

Return Service Requested

Lutheran Campus Ministry of Fresno is a ministry of the **Evangelical Lutheran Church of America** in cooperation with other Christian partners in The Central Valley, seeking to engage, equip and encourage students, faculty and Fresno community members to be agents of love in the world.

Pastor Paul Clark
 lcmoffresno@gmail.com
 (559) 224-9051
 lcmoffresno.org

Do You Know of any young adults that are working or attending post secondary programs locally?

Put them in touch with Pastor Paul. LCM can be a place to simply belong; but there are also opportunities for leadership and the sharing of one's skills.



LCM WISH LIST

- ◆ \$110 to buy a Shruti Box (simple musical instrument) for use at our Dinner Church gatherings
- ◆ For you to buy your fireworks at OUR stand (see info inside news letter)
- ◆ A chain-link gate (to be used for creative purposes in worship, on campus tabling, etc.)
- ◆ Home cooked meals for Tapestry on Wednesday nights
- ◆ The use of a cabin/comfortable space within a two-hour drive of Fresno for a student leadership retreat (space for up to six people to sleep, cook/eat, work and relax)

Warp And Weft*

Lutheran Campus Ministry of Fresno Newsletter
 June 2016

*The warp and weft are opposites that are woven together to create a tapestry, just as God merges our varied gifts to produce acts of love.

Divided We Fall

In the early hours of Sunday, June 12th, a brainwashed and confused young man marched into a gay night club in Orlando and open fired, managing to take the lives of 50 people, while injuring at least 53 more. In the days that followed, social media exploded in outrageous attacks, pitting the "left" against the "right" as people argued about things like gun control, or the distinctions between hate crimes and acts of terrorism. People were at each other's throats, proclaiming slanderous and uneducated things about their opponents. The following images are just the tip of the iceberg of what I encountered:



The problem is not guns!



It's hearts without God,
 homes without discipline,
 schools without prayer
 and
 courts without justice



But none of this fighting changed the fact that 50 children of God lost their lives, and were robbed of the potential that the Holy Spirit had placed before them. Fifty circles of families and friends were left wondering, "Why God?"... and countless other LGBT people were ensnared by fear; "What if I had been there?", "Is it safe for me to go to my own Pride festival or gay bar?"

A tragedy like this leaves us with a myriad of emotions: anger, fear, sadness, and frustration. And these emotions lead to questions. Thus, Lutheran Campus Ministry hosted a gathering of remembrance. More than a Vigil, it was a space for Prayer, Reflection, Listening, Sharing, and even Hoping!

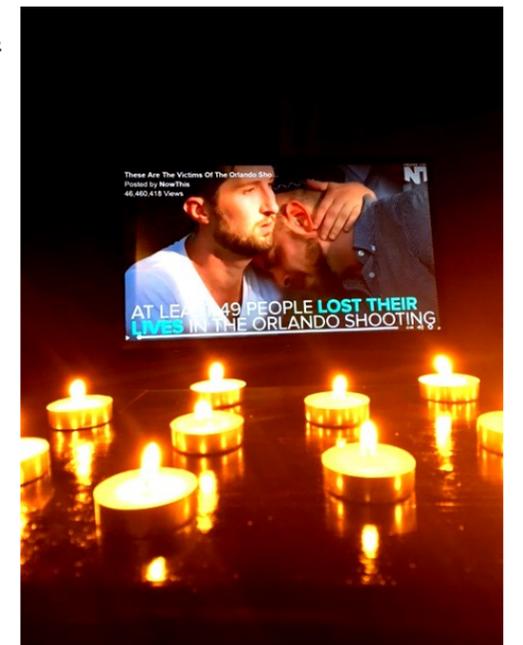
Hoping that this sort of tragedy does not happen again. Hoping for something so much better than the cartoons shared above and the divisive debates from which they were born.

Hoping to hear the church's ancient proclamation of the Vigil:

The Light of Christ;
Thanks be to God!

May the Light of Christ scatter all darkness, uniting us in our efforts to cast aside hate with love.

Thanks be to God!
 Pastor Paul Clark



Coming This Fall

In an effort to be as accessible as possible to the busy commuter students that make up the bulk of the Fresno State population, we will be hosting a series of on-campus lunch gatherings. Guest speakers will speak to a variety of subjects, such as: **Budgeting 101**; **Personal Image: The Impact of Social Media on Your Career**; **Meditation and Self Care**; **Coloring for Adults** (offered during finals week). Students provide their own lunch (from home or the food court). LCM provides beverages and dessert. These gatherings will be made possible in part by a Time Warner grant that LCM received.

The world needs more
Common Ground
 Events sponsored by
 Lutheran Campus Ministry



SPRING BREAK SERVICE TRIP 2016

During Spring Break, four of us headed to nearby Las Vegas Nevada. We stayed at Reformation Lutheran Church, just blocks off the "strip." Our time was spent working with three different projects.

1) Family Promise of Las Vegas.

Family Promise is a nationwide network of organizations that work to transition people out of homelessness. We did a variety of tasks for the Las Vegas "day shelter." Participants in the program spend the night at local churches. During the day, children are sent to school or other day programs, and adults receive training with a variety of life skills, and help in finding a job. Once work is secured, families receive help in transitioning to their own private housing.

2) Animal Matching Program.

We helped a program that focusses on taking care of vets and their pets, moving two trailer loads of disassembled shelving materials and animal kennels into a second story storage locker. It was simple, but repetitively taxing work, and we logged well over 10,000 steps that day!

3) Senior Lunch Program.

Our host, Reformation Lutheran, in conjunction with Lutheran Social Services, hosts a free midday meal program for people aged 65 and older. The clients were full of interesting stories and experiences.

We give extra thanks to the Trinity Endowment Fund for providing us with some seed money to keep the costs of the trip minimal for the students who attended. The Spring Break Trip in 2017 will be a cultural immersion experience that will take us to San Diego and Mexico.

We're Having Dinner Church and You are Invited! Sunday, July 17th @5:00 PM

Dinner church is a form of worship that weaves singing, prayer, scripture, reflection, communion, and dinner into one experience. Students at LCM have an opportunity to experience this once a month (in place of Tapestry, our regular dinner gathering). But as a thank you to all who support us, an invitation to alumni who are part of our history, and a celebration of the hard work of several students who are wrapping up various degree programs, we're putting together the largest dinner church yet. With some creative re-organization, we'll use our chapel for this sacred experience, allowing for more than 12 people (which our usual space limits us to) to experience this unique way of worshipping.

Please join us for this extra special worship opportunity

And if you can, please RSVP to lcmoffresno@gmail.com by July 14th! We'll plan on having some extra food for unexpected guests, but it will help us to ensure we have enough food for if attendees RSVP



Looking for Fireworks?

LCM is teaming up with Bulldog Pantry to sell TNT fireworks. Stop by our stand near the Target on Marks and Shaw to take care of your fireworks needs while supporting these great ministries!

HOURS

Friday, July 1st from 1:00-8:00 PM

Saturday and Sunday, July 2nd & 3rd, 10:00 AM- 8:30 PM

Monday, July 4th, 9:00 AM-9:00 PM

Lutheran Campus Ministry is only able to carry on our important and inspiring work through the support of congregations and individuals. Please consider how you might be able to support us with a one-time or recurring gift. If you wish to support LCM, fill out, detach and send the following "form" to:

LCM Fresno
 2311 E. Shaw Ave.
 Fresno, CA 93710

Are you a Thrivent member?
 Don't forget, you can direct your
 Choice Dollars to LCM!
 We are in their database as

"Lutheran Campus
 Council of Fresno"



Supporters, Alumni, and Friends! Save the Date of October 2, 2016.



Lutheran Campus Ministry of Fresno will be hosting a Western themed fundraising event and dance party at the Smittcamp Alumni House at Fresno State. There will be memories, food, a silent auction, free parking, and excellent music provided by John Pemberton.

Tickets will go on sale in early September. Buy one for yourself and a friend, spouse, sister, brother, or stranger. OR Buy a whole table and invite your neighbors to come participate.

Also, donations for and/or help with an accompanying silent auction are appreciated (and should be directed to Pastor Paul).

Lutheran Campus Ministry of Fresno 2311 E. Shaw Ave. Fresno, CA 93710 (559) 224-9051

I will support Lutheran Campus Ministry by (select one)

- providing a gift to the general fund of \$ _____
- providing a gift to the general fund of \$50 (enough to cover one Tapestry dinner)
- providing a gift to the general fund of \$500 (enough to cover one month of utilities)
- Providing a gift to the general fund of \$1,000 (enough to send 2 students on the 2017 spring break immersion experience to Mexico)

LCM alumni? _____

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 e-mail _____ Congregation _____