



Life of Faith

June 2021

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From Pastor Nancy.....

These last weeks, our gospel pericopes have come from John. It is hard not to notice the focus on love: love for God, neighbor, self, the Word...I saw love when we gathered for our first outdoor worship on May 9. I thought I might need to be tied down to keep from floating away. When my thoughts turned to the commandment Jesus gave – particularly to love my neighbors, I was uncomfortable with all that entailed and how I had not carried that out!!

Since Covid and all the time spent at home and since Peepers, I have gotten acquainted with my neighbors on Benton Street. They walk by my house and I make it a point to visit with them, ask their names and engage in some get-acquainted small talk. I suspect I know over half the people that live close to our church. Guess what? I have not yet invited anyone to come to worship; that is going to change. Join me in loving your neighbors. It is not hard to say: "If you don't have a church family and you would like one, come with me to Faith Lutheran Church". If they accept, offer to accompany them and make them welcome.

We are called to make God's name known. Let's do it.

Amen

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

June 2: Worship Committee 4:30 p.m. via zoom

June 3: *Climate Change and its Impact* 9:30 a.m. via zoom

June 5: Church yard clean up 9:00 – 12:00

June 10: Church Council 6:30 p.m.

June 10: Immigration/Race Justice group

June 24: Immigration/Race Justice group Book Study



FLC Quilts Bringing God's Love to the World

On Friday, April 30, 15 quilts made by Faith Lutheran Church Quilters began their journey from Leavenworth to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) distribution points throughout the world. An average of 300,000 annually have been made by ELCA quilters and quilter wannabe's since this ministry began in 1945 post WWII. According to the LWR:



"Making Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts is a tangible way to express love to our neighbors in need. Quilts can be used as warm bedding, simple tents or floor coverings. Each one reflects God's loving presence in a world rife with suffering."

In addition to the quilts made by our quilters, Trudy Leverenz made 10 more and donated them in the name of FLC for a total of 25 from our congregation!

If you'd like to participate in this ministry please contact Margaret Neighbors 548-0166.

Pastor Nancy blessing the quilts before they begin their travels.





NORTHWEST INTERMOUNTAIN SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2021

Bev Cagle, Greg Harris

On April 24, people of the Northwest Intermountain Synod gathered in virtual assembly to consider the business of the church, with Greg Harris and Bev Cagle as delegates from Faith. Also present were Pastor Nancy, Rev. Barb Rossing and synod council members Lisa Therrell and Mary Steeber. Bishop Kristen Kuempel did a great job presiding over the very challenging virtual event.

As part of synod business, the assembly held elections for synod positions and passed a 2-year budget. It was reported that we continued to meet expenses and fund benevolences, even in this time of pandemic.

Barb Rossing gave an excellent presentation of a memorial: *Care for Creation, Environmental*

Justice and Carbon Pricing. It supports an active advocacy for climate change conversation and education in our congregations. After some spirited debate and controversy, it was passed.

Both delegates were impressed by the scope and commitment of our synod's outreach programs and ministry partners. Through a variety of speakers, we were able to learn of all the important work being done by the NWIM synod.

We were reminded that while the past year has been hard in so many ways, it has also been a year of unexpected growth and learning and with a concluding worship service, Bishop Kuempel encouraged us to be confident that God will enable us to remain resilient in the uncertain days ahead.



An invitation from the Northwest Intermountain Synod....

ROUND TABLE TALK via zoom **CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS**

June 3, 2021, 9:30am

Join Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing and Rev. Dave Brauer-Rieke for a conversation centered on climate change and its impacts. This topic will be explored from a biblical & theological basis and venture into advocacy & climate disaster (felt locally and globally). There will be an opportunity for open discussion around these topics as well.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81872087997?pwd=dUJ5NnU0aWFwYTlpTW5aK2pzMXp0QT09>

Meeting ID: 818 7208 7997

The Spiritual Life of John Schramm during the Pandemic

by Pete Spiegel

The last year has been a difficult time for many of us. Without personal interactions/connections and without church we have become spiritually adrift. John Schramm expressed it nicely; he called it a “dry season”. John and Mary Schramm are community builders. They have helped build the Faith Lutheran Community and are role models, so I was interested in their spiritual paths during the last year. On a side note: I am attempting to write this piece about John. However, I inevitably turn to the pronoun ‘they’ instead of ‘him’. This is because it doesn’t make any sense to talk about John without also talking about Mary.

John mentioned that his spirituality has always been a communal one. His spiritual wholeness and fulfillment occurs by being useful, by helping others and by being concerned with the welfare of others. John serves others. This past year made this impossible. John writes, “the isolation of the pandemic was a dry season.”

Even though both John and Mary had time on their hands in which to pray, meditate or read this past year, these practices felt empty. John was able to reach out to many of us through telephone calls to check on us. I have heard from others about how much this mattered to them, that someone wanted to know how they were doing. Mary has continued to use ‘Daily Prayers for Busy People’ for her devotional readings.

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P E A C E

At the closing of John’s email he wrote, ‘Shalom’. Shalom is a Hebrew word meaning peace or sometimes peace to you. It is a greeting and a farewell. It can be a verb, noun, adjective, or adverb.

However, according to a Jewish scholar it is much more. Shalom means “universal wholeness, fulfillment and delight...shalom in other words means the way things ought to be.”

Thank you, John. Shalom.



CHURCH COUNCIL, May 2021 – submitted by Karl Kranz

- Bank balances remain about the same. Reserve savings are stable. Revenue continues to be lower than budget. Revenue in April was slightly better.
- Work on various deferred maintenance projects will begin this summer as well as research into some kind of canopy for outdoor worship and gatherings.
- Council will ask the Worship Committee to plan on outdoor Services for now.
- Work continues on a replacement for Deanne.
- Scholarship applications have been sent out but none have been returned to date.
- Reed Carlson presented the Governor's requirements for Covid 19 Faith Based organizations. We are now in compliance with these requirements by having a written Covid 19 Exposure control, Mitigation, and Recovery plan. A copy will be maintained at the church. Appropriate Covid information posters will be placed with each service. Particular recommended protocols about masks, hand-washing, temperature taking, etc. are changing on a regular basis so will be announced via email to the community in advance of services.
- Church yard cleanup was successful and will continue on the first Saturday of each month from 9 to 12 through the summer. The next clean-up will be June 5.
- The outdoor church sign has deteriorated beyond repair and needs to be replaced.
- Next meeting is June 10 at 6:30.



WORSHIP COMMITTEE, May 19, 2021

- Amy Carlson announced that she is stepping down as chair of the committee for now. Judy Huett-Harris will consider the possibility of stepping in. Greg will convene in interim.
- In-person outdoor worship will continue for now. Indoor services will be considered as restrictions and comfort levels change. An online presence with the current virtual service created by Lindsay et al will continue and eventually transition to a livestream recorded service as possible.
- The possibility of some type of canopy for the outdoor worship space was discussed. Council to make the final decision.
- Amplification and having musical instruments for outdoor worship are being worked on.
- Discussed music for services in June.
- Barbara Rossing will be guest preacher on June 6.
- Next Worship meeting on June 2, 2021 at 4:30 pm via Zoom.

Immigration/Race Justice Group (I/RJG) May 20

- Our current balance remains the same. A member's daughter and a friend have made I/RJG bags to sell and have collected \$190 so far! Please see these beautiful bags in photo! Thank you Cora and Elliana!
- We have applied for a Synod Covid Grant for \$750.
- The development of a webpage has started and we are looking for a new FB page administrator.
- The anti-racism group had their final meeting in May.
- Our member who is a Cascade School District Migrant Graduation Specialist submitted the following very encouraging report:



- All Migrant seniors are on track to graduate.
 - All bilingual graduates will have a special cord to wear at graduation that has the colors of the flag of their country of origin. Students are super excited about this!
 - In lieu of another "health fair", we will provide summer gift baskets with a "have a safe and healthy summer" theme.
 - A back-to-school supply fair August 7 from 5pm-7pm. This will include tables of school supplies to choose from, games for kids, etc... Volunteers are welcome! Save the date!
 - We have a new Migrant Recruiter who is being trained by Laurie. Multiple students have been re-enrolled/re-qualified/qualified for the first time. The program is growing!
 - An August summer school is available for Migrant students K-8 and summer credit retrieval is available for Migrant students 9-12. Five Migrant students have signed up for the (online) "Dare to Dream" academy at Central Washington University this summer!
- Several members met with **Adrienne Moore** and her assistant Elena Mainer in April to help strategize/brainstorm on how rural residents of central WA might organize a **Rural Peoples' Platform** to encourage progressive candidates to run for public leadership positions.
 - One of our members has become chair of the Wenatchee Valley College (WVC) Diversity and Cultural Engagement Committee which encourages Hispanic nursing students to move towards graduation. She participated in WVC's "Stand Against Racism" evening panel as well as their march in downtown Wenatchee.
 - One of our asylum seeking families does not have to appear in Seattle's Federal Immigration

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

- June 2 at District Office: "Packing party" to create and deliver "have a safe and healthy summer" gift baskets. Time TBD.
- August 7: Back-to-school supply fair – 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: June 10

Court next week. The mother will need to appear at the Yakima ICE office on June. Her lawyer is appealing this appointment. She continues with medical complications and is scheduled for additional exams. Currently she is working days at Stemilt and will work nights at Columbia packing shed when cherry packing begins.

- Beginning a low interest short-term loan community resource is under discussion. MEND has been contacted for input.

The History Corner - Submitted by Danny Thomassen



Forty-five years ago John and Mary Schramm wrote a book: *Things That Make for Peace: A personal search for a new way of life* that was published in 1976: Augsburg Publishing House; Library of Congress Catalog Card No:

3861. The book begins on May Day 1970 when John and Mary lived in Washington, D.C. with their four children Mark, Michael, Karen, and Kathy, during the student uprising protests against the American invasion of Cambodia in Southeast Asia. They were living in the middle of a peace movement that exhibited total chaos; being good Lutherans they subscribed to nonviolence, peace and justice opening their home to college students from out of town to spread sleeping bags on their basement floor for shelter at night. In search for a simpler life to insulate a little from materialism, commercialism, and consumerism they got the "farm bug"; the Schramm family finding a farm house 150 years old in the mountains of West Virginia that had not been occupied for 15 years. The goal was to attempt to live off the land and with neighbors as much as possible; when the children needed new shoes for school it involved a drive across the mountains and into Staunton, Virginia. Several

families' would share one washer and dryer; at times sharing one car...a very practical idea. There was bartering of services, talents, and commodities. At times snow storms would isolate the farm and plowing had to be completed for one mile just to get to your neighbor. One time John commented: "The simple life would include a new four-wheel drive vehicle to replace my 1960 pick-up truck". There was an occasion when John was going to try his hand at producing maple syrup from maple trees on their property using a "spile tap". He did not realize that it took 40 parts maple sap to make one part syrup (i.e. 10 gallons of sap for one quart of syrup). He finally relented and abandoned the whole idea after a serious effort.

Connie and I found this book while visiting family in Duluth, Minnesota. We went to a garage sale; down a narrow alley within an old dingy garage; the book was located in an old broken down cardboard box. We purchased it for \$.50 cents. It contains wonderful insights for anyone interested in peace as a lifestyle; for those searching to obtain tranquility by consciously making paradigm shifts regarding their assumptions about the world; to make changes that incorporate peace as a way of life. I find the book as meaningful today as it was forty five years ago.

Congratulations John on your 90th birthday.





What's Happening

From **Lauren Johnson**:

I have exciting news. My daughter, Sarah Toney, of Reno NV, is beginning a study program towards becoming an ordained ELCA pastor. She has moved to East Wenatchee where she will be interning at Celebration Lutheran Church with Pastor Dave Haven as her supervisor.

She has been accepted into candidacy with the ELCA Sierra Pacific Synod and will enter Luther Seminary's MDivX accelerated 2 year program (distance learning with some weeks of intensives). All of her academic class work will be combined with her internship during her two years of study.

The Grunewald Guild was part of Sarah's sense of calling to ministry. I am grateful to Liz Caemmerer who wrote one of Sarah's letters of recommendation. I am very excited for Sarah's future ministry studies and of course I am a very proud father. She will be a great pastor!

John and Mary Schramm survived a road trip to San Juan Island with the **Kranzs** this month. Joy and laughter resounded around the islands, a fine time was had by all. Not to be outdone, **Beth Pratt** then adventured to the Island and proved to be adept at supervising construction activities, specializing in concrete mixing. The group is happy to announce that there is fine dining on the patio at Downriggers and the ice cream stand in Friday Harbor is open.

Due to Covid restrictions, **Dan Wilkinson** has not been able to teach about gardening and farming in his daughter's classroom. With the help of his son-in-law, "Farmer Dan" is creating You Tube videos on a variety of subjects. Here is a sample <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=pUX3ft-Cnao&t=12s>. Stay tuned for more information about this in our next newsletter.

You never know how many friends you have until you break down in Leavenworth. Driving **Dawn's** ever reliable red pickup, **Karl** was deposited in several local parking lots last week with fuel supply issues. He found himself without gas but had many offers of assistance from passers-by. More offers were received in the Reindeer Farm parking lot than at the subsequent High School lot and it can be reported that nobody visits the East Leavenworth Boat Launch parking lot after dark. Nice to have friends and ultimately a Jeep with a tow rope. It was noted that Dawn is an excellent tow truck driver in a pinch.



June Birthdays

12 Trudy Leverenz
13 Bev Cagle
13 Alex Schmidt
17 Rachel Liesso

20 Lauren Richardson
22 Barbara Rossing
25 Chuck Smallbeck
27 Patty Hebert

29 Mara Merritt
30 Jennifer Toteman



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 June 22 for the July issue.

