

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

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Saratoga

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Coming Events

Nov 7: 8.00 AM Men's Breakfast@ Effie's in Campbell(1st Sat of the Month: Dec 5, Jan 2, Feb 6, Mar 6)
Nov 21: 8:30 AM: Women's breakfast @ Effie's in Campbell

Nov 29, 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)

Nov 1-22- Donate Frozen Turkey/monetary donation to ILC – Pg 22
Nov 6 & 7 - Sacred Heart of Saratoga's Artisan Faire – Pg 24
Nov 26, 10:00 am-Community Thanksgiving Service-Sacred Heart Catholic Church – Pg 23

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

"Volunteer to Serve on Sundays!"

*Please sign up for weekly Altar Guild ***
*Shelter Meals Schedule: Please Sign up to cook or serve***



THE MESSENGER

Pastor Derek Writes…



By Pastor Derek Engfelt





Pastor Derek Writes…

"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His love endures forever."
Psalm 107:1

As we flip over the calendar page to the month of November, the date of the 26th jumps out: Thanksgiving Day. While the minds of some immediately turn to turkey, football and family feasts around the table, the day provides for us all the opportunity to pause, count our blessings, and offer gratitude for all that God has bestowed upon us. Certainly every day ought to be a day to give thanks; this day, however, brings the truth to the forefront.

Today, I am rejoicing over my grandson, as he celebrates his first birthday. Yes, Arthur Colin Peirce has completed a full trip around the sun and is embarking on his second. What joy fills my heart to see him cared for by his parents! He's learning about the love of God, as he has come to have fullness of trust in his parents who provide him with all that is good and protect him from every evil. His parents, too, are learning about what real love is all about, as their hearts have been captured by this new life that has entered their experience and, indeed, has become the center of it. How do I know they're experiencing this? Because I know what happened to me, when I first became a parent: I was surprised and rightly overwhelmed with a fierce, protective love – and a willingness to lay down my very life, if necessary, for this gift of God (who certainly had no clue about the

identity of the one holding her).

Parenthood, for me, was a revelation… not only of the love my own parents might have had for me when I first entered their lives, but also of the love God has for me. A just-because-love. A love that comes from the heart and center of God's own being.

I'm convinced that God loves you, too, with that same over-the-top, abundant love. God was willing to go to any extent to communicate that love – coming to earth in-person, to lay down his life to bridge the gap caused by human sin & rebellion. What an incredible thing to consider: God delights in us – and desires to share in fellowship with us.

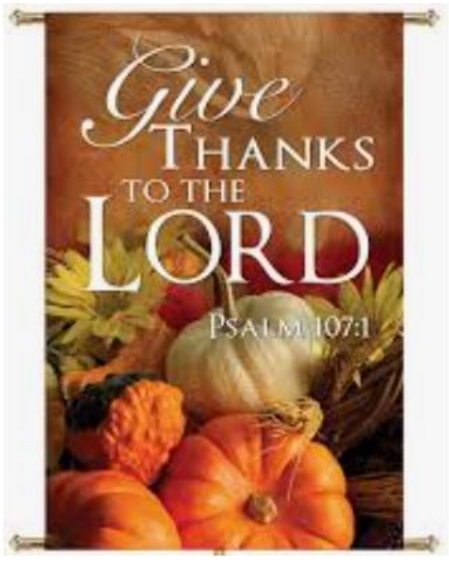
As the Psalmist bears witness: the Lord is good (through and through), and His love (for you, for me, for the world) endures forever. Thanks be to God!

Serving in your midst with joy and gratitude,

Pastor Derek J Engfelt

P.S. And about that Thanksgiving turkey: Lee Wheeler is heading up Immanuel's turkey collection this year. You can bring a frozen turkey with you on Sundays (through the 22nd) or to church Tuesday through Friday during business hours (9:30 – 3:30) to be placed in the kitchen freezer. Turkeys will be delivered to Santa Maria Urban Mission, who will distribute them to those in need. Your donations will serve to bring the love and joy of God to families in need.

And as for Thanksgiving Day itself: I hope you will consider joining me at the Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service sponsored by the Saratoga Ministerial Association. This year it will be held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church just down the street from Immanuel. The 10:00 AM service will last less than an hour, and refreshments will be provided after the service.



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.

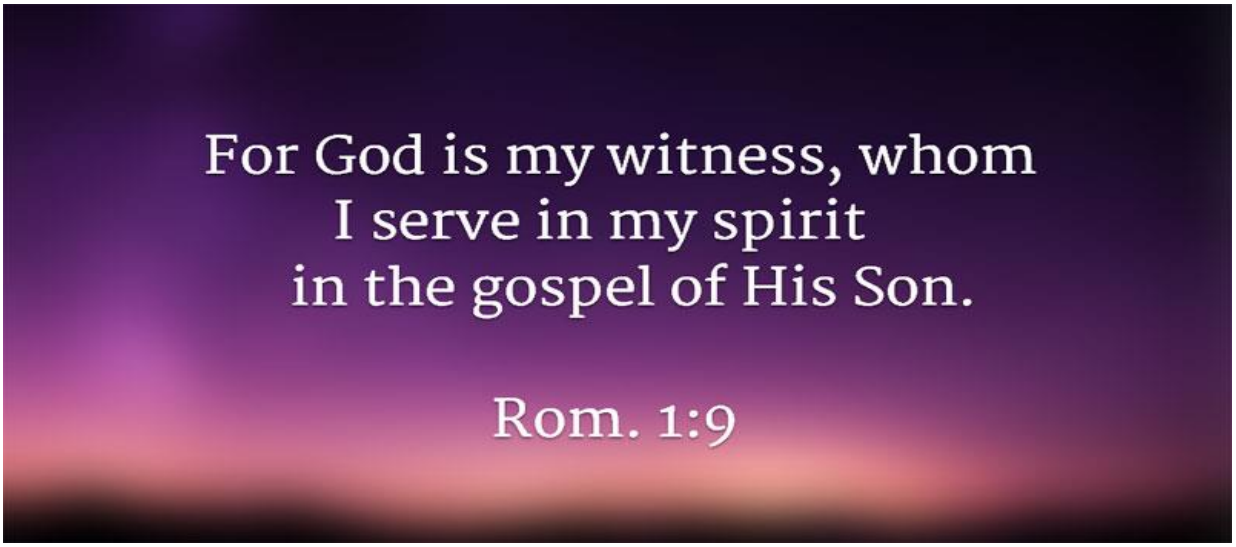
Sunday School meets needs!



Volunteer to Serve on Sundays



Thank you for Serving!



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



THE MESSENGER



Children's Story



Oliver the Owl's Thanksgiving



Once upon a time, in the middle of a golden autumn forest, lived a little owl named Oliver. As the crisp November wind blew the last red and orange leaves from the oak trees, Oliver sat on his favorite branch and shivered just a little bit.

"Winter is coming soon," Oliver hooted softly to himself.

Just then, his friend Pip the Squirrel scampered up the trunk. Pip was carrying a large, shiny acorn that looked like a tiny treasure.

"Hello, Oliver!" Pip chattered happily. "Are you getting ready for the big forest feast tonight?"

Oliver blinked his big round eyes. "What feast?"

"Why, the Gratitude Gathering!" Pip said. "Every year when the harvest is done, all the woodland animals share a bite of what they love best and say what they are thankful for."

Oliver looked down at his empty paws—or rather, his empty wings. "I didn't gather any shiny acorns, and I don't have any plump berries to share," he sighed. "I might not have anything to bring to the table."

Pip smiled and shook his fluffy tail. "Silly Oliver! You don't need nuts or berries. You have something even better."

That evening, the moon glowed bright and round like a great yellow pumpkin over the clearing. Badgers, rabbits, field mice, and deer gathered around a giant fallen log covered in wild apples, crunchy seeds, and sweet corn kernels left behind by the farmer nearby.



When it was Oliver's turn to speak, he felt his feathers flutter with shyness. He stood up tall on the log and hooted:

"I didn't bring any food tonight. But I am most thankful for the warm songs Pip sings in the morning, the soft moonlight that helps me see the path, and friends like you who always share a seat on the branch."

Everyone cheered and clapped their paws and wings. A little field mouse named Clover scooted over and offered Oliver a sweet, crunchy bite of an apple.

Oliver took a bite, looked up at the starry autumn sky, and realized that the best part of Thanksgiving wasn't just what was on the log—it was the wonderful friends sitting around it.

Copyright: Internet article.



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.

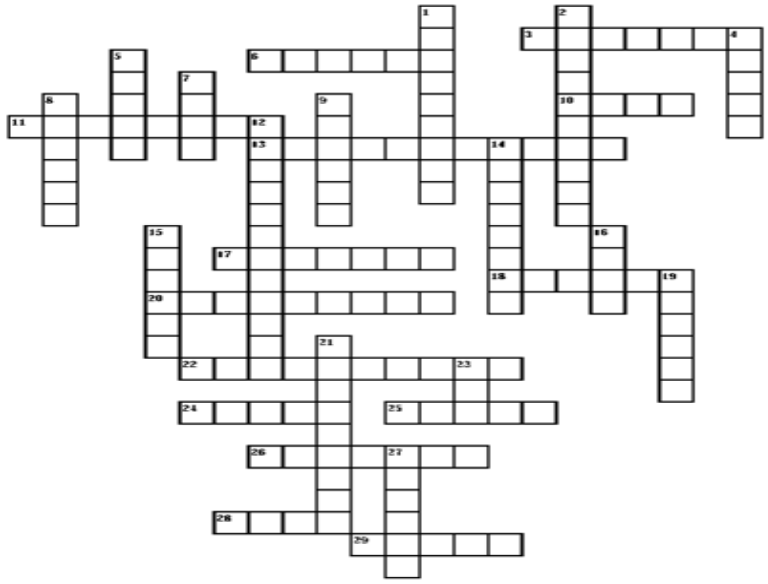


ILC ladies at the women's group meeting (photo credit: Cheryl Moorman)

THE MESSENGER



Crossword Puzzle: Jesus Feeds Five Thousand



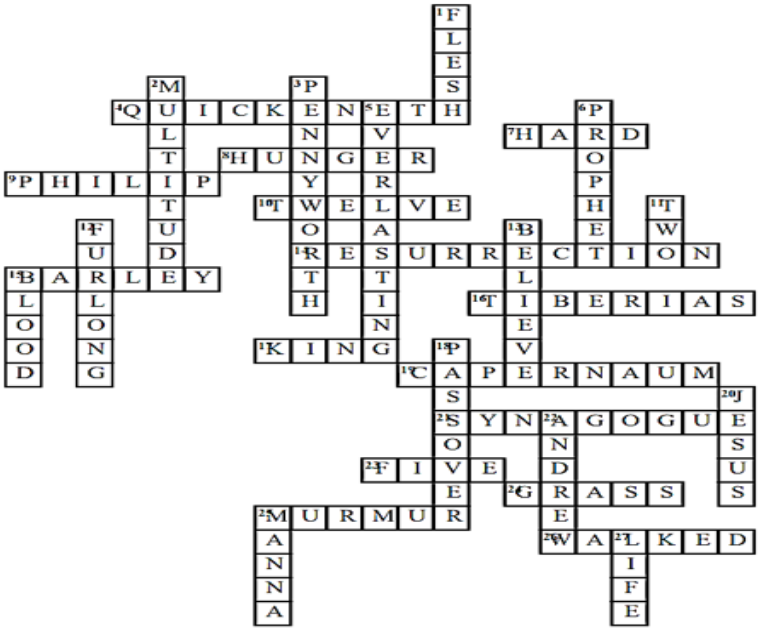
Across

3 A unit of measuring length.
6 The disciple Jesus asked to feed the multitude.
10 What some wanted to make Jesus after seeing this miracle.
11 A feast of the Jews.
13 "Labor for that meat which endureth unto _____ life."
17 The work of God.
18 This disciple found a boy with food.
20 Thousands of people.
22 It would take more than 200 of these to feed the people.
24 What Israel ate in the wilderness?
25 What men must drink to have eternal life.
26 Who the people believed Jesus to be (John 6:14).
28 What the Bread of Heaven gives.
29 The true bread from heaven.

Down

1 Where Jesus went afterward.
2 To make alive.
4 There was much of this where Jesus did the miracle.
5 What men must eat to have eternal life.
7 Number of loaves found.
8 Grain out of which bread is made.
9 Number of baskets of scraps.
12 What the Lord will do in the last day.
14 Another name for the Sea of Galilee.
15 To complain or grumble.
16 Difficult to understand and accept.
19 Jesus did this on the sea.
21 Where Jesus taught in Capernaum.
23 Number of fish found.
27 What those who eat the Bread of Heaven never do?

October 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 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 Livelily 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.

Givelify Tap. Give. Done. PayPal 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: 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 provides us an 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

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've presently focusing our attention on "King David: The Man, The Model, the Myth" - what the Jews thought of him and how that influenced their expectations of the Messiah (the Son of David). 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=dEgrblEwUFZlaU5NQy91RE9sWlNIQT09

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.

					R	F	E	
	S			I				
	L		F			A	R	
G					H		A	
		H	A	L	I	R		
H					E			L
F								
		L	S					A

Hint
Jesus' very last parable

The 9 letters to use :
A E F G H I L R S

October Answer

FOUR KINGS

Did You Know ?
«Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings.» (Dan.7:17). Four great world empires were to arise (Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome) before the final climax of world history, the second coming of Jesus Christ.

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Immanuel Lutheran Church
14103 Saratoga Ave, Lower Fellowship Hall, Saratoga, CA 95070
Tel: 408.781.7874, info@ButterfliesAcademy.com

Please Call us at above number to schedule a tour

www.ButterfliesAcademy.com



















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 santuary 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 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.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**.

For more info, visit the following website. 1. https://covid19.ca.gov/







Coping 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/coping-coach**

Coping Coach offers educational content, resource directories, and coping strategies focused on general stress, daily pressures, caregiving, and life transitions. It has core stress-management tools, mood trackers, and self-care features—no password or login required. Mental health is important. A smile, a compassionate glance, or a kind nod or word gives comfort, support, and encouragement to others!

God Bless, and Stay Safe!
Vaskie Turner



Inspirational Christian Article- The Mask of Mission

The afternoon sun filtered through the windows of the community development foundation. Arthur sat at the head of the conference table, looking at immaculate diagrams for the new inner-city youth mentoring program. He was the kind of non-profit director everyone praised—soft-spoken, unfailingly polite, and always the first to volunteer to stay late and lock up the building.

Julie, the organization's part-time program coordinator, looked exhausted, her fingers tapping nervously. "Arthur," Julie said, her voice quiet. "Can we look over the volunteer schedules you finalized for the upcoming Thanksgiving week meals? I noticed my name is down to manage the kitchen setup, serving, and cleanup for all three nights. That's about fourteen hours of manual labor a day, on top of my regular weekday grant-writing hours."

Arthur offered a warm, validating smile. He didn't interrupt, listened with deep, apparent empathy, and nodded slowly. "I understand you're tired, Julie," Arthur replied, his tone incredibly gentle, almost therapeutic. "We're all stretching ourselves for the mission. I just see the massive impact your servant's heart has on people. It would be a shame to deny them that inspiration because we're looking at a clock." Julie swallowed hard. It was the same wall she ran into every time she brought up her workload. Arthur never raised his voice. Instead, he wrapped his demands in the language of shared sacrifice, making it feel like a personal ethical failure to say no. It was a deeply heartless disregard for her physical well-being, her commitment to her family, masked entirely as mission-driven encouragement.

"Arthur, it's not just the clock," Julie tried again, her voice wavering. "I missed my daughter's recital last month because of the last-minute meetings. Can we split the shifts with other volunteers and board members?"

Arthur's smile remained fixed, but his eyes grew perfectly still. "Julie, non-profit leadership requires real sacrifice. I've noticed a spirit of resentment creeping into your work lately. Because I care about your professional growth, perhaps we should evaluate whether your heart is truly in this mission right now." The comment was delivered with the smooth care of a mentor, but the underlying threat to her job security was precise and abusive. He wasn't addressing her legitimate structural problem; he was weaponizing her passion for charity to make her doubt her own competence. Any attempt Julie made to negotiate a fair boundary was twisted into evidence of her lack of commitment.



Thomas, a senior board member, silently observed from the end of the table. To anyone else, it looked like a seasoned director coaching a struggling staff member. But Thomas had watched subtle patterns over the past year. He noticed that Arthur's coordinators always burned out within months, left quietly, and felt strangely guilty, while Arthur remained perfectly composed, receiving accolades and public awards for his endurance.

Thomas saw the defining contradiction of 2 Timothy 3:5 unfold in real time: Arthur had a flawless appearance of virtue, but his attitude and methods completely denied its power. True humanitarian work produces a culture of empathy and mutual respect. Arthur used the vocabulary of altruism to enforce absolute control and protect his own ego. When the meeting adjourned, Julie left quickly, defeated, while Arthur hummed a cheerful tune.



"Arthur, a word," Thomas said, stepping closer. "You didn't address Julie's schedule. You questioned her integrity because she asked for help." Arthur's expression shifted seamlessly into deep, sorrowful concern. "Thomas, my heart breaks as she is letting personal stress rob her of the joy of making a difference. I was simply trying to coach her through a difficult professional season."

Thomas looked closely at the man standing before him. The mask was seamless. Arthur wasn't a shouting bully; he was a polite manager who used philanthropy as a shield against accountability. "Coach her?" Thomas asked quietly. "Or manipulate her so you don't have to adjust your plans? True charity honors the people inside the organization, Arthur. You won't be directing the Thanksgiving dinner charity event this year. In fact, the board is going to step in and conduct a full review of your leadership practices." Arthur's eyes narrowed, the warmth completely gone, leaving only an unyielding, rigid pride. He didn't argue. He just took his tablet, gave a tight, formal nod, and walked out of the room.

Thomas watched him go, knowing that the most dangerous deceptions are the ones that walk with a clipboard of good deeds and speak in a soft voice. That year, the Foundation's Thanksgiving event both honored its volunteers and served the community.

2 Timothy 1:7 – "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline." (Shows the true inward fruit and power of the Spirit as opposed to the self-absorbed, uncontrolled traits listed in 2 Timothy 3:2–4,5)

Copyright: Internet Article

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. We're planning to venture out on the second and Saturday of September. This will be a "no one left behind" hike. Invite your friends!

November 14: Steven's Creek Reservoir

From the valley floor, we'll meander above and around the lake, then alongside. If time affords, we will make our way up a bit for some nice view. This will be an out-and-back hike, relatively easily, of approximately 4 miles.

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 mikes to stop sign at the bottom of the hill. Turn left onto Steven's Canyon Rd. and immediately enter Canyon Picnic Area parking lot at Zinfandel Trailhead. Or Google here: 37°16'46.5"N 122°04'23.8"W

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

November 28: Ascending Mt Umunhum. Bald Mountain Parking Lot. A moderate hike of 8.5 miles, with 1245 feet of elevation gain.

Getting There: Exit Highway 85 at Camden Avenue. (From Southbound 85 turn left on Camden Avenue. From northbound 85 turn left on Branham Avenue, then left on Camden Avenue.) Travel on Camden Avenue about 1.6 miles. Travel on Hicks Road about 6.3 miles. At the stop sign (at the top of the road and the junction of Mt. Umunhum Rd., turn right. Continue uphill 1.7 miles. Parking lot is on the left.

Time: 8:00 AM. The complete hike will take about 3.5 hours. (If you prefer only to hike DOWN, meet at 10:00 AM at the top parking lot, and we will transport you back up to the top.) Hike up (with a ride back down) is also an option.

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 11:30.

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 or calling 408-499-4866.

Book-Go-Round

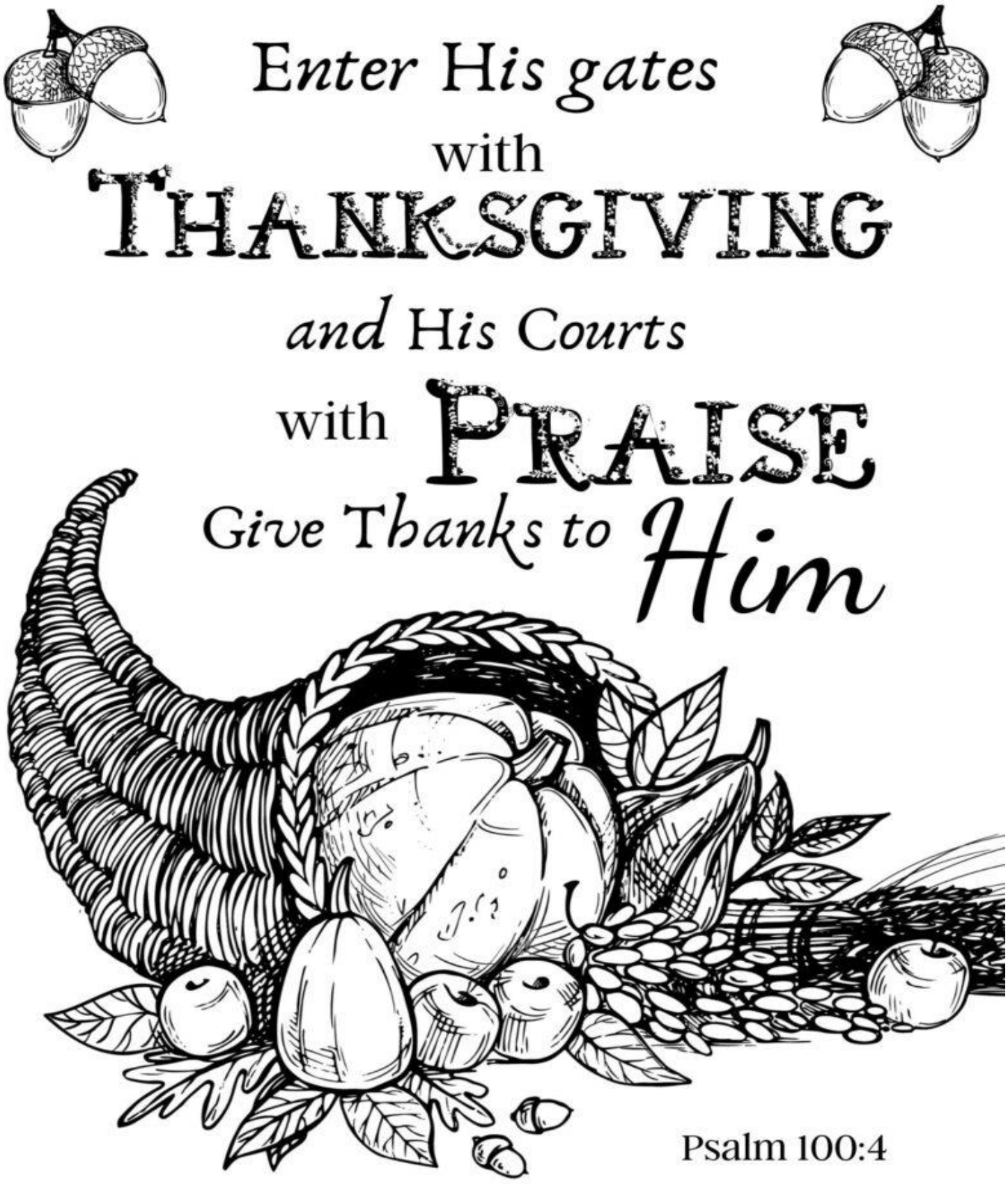
For a treat, visit Book-Go-Round (BGR) at 14410 Oak Street in Saratoga. BGR is a secondhand bookstore operated by volunteers of the Friends of the Library and the National Charity League, Inc (NCL). The store opens at 12:00 PM every day (Saturdays at 10:00 AM). BGR has supported the Saratoga Library 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 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



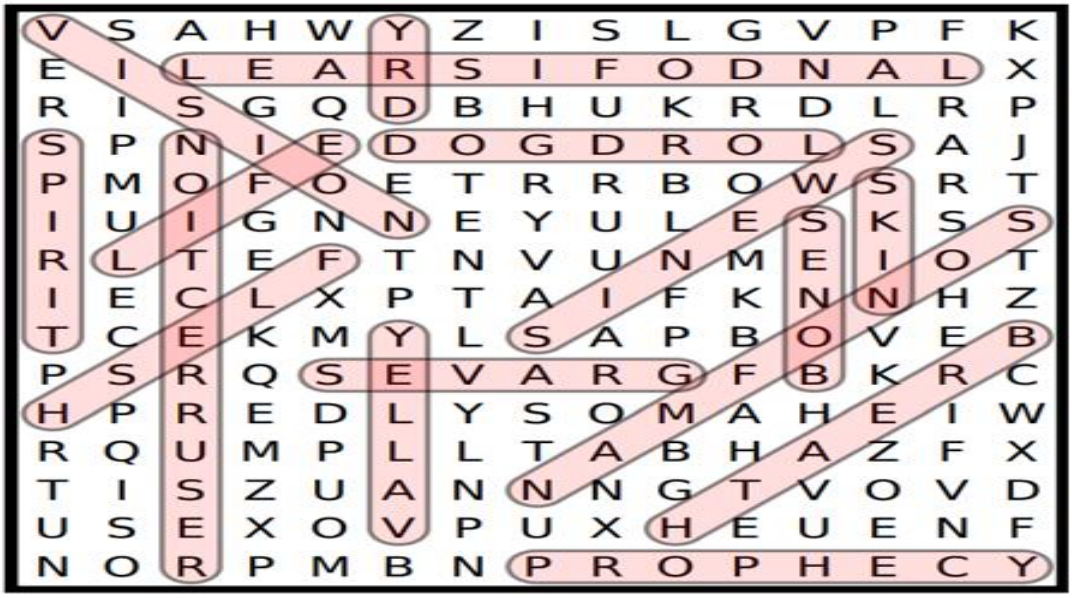
**Send in and share your creations and make our Newsletter "The Messenger" vibrant!

FEEDING OF THE 5,000 WORD SEARCH

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Q	M	N	G	E	N	T	W	P	D	E	O	H	S	I	F	U
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BASKETS
BLESSED
BOY
BREAD
CHILDREN
COMPASSION
CROWDS
DISCIPLES
EAT
FEEDING
FISH
FIVE THOUSAND
GATHERED
GRASS
HUNGER
JESUS
JEWS
LEFTOVERS
LOAVES
MEN
MIRACLE
MULTITUDE
PRAYER
STARVING
TWELVE
WOMEN

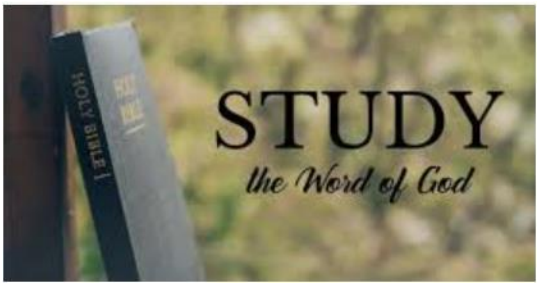
October Answers



THE MESSENGER

Bible Trivia Questions: Bible Character





1. In the Bible, who was described as being six cubits and a span tall?

2. At what age did Jesus start his ministry?

3. To whom did Jesus say these words: "I will make you fishers of men"?

4. Whose rod turned into a snake and ate the sorcerers' snakes in Egypt?

5. Who ordered the head of John the Baptist to be cut off and placed on a platter?

6. Who walked on water at the Sea of Galilee?

7. Which Bible person was responsible for the stoning of Stephen, the first martyr?

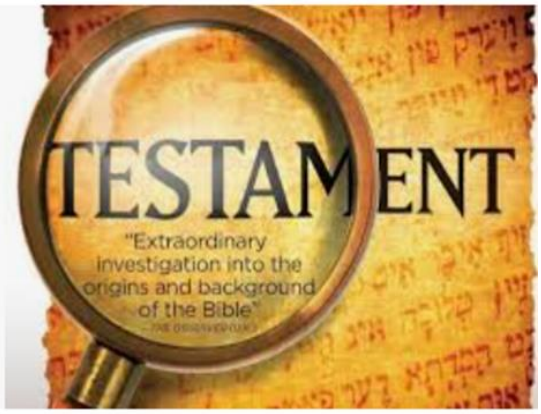
8. Which Bible person permitted the creation of a golden idol while camped in the desert?

9. What did Jesus say were the two most important commandments?

10. Who was the blind Bible character that Jesus healed in Jericho?

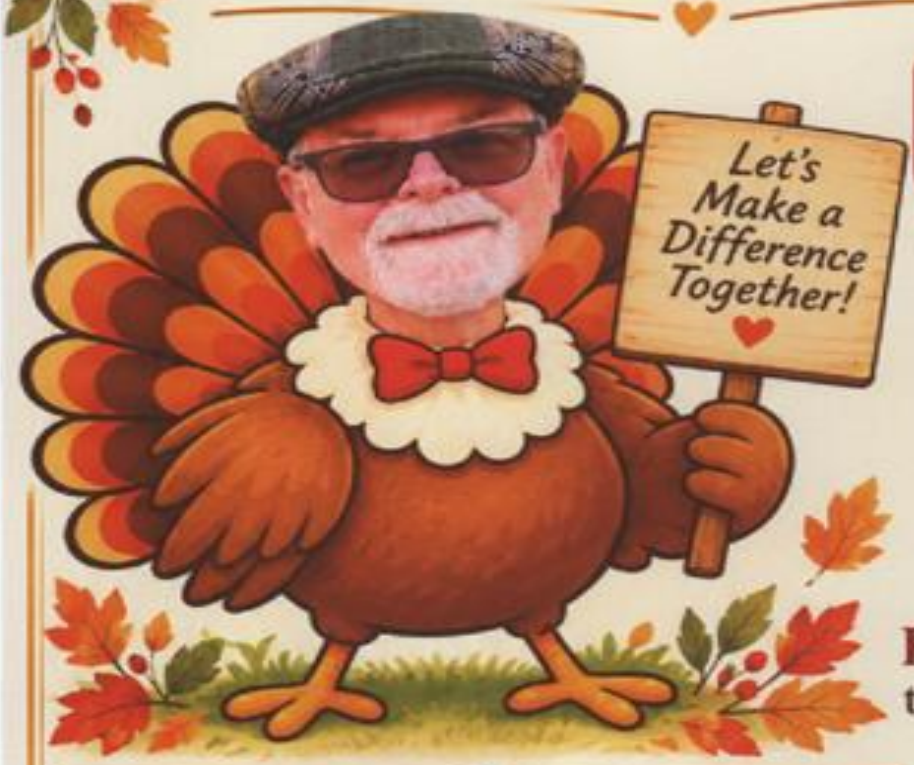
October Answers

1. Miriam
2. Lazarus
3. Methuselah
4. Cain
5. In a cave
6. Nazareth
7. Enoch
8. Two criminals
9. John the Baptist
10. Moses



ILC Turkey Drive

Share the Blessing • Feed the Needy



November 1 – November 22

We wish to deliver the turkey to the SMUM before Thanksgiving Holiday so that they have time to distribute to the recipients.

Please bring a **FROZEN TURKEY** to donate to the needy.



Please donate frozen turkeys only! We need to keep them frozen for easier transport.



Please put donations in the **Kitchen freezer** in the **Fellowship Hall.**

Bring your turkey donations on **Sunday,** or notify the office **408-867-0822** Tuesday through Friday 10 am to 3 pm.

Note: If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please make a notation on your check "ILC Turkeys"!

Community Thanksgiving Service



November 26, at 10:00 AM, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 13716 Saratoga Ave., Saratoga, CA 95070.

Each year, congregations in Saratoga come together to give thanks to God for the blessings of church, home and country.

If you plan to be in town, please include in your festivities a time of worship and fellowship. Join us as we gather with our neighbors to offer mutual thanksgiving to God, who has bestowed such abundant blessings on us. Worship begins on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, at 10:00 AM.

Children's Books Needed

Please donate children's books and place them in the ILC bin. They will be distributed to our partners West Valley Community Services. Contact Myra Sternlieb for more information at: mymyrabeth@yahoo.com.

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 Linda at 408-799-1423 or lindaloubob5@yahoo.com

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)

5 Tips for Aging Gracefully

- Move in ways that feel good
- Eat well, but enjoy it
- Keep your mind curious
- Prioritize meaningful relationships
- Stay purposeful, whatever that means to you

IT Tip

Put your USB drive in the right way the first time.

Plugging in a USB cable the right way feels like a no-brainer. So why do we get it wrong so often on the first try?

Here's the secret: Grab any USB cable sitting around your house. See that symbol on one side? It's not just branding or decoration. That symbol points up when you plug a USB cable in horizontally and faces you when you plug it in vertically. Now you know.

Copyright: Internet Articles



Sacred Heart Women's Club is pleased to announce our annual **Holly Days Artisan Faire**, taking place on **Friday, November 6, and Saturday, November 7, 2026**. This treasured community tradition brings together over **80 artisan and craft vendors**, over 700 hundred shoppers, and countless volunteers for two festive days of shopping, food, and fellowship.

The Artisan Faire also features a visit from Santa on Saturday, an outstanding raffle, and delicious homemade lunches and snacks available at the Artisan Cafe. The Artisan Faire will be open from 9-6 on Friday and 9-4 on Saturday. [Artisan Faire – Sacred Heart Parish Saratoga]

Patricia Cowles

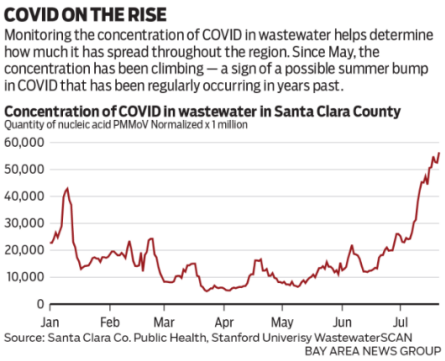


Vaccinations…

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. Residents without internet access or who need additional assistance can also make appointments for County Health System vaccine sites through the Valley Connection Call Center at (888) 334-1000. The Call Center is open Monday through Friday from 7 am to 7 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.

Influenza (Flu) - Public Health - County of Santa Clara (sccgov.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 – 06/26/2026.

Seasonal Flu Vaccine Basics | Influenza (Flu) | CDC -09/01/2026



Staying Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines | Covid | CDC – SEPT 23, 2026

Summertime COVID bump in Bay Area Aug 10, 2026

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

Immanuel
Lutheran Church
of Saratoga

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

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, 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_11.pdf

"THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU HERE!"

Immanuel Lutheran Church
of Saratoga

14103 Saratoga Ave.

Saratoga, CA 95070

