

Life of Faith

November 2022

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Pastoral Care concerns: Please contact Rosalyn Francis at 509-433-1043
Rosalyn will connect you with appropriate resources



President's Letter

It is late October and everything in Nature has come around to Autumn a month behind. The rains are late, the warm weather lingered, the leaves are just this week starting to fly downwards. The smoke has cleared and we can finally enjoy the fall colors and being outdoors. The maintenance crew is grateful for the reprieve, to finish caulking and painting which might otherwise have been hit and miss dodging rainstorms. Connie is still trying to break Danny's truck, 420 gallons of leaves plus a load of branches departed the church property this past week. Grates are now firmly in place in the entryway to mitigate rot. We couldn't find a diesel excavator, so we turned Greg Harris loose instead. The new landscaping on the front sides of the church is all his hand work. I am impressed.

We have a full schedule of Pastors now through the end of the year. The Call Committee has conducted multiple interviews via zoom. The process seems slow but progress is being made. Accuracy, not speed, is the goal of this Committee.

A member noticed that there is another Sears mail order church like ours sited on San Juan Island in Friday Harbor. Make that site a drive by next time you go to the island. Imagine first transporting the building components by train as they did for our church and then on a barge to the San Juans!

Faith just this week received a substantial financial gift from an anonymous donor. This generosity will help with maintenance projects on the horizon as well as give a boost to the Endowment fund. We are ever so grateful for this 'silent gift'.



I am grateful this month for clear air, Eric's amazing sermon/lesson and seeing our elders walking more steadily. I worry and pray for those of Faith with new or threatening health concerns. Like clear air and long vistas, we often take health for granted until it is not present.

This is a lively campus. While working in front of the church for many days, I have seen the flow of people in and out - Book Study, SAIL classes, bilingual preschool and now an after school creativity club for older youth. Faith is alive!

Blessings are showering down upon us.

Karl Kranz

SUNDAY TEXTS AND SCHEDULE FOR PULPIT SUPPLY



November 6: Pr. Nancy Winder *All Saints Sunday* – Bring photos of family and friends who are now Saints Triumphant

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 / Psalm 149 / Ephesians 1:11-23 / Luke 6:20-31

November 13: Pr. Alex Schmidt *23rd Sunday after Pentecost*

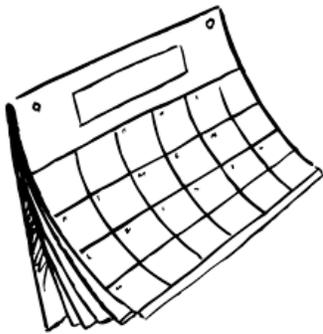
Mal 4:1-2a / Psalm 98 / 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 / Luke 21:5-19

November 20: Pr. Cindy Carroll *Christ the King Sunday*

Jeremiah 23:1-6 / Psalm 46 / Col 1:11-20 / Luke 23:33-43

November 27: Pr. Cindy Carroll *Advent 1*

Jeremiah 33:14-16 / Psalm 25:1-10 / 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 / Luke 21:25-36



OTHER NOVEMBER EVENTS

[Church Council](#): Nov. 10, 6:30 pm Fellowship Hall

[Contemplative Prayer Service](#): each Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary, led by Eric Krumland

[Book Study Group](#): each Monday, 8:50 – 9:50 am, Fellowship Hall. Book beginning Nov. 7 is *The Reckless Way of Love* by Dorothy Day. All are welcome. Call Margaret Neighbors (509 548 0166) if interested.

[Midweek Advent Soup Supper and Service](#): Nov. 30, 6:00 pm supper, 7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer, Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary

[Knitting group](#): Nov. 2, 16, 30 / 1:30 – 3:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

[SAIL](#): each Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30 – 11:30 am, Fellowship Hall

[Pie / Dessert Social](#): Nov. 23, 6:00 – 7:00 pm. Bring your favorite pie or dessert to share. Afterwards, you are invited to attend the prayer service in the sanctuary.



CHURCH COUNCIL October 2022

Treasurer's Report

Kelly Hassinger has been out of the office. No numbers available.



Property Committee

Church entryway: Boards with dry rot have been replaced, a drainage system has been created and new grates are in place. Hand railings are being built and installed.

Fellowship Hall

- Roof: Two bids have been received. Metal: \$37,500/life span of 50 years. Composition: \$21,500/life span of 30 years. The composition roof may have weight bearing concerns.
- Water problem: The committee recommends a sump pump in the crawl space.
- Future projects: The storage area should be insulated. It was suggested that sliding glass doors be installed and also new carpeting in the next year.

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee continues to meet once a month to select hymns and such. Pulpit supply has been confirmed for the remainder of the year.

Call Committee

Amy Carlson reports progress. Several interviews have been conducted via zoom. Two candidates have withdrawn. A follow-up interview with one of the candidates is scheduled and a site visit planned.

Housing continues to be a concern for any future pastor. Our current parsonage may or may not work – especially long term. If you or anyone you know might have options, please contact mary.steeber@gmail.com

Old Business

- Morgan Fraser Preschool is up and running on Wednesdays and Fridays from 9-11 am.
- Shila Reeves, Creativity Club will start in November on Monday afternoons.

New Business

- Parsonage: Using the parsonage as a short term rental is not possible in the City of Leavenworth and renting it long term compromises our tax deduction. For now, we would like it to be used by seminarians and pastors providing pulpit supply.
- Directory: John Schramm said he would be willing to begin the process of updating our directory.
- Contemplative prayer service: Eric Krumland wants to start a weekly contemplative prayer service at church beginning October 26 at 7:00. The council gave unanimous approval.

Discussion

The use of church property by outside persons or groups. Considerations include how much to charge, cleaning and liability.

Next Council Meeting: 11/10/2022 @ 6:30 PM



IMMIGRATION / RACE AND JUSTICE GROUP Summary of Aug.-Sept. 2022 Meetings

In the past two months, the Immigration/Race Justice Group has been focusing on our next year's goals and budget. During our last meeting and for the next several, we will endeavor to expand on our intentions and objectives with specifics. This emphasis came as a timely suggestion by the Community Foundation of NCW as we recently submitted a Regional Impact Grant request.

Summary of activities

- Citizenship and ESL classes have begun at the Peshastin Library on Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m. We are grateful to collaborate with this fine community resource!
- A local family has asked for financial help to pay urgently pending bills. We were able to share \$700 of our budget. We also informed this family as well as others of the WA Covid-19 Immigrant Relief Fund (\$1,000 for each family).
- Our next Book Study group will read *White Tears/Brown Wounds: How White Feminism Betrays Women of Color*, by Ruby Hamad, 2020.
- Members are encouraged to attend the Faith Action Network regional meeting of immigration advocates on Sunday, Oct. 23, 2-3:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Wenatchee.
- We have been fortunate to have had two guest "visitors" to our meetings: The regional NCW FAN organizer and the Community Relations Director for Labor and Industries. It was important and beneficial to hear about their work and examine how we can collaborate together.

Budget overview:

- Over the past year, we have provided necessary resources to a good number of our immigrant neighbors to assist them in sustaining their families, jobs, and housing. Nearly **\$9,885** has been distributed to provide for rental costs, education, driver's education, medical and legal expenses, food insecurity, home fire repair and much more.
- With the generous assistance of caring immigrant allies who gave personal donations (**\$3,340**), combined with fundraisers (**\$983**) and grants (**\$3,400**) we gathered **\$7723** in "income."
- Our recent "out of the box" discussions and planning for this next fiscal year are to be commended. We have doubled projected income to **\$13,000** and hope to share with our community twice as much as before: **\$18,500!** We will work hard at fundraising, promoting our mission and seeking grants! Thanks for your support as you are able! To donate or learn more, please visit: <https://irjgroup.wixsite.com/irjg>

CLIMATE CARE



Acting upon a request from several sources, the ELCA Church Council has authorized the development of an ELCA social message on climate care. Social messages are ELCA teaching documents that address a focused social topic. Drawing from existing social teaching, they provide theological rationale and social analysis to foster discernment and engagement on a relatively narrow social issue. This project was authorized in light of the grim contemporary situation affecting our global home and the need for fresh action on the part of this church. It draws its framing themes from several social statements, particularly [Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice](#).

Let your voice be heard!

The draft social message is now available for public feedback! [Read the social message draft here](#) and then use [this survey](#) to share your input by Friday, December 2, 2022.

The draft will be edited, guided by the feedback, and presented to the ELCA Church Council to be voted on this coming spring.

In line with standard [ELCA protocol](#), the project is being shepherded by the ELCA Director for Theological Ethics, working with a lead writer in collaboration with a group of reviewers.



SPIRITUAL PRACTICES OF ZEKE REISTER by Pete Spiegel



Each month I write about Spiritual Practices, but what are spiritual practices? Does having spiritual practices matter? Zeke Reister has an answer: Spiritual practices are “things that restore and renew you most of the time.

Something that interrupts and distances you from the stresses of the day. Maybe it’s a walk, a bike ride, 10 deep breaths, some practice that’s a break from the hum drum and those things that tighten your brain up. A spiritual practice is somehow woven into the rhythm of your day.”

However, a spiritual practice doesn’t have to be done alone. Zeke writes, “sharing something authentic in my life with one or a small group of trusted people and receiving that back from them” is a spiritual practice. “A spiritual practice is me

participating in such a way that I’m not concerned about myself and my focus is not on me or how I’m perceived at that moment: But more on the fact that I’m expressing, giving, or receiving something.”

Zeke finds that the woods soothe his soul and so does a bike ride. He prays and will recite passages like the 23rd Psalm. At times he will meditate. However, lately it has been hard for Zeke to keep up with his spiritual practices because of chronic insomnia. He talks about insomnia in physical terms, of being “smacked around.” He says, “Going without sleep for an extended time has made me feel way too vulnerable at times.”

Zeke, may you feel wrapped in the love, beauty and warmth of this day and sleep in peace.

Some of our Life of Faith in Pictures.....



Preschool children....



Our Free Little Pantry.....



Worker bees.....



Staying Active and Independent for Life (SAIL)



SAIL is a FREE program for seniors age 65 and older. Exercises are designed by doctors and physical therapists and the class is provided by volunteer Certified SAIL Instructors. Join our group every Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in our Fellowship Hall. Wear comfortable clothing you can easily move in and supportive shoes. We welcome you to attend a class to see for yourself how to improve strength, balance and fitness if done regularly. We encourage you to talk with the instructors regarding any needs for modified exercises. Contact Information: Joyce Price (509) 423-3706 or Connie Thomassen (509) 470-8212

**All are
welcome!**



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 November 23 for the December issue.

