



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

Coming Events

Mar 5: Men's Breakfast @ Effie's in Campbell. For those who cannot attend in person, you may join us via Zoom by clicking here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82516406200?pwd=VFIBYIM1MFZHVUxNN0xzZW03Umx4UT09> (1st Sat of the Month: Apr 2, May 7, Jun 4)

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****Lent: March 9, March 16, March 23, March 30, April 6 (Page 11)**

Worship Status – Pg. 11

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

****Layette Donations: Infant/baby items (Page 12)**

Vaccination and Booster shots Information, including children on Pg. 19

"Volunteer to Serve on Sundays!"

Pl sign up for Altar Guild**

Pl sign up for Livestreaming/camera setup and support during Sunday service**

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



Two years ago, we had some confidence that by the coming Easter we would open our doors again and rejoice at the end of the unprecedented cancellation of our in-person services for half the Lenten season. But, of course, that didn't happen.

Now, with a much better perspective, we can hope with greater confidence that the end of the pandemic is indeed appearing on the horizon. Surely our lives have changed – and things will not be as they once were. We will not throw away our masks; we'll keep them handy to use again when during flu season rolls around or when we're feeling under the weather. But it is with great rejoicing that we now stand mostly on the other side of this pandemic, with available vaccines and the promise of brighter (and healthier) days ahead.

The beginning of Lent is upon us. It is, again, a season of waiting. But perhaps this will be our most meaningful Lent ever. For we have learned what it means to wait –how to make adjustments, how to live together in community, how to place our trust in God. Which is where it has always belonged. We will revisit some familiar traditions – receiving ashes that remind us of our mortality; receiving bread and wine that remind us of forgiveness and salvation. But we will also see with fresh eyes – with a new knowing. And, I trust, with a deeper and more meaningful appreciation.

I invite you to join me on this familiar but fresh Lenten journey. We will have midweek sessions that will take us back to the heart of our faith and the center of our confession. And we will prepare well for the celebration of what we KNOW is coming: a joyful Easter and an enthusiastic celebration of our new life in Christ.

Be strong, dear friends. Let your heart take courage. For when you place your hope in the LORD, you will surely not be disappointed. For He is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that you ask or think. To Him alone be the glory!

May God bless you abundantly!

Pastor Derek J Engfelt



THE MESSENGER

People Helping People !

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

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

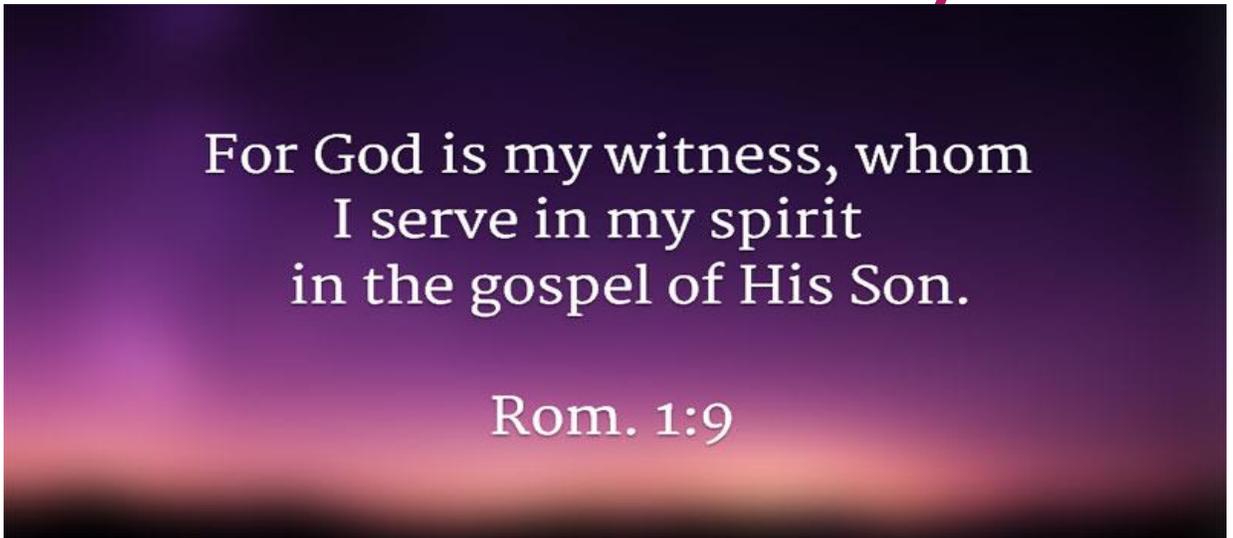
Helping anyone even if it is just a little means so much to people who literally have nothing. God's grace.

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

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



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

Liturgists - Prayers: Offer Prayers of the People during the service

Liturgists - Cantor: Assistant leader in worship, chant the opening liturgy

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

Nursery: Watch over the little ones during service

Sunday School: Teach or assist in our 10:45 Sunday school (preschool - high school)



If you have questions about any of these Sunday Morning Activities, please call the church office.



Worship + Love + Serve



Children's Story



The Green Shoes



Once Upon a time, Stuart the mouse was walking to the mall with his mom, Yolanda mouse.

"Stuart, please stay right next to me when we are at the mall, because it's very crowded there so it would be easy for you to get lost," Yolanda mouse tells him.

When Stuart and Yolanda get to the mall, Stuart wants to go to the shoe store to look at all of the shoes in the window, Stuart has wanted the green pair of shoes in the window for a very long time.

"Stuart come with me please to the laundromat, I need to do some laundry, and I was hoping to get it done today," Yolanda mouse tells him.

Stuart follows his mom to the laundromat, not thinking about anything but how much he wanted those green shoes.

The laundromat was very close to the shoe store, so maybe he could sneak away for a couple of minutes without Yolanda noticing.

While Yolanda is busy putting the laundry in, Stuart sneaks away to the shoe store to look at the shoes in the window.

After a while looking, he decides to go back to the laundromat, to ask his mom if he could maybe get the green shoes he really wanted in the window.

But when Stuart goes back, Yolanda is nowhere to be seen. He goes back outside to the giant crowds of people but he still can't seem to find her.

He goes back to the shoe store, nothing.

At this point Stuart doesn't know what to do so he sits down in a corner to cry.

"I should've listened to her," he says before putting his head down.

About an hour later he feels somebody shake him awake.

He looks up to see Yolanda. "Stuart, I was so scared, I told you to never leave my side," she says to Stuart.

"I'm so sorry Mom, I'll never leave your side again."

Stuart gets up and hugs Yolanda, then they start to walk home.

THE MESSENGER

Men's Breakfast



Men's Breakfast is held the first Saturday of each month at Effie's Restaurant in Campbell (331 W. Hacienda Ave). We meet at 8:00am in the bar, 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

Men enjoying a relaxing Saturday morning breakfast (photo credit: Jack Moorman)



Women's Breakfast

The Women's Breakfast is held the third Saturday of each month at Holder's Country Inn Restaurant at 998 South De Anza Boulevard, San Jose. 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.



Our ILC ladies enjoying a relaxed morning visiting with each other. (photo credit: Cheryl Moorman)



Sunday School Activities





ILC EVENTS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FOOD CART - Please consider adding a package or two of food for 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

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.

SHOP AT SMILE.AMAZON.COM



Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Immanuel Lutheran Church of Saratoga. Bookmark the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-1744019> and support ILC every time you shop.



Flower Chart on Kiosk – Sign Up for Altar Flowers

ILC Annual Events

EASTER



LADIES RETREAT



Habitat for Humanity



Summer Concerts In the Park



Thanksgiving Interfaith Service



Christmas Buffet Decorating



Christmas Concert Children's Christmas Play



On The Horizon... (mark your calendars)

Worship Offerings

We will continue to have three offerings – traditional, contemporary and livestream.
<https://ilcsaratoga.org/live.php>. Please check website for each week's Livestream start time.

If you cannot join us in person, you're invited to join us for a time of live online fellowship in a pre- or post-service Zoom gathering, which begins at 10:00. Click here to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81019722507?pwd=bC85VXMxZ0ViSWZpaFlxWmsvRoU4UT09>
 Meeting ID: 810 1972 2507; Passcode: 760944

New Bible Study Offering

Join us Wednesday mornings in March at 10:00 AM as we consider the *Book of Ruth*. We'll cover one chapter each week. [Note: There will be no meeting on March 16.] All are welcome.

We meeting in person in the Fireside Room. Treats are served at the conclusion of the class (11:30). If you are 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. In March we will consider Paul's letter to *Philemon* and then begin studying the *Book of James*. 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=dEgrbEwUFZlaU5NQy91RE9sWlNlQk91>

Lent...

Ash Wednesday is, **March 2**, and with it comes the beginning of the season of Lent – forty days (not including Sundays), leading up to Easter. We gather in the sanctuary for a somber service, remembering that "we are dust, and to dust we shall return." We will also share in the Sacrament of our Lord, and hear that His body and His blood were poured out, for us. **The service begins at 7:30 PM.**

Then, on the following five Wednesdays, we will gather in the Fireside Room to study part of Luther's catechism: **The Apostles' Creed.**

We gather **each Wednesday at 7:00 and conclude by 8:00 PM.** Plan to join us, and bring someone with you.

March 9: Intro to the Creed: Background & Importance

March 16: Father: The Almighty Creator

March 23: Son: The Humiliation

March 30: Son: The Exaltation

April 6: Holy Spirit, Holy Communion, Holy Home

Also during the season of Lent, we will be including a special and beloved liturgy on Sunday mornings from the Holden Evening Prayer service.

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, as we're planning to venture out on the second and fourth Saturdays of March. These will be "no one left behind" hikes. Invite your friends!

March 12: Calero County Park: Lookout (5.5 miles; moderate)

Getting There:

Heading south on Highway 85, exit Almaden Expressway. Head south and continue on Almaden Expressway for about 5 miles (until it T's at Harry Road). Turn RIGHT. Then, in about 100 yards, turn LEFT on McKean Rd. The park entrance is about a mile down the road on the right-hand side. There's plenty of free parking available.

Time: 9:00 AM



March 26: Calero County Park: Main Entrance 23205 McKean Rd., San Jose, CA 95120 (out-and-back, undulating hills)

Getting There: Heading south on Highway 85, exit Almaden Expressway. Head south and continue on Almaden Expressway for about 5 miles (until it T's at Harry Road). Turn RIGHT. Then, in about 100 yards, turn LEFT on McKean Rd. Go 4.8 miles, and make a sharp right turn into the park. There's plenty of free parking available.

Time: 9:00 AM

For each of these hikes, plan to arrive by 8:45 AM. We'll gather our group and plan our hike. We'll hit the road at 9:00 and plan to return to our cars by 11:00.

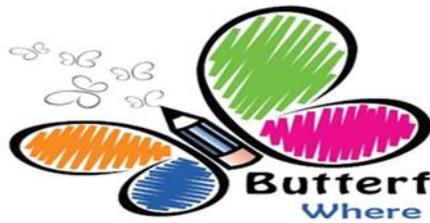
Please RSVP so I know you'll be coming. Bring a water bottle, and wear comfortable and sturdy shoes/boots. You can RSVP by emailing me at pastorderek@ilcsaratoga.org or calling 408-499-4866.

Layette Donations

From Catherine Fulde (on behalf of the Community Services Committee)

We are continuing to collect layette items for Gloria Dei's Layette Ministry. This ministry provides infant clothing, diapers, etc. to poor women who cannot afford to clothe their babies. Please bag your donations with a list of its contents and your name. Place them in the Baby Box in the Narthex. Between Services on Sunday, April 3rd, we will meet in the Trust Fund Room to compose the individual Layettes. A list of needed items will be sent to you via email.

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!



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Please Call us at above number to schedule a tour

www.ButterfliesAcademy.com



THE MESSENGER



Weddings at Immaunel 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 to their lives at quaint church and its tranquil surroundings



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



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

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

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

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

Text **211211** to receive texts on updates.

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

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

<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 to deliver services & help for older Californians - **1-833-544-2374**.

CDC's corona virus household check list.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/get-your-household-ready-for-COVID-19.html>

Pack your own groceries: <http://www.msn.com/en-us/money/spendingandborrowing/during-coronavirus-pandemic-youll-have-to-pack-your-own-groceries-if-you-have-a-reusable-bag/ar-BB11YLZ5?ocid=ientp>

Data on social distancing scorecard in states and counties -

<https://www.unacast.com/covid19/social-distancing-scoreboard>

County of Santa Clara COVID-19 Data Dashboard -

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

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 websites.

1. <https://covid19.ca.gov/>
2. <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/public-health-orders.aspx>
3. <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/#county-status>
4. <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>

** It may be helpful to place your critical medicine mail-orders, preferably a week ahead to avoid last-minute requests. Again, not hoarding makes it possible for other patients to receive their vital prescriptions on time!

Just for laughs – This website helps 😊 <http://jokes.christiansunite.com/> Here is a preview!



A child's point of view

The story of Adam and Eve was being carefully explained in the children's Sunday School class. Following the story, the children were asked to draw a picture illustrating the story.

Little Johnny was most interested and drew a picture.

The teacher saw little Johnny's picture and was at a loss to understand how this illustrated the lesson of Adam and Eve.

But little Johnny was prompt with his explanation. "Why, this is God driving Adam and Eve out of the garden!"

Little Johnny had drawn a picture of a car with three people in it; In the front seat, behind the wheel, was a man, and in the back seat, a man and a woman.

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

We are all in this together!

God Bless and Stay Safe!

Vaskie Turner



Vaccinations...

GOT YOUR SHOT? If you're over 12, you are now eligible to receive your vaccination shots for COVID-19. The latest updates on vaccine eligibility and how to schedule an appointment are available on the County's website at [sccfreevax.org](https://www.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.

CDC Expands Eligibility for COVID-19 Booster Shots -October 21, 2021

For individuals who received a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, the following groups are eligible for a booster shot at 6 months or more after their initial series:

- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ who live in [long-term care settings](#)
- Age 18+ who have [underlying medical conditions](#)
- Age 18+ who work or live in [high-risk settings](#)

For the nearly 15 million people who got the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine, booster shots are also recommended for those who are 18 and older and who were vaccinated two or more months ago. [CDC Expands Eligibility for COVID-19 Booster Shots | CDC Online Newsroom | CDC](#)

COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens

[COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens | CDC](#)

FDA authorized the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine for children ages 5 through 11.

Car problems? Don't want to leave your home?



Contact Jim & Vaskie Turner who have had a good experience with a company that provides pickup service from your home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

THE MESSENGER

Come Worship With Us!



14103 Saratoga Ave.
Saratoga, CA 95070

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Fax: 408-867-0824
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 by the **15th** of the month, typed (preferably text or word processing file, but paper copy is ok too), and should be approximately **150 words**. If you are interested in submitting an article for publication in our newsletter, please contact our office.

Editor: Vaskie Turner
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of Saratoga

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