



BETHEL

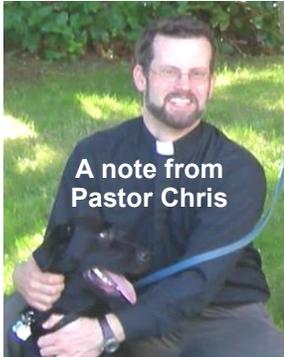
LUTHERAN CHURCH

17529 15th Ave NE
Shoreline, WA 98155

206.362.4334
BETHEL4ALL.ORG

Bethel Lutheran Church

April 2017



March 15, 2017

Two stories are on my heart as I write this.

(1) Earlier this month, I was asked to serve as a facilitator for a “town hall”-style meeting taking place at the Shoreline Children’s Center. To make a long story short: there are changes being proposed to the Shoreline School District’s before and after-school care programs (starting next Fall), and this meeting was a chance for parents to make their concerns heard. My role was to try and keep the process civil and productive – and while a few parents tried their best to disrupt that approach – it worked out.

(2) The next day, I received a phone call from Echo Lake Elementary School – the boys’ neighborhood school. Next year’s projected kindergarten enrollment is so high that many district schools – Echo Lake included – had to hold a lottery to determine which kids would be at their neighborhood school in the Fall. Apparently, we didn’t get a spot, so Archer is expected to be bussed elsewhere (unless another class is added to the schedule by then).

Both of these incidents trace to the same root cause: Shoreline is growing. The changes at the Children’s Center? Due to growth. The lottery at Echo Lake? Due to growth. I’m assuming you already know it (it’s rather hard to miss), but let me repeat: Shoreline is growing A LOT. And Bethel has not been – but you know that as well.

A few weeks ago, our congregation had some opportunities to gather together with Pastor Erik Samuelson – the consultant I wrote about last month. It was a productive experience, and I am thankful for the number of people who showed up to participate. We were meeting to – as a community of faith – take a long, hard look at ourselves and how we approach our future. It will likely mean changes to our programming. It will likely mean changes to our staffing. It will likely mean changes to our worship schedule (even if only to add additional gathering times). But it should be clear to all that our current approach hasn’t bore the fruit we desire – so we must adjust. To not adjust our approach – yet hope for different results – would be madness.

Moving to the North City site was a start: it bought us time and resources. Without that move, we would have closed by now. Not “probably” – we would have (the financials guaranteed it). But the move alone is not enough if we are serious about living gospel in and from this space. Pastor Erik posed some tough questions when we met with him – as he has been doing so with the Council and with me – and those questions begin with determining our role in all this: as individuals, are we part of the “builders of the new” or are we part of the “maintainers of the current?” It is fine to be either. It is fine to be both. But it is crucial that we never let the latter kill off the former – the future of our ministry depends on it.

Peace to you as we strive to discern God’s Will for us,
Pastor Chris

“

OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Daily Member Prayer List

- 1 - Dela Van Hoy
- 2 - Bruce Smith
- 3 - Craig Fjarlie
- 4 - Riley Kimble
- 5 - Sue Logen
- 6 - Judy Goulet
- 7 - Lynlee Ritchie
- 8 - Elia Smith
- 9 - Paul Grigsby
- 10 - Carolyn Starrett
- 11 - Karen Bauer
- 12 - Roger Hilling
- 13 - Jeremy DeLap
- 14 - David Salmon
- 15 - Ruth Vollbrecht
- 16 - Irene Olsen
- 17 - Archer Ode
- 18 - Liz Terrey
- 19 - Carol Hovick
- 20 - Darlene Hilling
- 21 - Jayne Rudnick
- 22 - Kari Pickrell
- 23 - Norma Grigsby
- 24 - Chris Ode
- 25 - Lila Geiszler
- 26 - Sarah Ode
- 27 - Don Brown
- 28 - Donna Johns
- 29 - Lorna Neumann
- 30 - Kristi Schwerdtfeger

Those coping with health problems

- Don Brown
Harold Crawford
John Johns
Olive Kohanik
Joan Martinell
Kathy Moll
Jim Schoeld

Those in Assisted Living or Care Facilities

- Vera Anderson
Dick Hinea
Dick Scansen
Donna Sjoquist
John Terrey
Dela Van Hoy



THANK YOU

To my Bethel family and former members of Bethel -

I am so grateful for your love and support during this difficult time. Thank you so much for your phone calls, cards, condolences, inspiring messages and gifts to Bethel and Mary's Place, after learning of Emily's death. My family and I are still trying to accept the fact that she will no longer be part of our family gatherings. However, we do know that with the Lord's help we will eventually find comfort and peace. Thanks to all who provided cookies and helped out with the memorial service. We have been blessed with all of your support.

Sincerely,
Lillian Routledge & Family



SPRING LUNCHEON

Spring is here once again!

Tickets go on sale for our Spring Luncheon April 9.

Date: May 6
Time: 11:30 AM
\$10 per adult
\$5 per child 5-10
No charge for children under 5



MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER

3/26 - Rance & Kelly Urdahl
to
American Lutheran church
(Newport, WA)

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS IN MARCH

3/9 - Please pray for Don Brown who is having a bone marrow biopsy tomorrow. He will know the results on Friday the 17th. Pray for comfort and peace for both Don and Dorothy and for skill for his doctors. Thank you.

3/10 - Please pray for John Terrey to settle in well at Rosewood Court where he moved today. Thank you.

3/15 - Please pray for Judy Goulet's daughter-in-law, Leslie. She is having an MRI 3/16 to try and find the source of her terrific pain. Pray that it will show the source and the doctors will be able to determine a course of treatment. Pray for peace for Leslie. Thank you.

ONLY 2 WEEKS UNTIL EASTER!

If you would like to order a plant for our sanctuary, there will be a flyer in the bulletin this Sunday for you to do so. Please return by April 9. If you are not going to be here you can call the church office (206.362.4334) to place your order. The cost is \$12.





UPDATE FROM TOM AND MARY HOLMAN

March 17, 2017

The final proofreading and editing of the Gospel of Luke for the F and S teams is still ongoing. They're doing a thorough job! **Pray** with us that it will be finished before Easter.

Thank you for praying for Tom's mother's health. The flu didn't last very long. She's now home and getting stronger with the assistance of home health care for physical and occupational therapy. Tom and I are hoping to make a trip to Ghana in May to do checking with the Anufo team. **Pray** that Mom would be able to resume cardiac rehabilitation before we leave, and that all the details for our trip will be worked out.

Your prayers are a vital part of our lives and ministry. **Thank you!**
Rejoicing in the Resurrection,

Mary

Mary and Tom Holman

Mailing Address: 7611 36th Ave. North #215, New Hope, MN 55427

Phones: Mary: 262-497-4085 Tom: 651-726-4581

E-mail addresses: Tom.Holman@sil.org

Mary.Holman@sil.org

*Members of **Wycliffe Bible Translators, Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862-8200** Website: www.wycliffe.org

Associate Members of **Lutheran Bible Translators, PO Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020, 1-800-532-4253**, Website: www.lbt.org

Please note LBT's new mailing address: PO Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020

DO YOU REMEMBER? For those who remember Alice Podzorski - Carol & I visited her in Peoria when we went to Mariner Spring training. Thought you would like to know she is doing well and in a few years plans to move where her son and family live.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

2017 SENIOR LUNCH CRUISES

- Easter Senior Lunch Cruise - \$56
Wednesday, April 12 11:30 AM-1:30 PM
- Afternoon Bingo Cruise - \$56
Wednesdays, May 3 - July 19
- Brunch and Bingo Cruise - \$56
May 17, June 21, August 16
- Locks Lake and Lunch Cruise
Wednesdays, June 7 & Sept. 13
11:30 AM- 2:30 PM
- Independence Day Trivia Lunch Cruise - \$56
Wednesday, July 5 - 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
from Lake Union
Celebrate Independence Day with a delicious plate lunch and test your knowledge at American history with trivia games and prizes!
- Seafair Meet the Fleet Lunch Cruise
Enjoy a delicious lunch while cruising to Elliott Bay to view the fleet of the US Navy, US Coast Guard and Canadian Navy, for the annual Seafair tradition.

There are more in October - December.
See brochure on bulletin board.

Contact Justin Williams at 206.223.2060 or Justin@waterwayscruises.com
Book online at WaterwaysCruises.com.

Rainbow Bingo

Saturday, April 1, 7pm-9pm at Edmonds Lutheran
This event is a celebration of the diversity in our neighborhood and an expression of welcome to the LGBTQ community in particular. Two weeks ago, publicity garnered by the theft of the church's rainbow flag resulted in the spontaneous gathering of about 150 people outside the church on Sunday morning, waving flags and holding signs with messages of support to the church and the LGBTQ Community. "We want this place to be a community gathering hub where everyone is a part and all feel welcome," said a member of Edmonds Lutheran. "This family-friendly event is our attempt at making that happen." Proceeds from the event will benefit Annie's Community Kitchen, a free dinner that has been hosted at Edmonds Lutheran for nearly 12 years and feeds around 150 people every Wednesday night. Rainbow Bingo will be hosted by local celebrity, Sylvia O'Stayformore, and will include kids activities, great food, and prizes, hosted in a family friendly atmosphere that is welcoming to all.

SOME COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Summer
Day
Camp**

**Monday, July 10 -
Friday, July 14, 2017**

Lead by the camp
counselors of LutherWood
Bible Camp, hosted at
Maple Leaf Lutheran
Church



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Maple Leaf Lutheran Church
A Christian church in the Meadowbrook
Neighborhood

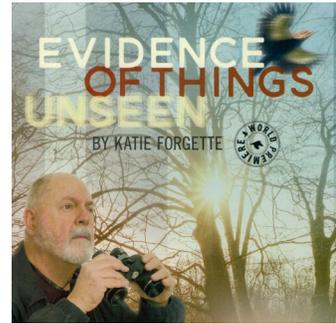
10005 32nd Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98125
Phone: 206-524-2448

Email: mapleleafcapastor@comcast.net
Website: www.ReachOutChurch.org

Taproot Theatre Production

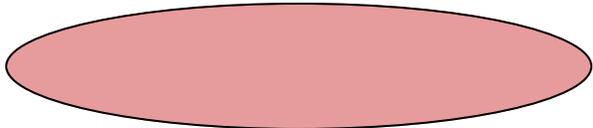
**Evidence of Things Un-
seen**
| by Katie Forgette

“Lord, give us strength and
guide us –” Jane. Could you
please ... not?”



If faith is the evidence of
things unseen, then why are
we all so certain of the truth? Unexpected circumstances
find sisters Jane and Abigail taking care of their bird-
watching father. As they struggle with grief, loss and
their opposing beliefs, they discover that the truth
sometimes finds you.

This production contains strong language.
A World Premiere drama | March 29 – April 29, 2017



1st Lutheran Preschool/Kindergarten



**Now accepting registration for the
2017-2018 school year.**

Classes for:

- 1/2 day kindergarten
- Kangaroos (mom and Me) 18 months—2 1/2 yrs of age
- Half day preschool classes for 2 1/2-5 yrs of age
- Extended day - Lunch Bunch
- Enrichment classes for all ages-Music, Movement, Science and Spanish
- All classes have a certified teacher and assistant

More Information:

Karen - 206.546.0320
<http://school.flrb>



Lutheran Campus Ministry



Gospel Choir Concert

Total Experience Gospel Choir Concert
Saturday, April 22, 2pm
 at [Pointe of Grace](#), Mukilteo

The Total Experience Gospel Choir is a gospel music group based in Seattle, Washington, founded in 1973 by Pastor Patrinnell "Pat" Wright. They have sung in at least 38 states and 22 countries, and have performed for two United States presidents. Join us for this free concert - open to all.

QUICK FACTS ...worth knowing.

So, what's been happening with the ELCA's **ALWAYS BEING MADE NEW** campaign launched in 2014? Take a look:

- \$102 Million raised in cash and multi-year commitments.
- 372 New Ministries now under development across the ELCA.
- 250 students receiving \$2 million in seminary scholarships.
- 35 renewing congregation grants
- 300 domestic hunger grants
- 21 new or enhanced youth and young adult ministries
- 60 countries with ELCA World Hunger supported programs.
- 300 ELCA World Hunger supported programs in the United States.
- 14 new Young Adults in Global Mission country programs (Rwanda,, Cambodia, Australia and Senegal, Uruguay, Cambodia, Central Europe, Hungary, Jerusalem, Madagascar, Mexico, Southern Africa and United Kingdom.)
- 100 international Lutheran Women with access to academic scholarships, and training in networking opportunities.
- \$15 million goal for Malaria Campaign met and exceeded in 2015.

Faith and Everyday Life

Too Uncomfortable
 The mirror

How much "should" the other one be able to stand? *It is possible to brow-beat someone else into the ground, you know. Disagreements are inevitable in relationships. How we handle them is a choice. We can be "too" much or "too" little in how we deal with discord. There is a balance between these two choices.*



Sometimes our pursuit of the other during a conflict is driven by our own anxiety. We believe that we have to get something settled *now*. Sometimes it takes the form of "You can't leave!" The terror of a possible permanent rift is so compelling we go into survival mode and demand to finish the argument.

As hard as it is, when someone cries "uncle", it's best to quit pushing. Pursuit beyond that point may only push the relationship into disaster. And sometimes leading to domestic violence where pushing and shoving at the door leads to injury or worse. At this point, tempers may be too close to boiling and self control for both may be already gone. Research into these kinds of situations tells us that both people need time to de-stress. Our physiology is so wound up that we *can't* really think clearly. Being able to soothe ourselves and distract our minds for long enough to allow thinking to resume and *then reengaging* the topic is really the only way through this scenario. God nowhere promises to make these situations come out well every time. God does promise that comfort is available for the terrified and reminds us that love and connection is what God wants. If you are upset to the point of demanding that the argument must be settled *now*, risk that God's presence and desire for healing are always present... and then breathe... and try again later.

Making a life

JORDAN

ELCA.org/disaster



In the last year, a record number of people have fled unimaginable conflict and war in Syria. Many Syrians have found refuge in one of the largest refugee camps in the world, the Za'atari refugee camp in Jordan. Among them is Louie, 19, and his family. While the majority of his family wants to go back to Syria, Louie has other ideas. "I think it'd be very difficult to go back to Syria," Louie says. "I just want to go somewhere that is safe, where I can make a life for myself."

Louie and a business partner have a barbershop in the Za'atari camp. Having already had some experience working in a salon, he eagerly accepted when given the opportunity to participate in the barber classes offered through a life-skills training program. This program is made possible

in part through gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response in partnership with The Lutheran World Federation.

Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response are providing life skills to people like Louie but are also providing protection, shelter, education, basic relief, water and sanitation to thousands of refugees living in the Za'atari camp.

For Louie, your gifts have helped him provide for his family and have given him a chance to make a life for himself when he's somewhere safe, wherever that may be.

Because of you, Lutheran Disaster Response continues to bring God's hope and healing to Louie and others like him.

WHF16

Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response help the church respond to the needs of people after a disaster strikes. Working in collaboration with other disaster response organizations and church entities, this enables the greatest stewardship of resources and maximum impact of response.

Will you help with your gift today?

YES! I would like to support Lutheran Disaster Response (DDG0060)

- I have enclosed my gift of \$100
- I have enclosed my gift of \$250
- Other \$ _____



Mail Make your check payable to "Lutheran Disaster Response" or to a specific disaster you would like to direct your gift toward. Place your gift in your congregation's offering plate or mail it to:

ELCA
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Online ELCA.org/disaster/donate

Phone 800-638-3522

Lutheran Disaster Response
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Bread for the World

You are Invited to a Special Bread for the World Event, Wednesday, April 26th

Please join Bread for the World's Local Group on Wednesday, April 26th from 7:00 - 8:45 PM at University Congregational United Church of Christ (4515-16th Ave. N.E. Seattle, WA 98105 - 206-524-2322) for a workshop with Bread for the World's Western Regional Organizer, Clark Hansen. Clark's presentation will center on the latest developments concerning the U.S. federal budget as it relates to hunger programs here and around the world, and how we can effectively advocate for poor and hungry people in this political climate.

Clark has over 20 years of experience in public policy development and advocacy. His policy expertise is in public finance, health care, and children's public health. He has worked for Save the Children, the Connecticut State Senate, the Governor of Rhode Island's budget office and recently retired US Senator Harry Reid. Clark served a 2 year mission for his church in Ireland and calls Wenatchee home.

Bring your questions, curiosity, ideas and enthusiasm for advocacy on behalf of poor and hungry people here and all over the world. Your voice counts!

Contact Person: Craig Fjarlie <Craig115r@msn.com
Phone: 425-771-4173

Relay for Life



Hello to everyone! I hope this email finds you well as we enter the spring months. I can't believe it's already March! I've been busy this school year with around 85 subbing

days in various K-6th grade classrooms so far! It's been immensely enjoyable and fulfilling work for me and I've

made plenty of contacts along the way. Who knows what it'll lead into but for now, I'm enjoying this highly in demand opportunity.



The Green Baffoons are excited to participate in Relay for Life again for the 6th year in a row and hitting the track for a straight 21 hours. Thanks to the support and donation efforts of many, we've raised over \$10,000 through the years. I'm asking again for your support this year. Cancer has touched too many lives and it's something that most of us have some connection too, whether through a friend, loved one, or dealt with it ourselves. One of the many things I like about the American Cancer Society is that they do so much more than just fund research. They provide various patient services (a 24 hr hotline, rides, lodging, counseling, etc), they provide prevention and awareness education, and they work with the detection and treatment aspect of it too. Please consider donating any amount you're able to.

This is also an invitation to come out for the Relay itself. It is a public event and will happen on Saturday June 3rd from Noon to 9am the next morning. It'll be at McCollum Park in Everett.

Our team fundraiser this year will be another Pancake Breakfast at Lynnwood Applebee's on Saturday May 6th from 8-10am. \$10 per ticket.

I truly appreciate your love and support to me and my family over the years. We lost Julie 11 years ago and it's still hard to believe and deal with sometimes.

Here's the link to my page. Thanks again!

Kindly,

Joe Himple

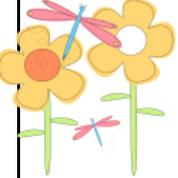
http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY17GW?px=26130678&pg=personal&fr_id=80664



FOSTERING FUTURES: Foster Care, Adoption & Advocacy Forum

St Luke's School - April 25th 7-9 PM
322 N 175th St - Shoreline

Please join us for this community event that will raise awareness about the state of foster care in our area. We will hear personal testimony from foster parents, professional information and advice from Catholic Community Services Foster Care Licensing Program and CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteers. There are many ways you can make a difference in the lives of foster children in our area. (The number of foster children in Washington State is higher than the number of all children enrolled in the Shoreline Public School District K-12 (10,000 foster children compared to approximately 8,000 registered students in Shoreline). Please join us as we explore those opportunities together. Light refreshments will be provided. Please register to attend at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fostering-futures-foster-care>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
   						<p>1 9:00 AM AA4U 1:00 PM Makers Lab NW 8:00 PM AA (Jaywalkers)</p>
<p>2 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Reborn Church 11:00 AM Bible Study/Sunday School 11:00 AM Confirmation 3:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica</p>	<p>3 9:00 AM Aaron's Place* 9:00 AM Preschool* 10:45 AM Membership Mtng 7:00 PM (CA)*</p>	<p>4 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 12:00 PM Aaron's Place 6:00 PM (EECS) 7:00 PM MA*</p>	<p>5 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Bethel Quilters 9:00 AM Preschool 12:00 PM Lenten Service 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica* 7:00 PM Lenten Service</p>	<p>6 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Maker Lab</p>	<p>7 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:30 AM AA* 6:00 PM AA* 6:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica*</p>	<p>8 9:00 AM AA4U 8:00 PM AA (Jaywalkers)</p> 
<p>9 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Reborn Church 11:00 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Bible Study/SS 3:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica 6:30 PM Girl Scouts*</p>	<p>10 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 6:00 PM Totem Girl Scout Council 7:00 PM CA*</p>	<p>11 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 12:00 PM Aaron's Place 6:00 PM EECS 7:00 PM MA*</p>	<p>12 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica*</p> 	<p>13 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Maunday Thursday Service at Shoreline Methodist Church</p>	<p>14 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:30 AM AA 6:00 PM AA* 6:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica 7:00 PM Good Friday Service at Bethel</p>	<p>15 9:00 AM AA4U 1:00 PM Makers Lab NW 8:00 PM AA (Jaywalkers)</p>
<p>16 EASTER 7:00 AM Sunrise Service 7:45 - 9:00 AM Easter Breakfast 9:30 AM Easter Worship</p>	<p>17 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 7:00 PM CA*</p>	<p>18 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 6:00 (EECS) (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM MA*</p>	<p>19 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 10:00 AM Sarah Circle 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica*</p>	<p>20 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Maker Lab 7:00 PM Ruth Circle</p>	<p>21 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:30 AM AA 6:00 PM AA * 6:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica</p> 	<p>22 9:00 AM AA4U 8:00 PM AA (Jaywalkers) (S)</p>
<p>23 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Reborn Church 11:00 AM Bible Study/SS 3:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica</p>	<p>24 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 7:00 PM CA*</p>	<p>25 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 12:00 PM Aaron's Place 6:00 PM (EECS) 7:00 PM MA*</p>	<p>26 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Bethel Quilters 9:00 AM Preschool 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica</p>	<p>27 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:00 AM Preschool 1:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>28 9:00 AM Aaron's Place 9:30 AM AA 6:00 PM AA * 6:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica</p>	<p>29 9:00 AM AA4U 1:00 PM Makers Lab NW 8:00 PM AA (Jaywalkers)</p>
<p>30 9:30 AM Bethel Worship 10:45 AM Reborn Church 1 11:00 AM Bible Study/SS 3:00 PM Iglesia Evangelica</p>	 <p>Birthdays This Month</p> <p>5 - Carla Salmon 12 - Marlys Pickrell 15 - Dick Scansen 16 - Ed Anshell 20 - Doug Bauer Carol Hovick</p> <p>21 - Vera Anderson 22 - Evie Nanninga 25 - Joanne Brock 27 - Joe Himple 30 - Archer Ode</p>					

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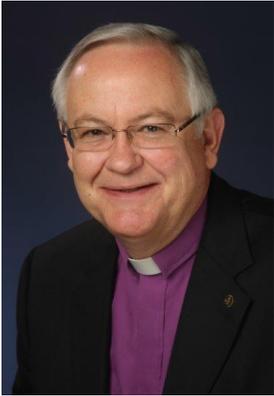
Altar Guild	Judy & Carol	Sue & Joanne	Marlys	Judy & Carol	Sue & Joanne
Worship Assistants	Joe Himple	Craig Fjarlie	Chuck Vollbrecht	Liz Terrey	Elia Smith
Kid's Time	Pastor Chris	Marlys Pickrell	Pastor Chris	Kathy Carrow	Pastor Chris
		COMMUNION			
Bread	Sue Logen	Carol Hovick	Joanne Brock	Craig Fjarlie	Dorothy Brown
Wine	Mary Himple	Judy Goulet	Dorothy Brown	Kathy Carrow	Bruce Smith
Glasses	Craig Fjarlie		Bruce Smith		
	FLOWER SIGN-UPS ON BOARD OUTSIDE OFFICE				
Flowers					
Usher	Bruce Smith	Chuck Vollbrecht	Sue Logen	Bruce Smith	Sue Logen
Reading	Psalm 84:1-4	Psalm 118:19-23	Psalm 118:17, 21-24	Psalm 30	Luke 23:33-34a
Preaching Text	Luke 18:31-19:10	Luke 19:29-44	Luke 24:1-12	Luke 24:13-35	Acts 6:1-7:2a, 44-60



3rd Sunday Cookie Schedule

A-G January - May - September
 H-N February - June - October
 O-R March - July - November
 S-Z April- August - December





Called to Speak Up by the Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop

Friends, These are difficult days when it comes to knowing how to navigate the world of politics as a Christian. I had the privilege of meeting with Governor Jay Inslee a few weeks back and he said in his three decades as a public servant he

has never seen greater interest or concern than what we are now experiencing. People of every stripe are asking the question, "What can we do?"

The challenge is made more difficult because many of us were raised not to speak in public about religion or politics. Obviously we didn't get the clue from Jesus on this as he was quite outspoken on both. Adding to the challenge in the United States is the confusion we have around the separation of church and state. The bottom line is the church is prohibited from completing the following sentence, "Vote for Candidate _____. We do not compromise our non profit status by speaking out on issues.

The Lutheran Church has a long history of speaking out on public issues. We certainly are following Luther's practice. Luther was very outspoken about public education and providing a community chest for the poor. He saw this as both the responsibility of the church and of the state. It is okay to be political while striving not to be partisan. When it comes to party politics there is plenty of blame to go around on both sides of the aisle.

This is why it is important to me to hold the Office of President in high regard just as we hope people would respect the office of pastor, teacher or bishop. The office is to be respected even when you disagree with the politics.

When Lutherans speak out in the public square we do so from the point of our deepest held values. This is why, when the travel ban was first placed in front of us by executive order, many Lutherans spoke out

regardless of which political party they supported. Lutherans know our own story of immigration and we have been key players in resettling people from around the world. We have been formed by countless stories in scripture that remind us of what it means to "welcome the stranger."

Today I learned from Lutheran Social Services to be aware of the impact that a reduction of Medicaid might have on our parents who are receiving care in a nursing home. 75% of our elders need Medicaid to access this care. Yes, I will speak out if I see this happening. Caring for our elders is embedded deep in my bones because of my Christian formation.

In our Social Statement on Church & Society we are reminded of our responsibility to:

- speak out on timely, urgent issues on which the voice of this church should be heard;
- expect its pastors, bishops, and lay church leaders to pray for and to exhort those in positions of authority on the basis of God's prophetic Word;
- work with and on behalf of the poor, the powerless, and those who suffer, using its power and influence with political and economic decision-making bodies to develop and advocate policies that seek to advance justice, peace, and the care of creation;
- mediate to achieve just and peaceful solutions to social conflicts;
- participate in local, national, and international ecumenical organizations, and interfaith and ecumenical partnerships in the service of common goals.

Friends, these are challenging times but my spirits are lifted knowing the gospel has something extremely relevant to say. Let's listen and act. Read more on the flip side of this edition of The Spirit for ways you (and your congregation) can pray, advocate, accompany, welcome, and give.

The Flip Side (cont. from The Spirit)

AMMPARO -Migrant Children

“Dios es nuestro amparo y fortalez,” (“God is our refuge and strength”) –Psalm 46:1

The word “amparo” in Spanish means the protection of a living creature from suffering or damage. The ELCA’s strategy to Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities (AMMPARO) was envisioned after witnessing the plight of children who are forced to flee their communities because of complex and interrelated reasons, including chronic violence, poverty, environmental displacement and lack of opportunities in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. Due to our connection to companion churches in the region, including companion synod relationships, and existing ministries in the U.S., the ELCA is well -positioned to help ensure that these vulnerable children are protected.

In a holistic, whole church response that connects international and US outcomes, the ELCA has developed this strategy based on the following commitments:

- Uphold and guarantee basic human rights and safety of migrant children and their families;
- Address the root causes of migration in countries from Central Americas Northern Triangle and Mexico and the treatment of migrants in transit;
- Work toward just and humane policies affecting migrants in and outside the U.S.; and
- Engage as a church body with all of its companions, affiliates and partners to respond to the

migration situation and its causes and to advocate for migrant children and their families.

As brothers and sisters in Christ, the ELCA is called to bear witness to the conditions affecting so many communities and to work to find solutions that will acknowledge the humanity in all of God’s children. Join us in making a difference in the lives of vulnerable children and families.

Get involved

Pray for the safety of migrant children and families on the journey and for justice as they reach their destinations.

Become a Welcoming Congregation to accompany these children and families through their transition to life in the U.S. Link to resource. www.elca.org/Resources/AMMPARO Advocate for justice for migrant children and families. www.elca.org/Advocacy

Accompany migrant children and families through the Guardian Angel Program as the physical presence of the church in the courtroom. <https://Vimeo.com/157458987>

Give to AMMPARO to provide opportunities for children and families in Central America and in the U.S. <https://community.elca.org/donations/Amparo-donate>

BUSY BUSY HANDS & HEARTS

During 2016, The many chapters of Lutheran World Relief produced:

346,170 quilts,

191,720 school kits

144,970 personal care kits

17,138 sewing kits and

48,900 baby care kits.



Some of those quilts came from Bethel.
Thank you quilters for your hard and dedicated work!



BETHEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Bethel Lutheran Church
17529 15th Ave NE
Shoreline, WA 98155
Phone: 206-362-4334

Pastor
Chris Ode

Secretary
Judy Goulet

Accompanist
Ben Dobyns

Bookkeeper
Kathy Carrow

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 Bible Study
Sunday - 11:00 AM
Thursday - 1:15 PM

Communion
Every Sunday



Happy
Easter

Have a great day. Feed
your faith, and your
doubts will starve to
death...

Holy Week



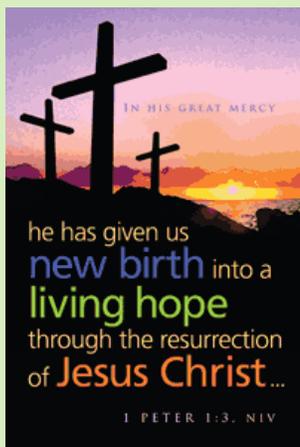
Maundy Thursday

This year we have been invited to attend a
soup supper and Maundy Thursday
Service at the Shoreline Free Methodist
Church on 175th & 5th NE (kitty corner
from the library).

Soup Supper 6:00 PM
Service: 7:00 PM

Good Friday

Our Good Friday Service will be at
Bethel at 7:00 PM



EASTER SERVICES



SUNRISE	7:00AM
BREAKFAST	7:45AM
FESTIVAL SERVICE	9:30AM

bethel@bethellutheranchurch.org