

Galilee Lutheran Church  
8860 Soda Bay Road  
Kelseyville, CA 95451  
707-279-4832

[www.galileekelseyville.org](http://www.galileekelseyville.org)

Pastor  
**Martha Neff Stum**



**Worship  
Service  
10:00 AM**

**Sunday School  
9:00 AM**

**Prayer  
Time  
First  
Monday  
Of each  
month  
5:00 PM**

**Pastors Office Hours  
Tues. & Thur.**

# The Galilean

Volume 3 Issue 6

June 2011

## A Pastoral Note

Dear Friends in Christ,  
On May 13-15 Craig Waters and I had the privilege of representing Galilee Lutheran Church at the annual Synod Assembly of the Sierra Pacific Synod. The theme of this year's Assembly was Matthew 25: 37-40.

<sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?' <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?' <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

We were treated to a bible study on Matthew 25 by Dr. Carol Jacobson, Associate Professor at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. The Key note Speaker was Dr. Mark Allen Powell from Trinity Lutheran Seminary. Dr. Powell conducted two sessions. The first was an exegesis on Matthew 25. The second was a talk on Stewardship.

The business of the Synod was conducted in an atmosphere of

spirited discussion and respectful disagreement. What should come as no surprise, the longest discussion concerned the Synod budget for the next year. The concern of the assembly had to do with taking money from reserve funds to cover expenses. This is a concern that is familiar to all of us. How do we continue to do the ministries we are committed to with fewer resources? There are no easy answers that do not have consequences. The easy answer is for congregations to increase their contributions to the Synod but congregations are also struggling with trying to meet the needs of their communities with fewer resources. I feel blessed to represent a congregation that understands the importance of supporting the work of this Synod and the greater church.

Another matter of lengthy discussion concerned the proposed Synod guidelines for Pastor Compensation. These guidelines are meant to be a starting point for discussion. Some congregations are able to exceed the guidelines while others can not financially meet the guidelines. Many congregations do not have a realistic idea of what compensation for a pastor should be. The guidelines

would give pastors, councils and congregations a starting point for open and honest conversations.

For me the high points of the Assembly were the worship opportunities. The opening worship was a bilingual service in English and Spanish. Bishop Mendaro Gomez from El Salvador presided during the service with Bishop Mark Holmerud preaching. It was nice that the bulletin had both languages printed side by side as the presider did all of his sections in Spanish. As always hearing 300 people raise their voices in song was very moving. At the formal dinner hearing everyone sing the table grace unaccompanied in four part harmony brought tears to my eyes.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent Galilee in the Sierra Pacific Synod.

In God's Service,  
Pastor Martha

## Outdoor Service

Our outdoor service will begin Sunday June 19th at 8:30 AM. We are trying to beat the summer heat.

## President's Message

I have started putting an Organizational Chart together and posting it on the large bulletin board in the hallway. This board will also include the "minutes" from the various Ministry meetings, Council and NCD meetings. You will also find the minutes posted on our website. We will be posting a Property report along with the latest Social Ministry report regarding the families we are feeding. What I/we are trying to do is make all of our Ministries transparent. In doing so you will be able to see what we are doing, how we are doing it and hopefully it will motivate someone to join a ministry. We need bodies since some Ministries only have one person and how can you have a meeting with only one person, you just sit there and talk to yourself.

So, be prepared for changes, both on the Ministry make up and the appearance in the Church. Speaking of changes, kudos to Howard Allmon for the makeover of the Fellowship Hall. Check out our website for photos/video of the hall as it was decorated for a wedding that was held there in April. We are getting the word out that the Fellowship Hall is available for weddings, sweet 16 parties, reunions, other birthday or anniversary parties or any celebration where you need space. And as a member of the congregation you get a discount on the rental fee – check it out.

Peace be with you all, see you in Church,

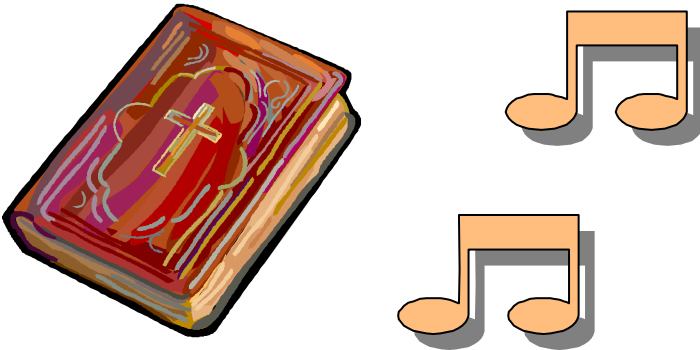
Vale Hanzel



**Pictures of the newly remodeled Fellowship Hall decorated for the Wedding held in April.**

**Great job Howard!!!**

## Worship and Music



My own personal favorite time of the worship service is the offering of prayer petitions from the congregation. It is at that point each Sunday that I realize how seriously our members take their faith. It is touching and re-affirming to hear so many people pray for neighbors, family, friends and even total strangers.

June 19th is our first Sunday outdoors. The Galilee Church Council has voted to change the worship time to 8:30 am for the summer, rather than 9:00, with a promise to re-evaluate the time at some point in the near future. If you have a strong opinion you wish to have heard, please contact the Council President, Vale Hanzel.

Thanks to all who continue to make our worship services what they are. In an effort to not forget anyone, just know that you all are appreciated and remembered. Thanks to the congregation, too, for your faithful attendance and willingness to contribute.

If you are reading, ushering, etc., remember to check the bulletin, newsletter, or master list in the office for your dates. If you can't be here on your scheduled date, please find a replacement or trade with someone else.

The next meeting of the Worship and Music Ministry is Sunday, June 5, after the service.

Blessings!

Bob Hamilton

## WHERE IS LOVE

Where is love, I hear them say  
The values and kindness of yesterday  
When one word or two, or a shake of the hand  
Was all that was needed for a promise to stand

Where is love, the desire to be  
Filled with a passion for your own family  
Where a child can gaze into his parents eyes  
And see love and truth, not hate and lies

Where is love, the joy and pride  
With no dark secrets in which to hide  
Where standards expected are within reach  
And those enforcing them, willing to teach

Where is love, understanding and fair  
Where a wrong has been done, you still show  
that you care

Where a hug and a kiss mean so much  
From the comforting assurance of your touch

Where is love, unconditional and free  
A guiding light for all to see  
Look to the heavens, to your Father above  
This gift He will give you - for He's the author of  
love

Written by Elly (Eleanor) Bell  
Sydney, Australia

## Council Meeting Date Change

Church Council meetings have been changed to the first Friday of the month. Meetings will be held at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone wishing to sit in on the meetings is wel-

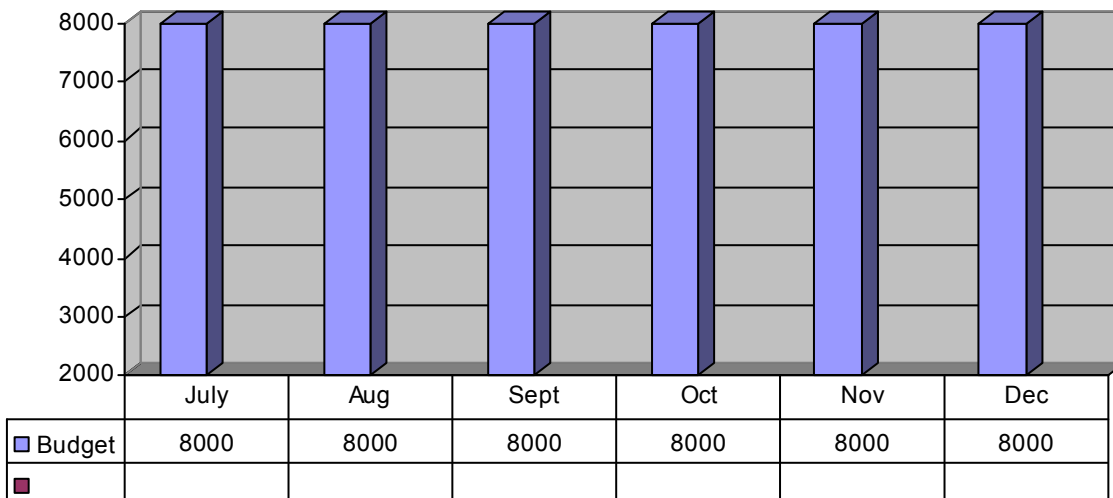
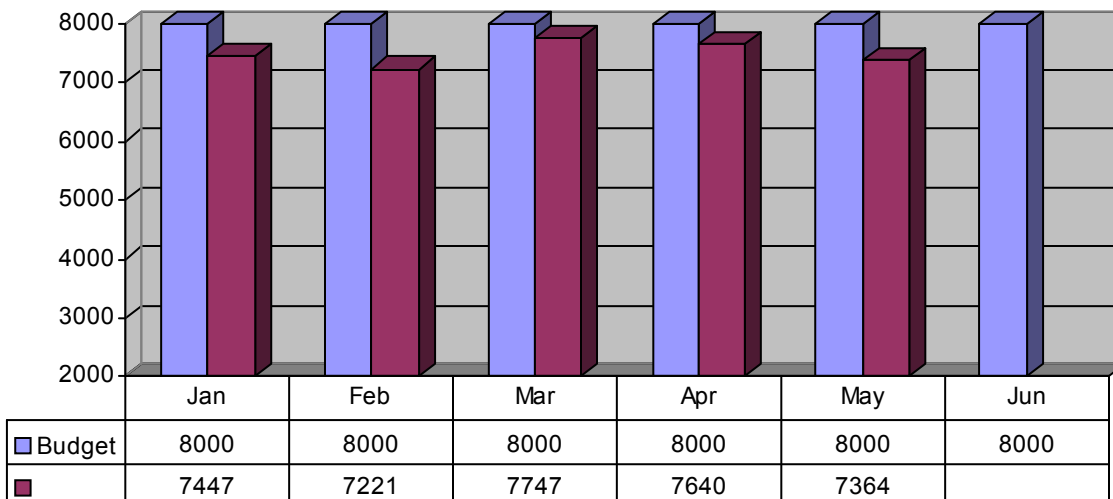
## Exercise Group

Due to lack of interest the Saturday morning Exercise Group has been cancelled. For more information contact Jane Unger.

## Prayer Time

Monday night prayer time with Pam has been changed from each Monday evening to the first Monday of the month at 5:00 PM.

# Giving 2011



\$8000 is needed each month to meet the yearly budget for 2011. We fell short \$636 this month.

## Stewardship

Happy June!

It is stewardship time again. Not only is it important to remember our giving each month, but we need to remind ourselves everyday of the three things Pastor talked about in her sermon today. We need to keep the commandments, reach out to others in and out of the church with love and remember the Holy Spirit is with us all the time.

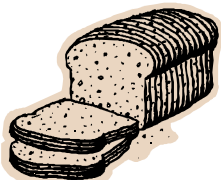
I forget to do this sometimes. I am so thankful for others in the church (Jane Unger) who are kind and loving and gently help me to grow toward a more kind and loving person myself. Part of stewardship is taking care of what we have- not wasting. Come out and help on the work party. Pitch in and help Pastor when she needs it. Reach out and LOVE!

## Bake Sale

Don't forget our monthly bake sale the second Sunday each month. Bring your baked goodies and be sure to take some home with you.

This years total donations from the bake sale \$69.

Thanks to all the ladies who provided the baked goods and all of you who donated to the bake sale.





### June Birthdays

- 7-Kris Andre
- 9-June Salter
- 16-Janet Huff
- 17-Johanna Van Hattem
- 21-June Gloege
- 22-Florence Soper
- 23-Vale Hanzel

### June Anniversaries

- 1-Mary Beth & Carl Ingvaldstad
- 22-Kris Andre & Steve Stocker
- 30- Jenny & Pete Johnson

## Saturday Breakfast & Work Party

Saturday's work party and breakfast will be June 11th due to rain expected on the 4th. Breakfast at 8:00 AM and work at 9:00 AM. If you plan on coming for breakfast please let Vale know. Phone number 928-1060 or e-mail v.hanzel@mchsi.com. If you have a shovel

please bring it. Now that spring has sprung there is a lot of work to be done. Trees

need trimming, pine needles need to be raked, and we need to plant flowers around the perimeter of the church. We need to get the outdoor service area ready.



## Galilee Worker Bees for April

June 5  
 Ushers: Salters  
 Lector: Laisne  
 Counters: Mike Roederer  
 Communion Assistant: Laisne



June 12  
 Ushers: Schmidts  
 Lector: Carl Ingvaldstad  
 Counters: Eva & Janis  
 Communion assistant: Carl Ingvaldstad

June 19  
 Ushers: Allmons  
 Lector: Joan Worster  
 Counters: Sharon S. & Kris  
 Communion assistant: Mike Roederer



June 26  
 Ushers: Johnsons  
 Lector: Juana  
 Counters: Eva & Joan  
 Communion assistant: Juana

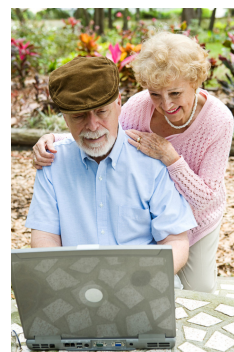
**Thanks to all our worker bees for volunteering their time and talents.**

## Dare to Be 100

Meetings held the first Thursday of the month at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome. There will be refreshments served. No RSVP required.

### It's all about

- D—Diet
- A—Attitude
- R—Retirement-Rest-Renewal
- E—Exercise



## A Little Humor

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend.

The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him.

Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."

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Sunday mornings I would get up early to review my sermon and prepare for worship.

When my son, Jeremy, was 5, he wandered into my study one Sunday and asked what I was doing. When I told him I was practicing my sermon, he asked if he could listen. I proceeded to read through it as Jeremy listened attentively.

When I finished he asked, "Is that it?" "Yes," I replied, "What did you think of it?" Without hesitation he answered, "Long enough."

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While bringing communion to a member at a residential care facility, I was greeted by one of the nursing staff who recognized me as the pastor of the congregation where she'd recently brought some residents to worship. She remarked, "Pastor, you look much different in your clothes!"

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I winced as I reviewed the sermon notes at First Lutheran Church of Crystal, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, on what part of the service the ninth graders found meaningful. One boy said it was the sermon: "The microphone went out and I couldn't hear very well."

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Give me a sense of humor, Lord,  
Give me the grace to see a joke,  
To get some humor out of life  
And pass it on to other folk!



## Church Bulletin Bloopers

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

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Potluck supper: prayer and medication to follow.

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This afternoon there will be a meeting in the south and north ends of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.

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The 1991 Spring Council Retreat will be held May 10 and 11.

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The rosebud on the altar this morning is to announce the birth of David Alan Belzer, the son of Reverend and Mrs. Julius Belzer.

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Wednesday, the Ladies Liturgy Society will meet. Mrs. Jones will sing "Put Me In My Little Bed" accompanied by the pastor

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Please join us as we show our support for Amy and Alan who is preparing for the birth of their first child.

## Who Says the Scriptures Don't Work

A woman had just returned to her home from an evening of church services, when she was startled by an intruder... She caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables and yelled: 'Stop! Acts 2:38!' ("Repent and be baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ, so that your sins may be forgiven.")

The burglar stopped in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done.

As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar: 'Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture at you.'

'Scripture?' replied the burglar.. 'She said she had an Ax and Two 38s!'

## Wrong Funeral

Consumed by my loss, I didn't notice the hardness of the pew where I sat. I was at the funeral of my dearest friend - my mother. She finally had lost her long battle with cancer. The hurt was so intense; I found it hard to breathe at times. Always supportive, Mother clapped loudest at my school plays, held box of tissues while listening to my first heartbreak, comforted me at my father's death, encouraged me in college, and prayed for me my entire life. When mother's illness was diagnosed, my sister had a new baby and my brother had recently married his childhood sweetheart, so it fell on me, the 27-year-old middle child without entanglements, to take care of her. I counted it an honor. 'What now, Lord?' I asked sitting in church. My life stretched out before me as an empty abyss. My brother sat stoically with his face toward the cross while clutching his wife's hand. My sister sat slumped against her husband's shoulder, his arms around her as she cradled their child... All so deeply grieving, no one noticed I sat alone. My place had been with our mother, preparing her meals, helping her walk, taking her to the doctor, seeing to her medication, reading the Bible together. Now she was with the Lord. My work was finished, and I was alone. I heard a door open and slam shut at the back of the church. Quick footsteps hurried along the carpeted floor....

An exasperated young man looked around briefly and then sat next to me. He folded his hands and placed them on his lap. His eyes were brimming with tears. He began to snifle.. 'I'm late,' he explained, though no explanation was necessary.. After several eulogies, he leaned over and commented, 'Why do they keep calling Mary by the name of 'Margaret?'' 'Because, that was her name, Margaret. Never Mary, no one called her 'Mary,'" I whispered. I wondered why this person couldn't have sat on the other side of the church. He interrupted my grieving with his tears and fidgeting. Who was this stranger anyway?

'No, that isn't correct,' he insisted, as several people glanced over at us whispering, 'Her name is Mary, Mary Peters.' 'That isn't who this is.' 'Isn't this the Lutheran church?' 'No, the Lutheran church is across the street.' 'Oh.' 'I believe you're at the wrong funeral, Sir.' The solemnness of the occasion mixed with the realization of the man's mistake bubbled up inside me and came out as laughter. I cupped my hands over my face, hoping it would be interpreted as sobs. The creaking pew gave me away. Sharp looks from other mourners only made the situation seem more hilarious. I peeked at the bewildered, misguided man seated beside me.. He was laughing; too, as he glanced around, deciding it was too late for an uneventful exit. I imagined Mother laughing. At the final 'Amen,' we darted out a door and into the parking lot. 'I do believe we'll be the talk of the town,' he smiled. He said his name was Rick and since he had missed his aunt's funeral, asked me out for a cup of coffee.

That afternoon began a lifelong journey for me with this man who attended the wrong funeral, but was in the right place. A year after our meeting, we were married at a country church where he was the assistant pastor. This time we both arrived at the same church, right on time...

In my time of sorrow, God gave me laughter. In place of loneliness, God gave me love. This past June, we celebrated our twenty-second wedding anniversary. Whenever anyone asks us how we met, Rick tells them, 'Her mother and my Aunt Mary introduced us, and it's truly a match made in heaven.'



One of the most frequently asked questions directed to the worship staff of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its predecessor church bodies has been whether it is appropriate for congregations to place flags in the worship space. The recurring issue is not flags themselves, but the national flag of the United States of America. Flags are not a required element in a Christian worship space.

This question touches many important issues. The American flag is a powerful symbol of this nation. It carries enormous emotional meaning, especially for veterans and for families that have sacrificed loved ones in wars and armed conflicts under that symbol. It can also carry great political significance for those who see it as a symbol of what they consider amiss with our nation. Anyone who doubts the power of the flag as a symbol might consider the public scandal caused in Chicago when a student artist at the internationally known Art Institute of Chicago chose to display the American flag on the floor of an art gallery. Public demonstrations followed the opening of the exhibit. The use and display of the flag remains a sensitive issue.

Some Christian churches are identified with nations or states (the Church of England is Anglican; the Church of Norway, Lutheran; the Church of Sweden, Lutheran; and so forth.). Sometimes these churches display flags as a part of their national identification. In the United States, of course, we have no state church. Yet here, too, many Christian congregations have traditionally included an American flag among the items used to furnish their worship space or displayed elsewhere in their building. In many congregations, it has been customary for the American flag to stand to one side of the altar and the so-called Christian flag to stand on the other. Perhaps when the Lutheran church was primarily an immigrant church, the need to display a clear loyalty to the new nation and not to the mother country was very important—especially when worship was in the mother tongue.

When considering what should appear in our worship space, Christians will always want to ask what symbols we can use to help us focus on what is central in our faith: Jesus Christ, our crucified and risen Lord. Of course, the cross or crucifix has become the preeminent symbol of Christ across many cultures and nations. There are other symbols that focus the community on Christ: the altar where the Holy Communion is celebrated; the baptismal font where Holy Baptism is celebrated; the pulpit or ambo where the Word is proclaimed in reading and preaching. Christian art that represents Christ and the teachings of the testaments in sculpture, stained glass, painting, and other artistic media are also powerful visible symbols. All of these are appropriate to the worship space because they help both individuals and the assembly focus on Christ. The focus of everything that appears in the worship space, not just flags, ought to be considered. Anything that does not direct us to Christ can easily become a distraction from Christ.

The flag of the United States is a national symbol, not a religious one. It is as at home in a ball park as in church. Christians balance their national loyalties with their loyalty to Jesus Christ and Christ's church. The Christian church includes many individual nations and states. It calls Christians to transcend national divisions, and thus to observe their baptismal unity. As Saint Paul says: "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:27-28). The worship space of the congregation is not the best place to display national flags, for such display honors neither the integrity of the flag nor the sovereignty of the Lordship of Christ. In reality, national interests and the commitment of the Christian to Christ can come into conflict.

A responsible alternative to putting the flag in the worship space would be to display it prominently place in other suitable places. Placing flags in the fellowship or community hall, the gymnasium, or other large meeting room used by civic groups such as scouting organizations or for civic functions such as voting, allows the flag to carry out its symbolic function for the nation without competing with the central symbols of the Christian faith. Congregations that have war memorial chapels, plaques, or books of remembrance and the like and which desire to display the American flag might want to consider placing the flag near those places in their building rather than in the worship space.

The so-called Christian flag seems originally to have been an emblem associated with the international Sunday school movement. It is not identified with any particular church body, is superfluous in a space where the cross or crucifix is the central symbol of the faith. Whenever the American flag is displayed publicly, it is very important to follow with great care the rules of protocol that have been established by civic agencies governing that display. It is possible to give great-unintended offense if these rules are not followed. A local veterans group or military post usually can supply these rules on request. These protocols apply wherever the flag is displayed, indoors or outdoors. Proper placement, lighting, care, all need to be considered carefully.

Taken from ELCA's web site