

Life of Faith

MAY 2022

224 Benton St. (PO Box 418) Leavenworth WA
Phone: 509.548.7010 Email: flcleavenworth@gmail.com
www.flcleavenworth.com



President's Page

Good News abounds!

Nancy Gradwohl and Peepers are next door again through May, a welcome return following her leg injury and rehabilitation. The Synod has offered her special dispensation to worship with us for a couple of months as her new path reveals itself. A special coffee hour is planned for May 15 to honor and celebrate Nancy's ministry at Faith.

The Bishop has also approved temporary privileges to 3 of our yet-to-be ordained interns and graduates to preside at Faith during our pastoral transition. As Council President I am aware of and greatly appreciate the flexibility and assistance of our Synod during our transition.

Judith and the Worship committee have done an amazing job of filling the schedule for Preachers and Presiders, now extending into August. We have heard from 2 of our lay preachers, Zeke and Dawn, welcome words these past Sundays from the pulpit.

Easter was well attended, 55 worshippers, the most we have had seated on the new cushions since the start of the pandemic so long ago. The darkness recedes and the light returns.

Greg Steeber has a large package at his house containing the new sail shade for outdoor worship. After installing 2 large posts we will be in position to place it along the east wall of the church for outdoor services. We anticipate that the first outdoor service of the year will be May 8, Mothers Day, weather permitting. In contrast to last summer, if we have inclement weather this year we shall simply move into the church for the service.

Pizza is always good news! There will be pizza at Faith the evening of May 7 at 6 pm, as we orally recall the history of Faith Lutheran and aid the Call Committee in forming an in depth description of who we are as a congregation based on where we have been and lessons that we have learned.

Coffee hour is also good news-its back, but we need a Hospitality or Volunteer coordinator to keep it going. Call me, Karl, or one of your council members if this appeals to you.

Spring Blessings to each of you,

Karl Kranz, Council President

Schedule for Pulpit Supply

May 1: Ethan Bergman
May 8: Dane Breslin
May 15: Alex Schmidt

May 22: Nancy Winder
May 29: Ethan Bergman



*The Faith Lutheran Call Committee invites you to a
Faith Story Pizza Night on May 7 at 6:00 p.m.*

We will enjoy pizza as we share stories about our collective history. Looking back at the challenges, celebrations and accomplishments of our life together as a community will be another way the Call Committee can discern who we are and provide more clarity for future leadership needs. Covid has been devastating to our in-person worship as well as many of our small group ministries. It is time to reimagine ourselves and move forward.

Please plan to come and share your memories and stories.

CHURCH COUNCIL April 2022

- Contributions received In March were \$8,500. Our monthly budgeted amount is \$12,000. Total giving is down about \$1,000 for the first three months. The endowment fund from Thrivent was down about \$5,000 this quarter.
- There was discussion about doing an audit with the last one being done 2 years ago. There needs to be 2 people who are not on the council and a member of the congregation to complete the audit.
- Pr. Nancy received sick pay through April 17 and is now on disability for up to 12 months.
- Karl and Greg are making plans to install a shade sail for summer worship.
- A Capital Campaign for a parsonage was discussed. Most likely, we will need to hire someone to help us put the Capital Campaign together.
- The Worship Committee continues to work on pulpit supply throughout the summer.
- Morgan Fraizer's Summer Camp in the fellowship hall was approved.
- A fund needs to be set up for expenses associated with the call process. The Call Committee is planning a History of the Church (our church) pizza party on May 7 to help discern how the past can inform future leadership needs.
- Outside lights on for our sign have been installed.
- Anyone wishing to use the Fellowship Hall should fill out a Facility Request Form found in the hallway by the church office. Members should check the calendar for availability and then confirm with the Council President. Outside groups need Council approval.
- Nancy Bywater asked to use the church tables for the Outdoor Empty Bowls festival on Thursday, May 19. This was approved by the Council.
- The best use of the Parsonage after Nancy leaves was discussed.
- Next Council Meeting: 5/12/2022 @ 6:30 pm



Volunteer Coordinator for management of greeting, cleaning, coffee hour, shoveling schedules. Call Karl Kranz @ 548-5868 if interested.

Faith Lutheran Church *Little Free Pantry* Needs More Food



Are you a Costco shopper? For the most part, those big Costco sizes don't work well in our Little Free Pantry but here are some suggestions of items that would work great. Any canned items where the cans are regular sizes: beans, vegetables, soups, chili, fruit, meat, tuna, salmon. Pasta. Macaroni and Cheese. Ramen. Oatmeal. Costco shea soap bars. Toilet paper. Consider picking up one extra item, like a flat of black beans, for the food pantry when you are shopping at Costco. Don't worry if others donated the same item. It will all get used fairly quickly.

Our food stores are running low. Other helpful items include peanut butter, tortillas, crackers, rice cakes, jam, cold cereal, shelf stable sausages, salsa, marinara sauce, cooking oil.

Canned entrees like Chef Boyardee. Some mixes just add water. You can read the label to see on things like pancake mix and cornbread mix. Consider buying an extra bag of groceries and bringing it to the food donation shelf in the Fellowship Hall.

It's fun to look for sale items to make your dollar stretch. For example, this week Jiff peanut butter was 50 cents off at Safeway. So I bought eight of them! And Triscuit crackers are on sale too, \$1.99 per box.

I have to admit that there is a stark difference between my own groceries and what I buy for the Little Free Pantry. I am mostly shopping the edges of the grocery store for produce, fish, dairy, and ice cream. Well, ice cream isn't on the edges. For the pantry I am mostly buying processed easy to eat items but this is what is needed for those who may not have access to a kitchen to cook.

Thanks to those of you who have been helping out.
Lisa Therrell

**Please consider
donating to our
*Little Free Pantry!***



Of note.....

Dawn Kranz and Lori Aylesworth have paintings hanging at O Grady's pantry through May.

Dangerous Women Get Unsettled

Submitted by Rhona Baron

Thank you Faith Lutheran for your continued support of *Dangerous Women*. On May 20 and 21 we will stage our new show, *Unsettled*, at Snowy Owl Theater in Leavenworth. *Unsettled* is our most ambitious and timely production to date, a rare partnership between Indigenous and regional women. In this original show, the cast explores the inherent contradictions when two cultures inhabit the same landscape over time. Narrated by the Moon, the show also entertains and enlightens about regional history using a wide variety of art forms. Nearly 30 women will take the stage!

Dangerous Women was founded by Susan Butruille and Mandi Wickline at Faith Lutheran Church in Leavenworth around 2013. The idea began as short presentations during March which is Women's History Month. The concept grew and launched at Snowy Owl Theater in 2016. The following year we took the name *Dangerous Women* and Rhona Baron, former choir director at Faith, became director.



Bringing *Unsettled* to life is an all consuming labor of love. We believe the production will be the most racially diverse to ever hit the stage in our region. It's driven by the amazing women creator/collaborators in the cast and backstage as well as the folks at Faith who make it all possible behind the scenes. Please join us at *Unsettled*. Tickets are available at Icicle Creek Center for the Arts. Online at icicle.org, or phone at 509 548 6347. Our website is dangerous-women.org.



At the 2019 Northwest Intermountain Synod Assembly, it was decided to hold assemblies every other year and host regional gathering in the off years. Covid-19 subsequently made any kind of gathering impossible. The current protocols from the Center for Disease

Control make it possible to gather again so plans are underway for three regional gatherings. The one closest to us in in Moses Lake on May 21.

Linda Staats will be the facilitator of the gatherings that are designed to be cross-generational and interactive. [Learn more about Linda here.](#) The gatherings promise to be a fun and enlightening experience for all. Registration is by congregation.

Please contact Mary Steeber at mary.steeber@gmail.com in you are interested in attending. There is money in the Faith Lutheran budget to pay for attendees

History Corner Epilogue submitted by Danny Thomassen

How miserable the state of the larger cities; they lay burnt, decayed, destroyed, and looted. You can travel 40 miles and not see a human being, livestock, not even a sparrow. They have burnt the churches and carried away the bells turning the sanctuaries into cesspits, livestock stables, and brothels. Oh God, it is pitiful” German Lutheran Theologian Joachim Betke (1640 A.D.)



Thirty eight years after the original *Book of Concord* was published establishing the provisions and ecumenical principals of the Lutheran faith, the European *Thirty Years War* (1618-1648) erupted. It was a conflagration between the Catholics of Rome, the Hapsburg Empire (Austria-Hungry), Spain and France against the Protestants (Lutherans, Calvinist, & Church of England) in northern Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, and England. Located at the “heart of Europe”, Germany was the primary battlefield. The conflict resulted in over 450,000

military deaths during mostly hand-to-hand combat utilizing the sword, pike-spear, single-ball-shot musket pistol, cuirass (mounted lance), war hammer, chain-link mace club, and battle axe in the most unimaginable inhumanely brutal way to kill and maim. On the casualty list there was an additional estimated 7.5 million civilian deaths reducing the German populations by 50% in some areas due to collateral military violence, pandemic plagues, diseases, and famine. In addition to their religious divisions, the Lutheran/Calvinist communities maintained longstanding distrusts towards their Catholic cousins in southern Europe over religious dominance, political power and military despotisms. This acrimony launched a bitter rivalry throughout Europe between the two religious factions seeking supremacy over religious leadership, dynastic loyalties, and economic support of the 312 small German states and Imperial Free Cities of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation.

Ultimately, the *Thirty Years War* consumed Europe and had dramatic consequence for western civilization. It was considered one of the longest, most brutal, and destructive wars in human history and had disastrous effects on the European economy. Designed to determine the power structure of Europe; the *Peace Treaty of Westphalia* (1648 A.D.) that ended the war introduced new future nation-state building throughout Europe based on ethnic and religious divisions. Due to the devastation imposed on humanity the war also introduced the “witch hunts” that would carry over into the next century. In search for “spiritual” scapegoats for the human misery, an estimated 50,000 people were executed as witches. In the end, this *hell on earth* did not produce any significant geopolitical or religious change within Europe (*i.e. all for nothing*). To this day, the dominate religious alignments of northern Europe remain predominately Protestant and the Catholics dominate the same areas of southern Europe as in the year 1648 A.D.



Immigration/Race Justice Group (I/RJG) April 21, 2022

We currently have \$148. Our last disbursement of \$400 was to an immigrant family who was having difficulty with L&I in processing his disability claim due to a reluctant employer. L&I was contacted as well as other organizations by I/RJG which have also been able to help financially.

Fundraising suggestions were discussed and plans to make inquiries for each were made.

- An application will be submitted again for a community evening at the **brewery**
- A possible **virtual concert**
- **Chamber of Commerce Recreational Ambassador**
- **NW Community Foundation Grant**

Study opportunities:

1. **“Now is the Time: A Study on the ‘Explanation of the Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent.’”** The one page declaration begins: *The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) apologizes to the people of African descent for its historical complicity in slavery and its enduring legacy of racism in the USA and globally.* The declaration is followed by an 11 page “explanation.” A study guide is also available. <https://elca.org/Resources/Racial-Justice>
2. Alex will begin a six-week online study with participants of Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Pasco beginning Wednesday, April 27, 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Anyone is welcome.
3. **“Faithful Conversations about The 1619 Project”**. A six-week study guide prepared by the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa in response to that State’s passing legislation that restricts teaching certain “aspects” of our country’s history. <https://faithful-voices.org/the-1619-project>. Who might be interested in participating in this important study?

Building Bridges workshop was held March 25-26 in Wenatchee for the Immigrant Justice group at Wenatchee Valley College. There were 19 participants. Went well.

Book Study will continue monthly during the summer. Options being considered are *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi and *Libertie* by Kaitlyn Greenidge.

Direct Service:

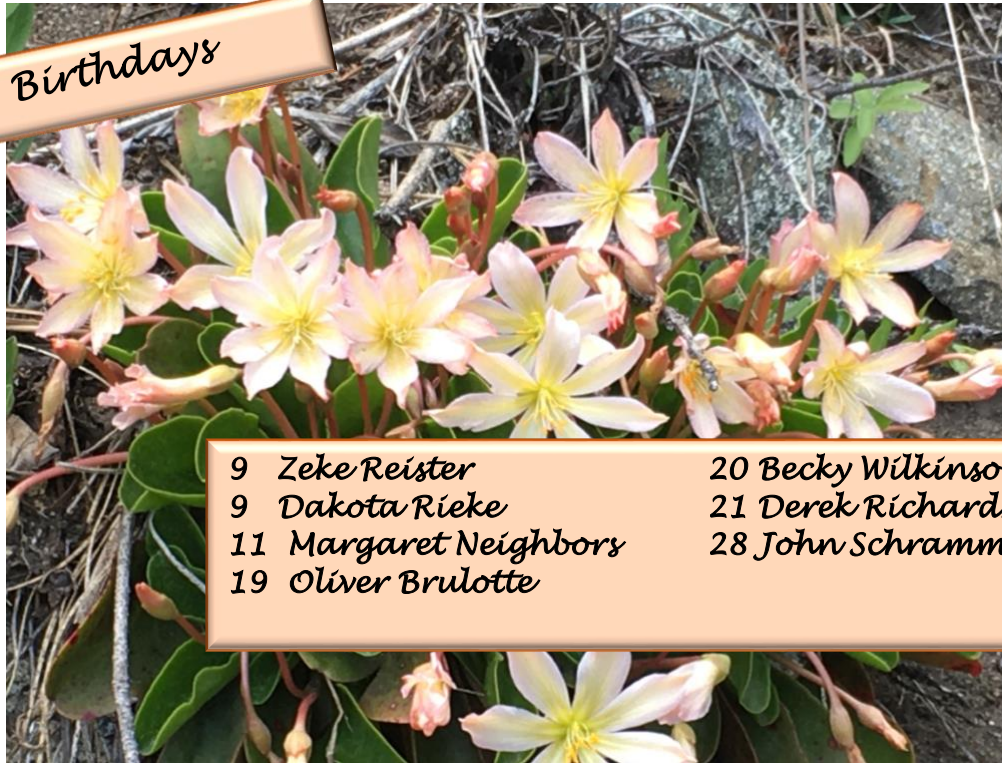
- A member shared about a family of one of her students whose mother is in serious condition at Harborview. Members will network with their respective organizations to provide more help.
- Three of our group went to Grace Lutheran in Wenatchee to learn about their Ukrainian Resettlement work as they have already resettled 2 families. They are well organized, energized, have raised over \$17,000 and involved our state Representative and a County Commissioner. They are to be commended on their ongoing work!
- As the I/RJG considered this project before, several questions surfaced in the discussion: What explains the relative ease and unprecedented acceptance/support given to these refugees as compared to other refugees? “Victims” and not “Illegals?” Christian and not Muslim? They look like us? And what about the many immigrant neighbors in our valley who have also been “victims of violence” and in disparate living conditions? Where is the enthusiasm and assistance for these? And what else?

NEXT MEETING: May 19 beginning at 6:00 pm with a guest speaker from L&I

BOOK STUDIES: May 5, June 2

Please call Alex 509.548.7012 or email lxhappns@nwi.net for details

May Birthdays



9 Zeke Reister
9 Dakota Rieke
11 Margaret Neighbors
19 Oliver Brulotte

20 Becky Wilkinson
21 Derek Richardson
28 John Schramm



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 May 20 for the June issue.

