

# the Bethel Beam

Bethel Lutheran Church

March 2012

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

It is with a tremendous sense of excitement for our future ministry together that I write this initial newsletter article as your newly called pastor. I imagine you are equally as filled with hopes and dreams - pondering "What is God calling us to do?"-- and I look forward to exploring that conversation together. Pastor Wendt has done an excellent job of walking with you these past several months, and I am ever thankful to him for the work he's done - and to God for calling him here in the first place!

Some of you have likely wondered by now, "If he's so excited to do this work, why isn't he in the office yet?" It's a good question. Even Sarah recently noted to her sister, "I think Chris is getting restless [to start]," and she's right! Yet, as much as my instincts are screaming at me to dive in headfirst, I am trying to be deliberate about allowing myself - and my family - time to acclimate. Since moving to Shoreline nearly two weeks ago, I've been kept busy with setting up our home, setting up my office, and adjusting to life in a city "slightly" larger than Chinook (population 466). There's been a lot of work to do - emotional as well as physical - and it was complicated by my attendance last week at the ELCA's Missional Leaders Training Conference in Houston (I realized on the flight home that - at that point - I'd called Houston "home" nearly as long as Shoreline!). The conference was well worth attending, and I look forward to sharing much of it with you down the road, as well as bringing some people along to the next session of it (August 16-19 in Seattle). You will be seeing more of me in the near future, though, as we are hoping to attend Lenten services and will be at Bethel on March 4.

While there will be (and already have been) some changes made as a result of my arrival in Shoreline, my general goal as we begin is primarily to listen, both to the congregation as well as to the larger community of which we are a part. I want to develop a sense of how we as a church "fit" into the life and rhythms of this place, and I want to better understand how we can more effectively serve this area as "Christ's hands made flesh." All of us - not just the newly called pastor - have a calling as God's children, and our task together is to grow into that role in ever more meaningful and effective ways.

Jesus says, "The kingdom of heaven is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come" (Mk 4:26-29). Just as the kingdom grows around us without our realizing it or knowing how it comes to pass, so our ministry together will silently (and sometimes not-so-silently!) grow and develop in this community. Collectively, we must keep our eyes, ears, and hearts open to the many ways in which God calls us to take our Sunday morning identity as Christians outside the walls of the church and into the streets, homes, and businesses around us.

It's tempting to refer to this early time of ministry together as a "honeymoon stage" - a time where excitement and hope can lead us to unrealistic dreams for the possibilities of the future. I don't buy it. Perhaps that would be true outside of God, but when we are called to do the work God has prepared for us, we must keep in mind the words of Christ, "For God all things are possible" (Mk 10:27b). We cannot even begin to imagine the ways in which God can, will, and does use us in this community. We can only let ourselves be open to experiencing what is to come!

Blessings in Christ,  
Pastor Chris

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## Lenten Worship

We are joining St. Alban's Episcopal and Edmonds Lutheran for our Wednesday evening Lenten services - March 7, 14, 21, 28. See page 4 for dinner and service times.



# OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

### Pray for those living in nursing homes

Myrtle Fjarlie



We extend our sympathies to Audrey Anderson and her family in the death of Bob on February 4th. His service was held at Bethel on Feb. 10th.

AUDREY ANDERSON  
BEV BAARSTAD  
HAROLD & DOROTHY CRAWFORD  
MONA DRAKE  
SUZANNE HAGEN  
JACK HAGEN  
ELLEN HANSEN  
JOHN JOHNS  
IVA KJOSNES  
HAROLD & JOAN MARTINELL  
HANK PETERSON  
MARJORIE ROMERO  
JIM SCHOELD  
KAREN SCHOELD  
DOROTHY STORSETH

## MARCH DAILY MEMBER PRAYER LIST

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 - Bob Anderson      | 20 - Karen Anshell     |
| 2 - Dona Pederson     | 21 - Harold Crawford   |
| 3 - Dela Van Hoy      | 22 - Camille Ross      |
| 4 - Kelly Urdahl      | 23 - Barbara Hellstrom |
| 5 - Dan Ritchie       | 24 - Rachel Miller     |
| 6 - Millie Akse       | 25 - Jayne Rudnick     |
| 7 - John Vollbrecht   | 26 - Mona Quammen      |
| 8 - Allie Biddle      | 27 - Chuck Vollbrecht  |
| 9 - John Terrey       | 28 - Judy Bashaw       |
| 10 - Mary Himple      | 29 - Nicole Swenson    |
| 11 - Ruby Hoff        | 30 - Ruth Locke        |
| 12 - Roger Hilling    | 31 - Donna Sjoquist    |
| 13 - Irene Olsen      |                        |
| 14 - Frank Nyland     | April                  |
| 15 - Ruth Vollbrecht  | 1 - Gwen Fisher        |
| 16 - Mary Smith       | 2 - Hank Peterson      |
| 17 - Logan Vermillion | 3 - Dorothy Crawford   |
| 18 - John Johns       | 4 - Richard Hinea      |
| 19 - Nick Rudnick     | 5 - Joshua DeLap       |



## IN MARCH



### Celebrate March Anniversaries

13 - Logan & Delna Vermillion

- 6 - Karen Johnson
- 11 - Mary Smith
- 13 - Logan Vermillion
- 16 - Donamae Gfeller
- Edna Greising
- 17 - Stephanie Vollbrecht
- 19 - Anna Sjong
- 25 - Ellen Bergesen
- 28 - Jesse Grigsby
- 31 - Janet Jurgensen

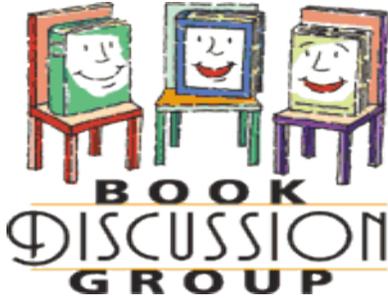


- 1 - Bev Baarstad
- Karen Johnson
- 11 - Jennifer Yonkman
- 13 - Jeremy DeLap
- Diana Holeman
- 20 - Tinsu Abraha
- Mona Drake
- 21 - Karen Bauer
- 26 - Bruce Smith
- 27 - Chuck Vollbrecht
- 30 - Chris Pickrell

## CELEBRATE MARCH



## BOOK CLUB



**JOIN**

**US!**

**March 1  
At the  
church at  
7:30 PM**

### March Reading to be discussed in April

#### **The Lucky One Nicholas Sparks**

In his 14th book, bestselling author Nicholas Sparks tells the unforgettable story of a man whose brushes with death lead him to the love of his life.

After U.S. Marine Logan Thibault finds a photograph of a smiling young woman buried in the dirt during his tour of duty in Iraq, he experiences a sudden streak of luck -- winning poker games and even surviving deadly combat. Only his best friend, Victor, seems to have an explanation for his good fortune: the photograph -- his lucky charm.

Back home in Colorado, Thibault can't seem to get the woman in the photograph out of his mind and he sets out on a journey across the country to find her. But Thibault is caught off guard by the strong attraction he feels for the woman he encounters in North Carolina - Elizabeth, a divorced mother -- and he keeps the story of the photo, and his luck, a secret. As he and Elizabeth embark upon a passionate love affair, his secret soon threatens to tear them apart -- destroying not only their love, but also their lives.

Filled with tender romance and terrific suspense, THE LUCKY ONE is an unforgettable story about the surprising paths our lives often take and the power of fate to guide us to true and everlasting love.



**JOIN US FOR  
BREAKFAST ON  
MARCH 4TH  
FOLLOWING OUR  
WORSHIP SERVICE!**

**THIS WILL BE PR. WENDT'S LAST SUNDAY  
WITH US AND PR. ODE'S FIRST SUNDAY  
WITH US.**

## SPRING CLEANING DAYS AT BETHEL



**RISE and SHINE!  
SPRING CLEAN-UP**

**WHEN: March 28 & 31  
TIME: 9:30 a.m. to  
whenever**



Bring a sack lunch if you can stay until lunch-time. Coffee will be available downstairs.

If you like the great out-doors, bring gloves and tools and check the list upstairs for jobs to do.

If you like the indoors bring gloves, buckets and rags to clean the sanctuary pews and wash windows. The kitchen will also need your loving care.

**More hands make  
a lighter load!**



## TREASURER'S REPORT January 31, 2012

<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$15,656.54</b>
<b>Total Expense:</b>	<b>\$15,636.75</b>
<b>Net Gain:</b>	<b>19.79</b>

### Checking & Savings

<b>Thrivent Mutual Funds:</b>	<b>\$ 9,835.14</b>
<b>Bank America CD:</b>	<b>\$ 5,279.96</b>
<b>Petty Cash:</b>	<b>\$ 70.00</b>
<b>ELCA Mission Plus Funds:</b>	<b>\$ 54,049.87</b>
<b>Operating Checking/Savings:</b>	<b>\$ 23,774.53</b>

<b>Total Checking, Savings, and Investments:</b>	<b>\$ 93,009.50</b>
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The month of January was cold and snowy. However, our income was only slightly below normal. Our Equity is \$4,307.77 more than our Liabilities. Good times are just around the corner.

Richard Scansen,  
Treasurer

## People Who Have Made A Difference in My Life

The following comments were made by members in answer to the above question. If you didn't have a moment to read them when they were displayed, here are a few of them.

From Donna Sjoquist

Ever cheerful, warm hearted and always has something good to say: Jane Asmann, who judges no one.

From Judy Bashaw

Everybody, Jane Asmann, Diana Holeman, Judy Goulet, Karen Anschell, everyone is welcome with me.

From Lynlee Ritchie

Rachel Schoeld, Carol Hovick, my daughter, my parents, In Touch Ministry of Charles Stanley and Grace to you Ministry of John MacArthur

From Bev Baarstad

My father being father of my 8 siblings was the major force in my Christian life. How fortunate I am to have had the growing up in a totally Christian home.

From Karen Anschell

Kelly Urdahl who is my prayer partner, the women in my circle who pray for one another and are there for one another. Pastor Strain and Pastor Wendt who have fed me spiritually these last few months.

No name given but permission to display Ruth Circle and the Sunday evening Bible study.

From Bruce Smith

Ken Lysen who asked me to make sculpture pieces for the Epiphany Season. I did this for the Matthew, Mark, and Luke gospel lessons. I also made a wire installation in the Narthex with the theme on the Holy week.

From kathy Carrow

Pastor Bruce Jenkins, Chris and Marlys Pickrell, Carol Hovick and Judy Goulet, Pastor Dick Wendt and Pastor Philip Strain

No name given but permission to display Judy Goulet, she listens and she is always helping and is wise.

Dianna Holman, she understands and is non-judgmental

Shirley Pishaw, she is such a sweet loving person.

Ministry of Generosity

## Bethel Lenten Services

BETHEL LUTHERAN  
ST. ALBANS EPISCOPAL  
& EDMONDS LUTHERAN  
COME TOGETHER FOR...

LENT

TOGETHER

Edmonds Lutheran Church  
Rev. Dr. Julie M. Jonsson  
425-744-8000  
Sunday 8:30 Traditional  
Services • up to Continental

WHERE: EDMONDS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
**WEDNESDAYS**  
2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28  
HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

COMMUNITY MEAL  
**5:00**

WORSHIP SERVICE  
**6:30**



## Sock It To'Em



The Outreach Committee invites you to donate men's or women's socks during the month of April. They will be given to the Compass Housing Alliance for distribution. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Due to a combination of smart policies and aid, increased trade, and investments in agriculture, 87% of people in the world today have enough food to eat and lead healthy lives - up from just 76% in 1970.

## Compass Housing Alliance

## St. David's Day Concert

The Puget Sound Welsh Association  
St. David's Day Concert  
March 3 at 2:00 PM  
Lake City Presbyterian Church  
3841 NE 123rdSt., Seattle

Welsh Program with The Three Welsh Tenors and soprano and harpist Nerys Jones. Refreshments served Free-will offering - (\$10) suggested donation.



Join us at the Museum of Flight for an evening of fine dining and fabulous auction items in support of Compass Housing Alliance!  
Saturday, March 1- 6:30 PM  
Call 206-357-3138 for tickets or you can register online at [www.compasshousingalliance.org](http://www.compasshousingalliance.org).  
Tickets: \$150

## Understanding Islam: Breaking Down Walls & Building Bridges

Saturday, April 14  
Trinity Lutheran College  
2802 Wetmore Ave in Everett

A biblical response to the rise of global Islam with featured keynote speakers

Discount registration before March 15  
Visit [www.TLC.edu/lavik](http://www.TLC.edu/lavik)

## Mary's Place

A note from Marty Hartman, executive director of Mary's Place—a place for homeless women, children & families.

Is your resolution for 2012 to give back to your community? If so, we want to connect you with ours! Would you consider...

- Taking a woman to coffee to hear her story?
- Adopting a family for a fun outing on Sundays when shelters are closed.?
- Calling a woman who just got housing and help her stay connected to her community?
- Visiting a homeless woman in the hospital?

We are here, waiting for you to help us achieve our dreams and fulfill our goals for 2012. (206-621-8474)

Become a part of our family!  
Marty Hartman

## The Sharehouse

### HELP US TURN HOUSING INTO HOMES!

Since 1989, The Sharehouse has been distributing new and still-useful furniture and other household items to families and individuals transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing.

### YOU CAN HELP BY DONATING FURNITURE AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS!

Furniture: Mattresses, boxsprings, dressers, tables, chairs, desks  
Linens: Sheets and pillow cases, blankets, bath and kitchen towels, pillows  
Kitchen: Pots and pans, cooking utensils, dishes, flatware, small appliances  
Accessories & Miscellaneous: Lamps, rugs, TVs, clocks, decorative items  
Cleaning supplies: Vacuums, mops, sponges, detergent, surface cleaner  
Hygiene Products: Full size, new personal hygiene supplies

For more information on what we can accept visit <http://www.thesharehouse.org> or call 207/767-5280.

**The Sharehouse is a program of the Church Council of Greater Seattle**



THE SHAREHOUSE



**UPDATE FROM  
TOM AND MARY  
HOLMAN**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Anufo New Testament was dedicated on February 17, 2007. As I related last month, it has been widely used by the churches and individuals since then. This Friday, February 17, 2012, the Jesus Film in Anufo, based on the Gospel of Luke, will be launched in Chereponi. Tom and I will be there to witness the occasion. **We are praying** that many Anufo would gather to see it and hear Jesus speaking their language, and that many Anufo would become followers of Jesus through this film. **Please pray** with us for the churches as they follow up on those who make a commitment to become a Christian. **Pray** also for just the right people to be found to continue to show the film throughout the Anufo area

The last two weeks of February we will be doing a consultant check of the epistles of John and of James for the Sideme language of Ghana. At the beginning of March we will be enjoying a week of retreat on the beach with our LBT colleagues in Ghana! **Pray** that it would be spiritually and physically refreshing.

Thank you for your prayers for my brother David. He has been able to come home, with both neck and back braces, but he will continue to receive physical therapy for some time.

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel.

Mary  
Mary and Tom Holman

**Free Service Helps Caregivers  
Maintain Their Own Well-being**

And it's free! Unpaid caregivers can consult with a caregiver specialist by contacting any one of nine agencies in the King County Caregiver Support Network. Are you a caregiver? (or do you know someone who is?) If you care - without pay - for an older friend or family member or an adult with a disability, then you're probably under a lot of stress. Between activity planning, meal preparation, managing health care, financial, and/or legal issues, and dealing with challenging behaviors often associated with care situations, you may feel your own life unraveling.

How do you find time for yourself? How do you balance work, caregiving, other family responsibilities and personal time? And when change occurs - like needing to hire help or select a home care agency or assisted living facility - decision making really gets difficult. Even professional caregivers need advice and coaching.

Fortunately, help is available - and it's free! Check the brochures in the narthex at Bethel. If you know someone who needs the info, take a brochure to them.

Sponsored by Aging and Disability Services. You can visit [www.kccaregiver.org](http://www.kccaregiver.org), call 20t-684-0662.

Irene Stewart  
Planner, Aging and Disability Services  
Seattle Human Services Department

**Save The Date and Support North Helpline**



**Saturday, March 17 - St. Patrick's Day Dash**  
North Helpline collaborated with our partner, the Detlef Schrempf Foundation to provide volunteers to help direct the race course. Contact [volunteer@northhelpline.org](mailto:volunteer@northhelpline.org) to be a part of this event.





# MARCH AT BETHEL



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>March 11 Daylight Savings Time Begins</b></p>	<p><b>Wednesday Dinner and Lenten Services at Edmonds Lutheran Church</b> 23525 84th Ave W. Edmonds</p>			<p><b>1</b> 12:00 PM Sno-King AA(109) 6:30 PM Comm. Band 7:30 PM Bethel Book Club at Bethel</p>	<p><b>2</b> 10:00 AM AA (FH) 7:00 PM Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00 PM Seattle Acting School <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> 9:30 AM Anderson Plaza Worship 8:00 PM AA</p>
<p><b>4</b> 8:15 AM Adult Education 9:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Oromo Church 10:45 AM Breakfast 1:00 PM Korean Church 3:00 PM Spanish Christian Church 7:00 PM Youth Bible Study/Confirmation</p>	<p><b>5</b> 4:30 PM Girl Scouts (109) </p>	<p><b>6</b> 10:00 AM AA/Alanon 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch AA Meeting (109) 6:00 PM Vets/Others AA (208)</p>	<p><b>7</b> 9:00 AM Quilters 5:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Lenten Service 6:00 PM AA/CA (109) 7:00 PM OA</p>	<p><b>8</b> 10:45 AM Membership Ministry 12:00 PM Sno-King AA(109) 6:30 PM Comm. Band 7:00 PM <b>CHURCH COUNCIL</b></p>	<p><b>9</b> 10:00 AM AA (FH) 7:00 PM Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00 PM Seattle Acting School </p>	<p><b>10</b> 9:00 AM 4H Event (FH) 9:30 AM Anderson Plaza Worship 8:00 PM AA</p>
<p><b>11</b> 8:15 AM Adult Education 9:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Oromo Church 11:00 AM Lenten Bible Study 1:00 PM Korean Church 3:00 PM Spanish Christian Church 7:00 PM Youth Bible Study/Confirmation</p>	<p><b>12</b> 5:15 PM BLCW Leaders Meeting 6:30 PM Totem G. Scout Council (FH) </p>	<p><b>13</b> 10:00 AM AA/Alanon 12:00 PM Anniversary &amp; Birthday Celebration (Vermillion) 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch AA Meeting (109) 6:00 PM Vets/Others AA (208)</p>	<p><b>14</b> 5:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Lenten Service 6:00 PM AA/CA (109) 7:00 PM OA </p>	<p><b>15</b> 12:00 PM Sno-King AA(109) 6:30 PM Comm. Band 7:00 PM Ruth Circle At Bev Baarstad's</p>	<p><b>16</b> 10:00 AM AA (FH) 7:00 PM Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00 PM Seattle Acting School</p>	<p><b>17</b> 9:30 AM Anderson Plaza Worship 8:00 PM AA </p>
<p><b>18</b> 8:15 AM Adult Education 9:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Oromo Church 11:00 AM Lenten Bible Study 12:00 PM Shell Club (LF) 1:00 PM Korean Church 3:00 PM Spanish Christian Church 7:00 PM Youth Bible Study/Confirmation</p>	<p><b>19</b> 4:30 PM Girl Scouts (109) </p>	<p><b>20</b> 10:00 AM AA/Alanon 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch AA Meeting (109) 6:00 PM Vets/Others AA (208) </p>	<p><b>21</b> 10:00 AM Sarah Circle 1:00 PM Pebbles/Rebecca Circle 5:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Lenten Service 6:00 PM AA/CA (109) 7:00 PM OA</p>	<p><b>22</b> 12:00 PM Sno-King AA(109) 6:30 PM Comm. Band</p>	<p><b>23</b> 10:00 AM AA (FH) 7:00 PM Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00 PM Seattle Acting School</p>	<p><b>24</b> 9:00 AM Quilters Breakfast (FH) 9:30 AM Anderson Plaza Worship 8:00 PM AA</p>
<p><b>25</b> 8:15 AM Adult Education 9:30 AM Worship Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Oromo Church 11:00 AM Lenten Bible Study 1:00 PM Korean Church 3:00 PM Spanish Christian Church 7:00 PM Cello Recital 7:00 PM Youth Bible Study/Confirmation</p>	<p><b>26</b> </p>	<p><b>27</b> 10:00 AM AA/Alanon 12:00 PM Brown Bag Bunch AA Meeting (109) 6:00 PM Vets/Others AA (208)</p>	<p><b>28</b> 9:00 AM Quilters 5:00 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Lenten Service 6:00 PM AA/CA (109) 7:00 PM OA</p>	<p><b>29</b> 12:00 PM Sno-King AA(109) 6:30 PM Comm. Band </p>	<p><b>30</b> 10:00 AM AA (FH) 7:00 PM Narcotics Anon (FH) 7:00 PM Seattle Acting School</p>	<p><b>31</b> 9:30 AM Anderson Plaza Worship 8:00 PM AA</p>

## THOSE WHO SERVE IN MARCH 2012

	4	11	18	25
ALTAR GUILD	Donnamae & Evelyn	Sue & Joanne	Lillian & Marlys	Anna & Diana
LECTORS	Karen Johnson	Diana Holeman	Craig Fjarlie	Chuck Vollbrecht
LITURGISTS	XXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
CHILDREN'S TIME	Pastor	Diana Holeman	Pastor	Kathy Carrow
BREAD SERVER	Sue Logen	XXXXXXXXXX	Carol Hovick	XXXXXXXXXX
WINE SERVER	Diana Holeman	XXXXXXXXXX	Judy Goulet	XXXXXXXXXX
GLASSES	Donna Sjoquist Wally Goulet	XXXXXXXXXX	Intinction	XXXXXXXXXX
Flowers		Logan & Delna Vermillion in honor of their 70th wedding anniversary and Logan's birthday	Jacob & David Robbins in memory of Marilyn Robbins	
USHERS	Bruce Smith John Johns Rance Urdahl	Chuck Vollbrecht Chris Pickrell Dick Scansen Dick Hinea	Bev Baarstad Sue Logen	Wally Goulet Evelyn Willems Dave Switzer
FIRST LESSON	Gen. 17:1-7,15-16	Exod. 20:1-17	Num.21:4-9	Jer. 31:23-34
SECOND LESSON	Rom. 4:13-25	1 Cor. 1:18-25	Eph. 2:1-10	Heb. 5:5-10
GOSPEL	Mark 8:31-38	John 2:13-22	John 3:14-21	John 12:20-33

### ON CALL LIST



Vera Anderson  
Gerald Anderson  
Audrey Anderson  
Ed & Karen Anschell  
Warren Arnhart  
Virgil & Bev Baarstad  
Joanne Brock  
Scott & Starla DeLap  
Doug & Melissa Dodge

Mona Drake  
Ragnhild Eidem  
Craig Fjarlie  
Lila Geizler  
Donnamae Gfeller  
Wally & Judy Goulet  
Jesse & Norma Grigsby  
Walt & Mary Himple

### SANCTUARY CARETAKER



**Liz  
Terrey**

*Did you know the* **Northwest Washington Synod** *supports the following ongoing mission efforts?*



**From left to right, top to bottom** 1) Fourteen new congregations in the territory of the synod, with plans to start one or two more every year. 2) Call processes when congregations are seeking a new pastor. 3) Evangelism and stewardship education. 4) Re-vitalizing congregations. 5) Youth ministry. 6) Region 1 Office. 7) TEEM: Theological Education for Emerging Ministries (another way to educate and train pastors for specific communities, often ethnic). 8) Candidacy: how people are prepared for approval for any of the ministry rosters of the ELCA. 9) Lutheran Public Policy Office/FAN. 10) Consultation to Clergy. 11) Maritime Ministry. 12) Russian and Ethiopian Companion Synods. 13) Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. 14) Luther Seminary. 15) Pacific Lutheran University. 16) University of Washington and Western Washington University campus ministries. 17) Lutheran Community Services. 18) Compass Housing Alliance. 19) The Church of Steadfast Love. 20) Lutheran Planned Giving Consortium.



# The Spirit

News for the congregations of the Northwest Washington Synod of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America March 2012

## Making Progress

by The Rev. Wm Chris Boerger, Bishop

Last year at the Synod Assembly it was reported that a child dies of Malaria every 45 seconds. At the last Synod Council meeting, Dianne Johnson, Associate in Ministry and member of Council, reported that this statistic has changed. It is now, one child dies every 60 seconds. That is still not good, but it represents that fact that as the world is giving attention to fighting this disease, the fight is making progress.

We have a long way to go. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Malaria Campaign is this church's way of responding with the rest of the world to this reality.

The ELCA is working with companion churches in Africa so that the administrative costs of this effort will be less than one might expect. That is one of the benefits of being part of a larger church. Our regular benevolences (often called mission support) pays for the administrative costs of much of what this church does when it comes to relief work and disaster response.

Many groups around the world are now responding to the issues related to Malaria. Basketball and soccer leagues are focusing on nets. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is taking a leadership role in the effort. The United Nations Foundation is leading one approach to fighting this disease. This is an opportune time to address the threat of malaria.

As reported, a small step has been taken on this journey. For the next three years the ELCA will be actively seeking support for our part of this campaign. There are a variety of ways that members of

this synod can support this work. Contributions can be made through your congregation, who can then forward the funds through the synod to the churchwide organization. All of the funds collected are sent to support the appeal. Direct contributions can be made through the ELCA website.

I am told that people today want to know that their monetary gifts are making a difference. I would argue that support of any of the church's appeals and mission support does that. I can specifically say that support of the ELCA Malaria Campaign will save lives. I invite you to join with me in supporting this campaign.

More information about the ELCA Malaria Campaign can be found at [www.elca.org/malaria](http://www.elca.org/malaria).

*Editor's Note: Dianne Johnson, Associate in Ministry at Lord of Life Lutheran in Renton, is a **griot**. In West Africa, a griot is a storyteller, a singer, a history keeper and an agent of cultural change. It is a role honored throughout the region.*

*Dianne may not look like your typical griot but she has joined this West African tradition and is telling the story of malaria. Would you like Dianne to come and share the story why this Malaria Campaign is so important? You may contact her at [dianne@lollc.org](mailto:dianne@lollc.org).*





## Haiti: From Old Sugar Factory to a Center of Hope

Last February ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson visited Haiti and was escorted by the president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Haiti, Pastor Joseph Livenson Lauvanus. As part of that trip Pastor Livenson walked Bishop Hanson up to an old building outside of Gressier, just west of Port-au-Prince. Pastor Livenson asked the bishop what he saw, to which he replied, "An old sugar factory." Pastor Livenson replied that what he saw was:

**"A place of hope for my community. I see a community center where my brothers and sisters are learning."**

It is that type of foresight that has turned this site of rubble into a place of restoration and hope. For today, two years after the disastrous earthquake, this same site is covered by people working, learning and laughing. Here, through donations to **ELCA Disaster Response** and other partners, the Lutheran church in Haiti is building a complex that includes a K-12 school, a vocational training school with 40 current students enrolled in their 18-month program, an office building, a guest house and if Pastor Livenson has anything to do with it (which he does) **a convention center!**

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### Thank You's Received from Gifts Given from Bethel

Dear Friends,  
Through hard economic times, broken relationships, addiction, and abuse, women have come to the Church of Mary Magdalene asking for love and acceptance. Your gift of \$350 on 12/22/2011 has made this possible.

At our Saturday worship services, women stream in to hear the encouraging words of God's unconditional love for them. They find healing in a community of women struggling with homelessness, health problems, and addiction and hope in those who have found housing and stability. Volunteers from congregations and community groups bring hot food and kind words to remind them that they are not forgotten.

During the week, women open up and share their stories with me during the *Hour of Living Power* and *Becoming the Best You!* groups at Mary's Place. The Ministry of Presence brings hope and light into women going through dark parts of life, visiting homeless women in hospitals, writing to incarcerated women, and holding classes in jail for those who have no home to return to when they are released.

These things happen thanks to you. The Church of Mary Magdalene can offer hope and healing because of our community support. We would love to see more of you - let us know if we could offer you a tour or connect you with volunteer opportunities!

Blessings on you,  
The Rev. Linda M. Smith, Pastor

Dear Members of Bethel Lutheran Church,  
You have made a real difference in helping our clients survive and cope with inclement weather and holiday stress. Thank you for your contribution of \$430. Severe weather makes life extremely difficult for those who lack shelter and puts real pressure on our facilities and our staff.

During the recent snow storm, all of our overnight shelters were able to stay open throughout the day, offering warmth and safety to those who otherwise would have been on the street. People were able to have a warm evening meal, breakfast, and the luxury of a hot shower. The Day Center opened four hours early at 6:30 am offering hot coffee and hospitality to those who had no other place to be.

The care we administer during times of increased need would not be possible without your support.

Sincerely,  
Cindy Jackson,  
Development Director

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**Today's Quote**  
**We must learn to live together as brothers**  
**or perish together as fools.**  
**Martin Luther**

# Bethel Beam

## Special dates in March

• World Day of Prayer	2
• Second Sunday in Lent	4
• Third Sunday in Lent	11
• Daylight-Saving Time begins	11
• Girl Scout Sunday	11
• Fourth Sunday in Lent	18
• First Day of Spring	20
• Fifth Sunday in Lent	25



### *An Irish Blessing*

*Always remember to forget the things  
that made you sad,  
But never forget to remember the  
things that made you glad.  
Always remember to forget the troubles  
that passed away,  
But never forget to remember the  
blessings that come each day*

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bethellutheranchurch.org

#### Pastor

Chris Ode

#### Secretary

Judy Goulet

#### Organist

Karin Kajita

#### Bookkeeper

Kathy Carrow

#### Security

Bruce Lemmon

#### Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

#### Lunch Hour

12:30-1:30 PM

#### Regular Worship

##### Schedule

9:30 AM

#### Education

Adult - 8:15 AM

Adult - 11:00 AM

#### Communion

1st & 3rd Sundays

## JUDGE NOT

I was shocked, confused,  
bewildered  
As I entered Heaven's door.  
Not by the beauty of it all,  
nor the lights or its décor.

But it was the folks in Heaven  
Who made me sputter and gasp - -  
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,  
The alcoholics and the trash.

There stood the kid from  
seventh grade  
Who swiped my lunch money twice.  
Next to him was my old neighbor  
Who never said anything nice.

Bob, who I always thought  
Was rotting away in hell,  
Was sitting pretty on cloud nine,  
Looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, "What's the deal?  
I would love to hear your take.  
How'd all these sinners get up here?  
God must've made a mistake.,

'And why is everyone so quiet,  
So somber - give me a clue'  
'hush, child,' He said,  
'they're all in shock.  
No one thought they'd be  
seeing you.'