

Trom Pastor's Desk...

Here I Stand

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast." - Ephesians 2:8-9

"I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead the Holy Spirit has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and kept me in the true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens, and makes holy the whole Christian church on earth...."- Martin Luther, The Small Catechism

2017 marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, a movement throughout western Christianity to reclaim the core principle of the faith, namely the gospel of Jesus. In defiance of ecclesiastical and imperial authority, the reformers denounced policies and practices they deemed abusive and theologically bankrupt, risking expulsion from the church, outlaw status, and even bodily harm for their convictions.

The hero of our tradition, of course, is Martin Luther, the German monk and university professor who first stirred up trouble by nailing ninety-



[Image: Luther at the Diet of Worms, by Anton von Werner, 1877]

five points for debate on the castle church door in Wittenberg on October 31st, 1517. Luther insisted that salvation rested on God's grace alone as illuminated in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We can do nothing to earn or acquire salvation for ourselves, but can only grasp it through faith in God, then respond to it with love for our neighbors.

When he was brought before officials at the Diet of Worms in 1521, Luther refused to renounce his views, famously declaring: "Here I stand, I can do no other. God help me. Amen." Although there is no evidence indicating that he spoke these exact words, the legend has defined the spirit of reformation in the church ever since.

Where do we stand 500 years later? What is the living legacy of the Reformation? And, how is the church still being reformed today (*ecclesia reformata semper reformanda*)? These are questions we ought to address in earnest this year, even as we celebrate the events of the sixteenth century. In other words, we ought to look back in order to look forward.

Happy 500th anniversary, and may God continue to embrace the world with grace by the gracious example of Christ's church!

aston The

Peace,

OUTREACH MINISTRY UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Thanksgiving basket project and helped bring Christmas to a local family! I am inspired by all we can do, when so many work together. To start off the new year, we will once again focus on collecting items for the Communities in Schools backpack program. This program provides supplemental weekend food to elementary age children at our local schools. Kids who have enough to eat will do better at school! We hope to gather enough items during January and February to fill 50 backpacks!

Grab the shopping list below and take it along with you when you shop! Add one or two items for the backpack program each time you shop as part of your regular giving.

- Single serve applesauce/fruit cups
- Granola Bars
- Ritz Crackers/single serve cracker packages
- Single serve peanut butter/small jars peanut butter
- Single serve tuna fish
- Instant Oatmeal
- Single Serve Cold Cereal/Small boxes cereal
- Juice Boxes
- Single serve/microwave pasta meals or pop top pasta meals
- Pop top soups/stews

Donation items can be left in the box marked "Communities in Schools" on the pew in Koinonia. Helping package the food to send home is another great way to serve our community. We anticipate another packaging project this spring! Keep an eye out for more information!

Substitute Servers for Armory Dinners

Outreach Ministry is forming a team of servers to fill in at the Armory. This team will jump in to help when there are short notice cancellations. Servers will need to be able to arrive at the Armory location by 5:45pm and serve until 6:30pm. We are compiling a list of volunteers who are interested in this opportunity to serve our neighbors. When a serving opportunity comes up we will contact you to see if you are available to help. If you are interested in this opportunity to serve, there is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.



Women ELCA

Wednesday, January 11, 2017 9:30 a.m.

t	Study:	Galatians - Christian Faith & Christian Freedom
	Session 1:	No Other Gospel
7	Text:	Galatians 1:1-2:21
Ì	Study Leader:	Diane Dean
	Hostess:	Marlys Tron

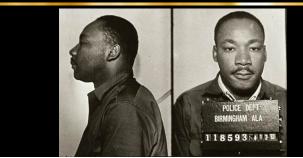
Reminder - Sessions 1 and 2 (January & February) in January "Gather" Magazine.



WELCA Raffle

Thanks to all who bought tickets and/or donated to the Christmas Raffle. Ticket sales totaled \$216. WELCA will match this amount; and a good donation will be given to "Step by Step." Congrats to the winners - Janie, Beverly, Pastor Nate and Tomasina.





"I am in Birmingham because injustice is here. Just as the prophets of the eighth century B.C. left their villages and carried their 'thus saith the Lord' far beyond the boundaries of their home towns, and just as the Apostle Paul left his village of Tarsus and carried the gospel of Jesus Christ to the far corners of the Greco Roman world, so am I compelled to carry the gospel of freedom beyond my own home town. Like Paul, I must constantly respond to the Macedonian call for aid.

Moreover, I am cognizant of the interrelatedness of all communities and states. I cannot sit idly by in Atlanta and not be concerned about what happens in Birmingham. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. Never again can we afford to live with the narrow, provincial 'outside agitator' idea. Anyone who lives inside the United States can never be considered an outsider anywhere within its bounds." - Martin Luther King, Jr., "Letter from Birmingham Jail" (1963) SPONSORED BY PEACE LUTHERAN YOUTH

SPAGHETTI DINNER & Auction

• 3:30 pm - Doors open

JANUARY

- 4:00 pm Dinner
- . 5:00 pm Dessert & Theme Basket Auction



SUGGESTED DONATION

\$12.00 - Adult \$6.00 - Child (12 4 under)

Tickets can be purchased Sunday mornings between services on January 15th 4 22nd or at the door



Western States Youth Gathering 2017

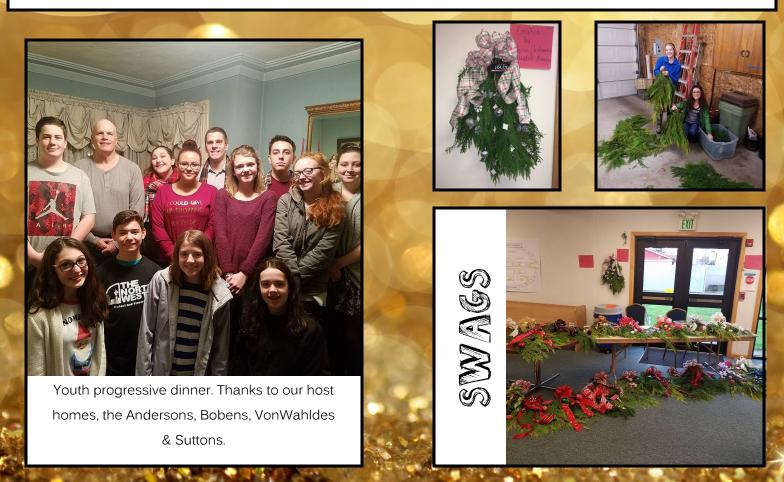
June 26 - July 2, 2017

California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, California

The Western States Youth Gathering happens every 3 years for high school youth. It takes place on the campus of California Lutheran University. It will feature mass gatherings with great speakers and musicians, learning and small group experiences. It will also include an immersion experience in LA and a Southern California beach party and much more! In addition to the gathering, we will go down early and spend a day at Disneyland.

Cost - \$450.00

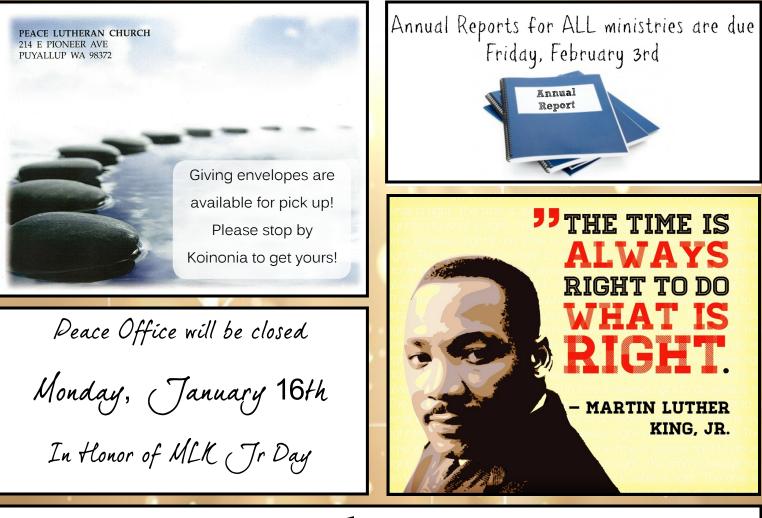
(\$250 due at time of sign up. The remaining \$200 will be due by June 4th)



Happy Birt ciay

Jan Johnson	3		Earrl Kropelnicki	15
Susan Ortega	3		Stephany Ahnert	16
Jesse Ahnert	5		Beth Siltala	18
Memphis Brow	vnrigg 6		Joan Linden	21
Carolyn Hoebe	elheinrich 8		Joy Johnstone	24
Beth Kaes	8		Merrilyn Larson	24
Hazel Kluwe	9		Bethany Sutton	25
Joe Mahaffie	10		Vernelle Doyle	27
Roan West	10		Ariana Schueler	31
	Happy ?	Saptismal C	Miversary	
Don Larson	Dennis Steinberg	Mike Lange	Mike Smith	Cooper Mahaffie
Joe Mahaffie	Barb Mazetis	Russ Hafterson	Rebecca Togstad	Axl Ahnert
Tim Mahaffie	Earrl Kropelnicki	Denise Mace	Jasmine Lee	Michah Doerr
Dolly Kropelnicki	Carolyn Hoebelheinricl	Nate Sutton	Andy Burch	

			uar / 2			1
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3	4	S	6	7
	4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	10:00 - Bible Study 12:00 - PPH @ 7:00 - Boy Scouts	5:30 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting 7:00 - 4-H 7:00 - Rowland & Assoc.		8:30 - Men's Breakfast 9:30 - Prop. Maint. 1:00 - Ruth Rantanen Me-
10:00 - Worship (CS)						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
8:15 - Worship (Joan) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 10:45 - Worship (Jill)	4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	10:00 - Bible Study 5:30 - Finance 7:00 - Boy Scouts	6:00 - Potluck 7:00 - Choir	7:00 - A.A. Meeting	Council Retreat	Council Retreat
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Council Retreat	OFFICE CLOSED					,
Pastor Nate Out 8:15 - Worship (Jill) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 10:45 - Worship (CS)	MARTIN LUTHER KING JR	10:00 - Bible Study 12:00 - PPH @ 7:00 - Boy Scouts	5:30 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:15 - Worship (CS) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 10:45 - Worship (Joan)	4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts	7:00 - Choir	7:00 - A.A. Meeting		Tbd - Drake Memorial
00	20	2.7				
z _>	4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts				
10:45 - Worship (Jill)				X III /		









 "like" us on Facebook – www.facebook.com/peacepuyallup 🞯 Follow us on Instagram - Peacepuyallup Visit our website - www.peacepuyallup.org

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sink your teeth into the weekly Bible texts with Pastor Nate, 10:00-11:00 am on Tuesdays in the gathering area. See you there!



Join Pastor Nate the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at a local diner or coffee shop for Pastors Public Hour! Locations are announced on our Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/peacepuyallup



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

214 East Pioneer

Puyallup, WA 98372