



LUTHER MEMORIAL

lutheran church

Actively Sharing Christ's Love in Community



Everyone is welcome at Luther Memorial.

Messenger

February, 2020



internetmonk.com

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February 15 is the deadline for articles in the March issue.

PJ's Page

On the last Sunday of January our New Testament Epistle reading was from Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth. It's always fascinating to read what Paul writes to these early communities of believers. Is he offering words of comfort, encouragement, and care? Or is he addressing a problem in the community that he has heard about? Is he writing to tell them that he will visit them soon? Or is he introducing himself and what he believes about Jesus to a community he hasn't even met?

In all of the Epistles attributed to Paul, he finds opportunity to do all of the above. I think it's fascinating that Paul had never met the believers in Rome when he wrote his robust theological letter to them that we now call the book of Romans.

But back to the reading we heard on the last Sunday in January:

¹⁰Now I appeal to you, siblings, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my siblings. ¹²What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." ¹³Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

In addition to having a moment of forgetfulness around who he had baptized, Paul is writing to the church at Corinth because he has heard that they are giving their allegiances in their life together to someone other than Jesus.

This is how church fractures happen. When we give our allegiances to someone other than Jesus. When we don't keep the "main thing the main thing." When we listen to Apollos, who is unhappy about something or Cephas, who has a beef with someone....instead of turning our hearts and minds toward Jesus.

It's also easy to turn away from Jesus to things outside of the church: to those other activities that keep us away from community or worship or service. And Jesus talks about this when he reminds the early believers "where your treasure is, there will your hearts be also." What we prioritize in our daily living, with our time and presence and support, is what we really believe in.

The Church is a flawed institution. Generations after mine are driving that point home with their absence. They are watching to see if the Church is willing stand in our loyalty to Jesus and speak truth to power, no matter the cost (remember, it cost Jesus his life) or whether we will play it safe, choosing our earthly allegiances over our call from Christ.

And yet, Christ calls us to life together in community. To worship together, so that the holy becomes incarnate in the body. Christ calls us to wrestle together with the hard questions, no matter how we differ in opinion. Christ calls us together to share our vulnerabilities, to offer up our sorrows and fears.

If you are concerned about the "future of the Church", know that your presence, support, and commitment to it, in the name of the risen Christ, can and will make a difference. Know that your commitment to what Jesus taught (and not other allegiances) is what will make a difference, not only in the world, but in your hearts.

See you in church.

Outreach Ministry

“Listen here, mortal: God has already made abundantly clear what “good” is, and what YHWH needs from you: simply do justice, love kindness, and humbly walk with your God.” Micah 6:8

I just finished reading *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. You may have heard of this title as it was recently released as a film highlighting the work Stevenson tirelessly engaged in while a lawyer for a nonprofit he founded. This nonprofit works to exonerate those falsely accused who find themselves on death row or children who were sentenced to life in prison when they were thirteen or fourteen years old. While Stevenson was in law school, he began to understand at an intimate level the inner workings of our criminal justice system which is anything but just. This set Stevenson on a path to speak out for the wrongly convicted, children who were tried as adults, and work towards eradicating our current prison system. Stevenson has been granted many awards and is a true hero of justice.

As I read *Just Mercy* those words continued to ring in my head. I continually thought about the work Stevenson was engaged in and recounted the stories he tells in his book. Stories of marginalized folks being oppressed by our legal system simply because law enforcement needed to place the blame on someone. Stories of children being locked away for life before their brains have even fully developed. The stories are excruciating but also hope filled. Stevenson worked for justice and brought mercy to each person he represented even if he couldn't overturn their case. This left me pondering what *Just Mercy* is all about.

In our Holy Scriptures Micah tells us that what YHWH requires of us is rather simple; do justice, love kindness, and humbly walk with God. We are called to just mercy. To seek out the marginalized who are being treated unfairly by our prison system. To show mercy to the outcast and the vulnerable. To fight for justice not only for ourselves but our neighbor each and every day. Bryan Stevenson is one of my newfound heroes and I hope to continue to ponder the words of just mercy. I hope you will join me in exploring each day what just mercy means and how we can extend that just mercy to our neighbor.

Humbling Walking with God,

Laura Harris-Ferree



LMLC News



ANNUAL MEETING

2020 COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Congratulations to our 2020 Congregational Council!

Julie Moe, President	Andrew Wesly, Vice President
Laurie Meade, Secretary	Ardene Adams
Lollie Ellingson	Diane MacKechnie
Pastor Julie Hutson	(almost Pastor) Laura Harris-Ferree

The Council will be installed during worship on February 9th. Council meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month, at 6:30. All Council meetings are open to the congregation.

FEBRUARY 2 VOTE

Immediately following worship on February 2, the LMLC congregation will consider a vote to call a half time Associate Pastor. The recommendation for this vote will come from your Call Committee and your Council. Our thanks to the Call Committee: The Rev. Catherine Fransson, Chair; Lollie Ellingson, Mary Hinderliter, Bill Meade, and Beverly Mueller, for their diligence in their work.

Voting members are those who have communed and contributed to the budgeted ministries of Luther Memorial over the past year. Our Constitution maintains that all votes are cast in person.

ENDOWMENT FUND

In 2019 the LMLC Endowment Fund supported the following organizations and programs with grants:

- \$500 to North Helpline Food Pantry
- \$500 to St. Dunstan's Tuesday Night Community Meal
- \$888 to the Music Program at Broadview Thomson School
- \$1000 to eliminate lunch debt at Broadview Thomson School

Donations to the Endowment Fund can be made by making your check out to Luther Memorial Endowment Fund.

LMLC News and Events

FIRST SUNDAY FAITH FORUM

Sunday, at 9:30 on February 2nd. The topic for the day is "Q&A". It will be our final opportunity for conversation before the vote to call an Associate Pastor. We will also have an update on the way the sale proceeds are being used. We also hope to have a final balance sheet update for 2019. Join us in Celebration Hall....All are Welcome!

CONTEMPLATIVE WORSHIP....COME AND SEE. COME AND BREATHE.

Beginning this month we will welcome the Celtic Center as together we offer an opportunity for contemplative, quiet worship in our chapel space the first Sunday evening per month at 5pm. This time of prayer, reflection, silence, poetry, music, candles, and deep space is an ancient way the Church gathers.

More information about the Celtic Center can be found at www.thecelticcenter.org. If you are seeking a quiet space for time with God, this is a wonderful opportunity.
Sunday, February 2nd 5:00pm Luther Memorial Chapel

HOLDEN AROUND THE WORLD

All around the world, communities will gather to sing Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesday, February 5th at 7:00pm. Luther Memorial will also gather for this beloved Vespers service. Join us in the Chapel!



Carpool/Share a Ride to Church!

Interested in helping others get to church? Would you like to share a ride on Sunday mornings? See the info at Sign-Up Central. Willing drivers, please put your name, ZIP code and phone number, so that those who would like a ride can find someone near them.

SEEKERS BIBLE STUDY

Seekers is the longest running group meeting at Luther Memorial. They gather on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 for Bible Study and fellowship. Interested? Join them in Grace Space on Wednesday mornings.

ELCA Prayer Ventures



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the church. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

1 Black History Month Give thanks for the gifts, accomplishments, influence and witness of our African descent neighbors and siblings in Christ — we stand together to glorify God as partners in the gospel, doing God's work in the world together. Though we are unified as siblings in Christ, we ask God to guide and help our church as it recommits to the work of racial justice, socioeconomic equity, racial reconciliation and ending racism.

2 Pray that God will soften our hearts and focus our love on our neighbors in poverty and food insecurity, communities grieving for victims of violence, people in regions of conflict and war, refugees and immigrants, and people who are persecuted or disparaged.

3 Ask God to deepen our understanding of the peace that God desires for the world. Pray that the Spirit will inspire us to be bold peacemakers grounded in God's vision of peace, the gospel and love for our neighbor.

4 Pray that when we are embarrassed or hesitant to speak of the crucified and risen Christ, our faith in God's love and the gospel message will encourage and embolden us to be confident yet humble witnesses in the world.

5 We are scattered around the world as siblings in Christ, seeking and affirming our unity in the mystery of the Trinity and the good news of Jesus Christ. Explore the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, which enables us to journey in prayer throughout the world every week of the year, affirming our solidarity with Christians everywhere.

6 Pray for ELCA outdoor ministry leaders who are seeking young adults to serve in summer programs across the country. Ask that the Spirit be at work in young adults and move them to respond to God's call to serve and share their faith, skills, gifts and enthusiasm with children, youth and adults.

7 Pray that our hearts will be open to doing what God asks of us: to hold to what is good, to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.

8 Give thanks for pastors and seminary students who respond to God's call to serve as federal chaplains, ministering to inmates and staff at federal prisons and to staff, patients and their family members at Veterans Affairs medical centers.

9 As children of God, we are the salt of the earth and light of the world, bearing witness to God's love and mercy. Pray that we will understand how our good works, words and faith — even when unseen or unappreciated in our lifetime — can have profound, far-reaching impact.

10 ELCA Young Adult Ministry offers inspiration, opportunities and resources to young people aged 18 to 30. Pray for churchwide staff and leaders across the church as they work with young adults to form faith, discover identity and gifts, discern vocation and develop servant leadership.

11 Pray for church leaders as they gather for the Ignite the Church Conference in Orlando, Fla., an annual event that fosters conversation among leaders and inspires the church to live out its tradition of renewal.

12 Give praise and thanks to God for being our light and strength throughout our baptismal journey of following God's ways; for being generous, merciful and compassionate; and for sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

13 The light and warmth of God's love is welcome nourishment for our faith and spirit. Pray that God's love will move us to provide both spiritual and physical light, warmth and shelter for people who long for hope and relief during these dark, cold days of winter.

14 Amid our worries and turmoil, we ask for God's help in seeking freedom for the oppressed, sharing our food resources with the hungry, sheltering the homeless and attending to the cries of people in poverty.

15 Pray that we will take to heart Jesus' teachings that love is not weakness and that power does not equal force or superiority. Pray that we will follow Jesus' example by being humble, loving servants in the world and will trust in the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us and through us.

16 Trusting in God's grace and forgiveness, pray that we will be repentant and humble when we consider our daily actions, words and thoughts, as well as what we fail to do. Ask God to redirect our lives so we might follow God's ways and commandments, resist comparing ourselves to others and avoid citing cultural norms to rationalize contrary behavior.

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 West Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.

- 17** Pray for our president, legislators and other public servants, that their decisions and actions will be guided by a spirit of compassion and justice, a commitment to peacemaking and building relationships globally, and a determination to work across ideologies and political divisions for the well-being of our communities and of people in need.
- 18** Give thanks for ELCA Global Mission programs, relationships, opportunities and partnerships with global companions that bring us together as the body of Christ for doing God's work in the world.
- 19** Give thanks for the happiness we experience when we walk in the ways and wisdom of God.
- 20** Stewardship is more than annual pledge cards, balanced budgets and financial responses to God's love — it's a way of life. Pray that we will recognize and give thanks for the breadth of resources and assets — time, talents, possessions and money — God has entrusted to our care as individuals, families and congregations, and that we will discover ways of using everything we have to live out God's call to love God and our neighbors.
- 21** We are "God's servants, working together" for the sake of the world, sharing the gospel and growing the church. Pray that we will be of one mind and spirit as God's humble servants, and that we will see accomplishments, growth and change as the result of God's presence and power working through us.
- 22** Continue to pray for immigrants and refugees, who often experience daunting challenges and loneliness as they pursue sanctuary and a welcoming place to rebuild their lives in this country. Give thanks for the work of congregations, synods, individuals and agencies in welcoming and accompanying immigrants and refugees as part of the ELCA's AMMPARO strategy (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities).
- 23** Pray that the Spirit will sustain our awe, gratitude and reverence for our savior, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and our true source of hope and life.
- 24** Remember in prayer the thousands of people left homeless after Hurricane Dorian struck the Bahamas this past September. Pray for the long-term relief and recovery of people impacted, and for the extensive rebuilding of their communities and infrastructures by Lutheran Disaster Response in partnership with the Florida-Bahamas Synod, its congregations, and other agencies.
- 25** Give thanks for the Deaconess Community of the ELCA and for women who have responded to God's call in a variety of roles and settings in the church and world, proclaiming the gospel through ministries of mercy and servant leadership.
- 26** Pray that we will always be attentive to the presence and work of the Holy Spirit in the world and that we will be moved by the Holy Spirit to be bright, shining witnesses, bearing the hope and promises of God.
- 27** God is great and awesome, forgiving and a lover of justice. Give glory and praise to God!
- 28** Creation, humanity and nature are knitted together intricately by our Creator in ways that sustain all life and enable the earth to thrive. Pray that we will repent for what we have done to harm or unbalance creation, and that God will grant us wisdom and insight for restoring creation and treating it with care and respect.
- 29** Give thanks for ELCA missionaries and young people serving in the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission programs in Egypt, Israel, Jerusalem/West Bank and Palestine. Pray that God will bless and further their work with our companions in the Middle East and North Africa, especially in finding nonviolent paths to peace and justice.



Synod News

The Spirit

Volume 37, Number 2

February, 2020



Grace Grants

by the Rev. Shelley Bryan Wee
Bishop NWWA Synod

I am excited to announce that the application process for Northwest Washington Synod Grace Grants is open. Thanks to the vision and desire for continued ministry, Grace Lutheran, Bellevue gave the synod council a percentage of

their proceeds when they closed their ministry. The synod council, in turn, wants to invest this money in congregations and ministry sites who are doing faithful innovation. In that spirit, Grace Grants were born.

For each of the next three years, \$100,000 will be made available for congregations and ministry sites to apply for Grace Grants. If other congregations, institutions or individuals would like to contribute to this-fund, the synod council will continue Grace grants beyond these initial three years.

Congregations and ministry sites are welcome to apply for grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$20,000. The council welcomes all applications. In particular, the Grace Grant Committee and synod council are looking for congregations who are faithfully looking into the future, trusting God, and seeing new possibilities in sharing the story of Jesus.

As you consider these grants, these questions might help you discern what God is up to in your area of the synod:

- What is happening in your church's neighborhood? Where do you see possibilities for partnership or collaboration?
- What is our unique ELCA identity and witness?
- Are there avenues to talk with and listen to those outside the walls of the church?
- How can we equip disciples and our own community of faith?
- How can we foster a spirit of connection across the synod?

...looking for congregations who are faithfully looking into the future, trusting God, and seeing new possibilities in sharing the story of Jesus.

- What are the resources needed to develop new leaders?
- How can we partner with young adults, listening and collaborating?
- Where are the places we can be more eco-friendly in our church buildings?
- Who are those marginalized?
- Who are those discriminated against?

Of course, there are other areas to consider for ministry through these Grace Grants. These are just a few ideas that might help.

As you prepare, here are some important dates:

- February 1 - Grant Application Period open (find form on synod website).
- May 1 - Applications due. No late applications will be accepted.
- May - Grant committee review will take place.
- June 5 - Final approval of Grants by Synod Council.
- June 6 - Notification of grants awarded at Synod Assembly.
- July 1 - Grants to be funded

Grants need to be used between July 1, 2020 & April 1, 2021. Grants are potentially renewable.

I hope you find this opportunity as exciting as the Northwest Washington Synod Council. We are excited to continue vitalizing our congregations and ministry sites into the future – as we trust God is walking with us, leading us and guiding us.

Grace & Peace,
Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee



Happy February Birthdays!

09 Marlene De Rosier

11 Vicki Cook

13 Darrell Jamieson

17 Selma Johnson

Joan Kuklenski

Laura Steinmetz

23 Robert Martin

24 Maya Bloom

25 Bill Meade

28 Lester Bloom

29 Joe MacKechnie

Happy Anniversary!

2/13 Bob & Karen Senior

LMLC News and Events

*Friends at Luther Memorial,
I wanted to wish you a wonderful new
year and thank you for being such
wonderful neighbors to all of our
residents at Compass Broadview. From
the first welcome home brunch to this
holiday season, you've always made
our residents feel like members of the
community, which is so deeply
appreciated.*

Thank you again. —Jenny

*We, at Compass Broadview, truly
appreciate your continued support! The
holiday gift cards were so needed and
helped all of our residents as they
continue to strive for housing and
financial stability. Residents and staff
alike appreciate each and every one of
you and thank you for the gift of giving
during the holiday season!*

—Compass Broadview Residents & Staff

*Thank
You*

#METOO #CHURCHTOO

Most of you know that the #Metoo movement is a movement aimed to shine light on sexual assault and sexual harassment. Did you know that there is an equivalent movement called #ChurchToo, aimed to bring to light sexual harassment, abuse, and assault that happens in congregations and faith communities?

Luther Memorial has had a policy on Sexual Harassment and Misconduct since 2005. Your staff and Council have all signed the policy in commitment to eradicate and prevent these behaviors in the life of our congregation. In the policy, we address many topics. Some are obvious violations. Others, while equally egregious, are far too common and have no place in our life together as Christ's church.

Some examples of those include: Gender Based Harassment, Inappropriate Comments about Appearance or Clothing, and Continued or repeated jokes, language, or remarks of a sexual nature.

It can feel easy to excuse these behaviors by saying something like "That's just how Billy Bob is. He doesn't mean anything by it."

Make no mistake: This is not acceptable behavior anywhere. It will not be tolerated.

Luther Memorial is committed to being a safe and welcoming place where all people are respected. While all are welcome here, all behaviors are not welcome.

From time to time, we will hold up our policy as a reminder of the ways we respect and care for one another. If you have a question or a concern, please see our Council President, Julie Moe, or one of our pastors.

Worship

Readings for February

February 2 4 Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

February 9 5 Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]
Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]
Matthew 5:13-20

February 16 6 Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Sirach 15:15-20 (alternate)
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

February 23 Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2
Psalm 99 (alternate)
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

February 26 Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Isaiah 58:1-12 (alternate)
Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Worship servers are scheduled on the 15th of the preceding month by Pastor Julie. If you have dates when you do NOT wish to be scheduled, please let her or the office know before the 15th. If there is a scheduling conflict, please find a substitute from among the additional names on the schedule.

	2/2	2/9	2/16	2/23	Ash Wednesday
Assisting Minister	Cathy Fransson	Laura Harris-Ferree	Andrew Wesly	Steve Olson	n/a
Lector	Lillian Long	Julie Moe	Cathy Fransson	Stacie Jamieson	Andrew Wesly
Acolyte	Jed TerHark	Joshua Lingappaiah	Zachary Johnson	Stacie Jamieson	n/a
Communion Altar	Laurie Meade				
Greeters and Ushers	Mary Hinderliter Eric Zoeckler	Bill & Laurie Meade	Ardene Adams Cathy Fransson	Lollie Ellingson Lynne Greenup	Mary Hinderliter Eric Zoeckler
Children's Time	Pastor Julie	Laura Harris-Ferree	Pastor Julie	Pastor Julie	n/a
Song Leader	Shirley Teuber-Goins	Julie Moe	Leia Smith	Julie Moe	n/a
Musician	Chrade Younkin				
Closer	Bill Meade	Donna Smith	Lollie Ellingson	Raj Lingappaiah	Pastor Julie





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February 2020

See our live calendar online for any changes or updates:
www.luthermemorialseattle.com/calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 4 Epiphany 9:30 Sunday Church School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Congregational Mtg. 5 Contemplative Worship	3 6 Narcotics Anonymous <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i> </div>	4 10 Kaleidoscope Play & Learn 7 Seattle Photographic Society	5 9:30 Seekers 7 NarAnon 7 Holden Around the World	6 1 Stepstudy	7	8
9 5 Epiphany 9 Choir 9:30 Sunday Church School 10:30 Worship	10 6 Narcotics Anonymous <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i> </div>	11 10 Kaleidoscope Play & Learn 6:30 Church Council 7 Seattle Photographic Society	12 9:30 Seekers 7 NarAnon	13 1 Stepstudy 7 Broadview Garden Club	14	15
16 6 Epiphany 9 Choir 9:30 Sunday Church School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayers for Healing	17 PRESIDENTS' DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 6 Narcotics Anonymous <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i> </div>	18 10 Kaleidoscope Play & Learn	19 9:30 Seekers 7 NarAnon	20 1 Stepstudy	21	22
23 Transfiguration of Our Lord 9 Choir 9:30 Sunday Church School 10:30 Worship	24 6 Narcotics Anonymous <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i> </div>	25 10 Kaleidoscope Play & Learn 7 Seattle Photographic Society	26 ASH WEDNESDAY 9:30 Seekers 7 NarAnon 7 Worship	27 1 Stepstudy	28	29