

From the Pastor's Desi

## Acting in the Gap

"The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known." -John 1:14. 16-18

"Many people say the Apostle's Creed every week, but how many have noticed the huge gap in the second article between 'born' and 'suffered'? Jesus' whole life on earth." -Mark Siltala

Christianity is not a series of theological propositions to accept or reject. Christianity is a way of life. In fact, the earliest disciples were not called "Christians" at all, but "people of the Way." Even before Jesus' companions understood him, they walked with him; even before the movement of his followers settled on his identity, they learned from him, ate and drank with him, and came to know God's grace and truth through him. In short, they lived, and they lived abundantly.

In his address to the Council at our retreat in January, Mark Siltala, president of the congregation, emphasized the life of Christ as a source of inspiration for the work of ministry. The "gap" between his birth and death, so conspicuous in the Creed, provides the whole framework for the Christian life – the calling, the teaching, the healing, the feeding, the confrontation with competing authorities. "As the church council," Mark said, "as we're keeping the lights on, and doing things to keep the church going, I'd like us to think of everything we do as 'acting in the gap,' and doing the things that Christ showed us and asked us to do: 'Feed my sheep,' physically and spiritually."

Mark's desire for the work of the Council is my desire for the life of the church in general. "I have set you an example," Jesus tells his friends at the Last Supper, "if you know these things, you are blessed if you do them." And in the resurrection, the promise of abundant life extends beyond the bounds of Jesus' first community to include all who are swept up into his grace and truth.

God grant you grace to act in the gap – to conform your life to Christ – and God bless you along the Way!

+ + +

I invite you to come explore the life of Jesus with me at adult formation on the third and fourth Sundays in February (16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>).

Peace,

Pastor Note Sutton

Pastor Nate

Peace Lutheran Church 214 E. Pioneer Puyallup, WA 98372 253.845.8819 www.peacepuyallup.org

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. <u>Office Email</u> office@peacepuyallup.org <u>Pastor Email</u> pastor@peacepuyallup.org <u>Business Email</u> business@peacepuyallup.org <u>Youth Email</u> youth@peacepuyallup.org

#### <u>Council</u>

Mark Siltala - President Les Gerstmann - Vice President Allison Burch - Secretary Pippa Simpson-Younger - Treasurer Crystal Cunningham - Financial Secretary Dani Jo Andrews Ellen Aronson Sue Casillas Diane Dean Karen Ekse Becca Johnstone Dave Mahaffie Lisa Woodbury Jayla Albenesius



I'd like to share some highlights and thoughts on our oneday Retreat and Council Meeting, held this year at Camp Arnold near Eatonville, on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

The morning started with worship, then a team-building, organizing exercise led by Pastor Nate; we each spent many minutes with others, individually, to get some ideas on their faith journey, their goals for council, etc. After a camp-style lunch, we had some free time to explore the grounds, then the actual Council Meeting. Some of the topics covered:

- We voted to renew our covenant with the Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Community (we are a charter member);
- We set the date for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Congregational meeting (February 9<sup>th</sup>, between services; please plan on attending!);
- We received a report on the software upgrades on the office computers, and welcomed back a laptop that thought it was part of the Organ;
- We received written reports from some of the ministries of the church.
- We closed with an evening worship, then dinner.

We will have much good news to share at our congregational meeting (hint: What used to be red, but is now black? Come find out!). You have a diligent council working for you, and we look forward to working with the congregation to keep Peace Lutheran a vital, faithful place of worship and spiritual growth.

Yours, in Christian fellowship,

Mark Siftala

Council President.



# LENTEN CALENDAR

Shrove Tuesday	February 25th				
Ash Wednesday	February 26th				
Palm Sunday	April 5th				
Good Friday	April 10th				
Easter Sunday	April 12th				
Easter Monday	April 13th				







So far we've received pledge cards from over half of the congregation! Thanks to all of you who have turned in a card. Haven't turned one in yet? It's not too late—pick one up and just drop it in the offering plate. If you would like to keep your financial promises to Peace Lutheran "Between you and God", we completely understand—leave the dollar amount off if you prefer. *It is our hope that you use the card to think and pray about how you are part of the Body of Christ here at Peace Lutheran Church, and how you contribute to Christian life here and in our community.* Turning in the card is a way of formalizing that promise with Christ in the new year.



The Soup-to-Go Program has been a success! We are in need of more soup! There are empty containers in the cupboard across from the refrigerator in the kitchen.



Monday, February 3rd Church (Hice Closed

Dear friends in ministry and the academy,

Christ Church Parish in the Stadium District will welcome the Rev. Dr. Mark Brocker on Wednesday, February 12, for a public lecture on *Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Resistance to Corruption, and Living the Sermon on the Mount.* The lecture will begin at 7:00 PM in Wells Hall. The lecture is free, though donations to support the Christ Church Lecture Series will be gladly welcomed at the door. Dr. Brocker edited the following volumes in the critical edition of Dietrich Bonhoeffer works: Ecumenical, Academic, and Pastoral Work: 1931–1932; Theological Education at Finkenwalde: 1935–1937; and *Conspiracy* and Imprisonment 1940-1945. Dr. Brocker is a former president of the International Bonhoeffer Society.

Would you kindly promote this February 12 public lecture in your congregation? We think it is a timely topic both in terms of the RCL and LM lectionary readings and the upcoming election in November.

The lecture coincides with the Christ Church Winter Foundations Course by the same title, in which participants are exploring the Sermon on the Mount, excerpts of which appear in the Revised Common Lectionary and the Lectionary for Mass during February 2020. At the same time, participants in the course are reading Robert Coles' *Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Writings* (Orbis Books).

With best wishes as we continue to live into Epiphany light,

Fr. Samuel Torvend Christ Church Parish in the Stadium District



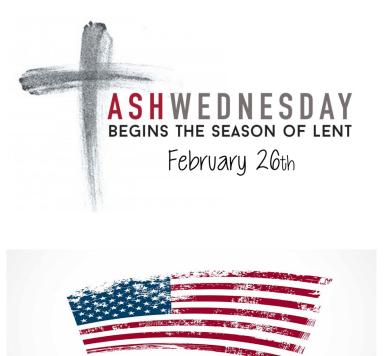


I have several items that I will not take with me when I love. If you could use or want any, please let me know before coming.

- Tall book/storage cabinet
- Small cabinet with storage are
- Kirby
- Large electric fry pan
- Tea kettle
- Kitchen scale
- Mixer with 2 bowls
- 12 cup coffee pot
- Dishes and silverware
- MORE!

If you are interested, please come between February 18 - 22 as I officially move February 27th!

Marlys Tron 253.863.9556



#### PRESIDENTS DAY

Monday, February 17th Our Office Will Be Closed



#### OUTREACH MINISTRY AND CYFI ARE PARTNERING UP!

#### LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF PERSONAL CARE KITS PROJECT SUNDAY MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup> AT 9:30 AM

When families find their homes destroyed, or must flee for their safety, soap and a towel rarely make the cut for what they can carry. Arriving in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit provide muchneeded self-care, critical germ fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty.

We will be learning a bit about what it feels like to be fleeing, to leave what you know behind, and to move to the unknown, through a simulation activity that all ages can participate in. We will also assemble personal care kits to be distributed through Lutheran World Relief.

We are collecting items to use in the assembly of the personal care kits. Donations can be left in the box in Koinonia.

- Light/Medium Weight bath towels (size must be between 40" x 20" and 52" x 27")
- Full size bars of soap
- Adult size toothbrushes (multipack ok)
- Sturdy combs
- Nail clippers



# OUTREACH

#### SPINNING WEEKEND FOOD PACK UPDATE!

Thank you to those who came out to help with our Spinning food packing project in January. We were able to assemble 282 bags of food. We currently serve 35 students per week through our weekend food program and are in our fourth year of providing this ministry to Spinning Elementary.

Thank you to the WELCA ladies for restocking our fruit cups and oatmeal! We were completely out of both items after our last packaging project.

We are currently in need of granola bars and juice boxes. Donations can be left in the box in Koinonia.

Mark your Calendars!

Next Spinning Food Packing Event Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 PM

> Mark Your Calendars! Armory Dinner Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>

Look for Sign Up sheets in the gathering area beginning Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup>!



**December Giving December Expense December Difference** 

\$34,515.11 \$31,097.57 \$3,417.54

YTD Giving	\$3
YTD Expense	\$3
YTD Difference	\$1

64,855.57 63,284.63 ,570.94

2019 Budget \$312,237.00

#### PEACE YOUTH PRESENT

# SUPER BOWL OF CARING!

The stage is set...San Francisco 49ers vs the Kansas City Chiefs... who do you think will win?! After BOTH services on Sunday, **February 2nd** you will have your chance to vote by donating to your pick's bucket. All donations will be donated to the Mary Bridge Children's Hospital Child Abuse Prevention Program. Freezing Nights

The youth served BBQ meatballs and Lil' Smokies, scalloped potatoes, macaroni and cheese, and green beans at Freezing Nights during January. We will be serving again this month on February 20th at 7:15pm!

# Parent's Afternoon Out!

Need some time to run errands? Or maybe hang with the rest of the young-ish family crew?

Well, let the Peace Youth watch your kids for a couple of hours!

Mark you calendars for the following dates:

Sunday, February 23rd ~ 2-4pm Sunday, March 29th ~ 2-4pm Sunday, April 26th ~ 2-4pm

Donations are highly encouraged.



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 5:00 PM DONATIONS ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

happy birthday

Wes Vradenburg	2	Jean Glaser	12
Janie Dymond	4	Jim Baisch	13
Daniel Andrews	5	Becca Johnstone	14
Al Johnson	5	Allison Burch	15
Linnea Aronson	5	Sandy Holtz	18
Isabelle Boben	6	Francine Bench	21
Ryan Johnstone	9	Janet Culpepper	21
Cary Nilson	9	Diane Dean	22
Tanaya Swinson	9	Jim Storm	22
Richard Wicklander	9	Claire Gilmore	23

happy baptismal anniversary

Deb Pless	Ann Pierson
Cary Nilson	Lisa Woodbury
Francine Bench	Paul Ortega
Joan Siburg	Werner Boettcher
Hannah Boben	Jackie Plfer
Dani Jo Andrews	Irie Tait
Pat Moore	

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	Sat	8:30 - Men's Breakfast	×	IS		22		29	
	Fri			14 •HAPPY	Valentine's	I		28	
	Thu		6 9:30 - Quilting 7:00 - A.A. Meeting	13 1	7:00 - A.A. Meeting	20 21 9:30 - Quilting	:00 - A.A. Meeting	27 27	7:00 - A.A. Meeting
	Wed	Selection of the select	<b>5</b> 12:00 - Sr./Ret. Potluck 5:00 - Quilting		10:00 - Ladies Aid 12:00 - PPH @ Elements 6:30 - Confirmation 7:00 - Choir	<u>ه</u>	7:00 - Choir	26 +	7 12:00 - PPH @ Starbucks 6:30 - Worship (Jill)
	Tue		4 10:00 - Bible Study 5:30 - Finance Committee	6:30 - Executive Committee 7:00 - Boy Scouts <i>11</i>	10:00 - Bible Study 6:30 - Council Meeting 7:00 - Boy Scouts	<i>18</i> 10:00 - Bible Study	7:00 - Boy Scouts	25 SHROVENTUESDAY	10:00 - Bible Study 7:00 - Boy Scouts
	Mon		<i>3</i> OFFICE CLOSED 4:30 - Diversion	5:00 - Cornerstones 10	4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	I7 PRESIDENTS	OFFICE CLOSED 4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones	24	4:30 - Diversion 5:00 - Cornerstones
	Sun		2 8:15 - Worship (Joan) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - CYFI	10:45 - Worship (Jill) 3:30 - O.A.	8:15 - Worship (Jill) 9:40 - Cong. Meeting 10:45 - Worship (Joan) 3:30 - O.A.	16 8:15 - Worship (Joan)	9:40 - Mesounding Joy 9:40 - CYFI 10:45 - Worship (CS) 3:30 - O.A.	23	8:15 - Worship (CS) 9:40 - Resounding Joy 9:40 - CYFI 10:45 - Worship (Jill) 3:30 - O.A.

## Devotional Reading in Lent



ENTERING THE PASSION of JESUS A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK



Lent is traditionally a time to take up a spiritual discipline, to delve more deeply into the life of faith as we walk with Jesus toward the cross and resurrection.

This year, we'll read together Amy-Jill Leine's *Entering the Passion of Jesus*, an accessible guide to Holy Week, the heart of the Christian story.

Pastor Nate will reflect on Levine's material at Wednesday Evening Prayer, and members will have opportunities to connect around the book at Bible study, adult formation in March, and at their own initiation. *All members are encouraged to take up this discipline!* 

Sara will take a book order in the office at **\$8.50 per copy**. Checks can be made payable to Peace with "Lenten Devotional" written on the memo line, due on **Sunday, February 16th**. Arrangements can be made in the event that cost is a barrier to your participation.







Mark Bond, otherwise known as The Bellman, and his son, Aaron, performed a basic servicing on Resounding Joy's handbells on the afternoon of January 23rd (supervised by Luna, Paula Nordby's dog). The basic servicing includes taking each bell apart, cleaning the parts, parts replacement (as necessary) labor, playing action adjustments, and voicing for even-blended timbre from note to note. Mark and his son, or wife, spend several months each year traveling all around the country -Mark says they have been to 46 states - from their home in Texas in their specially equipped van servicing and refurbishing handbells. Our bells are now in "like new" condition!!



When you consider that the required frequency of service for bells is about a third that of other instruments and also that not one, but many musicians benefit from the same servicing, the cost of handbell service pales in comparison to the upkeep and maintenance costs of other instruments Regular servicing will prolong the bells' functional life indefinitely, and ensure they are always in top playing condition. The purchase investment for handbells is substantial and easily justifies the minimal cost of routine maintenance and upkeep required to maintain the instruments in "like new" condition perpetually. People of all races and ethnicities, countries of origin, ancestries, and cultures; People of all religious backgrounds, including no religious background; People of all gender identities and sexual orientations; People with differing physical and/or intellectual abilities; People of all ages and from all family structures; People who are single, partnered, married, widowed, or divorced; People of all economic backgrounds, homeowners, renters, and people without permanent homes; People of diverse political views; and People with all kinds of gifts and challenges. Join U.S.

Jou will be honored here. 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.



#### PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

214 East Pioneer Puyallup, WA 98372