

# The Witness of Peace



## **Finding New Rhythms**

After the last year and a half, which disrupted nearly all of our collective and personal rhythms, we are once again facing disruption. This time it is the disruption of the new patterns of being that we developed to survive through a global pandemic. As we slowly emerge from pandemic mode, patterns are once again being disrupted.

Do we wear masks or not? What is it safe to do indoors? Who is it safe to be with? How do we continue to care for each other when vaccines have disrupted expectations? What new patterns will we carry forward and which will be dropped to return to previous “normals”?

Summertime is often a time of leisure, but at church this year it may not feel like that. We are still in the makeshift mode of continual change and adaptation, struggling to create new, sustainable patterns of community life. How, when and where we will gather, as well as with whom, is still emerging. Summer always means being off our regular rhythms a bit, but this year it feels magnified.

What can help us navigate this seemingly never-ending roller coaster ride of change? I would like to offer the thoughts below, taken from *Welcoming Change*, by James Miller.

*All change is uncomfortable. Even when it is desired, change can be disturbing, for it disrupts your normal way of doing things. It introduces the unknown, the unexperienced. And when change comes your way against your wishes or will, it can jar you even more. It can leave you feeling disoriented. It can call into question your strength and confidence.*

*In this time of discontinuity, it will help to remember your continuities. No matter what has changed in your life, some things have not changed. Now is the time to recall those things and treasure them. Whatever inner strength you've known before, you can draw on it again. However resilient you've been, however practical, however tenacious, you can be that again because you know how.*

*Above all you can turn to that Source of Hope who is ready to hold you and lift you even when others cannot. For there is a God who never changes, even when everything else seems to.*

***Trusting that this God will lead us through the chaos on to new creation,***

***Pastor Annette***

## From the Bishop:

*For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1*



What does freedom mean to you? In this month that we in the United States celebrate Independence Day with fireworks and barbecues (yay for vaccines – we can have barbecues again!), what is freedom?

Well ... first let's consider what freedom is NOT. Freedom is NOT enormous sums of money, power, privilege, assets, stocks and bonds, cars, clothes, or degrees. Freedom is NOT being able to do anything you want without worrying how your actions might affect another. Freedom is NOT hedonism or casual cruelty. Freedom is NOT the ability to yell at someone either in person or online. Freedom is NOT to be taken lightly.

Unfortunately, we have conflated freedom with selfishness. We have decided freedom means we don't have to worry about our behavior or words. We have decided that we no longer need to be civil or caring or understanding of another's viewpoint or worldview or interest. In this synod, I am concerned at the rancor I am hearing, the level of uncivil discourse, and the inability to listen to people from different sides of different issues.

So ... what IS freedom?

Martin Luther writes in *The Freedom of a Christian* that through Christ, we are set free from sin into new life. He writes:

From faith flow forth love and joy in the Lord, and from love a cheerful, willing, free spirit, disposed to serve our neighbor voluntarily, without taking any account of gratitude or ingratitude, praise or blame, gain or loss. Its object is not to lay [others] under obligations, nor does it distinguish between friends and enemies, or look to gratitude or ingratitude, but most freely and willingly spends itself and its goods, whether it loses them through ingratitude, or gains good will.

Freedom described in this way sounds amazing. But we know that it isn't that simple. We all know that even as baptized children of God, even as people assured that we are saved through Jesus Christ, even as people who revel in freedom – we know that we are not always cheerful and willing, disposed to serve our neighbor voluntarily. We know that the freedom we have been given through Jesus is sometimes squandered because of greed, racism, homophobia, sexism, nationalism, individualism, pride, and so much more. Quite simply, sin. We think that we are free and yet we are choosing death over abundant life.

And yet ... what a gift we have been given! For when we live fully into our baptisms, we are called into community with God and with one another. We are called into caring for one another. We are called to listen, love, and serve others – even those we might not particularly like. God calls us away from selfish behavior and into freedom to commit ourselves fully to each other. As Paul writes in Galatians 6:2: “Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” As baptized children of God and as the body of Christ in this world, we are called to the freedom of Christ. And this means we are called to a life not only for ourselves, but to die to ourselves and live truly in the freedom of bearing one another's burdens.

As a proud American, I love the Fourth of July. As a person following Jesus, I know that freedom means more than waving a flag or wearing the colors of red, white, and blue. As Martin Luther writes in his treatise *On Christian Freedom*, “A Christian is the most free lord of all, and subject to none; a Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone.”

May freedom in Christ reign. May the love of Christ be with you and all that you encounter.  
+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee / [bishop@lutheransnw.org](mailto:bishop@lutheransnw.org)



## **SUMMER WORSHIP**

**During the month of July we will continue with 8:30 am Drive-In worship and 10:00 worship in the sanctuary at Peace.**

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| July 4  | Service of Holy Communion, musician Pam Holdal                     |
| July 11 | Service of the Word, musician Richelle Tripp                       |
| July 18 | Service of the Word with Rev. Helen McPeak, musician Jeff Highland |
| July 25 | Service of Holy Communion*, musician Richelle Tripp                |

**\*Note:** On **July 25** we will begin a four week preaching series on the Bread of Life and will return to **weekly Holy Communion**.

### *Looking ahead...*

During the month of **August** we plan to continue **our 8:30 drive-in service at Peace** and hold **our indoor 10:00 worship up at the Little White Church on the Hill**.

The exception will be **Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup> when we will hold ONE service at 10:00** up at the Little White Church, to be followed by an **All Church Picnic** on the patio and on the cemetery lawns. More details to follow!

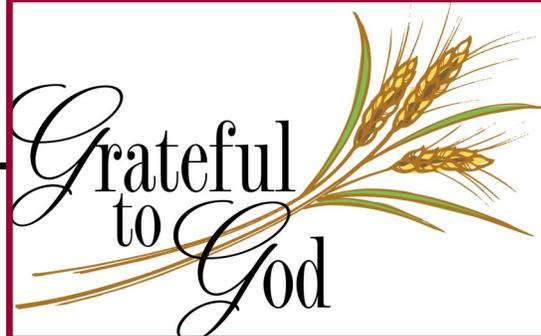
**In September we hope to return to one 10:00 service together at Peace. The Council will continue to monitor the current local situation and will make this decision accordingly.**



## **Celebrations of Life**

**\*Donna Burlingame:** Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 12:00-4:00 pm, gathering at her daughter's farm: 23401 46<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW, Silvana; shared reflections at 1:00 pm

**\*Carol Mendenhall:** Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am, service at Peace



### **May Financial Update:**

**Income** to the General Fund totaled \$20,591.10.

This included a \$8,503.24 **grant from the Harold and Karine Smith Fund from Thrivent Charitable Impact and Investing**. It was directed to be used for general support. The **Mission of the Month** collection for Camp Lutherwood was \$480.00 and there was a \$50 **food bank** donation that was also included in this income.

**Expenses** totaled \$13,872.20

Our **Mission Investment Fund** had a total of \$117,544.40 on May 28th after earning \$49.80 in interest at .50%.

2021 Budget \$194,829.00

2021 Average donation needed each month \$16,235.75

***Thank you to everyone for your continued support!***

## **JULY MISSION OF THE MONTH-CAMP ERIN**

Camp Erin provides a caring environment, filled with activities to assist children and teens coping with loss. It is a free weekend camp for children ages 6-17 (or 18 if still in school) who have experienced a loss. Camp Erin offers a special combination of fun recreational activities and supportive discussions to help campers build their trust, self-esteem and coping skills. Age-appropriate groups of children and teens provide an opportunity to meet with peers who have had similar feelings and experiences. Planned activities allow for sharing of feelings and concerns, friendship building, and fun.

All of the following activities are led and sponsored by pediatric specialists and trained volunteers:

Art therapy, Story telling, Recreational activities, Swimming, Music, Healing rituals, Nature walks, Grief workshops

The camp is facilitated by professional staff affiliated with Providence Hospice of Snohomish County program, as well as trained volunteers. Adult "Big Buddy" volunteers offer additional support and companionship for campers.

Camp Erin®-Snohomish County is free of charge to all participants.

# Guatemala Mission Team Report

Guatemala service trip 2020 didn't exactly go as planned. The team met regularly and held numerous fundraisers and in the end we raised enough money to build 95 stoves, put in two water systems, purchase bibles for every family, and white boards for the school. We were all looking forward to going down to Guatemala and working along side the Hands for Peace Making team and the villagers, but in the end the borders were closed due to Covid. We were saddened, but not dejected. We are just the Lords hand's and we had raised enough money to make a difference in one village and that is exactly what we did. We made a difference!

We sent the money and the HFPM team installed the stoves, built the water system, gave out bibles, and installed the white boards. We were able to follow along virtually while they installed the stoves and see the excitement on the faces of the families. We are planning a viewing party to watch a short video of the installation for the near future.

The team is already planning for 2022 and trying to come up with fun and inventive ways to raise money for more stoves. We look forward to being God's hands and spreading his love and joy!



Hands for Peacemaking Team ready to install for Peace



All the supplies for the 95 stoves



A home



A Guatemalan woman in her home with her new stove.

## Youth, Family, and Community

The campfires have been going good and I hope you can join us in July for some good food (luck of the pot) and a lively game of team Pictionary. July 24<sup>th</sup> will be here before we know it, so brush up on your drawing skills. This is a great time to invite friends and neighbors.



## Peace Lutheran Church Women

The Bazaar quilt, made by Betty Jacobs, is hanging in the narthex and if you would like tickets please talk with Debra. The quilt is very beautiful and is sure to keep you warm this winter.



**Lydia circle** will continue to meet on the first and third Mondays at 5:30, both in person and via Zoom. If you would like more information please reach out to Karen or Mary.

**Naomi circle** will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of the month in person, for more information please reach out to Karen Fuentes.

## Gathering Place

Gathering Place is back and ready for you to help prepare and serve a meal. Peace served in June and special thank you to Allan and Judy Camp for going and getting all the supplies, Stoffel Farms for donating the Brats, and Cathy Pryor for serving. The start has been slow, but the numbers are picking up. We served 20 people and each week a few more folks drop in. All are welcome to join us as we serve. We next serve on August 19<sup>th</sup>, September 19<sup>th</sup>, October 21<sup>st</sup>, November 18<sup>th</sup>, and December 16<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity to plan a meal, prepare it, and share with the community.



*As often as you did it for one of my least brothers, you did it for me.*

## BOOK CLUB

***The World According to Ginny Moon*** by Benjamin Ludwig

Ginny is a 14 year old girl with autism, who struggles, with hampered reasoning, to figure out who she is and where she belongs.

After years of childhood trauma, Ginny was removed from the care of her drug-addicted biological mother. Nine at the time, she went from one foster home to another before finally being adopted by a couple who hadn't expected to have a child of their own. But a baby does come along, which complicated things for Ginny. In subsequent days, through much subterfuge and with the help of friends and the Internet, she reconnects with her biological mother. Her focus – drive – compulsion is retrieving her Baby Doll, which she left at her mother's apartment when the police took her away five years before.

Told in the first person, this book is Ginny's voice all the way, meaning that the readers are taken deep into the mind of an autistic child. Granted Ginny is at only one point on the spectrum. Still, her thought process is fascinating.

Definitely a worthwhile, straightforward, well-crafted, emotional read. (It does have a happy ending but there were times I really worried about Ginny.) This book pulls you in right from the start!



We welcome our newest member,  
Cora Iris Kombol!

She came into the world at 9:46 am on June  
24th. She weighed 8 pounds 8 ounces  
and was 20 inches long.



### FOR SALE!

Kenny and Robin Sather are making room in their basement for their grandson! They would like to sell this former player piano which has had the "player" parts removed. It comes with a beautiful glass claw footed piano stool.

**Make an offer!**





- 1 Cathy Pryor
- 6 Mike Jacobs
- Oscar Cabe
- 9 Ken Sather
- 12 Grace Birkestol
- 13 Cody Hoffmeister
- 19 Ryan Norman
- 20 Robin Sather
- Michelle Lilgreen
- 26 Steve DiGregorio
- 27 Spencer Fuentes
- Claire Harrison
- 31 Christy Jacobs

**Our Church Council Members 2021:**

- President— Larry Sather
- Vice-President—Al Camp
- Secretary—(position open)
- Treasurer—Cathy Pryor
- PLCW Rep.—Stephanie Bean
- Youth Rep.—Tammy Chase
- At Large: Dave Tripp
- Larry Bean
- Dennis Dicken
- Linda Legler
- Staff: Pastor Annette
- Mary Fuentes

**Food Bank items for July:**

*Easy meals and snacks for kids to prepare.*

Items would include non-perishable sandwich items such as peanut butter and jelly, easy meals like mac and cheese and snack items like granola bars and jerky.



**June**

**Food Collection Report**

We currently have 17 boxes of Cereal along with a few other items.  
*Thank you for your continued support!*

**Office Hours**

Due to medical appointments, Becky’s office hours in the church office will be irregular. Please call before venturing to the office to make sure she is there.

**Go Green Tip!**



Switch off the water while you soap up, its all too easy to lose track of time when you are in the shower (whether or not you are singing). To save water, turn off the shower once you are wet, lather up with soap and shampoo at your leisure, and turn the flow back on only once you are ready to rinse off.



# JULY



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
<b>4</b> 8:30am Worship in the parking lot 10am Worship in the sanctuary	<b>5</b> 10:00 Women's AA 5:30pm Lydia Circle In person & Zoom	<b>6</b> 12:00 AA	<b>7</b> 11:30 PLCW in person meeting	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 12:00 AA	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 8:30am Worship in the parking lot 10am Worship in the sanctuary	<b>12</b> 10:00 Women's AA	<b>13</b> 12:00 AA	<b>14</b> 9:30am Naomi Circle in person meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 12:00 AA	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 8:30am Worship in the parking lot 10am Worship in the sanctuary	<b>19</b> 10:00 Women's AA 5:30pm Lydia Circle In person & Zoom	<b>20</b> 12:00 AA 6pm Church Council meeting	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 12:00 AA	<b>24</b> 6:00 Community Night
<b>25</b> 8:30am Worship in the parking lot 10am Worship in the sanctuary	<b>26</b> 10:00 Women's AA	<b>27</b> 12:00 AA 6pm Book Club	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 12:00 AA	<b>31</b>

Peace Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 100  
Silvana, WA 98287

## WORSHIP OPTIONS AT PEACE

- We offer “Worship in the Home” resources that are either emailed or mailed to your home.



- We now offer two Sunday Worship services! 8:30am **in your car in our parking lot**. Simply tune your car radio to listen. This service is also broadcast on Facebook Live.

- At 10am there is a masked and socially distanced **worship inside in the sanctuary**.



- Our website, [www.plsilvana.org](http://www.plsilvana.org) offers a link to our Sunday Worship which is posted to the website on Sunday afternoon, weekly reflections by Mary Fuentes and crafts with Phoebe.

- Facebook is another option. Most Sundays you can now watch the service live on Facebook or watch it recorded later.

