



Life of Faith

May 2023

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From our president....

'April, come she will', sang Simon and Garfunkel. A month of change, a month of promise and budding natural beauty, the month of Easter. The days are longer, the light lingers later, new green life and wildflowers are reappearing from the lifeless soil.

We at Faith have so much to look forward to this Spring. Pastor Eva Jensen has now joined us, with her formal installation at Faith on April 23. We have already been graced by her presence presiding through Holy Week services, which I found rich and fulfilling this year. We anticipate a new renter for the parsonage soon and the artifacts from the old preschool are finding new homes or being repurposed. There are a couple of new parking spaces behind the church now. Coffee hour is back in full swing. Thanks to the members who provide this time of fellowship and special thanks to Rosalyn Francis, who makes sure that we enjoy Seattle Best coffee after worship! Plans for a new parsonage are in the works.

Pastor Eva will have her own space in the church newsletter but you shall not yet be spared from my ponderings. This is a space where I can state my admiration and appreciation for the congregation members that make us more whole. I am continually amazed by the hum of activity that happens at our church, 7 days a week. I happened upon a church member scrubbing the winter salt off of the Sanctuary floors, another person another day tidying up the back closet, yet another moment where a third person just decided that the bathrooms needed freshening. I saw a stranger at the Little Pantry, stocking it with new supplies from her backpack! Elders reading on Monday, knitters midweek, kids at the Fellowship Hall throughout the week.

Faith, I mused, is like electricity. We can't see it or feel it most of the time, but we see the miracles that are produced. Both hum, make life better, 'galvanize' is a good word. Who remembers the Van De Graf generator in science class? It generated a static electricity charge, and if you touched it your hair would stand straight up. In the 70's, that could mean a lot of hair. And then, when your neighbor touched you touching the generator, their hair would stand up. You could energize the whole class by holding hands. Electricity, Faith, they both can illuminate our lives, if we let them.

God's Peace this Spring, my Friends. He is risen indeed!

Karl Kranz



May 7: 5 Easter, Pr. Eva Jensen
May 14: 6 Easter, Pr. Eva Jensen
May 21: 7 Easter, Pr. Eva Jensen
May 28: Pentecost, Pr. Barbara Rossing



What's Happening

BOOK GROUP: each Monday from 8:50 – 9:50 a.m., Fellowship Hall.

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: Wednesday, May 3, 17 and 31, from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

QUILT TYING: Tuesday afternoons, from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. or for however long it takes to tie two quilts. We are a little sporadic though so it would be good for new volunteers to contact me (Margaret Neighbors at 509 548-0166) to be notified when the schedule changes. These quilts are created for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and are shipped to areas of need throughout the world.

CHURCH COUNCIL: May 25, 6:30 p.m.

IMMIGRATION/RACE/JUSTICE GROUP: May 17, 6:00 p.m.

CHURCH COUNCIL April 20, 2023

Presentation by Pr. Don Haven representing Abundant Congregations regarding Capital Fund raising campaign



Treasurer's Report:

- Bank balances are stable. There was a decrease from budget in March giving, but net positive income this month due to flat expenses. The picture will change in April as we compensate our pastor.
- Cash donations are now a very minor part of giving.
- \$4400 have been assigned for the Endowments this year.
- Parsonage Property tax is now due as no longer tax exempt.

Property Committee

- Mowing and maintenance through the Fonseca's to continue. No date on re-roofing yet from the contractor.
- Back Porch railing has been repaired, still needs painting.
- Playground equipment has been consolidated, conversation with Judy Derpack and Lindsay initiated about donation of the playhouse and other items.

Worship Committee:

- New input from Pr Eva appreciated.
- Planning for the installation this Sunday reviewed. Hospitality Committee has food arrangements in hand.
- An online subscription to *Sundays and Seasons* is being considered.

Endowment Committee: \$4400 to Endowment committee for dispersal this year.

Call Committee: Will remain together for Pr Eva's first 6 months and then transition to a Pastor Support Group.

Parsonage Project Committee

- Excavators are available when needed per Rayfields for structure takedown and site prep.
- Planning for presentation of the parsonage project to congregation is in process. This will be informational, a discussion without a vote regarding lot division, house plans, timing of project.
- Fund raising reviewed, no date set yet for the start of a fundraising campaign.

Old Business

- Parsonage rental: Karl is working on securing a renter.
- The policy for borrowing of chairs/tables was unanimously approved.
- New Parsonage planning is ongoing
- Consideration of a weekly bulletin was tabled until next meeting.
- Update on playground/preschool equipment- awaiting a recipient
- A new laser color printer has been purchased and installed in the church office. The old printer installed at Pr Eva's home.

New Business

- Check church bell

Next Council Meeting: May 25th



IMMIGRATION/RACE JUSTICE GROUP April 19, 2023

Finances: \$250 was paid to a Cascade School District student to assist with registration for Driver's Education. No word yet on the Faith Lutheran endowment application.

WAISIN: Our membership with Washington Immigration Solidarity Network in the "Partnership" level has been resubmitted. No response as of yet.

Book Study: We continue reading *The LAND is NOT EMPTY: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery*. Our study date will be **Wednesday, May 10** details TBA. Efforts continue to follow up on the possibility that Sarah Augustine (the author) could speak here in Leavenworth or perhaps in conjunction with Wenatchee's Immigrant Justice Group

Recreation Ambassador: We continue to consult with the Chamber to finalize getting dates for their Recreation Ambassador program this summer.

Direct Support:

- Our Cascade School District staff member mentioned three students who have various needs ranging from Driver's Ed registration (\$500) to wage replacement of \$1,000 lost wages during an upcoming weeklong conference at Western State University to good used laptop computers needed for college prep and enrollment. A member's family has begun a fundraiser for one student while additional resources are being checked for assisting the others in these requests. Depending on the outcomes, we may assist as needed. The need for quality used computers will be posted on our website and the two other social media platforms with which we are involved.
- **Distribution List:** This spreadsheet presented a partial list of those families and individuals that we have supported in the past. The list seemed appropriate and needful for our purposes.
NOTE: If you have engaged with a family/student who has received assistance from us, please submit their name to Alex along with a brief description, amount given, and relevant dates if possible.
- **Citizenship and ESL Classes:** Four students have filled out their citizenship applications and have submitted them to Norma Gallegos at Wenatchee's *Hand In Hand* for her to finalize and type out as their official representative.
- We will keep checking with Liz Hurtado at MEND about any families that they aren't able to sufficiently help.

Advocacy: Members present spoke of their advocacy efforts and experiences for immigrant students/families within their own work settings.

Mutual Support: Significant time was given for intimate and personal conversations on how those present are faring in their life's journey.

Next Meetings: Call Alex Schmidt, 509.548.7012 for details.

May 10: Book Study

May 17: Next meeting, 6:00 p.m.



News from the ELCA

The new **ELCA Climate Message** was adopted by the Church Council on April 26, 2023. The Rev. Dr. Jim Martin-Schramm, son-in-law of John and Mary Schramm, and the Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing were among an impressive group of scholars who worked hard in the faithful creation of this statement. Learn about it at: <https://www.elca.org/climatecare>



The Farm Bill: The United States Congress is preparing to reauthorize the Farm Bill later this year. Each reauthorization provides an opportunity to improve or expand programs that ensure access to fresh and healthy food while addressing root causes of hunger. With deep commitment to a just world where all are fed, the ELCA has been gathering faith-centered perspectives from Lutherans around the country to inform its advocacy to impact reauthorization decisions on Capitol Hill. During the month of April, three virtual listening sessions took place. Each session focused on a particular geographic region – Eastern and Central, Pacific and Mountain – addressing the respective concerns and challenges that will inform their advocacy efforts. To learn more, go to: [What is the farm bill?](#), [Nutrition: Building a Healthy, Equitable, and Sustainable Food System via the Farm Bill](#), [Fact sheet: Farm Bill International](#), [ELCA Advocacy Farm Bill Introduction](#)

From our presiding bishop, Elizabeth Eaton....

The Evangelical Lutheran Church 's (ELCA) [Truth & Healing Movement](#) is an opportunity for the church to increase understanding of our colonizing impacts on Indigenous people in the past and present. We believe that the truth, and our knowing and embracing it, is the first step toward healing for all of us. Learn more at: <https://elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Ethnic-Specific-and-Multicultural-Ministries/Indigenous-Ministries-and-Tribal-Relations>.

Of particular note, here are specific educational opportunities:

Class: *Introduction to the Truth and Healing Movement*

This workshop will explore the truths we seek to learn and the healing we hope to experience, as well as how the movement began, among Indigenous people and within the ELCA. It will also explain the work the ELCA has done recently and how you can participate in this justice movement. No pre-registration is required to participate. Just click "join the class" to attend.

- **May 9, 2023: 7 - 8 p.m. Central time**
Presented by Vance Blackfox

[JOIN THE CLASS](#)

- **May 11, 2023: 7 - 8 p.m. Central time**
Presented by Vance Blackfox

[JOIN THE CLASS](#)

Congratulations...

To Faith Lutheran member Micah Rieke! Micah is the certificated staff member selected for the 2023 Chelan County Excellence recognition! The selection is a way to recognize and formally thank staff for their dedication, work ethic and difference they make with students and colleagues.

Micah is the Physical Education (PE) Teacher at Icicle River Middle School (IRMS). He was the salutatorian of Cascade High School (CHS) Class of 1998 and then went on to Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) where he played basketball and majored in education. After a variety of teaching positions over several years and earning a master's degree in sports psychology and a teaching endorsement in health and fitness at Eastern Washington University (EWU) a teaching position opened at Icicle River Middle School (IRMS) and Micah knew it was time to return home. He has been the PE teacher at IRMS since 2012. He enjoys all the outdoor adventuring that Leavenworth has to offer while raising his two daughters in his hometown. Teaching PE in Leavenworth brings great joy to him because of the variety of physical activities he can introduce to students in such a beautiful area. Micah can now be found coaching girls AAU basketball and cheering on the Kodiaks from the announcing booth and the stands. He loves this community and truly believes 'Once a Kodiak, always a Kodiak'!



Thank you, thank you!



To the many people in the FLC community who went the extra mile to create a very memorable day of celebration for the installation of our new pastor. Some swept floors, cleaned bathrooms, set up and organized communion volunteers, some washed dishes, set up tables, chairs and many organized food, flowers and more.

All is appreciated!



Here are some memories from the day.....







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 25 for the June issue.

