



\*\*\*\*\* BUILDING PEOPLE, SERVING GOD \*\*\*\*\*



Immanuel Lutheran Church  
of Saratoga

## Coming Events

**Feb 1: 8.00 AM Men's Breakfast@ Effie's in Campbell(1<sup>st</sup> Sat of the Month: Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3)**

**Feb 15, 8:30 AM: Women's breakfast @ Effie's in Campbell**  
Worship-\*Traditional – 9.00 AM \*Contemporary Service - 10.45 AM  
Online Service - <https://ilcsaratoga.org/live.php> (Live stream)

**February 23, 10:15 AM: One Congregational Service**

**February 24 @ 9-11:30 am - Beatification Team Work Day – Page 11**

**Inspirational Christian Story – Page 17; Bible Crossword Puzzle–Pg 8**

**Bible Wordoku–Pg 12; Bible Coloring for Therapy–Pg 19**

**Bible Word search puzzle–Pg 20; Bible Trivia Questions–Pg 21**

**Flu and CDC Covid 19 vaccine updated on 09/06/2024– Page 22**

**\*\*CDC new variant 2<sup>nd</sup> booster shot recommendation for immune-compromised and all ages 65 and above – 10/23/2024**

**Sign-up for Sunday Service Altar Flowers–Page 9** 🌸

**"Volunteer to Serve on Sundays!"**

**\*Please sign up for weekly Altar Guild \*\*\***

**\*Shelter Meals Schedule: Please Sign up to cook or serve\*\*\***

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is always and wholly for others. God creates us in love, by love, and for love. When God interacts with His creation, He does so with their best interests in mind. God's love is an initiating love: it acts first. If love can be said to be responsive, it never responds in kind. It is never a repayment for goods received nor is it a reward for the deserving. Love comes from the heart of God Himself – which is holy, pure and perfect.

Created in the image of God (who is love and who acts in love) we humans have been created to "go and do likewise" – indeed, to respond to God's other-serving love by serving God and our neighbor. As we do so, we honor God – which is to say we evidence the identity and character of God by doing as God has done and continues to do.

Valentine's Day is just over the horizon. It's an occasion to express our love for others – especially for those who are dearest to us. However, when you utter the words I love you, let it mean more than an expression of how your beloved sets your heart a-flutter. Rather, let it be an expression of your commitment to work for the good of your beloved in all respects. To consider their interests before you consider your own. To protect them. To speak well of them. To be faithful, trustworthy and present.

This is AGAPE love in action. And I'm convinced that all the world is yearning to experience it.

The more you come to know the love God has for you, the more you will live in peace and security. And the more you will be able to live likewise, and bear faithful witness to others of the One who loved you so much that He gave Himself up for you.

Jesus offered His life as example and sacrifice. He shows us how to live a truly human life – a life that pleases God.

A blessed February to you all!

With Joy & Gratitude,

Pastor Derek Engfelt



# THE MESSENGER

## People Helping People !

**An experience by congregation member** – 1. Man on the Median – Our member was driving and was about to make a left-hand turn at Saratoga and Prospect/West Campbell Ave when he saw a man with a sign asking for food or money. Our member rolled down his window and showed him the People Helping People clear bag so he could see what was inside. He then told the man " Our Church, ILC, made the bags to help people. The man said that he could really use this and then that he and others lived under the bridge on Prospect Ave. near Lawrence and that he was also collecting food and money for them. Our member gave him two bags and he thanked him profusely and said God Bless.

2. Young man sagging by the Store: Our member was shopping at Trader Joes and on his way out saw a young man looking very dejected with a sign asking for food. He sat next to the young man and asked him what was wrong. He answered that he had been living at the shelter and that the other day all his belongings were stolen from the shelter, including his cheap cell phone. He said he needed this in order to get around and look for a job. Our member mentioned about the food packages and that our Church ILC was always trying to help people. The young man said that was very special. Before saying goodbye, our member told the young man to try to keep his spirits up and to go back to the shelter. He said he was but was trying to get some food and money to get another phone. They talked about positivity and using all the gov't services available. The young took the two bags and he thanked our member profusely.

Helping anyone even if it is just a little means so much to people who literally have nothing. God's grace.

**Come join us as we serve those in need in practical ways. As we do so, we're living into our ILC vision of "passionately responding to the grace we've received by joyfully serving others in the name of Jesus."**

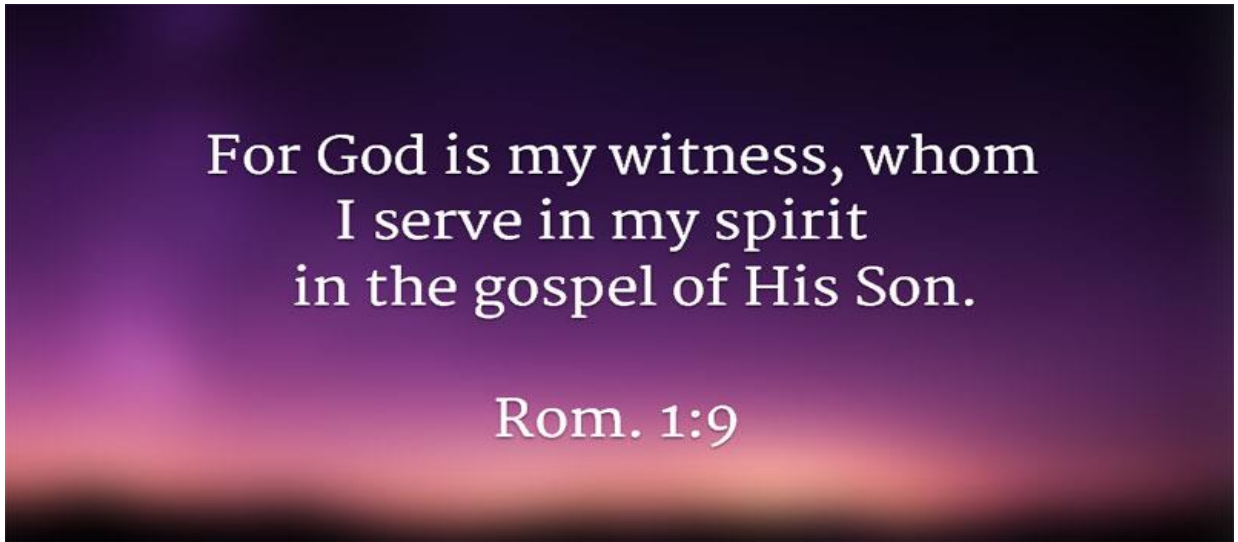
***Sunday school provides a structure for teaching God's Word. Preaching isn't enough. A systematic teaching of the Scriptures – not just preaching (Acts 5:42) needs to occur through all age levels. Children, youth, and adults need opportunities for discovery, review, and interaction as they study God's principles.***

***Sunday School meets needs!***



# THE MESSENGER

## Volunteer to Serve on Sundays



**It takes many people to make Sunday mornings "happen". You're welcome to participate and be one of them!**

Service Opportunities include:

**Altar Guild:** Prepare communion elements, prepare sanctuary for worship; clean up after worship.

**Audio:** Make sure our sound system is in good working order and monitor sound during the service.

**Livestream:** Control the livestream setup and camera during the service to support our "Church without Walls"

**Coffee:** Provide treats for fellowship time after service

**Communion:** Help distribute communion during service

**Greeter:** Warmly welcome people at the door and hand them a bulletin

**Lector:** Read lessons in church

**Liturgist:** Assistant leader in worship, chant the opening liturgy

**Usher:** Hand out announcement pages, take offering, light and extinguish candles

If you have questions about any of these Sunday Morning Activities, please email Alyssa Morgan [alyssamccoy@comcast.net](mailto:alyssamccoy@comcast.net)



**Worship + Love + Serve**

## Children's Story



## The Wishing Rose



Once upon a time, in the middle of a small village, there was a very old, abandoned house. A high iron fence surrounded the house, and behind this fence grew yellow roses. All the children in the village were afraid to walk by the old house as it had dark windows and doors through which a mysterious wind blew all day and all night.

One boy was an exception; he wished to see the yellow roses and was not afraid of the dark windows, doors, or breathing wind. Every day, he stood in front of the old house, grasping the iron fence, listening to the mysterious breathing, and gazing at the yellow roses.

Then, one day, as the boy came to the old house, he found that one of the roses had crept its head through the fence. The rose stood in his way, was as tall as the boy, and was full of thorns. But the boy did not allow himself to be afraid. He took the rose carefully in his hand. As soon as he did, the rose broke off at its base, as lightly as a dry twig, though it was fresh and green.

And so, the boy took the rose home with him and hung it over his bed. Late that night, he suddenly woke up, and looking up at the rose, he said: "My rose, why did you stick out your yellow head for me?"

"I stuck out my yellow head for you," explained the rose, "because you so wished to see the yellow roses that you were not afraid of the old house, the dark doors, windows, or the breathing wind. I was a wishing rose, and you may wish for whatever you like."

I wish to know," said the boy, "why all the other children are afraid to walk by the old house?"

"Few are truly brave," said the wishing rose. "And few truly wish to know. You are brave, so you found a wishing rose."

The boy grew up and was never afraid to feel different from the other children. When it came time to leave home, "Go as far as you like," said the rose, "and do everything you wish to do."

So, the boy took his rose, traveled worldwide, and was never afraid to do anything he wished to do. One day, after many great adventures, the boy realized he was falling in love.

"My rose," he said, "I wish to know what shall I do now?"

"Love with all your heart," said the rose. "And never be afraid to lose what you love."

So, the boy became a man who loved with all his heart and was never afraid to lose what he loved. Finally, one day, as an older man, he lay dying as his rose still hung over his bed.

"My rose," he said. "I wish to know why I am not afraid to die."

"You are not afraid to die," said the rose, "because you have had a wishing rose all your life and never wished for anything but to know.

The rose released its perch and landed on the older man's chest. They breathed their last breaths together, and the older man was buried with his rose.



## THE MESSENGER

### Men's Breakfast



Men's Breakfast is held the first Saturday of each month at Effie's Restaurant in Campbell (331 W. Hacienda Ave). We meet at 8:00am, share breakfast, fellowship, and engage in a free-wheeling, Bible topic discussion. We conclude by 9:30 am.

All men of the congregation – members and visitors – are welcome.

ILC Men enjoying a relaxing Saturday morning breakfast (photo credit: Tom Lowdermilk)



### Women's Breakfast

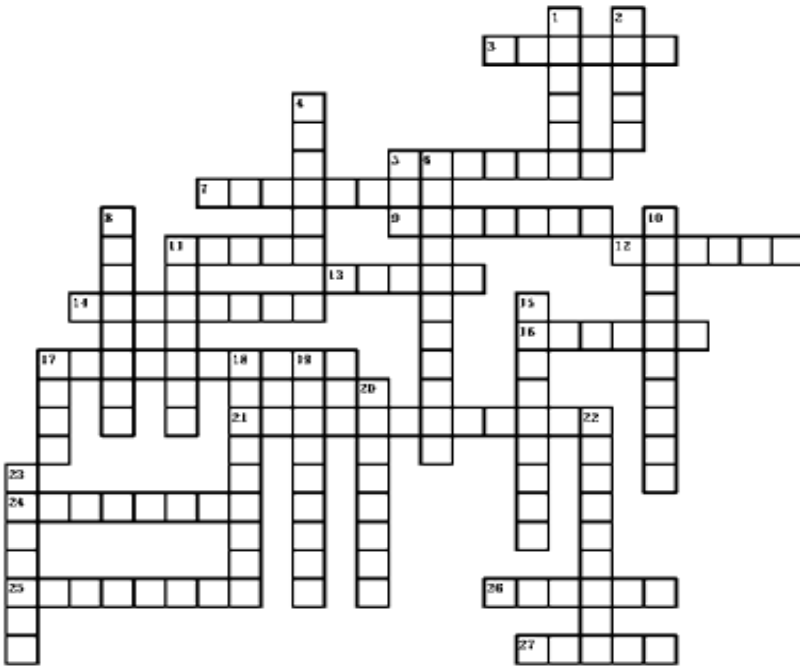
The Women's Breakfast is held the third Saturday of each month at Effie's Restaurant in Campbell (331 W. Hacienda Ave). We meet at 8:30am for a short devotion, after which we share breakfast and fellowship. We conclude by 10:00. All women of the congregation – members and friends – are welcome.



ILC ladies at the women's group meeting (photo credit: Cheryl Moorman)



### Crossword Puzzle: Jesus meets Nicodemus



### Across

- 3 Name of the river where John baptized (cf. Mk. 1:5)
- 5 Moses lifted this up in the wilderness.
- 7 John said he was not this person.
- 9 Jesus did not have the Spirit by this.
- 11 This abides on the unbeliever.
- 12 John said he was this to Jesus.
- 13 God loved this.
- 14 Jesus did this in Judea.
- 16 Jesus came down from this place.
- 17 Where Moses led Israel.
- 21 The unbeliever has this already.
- 24 Opposite of "decrease".
- 25 What men have loved.
- 26 Nicodemus was one of these in Israel.
- 27 Place near Salim where John baptized.

### Down

- 1 Where John would be sent.
- 2 Teacher
- 4 Be lost.
- 6 Eternal
- 8 What Nicodemus saw that convinced him Jesus was Christ.
- 10 He that has the bride.
- 11 John bore this concerning Jesus.
- 15 Sect to which Nicodemus belonged.
- 17 What everyone born of the Spirit is like.
- 18 His name means "innocent of blood".
- 19 Religious council of which Nicodemus was a member (cf. Jno. 7:50).
- 20 "God so loved the world that He gave His only \_\_\_\_\_ Son."
- 22 The brass serpent (2 Kings 18:4)
- 23 Cannot enter without "new birth".

### January Answers



\*To view the numbers on the crossword puzzle, please use the '-' minus and '+' plus sign on top of the pdf page to enlarge this





Here's  
What's  
Happening!

page.

## ILC EVENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE FOOD CART - Please consider adding a package or two of food** to the cart whenever you shop. The hunger problem seems always to be with us, and all donations help. Thank you for keeping this in mind when you shop! The Community Service Committee

**Community Support:** Thank you for your continued donations of clothes (placed in bags), food, and children's books. The collection bins are located alongside the church office parking lot, and you can drop items (non-perishables) in the bins at any time. Your generosity is appreciated!

**If you would like to make an E-Donation to ILC**, then either download the Givelify App on your smartphone, or go online to <http://ilcsaratoga.org/give>. Givelify gives you a beautiful, easy-giving experience using your smartphone, tablet, or PC. There are no frustrating web forms or text-to-give codes to memorize. Even better, it's free to download and use. It's safe and secure, and for tax time, you have one-tap access to your complete donation records.

**Givelify**  
Tap. Give. Done.



**Each Sunday, we adorn our altar in the sanctuary with flowers.** If you would like to purchase flowers in honor of a special birthday or anniversary, please email our Office Administrator, Sheila Wallace at [office.ilc.saratoga@gmail.com](mailto:office.ilc.saratoga@gmail.com) or Pastor Derek at [pastord63@gmail.com](mailto:pastord63@gmail.com)

Also are available for sign-up in honor or memory of someone for:

Easter Lily plants for Easter  and Poinsettia plants for Christmas! 

\*These flowers adorn the sanctuary for these special services!

# Memories at ILC

## EASTER



## LADIES RETREAT



## Habitat for Humanity



Summer Concerts  
In the Park

Thanksgiving  
Interfaith Service

Tree Decorating



Christmas Concert

Children's Christmas Play



## Worship Offerings

We offer three worship experiences – traditional, contemporary and livestream. <https://ilcsaratoga.org/live.php>. Please check website for each week's Livestream start time.

## Wednesday Bible Study: Expanding Our Vision

Join us Wednesday mornings in at 10:00 AM as we take a deeper dive into the second reading appointer for the coming Sunday. The class is entitled *Expanding Our Vision*. Because Sunday's sermon is almost always centered on the gospel selection, we don't often explore the second reading in any depth. This class gives us the opportunity to do so. In addition to taking a closer look at the second reading itself, we'll also consider any connections it has to the gospel reading for that Sunday.

We meet in person in the Fireside Room. Treats are served at the conclusion of the class (11:30). If you're unable to meet with us in person, you can join via Zoom by clicking here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83250020639>

If you would like to participate or for more information regarding the material we are using, please contact Pastor Derek at [pastord63@gmail.com](mailto:pastord63@gmail.com)

## Thursday Morning Study

**Thursday morning Bible study** (Yokefellows) continues to meet each Thursday morning at 6:30 AM in the church Fireside Room. Refreshments are served. We are continuing our study on *The Acts of the Apostles*. If you're unable to join us in person, you can participate from the comfort of your own home by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87581100281?pwd=dEgrblEwUFZlaU5NQy91RE9sWlNlQTo9>

We meet every Thursday at 6:30 AM, in person in the church Fireside Room and via livestream ([Thursday AM Bible Study](#)). (If in person, you will also be able to partake of morning refreshments – coffee & pastries.) All are welcome! For any questions, please contact Jack Moorman [jack.moorman@gmail.com](mailto:jack.moorman@gmail.com) or Pastor Derek [pastord63@gmail.com](mailto:pastord63@gmail.com).

## Diving Deeper: Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

All are welcome to attend a Wednesday evening one-hour gathering, at which we will read and study the Scriptures that will be read in church the following Sunday. Not only will this event prepare you for a more meaningful experience on Sunday, it will also give you a chance to provide sermon input. And, of course, it's always meaningful to share in fellowship with others around the Word. Can't join us in person? Participate from the comfort of your home by clicking here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87353776510>

## Enter the Bible

Luther Seminary has created a powerful, free resource to break down each book of Scripture to give you an in-depth overview of its background and context, its author and setting, the issues and themes you can find in it, and so much more. Click here to get access now: <https://enterthebible.org/free-account-registration/>

## Beatification Team Work Day

The Beautification Team welcomes you to join them for a work day on Monday, February 24, from 9:00 - 11:30. Please bring garden tools, clearly marked with your name on them. (In case they are left behind, we want to make sure we can return them to their rightful owners.) All workers are welcome!

## Lions in Sight

Got Glasses? Just a reminder that we have a donation box church office to collect used prescription eyeglasses, sunglasses (prescription or non-prescription), printer/toner cartridges, hearing aids and cell phones in partnership with the Lions Club. Your donation of these unused items will help those locally who cannot afford prescription glasses; the other items are used to fund the program. If you can't drop the items in the box, please email Laura Gloner ([laura.gloner@gmail.com](mailto:laura.gloner@gmail.com)), and she'll be happy to arrange a pickup or drop-off. (Website: <https://www.lionsinsight.net/>)



## Echo, Echo...

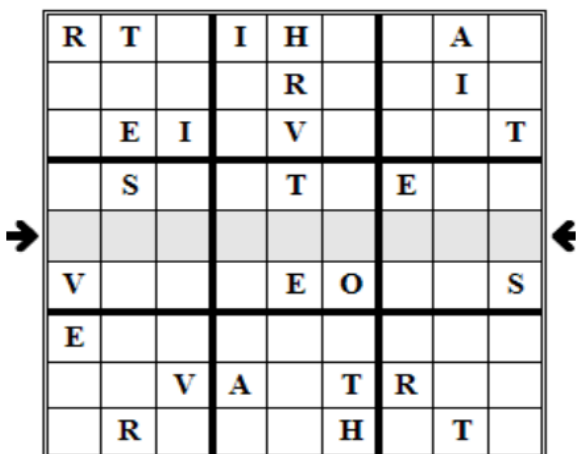
Yes, that's right, ILC supports the [Echo Shop](#) in downtown Saratoga with our time and donations! The Echo Shop is a high-end resale shop, run by our neighbors at St. Andrews Episcopal Church since 1961. It's staffed entirely by volunteers, so all of the money raised can go directly to local charities, including Santa Maria Urban Ministries, as well as houseless, women's, and children's causes. High-end items can be donated directly to the shop's red back door during business hours or by making an appointment. Our Children's Book Ministry flows through the shop, as well. Several women from ILC regularly volunteer and have a great time pricing, sorting, and stocking merchandise, while making new friends. If you have any questions about volunteering or donating, please contact Myra Sternlieb ([msmyrabeth@yahoo.com](mailto:msmyrabeth@yahoo.com)) or Margit Chapman ([margitc@aol.com](mailto:margitc@aol.com)). (website: [The Echo Shop](#))



**Wordoku** has the same rules as regular Sudoku, but uses letters instead of numbers:

- Each of the nine rows is nine cells wide, and must contain the 9 letters used in the puzzle. So, each letter must appear once and only once in each row.
- The same is true with the nine columns. So, each letter must appear once and only once in each column. The third unit, the region, is a « 3 x 3 » square bordered by a thick line, and it must also contain the 9 letters used in the puzzle. So, each letter must appear once and only once in each « 3 x 3 » square.

When the grid is completed, the grey squares will reveal a nine-letter word or sentence at the center of the puzzle, between the two arrows.



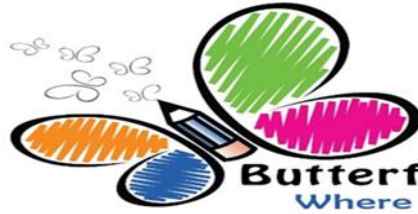
Hint
Before the judgment seat of Christ

The 9 letters to use :
B D E H I N O T Y

### January Answer

THE SAVIOR
------------

Did You Know ?
«We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world.» (1 John 4:14). This world needed a Savior, and God has provided One; and there is no other entrance into blessing but through faith in Him.



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## THE MESSENGER

# Weddings at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Saratoga



**Judy Onton is our ILC wedding coordinator.**

To find out more, take a brochure from the pew rack, or check out our website: [www.ilcsaratoga.org/weddings](http://www.ilcsaratoga.org/weddings). Follow us on Instagram: ILCsaratogaweddings. Share with family and friends of this beautiful and charming sanctuary to hold their matrimony.



Many couples have joined hands to their lives at quaint church and its tranquil surroundings



## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Coronavirus: I have put together hotline numbers and some useful and informative websites!



Coronavirus Hotline for Seniors - The hotline number is **1-833-544-2374**.

Call **2-1-1** in 150 languages. 24/7

Text **211211** to receive texts on updates

<https://www.kcra.com/article/gov-newsom-coronavirus-update-march-31/31983378>

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/phd/news/Pages/covid-19-call-211.aspx>

Emotional Listening Support Contact 24/7 Helpline: **1-800-932-4616** (Toll Free)

[Warm Line - Mental Health Association of San Francisco \(mentalhealthsf.org\)](http://www.contacthelpline.org/emotional-listening-support)

<http://www.contacthelpline.org/emotional-listening-support>

Santa Clara County (SSC) Update on Coronavirus - [www.sccphd.org/coronavirus](http://www.sccphd.org/coronavirus).

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/phd/DiseaseInformation/novel-coronavirus/Pages/home.aspx>

Covid-19 on CDC - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

State of California hotline to deliver services & help for older Californians - **1-833-544-2374**.

Anyone interested in reporting a possible violation - Can email [pubhealthreferral@dao.sccgov.org](mailto:pubhealthreferral@dao.sccgov.org) or call 408-792-2300 to leave a voicemail.

For more info, please go to the following websites. 1. <https://covid19.ca.gov/> 2. <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>



A man visited his doctor, and the doctor checked him over before commenting, "It looks like you get a fair bit of exercise."

The man replied, "Oh yeah, in fact, just the other day I walked 5 miles over rugged terrain as I climbed over rocks and trees. I also waded along the edges of a lake, pushing my way through tall thistles, and even slid down sandy slopes while getting sand in my eyes."

The doctor was quite impressed. "Well, you are certainly a dedicated outdoor enthusiast."

The man replied, "Not really, doctor. I'm just a really bad golfer."

**Covid Coach" for self-care and mental health:** App found in Google Play in Android phones and Apple Store on iPhone or iPad <https://mobile.va.gov/app/covid-coach>

Show empathy to those still susceptible to Covid-19. Some have multiple high-risk factors, making them vulnerable to the COVID-19 viruses and new sub-variants. Feeling more isolated and unable to partake in most human interactions, these people can do with a smile, a compassionate glance, or a kind nod that gives comfort, support, and encouragement!

God Bless, and Stay Safe!  
Vaskie Turner





## Inspirational Christian Article – God's Love is Transformative! ❤️

God's love is transformative. It has the power to change lives, heal brokenness, and bring about justice and peace. But this transformation does not happen by accident. It requires action.

However, love is not just a passive feeling or emotion but an active force that motivates us to act. When we love someone, we want to do something to help them. The same is true of God's love. When we experience God's love, we are compelled to take action, make a difference in the world, and help those who are hurting.

Taking bold action to change the world

So, what does taking bold action to change the world look like? Here are a few ideas:

**Fight for justice:** God's love demands that we fight for justice. This means speaking out against injustice, standing up for the marginalized and oppressed, and working to create a more just and equitable world. As the Prophet Micah wrote, "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8).

**Serve the poor:** Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:40). Serving the poor is an essential part of living out God's love in action. This can take many forms, from volunteering at a homeless shelter to donating to a charity that works with people experiencing poverty.

**Care for creation:** God created the world and called it good. As stewards of creation, we are called to care for it. This means being mindful of our environmental impact, working to reduce waste and pollution, and advocating for policies that protect the planet. As the Psalmist wrote, "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it" (Psalm 24:1).


**Love your neighbor:** Jesus said, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31). This commandment is at the heart of living out God's love in action. Loving our neighbor means putting their needs before our own, showing kindness and compassion, and seeking to build them up. This can take many forms, from helping a neighbor with a task to volunteering in your local community.

Conclusion

God's love is for action. It's not just something we talk about; it's something we are called to live out daily. When we experience God's love, we are compelled to take bold action to change the world and make it a better place.

So, let us be people of action. Let us boldly love God and others and use that love to transform the world around us. As the Apostle Paul wrote, "And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity" (Colossians 3:14). May we be united in love, and may our love be a force for good in the world.

Copyright: Internet article.



When we practice peace,  
we open ourselves to the  
transformative power of God's  
love, and we become agents  
of that love in a world that so  
desperately needs it.

Robbin Brent

## The Hills Are Alive... with ILC Hikers!

Come join us, as we explore part of the wonderful nature that surrounds our neighborhoods. These hikes are planned to be fun for the whole family. These will be "no one left behind" hikes. Invite your friends! Coming up next year!

**Feb. 8: Zinfandel Trail:** An out-and-back hike along tree-covered, rolling hills with some nice views. Approximately 4 miles. NOTE SPECIAL TIME...



**Getting There:** From the church, turn left, heading northeast on Saratoga Ave. toward Herriman Ave. In ¼ mile, turn left. Process 1 mile, then turn right on Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd. In ¼ mile, turn left on Verda Vista Lane. In ¼ mile, keep right at Sarahills Dr. and continue 1 mile to Pierce Rd. Turn left. In ½ mile, turn right on Mt. Eden Rd. Proceed 2-½ miles to stop sign at the bottom of the hill. Turn left onto Steven's Canyon Rd. and immediately enter Canyon Picnic Area parking lot. Or Google here: 37°16'46.5"N 122°04'23.8"W

**Plan to arrive by 1:45 PM. We'll gather our group and plan our hike. We'll hit the road at 2:00 and plan to return to our cars by 4:00.**

**Feb. 15: Fremont Older Preserve (just past Saratoga Country Club; easy-moderate)**

**Getting There:** From the church, head south toward Big Basin. Turn right on Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd. Continue 3.3 miles. Then turn LEFT on Prospect Rd. Continue for about 1/3 of a mile and turn LEFT at the stop sign (to stay on Prospect Rd.). Continue on Prospect for about another mile. Just past the Saratoga Country Club entrance, the road takes a sharp left turn. Proceed about 100 yards into the parking lot.

**Plan to arrive by 7:45 AM. We'll gather our group and plan our hike. We'll hit the road at 8:00 and plan to return to our cars by 10:00.**

Please RSVP so I know you'll be coming. In case of bad weather, I'll send a cancelation note to all who RSVP by 9:00 PM the evening before. Dress in layers, bring a water bottle, and wear comfortable and sturdy shoes/boots. You can RSVP by emailing me at [pastord63@gmail.com](mailto:pastord63@gmail.com) or calling 408-499-4866.

## Book-Go-Round

For a treat, visit Book-Go-Round (BGR) at 14410 Oak Street in Saratoga. BGR is a secondhand bookstore operated by volunteers of the Friends of the Library and the National Charity League, Inc (NCL). The store opens at 12:00 PM every day (Saturdays at 10:00 AM). BGR has supported the Saratoga Library for 50 years and is packed with a wide range of books, as inexpensive as \$.25. Newer paperbacks are usually \$1 to \$3. Also available are also a number of children's books, as well as CD's, DVD's, VHS, Audio books, sheet music and records – all at good rates. Additionally, there is a comfortable seating arrangement, where visitors may enjoy classical music while perusing.

## Children's Books Ministry

You may have noticed the green bins in the parking lot and wondered: Where do the children's books go? With a recent partnership with the [Echo Resale Shop](#) in downtown Saratoga, many of the children's books will now go to [Santa Maria Urban Ministry](#) (SMUM) in San Jose. SMUM runs a food pantry, helps the unhoused, and offers school-age tutoring support. Please donate new and used books that are just waiting to be the source of new adventure for young minds...

## Bible Verse Coloring



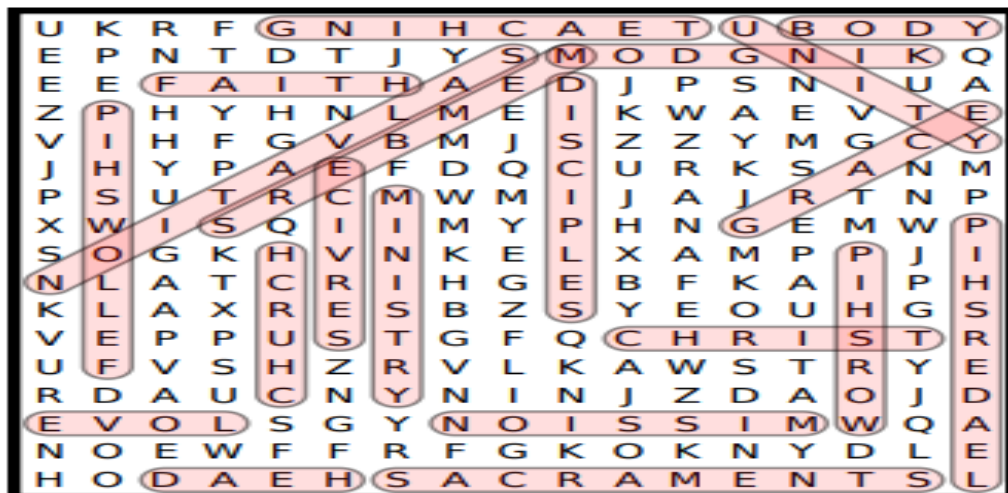
\*\*Send in and share your creations and make our Newsletter "The Messenger" vibrant!

**ANGELS**



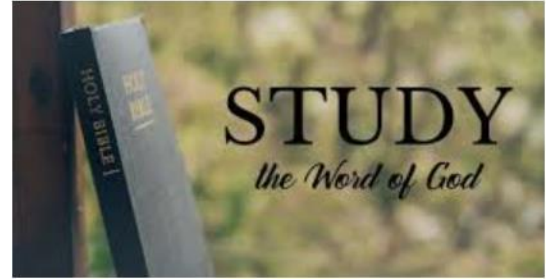
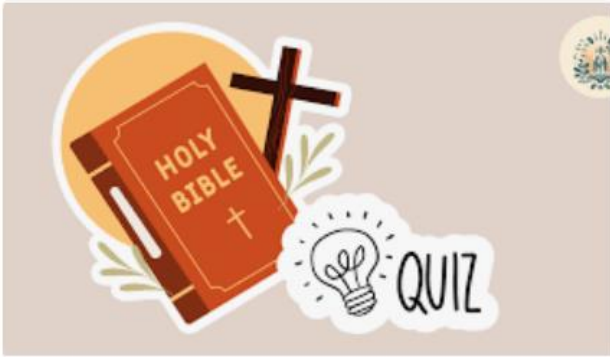
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|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>ANGEL</b>      | <b>HEAVENLY</b>   | <b>MIRACLES</b>   |
| <b>BLESSING</b>   | <b>JOY</b>        | <b>PRAISE</b>     |
| <b>ENCAMPMENT</b> | <b>LIGHT</b>      | <b>PROTECTION</b> |
| <b>FAITHFUL</b>   | <b>LORD</b>       | <b>SERVICE</b>    |
| <b>GABRIEL</b>    | <b>MESSENGERS</b> | <b>WATCHERS</b>   |
| <b>GLORY</b>      | <b>MICHAEL</b>    | <b>WINGS</b>      |
| <b>GUARDIANS</b>  | <b>MINISTRY</b>   |                   |

January Answers



# THE MESSENGER

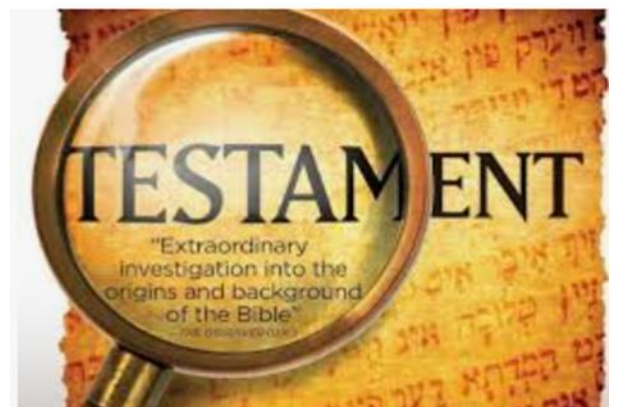
## Bible Trivia Questions: Bible History



1. Who were Jesus' twelve disciples?
2. Who anointed Jesus' feet with expensive perfume and then dried them with her hair?
3. Who are Joseph's brothers in the Book of Genesis?
4. What kind of tree did Jesus curse before it withered?
5. What are three women in the Bible whose names begin with the letter "R"?
6. Who baptized Jesus Christ?
7. For how many days had Lazarus been dead before his resurrection?
8. What was the occupation of Jesus's earthly father?
9. When Jesus calmed the storm, what did the disciples say in amazement?
10. In what city was Jesus born?

### January Answers

1. He was a king of Judea and ruled the territory with Roman approval.
2. In 1611
3. Bethsaida
4. Shinar
5. 38 years
6. He struck the rock.
7. 40 days and 40 nights
8. Potiphar
9. The Earth swallowed them.
10. Sabbath
11. 450
12. Saul was converted.





## Vaccinations...

**GOT YOUR SHOT?** The latest updates on vaccine eligibility and how to schedule an appointment are available on the County's website at [sccfreevax.org](https://sccfreevax.org). In addition, residents without internet access or who need additional assistance can make appointments for the County Health System vaccine sites through the

Valley Connection Call Center at 408-970-2000. The Call Center is open Monday through Friday from 7 am to 9 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 8 am to 4:30 pm. Assistance is available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and other languages. If you have trouble making your appointment and need assistance, please let Pastor Derek know. We have people standing by ready to help. [Influenza \(Flu\) - Public Health - County of Santa Clara \(sccgov.org\)](https://www.sccgov.org/public-health/influenza-flu) **CDC recommends that adults 50 years or older should talk with a healthcare provider to make sure they're up to date with pneumococcal vaccination – 10/23/2024.**

[CDC Recommends Second Dose of 2024-2025 COVID-19 Vaccine for People 65 Years and Older and for People Who are Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised – 10/23/2024](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2024/s1023-covid-19-vaccine.html)

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2024/s1023-covid-19-vaccine.html> - People 65 years and older and everyone 6 months and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

**CDC Recommends Updated COVID-19 Vaccine – 09/06/2024** <https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/index.html>

CDC recommends that everyone ages 6 months and older get the updated 2024–2025 COVID-19 vaccine to protect against serious illness. The updated vaccine is safe and effective at protecting against COVID-19-related hospitalization and death, and it also reduces your chance of suffering the effects of Long COVID.

**Getting vaccinated is especially important for people at highest risk for severe illness, including:**

- [Older adults](#)
- People who have [certain health conditions](#)
- People who have a [weakened immune system](#)
- People who are [pregnant](#)

**COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions -** <https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/faq.html>

Read more about the updated vaccine and CDC's recommendation. [COVID-19 Vaccines | COVID-19 | CDC](#)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/>

Use [CDC's COVID-19 booster tool](#) to learn if and when you can get boosters to stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines. [https://www.cdc.gov/covid/?CDC\\_AAref\\_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html](https://www.cdc.gov/covid/?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html)

CDC recommends everyone stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccination, including all primary series doses and boosters for their age group. [Staying Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines | COVID-19 | CDC](#)

**One shot gets you caught up.** Most people who haven't yet had a shot of the updated "bivalent" vaccine based on both the Wuhan and more recent omicron strains can now receive a single dose. That includes the 30% of Americans who didn't get vaccinated with the two-shot primary series of the original vaccine. Children 6 months to 5 years old who are unvaccinated or who had the original vaccine can receive multiple doses of the bivalent vaccine for kids.

**Older and vulnerable adults can get another booster.** If you are 65 or older and already had a dose of the bivalent vaccine, you can now get a second booster of that shot after at least four months. Those with compromised immunity who had a dose of the bivalent vaccine also may receive another shot after at least two months, and additional doses at the discretion of their doctor

Getting a COVID-19 vaccine after you recover from COVID-19 infection provides added protection against COVID-19.

**People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have [different recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines, including boosters.](#)** [https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/immunocompromised-people.html?CDC\\_AAref\\_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html](https://www.cdc.gov/covid/vaccines/immunocompromised-people.html?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html)

**\*\*Order your 4 free COVID-19 test kits per household now!** <https://special.usps.com/testkits>

# THE MESSENGER

## Come Worship With Us!

### Traditional Service 9:00 a.m.

**Come hear our wonderful choir, bell choir, and organist.**

Communion is served each Sunday as part of the liturgy.

**Visitors are always welcome!**

### Contemporary Service 10:45 a.m.

Features a more contemporary worship. Sing praises to the Lord with our Contemporary Worship Team. The music is uplifting and enjoyable for all ages. What a great way to start the week? Communion is served every Sunday.

## About the Messenger

Please submit articles by the **15th** of the month, typed (preferably text or word processing file, but paper copy is ok too), and should be approximately **150 words**. If you are interested in submitting an article for publication in our Newsletter, please contact our office.

Editor: Vaskie Turner

Webmaster: Aart Bik

[https://ilcsaratoga.org/pdf/newsletter\\_2025\\_02.pdf](https://ilcsaratoga.org/pdf/newsletter_2025_02.pdf)



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We're on the Web!

See us at:

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

**"THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU HERE!"**

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of Saratoga

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