3:8-15

Psalm 130

Second Lesson — 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Gospel — Mark 3:20-35

## Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

— June 16, 2024

First Lesson — Ezekiel 17:22-24

Psalm 1

Second Lesson — 2 Corinthians 5:1-10

Gospel — Mark 4:26-34



Boekamp, Herbert & Patti	6/27
Crossley, Shirley & Ted	6/02

## Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

— June 23, 2024

First Lesson — Job 38:1-11

Psalm 124

Second Lesson — 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Gospel — Mark 4:35-41



## Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

— June 30, 2024

First Lesson — Lamentations 3:22-33

Psalm 30

Second Lesson — 2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 13-15

Gospel — Mark 5:21-43

June 2nd — Jennifer Killion

June 9th — Open

June 16th — Open

June 23rd — Open

June 30th — Open

## *JUNE PRAYER CALENDAR*

### *“Praise The Lord o My Soul”*

1	Psalm 103:1-22	<p><i>My soul, now praise your maker!</i></p> <p><i>Let all within me bless his name</i></p> <p><i>Who makes you full partaker</i></p> <p><i>Of mercies more than you dare claim</i></p> <p><i>Forget him not whose meekness</i></p> <p><i>Still bears with all your sin,</i></p> <p><i>Who heals your every weakness,</i></p> <p><i>Renews your life within;</i></p> <p><i>Whose grace and care are endless</i></p> <p><i>And saved you through the past;</i></p> <p><i>Who leaves no sufferer friendless,</i></p> <p><i>But rights the wronged at last.</i></p> <p><i>His grace remains forever,</i></p> <p><i>And children’s children yet shall prove</i></p> <p><i>That God forsakes them never</i></p> <p><i>Who in true fear shall seek his love.</i></p> <p><i>In heaven is fixed his dwelling</i></p> <p><i>His rule is over all;</i></p> <p><i>You host with might excelling,</i></p> <p><i>With praise before him fall.</i></p> <p><i>Praise him forever reigning,</i></p> <p><i>All here who hear his Word-</i></p> <p><i>Our life and all sustaining,</i></p> <p><i>My soul, oh, praise the Lord!</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Hymn # 820</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Verse 1 &amp; 4</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Lutheran Service Book</i></p>
2	Psalm 8:1-9	
3	Psalm 33:1-22	
4	Psalm 47:1-9	
5	Psalm 111:1-10	
6	Psalm 34:1-10	
7	Psalm 66:1-9	
8	Psalm 113:1-9	
9	Psalm 89:1-18	
10	Psalm 36:5-12	
11	Psalm 96:1-13	
12	Psalm 86:9-13	
13	Psalm 105:1 -6	
14	Psalm 95:1-7	
15	Psalm 67:1-7	
16	Psalm 59:16-17	
17	Psalm 18:1-6	
18	Psalm 98:1-9	
19	Psalm 40:16-17	
20	Psalm 56:8-13	
21	Psalm 100:1-5	
22	Psalm 43:1-5	
23	Psalm 138:1-8	
24	Psalm 71:13-1	
25	Psalm 121:1-8	
26	Psalm 30:1-12	
27	Psalm 65:1-13	
28	Psalm 146:1-10	
29	Psalm 145:1-21	
30	Revelation 5:9-14	



## ***JUNE'S WORSHIP TEAMS***

	Reader(s)	<i>Laurie Floren</i>
	Altar Guild	<i>Colleen Olsen</i>
2nd	Communion Assistant —bread	<i>Bob Urich</i>
	Communion Assistants—wine	<i>Terri East &amp; Rick Godfrey</i>
	Greeter	<i>Jillian Barnard</i>
	Prayers of the People	<i>Pastor Mark Menacher</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Gail Knippelmeyer</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Cheryl &amp; Bob Gray</i>
9th	Communion Assistant —bread	<i>Judi Cole</i>
	Communion Assistants—wine	<i>Laurie Floren &amp; Ted Olsen</i>
	Greeter	<i>JoAnn Hendrickson</i>
	Prayers of the People	<i>MaryAnn Boullain</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Shirley Carrington</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Randy Engel &amp; Cheri Murrell</i>
16th	Communion Assistant —bread	<i>Laurie Floren</i>
	Communion Assistants—wine	<i>Cheri &amp; Ken Murrell</i>
	Greeter	<i>Jillian Barnard</i>
	Prayers of the People	<i>Randy Engel</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Gail Knippelmeyer</i>
	Usher Team	<i>David &amp; Kim Emerson</i>
23rd	Communion Assistant —bread	<i>Gleason Snashall</i>
	Communion Assistants—wine	<i>Jillian Barnard &amp; Ted Olsen</i>
	Greeter	<i>JoAnn Hendrickson</i>
	Prayers of the People	<i>Laurie Floren</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Shirley Carrington</i>
	Usher Team	<i>Gary &amp; Carol Priors</i>
30th	Communion Assistant —bread	<i>Rick Godfrey</i>
	Communion Assistants—wine	<i>Laurie Floren &amp; Jillian Barnard</i>
	Greeter	<i>Jillian Barnard</i>
	Prayers of the People	<i>Randy Engel</i>
	Projectionist	<i>Gail Knippelmeyer</i>
	Usher Team	<i>David &amp; Kim Emerson</i>

# June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 9:00 am AA
<b>2</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>3</b> 9:00 am Counters 6:00 pm Al-Anon 6:30 pm AA Speaker	<b>4</b> 8:00am Tai Chi 6:30– 8 pm Special Olympics	<b>5</b> 10:00 WSL Bible Study 11:00 Staff 5:30 Choir 7:00 Service	<b>6</b> 8:00am Tai Chi 6:00 pm Al-Anon	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:00 am AA 10:00 am AED Training
<b>9</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>10</b> 1:30 pm Counters 6:00 pm Al-Anon 6:30 pm AA Speaker	<b>11</b> 8:00am Tai Chi 9:30am Project Day 5:30pm Council mtg 6:30– 8 pm Special	<b>12</b> 11:00 Staff 5:30 Choir 7:00 Service	<b>13</b> 8:00am Tai Chi 6:00 pm Al-Anon	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:00 am AA
<b>16</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>17</b> 9:00 am Counters 6:00 pm Al-Anon 6:30 pm AA Speaker	<b>18</b> 8:00am Tai Ch	<b>19</b> 10:00 WSL Bible Study 11:00 Staff 5:30 Choir 7:00 Service	<b>20</b> 8:00am Tai Chi 6:00 pm Al-Anon 4:00—7:00 Craft Fair	<b>21</b> 9:00—4:00 Craft Fair	<b>22</b> 9:00 am AA 9:00—3:00 Craft Fair
<b>23</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>24</b> 9:00 am Counters 6:00 pm Al-Anon 6:30 pm AA Speaker	<b>25</b> 8:00am Tai Chi 9:30am Project Day	<b>26</b> 11:00 Staff 5:30 Choir 7:00 Service	<b>27</b> 8:00am Tai Chi 6:00 pm Al-Anon 12:00 pm Book Club	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:00 am AA 7:30—5 pm Finding Solutions for Seniors
<b>30</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 6:30 pm Al-Anon						

**ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**5150 WILSON ST.**

**LA MESA, CA 91942**

Phone: 619-463-6633

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NON-PROFIT  
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PERMIT NO 262

Dated Material  
June 2024

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**A WARM WELCOME TO ALL**

- Sunday Worship: 9:00 am in the Sanctuary
- Sunday School: 10:30 am in the Lower Level
- Wednesday Choir Practice: 5:30 pm in the Fireside Room (Lower Level)
- Wednesday Pericope / Communion Service: 7:00 pm in the Fireside Room

**St. Luke's Mission Statement:**

We are called as a community of Christians saved by grace  
—through faith alone in Jesus Christ—  
to spread the Holy Gospel in word, sacrament, and action  
*solī deo gloria.*