

From Pastor's Desk...

## FINDING OURSELVES IN THE STORY OF RACE

"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."- Galatians 6:2

"A spacious and undefended heart finds room for everything you are and carves enough space for everyone else." - Father Gregory Boyles

This year, our weekly congregation-wide devotional study and conversation will center on Debby Irving's *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*. Bishop Gene Robinson calls the book "a personal and moving adventure, and... a compelling invitation to learn." Although Irving's memoir does not consist of explicitly Christian material, her reflections speak to a fundamentally spiritual matter. Race and relationship are at the heart of what it means to be a person of Christian faith in the United States.

"I'm not racist," you may be thinking, "so what do I have to gain from a year-long study of a book about race?" Irving's voyage of self-discovery, thoroughly detailed, explores the complexities of race and racism in our country's history as well as our own individual socialization. Her reflections are thought-provoking, often challenging, and ultimately inspiring. **Since racism is a lasting wound in our country, it is imperative that earnest people make strides toward healing. It's a matter of faith and love**. My prayer is that Irving's book will invite us into deeper selfreflection and solidarity with our neighbors on the margins.

So, will you make a commitment to read, reflect, and participate?

Beginning the week of <u>September 17<sup>th</sup></u>, we will read one short chapter per week. A variety of members of Peace will lead discussion groups about the reading throughout the year, giving us an opportunity to process our thoughts and encourage each other. Please keep your eyes open for the dates and times of those discussions. Otherwise, the author asks helpful questions at the end of each chapter, so you can engage the reading individually or with a friend or two. Please reach out to me if you need help getting your hands on a copy of the book.

"No one alive today created this mess, but everyone alive today has the power to work on undoing it. Four hundred years since its inception, American racism is all twisted up in our cultural fabric. But there's a loophole: people are not born racist. Racism is taught, and racism is learned. Understanding how and why our beliefs developed along racial lines holds the promise

of healing, liberation, and the unleashing of America's vast human potential." - Waking Up White, p.xiii

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#### Personnel Committee update – submitted by Jenn Doerr:

The Personnel Committee just finished annual reviews for Sara and Pastor Nate. We are blessed to have people so dedicated to the roles they are serving! Pastor Nate and Sara bring so many strengths to their positions and they both set goals for continuing to grow. Next up, we will take on the long overdue process of completing reviews for our musicians.

#### Who is Personnel and what do we do?

- We schedule evaluations, gather input, attend reviews, and provide recommendations to Council.
- Members are Council Vice President Carole Lee, Jenn Doerr, and Leigh Ann Mahaffie. Pastor Nate is involved when appropriate.
- Anyone is welcome to share feedback with us at any time. We love hearing positive stories for encouragement. Those with concerns should talk to the individual involved before coming to Personnel.

#### How do evaluations work?

- The goal of the process is to highlight employee strengths, set goals for future growth, and provide job support.
- Employees fill out a self-evaluation to encourage personal reflection.
- When applicable, stakeholders are asked to provide input.
- For the pastor's review, representatives from committees/groups such as Music & Worship, Finance, Property, Outreach, WELCA, Youth & Education, Council President, Treasurer, and congregational members at large provide input. Different people respond each year.
- The evaluation process continues to evolve as we learn and refine.

#### How can the congregation help us support Pastor Nate and Sara?

- Sunday morning is a time of worship first and foremost. While Sunday is a work day for Pastor Nate, his thinking is focused on facilitating service which is what we want from our pastor! Please use of-fice hours and/or email as much as possible to avoid expecting Pastor Nate to remember "by the ways" so we can all focus on worship.
- Sara, our office manager, does NOT have office hours on Sunday. Please do not expect her to conduct business if she comes to worship. Instead, use the time to get to know her on a personal basis and help her boys and husband to feel like a welcome part of the church family. Contact her during her office hours if you need help with something.
- People can't be expected to know what they haven't been told. Please remember to keep Sara and Pastor Nate in the loop, especially regarding committee meetings and events. (This would be a great time to use that email/office hours mentioned above!)



Wednesday, October 4th

12:00 p.m.

Join us for fellowship and food!



Ladies Aid

September 13th at 9:30 a.m.

Study:	Apostles' Creed
Session1 :	I Believe In God

Text: Phil. 2: 1 & 2

Study Leader: Kathy Simpson

Hostess: Evelyn Swenson



## HYMN OF THE MONTH

#726 Light Dawns on a Weary World



This WELCA sponsored event is scheduled for Sunday, October 29th in-between services

It will include: a brunch, silent auction, book sale and the Jar Project.

Items for the auction are needed.

Questions - Nancy Armstrong, JoAnn Robinson or Barb King

## A Note from the Oilters

Thank you to all those who have contributed sheets for our quilt backings. Flat sheets in good condition are always welcome, and donations of cotton material also!

Personnel Committee is starting a Sunshine Fund to show appreciation to all of our wonderful employees and their dedication to service. Our goal is to provide a tangible thank you once a year to those on Peace's payroll. You may contribute money, gift cards, or some other type of gift to Jenn Doerr or Leigh Ann Mahaffie. We also encourage members of the congregation to write a note, leave a small gift, or do something kind for those who work for Peace. A little encouragement and kindness goes a long way!

## A Big Thank You from the Outreach Ministry Team!

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped us host our families during August. Thank you to those who brought in food, those who helped cook and serve dinners, those that spent the evening and played with some of our little ones, those that moved furniture, those that moved cots in, those that cleaned up, and those that slept over. We had a great week getting to know our guests and spending time with them. And we could not have provided such a welcoming place to stay without all of the amazing help we received from the congregation!





Begins September 10th

(in-between services)

# THANK YOU

I want to thank those that help me make hats for women with cancer. Also, I would like to thank Len for all the caps be donated for men who have cancer.

Donna Richardson

### Reminder:

We WILL GO BACK to two services starting sunday, september 10th 8:15 AM & 10:45 AM



# 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, SEPTEMBER 2ND - 8:30 A.M.



This August I had a chance to see what the face of homelessness looks like. I've seen some of those faces before around town. I have ascribed my own prejudices to those faces without knowing the people or their circumstances.

While we were hosts to the families in transition with Family Housing Network, I got a closer, personal look at what homelessness looks like. I found it looks like a young teenage boy who is part of a Jr. ROTC program, a young girl in a school gifted program, a father struggling to support his family as a cook at a well-known Tacoma restaurant, a mother who is a military veteran, a young adult released from military service with a bad knee who hopes to return to the service after treatment on her knee, a dedicated young basketball player, a University of Washington student majoring in psychology, a fast food worker who works the graveyard shift, 3 sweet, energetic preschoolers, and a precious 2 month old baby.

I would encourage everyone to take the opportunity to get personally involved with FHN when we offer temporary housing again. It was a great experience and helped me realize that face of homelessness doesn't always look that different from the faces at Peace.

--submitted by Charlene Cook



## Lutheran World Relief Care Kits Project!

This fall we will be supporting Lutheran World Relief Project Promise by building Kits of Care.

We will begin our project by collecting the listed items for the personal care kits. We will have a service project (keep an eye out for the date!) and learn a little bit about where the kits go and who we are helping, followed by sorting our donations and assembling the personal care kits.

The following items are need for our personal care kits project:

- Light weight, dark colored bath towels (between 20" x 40" and 27" x 52" in size)
- Bath Size bars of soap (8 to 9 oz size)
- Adult Size Toothbrushes (multipacks acceptable)
- Sturdy Combs
- Metal Nail Clippers (with or without a nail file)

All items must meet the specifications on the list. We cannot make substitutions. No donations with religious symbols or messages, or decorated with the U.S. flag or any type of patriotic or military symbols are accepted. All items must be new.

#### The Reconciling in Christ Program

The Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Program is for congregations, synods, colleges, seminaries, and other Lutheran organizations. Lutheran communities that publicly welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people are accepted onto the Reconciling in Christ Roster which now exceeds 600 settings. This fall Peace Lutheran Church will welcome Pastor Rick Pribbernow of Open Door Ministries to lead a series of Adult Education classes exploring what it would mean for Peace to become an RIC congregation. The first class, Gay 101, will be held between services on October 1st. You can read more about this program on reconcilingworks.org, or contact one of your committee members for information.

(Becca Johnstone, Bethany Sutton, Mary Boben, Pippa Simpson-Younger, Diane Dean, Jenny Moore)



Starting September 17th, a new congregationwide devotional study and conversation begins. Debby Irving's *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race.* 











Sunday, September 3 Holy Ground Sunday - Barefoot optional!

Take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground. Exodus 3:5



Rhonda Madison	1	Janet Baurichter	12	Jay Fellenstein	23
Ryan Culpepper	2	Paula Andrews	13	Jim Johnson	23
Gary Pierson	2	Larry Glaser	14	Tony Marino	24
Kristen Albenesius	5	Wayne Glaser	16	David McIntyre	24
Zane Lee	5	Judy Lange	18	Dennis Steinberg	24
Max Parker	6	Colleen Thrift	18	Will Boone	25
Henry Johnstone	8	Brendan Unruh	19	Beth Grothaus	25
Henry McMahon	8	Jacob Williams	21	Barb Hamry	28
Konnor Alfano	10	Darlene Hale	22	Crystal Cunningham	29
John Mahaffie	10	Pam Brehon	23	Carole Lee	29

BAPTISM Anniversaries

Evelyn Swenson	Barbara Lane	Ryan Culpepper	Lucas Albenesius
Darlene Sandefur	Randall Tron	Zane Lee	Layla Runkel
Tommasina Brozick	Scott Gerard	Madeline Pilger	Jakob McMahon
Rhonda Madison	Becca Hanson	Jayla Albenesius	William Faria
Dale Hoogakker	Jacob Woodbury	Emma Minor	

		Septe	mber	2047		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					I	<b>2</b> 8:30 - Men's Breakfast 2:00 - Jean Hirt Memorial
£	4	<b>δ</b> 10:00 - Bible Study	6	2	8 Office Closed	Q
Holy Ground Sunday 9:30 - Worship (CS)	LABOR	12:00 - PPH @ FM Starbucks 2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 3:00 - PC Juv. Court 5:30 - Finance 6:30 - Executive 7:00 - Boy Scouts / 4H	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 5:30 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	9:30 - Quilting 2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 7:00 - A.A. Meeting 7:00 - Rowland & Assoc.	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club	4:00 - Western States Youth Gathering Reunion
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			Puyallup Schools Fair Day			
Sunday School Begins Backpack Blessing 8:15 - Worship (Jill) 10:45 - Worship (CS)	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	10:00 - Bible Study 2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 3:00 - PC Juv. Court 7:00 - Boy Scouts	9:30 - Ladies Aid 12:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 6:00 - Potluck 7:00 - Choir	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club	
17	18	61	20	21	22	23
8:15 - Worship (CS) 10:45 - Worship (Jill) 11:45 - Outreach	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	10:00 - Bible Study 12:00 - PPH @ Thr3e 2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 3:00 - PC Juv. Court 7:00 - Boy Scouts	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 5:30 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	9:30 - Quilting 2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:15 - Worship (Jill) 10:45 - Worship (CS)	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones 5:45 - Youth "CONNECT"	10:00 - Bible Study 2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 3:00 - PC Juv. Court 7:00 - Boy Scouts	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 7:00 - Choir	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	2:30 - Mt. View Kids Club	

7th - 10th Grade Youth

## Fall Confirmation Retreat



Carnation, WA.

October 6 - 7, 2017

Cost: \$65.00

Please sign up and pay by Sunday,

#### September 24th.

#### Friends are welcome!!!









Western States Youth Gathering Reunion

Saturday, September 9

4:00 p.m.

See Bill for details

## Spooner Farms Corn Maze and Pumpkin Patch

Sunday, October 22nd



Leave Peace at 11:00 a.m. Return at 1:30 p.m. Cost: \$10.00

(includes lunch)

Please sign up on the youth board by Sunday, October 15th.

## WEDNESDAY POTLUCK PICNICS

Over the summer we had four potluck picnics. Total attendance 101.

Each Wednesday one or more people provided the protein, we were served hot dogs, hamburger, pulled pork and ham. Others attending brought salads & deserts. Thank you to all who fed us!

Activities: supplemental food packs for Communities in Schools, bocce ball, tag, prayer around the cross & board games.

We shared one Wednesday with guests from Family Housing Network, a ministry to families experiencing temporary homelessness.

Thanks to our cooks. Dennis Steinberg, Karen Ekse, Outreach Committee, Nancy Jo.

And to our clean up people:

Dishes washers Jill and Andy Burch, Dave Cook, Dave Ekse, Nancy Jo Armstrong.

Special thanks to Andy & Jill - they not only did dish duty twice, but one of those times was the hottest day of the year and the dishwasher wasn't working.

Wednesday night pot lucks will continue this fall, second Wednesday at 6p.m.

Submitted by Virginia Spaulding





Education committee notes:

August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

Name Change:

Sunday School – "The Pathfinders"

Thanks to Nate Mace for his suggestion that we begin calling Sunday School, The Pathfinders.

Teachers:

Preschool/Kindergarten: Charlene Cook

First & Second Grades: Andrea Bennett & Beth Kaes

Third - Sixth Grade: Deena Jamison & Denise Mace

#### Goals:

To explore the word, the sacraments, Sunday Worship Assistants, Community Service, and to strengthen relationships with one another.

We look forward to parent involvement for some of the activities.

Next committee meeting late September.



Things you may not know about the Reformation - shared from the Living Lutheran Magazine.



- 1. The Luther Rose (or Luther Seal, shown above) was created at the request of printers to have a personal symbol representing the reformer's faith that could serve as a mark indicating something was an authorized publication of Luther's. It became widely recognized as the symbol for Lutheranism, and still is today.
- 2. Education was set on a far-reaching course of reforming thanks in part to Luther's advocacy and ideas that a proper, well-organized and broad education for all children not just those of the wealthy elite would benefit the state as well as the church.
- The legacy of Luther's ideas about education can be seen today in the Lutheran church's concern for Christian education, early childhood education and schools, colleges and universities, lay schools for ministry and seminaries.
- 4. With the invention of the printing press and introduction of pamphlets and booklets to the public, women in the 16th century found increasing access to information they had been previously restricted from reading, studying, discussing or even listening to in public settings.

More information to follow in the next Clarion!

Submitted by Nancy Jo Armstrong

#### ADULT EDUCATION

*Discover Islam: Documentary Films* and Discussion September 3 - Islam: A Faith Hijacked Whatever it is you carry to school or work on a



regular basis, bring in to church on Sunday, September 10th. We will bless the things we use for learning and work to God's glory!



I attended this triennial with a two part agenda. I wanted to go and take place to see what it was all about. The second reason is that is where I grew up and would stay to visit with family and friends. Never having attended a WELCA Triennial, I was a newbie. I was sent opportunities prior to going to do some volunteer work. I gladly took them on. I sang in the Gathering choir, with rehearsals daily. I also signed up to help at workshops. They had suggested we select ones we also have liked to attend. I was assigned to four workshops where I was given a gold sash that said Volunteer and a scanner. As each person arrived at the workshops I scanned their badges. At the end of the day all I had to do was turn in the scanner and sash and repeat the next day,

We had 2 plenaries each day with wonderful speakers. These opened my eyes. I had felt the need to do more at Peace and found there is a never-ending supply of God's work. The list of things we are not participating in is long. There is so much work God has us that listening to them, my first thought was we at Peace need to do more. WRONG!

We have taken on programs that were barely getting off the ground. There I remembered each one of us given gifts by the Holy Spirit to be in service for the Lord. We do not have to do everything but I believe we need to do what we will be doing well. I felt a sense of relief and it lifted my guilt.

I felt as our congregation we were validated. We are doing so much more than other congregations. This is said with humility. Many people asked about our attendance level and were surprised we were not a mega church. We are doing so much with seemingly few resources.

Praise God for our many gifts from the Holy Spirit, the far seeing people with in our congregation who can see the need and are motivating all of us into service as we are able.

One thing we need to remember is living at such a fast and frantic pace, we need to practice some simple acts of sacred living. Take a break to listen to God, take a deep breath and remember we are in this together, not just our congregation and neighbors but all of God's creation.

In God's Peace,

Diane Dean



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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!





In observation of Labor Day Our offices will be closed Monday, September 4, 2017

Washington

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#### PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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