



Life of Faith

August 2023

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Pastor Eva Jensen

From our president...

Psalm 121 - *I lift up my eyes to the hills...* At Faith Lutheran we are blessed with an abundance of hills, mountains and peaks with glaciers ranged around us. There are few people with neutral feelings about our granite massifs. I have met Midwesterners that feel they are rather terrifying and Europeans that concede the Cascades are not bad, though not as grand as the Alps. There are local mountaineers that swim through their canyons like trout through a stream and then there are those of us that simply wander away the summer from hike to hike. We asked an old timer about a route up to Toketie, a remote lake in the Enchantments. He reminded us that the first time he hiked in there as a youth there was no Snow Creek trail, no Icicle Road, you started walking from town and it was a looooong way up there. Good fishing, he claimed.

It is a paradox, indeed. Hikers head for the hills to find solitude and there we often find community as well. On the trail we have had long conversations with strangers about Hooker's Onion plants, compared Huckleberry finds, offered aid, received aid and often been in full agreement about discussing controversial topics on long hikes, like Religion! Pacific Crest Trail through-hikers, the lone wolves of the forest, have an entire trail culture complete with nicknames, slang and their own personal stories of miracles created by honest to goodness trail angels.

Our mountains call to us to enjoy their wonder. Some seekers climb Prusik Peak, because it's there, some through-hike the Enchantments in a day but an afternoon in the forest doesn't have to be a heroic venture. There is an overlook of the valley up Mountain Home road, you only need to walk 25 feet to see the glacial moraine slope away beneath you and offer up a vista of Leavenworth below that pans from the fish hatchery to the Ski Hill trails. Zeke and I spent some time in the woods recently managing equipment problems and the balm that eased the wounds was the half hour lunch in the shade, leaning against a tire, looking through the forest at the hills. The Nordic trails at the Leavenworth Ski Hill have some nice views into the Stuart Range. Icicle Gorge Trail is an easy starter, widened for handicap access. There are 101 hikes in the North Cascades listed in a book, okay, let's go!

I find Faith Lutheran similar in many ways to the hills. I find peace, adventure, challenges, community and discussions in our diverse congregation. We take many separate paths yet they are all connected.

Take a hike, long or short, and feel the peace. Bring it home, and share it.
I lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence does my help come?

Karl Kranz

From Pastor Eva...

Over the past three weeks in the Gospel of Matthew, we have read six different parables that Jesus told, speaking to the power of small things. Seeds scattered freely and abundantly, wheat seeds planted carefully and invaded by weeds, a mustard seed that proliferates, yeast that spreads throughout dough, a single pearl of great value. In Jesus' stories, we hear that the Gospel spreads in all conditions and under the radar, in small and simple interactions and experiences. These stories of Jesus invite us to imagine the "Kingdom of Heaven" and the character of God, how God relates with creation, and what God desires. These stories are about God being present in creation seeking relationship with you and your neighbor in order to bless the goodness of life.



What is the seed of life – the small thing that would bring you great joy if it rose up from a place of incubation in your life? What surprise would touch something deep inside of you and open your life to wholeness and meaning for which you long? Where have you been surprised by a small sign of life that opened you to a sense of being part of something greater than yourself? God comes to us in varied ways and circumstances of life to remind us we are part of something greater and to create among us relationships that support life and community – the common good.

In many and varied ways Faith Lutheran Church lives as a community of faith that supports its members, friends and neighbors. Centered in life with God – practicing our faith in worship and prayer, shared meals of holy communion, conversation and community meals of celebration and blessing – we remember God is with us in daily and communal life. We wonder, what is God doing in our midst? What is God calling us to be at this time in our lives? What is God up to in the lives of our neighbors and the communities where we live and work and learn? What is God seeking to grow within and among us all so that we bless and nurture the goodness of life?

The parables of Jesus remind us that it is the small things that matter most: walking with each other and in the communities where we live, learning our neighbors' names, their interests and talents, sharing meals, our hopes and longings. These simple practices are the foundation for common good and the base from which meaningful relationships grow and larger actions emerge.



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This Fall at Faith Lutheran we have prioritized some first small next steps to deepen and broaden relationships within Faith and with our neighbors. They include:

- ◆ Two opportunities to meet and develop relationships with friends and members of Leavenworth Methodist Church – an ice cream social on Thurs., August 17, 5:30-7:00pm and a shared dinner meal on Thurs., Sept. 21, 5:30 to 7:00pm. **HOLD THE DATES** and look for more details to come.
- ◆ Approximately 8 to 15 people are considering participation in a 5 week series to get to know each other, explore questions and thoughts about church and faith, study a Lutheran understanding of faith and discipleship and learn more about the identity of FLC and each other. The sessions will be facilitated by Pastor Eva Jensen. In November we will plan a worship service to welcome new members and friends and celebrate our life together." Contact the church office 509 548 7010 or Pastor Eva at evajensen101@gmail.com if you want to be part of this group. You do not have to commit to joining or affiliating in order to participate in these sessions.

We will continue weekly worship, to nurture our relationships with God and one another that we might be surprised by all the seeds of life rising up in our daily lives and communities of relating.

God bless us in the journey!



What's Happening

BOOK GROUP: Each Tuesday beginning July 25. The current book is, "Accidental Saints" by Nadia Bolz-Weber and the next one will be *Learning to Walk in the Dark* by Barbara Brown Taylor, which asks us to put aside our fears and anxieties and to explore all that God has to teach us "in the dark." If this sounds intriguing to you please contact Margaret Neighbors, mneighb67@gmail.com. We'd love to have you join us!

SAIL (Staying Active and Independent for Life) Tuesday and Thursdays, from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall. All seniors 65 and older are welcome to join this free program. Contact Connie Thomassen (509) 470-8212 for more information.

KNITTING AND CRAFTS: August 9 and 23, 1:30 – 3:00, Fellowship Hall

QUILT TYING: On break

CHURCH COUNCIL: August 24, 6:30 p.m.

IMMIGRATION/RACE/JUSTICE GROUP BOOK STUDY: August 23, 6:30 p.m. at LOGE

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: August 17 at the Methodist Church, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.



Thursday, August 17

5:30-7:00 PM

Leavenworth Community Methodist Church

418 Evans St.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

CHURCH COUNCIL July 2023

Pastors Report

- Pastor Eva expressed gratitude for the commitment of members preparing for outdoor worship including setting up outside and taking down our worship space, supporting sound and video recording, ensuring we have worship resources and preparing for holy communion and hosting post-worship “refreshment” time.
- Pastor Eva had a variety of opportunities for significant conversations with the Northwest Washington Intermountain Synod Bishop Meggan Manlove during her recent visit to our cluster. She presided at the memorial – Celebration of Life Service for Llorna Ullstrom and continues to meet with Faith Lutheran Members and friends to renew and deepen relationships in a variety of ways.
- There are at least 8 households (some couples) who will participate in the 5 – 6 week “New Member/Friend” series that will take place in October and November.
- Plans are underway to identify resource persons who may be interested in supporting and being involved with ministry to families with children. “Stories at the font” will be integrated into worship during the school year. It was noted that when we plan events, we need to be sure that we have activities for the children.
- Pastor Eva will be participating in a Lilly-funded workshop at Ingalls Creek on August 12.
- Faith Lutheran has been invited to an Ice Cream Social on August 17 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church. There is also a proposed date for a Picnic/Potluck on Thursday, September 21 for both congregations.



Treasurer's Report

- \$50,000 was put into a second CD at Cashmere Bank.
- The amount of \$41,000 will be paid for the new roof on the Fellowship Hall.
- The January-June contributions were \$62,362 with the budget being \$78,000.

Property Committee

- Painting projects will be done later this summer.
- Left over metal from the old Fellowship Hall roof will be used to create a metal wall base on the storage shed to keep the wood siding away from the ground.
- Sump pump and the water heater can be done this fall.
- Concern was expressed about the roof on the parsonage but repairs will be postponed for now.
- There is a lawn sprinkler not working. Karl will do research to see what repairs need to be made.

Worship Committee

- Worship bulletin for the next 6-8 week period of Pentecost: July 23–September 3 was reviewed.
- Music and hymns have been planned through August 6.

Call Committee

- Pastor Eva and Amy Carlson are working on a closure party for the call committee members.

Parsonage Project Committee

- Detailed facts and figures need to be confirmed with Lexar Homes.
- The vision statement for the parsonage will be reviewed and shared with the congregation.

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- There will be a congregational meeting on September 17 at 11:00 a.m. to approve the parsonage plan and supporting capital campaign. In keeping with our constitution, announcements will be made during worship on September 3 and September 10. A notice will be sent to all members two weeks before the meeting.

Old Business

- Jan will continue weekly bulletin inserts and begin to include year-to-date contributions and budget information.
- Research continues about nwi.net emails not working.

New Business

- Lindsay Camp is stepping down from working on our webpage. Deanne Erickson has agreed to return to Faith for 4 – 5 hours per week to help with this and other administrative duties.
- We are ordering a Hymnal transport device that will fold up when we are not using it.

Next Council Meeting: 08/24/2023

Please note...

Pastor Eva is called to serve Faith Lutheran at 5/6ths time. During August and September she will be taking off from August 16 through September 20. She will be out of town for many of those days. Sunday worship services at 9:30 am will be led by familiar and faithful members, friends and pastors in the greater Leavenworth area. Contact the Church Office for questions and Rosalyn Francis at 509-433-1043 in case of emergency. Additionally, Pastor Eva will be participating in the North Central Pastors Cluster Retreat September 25 - 29 at Holden Village.



New Roof!





Bishop Manlove offers a class on *The Freedom of a Christian*

For the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther’s treatise *The Freedom of a Christian*, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton invited our church to revisit the treatise. [\(READ HERE\)](#). Bishop Manlove is inviting our synod into the study this summer. It will be held online for **six Tuesdays from Aug. 8-Sept. 12**. This will be a way to connect with our bishop, pray with and for each other and explore this timeless document. Summer is a time of travel, so participants do not need to be present for all sessions.

From Bishop Eaton, “Five hundred years ago, Martin Luther wrote a treatise titled *The Freedom of a Christian*. In it, he offered his most compelling summary of the Christian life: In Christ we are completely free and at the same time completely bound in love and service to our neighbors. For Christians such as you and me, this has been our Lutheran way of telling the Christian story for 500 years. At the heart of our Lutheran theological tradition, we find the antidote to our despair.”

Register here for Bishop Manlove’s class on *The Freedom of a Christian*
<https://forms.gle/SZTKYZdD1KiMymv99>



Thirteenth Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF)

Faith Lutheran member Barbara Rossing will present a plenary Bible Study on Ezekiel 36 and “One Spirit” in Krakow, Poland, at the Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation, September 12-19, 2023. Learn more about our connections as members of LWF and explore

the assembly theme, “One Body, One Spirit, One Hope,” drawn from Ephesians 4:4, at <https://www.lwfassembly.org/>.

The study booklet on the theme “One Body, One Spirit, One Hope” can be found here: <https://2023.lwfassembly.org/sites/default/files/resources/2023A%20-%20Study%20Guide%20EN.pdf>

Faith Lutheran frequent musician Tom Witt serves as worship coordinator for the assembly, which includes planning twice-daily worship and music (in 4 official languages), coordinating prayers for the visit to Memorial of Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp and local logistics with the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland.

Here is a link to Barbara’s Bible study on Ezekiel 36
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1h5AwHqBQQfEhpf9bB20A65zpkRhUY11/edit?usp=drivesdk&oid=115758938775031880242&rtpof=true&sd=true>

The ELCA is one of 149 member churches that make up the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) — a communion of churches representing over 77 million Christians in 99 countries.

With thanks.....

Faith Lutheran was honored to welcome two world-class pianists: Icicle Creek Chamber Festival Faculty Artists Christina Dahl and Emely Phelps. They played J.C. Bach's *Sonata for Piano Four Hands in A Major* for our prelude. Emely and Christina enjoyed coming to our church and commented on the warmth of our congregation. Thank you, Emely and Christina!



Thank you Susan Butruille and Holly Blue for sharing Song of Mary Magdalene in worship on July 9!

Holly Blue and I composted this song after we participated in a workshop by Krista Deor at Icicle Creek Center for the Arts. You may recall that I once gave a sermon on Mary Magdalene here at Faith.

According to the Gospel of John, Mary Magdalene was the apostle to the apostles. She was close to Jesus and even helped to finance his ministry. The church labeled her a prostitute but finally in 1969, the pope acknowledge that she was not.


A French legend tells us that Mary Magdalene and some companions were cast out to sea in a boat with no oars and no sail. The boat with its passengers washed up on the banks of the Mediterranean in the south of France.

In our song, we portray Mary in the grotto in Provence where, according to legend, she lived toward the end of her life. A fire casts shadows on the wall as she reviews her life.


She remembers wiping the feet of Jesus with her perfumed hair, discovering by the light of the stars, the empty tomb after his crucifixion. Peter and the other apostles refused to believe that she had seen the risen Jesus. *Susan Butruille*



The American Red Cross will be hosting monthly opportunities in Leavenworth to donate blood. You are encouraged to volunteer to support these monthly events by being present to greet donors and offer support and/or donate blood. See the flyers on bulletin boards at church or go to: <http://redcross.org/volunteer> or call: 509-679-8795



Volunteer and Make a Difference in People's Lives!


 American Red Cross

Ninety percent of the American Red Cross workforce are volunteers and our work is only possible because of people like you. Discover the role that's right for you today.

- **Blood Drives and Blood Delivery:** Help staff the registration/sign-in desk, monitor the hospitality/snack area and deliver blood to our processing centers and community hospitals.
- **Disaster Preparedness and Response:** Help families and communities prepare for emergencies, from home fires to natural disasters, before they happen. Volunteers provide care and comfort, and access to necessities like food, clothing, and shelter. In addition, our recovery services help people get back to their lives as quickly as possible.
- **Serving our Armed Forces:** Provide 24-hour communications and resource support to members, veterans and families at home, in military hospitals, and military installations around the world.
- **More Opportunities:** Explore a wide range of positions based on your interests and time commitment — from teaching adult community classes to youth education, community outreach to supporting fundraising and special events.

Communities across the country count on the Red Cross every day and we can't do it without you.

Discover the role that's right for you, today!

 <http://redcross.org/volunteer>

Kari Strain, Sr. Volunteer Recruitment Specialist
JoinUsNW@redcross.org | (509) 679-8795

Scan with cell phone camera to apply.

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 August 23 for the September issue.

