THE MESSENGER

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEST SEATTLE

(206) 935-6530 www.flcws.org June 2024

PASTOR'S PAGE – FOLLOWING JESUS IN WEST SEATTLE

The other day I was given a tour of the West Seattle Food Bank. I did not expect to find such an amazing place. I got to see where food is stored and prepared for pick-up or delivery. I also visited the "Reverend Ron Marshall Conference Room." Inside there are some photos and a plaque recognizing Pastor Marshall's service to the Food Bank. It read, in part, "A powerful and gracious driving force and steward of both the West Seattle Food Bank and the West Seattle Helpline."

Part of Pastor Marshall's legacy is helping the food bank become what it is today. I learned while I was there that on average, 500 people come for food assistance every day and another 200 receive food delivered to their homes each day. I met staff and volunteers and saw where the Helpline office is located. I was impressed with this outstanding outreach.

You are part of this outreach. You continue to give food and money on a regular basis. The St. Nicholas Faire and Cup of Blessings Dinner have been annual fundraisers for the food bank, bringing in tens of thousands of dollars. Why, I even bumped into a volunteer who is part of our First Lutheran community!

Food insecurity is a real issue. Too often, I forget. In my privilege, I assume everyone has easy access to food like me. It's easy to forget. We need constant reminders. Most of all, we need to hear the Gospel and follow Jesus into places where there is real human need. It is in those places where we meet Jesus. "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."(Matthew 25)

The West Seattle Food Bank is one ministry that we need to continue and one on which we can build and increase our support. There is a constant need for volunteers, food, and money.

Sharing Lent, Easter, and Pentecost with you has been a joy and a blessing. Now, we enter into the Sundays after Pentecost, also known as "Ordinary Time" or the long green and growing season. We immersed ourselves in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. Now, we listen to Jesus' parables, and stories about his ministry of healing and exorcising demons. All from the Gospel of Mark.

In late July and throughout all of August we will return to John's Gospel. In this period, the lectionary invites us to focus on Christ "the bread of life." Jesus' feeding of the multitudes, and his discourse on being the bread of life comprise the entire sixth chapter of John. In these weeks especially, we discover the vital link between Holy Communion and feeding the poor.

Maybe that will be a good time to hold up the ministry of the food bank and our participation, as individuals and, together, as the people of God at First Lutheran.

Peace,
Pastor Bryon Hansen

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thank you to all who attended Rev. Bryon Hansen's investiture on May 30th. We ask for God's blessing on his call at FLCWS. The synod assembly was held at Grace Lutheran Church in Des Moines on May 18th. Our congregation representatives were Rev. Hansen, David King, and myself. This was my first time attending the assembly. I was surprised by the number of people in attendance and the distance some congregations and their members traveled. The Adult Formation class was well received by the congregation. We look forward to more classes in the future.

The Church council has been discussing a mural project proposal with Tilden School over the past few months. After several drafts were presented, the church council approved the final version. The mural will be painted on the alleyway wall. An ad hoc technology committee was formed back in March to work on updating the church's website. The technology committee has made great progress in ensuring our website is hosted for free, as well as updating the website to newer programming formats and layouts.



The Dedication of the Luther area in the Library in honor of Martin Nygaard will take place on Sunday, June 9th following the service. We would also like to invite the congregation to an open house at the parsonage that day, after the dedication and reception. Please come and see the renovations that were made. The Mid-Year meeting will be held on Sunday, July 28th. A proposed constitutional amendment will be considered and voted on, along with the 2nd quarter financial report and some committee reports. We look forward to seeing you all at these upcoming dates.

-Steve Liang, President

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOD BANK COLLECTION: The West Seattle Food Bank box and all collections are in room C. Suggested Food Bank donations for summer are easy snack and lunch items for school age children home for the summer months, although any non-perishable foods, personal products, or grocery store gift cards are welcomed. Your much needed donations are taken to the West Seattle Food Bank, Compass Housing Alliance, and Mary's Place.

HOLY EUCHARIST – Communion: Those who are baptized in the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and believe are welcome to receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. If you are not able to walk up to communion but would like to receive, talk to one of the ushers before the liturgy. On Sunday, June 2nd, and the first Sunday of each month, multiple cup communion will be offered, in addition to intinction.

RIVERTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is still in need of help in housing the hundreds of immigrants that keep arriving. To help, go to: https://rivertonparkumc.com/donate

EXTENDED MINISTRY

The Extended Ministries Committee delivers your donations to the West Seattle Food Bank and Mary's Place. While delivering donations to Mary's Place, we learned some information to pass on to the congregation. Mary's Place has an urgent need for items in the following categories:

Kitchen/Home

- Pots, Pans, Bakeware, Utensils
- Hand towels, bath towels, and blankets
- Kids shoes in wearable condition

Baby

- Baby wipes
- Pull ups (2t/3t) , diapers (#3 & #6) (URGENT NEED)
- Goodnites (all sizes)
- Formula, bottles, sippy cups

Toiletries

- Hair brushes & hair care products (URGENT NEED)
- Wash Cloths (URGENT NEED)
- Bodywash, facial wipes, & moisturizers
- Alcohol wipes
- Deodorant (travel and full sizes)
- Razors & shaving cream
- Pads (all sizes)
- Underwear (Small and Medium Sizes)

DOES NOT ACCEPT

- Food Donations
- Car Seats

Did you know that Mary's Place has an Amazon Wishlist webpage? Their address is: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3OQY4A0CXOK1Y?ref_=wl_share You can purchase many of the above items there, and have them shipped directly to Mary's Place. We are thankful for all the congregation's past and future donations.

-Tyler Schorn (Chair) and Gina Allen



PARISH PRAYERS

Remember in prayer before God those whom He has made your brothers and sisters through baptism.

Pray for members and friends of our congregation that God will bless and strengthen them in these days: Nancy Lawson, Holly Petersen, Natalie Nesvig, Eileen & Dave Nestoss, Kyra Stromberg,

Peter and Dana Morrison, Paula and The Rev. Douglas Lindsay, Karen Granger, Shirley Graham, Angel Lynne, Don Minter and childeren, Nora Vanhala, Caroline and Konstantin Ritter, and Marilyn Jovanavich, Andrew King, Mariann Petersen, and Richard Uhler.

Pray for the homebound that the light of Christ may give them joy: Joan Olson, Bob & Mona Ayer, Jeannine Lingle, Robert Schorn, Lou & Lori Landino, CJ Christian, & Melanie Johnson.

Pray for our bishops Elizabeth Eaton & Shelley Bryan Wee, our pastor Bryon Hansen, our choirmaster Dean Hard, our cantor Andrew King, and all who faithfully assist with worship. May they be strengthened in faith, love and the holy office to which they have been called. Pray for our church council, that God will guide and strengthen them in these days.

Pray that God would give us hearts to find joy in service and faithful stewardship. Pray that God would work within you to become a good steward of your time, talents, and finances. Pray to strengthen our commitment to stewardship in our congregation.

Pray for the hungry, ignored, abused, unemployed, addicted, homeless, and unbelievers. Pray for the mercy of God for these people, and for all in Christ's church to see and help those who are in distress. Pray for our country and those who lead us, that our collective actions may honor God and be a blessing in the world.

Pray for people around the world who suffer from the effects of war, terrorism, natural disasters, disease, poverty, and abuse, especially the people of Ukraine, Israel, the Palestinian people, Afghanistan, Morocco, Syria, Lebanon, and all who live in fear.

Pray that God will bless you through the lives of the saints: John XXIII, Bishop of Rome (1963); Seattle, Chief of the Duwamish Confederacy (1866); St. Barnabas, Apostle; St. John the Baptist; Philip Melanchthon, renewer of the church (1560); Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles.

A Treasury of Prayers

Break the spell of that which blinds our minds. Purify our hearts that we may see thee. O God in these turbulent days when fear and doubt are mounting high, give us broad visions, penetrating eyes, and power of endurance. Help us to work with renewed vigor for a warless world, for a better distribution of wealth, and for a brotherhood that transcends race or color.
In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray. Amen

Martin Luther King, Jr.

STEWARDSHIP

"Freely You Have Received…..Freely Give"

Those are words of Jesus from the Gospel of St. Matthew, chapter 10, the 8th verse. They are from the words of instruction that Jesus gave to the twelve disciples before they were sent out to preach the good news of Jesus Christ to the lost sheep of Israel. "Freely you have received, freely give." Six small words with immense meaning!

I John 4:19 says, "We love because he first loved us." Our ability to know love and share it with others is because God first loved us. If He had not loved us first, we would be unable to experience love or to respond to others in love.

So too with our stewardship. We are able to give to others because God first gave to us -- His Son, our life, our talents, and gifts. We are not to hoard them for either a more convenient time or for our own use. They were given to us to share. "Freely you have received, freely give."

Stewardship is about guardianship – taking care of and sharing the rich abundance that God has bestowed on each of us. We are each members of the body of Christ and we each have our part to play to support the work of Christ's church. As we faithfully commit to this we will be blessed. When God sees that we are willing to be obedient and generous, He will reward us in ways we cannot predict nor anticipate.

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all! (Hymn 482v4)

-Larraine L. King

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

There are many ways that we show our stewardship of the church. One way is to volunteer to help maintain small areas around the church grounds.

Recently I took a walk around the facility and made a list of all the small projects that are in need of attention. I would ask that everyone seriously consider if they can take charge of a small area and maintain it regularly. This would help keep the grounds looking cared for and save the cost of hiring a contractor to do these tasks. Most of the things that need attention are those pesky weeds that seem to thrive in all types of surfaces, from concrete to dirt. But there are other chores as well. Consult the list and let me or Casey Blake in the church office know what areas you would like to take on.

If we are unable to secure volunteers, we will need to raise funds to have these jobs professionally done. Let's all try to help out to beautify our grounds.

WEEDING:	Lounge courtyard garden beds and concrete patio South courtyard between the parish house and the Osborne condo On the concrete in and around the parking lot and parking strip Along the alley by the back of the church
MOSS REMOVAL:	Lounge courtyard, especially by the SW church door and stairwell By sacristy door on the north side of the church Kitchen stairwell Sidewalks in the north garden East entrances to church and parish house
FLOWER PLANTERS:	Two garden pots by chapel door need plants Garden pots in lounge courtyard need plants

-Larraine King, chair, Facilities Committee

A SUPPLEMENTARY WORSHIP RESOUCE

In the next few months, you will see new red worship books in the pews alongside the green *Lutheran Book of Worship* that has been at the center of our worship life since its publication in 1978. *LBW*, with its rich liturgical settings and hymnody, will continue to occupy that central role now and in the future.

The new red book, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (*ELW*), was published in 2006 as an alternative to *LBW*. Both books continue to be published and sold by Augsburg Fortress. Our intent is to use *ELW* primarily as a source for additional hymns to supplement those in *LBW*.

Over the past six years, I have compared the hymns in the two books in some detail.



Unsurprisingly, the majority of the hymns are common to both books. However, I identified about 140 hymns of high textual and musical quality in *ELW* that are not included in *LBW*, which I believe will enrich our worship life for years to come. These include hymns for every season of the church year, the sacraments of baptism and holy communion, and other more general hymns. They span centuries of Christian hymnody, from Martin Luther's paraphrase of *The Lord's Prayer*, "Our Father, God in Heaven Above" to "Give Thanks for Saints," which pairs a new text with a majestic late 19th century English tune. *ELW* also includes many hymns with new texts by celebrated Lutheran poets including Jaroslav Vajda and Susan Palo Cherwien paired with new tunes by such distinguished Lutheran composers as Carl Schalk and Paul Manz. Some of these hymns have been sung by our choir as anthems. Others not subject to copyright restrictions, such as "Alleluia, Song of Gladness," have been sung by the congregation from bulletin inserts in recent years. Additionally, *ELW* includes liturgies for Ash Wednesday and Holy Week patterned on those available only as separate publications for use with *LBW*, which we have inserted in applicable bulletins for many years. Also included is a complete book of Psalms, while *LBW* includes only those appointed for use in Sunday worship.

The purchase of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* was made possible by a generous gift for worship resources from an anonymous donor in our congregation. We are grateful for this gift and its potential to expand the scope of hymnody in our parish.

-Andrew J. King, Cantor

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

At the November 19, 2023 Special Congregational Constitution and Bylaw Changes Meeting, a number of changes were introduced, discussed, and voted on by the members present. The one amendment that did not pass was C11.02. This amendment is recommended to the membership by the church council. It will be voted on at the Mid-Year Meeting, Sunday, July 28, 2014 following the 10:30 am liturgy.

The original wording for C11.02 is as follows: "The officers shall be elected by the congregation and shall serve for two years. This election shall occur during the first General Meeting of the calendar year. Their term of office shall begin twenty-four hours following their election."

The proposed wording of C11.02 that failed to receive a majority is as follows: "The president and vice president shall be elected by the congregation and may serve two consecutive, two year terms. This election shall occur during the first General Meeting of the calendar year. Their term of office shall begin twenty-four hours following their election. No officer shall hold more than one office at a time. The President and Vice President shall be eligible to serve two consecutive two year terms (four years total each), while the secretary and treasurer are eligible to serve three consecutive two year terms (six years total).

At the Special Congregational Constitution Changes Meeting Vote #2, held January 28, 2024, a council approved revision of C11.02 was presented. It was not voted on because it had not been presented/distributed to the congregation in the time frame that the constitution requires. It was shared as informational only, to be voted on at the Midyear meeting.

The revised wording of C11.02 is as follows: "*The President and Vice President shall be eligible to serve one two year term plus an additional year added consecutively to the term (three years total each), while the Secretary and Treasurer are eligible to serve three consecutive two year terms (six years total). This election shall occur during the first General Meeting of the calendar year. Their term of office shall begin twenty-four hours following their election. No officer shall hold more than one office at a time."*

Also necessary to keep items in the constitution consistent and not redundant, C11.03 will be deleted, and C11.04 will become C11.03.

All these changes are recommended by the current church council.

This announcement is presented to the congregation to ensure conformity with C17.01 "…..The council shall notify this congregation's membership of the proposal with their recommendations at least thirty days in advance of the meeting."

-Larraine King, Secretary

THE MESSENGER

JUNE 2024

First Lutheran Church of West Seattle
4105 California Avenue S.W.
Seattle, WA 98116-4101

CELEBRATION OF A NEW MINISTRY

Investiture of Pastor Bryon Hansen
Sixteenth Pastor of First Lutheran Church
May 30, 2024

The evening was presided by Bishop Shelly Bryan Wee, and attended by pastors and ministers of the ECLA Northwest Washington Synod, our First Lutheran Church of West Seattle congregation, and members of our community, on the eve of the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth. Here are a few photos to commemorate this event, courtesy of Dale Korsmo:





DEO GLORIA



DEO GLORIA



June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 The Second Sunday after Pentecost 10:30am Holy Eucharist Coffee Fellowship	**3** *Martyrs of Uganda (1855, 1877)* *John XXIII, Bishop of Rome (1963)* Office Closed	**4** 7:00 pm Church Council	**5**	**6**	**7**	**1**  *Justin, Martyr of Rome, (165)* **8**
9 The Third Sunday Of Pentecost 10:30am Holy Eucharist	**10** Office Closed	**11**  *St. Barnabas, Apostle*	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**
16 The Fourth Sunday Of Pentecost 10:30am Holy Eucharist *Fathers' Day*	**17** Office Closed	**18** *Flag Day*	**19**	**20** *First Day of Summer*	**21**	**22**
23 The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30am Holy Eucharist	**24**  *St John the Baptist* Office Closed	**25** *The Augsburg Confession (1530)* *Philip Melanchthon, renewer of the church* (1560)	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**  *Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles*
30 The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30am Holy Eucharist						

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Festivals and Commemorations

June in the Lutheran calendar is chock full of days remembering and celebrating the saints. Here are just SOME of them …

June 1, Justin, Martyr of Rome (165 AD)

Justin was an apologist. That means he was a defender of the Christian faith. He wanted to show Christianity could serve as a bridge between Jewish and Gentile worlds. Justin also gives us the oldest written description that has been found to describe the Christian liturgy. In this document written around 150 AD, he goes into great detail describing what the early Christians did when they gathered on "the day of the Sun." Said another way, this is the earliest written description of Word and Sacrament in the Christian community. The day of the Sun, writes Justin," is the first day, on which day God, having transformed darkness and matter, made the world. On the same day God raised Jesus Christ our Savior from the dead."

June 3, the Martyrs of Uganda

These martyrs were Christian converts who refused the religious demands of King Mwanda of Buganda who attempted to eliminate Christianity within the country's borders. They were killed between 1855 and 1887. The historical kingdom of Buganda is now part of Uganda where about 85% of the population identifies as Christian.

June 3, John XXIII, Bishop of Rome (1963)

Though he was a courageous leader, little was expected of Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli when he became pope in 1958. He was to be a stopgap pope. John XXIII distinguished himself by convening the Second Vatican Council from 1962-1965. Vatican II was a massive reform movement within the Roman Catholic Church that, among other things, changed the liturgy from the Latin Mass to the vernacular and enacted strong ecumenical conversations with other Christians.

June 24, The Nativity of John the Baptist

This festival celebrates the birth of the forerunner to Jesus. Much is heard of John on the second and third Sundays of Advent. The prophet and baptizer of Jesus said it well: "he must increase, but I must decrease."

June 25, Presentation of the Augsburg Confession (1530) and the Commemoration of Philip Melanchthon, Renewer of the Church (1560)

Melanchthon penned both the Augsburg Confession and Apology (explanation) to the Augsburg Confession. The Augsburg Confession or statement of faith, was presented to the emperor. Presented as a unifying document to show how Lutherans were like and unlike Western Catholics and Protestant groups, it was rejected and sadly created schism. Something Luther never wanted.