FROM PASTOR NANCY.....

You have to stay bright to be the light of the world  (Stephen Schwartz)

Friends in Christ. We began our Lenten journey on Feb. 26 with the imposition of ashes on our foreheads in the sign of the cross. This is the time we remember Jesus’ passage from death to life and that by the cross of Jesus we are given eternal life.

Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word “lencten” which means lengthen - a reference to the lengthening days of spring. Spring reminds us of new growth, new life. Lent is a season for our renewal and change of heart, a time for our spiritual growth. Consider giving up time spent on-line and spend time in the Word, growing deeper in our relationship with God.

Last year as a congregation we collected food items for the Community Cupboard. This year, choose a ministry that speaks to you and lift it up in prayer as well as supporting it with a donation. The opportunities are many: MEND, Community Cupboard, Lutheran World Relief or some of the many groups working for immigration justice and healing of the earth.

Let our prayer be that God will bless us as we gather for worship during this holy season. May God fill our hearts with peace and courage to share God’s Easter victory with the world. In this season of Lent may we be surprised by joy as we focus on the triumph of Jesus Christ

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Thanksgiving for Baptismal Waters

When they say: You are alone These waters say: You are “with.”
When they say: You are too broken, damaged goods, too wounded, not enough.
These waters say: Enough, beloved, enough.
When they say: You are too brown, too white, too black, too queer, child. Too fat, too skinny
These waters say: Beautiful child, beautiful.
When they say: You are too addicted, stranger. Immigrant, Alien, Criminal, too far gone,
These waters say: Home neighbor. Welcome home........
When they say: Fear  These waters say: Trust
When they say: Consume, make it a commodity. These waters say: Life

(adapted from a litany written by Pastor Melissa Reed)
Reed is sitting in the Tumwater Bakery looking at the muffin he ordered. "I have tried for decades to make muffins that rise correctly," he says. "I'm good at waffles, though." That morning, since it was President's Day, he had made red, white and blue waffles for friends - red raspberries, blueberries and whipped cream. Baking is one of Reed's many interests and abilities.

Reed graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, Mn. in 1973 with majors in art and philosophy. He says his interests and passions are Scandinavian music and dance. He is quite proud that he won second prize in ballroom dancing at Holden Village where he went to be on staff after graduation. Like many preacher's kids, he was told dancing was not encouraged and might "lead to other things." He tells of his father pulling down the shades of their home when his sisters would begin to dance.

His job at Holden was cleaning out Holden's sewer pipes when they clogged. After Holden, Reed spent several years getting to know the Seattle area and, being of Swedish descent, was especially happy to discover Ballard where he saw signs reading "lefsle" and "lutefisk". He met many musicians and dancers from the area, lived in a closet size $30/month room and worked in a photo lab. When he was given a used bass violin he learned to play it and participated in creating music with his friends. They played in clubs, at festivals and even made trips overseas.

Later, Reed was invited by a friend to help build a house in Minnesota for poet Robert Bly which led to yet another career - construction. Reed enjoys creative construction such as solar powered projects. He has worked on projects at Sleeping Lady Resort and also for Faith Lutheran. When the church was resurrected he crawled around under the church putting in wiring, built the steeple and, using Rich Caemmerer's design, created the front doors to the building. He has been a vital part of this congregation for many years.

After he moved to Leavenworth, Reed was hired by the forest service to clear backpacking trails for hikers. "That was the best summer of my life," Reed says.

In 1992, Reed met Amy in Seattle through a Holden Village contact. After several years Amy asked, "Are you ready to get married yet?" He was and this year the couple celebrates their 25th wedding anniversary. They built their home on land they had purchased off Dempsey Rd. Reed enjoys teaching photography to ninety students each semester at Wenatchee High School. His family owns a cabin on Lake Kabekona in northern Minnesota which is home to "dozens and dozens of Lutheran pastors." He would like to learn how to build boats there which will probably be a good retirement project.

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS!**

2 Ted Fredericks  11 Kevin Rieke
5 Sarah Butruille  20 Susan Wagner
8 Johnna Rieke  31 Brett Johnson
REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, Feb. 2, 2020

- We were reminded that the new name of our synod is Northwest Intermountain Synod
- Thirty-six folks attended the FLC meeting. Written reports were distributed.
- Gratitude was expressed for giving that surpassed the 2019 budget. There was $144,000 budgeted and the income was $155,000.
- FLC continues to be faithful in giving 10% of gifts received to benevolence.
- A budget of $167,450 was approved for 2020.
- There was $3,200 of Endowment fund money dispersed. Funds went to children's programs in Guatemala, Tanzania, The Wenatchee River Institute, Central Asia Institute, classes to aid Spanish speaking students in the local schools and NW Immigration Rights Project.
- The congregation approved adding a non-member to the Church Council to represent the 40% of the congregation who have no vote but are active participants. Peter Spiegel was suggested for this two-year position and he accepted.
- Jan Monroe was elected to the Church Council. Elected for a second, two-year term are Bev Cagle, Greg Steeber and Eric Krumland. Remaining on Council to complete their two-year terms are Karl Kranz, Connie Thomassen and Mara Merritt.
- The nominating committee for 2020 is Heidi Krumland, Greg Harris and Rosaleen Dickinson.
- There is continuing research into possible building options as well as prioritizing needed repairs such as the roof, painting and the sound system. This planning is under the leadership of the Property team.
- Comments were made regarding the good fun and socializing with the lefse parties, Mardi Gras and the valentine cookie decorating for the children.
- Thank you, Faith Lutheran for your generous financial support and participation in the ministry groups of our congregation.

EARTH STEWARDSHIP (ES) LENTEN DISCIPLINES

Use it up, wear it out. Make do or do without.

Lent is a good time to pay attention to our earth care. The ES group is providing calendars that make suggestions for ways to be more careful in our every-day practices at home and work. You will find the calendars in the narthex if you would like to participate in this. Glass bottles and jars are now being collected at the recycling center across from the Community Cupboard. The organization, Waste Loop, announces recycling can be done on Wed. 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. & Sat. 11-3 p.m. Be sure the glass is clean and has no plastic on it (as wine bottles do). We encourage you to attend a Community Forum on recycling and sustainable living on March 4, 6:00 at the Fire Hall.

EMPTY BOWLS

More than 600 people gathered in January at Sleeping Lady to purchase and decorate blank bisqueware soup bowls provided by 7 of our local potters. On March 19, these same bowl painters will come together again at the Festhalle to pick up their glazed, ready-to-use bowls and enjoy a soup supper donated by local restaurants. Proceeds go to the Community Cupboard. Tickets for the event are sold out but you can attend an Artist Reception on March 1 at Icicle Ridge Winery. People are also encouraged to bid for large, beautifully glazed bowls at an online auction, March 11-18. Contributions to the program are also encouraged.
A SUNDAY AT FAITH LUTHERAN

I recently read a statement from Buckminster Fuller that said, “I must be a verb.” I understand that “Love is a verb” but now I must wrestle with “I am a verb.” To follow the teachings of Christ requires doing, not in order to win God’s love but to let that love show through us so that we are Christ to others. The announcements before worship one Sunday at Faith illustrated what ‘doing’ can mean.

Trudy announced that $3300 had been collected for the children’s program we support in Guatemala. Barbara held up a wine bottle and made the long awaited announcement that the town finally has a way to recycle glass. She told us how to prepare the glass so it can be crushed and put into paving roads and other uses. Heather announced a gathering of the Artist’s Group, some of those in our congregation who creatively interpret the beauty of the world in which we live. Susan reminded us of the start of “Great Decisions,” the program where we wrestle with the problems we face as a wealthy, divided nation.

I wondered what the visitors in church were thinking: “Good job, Faith” or “This sounds scary. Would I ever want to be involved in this? I mean, isn’t church about worship?”

I have never felt more grateful for our congregation than that Sunday in January. It was also the Sunday we celebrated the life of Dr. Martin Luther King. Readings from “I have a dream” were interspersed with favorite hymns of Dr. King. “I have a dream that someday...” were read with tears, difficulty speaking and overt anguish as we listened and compared what was hoped for in the 1960s with what is the reality today. As a family, we support one another’s gifts as we become loving, living verbs to care for one another and for the earth. (mrs)

ABOUT US

• Laurie Peek returned from her three-week trip to Guatemala where she delivered funds from FLC to an organization, CEIPA. The group will now be able to provide modest salaries for their teachers.
• Dr. Zona Mckenzie plans to sell her house on Riverbend Dr. and move to a home she owns on Orcas Island. We will miss her presence among us and are grateful for the time she was here. (Thanks for the name tag tip Zona.)
• We are grateful to have Trudy and Terry Leverenz back with us after a month traveling where they again visited immigration centers in McAllen, Texas.
• Travel mercies to Greg and Mary Steeber and John Agnew and Patty Hebert who will be traveling for several weeks in March and April.
• Congratulations and best wishes to Zeke Reister who was recently appointed to fill the vacancy on the Leavenworth City Council.

Wisdom from Our Native American Friends

Don’t let yesterday use up too much of today — Cherokee
All who have died are equal — Comanche
The greatest strength is gentleness — Iroquois
Cherish youth, but trust old age - Pueblo

Haikus by Amy Carlson

Remembering Transfiguration Sunday
Lit by burnished sun
Blessing comes down the mountain
Where a cold wind blows.
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Calendar Details

FREE CLINIC - Weekly ministry run by FLC volunteers. Contact M.E.N.D. office for information: 548-0408

BOOK GROUP - Weekly at church. Contact: John Schramm 548-0404 Current book is Falter by Bill McKibben.

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE - ESL classes at PUD School. Contact: Laurie Peek 548-7186 or Trudy Leverenz 888-4856

GREAT DECISIONS – Sunday evenings through March. Contact: Susan Butruille 548-0238

KNIT WITS: Parsonage. Knit, quilt, embroidery or whatever. All are welcome to enjoy fellowship and creativity.

YOGA - Meets in the fellowship hall. Contact: Marcy Ostrom 630-1262

BIBLE STUDY - Meets at the church.

LECTIO DIVINA - Meets in the church sanctuary. A time of sharing and quiet meditation on Biblical texts.
Contact: Liz Caemmerer 421-0872

S.A.G.E. - Sexual and domestic violence counseling. Fellowship Hall.

LISTENING FOR GOD - Book / faith discussions. Begins with a happy hour followed by pot luck meal. Contact:
Tom Derpack 206-601-7739

EARTH STEWARDSHIP GROUP - Contact: Margaret Neighbors 548-0166

QUILTING - Contact: Trudy Leverenz 888-4856 for location.

WASTE LOOP FORUM – at the Fire Hall to discuss recycling and sustainable living.

Thank you to Mary Steeber for formatting the newsletter. Please send information for the newsletter to schramm@nwi.net