

# WESTCHESTER LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

## CANDLE



### May: “Are We There Yet?” Almost to the Yellow Tier...

Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

Just when I was starting to get hopeful about new freedoms in the Yellow tier, I received (4/30) three lists of requirements and mandates for the **Orange Tier**. So – even though we’re very likely just a few days from entering the yellow tier, we are going to double down on the **Orange Tier** rules.



Not that I’m frustrated or anything – ok, yes, I’m frustrated... trying to help the school through the various requirements, trying to get ready for an in-person, indoor graduation service on June 17<sup>th</sup>, and all the rest that goes along with normal life here... it’s been a tiring week. Aren’t we almost through with all of this? Surely we’re almost there, right?

A LOT of life is like this, isn’t it? We have so many “almost, not yet” moments, and have to endure times that are draining and exhausting. How do we make it through these times?

Our Gospel lesson for this Sunday points us in a great direction. In **John 15:5**, Jesus says, *“I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.”* What does this have to do with frustrations and stresses? Quite a bit, I think.

If the branch (that’s you!) of a grape vine is grafted onto a grape vine (that’s Jesus!), things will go as expected. The branch will bear fruit as one would expect. If, however, a branch is disconnected from the grape vine, OR is grafted onto something or someone else, either no fruit or diseased fruit is produced.

What does this have to do with us? If we don’t **“abide”** in Jesus, if we’re disconnected from Jesus – completely or even mostly – we won’t bear any fruit. We’ll wither and die. If we are grafted onto something or someone else, and try to gain strength and nourishment from that, we won’t produce the expected fruit. Any difficulties, big or even pretty small, will overwhelm us, possibly even destroy us.

Think about the fruit that you’re producing in life – and compare it to what you COULD be producing as someone abiding in Jesus. In Galatians 5:22-23 we find the list: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control. If these aren’t being produced in you, something’s not right.

Now that isn’t to say that there won’t be times that we’re tested – of course we will! But as we encounter these moments (or years!) of testing, we endure because we abide in Jesus – even if we’re in the Orange Tier a little longer.

### Mother’s Day!

May 9<sup>th</sup> is the day we take time to remember, not just our Mothers, but also those women who have played special roles in our lives, and to give thanks to God for his work in us through them. It is also a day to acknowledge difficulties in some of those relationships, as well as loss for those of us mourning a passing of that significant person.

One of the things I enjoy is seeing mothers and grandmothers who have guilted, um, I mean, *invited* their children and grandchildren (or great grandchildren!) to join them in worship on that day. It’s always fun to see families come together, especially as we come out from under COVID restrictions! We’re planning some special things that day, and we’d love you and your family to attend.

It has been so wonderful to see people in church again! Please be safe and careful, but if you’re able, it would be so good to see you. We’re socially distanced, hand-sanitized, masked, temperature and health-checked, and so happy to see you!



Blessings,  
Pastor Larry

## Meetings & Other

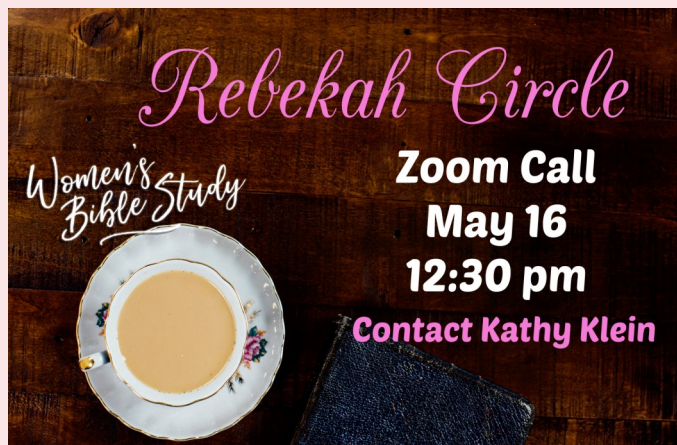


### GARDEN CREW

Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>  
9:00 am

All are welcome to join us in cleaning up our extensive landscaping!

Bring your gardening gloves, pruners, etc.



### COMMISSION MEETINGS

Life & Growth Commission will meet again on  
June 6, 2021 at 12:30 pm  
Zoom & Fireside Room

Women's Board will not meet this month until  
June 13, 2021 at 12:30 pm on Zoom

## Mother's Day

### IT'S NOT JUST FOR MOTHERS!

On Mother's Day this year, Westchester Lutheran Church would like to recognize **ALL** women, and this is the perfect opportunity for you to invite women in your lives to join you for a special celebration of women. Think about the special women in your life. In addition to your mother, daughters and daughters-in-laws, and grandmothers, there are many other women that you interact with:



- ◆ Your best friends
- ◆ A new friend
- ◆ An older woman in your life who has mentored you and given you advice
- ◆ A woman who's a special "auntie" or adopted grandma to the children in your life
- ◆ The woman across the street that you have conversations with (or not.)
- ◆ A co-worker that is far from home who has no one to celebrate with
- ◆ A friend that does not have any family to be with on Mother's Day

Pastor Larry & Shirley ask that you invite these women to join you on **Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>**, when we will be celebrating and honoring all the women in our lives. Tell them that you thought of them especially and ask if you could pick them up that morning to join you for a special service. **They do not need to be mothers – we will be honoring *all* women on this day.**

During the service there will be a special litany of prayer that every woman present will relate to. We will also have a special gift for every woman in church, and special refreshments following the service!

*Just a reminder as you invite family and friends- we continue to follow all Covid-19 protocols and precautions. Every other pew is blocked off for social distancing. Masks will be worn. Temperatures taken. Refreshments will be individually packaged to -go. (And there will be coffee!)*

**Let's fill the church on Mother's Day with all the wonderful women in our lives!**



*She is more precious than rubies...*  
Proverbs 3:15



# Join Us– Outdoor Spring Tea

## Spring Tea



May 15, 2021 at 11:00 am

There is no charge—You are WELCOME!

### Topic: Maintain a Healthy Brain

*Presented by Wellness and Fitness Nurse Carol Hahn*

Research keeps showing us there are several factors that help maintain a healthy brain and help prevent Alzheimer's disease. This presentation will discuss these factors and ways to incorporate them into your life.

Working with people over the age of 50, *Carol Hahn* uses a holistic approach to improve balance, flexibility, strength, and quality of life. Carol currently conducts education programs on dementia and other topics in a variety of settings, both locally and nationally. She has a Master of Science degree in Nursing from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Carol earned a certificate in Alzheimer's Disease.

### Event Reminders:


- \* Please wear your mask when not eating.
- \* The food is individually packaged.
- \* Event will take place on the church patio, socially distanced.

Westchester Lutheran Church and School  
7831 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Westchester • (310) 670-5422

# School News

- May 3<sup>rd</sup>:** Teacher Appreciation Week: Coffee Time in Fireside Room
- May 4<sup>th</sup>:** Teacher Appreciation Week: Lunch
- May 5<sup>th</sup>:** Teacher Appreciation Week: Flowers
- May 6<sup>th</sup>:** Teacher Appreciation Week: Thankful Thursday Notes from Students
- May 7<sup>th</sup>:** Teacher Appreciation Week: Gift Bags during Chapel
- May 7<sup>th</sup>:** Virtual Chapel at 10 am on YouTube/Early Dismissal
- May 7<sup>th</sup>:** *Happy Birthday Mr. James!*
- May 8<sup>th</sup>:** *Happy Birthday Ms. Martinez!*
- May 13<sup>th</sup>:** *Happy Birthday Mrs. Hahn!*
- May 14<sup>th</sup>:** Middle School 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Awards– Via Zoom
- May 14<sup>th</sup>:** Virtual Chapel at 10 am on YouTube
- May 17<sup>th</sup>:** *Happy Birthday Mrs. DeMedio!*
- May 21<sup>st</sup>:** Virtual Chapel at 10 am/Early Dismissal
- May 28<sup>th</sup>:** Virtual Chapel at 10 am
- May 28<sup>th</sup>:** Middle School Trade Show, 11:30 am-3:00 pm
- May 29<sup>th</sup>:** *Happy Birthday Ms. Packman!*
- May 31<sup>st</sup>:** Memorial Day– No School





**8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE NEWS:**

**Recognition Sunday:**  
June 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 am  
during service

**Graduation Ceremony:**  
June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm



**BELIEVING  
ACHIEVING  
& LEADING**




## WESTCHESTER LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

**ENROLL NOW FOR FALL 2021  
TK - 8TH GRADE**

EXCELLENCE YOU CAN SEE AND MEASURE

For over seventy years, Westchester Lutheran School has taught students from preschool through 8th grade to believe in themselves, in each other, and their ability to make a difference in the world. Our dedicated faculty and staff reach not only their minds but their hearts and souls.

WLS offers a classical education in a contemporary setting. Laying the foundation for that level of excellence begins in the earliest days of a child's education and continues throughout their years at Middle School and beyond.



7831 S. SEPULVEDA BLVD.  
WESTCHESTER, CA 90045  
310-670-5422  
WWW.WLCS.ORG



# Spring Fundraising Raffle

Westchester Lutheran School

## Spring Fundraising Raffle



**\$10 Per Ticket**

**Each Item raffled separately.  
Choose where your tickets are entered!**

1. **Hawaii Trip for 2 or \$3,200 in cash!**
2. Wine lot
3. American Girl Doll
4. SoFi Stadium Tour
5. Local Gift Card Package,
6. Burke Williams Spa Day
7. Roblox Gift Card

**Ticket download and instructions coming soon!**

**Stay Tuned to WLCS.org and   @WestchesterLutheranSchool**



Tickets go on sale May 14<sup>th</sup>

As per the school contract, accounts will be charged \$100 on May 14.

The automatic payment does not provide tickets in the raffle;  
tickets must be turned in to be included in the raffle.

Raffle transactions can not be done via the internet due to CA Laws

**RAFFLE DEADLINE JUNE 1 -  
Drawing will be Friday, June 4 during Chapel**

## Flower Chart



*Remember and honor loved ones past and present by donating flowers to beautify our sanctuary every Sunday.*

The cost is **\$35**. You may pay online or mail a check to the office. If you would like to take one of the spots available please call the office (310) 670-5422 to get your announcement in the bulletin or email Karina, [kmartinez@wics.org](mailto:kmartinez@wics.org). Thank you!

### May 2<sup>nd</sup>

- ♦ Given by Sharie & Ron Saqui in celebration of Gloria's birthday!
- ♦ Given by Joan Anckle in celebration of the birthday of Karina Martinez!

### May 9<sup>th</sup>

- ♦ Given by Angelika Gunn in honor of her mother, Lore Buddeberg, and all mothers everywhere!
- ♦ Given by Gloria Ward in celebration of Ryan's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday!
- ♦ Given to Elinore Thornton, "We are thankful to God for you and we love you very much. We look forward to many more years to come." Love, Jeanette, Lynne & Kim

### May 16<sup>th</sup>

- ♦ Given by Carol Spann in loving memory of Kiyochi Freightman.
- ♦ Available!

### May 23<sup>rd</sup>

- ♦ Given by Gloria Ward in celebration of Ryan & Elizabeth's 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary!
- ♦ Given by Sanchez Family in celebration of Jesse & Ilona's 54<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary!

### May 30<sup>th</sup>

- ♦ Available!
- ♦ Available!

## Altar Flowers 2021

### \*Available June dates:

June 6<sup>th</sup> (2 spots), 13<sup>th</sup> (1 spot), 20<sup>th</sup> (1 spot), 27<sup>th</sup> (2 spots)

### \*Available July dates:

July 4<sup>th</sup> (2 spots), 11<sup>th</sup> (2 spots), 18<sup>th</sup> (1 spot), and 25<sup>th</sup> (2 spots)

## Anniversaries

**Congratulations & blessings  
on your wedding anniversary!**

**May 20<sup>th</sup>**

Larry & Shirley Becker

&

Chris & Diane Maeder



## Birthday Blessings

May 2	Juanita Burks and David Hiley
May 4	Robert Gunn
May 5	Daniel Esene
May 7	Samantha Russo
May 8	Chris Giammalvo & Karina Martinez
May 11	Sherly Swanson
May 13	Luke Engler & Debra Russo
May 14	Angelika Gunn
May 15	Doreen Dice & Elisabeth Toepfer-Minihan & Ed Yarnall
May 18	Evelyn Russo
May 20	Ruby Williams
May 21	Kim Nowak & Faith Smith
May 23	Richard Bradley
May 29	Marti Packmann



## Praying for Others



### Members & friends hospitalized, recovering from illness or surgery, or long-term illness:

Doris Brown, Rob Button, Susan Cole, Amy Gustafson, Helen Jones, Ida Manuel-Stovall, Katie Meyer, David O'Hara, Virginia Ramsey, Angie Reichenberg, Barbara Roamer, Donald Rousar, Juan Salinas, Mary Lou Schnitzer, Charles Seaberg, Diane Tallman, Kathy Tank, Ruby Williams, Georgiann & Steve Young & Irwin.

### Members & friends grieving:

Family of Jack Wadman and Barbara O'Hara

**Members & friends serving in the military:** Richard Appelhans, Desobry Bowens, David Flick, Jeremy Manning, Donald Moe, Deane Stewart, and Kimberly York.

## PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

If you would like to join, or have a prayer request, please call the office (310) 670-5422

## Thrivent Choice Dollars

### Are you a Thrivent Member?

If so, would you consider directing your  
**Thrivent Choice Dollars** to WLCS?

Through Thrivent Choice, you can contribute to organizations and causes you care about – and influence how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable funding.

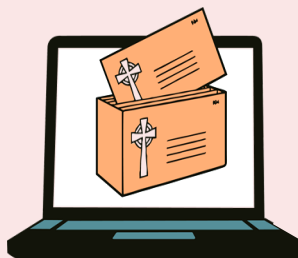
For more information go to the link below or talk to your representative.

[www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-choice.html](http://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-choice.html)



## Your Giving Matters

### HOW YOU CAN GIVE?



- ◆ **Mail** in your offering to the office.
- ◆ **In-person** worship on Sunday morning drop in the offering plate
- ◆ **Online:** (follow steps below)

Go to [WLCS.org](http://WLCS.org)

Click on **Payments & Donations**

Click on **Offerings/Donations**

## General Services

**SUNDAYS, 10:00 AM**  
**INDOORS & LIVESTREAM**

As we've fully entered the Orange "Moderate" Tier in our dealing with the COVID pandemic, we are able to offer in-person worship services. Masks are required, as are temperature and health checks upon entry. We've got the pews marked off for social distancing, and we're ready for you to safely join us in worship.

WATCH LIVE ON:



"Westchester Lutheran Church and School"



"Westchester Lutheran Church and School" or  
"Lawrence Becker"

## Operation Gratitude



This is an ongoing project so anyone interested in crocheting or knitting scarves can pick up yarn that's available at the church office.



**WESTCHESTER  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH & SCHOOL**



7831 S. Sepulveda Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90045

Phone: (310) 670-5422

Fax: (310) 670-1476

Website: [www.WLCS.org](http://www.WLCS.org)

Office Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm and please wear a mask