

June 2026

The Messenger

*A Newsletter for Members and Friends of
Immanuel Lutheran Church of Saratoga*

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF SARATOGA 14103 SARATOGA AVE.,
SARATOGA CA 95070 PH: 408-867-0822 WWW.ILCSARATOGA.ORG

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



Immanuel Lutheran Church
of Saratoga

Coming Events

**Jun 6: 8.00 AM Men's Breakfast@ Effie's in Campbell(1st Sat of the Month:
July 4, Aug 1, Sept 5, Oct 3)**

Jun 20: 8:30 AM: Women's breakfast @ Effie's in Campbell

Jun 28, 10:15: One Congregational Service

**Sunday services-Traditional – 9.00 AM *Contemporary Service - 10.45 AM
Online Service - <https://ilcsaratoga.org/live.php> (Live stream)**

Inside this Issue

Pastor Derek Writes.....	2
People Helping People.....	4
Children's Story.....	6
Women's Breakfast.....	7
Men's Breakfast.....	7
Crossword Puzzle.....	8
Mark Your Calendar.....	9
Memories at ILC.....	10
Upcoming Events.....	11
ILC Wedding.....	15
Editor's Desk.....	16
Vaccination information.....	24
Come Worship With Us!.....	25
About the Messenger.....	25

**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**

Sign-up for Sunday Service Altar Flowers 🌸 –Pg 9

****Emergency Pastor contacts – Page 23**

"Volunteer to Serve on Sundays!"

Please sign up for weekly Altar Guild **

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



On Easter morning, no one was expecting what took place. Every person who made their way to the tomb – without exception – was expecting to find a dead body. No one was expecting to find an empty tomb. Even less did they expect to be confronted with the resurrected Jesus! So we easily forgive Mary for looking right past Jesus and thinking He was a stranger. But when He uttered her name... wow! That was all it took. She immediately recognized the name that was hers, as well as the Shepherd who uttered it.

That's when your faith comes alive, isn't it? When you hear the Good Shepherd call your name. When you recognize your place in the Story.

The biblical witness is just that: Jesus not only gave His life for the sins of the world – He gave his life for you. You have not been forgotten. You have not been excluded.

Today, some of our neighbors are fearful of having their names called out loud. That, if they turn and respond to the voice that is calling, they will be rounded up, arrested, and removed from their family and from the place they have called home.

But the Voice of the Good Shepherd never beckons us to harm us, but to welcome us in loving embrace with wondrous hospitality. For this is the heart of God.

For God so loved... you... that He gave His one and only Son. Trusting in Him will never prove to be foolish. For He is faithful, through and through. Jesus loves you, this I know... for the Bible tells me so.

I encourage you to spend time in the Holy Scriptures. Listen to the Voice of Good Shepherd, as He calls your name. The Resurrected One will bring you refreshment and renewal. And when He calls your name, it will be with unmistakable recognition and with a welcome of belonging.

In the resurrected Jesus, you will find much more than you expect: You will discover the very fulfillment of your deepest hope.

Serving in Your midst with Gratitude,

Pastor Derek



THE MESSENGER

People Helping People !

An experience by a congregation member – 1. Man on the Median – Our member was driving and about to make a left-hand turn onto Saratoga from Prospect/West Campbell Ave when he saw a man holding 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 he could really use this, then added 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 Joe's 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 to get around and look for a job. Our member mentioned the food packages and that our Church ILC has always been trying to help people. The young man said that it 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 discussed positivity and the use of all available government services. The young man took the two bags and 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



Thank you for
Serving!

For God is my witness, whom
I serve in my spirit
in the gospel of His Son.

Rom. 1:9

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



Worship + Love + Serve



An Insignificant Task.....



The day when the jobs were handed out was one of the most exciting for all the children in the class. It took place during the first week of the term. On that day, every boy and girl was given a job for which they would be responsible for the rest of that school year.

As with everything, some jobs were more interesting than others, and the children were eager to be given the best one. When giving them out, the teacher considered which pupils had been most responsible during the previous year, and those children were the ones who looked forward to this day the most. Among them, Rita stood out. She was a kind and quiet girl, and during the previous year she had carried out the teacher's instructions perfectly. All the children knew Rita was the favorite to be given the best job of all: to look after the class dog.

But that year, there was a big surprise. Each child received one of the normal jobs, like preparing the books or the radio for the lessons, telling the time, cleaning the blackboard, or looking after one of the pets. But Rita's job was very different. She was given a little box containing some sand and one ant. And even though the teacher insisted that this ant was very special, Rita could not help feeling disappointed. Most of her classmates felt sorry for her. They sympathized with her and remarked on how unfair it was that she had been given that job. Even her father became very angry with the teacher, and, as an act of protest, he encouraged Rita to pay no attention to this insignificant pet. However, Rita, who liked her teacher very much, preferred to show the teacher her error by doing something special with that job, which was of little interest.

"I will turn this little task into something great," Rita said to herself.

So it was that Rita started investigating everything about her little ant. She learned about different species and studied their habitats and behavior. She modified the little box to make it perfect for the ant. Rita gave the ant the very best food, and it ended up growing quite a bit bigger than anyone had expected...

One day in spring, when they were in the classroom, the door opened, revealing a man who looked rather important. The teacher interrupted the class with great joy and said,

"This is Doctor Martinez. He has come to tell us a wonderful piece of news, isn't that right?"

"Exactly," said the Doctor. "Today they have published the results of the competition, and this class has been chosen to accompany me, this summer, on a journey to the tropical rainforest, where we will be investigating all kinds of insects. Among all the schools of this region, without doubt, it is this one that has best cared for the delicate little ant given to you. Congratulations! You will be wonderful assistants!"

That day, the school was filled with joy and celebration. Everyone congratulated the teacher on entering them in the competition, and they thanked Rita for being so patient and responsible. And so it was that many children learned that to be given the most important tasks, you must know how to be responsible, even in what appear to be the smallest tasks. And without doubt, it was Rita who was most pleased at this, having said to herself so many times, "I will turn this little job into something really great".



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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

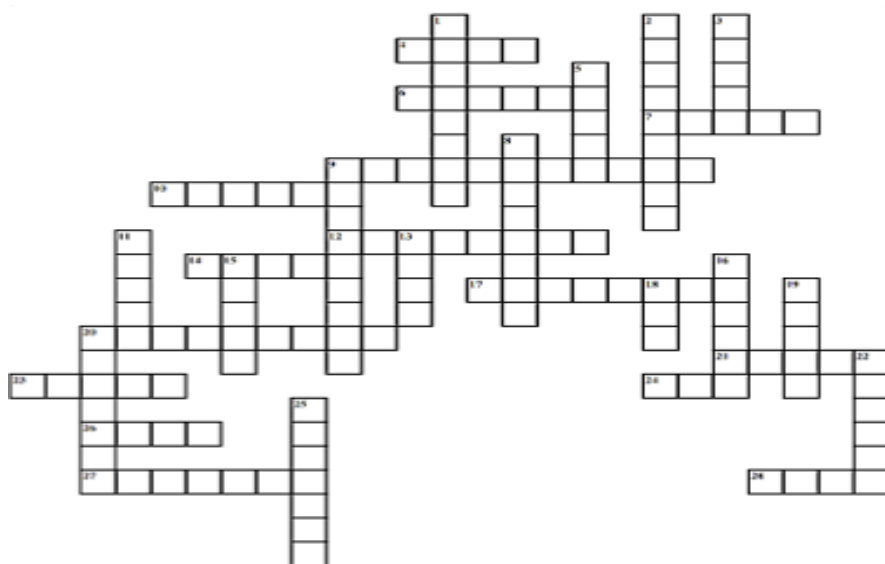
The Women's Breakfast is held the third Saturday of each month at Effie's Restaurant in Campbell (331 W. Hacienda Ave). We meet at 8:30am for a short devotion, after which we share breakfast and fellowship. We conclude by 10:00. All women of the congregation – members and friends – are welcome.



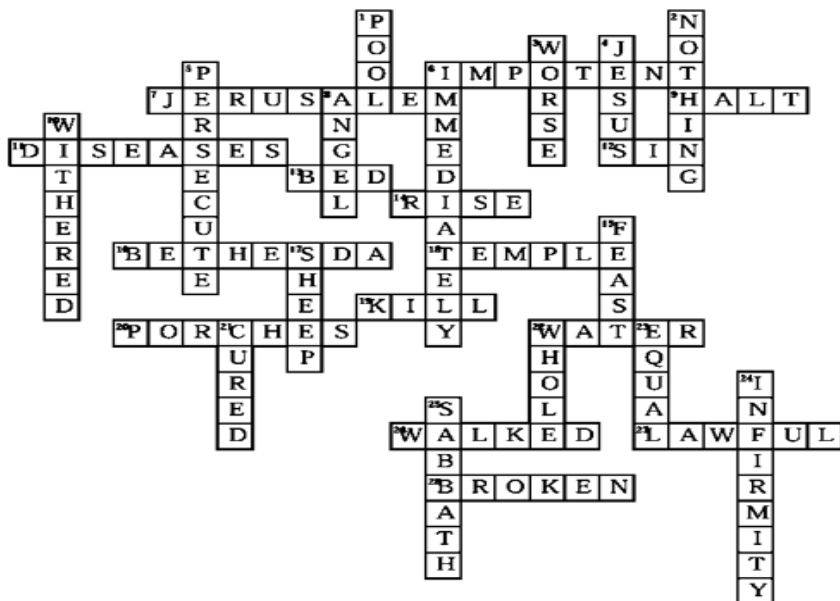
ILC ladies at the women's group meeting (photo credit: Cheryl Moorman)



Crossword Puzzle: Jesus Heals at Bethesda



May Answers



Across

- 4 The commandment Jesus gave the impotent man
- 6 Place where Jesus found the man he had healed
- 7 This market was near Bethesda
- 9 How long after Jesus spoke was this man healed?
- 10 The Jews accused Jesus of having _____ the Sabbath
- 12 This word means "weak, powerless, lacking strength"
- 14 What one stepped into to be healed
- 17 This word means "House of Grace"
- 20 The Jews did this to Jesus
- 21 Jesus made Himself this in relation to God
- 23 Healed or made whole (5:10)
- 24 What the man healed was told to carry
- 26 This word means "to limp or hobble"
- 27 Day of the week on which Jesus healed this man
- 28 What the Jews wanted to do to Jesus

Down

- 1 All of these were healed in the waters of Bethesda
- 2 Bethesda located here
- 3 What those that entered the pool first were made
- 5 Jesus was attending this in Jerusalem
- 8 This word is used to describe a deformed arm or leg
- 9 A certain man had this for 38 years
- 11 This could happen to the man Jesus healed (cf. 5:14)
- 13 Bethesda was one of these
- 15 To whom was the water's movement attributed?
- 16 What the man did after Jesus healed him
- 18 The man told not to do this any more
- 19 Who healed the impotent man?
- 20 There were five of these at Bethesda
- 22 "It is not _____ for thee to carry thy bed."
- 25 What the Son could do "of Himself" (5:19)

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

THE MESSENGER



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. Please consider making a contribution the old fashioned way, by cash or check, or electronically, via Givelify, PayPal. or Zeffy.



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 or Pastor Derek at pastord63@gmail.com

Also 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!



Wonderful 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: Parable of the Sower

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>

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 minor prophets, now considering the witness of *Malachi*. 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

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/>

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), and she'll be happy to arrange a pickup or drop-off. (Website: <https://www.lionsinsight.net/>)



Echo, Echo...

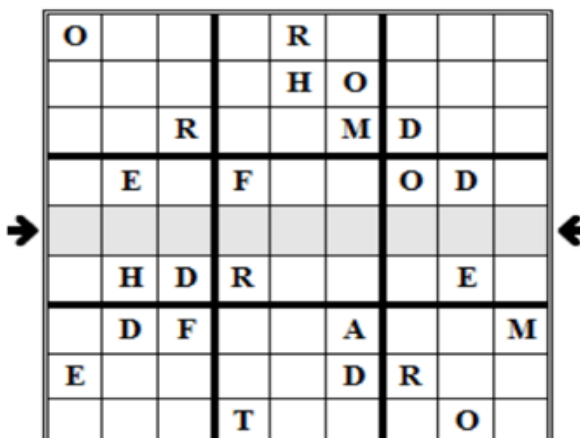
Yes, that's right, ILC supports the [Echo Shop](#) in downtown Saratoga with our time and donations! The Echo Shop is a high-end resale shop, run by our neighbors at St. Andrews Episcopal Church since 1961. It's staffed entirely by volunteers, so all of the money raised can go directly to local charities, 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) or Margit Chapman (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
The Lord's deliverance

The 9 letters to use :
A D E F H M O R T

May Answer

A CONQUEST

Did You Know ?
«Who shall separate us from Jesus' love? Tribulation (...) or sword? Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.» (Romans 8:35,37). Jesus gives us what we need: a conquest over evil and death.



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Tel: 408.781.7874, info@ButterfliesAcademy.com

Please Call us at above number to schedule a tour

www.ButterfliesAcademy.com





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. 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 in their lives at a quaint church and its tranquil surroundings



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Coronavirus: I have compiled hotline numbers and useful, informative websites!



Coronavirus Hotline for Seniors: **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>

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.warmline.org)

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

Santa Clara County (SSC) Update on Coronavirus – 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 for services & help for older Californians: **1-833-544-2374**.

Anyone interested in reporting a possible violation can email pubhealthreferral@dao.sccgov.org or call 408-792-2300 to leave a voicemail.

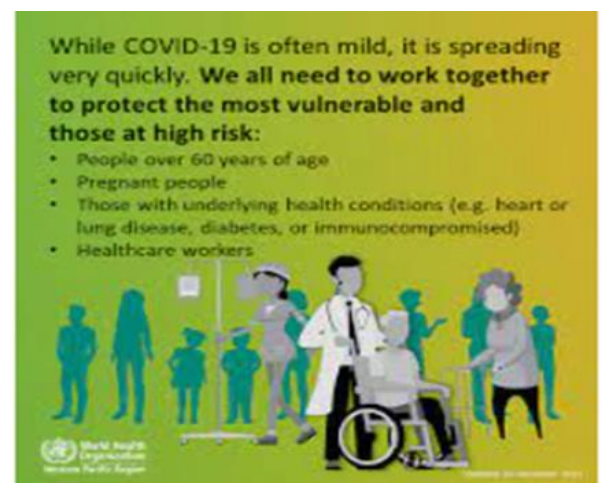
For more info, please go to the following website. 1. <https://covid19.ca.gov/>



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

Be empathetic to those still susceptible to COVID-19. Some have multiple high-risk factors, making them vulnerable to COVID-19 and new subvariants. 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 – The Story of the Harvest Bread

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, quiet our hearts today. Help us clear away the noise of false narratives and quick judgments. Open our eyes to see our neighbors the way You see them, and help us treat everyone with fairness, love, and grace. Amen.

Scripture Focus

"Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment." – John 7:24

"The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him." – Proverbs 18:17

Once upon a time in the valley of Oakhaven, the community gathered every week at the small stone chapel on the hill. When the longtime minister retired, a young man named David was chosen to take over. David prayed for wisdom every night, wanting to make sure the chapel remained a welcoming home for everyone.

On David's first Sunday, a wealthy and influential longtime member, Alden, walked into the office. Alden pointed out the window toward the back pew, where a young woman named Elena was sitting quietly alone. She had just moved to the valley from the Northern Hills. Alden whispered heavily. "Those people from the north are untrustworthy and bitter. She only came here looking for handouts. If you let people like her, get too involved, she will ruin the spirit of our community. I wouldn't give her any responsibilities."

David assumed Alden knew best, so he nodded. Alden kept up the negative narratives about Elena. One Sunday, after the service, Elena walked up to David with a timid smile, said, "Back home, I used to help care for the church garden and prepare the communion elements. I would love to help serve here."

Alden's harsh repeated words echoed in David's mind. Before Elena could finish, David stepped back. "Thank you, Elena," David said coldly. "But we have all the volunteers we need right now. Perhaps you can just enjoy sitting in the pews." Elena, deeply hurt and feeling rejected, lowered her head and quietly walked away.

A month later, the church prepared for its Grand Harvest Fellowship Feast. But on the morning of the feast, a pipe burst in the church kitchen, flooding the pantry and ruining the entire supply of bread. Panic seized David. The stores were closed, and the feast was only hours away.

As David sat on the church steps with his head in his hands, Elena approached carrying a heavy wooden crate. Inside were dozens of loaves of beautiful, freshly baked bread.

"I live down the street and heard the water rushing last night," Elena said softly. "In the Northern Hills, we bake extra every week to share with neighbors in need. I brought you our harvest loaves."

David stared at the bread, burning with shame. "But... I was so dismissive of you. Alden told me you were untrustworthy." Elena smiled faintly. "Alden has always disliked me and my family's traditions after we refused to sell him our land, and he simply wanted to tarnish my name and ruin my good standing before I even had a chance to settle in. It is easy to paint a picture of someone using another person's brush. But it is rarely how God sees them."

The realization hit David like a physical blow. He had broken the golden rule, abandoning fairness just because of someone else's recurring, hurtful narratives against another person. "I am so sorry," David whispered.

That evening, the feast was a triumph. At the end of it, David declared, "Tonight, our community was saved by the grace and hard work of Elena." "I listened to judgments and criticism instead of treating a sister in faith with fairness. From this day on, this will be a place where we know people by their fruits, not by their tales."


Heart & Soul Reflection Questions

1. Why did David believe Alden so easily? How can status or influence make us value one person's opinion over another person's character? The Bible talks about investing time to get to know people and build trust through one-to-one interactions. "Proverbs 27:17", "Proverbs 27:19", "1 Thessalonians 2:8", "Romans 12:10", "Ecclesiastes 4:9-12".

2. Elena said, "It is easy to paint a picture of someone using another person's brush." Have there been instances when we realized our views of someone were entirely based on what *someone else* told us? How can we correct it? How to be discerning of the influx of information, particularly online/digital information that comes at us from all directions?

3. Look at Proverbs 18:17. What practical steps can people take to make sure they always seek the truth rather than accepting a negative story?

Closing Prayer

Lord God, forgive us for the times we have let false criticism and judgment color our vision. Help us to leave this place with eyes of grace and hearts committed to fairness. May our church always be a sanctuary where everyone is seen, valued, and accepted for who they truly are. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen. 

The Hills Are Alive... with ILC Hikers!

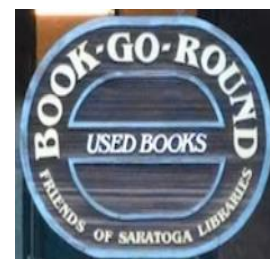
Come join us, as we explore part of the wonderful nature that surrounds our neighborhoods.

Hikes should probably resume in August!



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 a number of children's books, as well as CDs, DVDs, VHS, audiobooks, sheet music, and records – all at good rates. Additionally, there is comfortable seating where visitors can 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, supports unhoused individuals, and provides school-age tutoring. 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!

HEALING LEGION WORD SEARCH

A	S	D	G	D	S	E	N	E	R	A	D	A	G	E	A	N	S	Z
W	Q	B	W	F	O	I	N	I	N	O	I	S	S	A	P	M	O	C
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T	O	E	E	L	A	H	Q	W	V	G	T	I	D	B	L	Z	N	Q
E	G	L	E	C	W	K	Y	C	I	O	A	S	O	R	G	I	O	D
Z	S	E	T	E	A	A	Q	P	M	E	K	M	K	J	W	T	X	M
Z	E	V	Q	I	B	G	K	B	W	I	T	N	E	S	S	D	P	L
T	A	J	S	T	R	O	P	E	R	P	P	Q	Z	R	J	B	L	J

CHAINS
CLOTHED
COMPASSION
DELIVERANCE
DEMONS
EXORCISM
FAITH
FEAR
GADARENES

GALILEE
GOSPEL
HEALING
HERD
JESUS
LEGION
MIRACLE
PIGS

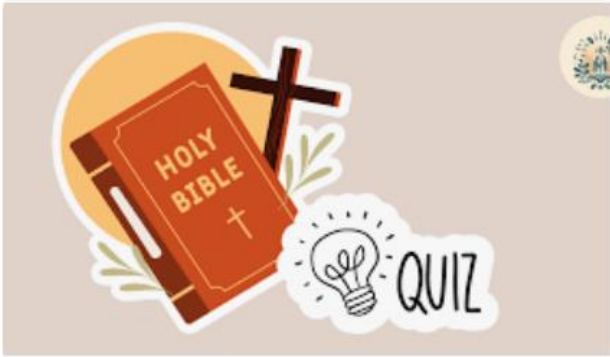
PRAYER
REPORT
SANE
SEA
SWINE
TOMB
TOWN
WITNESS

May Answers

U	H	E	J	A	T	H	A	L	I	A	H	E	N	H	M	M
N	A	A	J	E	H	O	S	H	A	P	H	A	T	A	H	A
N	K	H	H	N	D	R	I	Y	M	N	P	A	A	I	A	O
L	E	R	A	A	V	E	U	D	K	L	R	Y	B	K	I	B
M	P	H	I	Z	Z	X	S	J	O	A	S	H	A	E	K	O
A	J	A	R	A	I	O	P	K	E	N	J	P	L	Z	E	R
O	E	I	A	X	I	A	X	H	A	I	Z	Z	U	E	D	E
B	H	H	A	O	R	H	M	I	K	A	I	O	H	E	J	
O	O	A	C	S	X	A	M	W	N	B	Z	V	A	O	Z	B
H	A	K	E	N	J	E	H	O	R	A	M	V	E	J	A	Y
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R	H	P	B	O	S	M	S	Y	E	S	L	A	S	U	A	D
I	Y	A	L	N	I	F	S	T	N	O	L	H	O	Z	Z	N
L	Y	X	C	A	O	S	A	F	C	E	A	D	H	H	I	F
H	A	I	S	O	J	M	N	A	D	A	B	X	L	S	A	I
S	H	S	J	E	H	O	A	H	A	Z	U	V	Q	V	H	Z
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THE MESSENGER

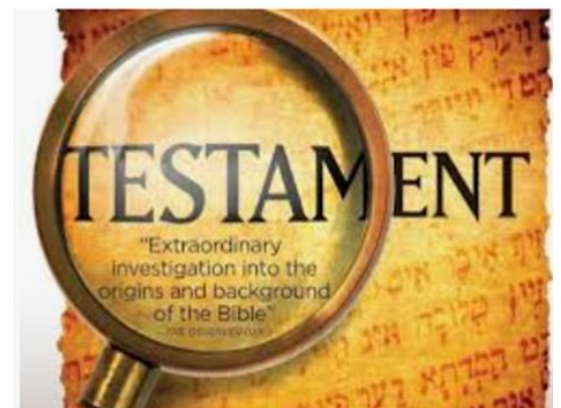
Bible Trivia Questions: Character Bible



1. What prayer did Jesus teach his followers to say?
2. Which Bible book is considered the first written?
3. Which disciple was a tentmaker?
4. When did the exodus led by Moses occur?
5. How many days did it rain while Noah and his family were on the Ark?
6. How did Paul escape Damascus when the Jews were trying to kill him?
7. What does the word "gospel" mean?
8. What was the first plague that God placed on Egypt?
9. Who is the mediator between God and his children on Earth?
10. During a battle, which object did Joshua command to stand still?

May Answers

1. Peter
2. Miriam
3. Lazarus
4. Yes
5. Methuselah
6. Cain
7. Bethlehem
8. Nazareth
9. Enoch
10. John the Baptist



Campus Hospitality

Ebenezer Church, a bilingual (Spanish/English) congregation of approximately 30 members, will be meeting for worship in the nursery area (front part of the Fellowship Hall), each Sunday at 8:30. Let us extend our kindest hospitality to this worshipping community in Christ's name.

Serving at Family Supportive Housing: Info on next Service

Would you like to prepare food? Serve it with a smile? Please contact Linda Jacks, leader of this important service through our faith community. You can reach her Linda at 408-799-1423.

Thank you to everyone who has stepped up to serve during this sabbatical. This is what God's Church is all about! God will grant you strength and insight, as you work with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to carry on this important work.

If you need additional assistance, please contact me at office.ilc.saratoga@gmail.com or 408-867-0822.

In case of an emergency, you may reach out to:

5/11 - 6/13: Rev. Peggy White, 408-674-4549

6/15 - 7/25: Rev. John Freeseemann, (408) 807-2549

Community Support

Thank you for your ongoing donations of clothes (placed in bags), food, and children's books. The collection bins are located alongside the church office parking lot, and donations (non-perishables) may be dropped off in the bins at any time. Your generosity is appreciated!



In the words of Jesus, "When you did it to one of the least of these... you did it to Me" (Matthew 25:40)



Tips that help to keep your phone safe. (Copyright: OnGuardOnline.gov)

1. Lock Your Phone

create a 4-6-digit PIN or passcode to unlock it before setting your phone to lock when you are not using it. Keep the information in a safe place. Also, able to unlock your phone with your fingerprint, retina, or face are other options.

[Apple Support: Use a passcode with your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch](#)

[Android Help: Set screen lock on an Android device](#)

2. Update Your Software

Updates to your operating system often include critical patches and protections against security threats. Set your phone to update automatically. Otherwise, keep an eye out for updates, and do not delay in running them. Update your apps, too.

[Apple Support: Update your iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch](#)

[Android Help: Check & update your Android version](#)

3. Back Up Your Data

Regularly back up your phone data to the cloud or to your computer. That way, if you lose your phone, you'll still have access to your personal information.

[Apple Support: How to back up your iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch](#)

[Android Help: Back up or restore data on your Android device](#)

4. Get Help Finding a Lost Phone

Mobile operating systems have a program that helps you find your phone if you lose it, or lock it, or erase it if you think someone stole it. Go to your settings and turn this feature on.

[Apple Support: Set up Find My on your iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, or Mac](#)

[Android Help: Be ready to find a lost Android device](#)

THE MESSENGER



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. 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 \(scgov.org\)](#) **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 – 10/02/2025.**

[Staying Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines | Covid | CDC](#) - NOV, 19, 2025

Resources

[Staying Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

People who are up to date with their COVID-19 vaccine have lower risk of severe illness.

[Getting Your COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

Learn how to schedule and know what to expect at your COVID-19 appointment.

[COVID-19 Vaccine Basics](#)

Learn how COVID-19 vaccines help our bodies develop immunity to the virus that causes COVID-19.

[Benefits of Getting Vaccinated](#)

Find out why you should get the COVID-19 vaccine and how it protects you from getting sick.

[Vaccines for Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People](#)

COVID-19 vaccine information for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised.

[COVID-19 Vaccination for People Who Would Like to Have a Baby](#)

Information on COVID-19 vaccines for people who would like to have a baby.

[COVID-19 Vaccination for Women Who Are Pregnant or Breastfeeding](#)

What you need to know about COVID-19 vaccines if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.

[COVID-19 Vaccination for Long-term Care Residents](#)

Information about COVID-19 vaccines for long-term care residents.

[Vaccine Effectiveness](#)

Information for public health professionals and researchers on COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness.

THE MESSENGER

Come Worship With Us!



14103 Saratoga Ave.
Saratoga, CA 95070

Tel: 408-867-0822

Office.ilc.saratoga@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ilcsaratoga.org

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, if possible, by the **20th** of the month, typed (preferably a text or word processing file, but a paper copy is okay too), and be about **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_2026_06.pdf

"THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU HERE!"

Immanuel Lutheran Church
of Saratoga

14103 Saratoga Ave.

Saratoga, CA 95070

