



## Life of Faith

SEPTEMBER 2023

224 Benton St. (P.O. Box 418) Phone: 509 548 7010

Email: [flcleavenworth@gmail.com](mailto:flcleavenworth@gmail.com) [www.flcleavenworth.com](http://www.flcleavenworth.com)

Pastor Eva Jensen

### ***From our president....***

Red lights, sirens and ambulances! Outer Space! Classic lighthouses! Snow shoveling and eave overhangs, how can it possibly be related? Dear readers, this could be a dry letter, but I will try and spice it up. I recruited an AI chatbot to do this for me, but it quit in disgust, alas.

This tome is about our Parsonage and it reflects my personal opinions, not the committee or the Council's consensus. What, where, when, why, how? These are classic journalist questions that should be answered. What-This project is a grand plan to secure housing for the Pastor of Faith Lutheran church for the next 30 years in a tourist town with astronomically rising home prices and a housing shortage. Where-It must be, in my opinion, on the lots that we own adjacent to the church. We own them outright, improvement of the existing structure does not appear to be cost effective, and the rental market has shown that it is best suited only to single tenants with a pet. When? Soon, as all the costs involved in building are rising, every year. The Why, my friends, is the heart of the matter.

Why? Faith is a beacon in our community, a light house if you will. Like the ancient light houses on the coast, if the keeper let the light go out, ships went unguided and some came to grief on the rocky shore. We, the congregation, are like the stones that the beacon sits upon and without us the light doesn't travel very far. Our Pastor tends the light and keeps it shining bright. Without a Pastor, we are visible in the light of day, much less so when all becomes dim.

Enough allegory—without a Pastor we as a Church are lessened. A Pastor needs a place to live, a home in the community in which to dwell and be renewed. We are truly blessed to have a stable rental home for Pastor Eva, next time we may not be so fortunate. If we have reliable housing we are far more likely to draw future Pastors to Faith, and housing ownership has proven more reliable than leasing.

How? Only as a united congregation can we accomplish this lofty goal. I learned, as an EMT in the 70s when Medic One was first invented, that lights, sirens, and fast ambulances are critical to get to an accident scene to save lives, BUT the first thing we do upon arrival is secure the scene and make it safe. The best paramedic in the world can't help if they step on a downed electrical wire at the scene and is shocked unconscious. First, we must protect our congregation. The most perfect parsonage in the world won't help our church mission if the congregation has split 3 ways and people have departed in anger.

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Outer Space-with no gravity, in a vacuum, in a space suit, I can flail my arms and legs and go literally nowhere. If there is an object against which I can push or pull, motion happens. Discussion is good, positive dissent can produce movement, and the more of us involved in planning, the more likely we will arrive at the right answer.

And, snow shoveling at last to be discussed. As the Parsonage Committee pushed and pulled, we noted that there needs to be a back door from the planned home to limit snow shoveling on the way to the garage. More generous eaves mean less snow to move along the sides. We have some fresh ideas to share with all of you.

We are not ready to vote on the plan as it is currently incomplete. Rather than hold the planned congregational meeting we will instead, this autumn, invite All to get hip deep in this discussion. We will have at least 2 options to discuss and will go deeply into the design, the problems, the hopes and fears that each of us carry about this very large commitment. Pastor Eva will lead this discussion, which will very likely take 2 sessions.

God willing, it will happen as it is meant to be.

Karl Kranz, Faith Council President



### **Please note...**

Pastor Eva is called to serve Faith Lutheran at 5/6ths time. She will be out of town until September 20. 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.

### ***Preaching / Presiding schedule for September***

*September 3: Eric or Zeke preaching, Pr. Barbara Rossing presiding*  
*September 10: Eric or Zeke preaching, Pr. Carl Florea presiding*  
*September 17: Dawn Kranz preaching, Pr. Dave Haven presiding*  
*September 24: Jess Ingman, Interfaith Action Network, preaching,*  
*Pr. Eva presiding*



### From our pastor...

Many of us hope the summer season will be a time of rest, refreshment, and renewal. Some go to cabins, some plan time in the wilderness or at the beach, others visit family and friends.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus said to the crowds who were following him, "I came that all might have life and have it abundantly." God's desire is to bless and renew life.

As a new resident in Leavenworth and pastor with you at Faith Lutheran Church, I am daily reminded, in many and varied ways, that God is about giving life, continually breathing new life into us. The wonder and beauty of creation surrounds us! The companionship of caring, encouraging and faith-filled friends sustains and renews us.

Yet, living God's gift of life to the fullest means allowing time to relish the present moment and the gift of each day. The daily responsibilities of life can make it hard to live with this awareness. The challenges of loss, illness, and suffering – our own or that of our neighbors and the world can diminish our faith and hope. Taking time to observe and listen, to play and laugh, to pray, celebrate and remember God's presence with and among us is renewing. However you create time and space for renewal this summer, I hope and pray that you experience anew the life-giving presence of God's love and care.

I write to you from Wyoming where I am visiting my mother, siblings, and extended family. In the midst of health challenges and loss, we also celebrate the gifts of life we can now share. I look forward to similar experiences in Minnesota. In the vast diversity of geography and nature, I am humbled and reminded that as humans we are one thread within the web of life – gifted and called to care. Chief Seattle said, "Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect."

As we gather together in the Fall, we will have stories to share and new opportunities to renew our relationships and life together as a community of faith – new opportunities to share our faith and our hopes. We will move from outdoor worship to the sanctuary and our community fellowship hall to celebrate life together, our relationship with God, and God's call to us. How do you hear Jesus calling to you and to us as a community of faith? How do you want to be involved in the "new thing" that God is doing in our lives and the world today?

God bless you in the turning of the season. I look forward to seeing you all in September!

*Pr. Eva Jensen*



*Always Being Made New*  
by Robyn Sand Anderson



## What's Happening

**BOOK GROUP:** Each Tuesday from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The current book is *Learning to Walk in the Dark* by Barbara Brown Taylor. Please contact Margaret Neighbors, [mneighb67@gmail.com](mailto:mneighb67@gmail.com) if you have questions. All are welcome.

**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. See page 10.

**KNITTING AND CRAFTS:** September 6 and 20, 1:30 – 3:00, Fellowship Hall

**QUILT TYING:** Each Tuesday from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

**CHURCH COUNCIL:** September 14, 6:30 p.m.

**IMMIGRATION/RACE/JUSTICE GROUP BOOK STUDY:** September 20, 6:30 p.m.



### Caring for our property....

Please join our FLC community in tending our grounds and finishing up needed painting projects – **Saturday, September 23 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.,** followed by lunch.

### Potluck Dinner



Join our Leavenworth Methodist friends for a joint potluck on **September 21 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm** at the Methodist church. Bring a dish to share and enjoy connecting with our ecumenical partners and community members.

## CHURCH COUNCIL August 2023



### Pastors Report

Pastor Eva is on vacation using her 1/6<sup>th</sup> time off from August 17 to September 21. She has prepared a schedule for leaders while she is away. During this past month, Pastor Eva's leadership included:

- Meeting with FLC members and friends to renew and deepen relationships. She continues to get to know Leavenworth by participating in community events where Faith has historical and on-going commitments and involvement: planning for joint events with the Methodist Church, door-to-door visitation for a get-out-the vote evening, Happy Hour at Mountain Meadows and Rosalyn's two fabulous backyard concerts.
- Planning a "New Member/Friend" 5-week series in October on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-7:00 p.m. John Schramm will be calling each person/household that is considering participation. A reception and recognition of new members/friends is tentatively planned in November.
- In-depth visits with about nine households about deepening or re-engaging in congregational life. These visits have been meaningful and encouraging.
- Met with the book group for three Tuesday meetings.
- Is very excited about working with Deanne Erickson on communications planning.
- Involvement in the planning for a Central Valley October education/learning event on the Doctrine of Discovery.
- Working with Leavenworth Methodist Church to plan a joint potluck dinner celebration Thursday, September 21 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church.

### Treasurer's Report

- Giving is still down from budget. From January-July the amount of contributions was \$71,395.21. The budgeted amount for this period is \$91,000.
- We are currently getting \$1,500 a month for the rent on the parsonage.
- \$4,400 was transferred from the endowment funds to cover this year's disbursements.
- The endowment fund has increased a little due to the change in the stock market.

### Property Committee

- Karl would like to have a FLC Church Day on September 23 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm to finish up some painting projects and clean up the yard. Lunch will follow.
- The old tractor tire in the back of the church building will be removed, the vent stack cricket on the parsonage will be repaired and a new one will be installed on the Fellowship Hall.
- A new printer was purchased for Pastor Eva.

### Worship Committee

- We will be going back to indoor services starting September 10.
- Greg Steeber is working to fill pulpit supply on September 17.

### Parsonage Project Committee

- Parsonage design plans from Lexar Homes have been carefully reviewed and modifications to better suit our needs will be suggested. Karl also might have another person draw plans. The possibility of a manufactured home was considered but that will most likely not be an option. We also discussed the possibility of putting an office space in the Fellowship Hall for the pastor.
- It was decided that we need a couple of congregational meetings to discuss plan options.

### Old Business

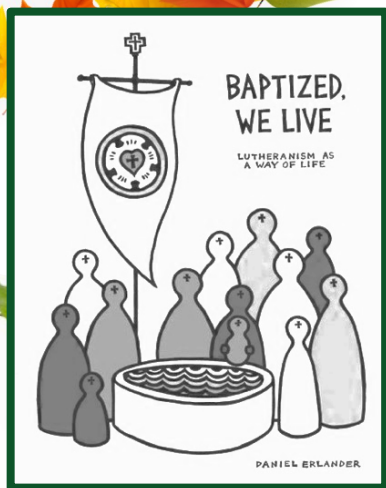
- Pastor Support Group now has two members, Amy Carlson and Brisa Peacock.
- Deanne, now officially our Office Administrator, will work on the nwi.net email problem.

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### New Business

- There is a conflict on one of the days for the use of the Fellowship Hall. Karl will work on this and also create some guidelines for the future.
- Barbara Rossing would like to set up a bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall with members pictures and names. Dawn Kranz is willing to help.
- Oktoberfest in Leavenworth is looking for volunteers for the festival. If we could get volunteers to help with this festival, we could make a little extra money for the church. Greg Steeber will ask for volunteers. We would have to have at least 6 people to sign up.
- The Faith Membership Class on the Tuesdays in October will be using the book *Baptized We Live*. The church will cover the cost.

**Next Council Meeting:** 09/14/2023 @6:30 p.m.



## Fall Series on Christian Faith and Lutheran Identity

Are you interested in exploring membership or deeper affiliation at Faith Lutheran Church? You are invited to join a small group led by Pastor Eva that will meet on Tuesday evenings in October, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm. As a group we will get to know one another, share faith questions and journeys as well as Lutheran beliefs and community life. We will be guided through the book *Baptized We Live* by Dan Erlander to help focus questions and interests in Christian faith and Lutheran identity. During each session, we will engage with 5 or 6 pages of the book, including meaningful imagery that complements the text.

Please email Pastor Eva ([evajensen101@gmail.com](mailto:evajensen101@gmail.com)) or Faith Lutheran Church ([flcleavenworth@gmail.com](mailto:flcleavenworth@gmail.com)) if you would like to participate. John Schramm (509-548-0404) is available while Pastor Eva is away if you would like to learn more about this series.

We look forward to welcoming you into this enriching journey of faith and community at Faith Lutheran Church.




## Immigration/Race Justice group (I/RJG) August

- Finances: Our current CVB account was reviewed
- Book Study: Those of us who are reading *Caste* will meet when the book has been finished.
- Recreation Ambassadors: I/RJG is set for Labor Day Weekend, Sat/Sun Sept. 2 & 3. We will be informed on Monday, Aug. 28 of details.
- Sarah Augustine: Details of this author's coming to the Sunnyslope church for a workshop and possible other events are still uncertain.
- Citizenship Classes: One of our members has been meeting with individuals on Tuesdays at the Peshastin Library to review questions and prepare for exams. Classes officially begin Oct. 10. This member and the Librarian are taking Literacy Council training in anticipation of teaching English also in October.
- A member connected recently with a person we have previously assisted. This person continues to need dialysis 3 times per week and may be needing financial assistance with costly special medications. When there is more information, we will determine how best to help.
- The director of Camp Camrec spoke of how her staff has been researching naturopathic local herbs to be used in the area of healing. This may be of special interest to members of our Hispanic community. She will contact MEND to see if any collaboration is possible.
- *Since our meeting, one of our members informed the group of connecting with a family of three currently living in a shelter. They have lost everything in a multifamily apartment fire, including their cash savings to buy a vehicle. By email we will determine how much can be sent to assist them.*
- The NW Immigrant Rights Project will hold their annual social at Icicle Ridge Winery on Wednesday, Oct. 18.
- The group welcomed Pastor Eva Jensen to the meeting and shared personal stories.
- Next meeting: Wednesday, September 20, 6:30



All are invited.....



# PAINTING PLAIN


**THE WORK OF RICHARD CAEMMERER**  
Open to the public September 2 - October 1, 2023

**OPENING RECEPTION**  
Saturday, September 2nd | 5-8:30PM

**CLOSING RECEPTION**  
Sunday, October 1st | 5-7:30PM

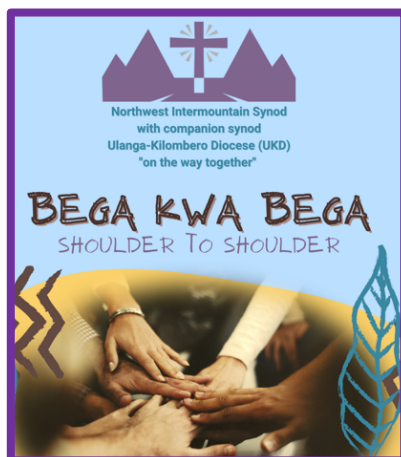
**GRÜNEWALD GUILD,  
19003 RIVER ROAD,  
LEAVENWORTH, WA**

SCAN ME



Richard Caemmerer. *Hilltop Mound in green and gold*. Acrylic on canvas.

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO VISIT OUR COMPANIONS IN TANZANIA?



The Northwest Intermountain Synod is planning a trip to visit our companions in Tanzania, the Ulanga Kilombero Diocese (UKD) July 5 to 22, 2024. The trip leader will be Pastor Ethan Bergman who has preached and presided recently at Faith. The goal of the trip is to strengthen our relationship as we spend more time together. Past participants have described their experience as life changing. Please visit this website to learn more.

<https://nwimsynod.org/blog/202375/invitation-to-visit-our-companions-in-tanzania>

## Spiritual Practices of Karen Haddon...

*By Pete Spiegel*



*Breath in enoughness, breath out acceptance.*

-from a breathing prayer of Kaira Jewel Lingo –  
student of Thich Nhat Hanh.

Karen Haddon is able to breathe spirituality into each day. In fact, each minute of each day is a spiritual moment for her. While many of us try to catch glimpses of God's presence, it seems that Karen is walking beside God and soaking up God's goodness and grace. She has awakened herself to God's presence in ways that most of us haven't but hope to.

To feel God's presence every moment takes time and effort, it starts right when Karen wakes up. "Most mornings I maintain silence, rise from bed, use the bathroom and then sit in my favorite chair; feet flat on the floor, hands resting open on my lap, I pray 'Here I am, Lord'. And then I wait!" Karen says that when we first awaken from sleep we are in our most receptive state of being, in an 'in-between' place.

To keep herself grounded and in touch with God, Karen says, "Sometimes it's as easy as...Breathing! SLOWLY. I focus on my breath while choosing sensory awareness. Being in the moment. Feeling the coolness of the air as I inhale as deeply as possible, accepting...savoring what is new...fresh. An exhalation that creates spaciousness. A conscious exhale can carry a burden, worry or anxiety away. Repeating the exercise eases me into spiritual silence and quiet peace."

Another prayer Karen uses is the Listening Prayer. Karen writes: "Sitting still outdoors or near an open window; give your brain the task of listening. Attentiveness to every sound, noting each sound and ever so slowly becoming aware of the softer and nearly silent sounds. Without noticing it, you will slip into another dimension....having been emptied as well as quieted. Silent meditation becomes holy presence...and when you return to reality, all is well... and all will be well."

Karen uses her creative, artistic abilities to open herself up to God's presence. She journals, uses creative writing, reads extensively, uses 'intuitive drawing', makes clay sculptures, mandalas, etching, and many other artistic expressions. Grunewald Guild helps guide and inspire some of Karen's artistic endeavors. Karen believes that art helps open the heart.

I could keep writing about Karen's spiritual practices (Ignatian Spiritual retreats, Women's Spirituality, Lectio Divina) but instead you should walk or sit with Karen. When you do, you will find that she is an attentive listener. She is listening to everything you say and she is listening to God in you. She lives a spirited and spiritual life.

In one of our email exchanges, Karen ended the correspondence with these words: "May your days be filled with God's breath in you." It seems as though, Karen feels God's breath in her each and every day.





Here is Beth Pratt, age 91, kayaking on Lake Wenatchee !!  
How does she do it? She attends SAIL exercise classes every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at our Fellowship Hall. These classes help seniors maintain muscle mass, balance, strength, and vitality. It's fun too! Join us!

Contact: Connie Thomassen (509) 470-8212

## Congratulations....

To Doris and David Nierman on the occasion of their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary celebrated on July 26, 2023.

Doris went to the Primitive Baptist Church as a child but knew at some point she would leave. There were no musical instruments, harp singing and men and women sat on different sides of the church. The potlucks after church and the good cooking of her aunts were fond memories of those years. After she and David were married, she was baptized at Grace Lutheran in Cashmere. David had been baptized in this church in 1947.

Doris and David became members at Faith in 2000. Doris says "I like the Lutheran Church because it is a teaching church. I am a moderate feminist and feel at home in the ELCA." David has been a member of both Grace in Cashmere and Faith in Leavenworth. He is grateful for Sunday School teachers, their lessons and guidance and sees Faith as a good fit because of shared values.



## With thanks .....

This summer, Amy and Reed have had Cinderella, Maria, and Janet living in their basement. All three characters reside in one person: Cherisse Martinelli, the starlet of all three Leavenworth Summer Theater shows. It has been a delight. Cherisse hails from the Pacific Northwest but has been “singing around the globe on luxury cruise ships” and singing she does!! But she’s not a stranger to Leavenworth; if any of you saw the LST show *Annie Get Your Gun* years ago, she played Annie. Musical theater is her love. And now back in town, she shared her gift with us at Faith Lutheran on August 20, singing both prelude and offertory with Prince Charming, Alex Aweburn.



Thank you Cherisse and Alex!



Thank you, Barbara Rossing and Lauren Johnson for generously sharing your beautiful bounty of peaches at a recent coffee hour.



Thanks to all who contributed articles and general interest information for this newsletter! Please forward contributions to Mary Steeber at [mary.steeber@gmail.com](mailto:mary.steeber@gmail.com) by September 22 for the October issue.







