

*Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Mercer Island
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. . . Our hands.*

June / July Newsletter

I am richly blessed!

Pastor Deanna Wildermuth

How are you? The question is a simple one and most often I respond with a simple, "I'm fine." Following some reflection on my life and after reading about how another person of faith answered the question and I am trying to change my response.

How are you? And I will say "I am richly blessed." It is truth. Some days the blessing might not feel so apparent, but I am a child of God, loved and claimed in the waters of baptism, forgiven and granted the gift of God's Holy Spirit. What greater blessing is there?

How is Holy Trinity Lutheran? The question is simple and we might simply reply, "fine". However, we are so much more than "fine." We are richly blessed. It is truth. Some days the blessings might not feel so apparent. Some days the challenges of ministry may feel greater than the blessings. And some days

our vision might be focused on scarcity and not the abundance of blessing. However, every day we are richly blessed. We are the living body of Christ doing the work of God. What greater blessing is there?

God's work is accomplished through the various ministries of Holy Trinity Lutheran. And the ministries of Holy Trinity Lutheran are accomplished through your generous support. Your generosity in sharing your time, your skills and your money is an essential part in God's work.

Your offering of time as an usher or in Holy Communion set-up or in providing coffee fellowship or in participating on committees or in a variety of other ways reveals your commitment to God's work in this congregation. The skills you bring in teaching or reading or singing or playing an instrument, any

skills and talents you use at Holy Trinity are ways that you participate in God's work right here and now. And your financial gifts are a tangible reflection of your part in God's work through this church. Holy Trinity is blessed by people with a wide variety of gifts. Consider your own part, consider those around you...truly, there is no scarcity of resources available for the work of this congregation as we move into the future.

How is Holy Trinity Lutheran?

We are richly blessed!

*Shalom,
Pastor Deanna*



Opportunities!

Adult Forum on a Year of Opportunity in Sunday Worship and Sunday School:

The Christian Education Committee and the Worship & Music Committee have been diligently working on ways to create an experience that is joyful and accommodating to all who gather at Holy Trinity on a Sunday morning.

The committees would like to share thoughts for some modifications to our current Sunday morning model that endeavor to speak to the diverse needs of families and visitors at HTLC. All are invited to join in the discussion Sunday, June 5th, 9:00 AM in the "new" Fellowship Hall. Pr. Deanna and members of both committees will be present to answer any questions.

Are you being called to teach Sunday School?

Christian Education is looking for members to teach Sunday School for the academic year 2011-2012. We will be having a "Teacher Information Day" on Sun., June 12th in the atrium, following the 10:15 AM service. Plan on stopping by to check out our easy-to-use curriculum and talk to existing Sunday School teachers about what a rewarding experience it is to teach the good news to young children! We have four Sunday School classes and must have at least two teachers per grade level. For more information, please contact: Bridget Swanson (206) 275-3070, bridgetkswanson@comcast.net,

or

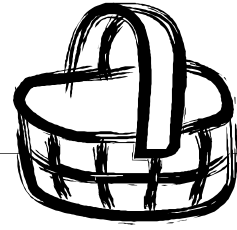
Julie Duffie (206) 232-2853, julieduffie@msn.com,

Rom 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Did Someone Say—Picnic!!

Church Picnic



We are going to end our 'Mission Week' with a picnic!!

Come to the LID park, Thursday, June 30; 4 pm – 7:30 pm for games, food, friends and fun!!

Everyone is invited --- HTLC will provide hamburgers and hot dogs, the rest is potluck:

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|
| A-E | Salads |
| F-L | Fresh fruit or Vegetables |
| M-S | Drinks (soda, water, juice) |
| T-Z | Desserts |

Summer fun for all ages: Grab a picnic basket , blanket and umbrella and meet up with your HTLC friends at one of the following Mercer Island Parks events this summer:



SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK: "COMEDY OF ERRORS"

Sunday, August 7 at 7:00 PM, Luther Burbank Park

MOSTLY MUSIC IN THE PARK:

7:00 PM in Mercerdale Park come enjoy the these musical treats:

MACH ONE JAZZ ORCHESTRA, SEVEN PIECE BIG BAND

Thursday, July 21

and

ORCHESTRA ZARABANDA-HOT CUBAN SALSA

Sunday, July 31,

The *Pastor's Discretionary Fund* is low on funds. This account is used to respond to special requests by those in need. Designated gifts are welcome.

What's Behind Those Joyful Noises?

Pastor Sue Wanwig

Well planned worship flows from the scriptural theme of the day with thoughtful prayers and carefully chosen hymns. Here's hoping a bit of background on a couple of hymns of the day enhances your appreciation of their messages. June 5 is the seventh Sunday of Easter, also observed as Ascension Sunday. In the passage from Acts 1, as he prepares to depart for heaven, Jesus charges the disciples to "*be my witnesses...to the ends of the earth.*" John 17 consists of Jesus' prayer for the disciples, whom he is about to leave behind on this earth.

The Fresh Worship song "Shout to the North," by Martin Smith, blends the exhortation to carry the message to the ends of the earth with the recognition that we are all wounded, imperfect witnesses. Listen for the Old Testament pattern of naming the four directions to mean "everywhere." Listen also for the influence of St. Paul in the references to Christ's strength in human weakness—"You are strong when you feel weak, in your brokenness complete;" "We've been through fire, we've been through rain"—and the line that tells me, this guy gets it—"Rise up, church with broken wings..."

At the 8:00 Chapel Service, another contemporary hymn in a more traditional style, "To be Your Presence," also carries the

message of Jesus' people carrying on as his body in the world. Lyricist Delores Dufner, OSB, reminds us to listen, act, and speak out for "the broken and oppressed." The tune by Charles V. Stanford is most commonly associated with the hymns "When in Our Music God is Glorified," and "We know that Christ is Raised."

Dufner's lyrics have been criticized for their simplicity, the very trait that many other worshipers find refreshing.

A Roman Catholic who remembers her church before Vatican II, Dufner was frustrated that although modern homilies were "sometimes" good, they seldom conveyed "the liberating and empowering news (expressed in) Vatican II." Significantly, a theme that emerged from that conference was a new emphasis on the ministry of the laity—their role, in other words, as Christ's witness to the ends of the earth. But where was this in the preaching from the pulpit?

Ironically, this Benedictine sister found inspiration from our tradition. "Martin Luther used music to teach scripture and doctrine in his day," says Dufner, and she set out to do the same. Dufner takes her themes either from commissions to write for a specific celebration or from her regular *lectio divina* prayer discipline. (Remember this from Wednesday Lenten worship?)

We pray for...

Homebound members: *Norma Bennett, Vi Boardman, Erv & Gerry Fletcher, Margot Jones, Norma Rowe, Erma Westad.*

Living with cancer: *Tom Varetoni, Shana Brockway, Barbara Egan, Judy Gates, Joe Grojean, Barbara Hermanson, Jack Kenefick, Robin Kopeikin, An Lee, Marbo Olsen, Jill Peterson, Cheryl Posner, Cristina Scalzo, Mark Schirmacher, Angela Wagner.*

Recovering from surgery or trauma: *Bernice Jensen, Mark Larson, Laurie Sperber, and Ray Saarela.*

Other concerns: *Gregory R., Edward Casady, Anne Borst, Carlot Delicat & family, Vera & Jerry Ginn, James Herbold, Timothy Jones, Caroline, Larry & Alexandra Karrer, Nora Kildahl, Craig Reed, A.J. Williams, Hamomi Children's Centre, The people of El Milagro, El Salvador, The people of Japan and Christchurch, New Zealand*

Serving in the military: *Tyler Fotheringill, George Kane III, Nick Jakubik, Jason Reed, Kyle Roeter, Ryan Roeter.*

Thank you for your faithful prayers.



Eph. 3:17-18

I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, ...to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.



Happy June Birthdays!!

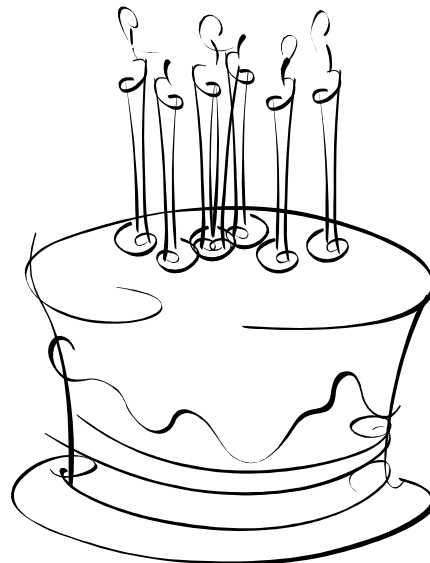
June 1	Althea Esterley	June 17	Kuanny Yin
June 3	Chrade Younkin	June 17	Sophia Humphrey
June 3	Henry Dumler	June 18	Brandon Fotheringill
June 4	Katrina Dumler	June 19	Morgan Gebhart
June 5	Louise Drexler	June 20	Susan Christofferson
June 5	Michael Rowe	June 20	Alexander Myerson
June 6	Andrew Isaacs	June 22	Dean Matthews
June 6	Rick Smith	June 22	Anna Swanson
June 6	Curtis Cox	June 24	Janice Krekow
June 6	Erik Snyder	June 24	Kathy Rodgers
June 7	Maggie Smith	June 24	Julia Glassy
June 7	Harrison King	June 25	Vivian Hom
June 7	Annalise King	June 26	Rebecca Yost
June 7	Kelsey Tootill	June 27	Gordon Gray
June 9	Megan Grojean	June 28	Lowell Williams
June 11	Judy Gates	June 28	J.T. Tuttle-Roachè
June 11	Gordon Neumiller	June 29	Loralee Vogel
June 11	Anna Fredericksen	June 29	Kari Johnson
June 13	Jeff Scanlan	June 30	Linda Stoullil
June 16	Chuck Magley	June 30	Mark Garrett





Happy July Birthdays!!

July 1	Mary Casady	July 16	Lisa Kittilsby
July 2	Drew Christofferson	July 18	Bill Williams
July 2	Andrew Garrett	July 19	Doris James
July 3	Dagmar Kildahl	July 21	Kristin Fletcher
July 4	Gail Gray	July 22	Jacquelyn King
July 4	Naomi Nothstein	July 22	Sarah Cox
July 4	Earlene Knoernschild	July 23	Janet Johnson
July 5	Patricia Anderson	July 25	Lauren Struck
July 5	Danette Glassy	July 26	David Versdahl
July 5	Tim Parker	July 26	Peter Struck
July 6	Viola Boardman	July 26	Susan Struck
July 6	Diane Sorensen	July 26	Whitney Hom
July 6	Amanda Winterbauer	July 29	Kelsey Arias
July 8	Quinn Christofferson	July 29	Caitlin Cox
July 10	Ivar Bersos	July 30	Suri Johnson
July 10	Emily Garrett	July 31	Erik Loken
July 12	Derek Hagan	July 31	Kelly Hansen
July 14	Alexandra Simon	July 31	Michael Versdahl
July 14	Elizabeth Park		



Social Concerns

Mission Opportunities

LAMP Ministries, Inc. (Lutheran Association of Missionaries & Pilots) sends teams to teach Vacation Bible School, coaching sports ministry programs, in remote areas of Canada. Today, more and more communities are requesting teams to come and teach their children about Jesus through these vital programs. There are also service opportunities. Less formal and less consistent are various other servant capacities with LAMP. Activities can range from helping out at the LAMPwick Thrift Store in LaRonge, Saskatchewan (Madeline Honderich pictured at the Store); building projects in communities; and various tasks at the LAMP office in Edmonton. This mission sends approximately 500 missionaries a year to more than 50 different communities. Are you interested in serving?

Go to <http://www.lampministry.org/Missions> for more information and applications.

Alzheimer's Association

Alzheimer's disease remains one of the fastest growing concerns in the United States. Currently, 1 in 8 people ages 65 and older have Alzheimer's disease, but searchers predict 150,000 people within Washington State will be living with Alzheimer's disease by 2025—an 81% increase from the year 2000. The Alzheimer's Association is the world leader in Alzheimer's disease research and support, and we continually strive to progress and make a difference in the fight against this disease. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's.

For information, support groups and education (includes how to cope with challenging behaviors) go to www.alzwa.org. For information on Lewy Body memory loss contact Anita Souza at 206.363.5500 ext. 231 or 800.848.7097.

2 Peter 3:14-15

"Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord

Social Concerns (continued)

Emergency Feeding Program

As we start to think of summer and children out of school, we must also remember those children who rely on breakfast and/or lunch at school. Their families often cannot feed them those meals at home. The Foods of the month for June and July are 18 oz. peanut butter and 2 boxes macaroni & cheese.

Also, a reminder of the items that fill a medium-sized food bag: canned corn, peas, and green beans; applesauce, peaches, 20-oz. pineapple; 46-oz. pineapple juice, 2 cans vegetable soup, 2 cans evaporated milk, tuna, 2 boxes macaroni & cheese, 15-oz. beef stew, 18-oz. peanut butter, 4 quart bags of powdered milk, 18-oz. instant oatmeal, saltine crackers, box of instant pudding, and a pound of margarine. The menu that goes in the bag was devised by a nutritionist to serve a family of 4-5 for two days.

Thanks for your faithfulness in contributing large paper bags and the funds to fill them.

Lord, give us eyes to see the needs of others, and give us wisdom to respond as your hands in the world. Amen.

Shalom,

Doris James

EFP Coordinator”:

Are you willing to go the distance?



Volunteer to drive with Senior Services' Volunteer Transportation program and help seniors in your community get to their medical appointments. Our program is FLEXIBLE – you drive your own vehicle and choose the weekdays, times and areas in which you'd like to drive. We offer mileage reimbursement and supplemental liability insurance.

Volunteer with Senior Services – we'll put *you* in the driver's seat. For more information, please call (206) 748-7588, email melissat@seniorservices.org, or apply online at www.seniorservices.org.



HTLC "Mission @ home"

Saturday June 25– Thursday June 30, 2011

Projects are being established and skills will be shared as we prepare for our first 'Mission @ Home' week! We have applied for a Care in Regions grant from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to assist in a variety of our in-house and community plans!

Sign-ups are in the Atrium (or you can email Kathy at kfisher@htlcmi.org or kfisherhtlcmi@gmail.com). Please indicate day, time and your skill set when signing up!

Saturday, June 25 – 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

- Repair and refurbish bicycles. We are bringing in bikes that have been left at a condo – if you have unused child or adult bikes at home, bring them! All will be donated to First Place School and/or Treehouse.
- Need some folks with skill in this area!
- We will be cleaning up, painting, putting air in tires, repairing pedals, spokes – whatever is needed.

Sunday, June 26 – 12:00 Noon to 4:00 PM

- Re-stripping the parking lot
- Prepping / painting the Atrium from rain damage repair
- Prepping/painting the Fellowship Hall walls (touching up)
- Cleaning the landscape (hedge trimming, weed pulling, etc).

We will have PIZZA and SALAD for dinner at the end of our Sunday workday!



Monday – Thursday – 10:00 AM – 3:00 AM

- We are identifying projects in the community.
- Garage organization/clean- up for an elderly couple
- Painting a family room
- Possible partnering with a sister congregation for repair/refurbishing

Tuesday, June 28th – 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

- A night team for our working folks.
- I still need some happy chefs to provide coffee breaks and lunch each day!

More calls are being made, more projects will be identified. We need all ages and abilities!!

Sign up ... **and come to:**

Thursday, June 30th, 4:00 PM to 7:30 PM

We will celebrate our service week and the joy of being in community as a congregation at our **CHURCH PICNIC!**

Come to the Lid Park, Shelter Area (72nd SE & SE 22nd) for fun, games and time with friends! (Feel free to invite friends, as well). Holy Trinity is providing the hamburgers and hot dogs the rest is potluck:

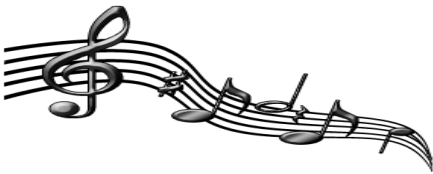
- ✦ A-E Salads
- ✦ F-L Fresh Fruit or Vegetables
- ✦ M – S Drinks (soda, water, juice)
- ✦ T-Z Desserts

Please sign up in the Atrium or email Kathy (kfisher@htlcmi.org or kfisherhtlcmi@gmail.com) so we have enough burgers and dogs!

Happenings of Interest...

Knit & Crochet

The knitters and crochet-ers are not meeting in the summer (we will start again in September), but we have YARN available to get started on our 2012 Graduation blankets! Check the cupboard in the hall and keep working on those 7 x 9 rectangles. Did you know that if you knit or crochet one rectangle a week you have made enough pieces for one blanket?? Thanks to everyone who contributed to the beautiful blankets for 2011: *Marjorie Steffin, Barbara Donaldson, Mina Larsen, Diane Smith, Doris James, Janet Klemperer, Karin Swenson-Moore, Lynne Cobb, Kathy Fisher.*



Do you like the music of our Holy Trinity Praise Band?

A CD of selected music will be available soon. A \$20.00 donation is suggested and all proceeds go to **Social Concerns**. Sign up in the office or let Doug Casady know you'd like one so enough are made.

Have any fun stuff you're clearing out???



Hey Group!

As you are cleaning out your toy rooms, garages and bedrooms, please consider donating your used toys to the Holy Trinity Nursery. We would love to have cars, trains, a train table, a small table with chairs, dolls, Hot Wheel items or any other fun play thing that you may be discarding. Thanks ahead for thinking of us!!

July Newcomer

Rom 14:19

"So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up."

June Worship Assistants

DATE	HOSPITALITY (Coffee, ushers, greeters, worship Assistants)	Acolyte	CRUCIFER	TELLERS
June 5	Greeters/Ushers: 8 AM: Instant Volunteers 10:15 AM : Gerald & Gloria Swanson / McKay & Shay Casady Lectors: 8 AM: Tim Parker 10:15 AM Holly Fotheringill Coffee: Jeff & Kari Scanlan / Dean & Susanne Pollock	Kelsey Scanlan	Molly Kierstad	Jerry Swanson & Norm Craig
June 12	Greeters/Ushers: 8 AM: Instant Volunteers 10:15 AM : Snyder Family / Doris James & Carole Pederson Lectors: 8 AM: Lisa Kittsby 10:15 AM Brendan Rorem Coffee: Mike & Carole Tye / Tom & Peggy Watkins	Anika Christofferson	Whitney Hom	Jerry Swanson & Norm Craig
June 19 Start of Summer Schedule: 9:00 AM Service	Greeters/Ushers: John Lee & Jim Pederson / Tom Elzey & Maggie Smith Reader: Curtis Hom Worship Assist: Curtis Hom Coffee Hour: John & Nancy Tagge / Jaime & Christie Park			Florence Waggoner & Norm Craig
June 26	Greeters/Ushers: Norm & Darlene Craig / Sharon & Vince Augenstein Reader: Otto Steffin Worship Assist: Leslie Byrnes Coffee Hour: Gerald & Bridgett Swanson / Dean & Susanne Pollock			Suzanne Pollock & Bridget Swanson

July Worship Assistants

DATE	HOSPITALITY (Coffee, ushers, greeters, worship Assistants)	Acolyte	CRUCIFER	TELLERS
July 3	Greeters/Ushers: Priscilla Featherstone / Gerald & Gloria Swanson Lectors: Doris James Worship Assist: Doris James Coffee: Charles & Teri Pietka / Gary & Diane Schill			Suzanne Pollock & Bridget Swanson
July 10	Greeters/Ushers: Dean & Suzanne Pollock / Charles Pietka & Gary Schill Lectors: Jaime Park Worship Assist: Jaime Park Coffee: Janie Stewart / Gerald Swanson Jr. & Family			Suzanne Pollock & Bridget Swanson
July 17	Greeters/Ushers: Karin Swenson-Moore / Snyder Family Lectors: Andrew Isaacs Worship Assist: Andrew Isaacs Coffee: Luanne Arias / John & Barbara Donaldson			Julie Duffie & Althea Esterley
July 24	Greeters/Ushers: Priscilla Featherstone / Gerald & Bridget Swanson Lectors: Luanne Arias Worship Assist: Luanne Arias Coffee: Andrew & Rose Isaacs / Snyder Family			Julie Duffie & Althea Esterley
July 31	Greeters/Ushers: Norm & Darlene Craig / Hom Family Lectors: Bridgett Swanson Worship Assist: Bridgett Swanson Coffee: John & Nancy Tagge / Jan Johnson			Julie Duffie & Althea Esterley

HTLC Council Meeting Highlights

May 10, 2011

President Brendan Rorem opened the meeting at 7:11 PM; a quorum was present, devotions and approval of minutes followed.

PASTORS' AND STAFF REPORTS:

Kathy Fisher, Director of Youth & Family Ministry, reported Easter went well except for the rain. She ordered signs to advertise Summer Bible Camp. 18 kids and 4 adults will be at Holden Village. Kathy will take pictures of the kids graduating in 2012 so the blanket makers can put names and faces together as they pray over the blankets. All blankets for the Class of 2011 are complete and will be presented on Sunday, June 5. Letters were sent to confirmation families describing programming options prior to a discussion on June 5 at noon. Letters will be sent to eligible families regarding the 2012 Youth Gathering trip to New Orleans. A meeting to determine interest and discuss fundraising will take place on June 12 at noon.

Kathy picked a few Mercer Island summer events in July and August to target for socializing for HTLC young adults. She will advertise and send cards to the target members. The Mission@Home sign up sheets are out and projects being targeted for the week of June 25. One evening event will be available. We will culminate with a potluck church picnic on Thursday, June 30 at the Lid Park. Kathy will make sure maps are available.

Pastor Deanna Wildermuth reminded all that the newsletter deadline is the 15th. It will be a combined June/July issue. The computer network upgrades are moving forward, including all staff on the new server, networking to the copier, etc. Keith Wildermuth reported to the Management Committee regarding computer issues. He will work on the website update.

The Schills provided leadership on the Fellowship Hall update (thanks!) and Keith will wax the tile. Bets is doing well in the office although has much to learn. Provide any substantive comments regarding publications to Pastor Wildermuth. Our new bookkeeper, Cindy Gebhart, will be in the office on Fridays only; checks will not be available any other time. Her e-mail is financial@htlcmi.org. Kirsten's transition is complete, but all are asked to be gentle as we work through change.

MAY 22 SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING:

The Council needs to be thinking about transitions from old to new members. We will have a old/new Council event over the summer.

HTLC Council Meeting Highlights

May 10, 2011(continued)

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Dean Pollock, Finance, reported our status is good and congratulated the committees on their judicious use of budget. We are well ahead of budget year-to-date on income, expenses and overall. (See the Treasurer's report for additional information.)

Gary Schill, Property, noted the downstairs remodel continues with both bathrooms. We have two walls to repaint in the Fellowship Hall. The budget is fine as the asbestos removal cost less than expected. The downstairs post repair includes painting the window trim and soffit.

Brendan Rorem reported the steeple needs to be inspected, scraped, sanded and painted. Bids are being received for this work from contractors (church members will not do this work). We hope to complete additional roof level maintenance while we have the lift needed to work on the steeple. We will fund from the Special Reserve – Capital Improvements account.

Tom Elzey, Management, said Keith Wildermuth did a great job reporting on technology to the committee. Budget for upgrades to get current with the church technology is in the planning stages. The Strategic Planning task force found a lot of common themes in their data gathering. A comprehensive proposal and recommendations will be presented to the Council for discussion by mid-summer, likely at the transition meeting to allow transitioning members to participate.

Laurie Sperber, Youth, stated 6 students are signed up for the Urban Plunge mission trip, and a chaperone is needed. Desired fundraising for the 2012 Youth Gathering is a joint Youth/Social Concerns auction on September 17, with a funds goal of \$60,000. Alternatively, fundraising would include an envelope drive, the tea bag mailing, art by the youth for sale, and a babysitting night. Families will be required to contribute a minimum amount of hours to the fundraising effort. Goal is to have all funds raised in 2011.

The high school youth need to raise \$600 from the latte cart sales to meet the Hamomi commitment. The Committee discussed various young adult ministry possibilities, including resurrecting dinners for 8 (multi-generational) and a Facebook group.

HTLC Council Meeting Highlights *May 10, 2011 (continued)*

Bridget Swanson, Christian Education, reported on the joint Worship and Music/Christian Education meeting on May 4. The committees plan to run both Sunday School and the late service concurrently starting at 10 AM starting in the fall. Sunday School students will start the hour in church with the opening hymn and the children's message, then depart for their classes. They will rejoin their families in church at Communion. Sunday School music/birthdays/etc. will be once a month, allowing more time for singing and non-classroom activities. The 9-10 AM slot on Sunday mornings will offer fellowship and adult education, with activities provided for children as needed. Children's choir will rehearse separately from Sunday School. This change will work best with more adults to team teach Sunday School. A Teacher Information Day is planned for June 12.

Pastor Wildermuth, representing Worship and Music, noted the May 4 meeting wrapped up two years of conversation. The committee plans facility adjustments in the chapel, including, moving the altar forward and removing the small organ, which is rented. The 8 AM service will continue to be in the chapel as a more traditional service. The 10 am service will include a variety of music styles, even within a particular service, including more frequent use of the band. Pastor Wildermuth emphasized this still will be a Lutheran service. An Adult Forum will be presented for congregation discussion and questions.

ADJOURNMENT:

After closing prayer, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 PM.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"...never cease praying, render constant thanks; such is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

April 2011 Holy Trinity Treasurer Report:

I just returned from seven weeks in Palm Desert sunshine. Almost daily I would check the weather in Seattle. What a winter and spring we have had. Cloudy and rain, rain, rain! My first day back was the just in time for the May Council meeting. I was thankful to see there is no raining on our parade at Holy Trinity. New carpet and paint in Fellowship Hall. The women's bathroom remodeled (yes I had an invited tour). Weeds pulled and the lawn mowed. The gifts each of you is providing continues to move our congregation in amazing ways.

For the month of April revenue totaled \$45,588 (\$38,929 budget), expenses \$41,697 (\$40,751 budget) generating a positive budget variance of \$3,891.

Year- to- date income is positive to budget by \$6,817 with total expenses below budget by \$5,051 resulting in year -to - date positive bottom line variance of \$11,868.

I am thankful to be back with my church family and look forward to a little less rain and continued spiritual and financial stability at Holy Trinity.

Dean Pollock



CORRECTION! Dave and Carol Oberg's email address in the April Newsletter was incorrect—the correct email is: obergcd@comcast.net. Thank you.

A little this a little that...

Men's Bible Study Book—New in our Library



Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History

If you struggle with understanding the God of the Old Testament, I highly recommend this book. Mr. Schaeffer puts the best history teacher to shame as he draws us into 1400 BC, and into the lives of Joshua, Caleb, Rahab the harlot, the lying Gibeonites and other colorful characters that contributed, however unknowingly, to Christianity as we know today. This book is not hard to read at all, but its conclusions are startling. Be aware before you read—your worldview might change.

Senior Resources

The Church office has a copy of the CHOICE Advisory Services' Guide, with helpful contacts for senior housing, care, wellness, transportation and government programs for King County.

CHOICE Advisory is also a senior housing and care referral agency. If an older adult or family needs help arranging for in-home care; or a move is needed to retirement or assisted living, dementia care, an adult family home or nursing home, CHOICE is available FREE-OF-CHARGE to assist families on a one-on-one basis.

Link to information about the help they provide:

http://www.choiceadvisory.com/elder_care_and_senior_homes.aspx

Micah 6:8 (The Message Bible)

But he's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don't take yourself too seriously— take God seriously.

Volunteering or Volunteered?

Our greeters, ushers, readers, Communion Assistants and those who provide coffee and treats help members and visitors feel welcome and make for well executed worship services.

In the past, we have used different approaches to fill the volunteer positions. Sometimes we used sign-up sheets or members were randomly assigned “duties”. In some cases we resort to last minute phone calls or Sunday morning assignments were required because certain positions were not yet filled.

Early last year, we found the number of last minute Sunday morning assignments were increasing. The result was unnecessary stress on the pastors and on the “instant volunteers”. Last summer we conducted a survey of members to determine their interests and what they might be able to do to support HTLC. Many responded that they were willing to help when requested. The Neighborhood Groups also expressed a willingness to provide volunteers for all activities on a Sunday morning.

With those developments, we began a new process last fall. Each Neighborhood Group is now taking on Sunday morning support activities for two or three Sundays each year and, for other Sundays, we have assigned

roles to the members who indicated an interest and willingness to help. The great part about this approach is we have almost eliminated the Sunday morning emergencies and allowed members to plan better. While it is impossible to know when volunteers will be available, our members have demonstrated that they can be flexible by working out trades with others or communicating with the pastors when changes must be made. We also try to coordinate assignments for Crucifers, Acolytes, Assisting Ministers and choir members so families will serve on the same Sunday and members will not be “double booked”, but if we miss the mark or schedules change, please let us know (the pastors assign the Crucifer, Acolyte, and Assisting Minister roles).

This approach seems to be working. We sincerely appreciate the help and support of everyone who serves on Sunday morning provides. If you do not think you are on the volunteer list, please let the office, a pastor or Chuck Pietka know. If you are on the volunteer list, please watch your mail for the summer schedule.

Chuck Pietka

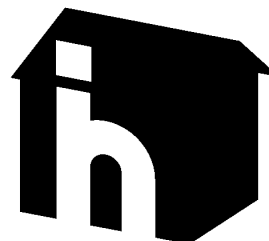
Volunteer This Summer: Help kids with Special Needs!

Imagine Housing—Building Eastside Communities

Imagine Housing is looking for volunteers who have experience working with kids who have special needs. We need someone who is willing to focus their attention on a few kids during our summer day camps!

Camp activities will include: science, arts, crafts, games, sports, and more! If you are energetic, fun, patient, and willing to work with elementary and middle school aged kids with special needs, we want **YOU!**

Camp activities will include: science, arts, crafts, games, sports, and more! If you are energetic, fun, patient, and willing to work with elementary and middle school aged kids, we want **YOU!**



Start Date: June, 20th

End Date: July 28th

Mondays, Wednesdays, and
Thursdays, 10:00 AM—5:00 PM

You must commit to at least one day a week for 6 weeks in Issaquah

If you are ready to volunteer, please contact: Megan Bryant

meganb@imaginehousing.org

425-576-5190 ext. 24

1 Jn 1:3

“...we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.”



HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Deanna Wildermuth
Senior Pastor
pastordeanna@htlcmi.org

Rev. Sue Wanwig
Associate Pastor
swanwig@comcast.net

Kathy Fisher, CYM
Youth & Family Ministry Director
kfisher@htlcmi.org or
kfisherhtlcmi@gmail.com

David Locke
Organist/Accompanist

Chrade Younkin
Director Choral Activities
chradey@hotmail.com

Bets Adair
Office Manager
betsa@htlcmi.org



“No medicine is more valuable, none more efficacious, none better suited to the cure of all our temporal ills than a friend to whom we may turn for consolation in time of trouble—and with whom we may share our happiness in time of joy.”

*Saint Aelred of Rievaulx
12th Century*

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Friday
9:00 AM—12 Noon

A Message Of Hope And Peace by The Rev. Wm Chris Boerger, Bishop

At the March 2011 meeting of the Conference of Bishops we were engaged in conversation about growing the church and evangelism. One of my Midwestern colleagues commented a couple of times in that conversation that he did not know if Lutherans had the capacity to be evangelists. He did not say this in a pejorative way, but in a wondering question about the way we come together as members of the Body of Christ.

His comments have started my thinking about our evangelism efforts. Historically he is right. We have done evangelism by immigration, marriage and birth.

As more Northern Europeans came to this country we received them into our ethnic communities of similar Northern Europeans. The Lutheran mergers of the 1900's were, in some ways responses, to the slowing or stopping of these immigrations.

We also lived with the expectation that Lutherans would marry Lutherans and give birth to new Lutherans. If not that method then a Lutheran marrying outside the tradition would likely bring their new spouse to the church. The simple fact is that these two methods were our most successful means of growing the church.

Jesus says to the disciples that the "fields are ripe for harvest". Christians are

missionary people. That does not mean that we need to be obnoxious for the faith. It does mean that we will tell our story about Jesus. We live in a time that needs a message of hope and peace. In Jesus we have found our hope and the world's peace.

In this time of cultural battles, we bring the word that God's grace is sufficient for you and for me. God is the one who acts in Jesus. We are the ones who point to that activity. We will continue to do our acts of kindness and compassion. Being nice is not evangelism. As we do good we need to point to Jesus as our motivator and our hope.

I find myself engaged occasionally in interfaith dialogs. In those occasions my fellow participants do not want me to give a partial witness to my faith. If we are in dialog, we must be honest about the hope that is in us. I am a child of God through the death and resurrection of Jesus. I am a sinner who has been given new life through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

We are not called to convert the world. That is the work of the Holy Spirit. We are called to give witness to the hope that is in us.

In Jesus the Christ we have been given the grace of God in exciting and powerful ways. That is more than being a particular ethnic identity. That is being a child of God and giving witness to what is happening to us.

It's That Time of Year Again!

Yep, it's that time of year again! Time to start connecting your graduating high school seniors with Lutheran Campus Ministry.

As you prepare to honor your graduating high school seniors, please take a moment to tell us about your students.

Please refer all students headed to or already at a college or university. Students coming to the University of Washington will be contacted by me and by my student leadership team.

Contact information of students headed to other universities will be forwarded to the appropriate Lutheran Campus Ministry site or partnership congregation if there is one.

Sample referral form is on our website at <http://uwlutherans.com/>

Please email contact info to: chscott@drizzle.com, or mail it to:

Lutheran Campus Ministry
4525 19th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98105
Phone: 206 524-7900

I'm glad to be your partner in ministry! Lutheran Campus Ministry is a direct extension of your congregation on campus,

providing Word and Sacrament ministry for students. We help young adults live out and connect their faith on college and university campuses across the United States.

Thank you for your time and care in referring your students. I appreciate your trust and your support. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information or if I can serve your ministry with young adults in any way.

Peace,

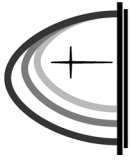
Scott Postlewait

Lutheran (ELCA) Campus Pastor
University of Washington

P.S. Planning a youth event in Seattle, or need a place for a Council retreat? Consider Covenant House at the UW!

P.P.S. Looking for a supply pastor, or for an adult forum on Lutheran Campus Ministry? Contact me 206-524-7900 or Chris Berry 360-220-5466!





HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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Fellowship

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Fax: 206-232-9411*

We're on the Web

<http://www.htlcmi.org>
