



Message from Pastor Scottie

May 2013: Easter Happenings Lead to Pentecost Mission

We are worshipping through the Easter Season. Pentecost arrives May 19. During this time Jesus told the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit to come that would launch them into their new mission for God. During this time the disciples prayed, worshiped, discerned, and talked. When the big day came they were all gathered together in one place ready in heart and mind for God's action with them and the mission ahead.

We are the disciples' descendants. It is our time to launch. The church council will present its four-year strategic plan with a 2013 final budget in support May 5 after the second service. The Holy Spirit is moving to mission.

God is already doing miracles in our midst to prepare for this jump start into ministry. Several times in the last couple of months people have come to Our Savior's with needs and each time you have answered the calls. Jars of peanut butter are multiplying like rabbits for Central City Lutheran Mission (CCLM). LCOS joined forces with First Lutheran in Redlands and served another 100 homeless people April 14. The Church Council voted to donate a majority of our old pews for CCLM to help 75 men each night to have a bed to sleep on. This also helps us clear out needed storage space for an expanding Sunday School. No less than eight new people have joined our fellowship in 2013 not counting a baptism and another baptism scheduled in May. These are the first signs of change in a mission that is taking us to a personal level of reaching out with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his love in a variety of ways.

The men's group is coming alive with a gathering on May 18. WELCA is revving up with a National Day of Prayer event and dinner May 30. The church councils of Spirit of Hope and Our Saviors met recently with excited possibilities of doing ministry together in San Bernardino. Our new Veteran's Group met and is meeting again May 14. Fellowship is lining up super gatherings for all ages to enjoy. The list goes on and on.

We have had our challenges. The multiple metal thefts during the last few months left us with a big bill, but God provides again through his people. The insurance is willing to pay up and in the recent request to the congregation for additional offerings beyond pledges, over \$16,000 was raised to help defray new security costs and those air conditioner costs not covered by the insurance settlement. This happens because the Holy Spirit is working in, with, and through you, the people of God at LCOS. It's exciting to watch. God is taking us by faith to new places and the experience is awesome.

Come join the excitement and feel the Holy Spirit working miracles of love in the simple outreach of one person to another in our community. This is God's mission on the move. Blessings.

-Pastor Scottie