

# New Creation News

September 2009

*All that's going on in the New Creation Community*

**You are invited!**

**to a very special celebration worship  
at New Creation Lutheran Church**

**Sunday, August 30, 2009 at 4 pm**

*As we proclaim our joy for the joining  
of our two congregations  
and celebrate the gifts brought forward  
from the saints of St. Andrew Church & NextGen Ministries*



**Bishop Mark Holmerud will be preaching**

**Worship will be followed by a champagne toast  
and BBQ sponsored by Thrivent.**

**The morning service on August 30<sup>th</sup> will be a special one as well, with  
Pastor Ginger DuMars (formerly of St. Andrew church) preaching. Join us!**

*A message from Bishop Holmerud appears on page 6.*

*The Pastor's Message follows on page 7.*

**New Creation Lutheran Church – 7275 Santa Teresa Blvd. San Jose, CA 95119  
408/972-9200 – [www.newcreationchurch-sj.org](http://www.newcreationchurch-sj.org)**

# Youth and Family Programs

## After School Program

Beginning September 9, the Next Gen Children & Youth Ministry will begin offering **after school care**. The following classes will be offered:

### **Wednesdays 9/9-10/21: Cooking I**

3:00-5:30 Cost \$70 - 7 Sessions (K-6)

Join us as we learn the basics of cooking. Each week kids will get a lesson in understanding basic cooking techniques as well as create something. The object is to teach how to work safely in a kitchen, how to use cooking tools as well as enjoy making food from recipes.

### **Thursdays 9/10-10/22: Creative Arts I**

3:00-5:30 Cost \$70 - 7 Sessions (K-6)

Crafty days. Kids will have the opportunity to create different creations using many different art mediums. Clay, paint, paper mache and more.

Every session will offer 60 minutes or more of time focused on the activity, and will be from 3:30-4:30. There will be a snack offered at 3:00, and kids will have time to wind down a bit before we begin. There will be options of outdoor play, indoor games, or homework time. After the main session, kids will have the remainder of the time to play or begin homework. You may pick up your kids anytime between 4:30 and 5:30.



## The Little Tree Playschool

School starts again on Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup> Monday-Thursday,

9:30 to 12:30. We currently have ten part-time students! For complete program information, contact director Debra Townley, 209-9041 or [debrat@newcreationchurch-sj.org](mailto:debrat@newcreationchurch-sj.org). Tell your friends! Flyers are in the church entryway.



Starting in September, we will begin a monthly mid-week youth gathering. The youth have been challenged to find a day during the week that they could commit to meet one time a month. So, we are thinking of ideas such as the 2nd Thursday of the month, etc. If you are a parent of a youth grades 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, please discuss with them their schedules as well as yours and see if there are times that would work best. If you have questions or would like to suggest days, dates and times that would work for your family, please contact Cristina at [cristinab@newcreationchurch-sj.org](mailto:cristinab@newcreationchurch-sj.org) or 972-9200.

***More Youth and Family next page...***

# more on Youth and Family...

## BBQ & Outdoor movie night



Saturday, September  
12<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm

\$4 burgers & dogs

movie starts at 8:00 and

is free. Please RSVP if you plan to join us for dinner-

cristinab@newcreationchurch-sj.org or 972-9200. All movies at outdoor movie

night will be kid-centric and usually a cartoon as they show up better outside on the video screen.



## Sunday School

Sunday School has been in casual summer mode for the last couple of months, but we'll be switching over to our regular program in September. We look forward to new and exciting opportunities for our K-6 and 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade classes! We can always use more teachers – even just occasional ones – contact Cristina if you can help.



# book of faith

Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

## Bible Study

**Women's Bible study** meets Thursday mornings at 11 am in the church sanctuary.

**Men's Bible study** meets Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm, alternating at Rick Voss and Jim Carlson's homes.

*Both groups took the month of August off—Men's group will reconvene on 9/9 at Rick's house—Women's on 9/10.*

## Bible Verse

*"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.."*

*-- Hebrews 13:2*

The King James version really "speaks to me" for some quotations. It's my favorite for certain verses I find meaningful. Try comparing translations on your favorite verses.

-- This month's offering is from Becky Everson.

*Please share a Bible passage that has some meaning for you.  
We'll put it in an upcoming newsletter!*

Photos appear on pages 10 & 11

# Small Groups



## Quilters

Meet Fridays at 10 am. They have created some lovely pieces that hang in our church, gifts, items just for fun, and blankets for Lutheran World Relief.

Regulars would like to extend an invitation to anyone who is interested to drop by and join their "happy crew". Sewing skills are not required; just bring a lunch, as part of the fellowship is a lunch break.

## Book Discussion Group

The book for September is "Manhunt: the Twelve Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer." If you're interested in some lively conversation, food, drinks, friendly argument, and laughter, we will be meeting on Saturday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm for a BBQ at the Aplans's' house.



## Landscaping and Gardening Group

Share a love for plants and keeping our grounds looking beautiful. Meet for work days on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month (usually). Come on down, spread some fertilizer, share your gardening tips, and pull some weeds!

## Men's Poker Fellowship

Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month at rotating houses. \$10 first buy-in, \$5 after that, and all money is donated to charity. The group's ministries of choice often support single-parent families. Next meeting is September 11<sup>th</sup> at the home of Jim Carlson. Men of all ages and abilities are welcome – it's a casual and fun group!



## Scrapbookers

Meet intermittently; the next meeting is Fri. 9/11 7 pm at the church. Come join the fun! We have room to spread out, and can share each other's tools, inspiration, and company. Not a scrapper, you say? No problem – just bring your photos and an album or any other craft projects you are working on! For info, contact Linda Doering- [lkdoering@yahoo.com](mailto:lkdoering@yahoo.com).



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**Church workdays** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month, from 8 am - noon. A handful of dedicated people are there every month, keeping our church looking nice and in good repair. They can really use some help. Even if you can't stay the whole time, come on down, have coffee and a snack, and lend a hand. If Saturday mornings are not free for you, see Linda Doering for info on what needs to be done ([lkdoering@yahoo.com](mailto:lkdoering@yahoo.com) or 219-6362). Weeds are there for the picking every day of the week!

**Recycling** funds are put toward new plants and gardening supplies. Please bring your plastic water bottles, soda cans, and small bottles to help raise landscaping funds. On her last trip to the recycling center, Linda got over \$77 – what an awesome effort!

## New Life Band is Coming to New Creation



The New Life Band - Mission to Youth and Students will present a concert at New Creation Lutheran Church on **Sunday, October 25, at 4:00 pm**. A potluck dinner will follow the concert. On Sunday morning, crafted items from **Asante Ministries** and **Maya Works** will be available. Plan ahead and start your Christmas shopping.

The concert will feature their extraordinary range of musical talent and their amazing commitment to their ministry among teenagers in Africa. Over the past 25 years, the New Life Band has developed an active and vibrant ministry to youth and students (primarily teenagers) in Tanzania through school visits, national youth camps and conferences, outdoor Christian rallies, concerts and performances, and one-on-one counseling and guidance. Their ministry has been deeply committed to reaching out to help today's youth of Tanzania, often caught up in an atmosphere of poverty, unemployment, substance abuse and lack of direction for their lives.

Their youth camps, held two or three times a year, are typically attended by more than 1000 young people. They are able to reach more than 600,000 people each year through concerts and outdoor rallies. They are extremely talented musicians, easily able to reach out to people through their wide range of music, from traditional African drum rhythms, close harmonies, to modern Western style instruments with an African flair.

A dream come true is the start of construction of their Secondary School and Vocational Training Center on their beautiful 20-acre site with a view of the nearby 20,000-ft. Mt. Meru near Arusha, Tanzania. When the school is completed they expect to be able to accommodate some 450 students.

The New Life Band will be staying over Sunday night. If you have room at your home to accommodate some of the members, please let Pastor Anne know.

***Put October 25 on your calendar as a "must attend" Sunday.***



## [A Message from Bishop Mark Holmerud \(and Bp. Mark Hanson\)](#)

August 22, 2009

Dear Friends in Christ,

Perhaps by now you have heard that the E.L.C.A., meeting in Assembly in Minneapolis, has voted to allow people in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships to serve as rostered clergy in this church. You may be aware that this is a change for which I have advocated and worked, both as a parish pastor and as bishop.

In the moments that followed yesterday's vote, I began to feel the weight of the implications of living into this new reality for all of us in the Sierra Pacific Synod. For some it will mean challenge, for others, it will be a celebration. Many others probably don't yet know what to think about these votes.

Just at that moment, Bishop Hanson spoke to us with words that echoed deeply in my heart. His first sentence, below, summed up perfectly what I was feeling in that moment; when I realized I would need time with this decision to understand its implications for our life together as synod. I need time to pray, to talk with you, to hear what you think this decision means for you and your ministry. That time will come. For now, I invite you to consider the elegant and faithful words Bishop Hanson shared with us:

"I want more time to think about words from one you have called to serve as pastor of this church. I have been standing here thinking about my 23 years as a parish pastor and how differently I would go into a context if I was gathering with a family or a group of people that had just experienced loss, or perhaps were wondering if they still belonged, or in fact felt deeply that ones to whom they belong had been severed from them. That would be a very different pastoral conversation. And I would probably turn to words such as Romans 8:

**"Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who was at the right hand of God, who intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus."**

But then I thought, "What if I were going into a family or a group, a community that had always wondered if they belonged and suddenly had now received a clear affirmation that they belonged?" All of the wondering about the dividing walls, the feelings of separation seem to have dropped away. That would be a very different conversation. I would probably read to them out of Ephesians [chapter 2]:

**"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God."**

But then I thought, what if those two groups were together, but also in their midst were those who had not experienced loss or the feeling of the dividing wall of separation coming down, but were wondering and worried if all that had occurred might sever the unity that is ours in Christ and might wonder if their actions might have contributed to reconciliation or separation? If all those people were together in a room, I would read from Colossians [chapter 3]:

"As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

That passage gives invitation and expectation that those deeply disappointed today will have in this church the expectation and the freedom to continue to admonish and to teach. And so, too, those that have experienced reconciliation today, you are called to humility. You are called to clothe yourselves with love. But we're all called to let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, remembering again and again that we are called in the one body. I will invite you tomorrow afternoon into important, thoughtful, prayerful conversations about what all of this means for our life together. But what is absolutely important for me is that that's a conversation we have together.

I ended my oral report with these words: "We meet one another finally, not in our agreements or our disagreements, but at the foot of the cross - where God is faithful, where Christ is present with us, and where, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we are one in Christ."

Let us pray. O God, gracious and holy, mysterious and merciful, we meet this day at the foot of the cross and there we kneel in gratitude and awe that you have loved us so much that you would give the life of your Son so that we might have life in his name. Send your spirit this night, the spirit of the Risen Christ that has been breathed into us. May it calm us. May your Spirit unite us. May it continue to gather us. In Jesus' name. Amen."

Please note the text and video of Bishop Hanson's remarks, as well as all information about the actions of the Churchwide Assembly are available at the ELCA website: [www.elca.org/assembly](http://www.elca.org/assembly) Pastors Nelson, Blomberg and I will be praying and talking with you as we continue to walk and work together to fulfill the mission God has given us - to be a people who have been marked with the cross of Christ, called to do God's work with our hands.

God's Peace,  
Bp. Mark



## *A Message from Pastor Anne*

### THE REST OF THE STORY...

Beyond the din and passion of the debates and the incessant voting to arrive at social statement on human sexuality and the concomitant 15 implementing resolutions and 4 major policy adjustments, there were major significant decisions and commitments made on behalf of the whole ELCA that need to be lifted high and celebrated.

*continued...*

**1. Health Care:** The ELCA has now committed all of its “expressions”, that is church-wide, synodical, and congregational, “to the premise that each person should have ready access to basic health care services that include preventive, acute, and chronic physical and mental health care at an affordable cost, and that we will convey the urgency and sense of this resolution to Congress and the White House.”

**2. Full communion with the Methodist Church:** We have come to full concord with the United Methodist Church for communion, baptism, and the sharing of clergy to serve either denomination. This marks the 6th major denomination the ELCA has entered into accord with, and the first that the United Methodist has an agreement with. There has been formed a Joint Commission on ELCA/UMC full communion and how this gets lived out.

**3. HIV/AIDS initiative:** We have taken on the challenge of raising \$10 million over the next three years to fight HIV/AIDS through gifts to the World Hunger Appeal.

**4. Lutheran Malaria Initiative (LMI):** In recognition that HIV/AIDS cannot be eradicated while malaria runs rampant, we took on a new initiative in collaboration with Lutheran World Relief, and the United Nations Foundation as “global partners to address malaria as a disease intensified by poverty within the context of comprehensive and sustainable community development in Africa.” We will join with our partners in raising \$25 million, by developing pilot projects to educate and solicit contributions, and bringing in large donors as partners in this effort. I got so excited about this initiative that I volunteered our expertise to spearhead the effort in our synod! There will be much more information on this down the road.

**5. Social Statement on Justice for Women:** We agreed to begin the work of developing a new social statement on Justice for Women in an effort to have a theological and ethical platform for setting a standard for the life and mission of all our members, and for advocacy in our jobs, schools, and all life-settings. It might make for lively conversation for New Creation to take up a study of all 9 of the ELCA’s Social Statements as they guide the ethics and theology of our life together. Anyone interested?

**6. Youth vote and participation:** A constitutional amendment was adopted: “It is the goal of this church that at least 10% of the voting members of the Churchwide Assembly, (national) Church Council, churchwide boards and committees, Synod assembly, Synod Council, committees and organizational units of the synod, and that local congregations shall have at least one youth and one young adult on the congregational council. This is an ambitious and future-embracing goal.

I am deeply grateful for all your prayers and support in my participation in this history-making assembly. There will be much to discuss and implement in the future. I was deeply honored to be selected for this very demanding and inspiring job.

– Pastor Anne

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**Sunday MORNING, August 30<sup>th</sup> – last day to donate health kits for Lutheran World Relief.** They need about 56,000 kits to meet demand all over the world. People who must flee their homes quickly often do not have time to pack essential items. Health kits can help refugees maintain personal hygiene while living in exile. Please consider donating the following items so NCLC can send some kits to LWR. Each kit contains:

- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- One washcloth, dark color recommended
- One bath-size bar (4-5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in its original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (*please no toothpaste*)
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- One metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached, remove packaging (*do not substitute cardboard emery boards for the file*)
- Six Band-Aids® (or similar), preferably 1/2" to 3/4"; secure together with a rubber band

Please bring your donated items to church, where there will be a box in the entryway for you to put them in. We will be collecting items through the month of August. Karen Apland and Marilyn Feldhaus will assemble the kits and mail them.

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## **Contact List**

- **Pastor Anne** – 406-8749 or **[pastor-anne@comcast.net](mailto:pastor-anne@comcast.net)**
  - **Youth and Family Program Director** – Cristina Beauchemin – 972-9200 or **[cristinab@newcreationchurch-sj.org](mailto:cristinab@newcreationchurch-sj.org)**
  - **Preschool** – Debra Townley – 209-9041 or **[debrat@newcreationchurch-sj.org](mailto:debrat@newcreationchurch-sj.org)**
  - **Music Director, Women's Bible Study** – Glenda Voss – 391-8008 or **[glendavoss@comcast.net](mailto:glendavoss@comcast.net)**
  - **Property, scrapbooking, recycling** – Linda Doering – 219-6362 or **[lkdoering@yahoo.com](mailto:lkdoering@yahoo.com)**
  - **Website contributions** – Jay Everson – 226-2026 or **[webmaster@newcreationchurch-sj.org](mailto:webmaster@newcreationchurch-sj.org)**
  - **Men's Poker Group** – Jay Everson – 226-2026 or **[jaye@all-offroad.com](mailto:jaye@all-offroad.com)**
  - **Newsletter, Council** – Becky Everson – 226-2026 or **[becky@all-offroad.com](mailto:becky@all-offroad.com)**
  - **Men's Bible Study, Prayer Line** – Rick Voss – 225-7127 or **[papa\\_rick@comcast.net](mailto:papa_rick@comcast.net)**
  - **Budget & Finance** – Ken Doering – 972-9200
-

# photos from around the community



Kathy, Joan, and Jean planning something beautiful, no doubt!



Property Manager-in-Training



"These things don't take care of themselves, you know!"



Marilyn wrestles with heavy machinery



See? Gardening makes you pretty!



Estelle puts a fresh face on the preschool shelves.



**Rockin' the House!**

# September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>August 30</b> <b>10 am – regular service</b> <b>4 pm – celebration worship &amp; BBQ</b>	August 31	Sept. 1	2	3	4	5
9 am choir 10 am prayer service 10:15 worship	preschool 9:30-12:30  6-9 pm AA	preschool 9:30-12:30  6-9 pm AA	preschool 9:30-12:30 6:30 pm choir practice 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	preschool 9:30-12:30  11 am Women's Bible Study Girl Scouts	10 am coffee and quilters  Men's poker 6:30 pm @Doerings' 7 pm Scrapbooking	9am-1pm Strategic planning meeting 10-12 Girl Scouts 1:30-6:30 UCG Church  8 am Work Day 1:30-6:30 UCG Church 7:30 pm Family Movie Night
9 am choir 10 am prayer service 10:15 worship	preschool 9:30-12:30  6-9 pm AA	preschool 9:30-12:30  6-9 pm AA	preschool 9:30-12:30 6:30 pm choir practice 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	preschool 9:30-12:30  11 am Women's Bible Study	10 am coffee and quilters	Santa Teresa Community Fest @Page Park 1:30-6:30 UCG
9 am choir 10 am prayer service 10:15 worship Council mtg after service	preschool 9:30-12:30  6-9 pm AA	preschool 9:30-12:30  6-9 pm AA	preschool 9:30-12:30 6:30 pm choir practice 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study	preschool 9:30-12:30  11 am Women's Bible Study Girl Scouts	10 am coffee and quilters	4 pm Book Group @Aplands'  1:30-6:30 UCG Church
9 am choir 10 am prayer service 10:15 worship	preschool 9:30-12:30  6-9 pm AA	preschool 9:30-12:30  6-9 pm AA	preschool 9:30-12:30  6:30 pm choir practice 7:30 pm Men's Bible Study			

## Worship Assistants -- September 2009

	<u>pastor's asst.</u>	<u>comm. asst.</u>	<u>usher/greeters</u>	<u>nursery</u>	<u>elementary</u>	<u>jr/sr high</u>	<u>altar guild</u>
<b>8/30- am</b>	Roger Hanson	Charlotte Happel	Bob Busby & Sally Pierce	Uyen Tu	Rick Voss		Kathy Hemmig
<b>8/30- pm</b>	none	Mickey Ritchie & Olive Davis	Cristina Beauchemin, Sally Pierce, and Roger Hanson	Uyen Tu	none		Kathy Hemmig
<b>9/6</b>	Matt Lawler	Joshua Lawler	Les & Charlotte Happel	Uyen Tu	Karen Apland	Mimi Lawler	Kathy Hemmig
<b>9/13</b>	Mickey Ritchie	Karen Apland	Sandy & Shannon Hanson	Jonathan/Sarah	Jennifer Tuck	Mimi Lawler	Kathy Hemmig
<b>9/20</b>	Karen Apland	Sally Pierce	Ted Hemmig & Linda Tremoureaux	Jennifer Tuck	Linda Doering	Debra Dimas	Kathy Hemmig
<b>9/27</b>	Jim Carlson	Eric Everson	Nancy O'Connell & Rick Voss	Uyen Tu	Shannon Hanson	Debra Dimas	Kathy Hemmig

### Mission Statement

To be recognized as a group of people committed to reconciliation, hope, and healing; through Jesus Christ; by inviting, nurturing, serving, and sending.

### New Creation is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

*"If I speak in the tongues of men and angels but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal."* — 1 Corinthians 13.



We are all children of God and as such are all welcome in God's house. New Creation Church, committed to offering reconciling hope and healing, opens our doors and our hearts to all people, regardless of cultural background, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic or family status, gender or age. This welcome includes persons who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered, their partners, and families.



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



[www.newcreationchurch-sj.org](http://www.newcreationchurch-sj.org)

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

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



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