



Life of Faith

July 2021

224 Benton St. (P.O. Box 418), Leavenworth WA 98826

Phone: 509 548 7010

Email: flcleavenworth@gmail.com

Pastor Nancy Gradwohl 425-877-5131

www.flcleavenworth.com

From Pastor Nancy.....

Recently I did what I thought I would never do: walk on the wild side and spend time in downtown Leavenworth during the weekend. I spent a Saturday afternoon sitting outside a restaurant. It was a people-watching feast!

I have always been somewhat puzzled about the number of people who visit our community, pay \$20 to park their vehicles and then push strollers and pull dogs through the crowded streets. What are they thinking?

Looking back, I might have a clue. Maybe, just maybe, they come for anonymity and the freedom to just BE. I saw people of all ages, interracial couples, bodies of all shapes and sizes and a variety of ethnicities. I was unable to identify the atheists, Christians, Republicans, straight, gay, rich or poor individuals in the passersby. These beings, created in the image of God, navigated their togetherness with kindness and courtesy.

What I expected to be an unpleasant afternoon was a heart-warming, hopeful experience.
Pastor Nancy

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.: Outdoor worship

July 3: Church yard clean up - 9 to noon

July 8: Church Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.s

July 18: Barbara Rossing will preach and lead worship

July 21: Immigration/Race Justice Group



Next time you are around, take a moment to admire the "Faith Lutheran" sign in front of the church. Thanks to the talents of Karl Kranz it has been wonderfully repaired and repainted. It looks beautiful. Thank you, Karl!

SPIRITED Karen Strom by Pete Spiegel



What are your spiritual practices is such an unfair question. After all, what is a spiritual practice? What does it mean to be spiritual? Spirituality means something different to each person. According to Wikipedia, there are almost 30 definitions of spirituality. The term *spirit* is derived from the Latin *spiritus* which means ‘soul, courage, vigor, breath’ and is related to *spirare* - to breathe. For the time being, let’s say that spirit is our breath, that which sustains us, or, the ‘deepest values and meanings by which people live’. But I digress....

Karen Strom loves music. She says that “music stirs everybody”. She has always had music in her life. She was accomplished enough at the piano to be the Faith Lutheran pianist for a time. Her favorite composers are Chopin and Debussy. She goes to church for the music and for the people. She also goes “because I have always gone to church.” She finds church to be one place where she is able to pray.

Twice a day, Karen and her buddy Beth (along with Carolyn when she is able) grab their walking sticks and patrol the neighborhood. A neighbor calls them the “walking ladies”. They are not fast but they are consistent. Every day, rain or shine, these women walk. These sojourns are often quiet and contemplative. Having a consistent practice seems to be a key to finding one’s spiritual breath.

Karen also derives spiritual/intellectual nourishment from keeping informed, usually through PBS and by watching the Mariners (I’m sure she would get more spiritual nourishment if the Mariners would get better pitching). She is very thankful to be able to get back to church.



The Farmer Dan Show from Dan Wilkinson

During the Covid pandemic, I was not able to go to my daughter’s classroom as in previous years so I decided to create videos as a way to teach about gardening and farming. My son-in-law does all the work with the filming and editing. I just open my mouth and ramble. They are my favorite subjects to



talk about, so it comes quite easily. He has also filmed some of the songs that I sing with kids about gardening that support the lessons taught. Anyone is welcome to watch them if they have the desire to have a concept presented to them at a kindergarten level. Sometimes that’s all the information we really need. I’m sure you remember that saying “all I needed to learn about life, I learned in kindergarten”. Here are some episodes of *The Farmer Dan Show!* https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=QAz_ZXWsXL4 (worms) [https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=pUX3ft-](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=pUX3ft-Cnao&feature=youtu)

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=SoDBkMTVrKU> (bees) <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=SoDBkMTVrKU> (compost).

CHURCH COUNCIL 6/10/2021 (Next meeting: 7/8/2021, 6:30 p.m.)

- Nancy feels each service has improved and with hymnals now being available, they are more completely developed. Services are now live-streamed rather than prerecorded.
- Dorti White is moving, she will be missed.
- Bank balances remain about the same. Reserve savings are stable. Revenue has been lower than budget but appears to be up a bit in June. The endowment fund has done well. Zoom account will be maintained as cost is minimal for non-profits.
- Deferred maintenance projects will begin this summer.
- No immediate action is planned for an awning, canopy or a sunshade for worship.
- Council will ask the Worship Committee to plan on outdoor services for now with start time of 9:30. Judith Hewitt-Harris will take over as the new leader after Amy's resignation.
- The council recommends granting Ellie camp a scholarship. She will attend CWU in Ellensburg.
- Volunteer church yard cleanup sessions are on the first Sat. of the month from 9 - noon through summer. Nancy and Danny have participated so far. Next opportunity is July 3.
- There was discussion about resuming coffee hour outdoors. Pastor Nancy will encourage people to linger after Sunday's service and congregational interest will be evaluated.
- There are problems with accessing the newsletter on the website. Deanne will be contacted.

After many years of faithful service as our office manager, Deanne Erickson will be leaving us at the end of June. In planning for her departure and unsuccessful attempts to hire one our own, council has begun working with an employment agency. We hope to have the position filled soon but until that time, Deanne has offered to do a minimum of bookkeeping and train a new person when needed.

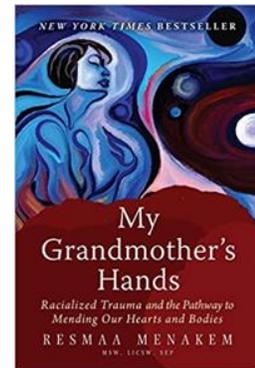
During this time of transition, we will be needing to see to many tasks on our own. Council will be doing its best to manage things in a timely fashion but we ask for your patience and support as we move forward in the process. Please don't hesitate to reach out to council at any time with your concerns.

Our process for safely resuming in-person worship in compliance with the Governor's requirements for Faith Based organizations has gone well. We are following updated recommendations issued June 3. These include:

- Fully vaccinated people are not required to mask. At Faith, if you are unmasked we expect that you are vaccinated against Covid.
- There is a written, updated Exposure control, Mitigation and Recovery plan maintained at church and information posters displayed.
- Attendees are instructed on self-screening and washing of hands with soap and water prior to service. Soap and water is available on site in the restrooms.
- Hand sanitizer is widely available.
- Me masks are available if needed.
- Names and contact information are collected and maintained for 14 days before shredding if there is no need for contact tracing. No report of illness has been reported to date.
- Temperatures are checked and the Covid questionnaire is available for those who did not prescreen.
- Vaccination is strongly encouraged but verification is not required for attendance.
- Singing outside is acceptable.
- Guitar, piano, percussion accompaniment is acceptable.
- Communion is in individual portions, self-served and blessed from 6 foot distance.

IMMIGRATION/RACE JUSTICE GROUP (I/RJG) June 10 2021

- Financial gifts have been graciously given and received. In addition to an anonymous gift, a member's daughter and a friend tie dyed shopping bags for sale and have now raised \$280. The young lady made a presentation of her project and told of future project ideas. Well done!
- The third Synod Covid Assistance Grant of \$750 was accepted and we will receive \$1,000 soon.
- Work on a webpage is continuing on a volunteer basis and will be completed as schedules allow.
- A member of our group is learning how to administer the FB page.
- Faith Lutheran has expressed a willingness to receive funds for those seeking tax deductible credit. We would offer them a reasonable percentage for processing our checks.
- Thursday, June 24, 6:30 p.m. is our next book study. It will include the final portion of *My Grandmother's Hands*. Folks are asked to send out suggestions for the next book as soon as possible so we can continue our study.
- The monthly anti-racism group had their last session after nearly a year of gatherings. Future plans are uncertain. One participant would love to start such a group within the High School.
- A Building Bridges anti-racism workshop inquiry was received from Christ Lutheran in Walla Walla. Dates have been set for July 23, 24. *Hooray!*
- Our CSD Migrant Graduation Specialist told how proud she was to see 9 of her students graduate, some with honors! Two were unable to complete the requirements. Each wore a special vestment with the national colors of their homeland. The "Have a Safe and Healthy Summer" gift box project for migrant students will be delivered on Monday, June 14. Ten Discover Passes will be included. On August 7, a "Back to School Supply Fair" will be held at P-D.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED on August 7 at the "Back to School Supply Fair"

+++

July 21: Next meeting (note change)

July 29: Book Study

August: No meeting

Booth volunteers are needed!

- The possibility of micro-loans to local families in need was discussed with good questions, insights, cautions and experience-based advice given and received. If pursued, it would at first be very basic with minimal structure. A participant will draft a proposal for our July meeting.
- We were informed that a mother and son of the same family seeking asylum did not have to appear at Seattle's Federal Immigration Court in May. No future date was set due to an increased backlog of cases. A great relief! Their ICE check-in in Yakima has been delayed until Dec. 14. Their medical and emotional issues continue.
- A member recommended a family that MEND has not been able to assist (rent and utility bills) due to geographic location limitations. She will send out more details and the group will decide by email as soon as possible.



“The History Corner” Part 1 of 2: Submitted by Danny Thomassen



The year is 1546, the month is January; Martin Luther at 62 years of age is making the bone-chilling slow 65-mile journey in an open single-axle wagon pulled by oxen over rough roads and terrain from Wittenberg, Germany to his home town Eisleben. He was born in this village in 1483 to Hans & Margarethe Luther and baptized the next morning at Peter-Paul Kirche. His father owned a copper mine that was still in the family and Martin was travelling to Eisleben to function as a mediator in negotiations over a dispute between his siblings and the Count of Mansfield who wanted to bring the copper trades under his control; thereby threatening the livelihood of the Luther family.

Martin lived a strenuous, provocative and “*controversial*” life from the time he entered Erfurt University at age 17 to study civil law. After a short period, several events in his life influenced him to become a Catholic monk and he entered Erfurt monastery; a choice that infuriated his father who saw this decision as a waste of his education. In 1510 Martin, now an Augustinian monk, made a pilgrimage from Erfurt to Rome by walking 820 miles over the Brenner Pass of the Alps into Italy. He was overtly disappointed at the extravagance, affluence, and corruption of the Catholic Church in Rome that showed little evidence of Christian piety. Soon after returning from Rome; Luther received his doctorate diploma from Wittenberg University (Saxony) and began teaching religious studies. In 1517 he posted the “95 Theses” in Wittenberg questioning monetary indulgences made by Germans to save their souls while raising money to build St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. Luther was given 60-days by the Holy See to recant several articles within the theses. In response, he publicly burned the Pope’s Papal Bull decree in the city square of Wittenberg. In 1520, Luther was excommunicated from the Catholic Church by Pope Leo X exclaiming: *A German bull has trampled the wine vineyards of Christendom*. In response Luther publicly labels the most powerful man in the medieval world Pope Leo X the Antichrist and renounces the sovereignty of the Catholic Church in Rome. In 1521 Luther was interrogated at the Diet of Worms by the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V because he refused to recant his writings. Luther was condemned as an outlaw throughout Germany and subject to death on sight. On the orders of Fredrick (*Friedrich*) III, Elector of Saxony, Luther would be snatched up on his return journey from Worms and held (against his will) in protective custody at the Wartburg Castle near Eisenach for 300 days. He would temporarily take a new identity as a Prussian noble “*Junker Jorg*” and grew a full beard as a disguise while living in the castle. Martin was safe for now but there were rumors circulating that he had been killed or had left Germany for asylum in another country. While living in the castle Luther was separated from family, friends and community and spent his time writing a translation of the New Testament Bible from Hebrew and ancient Greek into the German language.



Congratulations Stella Bywater-Johnson!



Stella graduated last month from Cascade High School and will spend the next academic year at a Norwegian Folk school approximately 1 hour south of Trondheim, Norway. She then plans to go to Montana State University and is thinking of studying Environmental Engineering.

John and Susan Butruille on the road....



On our recent sojourn to Colorado and beyond, we visited our friend and former member of Faith, MaryCarol Nelson in her home in Hailey, Idaho. In our short time with her, we enjoyed food and wine in her lovely back yard and a terrace dinner at a delightful restaurant. We walked along the Big Wood River and visited the grand Sun Valley with its 75-run ski area and a cavernous performance pavilion. MaryCarol enjoys her family, friends and home in Hailey. When we visited, she had



just finished installing paving in her front yard. In winter, she cross-country skis nearly every day with Cider at her side. MaryCarol still misses her FLC friends and sends her greetings!





AGING WELL SUMMER SERIES

Sponsored by the *Ingalls Creek Center for Faith, Calling and Community*

July 8: ***Relationships***

July 22: ***Nature***

August 5: ***Prayer***

Inspirational talks, strolls, golf cart rides and fellowship with friends, old and new

Each session is from 11:15 a.m to 2:15 p.m. and includes lunch.

\$8 per person or \$15 for two

Register on-line or by mail: registrar@ingallscreek.org/ www.ingallscreek.org

Registration is due one week before each event.



July Birthdays

1 Lauren Johnson
8 Lori Brown
10 Tony Butruille

18 Violet May Rieke
19 Ila Sielof
21 Shannon Hofferma

31 Micah Rieke

Thanks to all who contributed articles and general interest information for this newsletter! Please forward contributions to Mary Steeber at mary.steeber@gmail.com by July 23 for the August issue.

