



BETHEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

17529 15th Ave NE
Shoreline, WA 98155

206.362.4334
BETHEL4ALL.ORG

April /May 2018

Greetings and peace in the name of the risen Christ!

It is with a tremendous sense of joy that I pass along the news that we have filled the Director of Community Engagement position! After considering several qualified candidates, Siobhan Flanagan (a senior at Pacific Lutheran University) rose to the top with her background, skillset, and attitude. As she still has a month before graduation, we won't have her onsite until June – but we are working on ways to introduce her to the community before that time.

As a refresher, we began the hiring process by casting a wide digital net: notices were placed in the Shoreline Area News, Shoreline Living, Shoreline Parents, Bethel's Facebook page (including a nationally distributed advertisement) and website, the Northwest and Southwestern Washington Synods' websites, and over 120 campus ministry programs across the country. (For those who question the emphasis on a primarily digital search, let me remind you that the position requires a working knowledge of online platforms: candidates disinclined or unable to use the internet to seek employment would be less suitable to fill it). From there, we whittled down the applicant pool before settling on 3 people to formally interview – with Siobhan impressing everyone with her passion for Christ, background in social media, and history of creative expression.

A few highlights that spoke to the search committee:

- On her own accord, she organized and coordinates a youth group connecting PLU students with high school youth from three different Tacoma churches
- She handles program design and social media content for the PLU Theatre department across multiple digital platforms
- Her academic career includes a semester spent at Oxford focused on social justice and community connectivity
- Her references are utterly glowing – and her in-person interview spoke to their accuracy

Within the next few weeks, Sister Le and I will take Siobhan out for lunch, and we'll definitely work on finding an opportunity for her to meet the congregation fairly soon. As always, I am open and available for conversation on this or other topics – please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

May the risen Christ's blessings be upon you!

Pastor Chris



Thanks!

There is a new kneeling bench in place in the alcove of our sanctuary. This is a gift from the Smiths; Bruce built the kneeler and Elia made the covers. You are encouraged to make use of the kneeler for those times when being down on your knees is the only place to go. (And if you need help getting up from the bench, remember to let someone know when you're going down to pray)!

And Thanks Again!

A Hearty Thank you to everyone who made soup and/or bread for our Lenten Meals, Maundy Thursday and our Saturday Clean-Up Day.



The food was great, and the fellowship was something we don't really want to let go of.

What do you think? Would you like to keep coming back for lunch and/or supper on Wednesdays?

Let your voice be heard. If you'd like this to continue, *are you able to help* with prep, groceries, cooking, giving a ride to someone who needs it?

Please Contact Sr. Le if you are interested.

Come & Celebrate!!!



37 Years of Ministry & Service by Judy Goulet

May 5: Noon at Bethel LC
Short program followed by lunch

As this is a catered event,

RSVP by April 29 to:

Marlys Pickrell

206.300.8862

pickrells@comcast.net

**News from
Sister Le**

The 2018 Deaconess
Community (DC) Assembly

took place at Mt. Olivet Retreat Center in Farmington, Minnesota March 15-19. We are a small group of about 70 women, spread across the U.S. and Canada, so when we are able to be together, our days are joyous and full. We worked on the business of the Community: receiving committee reports, considering resolutions and prayerfully electing leaders. We heard from ecumenical partners and from one recipient of our Mission Grants (see “A Diaconal Story” on page 7).

Assembly provides the Sisters with time to reflect on our mission and how it’s working (or not). We discovered this year that our well-intentioned careful stewardship of our budget sometimes makes it difficult for us to rapidly respond to needs that arise in our respective communities. We learned that we have enough money to be able to donate more; we need to find a process for doing so that works.

In addition to plenary sessions, we worshipped, heard lectures on Dietrich Bonhoeffer from Augsburg Professor Lori Brandt Hale, ate lots of chocolate, and spent time together listening. We attended worship workshops, choosing from different groups,—choir, bells, assisting, reading, and art. During our final worship service, each group served in a portion of the service. The art project is shown here.

The DC acknowledges milestones in special ways. Two Candidates were invested (reaching step two of three on the way to Consecration—like a Pastor’s Ordination—and becoming rostered leaders in the ELCA/ELCIC). Several Sisters were honored on the anniversaries of their Consecration; one has been with us 66 years! Sisters range in age from 20-to-90-something years old. There is always story-telling about the old days at Gladwyne, the Mother House in Pennsylvania. Like Bethel, the DC has become smaller, and its building was costing more than was affordable. It was sold in 2002, and proceeds from the sale fund aspects of our work.

Most significantly, we attended Sunday morning worship in St. Paul, at St John-Reformation Lutheran Church, to be with a Sister on her Consecration Day. About 40 of us attended this wonderful event. The highlight is always when we are asked to approach the altar and the about-to-be-consecrated sister. Those nearest lay hands on her; those further out lay hands on each other until we are all connected. Later, the pastor joked that the congregation was now witness to the fact that Deaconesses really do exist. He said we are sort of like unicorns; you know we’re out there, but most people have never actually seen one!

Time with the Sisters is energizing, inspiring, and exhausting. I’m happy and grateful that I was able to attend. Don’t be surprised if some of my enthusiasm spills over onto Bethel. Let’s talk!



ELCA Advocacy, Washington D.C.

APRIL 21, PRAY. FAST. ACT: The April day to #PrayFastAct with The Episcopal Church is Saturday, April 21. This month, our focus is on economic opportunity initiatives, education workforce development and programs that help low-income families break out of poverty.

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)

Cyclical poverty is a problem faced by millions of Americans. Many in our communities cannot access education and training because they need a pay-check to feed their family, and often there are too few affordable educational opportunities accessible to them. While some in Congress have proposed adding requirements that the entitlement program recipients must be working to receive assistance, this has historically proven to serve as an additional barrier to achieving self-sufficiency. Look forward to resources around the day of fasting from The Episcopal Church and ELCA Advocacy later this month!

*You are
Invited*



Please join with Bethel Seniors for our monthly
"Second Tuesday" fellowship and lunch:

10:45 AM

Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Senior Center,
18560 1st Ave. NE

(South wing of Shoreline School District Center)

Telephone (206) 365-1536

10:45 AM -- Coffee & fellowship with

Bethel-ites in Room G-133

11:45 AM -- Full lunch with dessert for

A donation of \$4.00 in dining room

(You do not need to be a Senior Center
member to attend or eat.)

LCN is a nonprofit organization of dedicated professional therapists providing a range of counseling services. Our staff of psychotherapists each possess master's or doctoral degrees and observes a strict ethical code of professional conduct. Because Bethel hosts an LCN office in our building, fees may be adjusted according to family income. For an appointment, call Rosemary Raynaud, Pastoral Psychotherapist,, at 206-364-1046, Ext. 3.

www.lutherancounseling.net



Update from Tom & Mary Holman

April 1, 2018

Happy Easter! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Last week we had a message from Pastor James Azumah, the senior Anufo translator. He wrote that a mission agency working among the Anufo in the neighboring country of Togo has put up a powerful radio station that reaches all the Anufo communities in Togo and Ghana. Pastor James said, "We have started recording Genesis. They are ready to record all the five books [Genesis through Deuteronomy] if we finish. Last week myself and Rockson were there to read portions that are assigned to us in Genesis."

What a powerful tool for evangelism! **Pray** that the hearts of many Anufo would be enlightened through hearing these Old Testament stories. Pray that it would prepare the way for them to believe in Jesus, who rose from the dead.

Mary

Mary and Tom Holman

April 19, 2018

This last couple of months Tom and I have been going through Numbers and Deuteronomy in preparation for working with the Anufo translation team during our trip to Ghana in May. We've received the go-ahead from our supervisors, and we have our accommodation lined up. We're waiting for confirmation of the dates, which are contingent upon other events happening then. **Pray** that the dates for our trip, the purchase of tickets, and getting our visas would come together quickly. And **pray** that we would be well prepared for what we will do with the Anufo team while we're there.

Thank you! We're counting on your prayers!

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

Wycliffe accepts tax-deductible contributions by mail or at <https://www.wycliffe.org/partner/898518>. If by mail, please include a separate note indicating, "Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Tom and Mary Holman, Account # 213988". Lutheran Bible Translators accepts tax-deductible contributions by mail or at <http://us.lbt.org/project/tom-mary-holman/>. If by mail, please include a separate note indicating, "Preference for the Ministry of Tom and Mary Holman".

EARTH DAY



APRIL 22

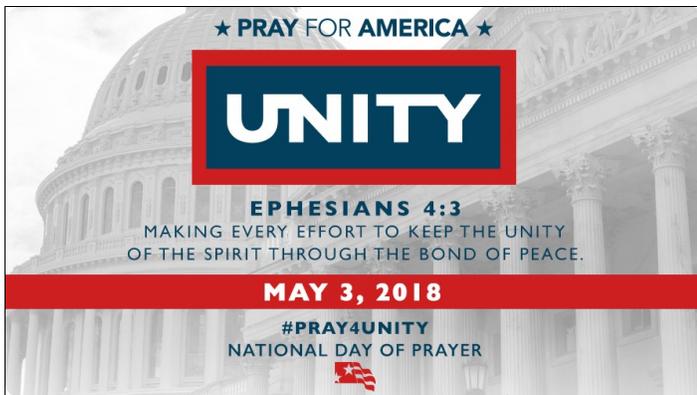
Earth Day 2018:

A Word from Bishop Unti

Environmental stewardship is a central tenant in the Lutheran tradition. The ELCA Social Statement on Caring for Creation reminds us of our call to stewardship as individuals, as worshipping communities, and as faithful advocates so as to build a more just and sustainable world.

Caring, serving, keeping, loving, and living by wisdom-these translate into justice in political, economic, social, and environmental relationships. Justice in these relationships means honoring the integrity of creation, and striving for fairness within the human family.

It is in hope of God's promised fulfillment that we hear the call to justice; it is in hope that we take action. When we act interdependently and in solidarity with creation, we do justice. We serve and keep the earth, trusting its bounty can be sufficient for all, and sustainable.



National Day of Prayer

May 3, 2018

On the First Thursday of May, we are encouraged to take time to pray. If you would like to join in this intentional time of prayer for peace within and beyond our nation, please feel free to stop by the church on this day. The Sanctuary will be open for anyone wishing to participate, between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Remember the kneeling bench in the alcove area.

If you would like to commit to a specific time (so that we may have continuous prayer throughout the day), please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The National Day of Prayer has great significance for us as a nation as it enables us to recall and to teach the way in which our founding fathers sought the wisdom of God when faced with critical decisions. It stands as a call for us to humbly come before God, seeking His guidance for our leaders and His grace upon us as a people. The unanimous passage of the bill establishing the National Day of Prayer as an annual event, signifies that prayer is as important to our nation today as it was in the beginning.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the **first Thursday of May**, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman.



A Diaconal Story

Each year at the Deaconess Assembly, an offering is taken to share with an organization that needs our support. This year, as we assembled near the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, our offering addressed an issue we became aware of because Luther Memorial Lutheran in South St. Paul is a recipient of one of our Mission Grants. The South St. Paul School District “receives the lowest funding through local property taxes and serves the highest level of families in poverty in their county.” Many students receiving reduced fee meals have accounts in arrears. In the past, some students have been refused meals if these bills remain unpaid. The district has put a stop to this practice. The Deaconess Community Assembly donation will reduce current past due balances.

We were addressed by the pastors at Luther Memorial Church in South St. Paul and the superintendent of the local school district. These

individuals and others in the area decided to build bridges between their respective organizations. They did this out of concern for children, and incredibly, shortly after they joined forces, the community suffered painful tragedies involving sexual abuse, a child’s suicide, and death threats. Because these caring adults had already connected, they turned to each other for help. They created the Safe Place Youth Program.

Luther Memorial decided to host 3rd through 8th grade students *on weekdays during the school year when school was not in session*—when kids might not have a place to go. They started by simply being with the kids, playing board games, providing lunch, snacks and tutoring. It was exciting to hear that a church could make a difference in this way. See:

<http://luther-memorial.com/SafePlaceYouth>.

I wonder. What would it be like to connect with youth *before* something horrible happens?

Serving the North City community and beyond:

What have you been up to?

Several Bethel individuals are working together and/or independently on service ministries. While another committee meeting to attend may not be your cup of tea, it might be helpful to gather once a quarter (or so). In this meeting, we could

- hear each other’s stories,
- discover ways our various projects overlap,
- encourage or give each other hands-on help, and
- pick up ideas about how to strengthen our relationships and projects.

If you would like to meet, please contact Sr. Le in person or call her at the church office at 206-362-4334.

The Spirit

Volume 35, Number 4

April 2018



And who is my neighbor?

Bishop Kirby Unti

NW Washington Synod/ELCA

The story of the Good Samaritan is teed up with the question from a man of the law, “And who is my neighbor?” It seems an easy question to answer on first hearing it. After all, you know who your neighbors are. Right? I mean, you may not know them by name, but you know who they are. Right?

Growing up my neighbors were the Strucks next door, the Russells on the other side, and the Mendenhall’s across the street. I could add the names to a few houses in each direction. They were our neighbors. It meant we greeted one another, we borrowed eggs and sugar, and, when there was a block party, you could count on them being there. When I became a teenager, they were the people who ratted me out for speeding in the neighborhood.

The Good Samaritan story quickly points out that “neighbor” has a profound meaning in the scriptures as it stretches most everyone’s understanding of neighbor. Neighbor is any - and every - child of God.

You may have heard that in lieu of our traditional Synod Assembly Business Meeting, we are having

two gatherings this spring: June 2 at Saint Andrews (Bellevue) and June 9 at Bethlehem (Marysville). Everyone is invited to be a part of these gatherings as we come together under the theme of WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR? These gatherings are not limited to “Voting Members” only. In fact, you are encouraged to bring a whole crowd from your congregation.

Throughout the day we will be exploring how to be neighbors in a world in which “neighbor” is approaching being placed on the endangered species list.

There will be three forum times with over sixteen options from which to choose. They are designed to help us more fully understand how we can be “neighbor.” The topics range from global music to earth ministry; from congregational hospitality to community partnerships; from listening to leadership; from human trafficking to being ally and advocate for our neighbors of different color orientation, economic status, faith, or nationality.

Be sure to head over to our website, www.lutheransnw.org/2018-Synod-Gatherings, to review the complete listing of forums, talk it up with your church family, and get registered online between April 2 - May 15.

Serving as your Bishop I have discovered that there is a growing hunger in our territory to be together – to gather as neighbors. I sincerely hope I will see you at one of the gatherings.

Remember in Prayer



- 5 Carla Salmon
- 6 Jocelyn Carson
- 10 Bryan Hollowell
- 12 Marlys Pickrell
- 15 Richard Scansen
- 16 Ed Anschell
- 20 Douglas Bauer
- 20 Carol Hovick
- 21 Vera Anderson
- 22 Audrey Anderson
- 22 Evie Nanninga
- 25 Joanne Brock
- 26 Nick Rudnick
- 27 Joseph Himple
- 27 Rachel Schoeld

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

2—Darlene and Roger Hilling
3—Doug and Karen Bauer

**Those in Assisted Living
or Nursing Homes**

- Vera Anderson**
- Donnamae Gfeller**
- Dick Hinea**
- Irene Olsen**
- Shirley Pishaw**
- Dick Scansen**
- Donna Sjoquist**
- Donna Sowler**
- Dela Van Hoy**

**Those Coping with Health
Problems**

- Don Brown**
- John Johns**
- Michael Klingensmith**
- Olive Kohanik**
- Joan Martinell**
- Kelly Moll**
- Shirley Pishaw**
- Karen Schoeld**
- Elia Smith**
- Chris Tracy**



- 5 Karen Anschell
- 5 Mary Himple
- 18 Shirley Pishaw
- 19 Lee Maxwell
- 21 Frank Nyland
- 21 Kelly Urdahl
- 23 Bruce Smith
- 24 Craig Fjarlie
- 29 Riley Kimble
- 29 Sue Logen
- 31 Alice Maxwell

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

21—Bruce and Elia Smith
29—Pr Chris and Sarah Ode

DATES TO KNOW

May 2 (9am): Quilters at Bethel

May 5 (Noon): Judy Goulet Retirement Celebration (RSVP, see pg 2)

May 8 (10:45am): Membership Comm. at Shoreline-LFP Senior Center

May 10 (7pm): Bethel Church Council

May 20 (9:30am): Pentecost (WEAR RED & come experience a joint worship experience w/ our Ethiopian, Korean, & Latino siblings in Christ)

May 23 (9am): Quilters at Bethel

Wednesdays 6pm: Bible Study at Bethel

Thursdays 1pm: Bible Study at Bethel

Daily Prayer List

1 - Lorna Neumann	11 - Tukwila Jones	21—Ruth Vollbrecht
2 - Sarah Ode	12 - Carol Hovick	22 - Linda Mears
3 - Lynlee Ritchie	13 - Walt Himple	23 - Scott DeLap
4 - Bruce Smith	14 - Doug Bauer	24 - Aaron's Place
5 - Kristi Schwerdtfeger	15 - Vera Anderson	25 - Rosemary Raynaud
6 - Judy Goulet	16 - Roger Hilling	26 - David Salmon
7 - Sue Logen	17 - Donna Johns	27 - Our nation's leaders
8 - Joan Martinell	18 - Kuwon Kim	28 - Jacob Robbins
9 - Olive Kohanik	19 - Caryl Klingensmith	29- Iglesia Evangelica
10 - Evie Nanninga	20 - Olivia Robbins	30 - Carolyn Starrett

Those Who Serve - April 2018

	April 1	April 8	April 15	April 22	April 29
Altar Guild	Marlys & Lillian	Sue & Joanne	Judy & Carol	Marlys & Lillian	Sue & Joanne
Worship Asst.	Sr. Le	Liz Terrey	Craig Fjarlie	Chuck Vollbrecht	Elia Smith
Kids Time	Pr. Chris	Marlys Pickrell	Pr. Chris	Sr. Le	Kathy Carrow
Communion					
Bread	Bruce Smith	Nancy Phillips	Carol Hovick	Nancy Phillips	Lillian Routledge
Wine	Dorothy Brown	Sr. Le	Judy Goulet	Linda Mears	Dorothy Brown
Glasses	Joanne Brock		Joanne Brock		Phyllis Moll
Scripture	Psalm 118:21-29	Psalm 145:13-21	Matthew 6:24	Luke 6:18-19, 22-23	John 1:16-18
Preaching Text	John 20:1-18	John 20:19-31	Acts 9:1-19a	Acts 16:16-34	Acts 17:16-31

Those Who Serve - May 2018

	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27	
Altar Guild	Judy & Carol	Marlys & Lillian	Sue & Joanne	Judy & Carol	
Worship Asst.	Liz Terrey	Sr. Le	Linda Mears	Chuck Vollbrecht	
Kids Time	Pr. Chris	Marlys Pickrell	Sr. Le	Kathy Carrow	
Communion					
Bread	Sue Logen	Nancy Phillips	Carol Hovick	Linda Mears	
Wine	Dorothy Brown	Sr. Le	Judy Goulet	Bruce Smith	
Glasses	Sr. Le		Sr. Le		
Scripture	Luke 9:46-48	Luke 6:43-45	John 14:16-17	Matthew 22:34-40	
Preaching Text	Philippians 1:1-18a	Philippians 2:1-13	Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7	Exodus 19:1-6; 20:1-2	



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Bethel Lutheran Church

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Shoreline, WA 98155

Phone: 206-362-4334

Email: bethel@bethellutheranchurch.org

Facebook: facebook.com/bethelshoreline

Pastor

Chris Ode

Deacon Intern

Le Brandes

Office Hours

Tuesday-Thursday

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Friday

9:00 AM to Noon

Worship Service

Sunday

9:30 AM

Bible Study

Wednesday 6:00 PM

Thursday 1:00 PM

Communion

Every Sunday

A congregation of the



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.