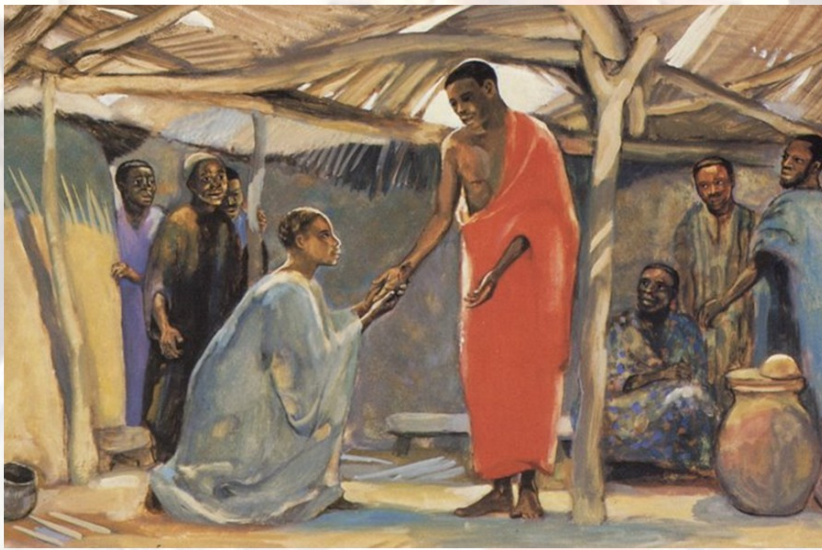




May
2017

The Clarion





[Image: "Jesus Appears to Thomas," by JESUS MAFA, Cameroon, 1973]



Late for Easter

"But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came."

-John 20:24

"For most of us, every Sunday is more like the Sunday after Easter. We can hear the accounts, but we were not really there. We did not see and touch and experience for ourselves."

-Martin B. Copenhaver, in Feasting on the Word, Year A, Vol. 2, 394.

Thomas was late for Easter. Can you imagine his confusion and disappointment? Everyone else was buzzing about Jesus' visit that first Sunday evening, but Thomas had missed it. So, he couldn't bring himself to celebrate with them. "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands... I will not believe."

Maybe you can relate. After all, we're late for Easter, too. None of us has had the privilege of an encounter with the risen Christ. Our faith is founded instead on the good news as reported to us by others – parents, grandparents, and baptismal sponsors; pastors, youth directors, and teachers; celebrated saints and martyrs – all those who have repeated the sacred story, planting the seed of faith in each new generation. But, wouldn't you like to see for yourself? Wouldn't you like some hard evidence?

The witness to the resurrection throughout the centuries is itself a miracle, although we are just as reluctant to accept it as Thomas. Nevertheless, here we are, reading a newsletter article or blog or devotional book, showing up to Sunday worship, participating in a Bible study, reading the story to our children or grandchildren, or offering silent, sometimes wordless prayers of gratitude or need. Something calls us back to this impossible truth, that God has somehow seen Jesus through pain and death, and will see us through, too.

Your doubt is not weak or shameful. Doubt and faith are two sides of the same coin. But this Easter season, look for signs of resurrection to sustain you, little graces to keep you coming back. Listen for words that strike your heart, moments that speak to the hope of new life.

And remember: you are blessed, because unlike the first disciples, you have *not* seen for yourself, yet you continue to strive (John 20:29).



COUNCIL BLURBS FOR APRIL

The council met on April 11, 2017 opening with devotions and prayer.

Action items for the council included:

Accepting a recommendation from the Bequest Planning Team to distribute funds from the Bjornstad-Hoogakker-Frederickson memorial funds. It was approved to grant \$90,000 to each of the following: Endowment, Property and Outreach.

Accepting a recommendation from the Finance committee to use the annual return on the Mission Investment Fund to pay down our mortgage.

Accepting a recommendation from Property to upgrade the lighting in the church buildings (except the sanctuary). This is part of a Puget Sound energy audit, with approximately 70% of this cost covered by a Small Business Grant with Peace paying \$2252.50 of the approximately \$8000.00 bill. The energy savings will be approximately \$1250.00 per year so the savings in energy will be immediate.


Council also approved \$300.00 for use by Pastor Nate to attend a synod mentoring group to improve spiritual vitality. Half of the fee will be a gift from the church council

The council also entertained a proposal for use of our gathering space but it was tabled until the issues of legality and tax status can be addressed with the synod due to our non-profit, non-secular status.

The council will meet again May 9.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Schulz

Women of the ELCA 

Wednesday, May 10th, 2017 - 9:30 a.m.

Study:	Read All Articles in May "Gather" Magazine. Our discussion will be about stories of divine women of faith.
Study Leader:	Barb Hamry
Hostess:	Renata

This will be the last meeting until Fall!



Children and Families

Mark your Calendars for May 7th!

2nd Packaging Project

We hope to provide 50 more packages of supplemental weekend food!

The Outreach Ministry Team will meet on May 21st after second service! If you are interested in joining our team in planning, brainstorming, and dreaming of what the future of our ministry here at Peace looks like, all are welcome! Or feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with Mary Boben, Charlene Cook, Karen Ekse or Trish Siltala. We would love to hear from you!



A couple of months ago the synod's Namibia Task Force sent out a call for baby hats and prayer shawls for an upcoming trip to Namibia. We responded! Five prayer shawls were delivered by Diane Dean to be given as gifts to leaders of the Lutheran Church in Namibia. 108 baby hats were made to be given to babies at Onandjokwe Lutheran Hospital and Lutheran hostels in Namibia.

Still want to make hats? Our next hat project will be adult hats for local oncology patients. See Donna Richardson or Charlene Cook for more information.



A BIG thank you to Bill, Charlene, Lily and Khm'ron for the beautiful paint job in the Alcove!

THANK *You*
IN APPRECIATION OF YOU, AND ALL THAT YOU DO.

Charlene Cook

Leo Armstrong



WESTERN STATES YOUTH GATHERING

June 26th - July 2nd

California Lutheran University - Thousand Oaks, California

Youth & Confirmation Students

Custom Design Camp

At Camp Lutherhaven (Idaho)

July 16th - July 21st.

Sign up by Sunday, April 30th



Elementary Youth

(youth entering 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades)

Week at Camp



LUTHERHAVEN

June 26th - July 1st

Sign up by May 15th

9th - 12th Grade

Holden Youth Weekend

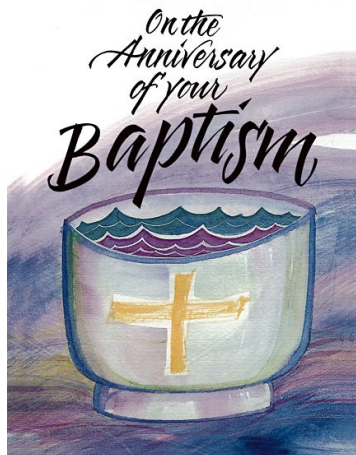


May 19th - 21st



May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	2 10:00 - Bible Study 12:00 - PPH @ Thr3e 5:30 - Finance 6:30 - Executive 7:00 - Boy Scouts / 4-H	3 12:00 - Sen/Ret. Potluck 5:30 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	4 9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting 7:00 - Rowland & Assoc.	5	6 8:30 - Men's Breakfast 9:30 - Prop. Maint.
7 8:15 - Worship (Jill) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Adult Ed. 9:40 - Care Ministry 10:45 - Worship (Jill)	8 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	9 10:00 - Bible Study 6:30 - Council 7:00 - Boy Scouts	10 7:00 - Choir	11 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	12	13
14  8:15 - Worship (Jill) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Adult Ed. 10:45 - Worship (CS)	15 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	16 10:00 - Bible Study 12:00 - PPH @ Panera	17 5:30 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	18 9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	19 HOLDEN YOUTH WEEKEND	20
21 Anniversary Sunday 8:15 - Worship (CS) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Adult Ed. 10:45 - Worship (Jill) 11:45 - Outreach LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL	22 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	23 10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts	24 7:00 - Choir	25 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	26	27
28 9:30 - Worship (Joan) 10:30 - Adult Ed.	29 OFFICE CLOSED 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones 	30 10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts	31 5:30 - Quilting			



Wayne Glaser	Denise Aho	Benjamin Woodbury
Baerbel Lorenz	Leanne Cook	Ricka Gerstmann
Joe Brozick	Joy Johnstone	Jakob Steinberg
Mary Ann Larson	Laura Casillas	Nathaniel Mace
Jane Smith	Livia Mahaffie	Hannah Steinberg
Paul Bench	Kyle Aronson	Hannah McMahon
Kristi Thompson	Kaitlyn Cheek	Kellen Doerr



Dee Marino	1	Jessica Thompson	11	Marshall Lee	19
Zack Halstead	2	Judy Hamilton	12	Laura Mandt	22
Lacey Henderson	3	Karla Steinberg	12	Jakob McMahon	23
Kellen Doerr	4	Jill Burch	13	Nancy Armstrong	26
Emily Dymond	4	Austin Carrigan	14	Andy Bennett	26
Tim Siltala	6	Kaleb Lamberton	14	Ron Butler	27
Steve Smith	6	Heidi Denton	15	Ellen Aronson	28
Kristi Thompson	8	Les Gerstmann	16	Jerry Lange	28
Jacqueline Fairbanks	10	Layla Runkel	16	Paula Nordby	29
Hannah Thompson	11	Jayla Albenesius	19	Paul Bench	31



On behalf of Peace Lutheran Church, thank you, quilters, for the gift of your time and your care for the sake of all who will enjoy the fruits of your labor. These **108** quilts are signs of your faithfulness, and offerings of love.

Last Day of



Sunday, May 21st



Senior / Retirees Potluck

Wednesday, May 3rd - 12:00 p.m.

Join us for the last potluck of 2017!!!

Men's Breakfast

Join us for good food and great conversation the 1st Saturday of each month. Build up your body, mind and spirit with a great group of Peace men!

SATURDAY, MAY 6TH - 8:30 A.M.





It's finally spring! Let's get outside and enjoy what our area has to offer. Bring your kiddos and come enjoy a morning at Northwest Trek Wildlife Park! We

will meet at the park entrance at 9:30 am on

Saturday, May 20th. All are welcome! Please see

Bethany Sutton with any questions.

General Admission

Adults (ages 13-64) \$22.25

Seniors (ages 65+) \$20.25

Youth (ages 5-12) \$14.25

Tots (ages 3 & 4) \$10.25

2 and Under FREE

Pierce County Residents & Military

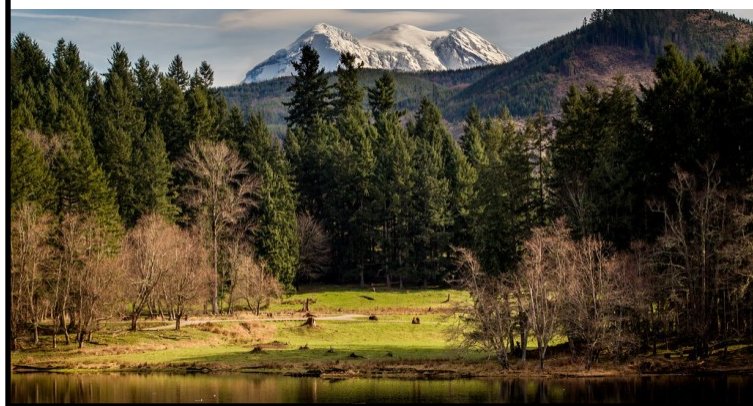
Adults (ages 13-64) \$20.25

Seniors (ages 65+) \$18.25

Youth (ages 5-12) \$12.25

Tots (ages 3 & 4) \$9.25

2 and Under FREE



8th annual Watson's Night Out Event. A private event benefitting Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Community, just in time for Mother's Day!

May 4th

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Attendees receive 30% off a single item purchased the night of the event.

Ticket price: \$25

Call 253.284.7538 for ticket or purchase online at watsonsgreenhouse.com



Pastor's Public Hours for
May

Pastor's Public Hours

Tuesday, May 2nd
12:00 - 2:00 p.m.



THREE

Pastor's Public Hours

Tuesday, May 16th
12:00 - 2:00



Do you have favorite coffee spot in the area? Or is there a place you've been meaning to try? If you would like to add it to our list of Pastor's Public Hours locations please email Sara at office@peacepuyallup.org.

We are looking for more meeting spots for the summer!!!

Summer Worship Schedule

9:30 a.m.

Beginning Sunday, May 28th

We will return to two services on September, 10th

Happy
Mother's
Day

May 14th!



Celebrate Peace Lutheran Church

119th Anniversary

By Sharing Your Favorite Treat!

Anniversary Bake Sale

As part of our anniversary Sunday, WELCA will be sponsoring an old fashioned bake sale on Sunday, May 21st, in-between services.

Everyone is invited to participate by bringing a “goodie” for the sale, but then also purchase something to take home!!! Proceeds from the sale will be donated to Church Wide Women of the ELCA for *Katie’s Fund.

*Katharina von Bora Luther was a hold woman of faith, the wife and partner of Martin Luther. The fund supports leadership development, scholarships and education of women throughout our church. Peace Lutheran WELCA will match money raised by the sale.

What to Bring: Any type of baked good! Cakes, cookies, cup cake, breads, rolls, candy, small desserts, etc.

Containers: Use only disposable dishes or platters. Please put cookies and candies in baggies at a dozen of 1/2 dozen per bag.

Pricing: Will be done by WLECA

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications are available for graduating seniors. Please send graduates name to the office and an application will be sent to you.

Also, if you have a graduate this year, high school or college, and you would like them recognized on Graduation Sunday, please email Sara their name and school to office@peacepuyallup.org.



Summary of 2016 Amendments to the Model Constitution of the ELCA

The 2016 Churchwide Assembly authorized the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to:

- strike the words “ordained minister/s” and replace with the words “**minister/s of Word and Sacrament**”;
- strike the word “clergy” and replace with the words “minister/s of Word and Sacrament”;
- strike the words “pastor/s” and replace with the words “minister/s of Word and Sacrament” where appropriate;
- strike the words “associate in ministry, diaconal minister and deaconess” and replace with the words “**minister/s of Word and Service**”; and
- make editorial corrections that identify the rosters of this church and implement the creation of the ministers of Word and Service roster.

The amendments also:

- acknowledge that the ELCA “participates in The **Lutheran World Federation** as a global communion of churches, engaging in faithful witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and in service for the sake of God’s mission in the world.”
- acknowledge (in addition to “Voting” and “Associate” members) “**Seasonal**” members as “voting members of other ELCA congregations who wish to retain such membership but desire to participate in the life and mission of this congregation, including exercising limited voting rights in this congregation.” (see C8.02.e.)
- establish expectations for the call and ministry of **minister/s of Word and Service** (see C9.21-31)
- establish policy for two or more congregations that intend to unite to form a **parish** (or multiple-location congregation) (see C20.1-6)

AMENDMENTS TO THE *MODEL CONSTITUTION FOR CONGREGATIONS*
AS APPROVED BY THE 2016 CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY

Prepared by the Office of the Secretary
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
April 20, 2017

Additions are underlined. Deletions are ~~struck through~~ in the text.

In coordination with the following amendments, the 2016 Churchwide Assembly authorized the secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to:

- \$ strike the words “ordained minister/s” and replace with the words “minister/s of Word and Sacrament”;
- \$ strike the word “clergy” and replace with the words “minister/s of Word and Sacrament”;
- \$ strike the words “pastor/s” and replace with the words “minister/s of Word and Sacrament” where appropriate;
- \$ strike the words “associate in ministry, diaconal minister and deaconess” and replace with the words “minister/s of Word and Service”; and
- \$ make editorial corrections that identify the rosters of this church and implement the creation of the ministers of Word and Service roster.

***C3.02.** This church confesses the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church and is resolved to serve Christian Unity throughout the world.

***C3.03.** The Church exists both as an inclusive fellowship and as local congregations gathered for worship and Christian service. Congregations find their fulfillment in the universal community of the Church, and the universal Church exists in and through congregations. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, therefore, derives its character and powers both from the sanction and representation of its congregations and from its inherent nature as an expression of the broader fellowship of the faithful. In length, it acknowledges itself to be in the historic continuity of the communion of saints; in breadth, it expresses the fellowship of believers and congregations in our day.

***C3.04.** This church, inspired and led by the Holy Spirit, participates in The Lutheran World Federation as a global communion of churches, engaging in faithful witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and in service for the sake of God’s mission in the world.

***C3.0305.** The name Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA or “this church”) as used herein refers in general references to this whole church, including its three expressions: congregations, synods, and the churchwide organization. The name Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is also the name of the corporation of the churchwide organization to which specific references may be made herein.

***C5.03.** Only such authority as is delegated to the Congregation Council or other organizational units in this congregation’s governing documents is recognized. All remaining authority is retained by the congregation. The congregation is authorized to:

...

c. call a minister of Word and Service;

~~d. or terminate the call of associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers~~ a minister of Word and Service in conformity with the applicable policy constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America;

~~de.~~ adopt amendments to the constitution, as provided in Chapter ~~17~~ 16, amendments to the bylaws, as specified in Chapter ~~16~~ 17, and continuing resolutions, as provided in Chapter 18;

~~ef.~~ approve the annual budget;

~~fg.~~ acquire real and personal property by gift, devise, purchase, or other lawful means;

~~gh.~~ hold title to and use its property for any and all activities consistent with its purpose;

~~hi.~~ sell, mortgage, lease, transfer, or otherwise dispose of its property by any lawful means;

- ij. elect its [officers][,] [and] Congregation Council, [boards, and committees,] and require [them] [the members of the council] to carry out their duties in accordance with the constitution[,] [and] bylaws[,] [and continuing resolutions]; and
- jk. terminate its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as provided in Chapter 6.

***C6.03.** This congregation acknowledges its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in which:

...

- c. This congregation agrees to call pastoral leadership from the clergy-roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in accordance with its call procedures except in special circumstances and with the approval of the bishop of the synod. These special circumstances are limited either to calling a candidate approved for the roster of ordained ministers Ministers of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or to contracting for pastoral services with an-ordained minister of Word and Sacrament of a church body with which the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America officially has established a relationship of full communion.
- d. This congregation agrees to consider associates in ministry, deaconesses, and diaconal ministers of Word and Service for call to other staff positions in the congregation according to the procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

...

***C6.05.** A-This congregation may terminate its relationship with this church-the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by the following procedure:

...

- f. Notice of termination shall be forwarded by the bishop to the secretary of this church the ELCA, who shall report the termination to the Churchwide Assembly.
- g. This congregation shall abide by these covenants by and among the three expressions of this church:
 - 1) Congregations seeking to terminate their relationship with this church which fail or refuse to comply with each of the foregoing provisions in *C6.05. shall be required to receive Synod Council approval before terminating their membership in this church.
 - ~~h.~~ 2) Congregations which had been members of the Lutheran Church in America shall be required, in addition to complying with the foregoing provisions in *C6.05., to receive synodical approval before terminating their membership in this church.
 - ~~i.~~ 3) Congregations established by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be required, in addition to complying with the foregoing provisions in *C6.05., to satisfy all financial obligations to this church and receive Synod Council approval before terminating their membership in this church.
- jh. If a-this congregation fails to achieve the required two-thirds vote of voting members present at the congregation's first meeting as specified in paragraph a. above, another special meeting to consider termination of relationship with this church may be called no sooner than six months after that first meeting. If a-this congregation fails to achieve the required two-thirds vote of voting members present at the congregation's second meeting as specified in paragraph d. above, another attempt to consider termination of relationship with this church must follow all requirements of *C6.05. and may begin no sooner than six months after that second meeting.

***C7.03.** If a two-thirds majority of the voting members of this congregation present at a legally called and conducted special meeting of this congregation vote to transfer to another Lutheran church body, title to property shall continue to reside in this congregation, provided the process for termination of relationship in *C6.05. has been followed. Before this congregation takes action to transfer to another Lutheran church body, it shall consult with representatives of the (insert name of synod) Synod.

***C7.04.** If a two-thirds majority of the voting members of this congregation present at a legally called and conducted special meeting of this congregation vote to become independent or relate to a non-Lutheran church body and have followed the process for termination of relationship in *C6.05., title to property of this congregation shall continue to reside in this congregation only with the consent of the Synod Council. The Synod Council, after consultation with this congregation by the established synodical process, may give approval to the request to become independent or to relate to a non-Lutheran church body, in which case title shall remain with the majority of this congregation. If the Synod Council fails to give such approval, title shall remain with those members who desire to continue as a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

***C8.02.** Members shall be classified as follows:

- ...
- c. **Voting** members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation as well as the other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.
 - d. **Associate** members are persons holding membership in other [ELCA] [Lutheran] [Christian] congregations who wish to retain such membership but desire to participate in the life and mission of this congregation, or persons who wish to retain a relationship with this congregation while being members of other congregations. These individuals have all the privileges and duties of membership except voting rights and eligibility for elected offices or membership on the Congregation Council of this congregation or other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.
 - e. **Seasonal** members are voting members of other ELCA congregations who wish to retain such membership but desire to participate in the life and mission of this congregation, including exercising limited voting rights in this congregation. The Congregation Council may grant seasonal membership to such persons provided that this congregation is a member of a synod where the Synod Council has approved seasonal member voting on its territory. Such seasonal members shall have all the privileges and duties of voting members except that:
 - 1) they shall not be eligible for elected office in, or for membership on the Congregation Council or on a call committee of, this congregation;
 - 2) they shall not have the right to vote on any matter concerning or affecting the call or termination of call of any minister of this congregation;
 - 3) they shall not have the right to vote on any matter concerning or affecting the affiliation of this congregation with the ELCA;
 - 4) they shall not be eligible to serve as voting members from this congregation of the Synod Assembly or the Churchwide Assembly;
 - 5) they shall not, even if otherwise permitted by this congregation, vote by proxy or by absentee ballot; and
 - 6) they shall not, within any two calendar month period, exercise voting rights in this congregation and in the congregation where they remain voting members.

***C8.05.** Membership in this congregation shall be terminated by any of the following:

- a. death;
- b. resignation;
- c. transfer or release;
- d. disciplinary action in accordance with ELCA constitutional provision 20.4041. and the accompanying bylaws; or
- e. removal from the roll due to inactivity as defined in the bylaws in accordance with the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.

Such persons who have been removed from the roll of members shall remain persons for whom the Church has a continuing pastoral concern.

Chapter 9.

THE PASTOR ROSTERED MINISTER

- *C9.01. Authority to call a pastor shall be in this congregation by at least a two-thirds ~~majority ballot~~ voting members present and voting at a meeting legally called for that purpose. Before a call is issued, the officers, or a committee elected by [this congregation][the Congregation Council] to recommend the call, shall seek the advice and help of the bishop of the synod.
- *C9.02. Only a member of the ~~clergy roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament~~ Ministers of Word and Sacrament of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or a candidate for the roster of ~~ordained ministers~~ Ministers of Word and Sacrament who has been recommended for the congregation by the synodical bishop may be called as a pastor of this congregation.
- *C9.03. Consistent with the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,
- a. Every ~~ordained minister of Word and Sacrament~~ shall:
 - ...
 - 4) provide pastoral care;
 - 5) seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel;
 - 6) impart knowledge of this church and its wider ministry through distribution of its communications and publications;
 - 7) witness to the Kingdom of God in the community, in the nation, and abroad; and
 - 58) speak publicly to the world in solidarity with the poor and oppressed, calling for justice and proclaiming God's love for the world.
 - b. Each ~~ordained minister-pastor~~ with a congregational call shall, within the congregation:
 - ...
 - 2) ~~supervise~~ relate to all schools and organizations of this congregation;
 - 3) install regularly elected members of the Congregation Council; ~~and~~
 - 4) with the council, administer discipline.
 - c. Every pastor shall:
 - 1) strive to extend the Kingdom of God in the community, in the nation, and abroad;
 - 2) seek out and encourage qualified persons to prepare for the ministry of the Gospel;
 - 3) impart knowledge of this church and its wider ministry through distribution of its periodicals and other publications; and
 - 45) endeavor to increase the support given by the congregation to the work of the ELCA churchwide organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and of the (insert name of synod) Synod of the ELCA.
- *C9.05. The provisions for termination of the mutual relationship between a minister of Word and Sacrament and this congregation shall be as follows:
- a. The call of ~~a this~~ congregation, when accepted by a pastor, shall constitute a continuing mutual relationship and commitment, which shall be terminated only by death or, following consultation with the synodical bishop, for the following reasons:
 - ...
 - 6) resignation or removal of the pastor from the roster of ~~ordained ministers~~ Ministers of Word and Sacrament of this church;
 - ...
 - b. When allegations of physical disability or mental incapacity of the pastor under paragraph a.4) above, or ineffective conduct of the pastoral office under paragraph a.3) above, have come to the attention of the bishop of this synod,
 - 1) the bishop in his or her sole discretion may investigate such conditions personally together with a committee of two ~~ordained-rostered~~ ministers and one layperson, or
 - 2) when such allegations have been brought to the synod's attention by an official recital of allegations by the Congregation Council or by a petition signed by at least one-third of the

voting members of the congregation, the bishop personally shall investigate such conditions together with a committee of two ~~ordained-rostered~~ ministers and one layperson.

- c. In case of alleged physical disability or mental incapacity under paragraph a.4) above, the bishop's committee shall obtain and document competent medical opinion concerning the pastor's condition. When a disability or incapacity is evident to the committee, the bishop of this synod may declare the pastorate vacant ~~and the pastor shall be listed on the clergy roster as disabled. When the pastorate is declared vacant, the Synod Council shall list the pastor on the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament as disabled.~~ Upon removal of the disability and the restoration of the pastor to health, the bishop shall take steps to enable the pastor to resume the ministry, either in the congregation last served or in another appropriate call.

- ...
e. If either party fails to assent to the recommendations of the bishop's committee concerning the pastor's call, the congregation may dismiss the pastor only at a legally called meeting after consultation with the bishop, either (a) by a two-thirds ~~majority~~ vote of the voting members present and voting where the bishop and the committee did not recommend termination of the call, or (b) by a ~~simple~~ majority vote of the voting members present and voting where the bishop and the committee recommended termination of the call.
f. If, in the course of proceedings described in paragraph c. or paragraph d. above, the bishop's committee concludes that there may be grounds for ~~disciplinary action~~ discipline, the committee shall make recommendations concerning disciplinary action in accordance with the provisions of this church's constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions.

- *C9.07.** During the period of service, an interim pastor shall have the rights and duties in the congregation of a regularly called pastor and may delegate the same in part to a supply pastor with the consent of the bishop of the synod and this congregation or Congregation Council. The interim pastor and any ~~ordained pastor-rostered minister~~ providing assistance shall refrain from exerting influence in the selection of a pastor. Unless previously agreed upon by the Synod Council, an interim pastor is not available for a regular call to the congregation served.

C9.20. — Ecumenical pastoral ministry

C9.21.

C9.15.

Under special circumstances, subject to the approval of the synodical bishop and the concurrence of this congregation, ~~an ordained minister of Word and Sacrament~~ of a church body with which the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America officially has established a relationship of full communion may serve temporarily as pastor of this congregation under a contract between the congregation and the ~~ordained minister-pastor~~ in a form proposed by the synodical bishop and approved by the congregation.

- *C9.21.** Authority to call a minister of Word and Service shall be in this congregation by at least a two-thirds vote of voting members present and voting at a meeting legally called for that purpose. Before a call is issued, the officers, or a committee elected by [this congregation][the Congregation Council] to recommend the call, shall seek the advice and help of the bishop of the synod.

- *C9.22.** Only a member of the roster of Ministers of Word and Service of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Service who has been recommended for this congregation by the synodical bishop may be called as a deacon of this congregation.

- *C9.23.** Consistent with the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, every minister of Word and Service shall:

- a. Be rooted in the Word of God, for proclamation and service;
- b. Advocate a prophetic diakonia that commits itself to risk-taking and innovative service on the frontiers of the Church's outreach, giving particular attention to the suffering places in God's world;
- c. Speak publicly to the world in solidarity with the poor and oppressed, calling for justice and proclaiming God's love for the world, witnessing to the realm of God in the community, the nation, and abroad;

- d. Equip the baptized for ministry in God's world that affirms the gifts of all people;
 - e. Encourage mutual relationships that invite participation and accompaniment of others in God's mission;
 - f. Practice stewardship that respects God's gift of time, talents, and resources;
 - g. Be grounded in a gathered community for ongoing diaconal formation;
 - h. Share knowledge of the ELCA and its wider ministry of the gospel and advocate for the work of all expressions of this church; and
 - i. Identify and encourage qualified persons to prepare for ministry of the gospel.
- *C9.24.** The specific duties of the deacon, compensation, and other matters pertaining to the service of the deacon shall be included in a letter of call, which shall be attested by the bishop of the synod.
- *C9.25.** The provisions for termination of the mutual relationship between a minister of Word and Service and a congregation shall be as follows:
- a. The call of a congregation, when accepted by a deacon, shall constitute a continuing mutual relationship and commitment, which shall be terminated only by death or, following consultation with the synodical bishop, for the following reasons:
 - 1) mutual agreement to terminate the call or the completion of a call for a specific term;
 - 2) resignation of the deacon, which shall become effective, unless otherwise agreed, no later than 30 days after the date on which it was submitted;
 - 3) inability to conduct the ministry of Word and Service effectively in this congregation in view of local conditions;
 - 4) physical disability or mental incapacity of the deacon;
 - 5) suspension of the deacon through discipline for more than three months;
 - 6) resignation or removal of the deacon from the roster of Ministers of Word and Service of this church;
 - 7) termination of the relationship between this church and this congregation;
 - 8) dissolution of this congregation or the termination of a parish arrangement; or
 - 9) suspension of this congregation through discipline for more than six months.
 - b. When allegations of physical disability or mental incapacity of the deacon under paragraph a.4) above, or ineffective conduct of the office of minister of Word and Service under paragraph a.3) above, have come to the attention of the bishop of this synod,
 - 1) the bishop in his or her sole discretion may investigate such conditions personally together with a committee of two rostered ministers and one layperson, or
 - 2) when such allegations have been brought to the synod's attention by an official recital of allegations by the Congregation Council or by a petition signed by at least one-third of the voting members of this congregation, the bishop personally shall investigate such conditions together with a committee of two rostered ministers and one layperson.
 - c. In case of alleged physical disability or mental incapacity under paragraph a.4) above, the bishop's committee shall obtain and document competent medical opinion concerning the deacon's condition. When a disability or incapacity is evident to the committee, the bishop of this synod may declare the position vacant. When the position is declared vacant, the Synod Council shall list the deacon on the roster of Ministers of Word and Service as disabled. Upon removal of the disability and the restoration of the deacon to health, the bishop shall take steps to enable the deacon to resume the ministry, either in the congregation last served or in another appropriate call.
 - d. In the case of alleged local difficulties that imperil the effective functioning of this congregation under paragraph a.3) above, the bishop's committee shall endeavor to hear from all concerned persons, after which the bishop together with the committee shall present their recommendations first to the deacon and then to this congregation. The recommendations of the bishop's committee must address whether the deacon's call should come to an end and, if so, may suggest appropriate severance arrangements. The committee may also propose other actions that should be undertaken by this congregation and by the deacon, if appropriate. If the deacon and congregation agree to carry out such recommendations, no further action need be taken by the synod.

- e. If either party fails to assent to the recommendations of the bishop's committee concerning the deacon's call, this congregation may dismiss the deacon only at a legally called meeting after consultation with the bishop, either (a) by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting where the bishop and the committee did not recommend termination of the call, or (b) by a majority vote of the voting members present and voting where the bishop and the committee recommended termination of the call.
- f. If, in the course of proceedings described in paragraph c. or paragraph d. above, the bishop's committee concludes that there may be grounds for discipline, the committee shall make recommendations concerning disciplinary action in accordance with the provisions of this church's constitution, bylaws, and continuing resolutions.
- *C9.26.** The deacon shall make satisfactory settlement of all financial obligations to a former congregation before:
 - a. installation in another field of labor, or
 - b. the issuance of a certificate of dismissal or transfer.
- *C9.27.** When a deacon is called to serve in company with another rostered minister or other rostered ministers, the privileges and responsibilities of each rostered minister shall be specified in documents to accompany the call and to be drafted in consultation involving the rostered ministers, the Congregation Council, and the bishop of the synod. As occasion requires, the documents may be revised through a similar consultation.
- *C9.28.** With the approval of the bishop of the synod, this congregation may depart from *C9.25.a. and call a deacon for a specific term. Details of such calls shall be in writing setting forth the purpose and conditions involved. Prior to the completion of a term, the bishop or a designated representative of the bishop shall meet with the deacon and representatives of this congregation for a review of the call. Such a call may also be terminated before its expiration in accordance with the provisions of *C9.25.a.
- *C9.29.** The deacon shall become a member of this congregation upon receipt and acceptance of the letter of call. In a parish of multiple congregations, the deacon shall hold membership in one of the congregations.
- *C9.31.** The deacon(s) shall submit a report of his or her ministry to the bishop of the synod at least 90 days prior to each regular meeting of the Synod Assembly.
- C10.02.** A special Congregation Meeting may be called by the [senior] pastor, the Congregation Council, or the president of this congregation, and shall be called by the president of the congregation upon the written request of _____ [number][percent] of the voting members. The president of the Congregation Council shall call a special meeting upon request of the synodical bishop. The call for each special meeting shall specify the purpose for which it is to be held, and no other business shall be transacted.
- C10.04.** _____ percent of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- C12.04.** The Congregation Council shall have general oversight of the life and activities of this congregation, and in particular its worship life, to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The duties of the Congregation Council shall include the following:
 - ...
 - d. To maintain supportive relationships with the ~~pastor~~ rostered minister(s) and staff and help them annually to evaluate the fulfillment of their calling or employment.
 - ...
- C12.12.** A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of a majority of the members of the Congregation Council, including the [senior] pastor or interim pastor, except when the [senior] pastor or interim pastor requests or consents to be absent and has given prior approval to the agenda for a particular regular or special meeting, which shall be the only business considered at that meeting.

Chronic or repeated absence of the [senior] pastor or interim pastor who has refused approval of the agenda of a subsequent regular or special meeting shall not preclude action by the Congregation Council, following consultation with the synodical bishop.

C13.04. A **Mutual Ministry Committee[s]** (in the absence of a mutual ministry committee, the duties shall be fulfilled by the executive committee) shall be appointed jointly by the president [vice president¹] and the ~~pastor~~ **rostered minister**. Term of office shall be two years, with three members to be appointed each successive year.

***C15.02.** The process for discipline of a member of the congregation shall be governed as prescribed by the chapter on discipline in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*. If the counseling, censure, and admonitions pursuant to *C15.01. do not result in repentance and amendment of life, charges against the accused member(s) that are specific and in writing may be prepared by the Congregation Council, signed, and submitted to the vice president of the synod. The vice president shall select from the synod's Consultation Committee a panel of five members (three lay persons and two **clergy ministers of Word and Sacrament**). A copy of the written charges shall be provided to the consultation panel and the accused member(s). The consultation panel, after requesting a written reply to the charges from the accused member(s), shall consider the matter and seek a resolution by means of investigation, consultation, mediation, or whatever other means may seem appropriate. The panel's efforts to reach a mutually agreeable resolution shall continue for no more than 45 days after the matter is submitted to it.

Chapter 16.

BYLAWS

~~***C16.01.** This congregation may adopt bylaws. No bylaw may conflict with this constitution.~~

~~***C16.02.** Bylaws may be adopted or amended at any legally called meeting of this congregation with a quorum present by a majority vote of those voting members present and voting.~~

~~***C16.03.** Changes to the bylaws may be proposed by any voting member, provided that such additions or amendments be submitted in writing to the Congregation Council at least 60 days before a regular or special Congregation Meeting called for that purpose. The Congregation Council shall notify the congregation's members of the proposal with the council's recommendations at least 30 days in advance of the Congregation Meeting. Notification may take place by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law.~~

~~***C16.04.** Approved changes to the bylaws shall be sent by the secretary of this congregation to the synod.~~

Chapter 17.

AMENDMENTS

***C176.01.** Unless provision ***C176.04.** is applicable, those sections of this constitution that are not required, in accord with the *Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, may be amended in the following manner. Amendments may be proposed by at least _____ voting members or by the Congregation Council. Proposals must be filed in writing with the Congregation Council 60 days before formal consideration by this congregation at a regular or special Congregation Meeting called for that purpose. The Congregation Council shall notify the congregation's members of the proposal together with the council's recommendations at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. Notification may take place by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law.

***C176.02.** An amendment to this constitution, proposed under ***C176.01.**, shall:

- be approved at a legally called Congregation Meeting according to this constitution by a majority vote of those **voting members** present and voting;
- be ratified without change at the next annual meeting by a two-thirds **majority** vote of those **voting members** present and voting; and
- have the effective date included in the resolution¹ and noted in the constitution.

***C176.03.** Any amendments to this constitution that result from the processes provided in ***C176.01.** and ***C176.02.** shall be sent by the secretary of this congregation to the synod. The synod shall notify the

congregation of its decision to approve or disapprove the proposed changes; the changes shall go into effect upon notification that the synod has approved them.

- *C176.04.** This constitution may be amended to bring any section into conformity with a section or sections, either required or not required, of the *Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* as most recently amended by the Churchwide Assembly. Such amendments may be approved by a simple majority vote of those voting members present and voting at any legally called meeting of the congregation without presentation at a prior meeting of the congregation, provided that the Congregation Council has submitted by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law, notice to the congregation of such an amendment or amendments, together with the council's recommendations, at least 30 days prior to the meeting. Upon the request of at least two (2) voting members of the congregation, the Congregation Council shall submit such notice. Following the adoption of an amendment, the secretary of the congregation shall submit a copy thereof to the synod. Such provisions shall become effective immediately following a vote of approval.

Chapter 17.

BYLAWS

- *C17.01.** This congregation may adopt bylaws. No bylaw may conflict with this constitution.
- *C17.02.** Bylaws may be adopted or amended at any legally called meeting of this congregation with a quorum present by a majority two-thirds vote of those voting members present and voting.
- *C17.03.** Changes to the bylaws may be proposed by any voting member, provided that such additions or amendments be submitted in writing to the Congregation Council at least 60 days before a regular or special Congregation Meeting called for that purpose. The Congregation Council shall notify this congregation's members of the proposal with the council's recommendations at least 30 days in advance of the Congregation Meeting. Notification may take place by mail or electronic means, as permitted by state law.
- *C17.04.** Approved changes to the bylaws shall be sent by the secretary of this congregation to the synod.

Chapter 20.

PARISH AUTHORIZATION

[* Required provisions when congregation is part of a parish]

- *C20.01.** This congregation may unite in partnership with one or more other congregations recognized by the synod named in *C6.01. to form a parish. Except as provided in *C20.02. and *C20.03., a written agreement, developed in consultation with the synod and approved by the voting members of each congregation participating in the parish, shall specify the powers and responsibilities that have been delegated to a Parish Council.
- *C20.02.** Whenever a letter of call is being recommended for extension to an ordained minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or a candidate for the roster of ordained ministers who has been recommended to the congregation by the synodical bishop to serve the congregations of a parish, such letter of call shall be first approved by a two-thirds vote at congregational meetings of each of the congregations forming the parish. If any congregation of the parish should fail to approve extending this call, the other congregation(s) in the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish arrangement.
- *C20.03.** Any one of the congregations of a parish may terminate the call of a pastor as provided in ¶S14.13.d. of the synodical constitution of the synod named in *C6.01. In such case, the other congregation(s) in the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish arrangement.
- *C20.04.** Whenever a parish arrangement is terminated, the call of any rostered person serving that parish is terminated. Should any congregation that formerly was part of the parish arrangement desire to issue a new call to that rostered person, it may do so in accordance with the call process of this church.
- *C20.01.** This congregation may unite in partnership with one or more other congregations recognized by the synod named in *C6.01. to form a parish. Except as provided in *C20.02. and *C20.03., a written

agreement, developed in consultation with the synod and approved by the voting members of each congregation participating in the parish, shall specify the powers and responsibilities that have been delegated to the Parish Council. The Parish Agreement shall identify which congregation of the parish issues calls on behalf of the member congregations or shall establish a process for identifying which congregation issues calls on behalf of the member congregations.

- *C20.02.** One congregation of a parish shall issue a call on behalf of the member congregations to a minister of Word and Sacrament or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Sacrament who has been recommended by the synodical bishop to serve the congregations of the parish. Such a call shall be approved prior to issuance by a two-thirds vote at a congregational meeting of each congregation forming the parish. If any congregation of the parish should fail to approve the call, the other congregations of the parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- *C20.03.** One congregation of a parish may issue a call on behalf of the member congregations to a minister of Word and Service or a candidate for the roster of Ministers of Word and Service who has been recommended by the synodical bishop to serve the congregations of the parish. Such a call shall be approved prior to issuance by a two-thirds vote at a congregational meeting of each congregation forming the parish. If any congregation of the parish should fail to approve the call, the other congregations of the parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- *C20.04.** Any one of the congregations of the parish may terminate their relationship with the pastor as provided in †S14.18.d. of the synodical constitution of the synod named in *C6.01. In such case, the other congregation(s) of the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- *C20.05.** Any one of the congregations of the parish may terminate their relationship with a minister of Word and Service as provided in †S14.43.d. of the synodical constitution of the synod named in *C6.01. In such case, the other congregation(s) of the same parish shall have the right to terminate the parish agreement.
- *C20.06.** Whenever a parish agreement is terminated, the call of any rostered minister serving that parish is terminated. Should any congregation that was formerly part of the parish agreement desire to issue a new call to that rostered minister, it may do so in accordance with the call process of this church.

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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!



OFFICE CLOSED



MONDAY, MAY 29TH



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

214 East Pioneer

Puyallup, WA 98372