

# the Clarion

SEPTEMBER  
2019



You Will Be Honored Here.





## Holy Baptism: The Great Bath of the Church

*"As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise." -Galatians 3:27-29*

*"In Holy Baptism the Triune God delivers us from the forces of evil, puts our sinful self to death, gives us a new birth, adopts us as children, and makes us members of the body of Christ, the Church. Holy Baptism is received by faith alone.... It is done once, yet it is for all of our life." -The Use of the Means of Grace, 1997*

A pastor once told the story of new parents who came to his office to discuss baptism for their infant child. "We love being part of the church," they said. "We're just not sure we want to impose this on her. We'd rather wait and let her decide for herself if she wants to be baptized."

The pastor listened intently, all the while noticing that both parents and their child were decked out from head to toe in the crimson and gray of the Ohio State Buckeyes. He nodded his head, and said, "I understand your concern. By the way, do you intend to wait and let your child decide for herself which is her favorite college football team?"

Why Holy Baptism? Daniel Erlander enumerates the multiple reasons for this longstanding ritual, paraphrased here:

- 1) the need to surround a person with love and promises – God's, the faith community's, the family's;
- 2) in order to name a person God's child, and not just "mine" or "ours";
- 3) belonging in a community, a people who share a history, a way of life, and a hope for the future;
- 4) in order to celebrate God's forgiving and liberating power over a person's life;
- 5) in order to be shaped by a common story, namely the story of God's love revealed in Jesus Christ;
- 6) in order that a person bear the name "Christian," and experience the abundant life of dwelling in Christ.

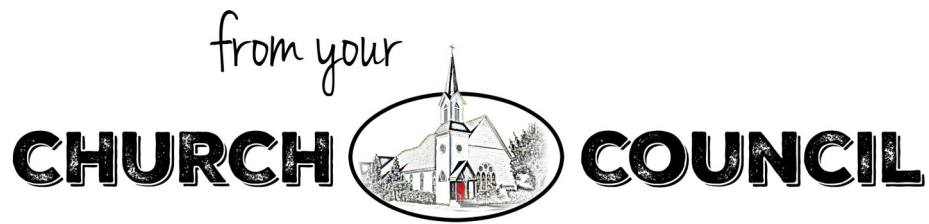
Baptism is a primary means of God's grace in the life of the baptized person, and the classic rite of entry into the great communion of faith. Baptism is also the "visible gospel" for the rest of us to witness and cherish, making our promise in turn to support and care for all who come to the font as fellow children of God and kindred in Christ. Our principal identity, our fundamental dignity, is that of baptized child of God in union with the baptized in every time and place. We are "clothed" with Christ, not in the sense that we "wear" our other identity markers – tribe, class, or gender – but that we might be one in our diversity, together in the promise that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ.

Are you interested in Holy Baptism for yourself or loved one? Please reach out to me to begin the conversation: [pastor@peacepuyallup.org](mailto:pastor@peacepuyallup.org) or 253.845.8819.

And, come explore the sacrament and the life of baptism with me at adult formation on the third and fourth Sundays of September (15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>).

Peace,

*Pastor Nate Sutton*



## UPDATES AND NEWS FROM YOUR CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

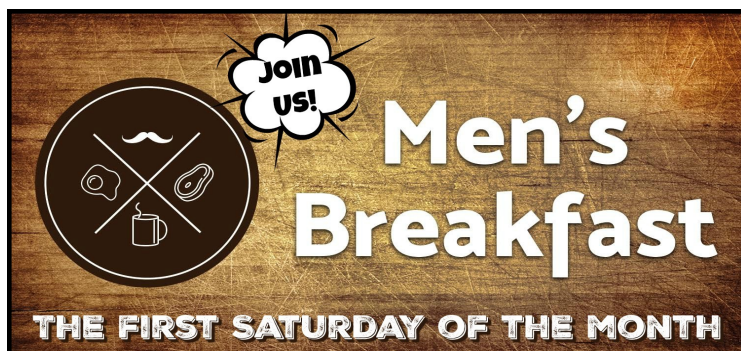
The council has had a busy year so far. Here are a few highlights from the work of the council.

The council established a Children, Youth, Family, and Intergenerational (CYFI) Ministry task force to take on discerning vision toward the future. If you read Pastor Nate's clarion article in August, attended the parent and family meeting with the task force to talk about the vision last spring or have had a task force member ask you to be a part of the vision moving forward, you are probably starting to see some new ideas forming for CYFI ministry this fall. We know that this new ministry will be a process, a work in progress so to speak, but we are excited about the possibilities for the new and bold ideas we will be experiencing together.

The council has been working on constitutional compliance. You will see some changes in our election process for officers of the council, whom also serve as your officers of the congregation. We will be forming a nominating committee in accordance with our constitution. This committee will secure at least one nomination for each officer position from the elected and continuing 2020 congregational council members. We are also developing audit procedures and working toward forming an audit team to comply with constitutional audit requirements.

The council is working on identifying, organizing, and reviewing current policy. We will be identifying all policies approved by council from January 2014 through the present. We have also established a task force that is currently working on developing policy regarding access to financial giving information. If you have any concerns or thought you would like to share with the task force on this topic, please talk with Paula Schultz.

Your council members serve as representatives of the congregation. If you have thoughts, questions or concerns, feel free to talk with one of your council members.



## ARMORY DINNER

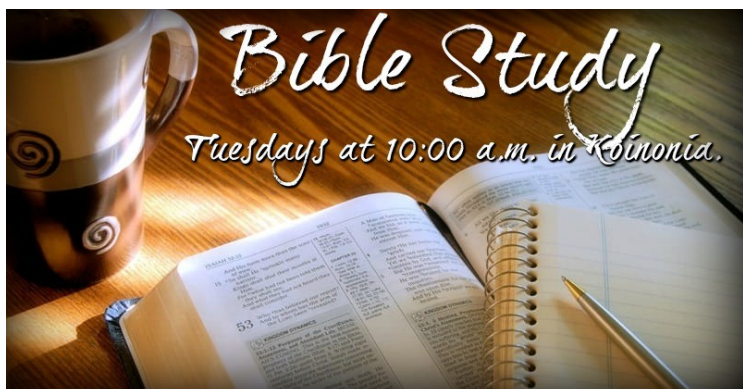
Thursday, September 12th

Sign ups will be out mid August in the gathering area.

## Calendar Reminders

If you have an event, or would like to use church building space, please remember to contact the office first. We will check the master calendar and let you know if your requested space and time is available. We will then write your event on the calendar. We ask that you please not write on the master calendar yourself, let Sara or Pastor Nate so that there isn't any confusion or mix ups. We thank you in advance!

Thank you all for your cooperation!



## Confirmation

- September 4th, 6:30 PM: Family meeting
- September 6th (evening)-Saturday, September 7th (morning): Lock-in
- October 2nd, 6:30-8:00 PM: Confirmation session
- November 3rd: Affirmation of Baptism (other confirmation students serve in worship)
- November 6, 6:30-8:00 PM: Confirmation session



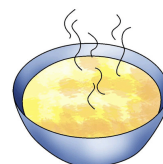
## Back to School Blessing

As we anticipate the beginning of a new school year, let's take an opportunity to acknowledge the things that come with us, that God might be present in and through the daily experiences they represent. Bring your backpack or bear to church on Sunday, September 8th for a blessing during the children's message!

## REMINDER:



We will be back to two services on Sunday, September 8th!  
8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.



We will be starting a new project in October. We will be making soup in our kitchen and making it available to you! How can you help? Talk to Barb (253.864.0998) or Nancy (253.845.0346). All the details will be coming soon!



## September: Holy Baptism

*As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise. -Galatians 3:27-29*

**Children, Youth, Family & Intergenerational Ministry** (CYFI for short) is a new approach to the 9:30 Education Hour here at Peace Lutheran (read more about this in the August 2019 Clarion). We hope you will join us and we look forward to growing ALL together in faith, hope, and love!

Here is a lineup of events and classes for the month of September:

- » **2nd Sunday** (September 8th): Intergenerational Service Project  
Do you know that Peace has an active Card Ministry? We will be making cards for the card ministry team to use throughout the year. If you have two hands and can use glue, then you will be able to participate!
- » **3rd Sunday** (September 15th): Peer Group Instruction  
Children and Youth: Meet in Koinonia to sing with Ms. Jill and Mr. Dennis and then go to Sunday School.  
Adults: Join Pastor Nate in Koinonia for adult formation.
- » **4th Sunday** (September 22nd): Peer Group Instruction  
Children and Youth: Meet in Koinonia to sing with Ms. Jill and Mr. Dennis and then go to Sunday School  
Adults: Join Pastor Nate in Koinonia for adult formation.
- » **5th Sunday** (September 29th): All-Church Brunch Potluck  
Join us for some good food and interesting conversation with your favorite church friends.  
Last Names A-C – Main Dish  
Last Names D-H – Fruit/Veggies/Salad  
Last Names I-M – Bread or Treat  
Last Names N-S – Main Dish  
Last Names T-Z – Juice/Milk/Beverages

If you have any questions about upcoming activities or CYFI in general, please reach out to the members of the CYFI Task Force - Pastor Nate, Karen Ekse, Becca Johnstone, or Ellen Aronson.





## **HAPPENINGS AROUND THE GROUNDS, GROUNDS IN MY COFFEE**

I sit, sipping my cup of Jo as the sun comes up on Sunday morning. Church is in a couple of hours, but my thoughts are on yesterday's work party. I am still processing what we accomplished, and I give thanks to God for the many helping hands that came to help. **New roof on the garage.** Done.

**Significant leak and roof repair on the rental house.** Done. **Hesed classroom carpet cleaned.**

Done. **Weeding, pruning, and landscape work.** Done. **Painting in the gathering space.** Done.

**Painting the exterior peak of the third st entrance.** Done. **Painting in the gathering space.** Done.

Over 20 volunteers came together as family yesterday. Each person brought the gifts given to them by God, to help maintain this place where we worship Him and do God's work. Some brought cookies, or donuts, or came in early to make the coffee. Some worked on the roof, some climbed ladders to dizzying heights and painted, and others weeded under the hot sun. Someone came out a day early to get a head start on stripping off the roof. The WELCA ladies not only provided pizza for lunch, but they thoughtfully provided drinks for us throughout the day. It is with deep gratitude that I thank each and every one of you that came out to help. I feel blessed to be a part of this community of Faith. Thank you.

I can feel the grit of coffee grounds as I finish my cup of coffee. Apparently I didn't get the coffee filter set quite right in the coffee maker. I am reminded that I didn't get everything quite right at the work party on the church grounds, either. But that's Ok. I know y'all have forgiven me.

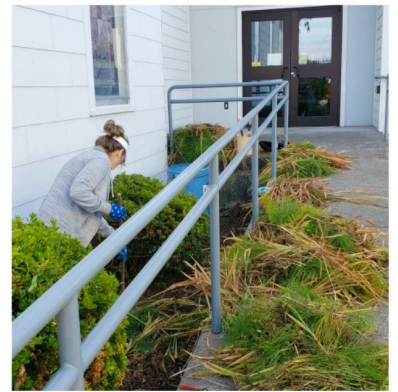
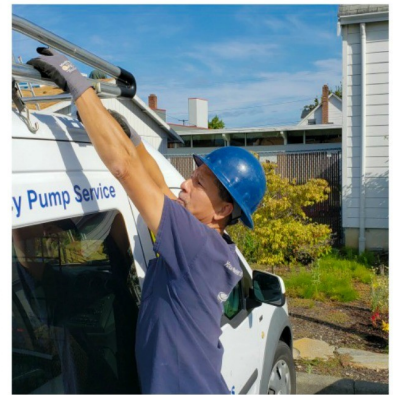
Men's breakfast is Saturday September 7. I believe I am doing a presentation of some sort.

Gentlemen, come join us! Prayer and breakfast at 8:30.

Dave Ekse

Property









## OUTREACH MINISTRY IS GETTING READY FOR FALL

We will be serving a spaghetti dinner to our friends at the armory in September.

**Armory Dinner**  
**Thursday September 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:45 pm to 6:30 pm**

Sign-ups are in the gathering area. Come join a few other members of Peace Lutheran for a time of fellowship and serving together.

Thank you to those who helped package food for the weekend food pack program at Spinning Elementary. We are ready to start up when school starts up. A big thanks to Thrivent for supporting our project. Our next weekend food project will be in October as a part of our 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month intergenerational service projects. Come and join us in this ministry to our local schools and our community.

**Weekend Food Packaging**  
**Sunday October 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:30am**

We have wrapped up our summer food program. Thanks to all who donated food and all who donated time to help pack boxes and distribute them.

Last Monday at our summer food program distribution a gal from one of our regular families arrived. She has four kids and most days she brings them all out of the car, over to talk with us and loads them all back up. This past week, she hopped out her car, hurries over, gathers her items, and then says “the kids really want to come talk to you, would you mind coming over to the car to say hi?” I am often reminded that community outreach is about more than “doing the work”. It is more than “handing out boxes of food”. It is as much about building relationships with those we cross paths with. Those conversations with her kids meant something to them and we might never know the impact we have on them towards the future, but we do know we had an impact beyond a box of food.





Wednesday, September 11th



12:00 - 1:00

Wednesday, September 25th

**THREE**

12:00 - 1:00



*Ladies Aid*

Women of the **ELCA** 

*Wednesday - September 11th*  
*10:00 a.m.*

Bible Study: "No Hard Feelings?"

Session One: The Angst of Anger

Theme Verses: Psalm 44, 51, 69, 137

Leader - Jan Barrett

Hostess - Barb Hamry

*Come & Join Us!*

## EVACUATION DRILL

We will have an Evacuation Drill on  
**Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**, at approximately 9:25  
AM.

At the signal, please move quickly and calmly to  
the nearest exit. Help people with mobility  
difficulties if you are able.

The Puyallup Police Department has designated  
the Locals Store parking lot (across 3<sup>rd</sup> St.) as our  
meeting location post-evacuation. Please use the  
crosswalk for the drill.

In the event of an actual evacuation, leave  
personal belongings behind.

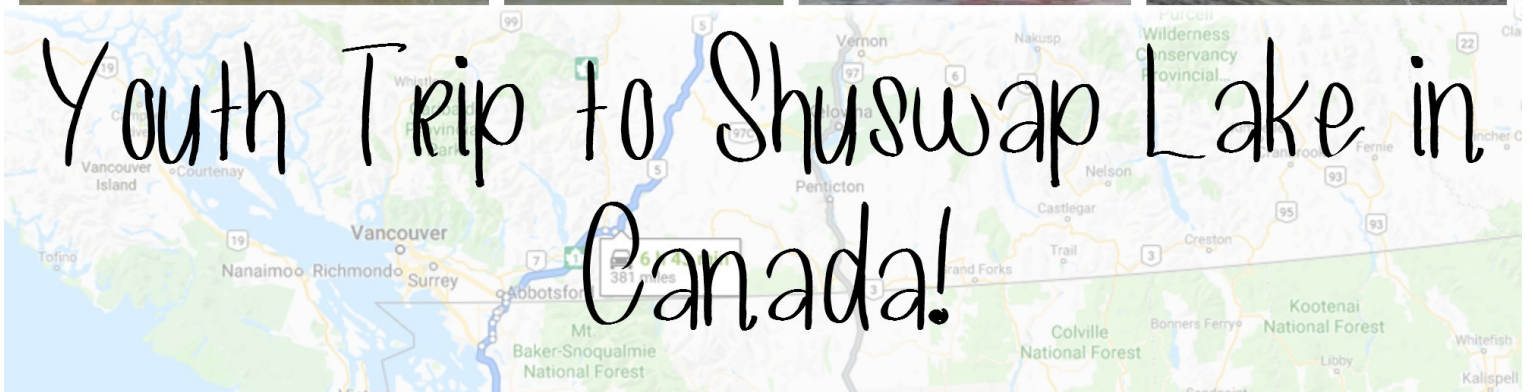
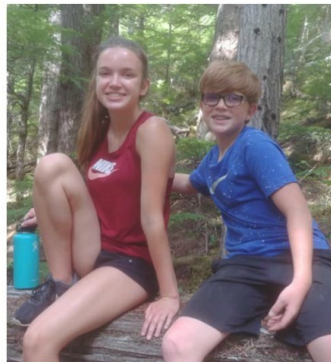
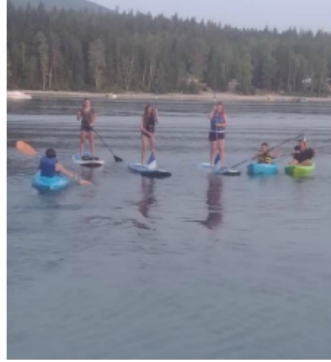
Parents, if your children are in a classroom with a  
teacher, do not retrieve them. All teachers and  
nursery attendants have been instructed to  
evacuate children in their care. They will bring your  
children to the designated meeting location to be  
reunited with you.

You may return to the building when the "all clear"  
has been given.

*For the purposes of the drill, please make your  
own determination as to the safety of your  
participation.*



# youth





## YOUTH PERMISSION SLIPS/ HEALTH FORMS

We know how much you all love paper-work...especially with school starting for all your kiddos! If your child will at any time participate in a church-sponsored event, we need a form on file for them. Check your inboxes in the upcoming weeks for an emailed copy of the forms. If we do not have your email on file or you would rather fill out the form at church, we will have copies available by the youth board or with Becky and Bill.

Email [youth@peacepuyallup.org](mailto:youth@peacepuyallup.org) if you have any questions or comments.



Hey You!  
Yes You!

You look like you want to teach middle school or high school during the 9:30am hour! If you are interested in teaching for the third and/or fourth Sunday of the month, please reach out to [youth@peacepuyallup.org](mailto:youth@peacepuyallup.org)! Don't worry, we will provide you with the resources on what to teach.

Whether for the middle schoolers or high schoolers, we would LOVE to have you!

CURRENT 9:30 OPENINGS FOR FALL 2019

### High School

Sunday, October 20th

Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

### Middle School

Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>

Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, November 24th

Save The Date

Youth Annual  
Dinner & Auction

11 | 9 | 19

more info to come!

Questions about youth activities?

Please contact:

Bill Haines or Becky VonWahlde at  
[youth@peacepuyallup.org](mailto:youth@peacepuyallup.org)



## CHURCH, DISCIPLESHIP, AND BEER

I lured them in with the promise of beer. (Saint and sinner, sinner and saint.). The idea was simple. Get a group of guys together, meet once a month, and talk about life, our struggles, and where the heck did God fit into all of this. We called ourselves The Guys in the Garage with God. The rules? 1: We always, well, mostly anyway, met in a garage. 2: We opened in prayer, and promised to pray for each other. 3: We used some sort of reading (bible, or a book) as a springboard to "start the conversation. 4: What was said in the garage, stayed in the garage. Those guys were there for me during the struggles of raising kids and being a husband as a Christian. We were there for each other when we struggled in our faith. We were there for each other as we celebrated each other's victories and blessings. We were, in short, a small group.

What makes meeting as a small group different than just, say, getting together for dinner?, The idea is to create a safe place where around 3-12 people gather in God's Grace to be renewed, healed, and then sent out into the world. Some small groups focus on study or deepening the Faith. This could look like Tuesday bible study, or maybe reading things like "Falling Upward" by Richard Rohr. Some small groups focus more on Fellowship. Maybe a bit like Men's breakfast, or Thursday coffee. They might focus on mission. Think quilters. They might focus on support. Some churches have small groups to help with grief, divorce, or raising kids. (Think Adults with Youngish Children). They might meet at church, or over coffee, or at a dinner party.

So while each small group can look really different, the idea is to create a safe, confidential place where you could gather with fellow Christians in fellowship to explore your faith in some way. They all generally include prayer, some sort of devotional (it could be simple and short) and confidential conversation.

As I look back, I realize that, for me, "The Guys in the Garage with God" left me with a deeper faith and a stronger desire to try to become the disciple and Christian I believe God calls me to be. So, if there is interest, I'd like to explore starting a few more small groups here at Peace Lutheran Church. I don't know that we need to be meeting in garages, but I like the idea of a place where I can think about my faith and explore what it is God is calling me to do. I hope to offer more information sometime in the next month or so. Is this something you might be interested in? What type of small groups would you like to see here? If you currently facilitate or lead a small group, what resources and support do you wish you had? Let's chat during fellowship, or drop me a line at [daveekse@gmail.com](mailto:daveekse@gmail.com).

Your Brother In Christ ~ Dave Ekse






## happy birthday

Gary Pierson	2	Darlene Hale	22
Ryan Culpepper	2	Liam Osborne	22
Kristen Albenesius	5	Tony Marino	24
Zane Lee	5	Dennis Steinberg	24
Henry Johnstone	8	Will Boone	25
John Mahaffie	10	Emilie Crochet	26
Paula Andrews	13	Becky Aske	28
Wayne Glaser	16	Barb Hamry	28
Colleen Thrift	18	Crystal Cunningham	29
Judy Lange	18	Carole Lee	29
Matthew Glidewell	22		

## happy baptismal anniversary

Jayla Albenesius	Darlene Sandefur
Jacob Woodbury	Evelyn Swenson
Emma Minor	Ryan Culpepper
Lucas Albenesius	Zane Lee

# September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30 - Worship (Joan) 6:00 - O.A.	<b>2</b>  OFFICE CLOSED	<b>3</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 5:30 - Finance Committee 6:30 - Executive Committee 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>4</b> 5:30 - Quilting 6:30 - Conf. Meeting 7:00 - Choir	<b>5</b> 9:30 - Quilting 10:30 - Circle of Welcome 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>6</b> 7:00 - Conf. Lock-In	<b>7</b> 8:30 - Men's Breakfast
<b>8</b> 8:15 - Worship (Joan) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Sunday School 10:45 - Worship (CS) 6:00 - O.A.	<b>9</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	<b>10</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 6:30 - Council 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>11</b> 10:00 - Ladies Aid 12:00 - PPH @ Panera 7:00 - Choir	<b>12</b> 4:30 - Outreach Kitchen 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:15 - Worship (CS) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Sunday School 10:45 - Worship (Jill) 6:00 - O.A.	<b>16</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	<b>17</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>18</b> 5:30 - Quilting 7:00 - Choir	<b>19</b> 9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:15 - Worship (Jill) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Sunday School 10:45 - Worship (CS) 12:00 - Youth CONNECT 6:00 - O.A.	<b>23</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	<b>24</b> 10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<b>25</b> 12:00 - PPH @ Thr3e 7:00 - Choir	<b>26</b> 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:15 - Worship (CS) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - Sunday School 10:45 - Worship (Jill) 6:00 - O.A.	<b>30</b> 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones			<b>1</b> 9:30 - Quilting 10:30 - Food Potting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting		





Our denomination, the ELCA, holds a churchwide assembly triennially - to worship, vote on matters of governance and policy, and be church together for the sake of the world. This past week's churchwide assembly was full of important votes and actions, including:

- Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was reelected for a second six-year term on the first ballot.
- A declaration of apology to our siblings of African descent, which was received by the African Descent Lutheran Association with thanks and a call for accountability and living into the words shared.
- Approved resolution declaring the ELCA is a "sanctuary church body," encouraging participation in the ELCA AMMPARO initiative for migrant children, discernment of care for our immigrant neighbors in our context, and the promise of forthcoming resources for this work.
- Approved support for the World Council of Church's *Thursdays in Black*, awareness movement for a world without rape and violence.
- Voted to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance, in honor and remembrance of the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9.
- Approved a declaration for inter-religious commitment, reaffirming ecumenical and interfaith partnerships.
- Approved the recommendations from a strategic taskforce which has been studying how to work toward authentic diversity in our church.
- Approved memorials: affirming but not "endorsing" the Poor People's Campaign, care for immigrants and refugees, and other statements.
- Adopted a new social statement, "Faith, Sexism, and Justice: a Lutheran Call to Action," and its implementing resolutions.
- Deacon Sue Rothmeyer was elected Churchwide Secretary, a full-time position which acts as executive administrator and leader on all constitutional matters and interpretation.
- Constitutional change for Deacons (rostered ministers of word and service) to be ordained, from the previous practice of consecration.
- Celebrated the milestones of 50 years of women's ordination, 40 years since the first woman of color was ordained, and 10 years since full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ clergy.

Pastor Brett Davis, Georgetown Lutheran Church, Washington, DC.

### General Fund July 2019

July Giving	\$22,497.79	YTD Giving	\$236,347.90
July Expense	\$27,531.15	YTD Expense	\$238,416.87
July Difference	(\$5,033.36)	YTD Difference	(\$2,068.97)
		2019 Budget	\$312,237.00



# Summer Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

May 26th - September 1st

(Memorial Day Weekend - Labor Day Weekend)



## PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

214 East Pioneer  
Puyallup, WA 98372