

The Witness of Peace

NOVEMBER 2021

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Prayer for Autumn Days



God of the seasons, there is a time for everything; there is a time for dying and a time for rising.
We need courage to enter into the transformation process.

God of autumn, the trees are saying goodbye to their green, letting go of what has been. We, too,
have our moments of surrender, with all their insecurity and risk.
Help us to let go when we need to do so.

God of fallen leaves lying in colored patterns on the ground, our lives have their own patterns.
As we see the patterns of our own growth, may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights, there is always the dimension of mystery and
wonder in our lives. We always need to recognize your power-filled presence.
May we gain strength from this.

God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain, many gifts of growth lie within the season of
our surrender. We must wait for harvest in faith and hope.
Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.

God of geese going south for another season, your wisdom enables us to know what needs to be
left behind and what needs to be carried into the future.
We yearn for insight and vision.

God of flowers touched with frost and windows wearing white designs, may your love keep our
hearts from growing cold in the empty seasons.

God of life, you believe in us, you enrich us, you entrust us with the freedom to choose life.
For all this, we are grateful.
- Sr. Joyce Rupp, OSM

From the Bishop: What is Our Purpose?



The ELCA's Statement of Purpose is found in every congregation constitution, every synod constitution and in the ELCA Constitution. In the ELCA Constitution (4.01) we read: "The Church is a people created by God in Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, called and sent to bear witness to God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying activity in the world." This same Statement of Purpose is found in the NWWA Synod Constitution S6.01 and in the Model Constitution for Congregations C4.01. I encourage you to read ELCA's entire Statement of Purpose. It is beautiful and energizing. (Find the constitutions here: <https://www.lutheransnw.org/resources/constitutions>)

When I read the Statement of Purpose, it helps me remember who and whose I am and what I am called to do and to be. You see, sometimes we forget. Sometimes we forget what it means to be children of God, redeemed by Christ, and sent into the world. Sometimes we get caught up in finances or building maintenance, we get lost in petty disagreements and who should do what and so many other things, that we forget that we are created, empowered, called, and sent by God – by GOD – to live into and to share what God is already doing in the world – in God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying work in and for the world.

How do we live into this Statement of Purpose?

Below I propose three ways that we can (there are many more but I only have so much space).

Relationship: There are so many people in this world who are lonely, who are discouraged, who are anxious, who are tired. There are so many who feel unloved, unwelcomed, unwanted. They are living in your neighborhood, they are shopping at your grocery store, they have kids in school with your kids or grandkids, they are walking by your church every day. They are looking for relationship and for friendship. In a 2019 survey by CIGNA, 61% of working people identified as lonely. Did you catch that? Over half of people who are working are lonely. And this survey was taken before the pandemic. I can only surmise that the number is higher after 18 months of COVID life. Other studies I have read state that loneliness and isolation lead to physical and emotional difficulties as well as societal polarization. This is obviously a problem in this country. So, how do we have deep meaningful conversations so that people feel welcome and heard? Have connection and deep friendship? How does this fit with our Statement of Purpose?

Impact: There are so many people in this world who are looking to do something meaningful, to change the world for the better. There are so many people who wonder how they can make a difference, how they can positively influence their communities locally, nationally, and globally. These people are living in your neighborhood, they are shopping at your grocery store, they have kids in school with your kids or grandkids, they are walking by your church every day. They are looking for impact in this world. How can they be our partners in the ministries we are already doing and in the ministries they are doing? How can we listen to them to hear what other ideas might come through the Holy Spirit working in them and through their innovation? What partners do we need to multiply the impact of your ministry site in your neighborhood? How does this fit with our Statement of Purpose?

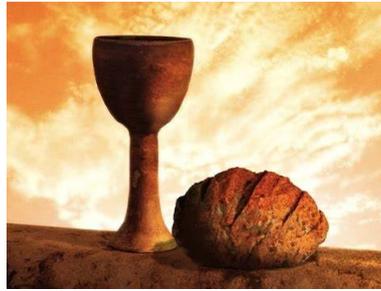
Transformation: There are so many people in this world who are looking for transformation, for new life, for a new path. There are so many people who have lost hope in institutions, in the church, in their lives. These people are living in your neighborhood, they are shopping at your grocery store, they have kids in school with your kids or grandkids, they are walking by your church every day. They are looking for resurrection. How is your ministry site set up to not only welcome those searching, but honoring who they are? How do they know that their story is welcome? How is the good news shared with those who have never heard it and are desperate to hear? How does this fit with our Statement of Purpose?

I invite you to look at ELCA's Statement of Purpose – or your own congregation Statement of Purpose and discuss in your councils, Adult Forums, small groups, and elsewhere. What other questions or thoughts come out of what you read?

Together may we live drenched in God's love and sent out to share the Good News. For we are created, redeemed, called, and sent to live into and share in God's creative, redeeming, and sanctifying activity in the world.

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee / bishop@lutheransnw.org

PLEASE NOTE THIS IMPORTANT UPDATE!



WORSHIP NEWS

At our congregational meeting on October 17, there was a vote by a strong majority that defeated the council proposal to adopt an every other week indoor/parking lot 9:15 am worship schedule. At the October 19 council meeting, the council voted to resume our regular Sunday schedule:

9:00 am Education/Sunday School hour

10:00 am worship in the sanctuary.

While local Covid cases remain high, we will continue to require masks and social distancing during indoor gatherings. We plan to continue streaming via FB Live, as well as transmitting to the parking lot for those who are not ready to return to indoor worship.

We will return to this schedule on All Saints Sunday, November 7th.



WE REMEMBER, AND GIVE THANKS!

All Saints 2021

Sue Sather

Brian Vanwinkle

Bruce Ferguson

Carol Mendenhall

...and the thousands of lives lost to Covid-19

Remember to “fall back” and set your clocks back an hour Saturday night!

Are you called to serve the congregation on council?

Your church council is the legal, leadership team of the congregation and makes many important decisions about our corporate life. The council meets once a month for 1.5-2 hours in the early evening on the third Tuesday of the month.

Currently we need to elect officers for a 2-year term in several key positions:

council president: works with Pastor Annette to stay attentive to the overall needs of the congregation, helps set agenda and direction for council meetings, serves as chair for council meetings.

council secretary: takes minutes at every council and congregational meeting and works with the church office to ensure these minutes are properly archived.

treasurer: *please note* that this position is very different than it used to be- and a LOT easier! An outside accountant oversees all the payment of bills and payroll, as well as maintenance of all digital financial records. The treasurer serves as our legal representative and main contact with the accountant, keeps oversight of our financial standing, approves payments and reimbursements, communicates with the council and helps prepare the annual budget and reports to the congregation. Anyone who has basic computer skills, is well organized and feels comfortable keeping track of financial details can serve in this important role. You will be well trained in the current system, which is fairly straight forward and easy to learn. **Please consider if you could serve in this necessary role!**

We also need two special representatives- a youth/family rep and a PLCW rep: In addition to members at large, our constitution also includes a representative on the council to advocate for the needs of our youth and to maintain good communication with PLCW. These reps commit to a 1 year term.

Please let Pastor Annette or a current council member know if you are willing to serve in one of these important roles.



Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

We need a little help making our joyful sound on Sunday mornings! Do you know a pianist who might be able to play for worship a couple times a month? Please think through your local network and start asking around. Let Pastor Annette know of any suggested leads you have to help us find the right person who would be happy to support our music during worship. **Thank you!**

Youth/Family/Community

It's stormy outside and the fire is burning hot in my stove and keeping me nice and warm. I hope you are all warm and dry and able to enjoy spending time inside with family and friends. Phoebe and I have already started watching Hallmarks count down to Christmas and planning some fun advent crafts. We have also planned a couple winter walks to take and hope to go sledding. My hope is that the sledding will be up in the mountains and not down here in Silvana. I'm excited to be giving children's messages once again and planning monthly family nights. We kicked off family night with the annual Harvest party and enjoyed some tasty home-grown roasted vegetables, games, cake walk, and of course a pinata that wouldn't break.

Thankful Family Night will be on the third Saturday November 20th at 5:30 in the fellowship hall. We will be serving dinner, have a short message, games, and a craft. All are invited and encouraged to bring friends and family to the gathering. Hope to see you all for a fun evening of fellowship and dinner. I'm also working on Advent family nights and trying to plan something for everyone with an indoor-outdoor style. Dinner and craft will be inside and then we will move to the parking lot for worship and a message. If you have a suggestion, please give me a call.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

TO ADOPT 2022 BUDGET

AND ELECT COUNCIL MEMBERS

Following Worship on **Sunday, November 21.**



Mission of the Month: Our local Cold Weather Shelter

Many changes are in the works for our local cold weather shelter. In the past Arlington area churches took turns on a rotating basis. Now a new building has been purchased. Plans are being made and meetings are on-going. Lets help support this developing mission.

Peace Lutheran Church Women

A Tradition Paused.....

For more than 70 years the first Saturday of November would find the women of Peace hosting a Fall Bazaar...not last year however, and again, not this year. Concern for the well being of our church family and the greater community caused us to put the Bazaar off until next fall.

The Bazaar is PLCW's main fundraiser and the last several years has made between \$9,000 - \$10,000 each year. Much of this money is given in benevolences to groups such as Housing Hope, Kids Closet, Camp Lutherwood, Domestic Violence Shelters, the Gospel Mission, Peoria Home, Cocoon House, the Gathering Place, Lutheran World Relief and others. We also support our youth with Bibles to third graders and graduates as well as camperships to Lutherwood and Holden Village.

Peace women want to continue to give to these organizations that do so much to support people in need and you can help! Please consider giving a donation to PLCW. A suggestion is to give what you would have spent on the two pies you would have donated each year or the money you would have spent donating to our Gift Card Tree or the cost of any crafts you would have made. Think of what you might have spent at our Bakery or on lefse, rommegrot or lunch! We will use your gifts along with offerings from our monthly meetings and offerings from the circles to fund our benevolences in 2022.

And you can plan to be at Peace on Saturday, November 5, **2022** where you will find our famous lefse, rommegrot, baked goods, crafts and much more along with a tasty lunch to enjoy with friends and family. Our tradition will continue next year!

Gathering Place:

Peace will be serving at the Gathering place on Thursday, November 18th and Sunday, December 16th. If you would like to serve, please give me a call. Each month we try to fix something different just to mix it up a little. We begin preparing dinner between 3:30 and 4. We start serving at 5pm, but before we begin, we gather for a group blessing. We are blessed that Our Saviors has been letting us use their kitchen and gathering hall for these many years.

September Financial Update:

Income to the General Fund totaled \$12,381.03

This included our **Mission of the Month** collection for the Silvana Fire Dept of \$455.00

Expenses totaled \$15,017.10

Our **Mission Investment Fund** had a total of \$117,750.49 on September 30th after earning \$48.27 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!



In case you had not heard, the Washington State Ferry system is having some challenges staffing all its routes. One of the routes affected is the one Pastor Annette depends on to get to church- the Mukilteo/Clinton run. Reducing the 2 boat schedule down to 1 boat has a tremendous impact on her commute. Please be aware that due to significant back ups and extended travel time, she may experience difficulties getting to the office on some week days. Let us hope that these ferry woes will be resolved SOON- for everyone's sake!

November Book Club selection: *Driving Miss Norma*

When Miss Norma was diagnosed with uterine cancer, she was advised to undergo surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy. But instead of confining herself to a hospital bed for what could be her last stay, Miss Norma—newly widowed after nearly seven decades of marriage—rose to her full height of five feet and told her doctor, “I’m ninety years old. I’m hitting the road.” Infused with this irrepressible nonagenarian’s wisdom, courage, and generous spirit, *Driving Miss Norma* is the charming, infectiously joyous chronicle of their experiences on the road. It portrays a transformative journey of living life on your own terms that shows us that it is never too late to begin an adventure, inspire hope, or become a trailblazer.

She died September 30, 2016 here in Washington State – her service was in Friday Harbor. The book was written by her son, Tim Bauerschmidt.

Worship Participants

<u>Date</u>	<u>Ushers</u> 10:00	<u>Communion</u> 10:00	<u>Lectors</u> 10:00	<u>Counters</u>
November 7	Karen Fuentes Phoebe Fuentes	Simon Fuentes	Spencer Fuentes	Jolene Rod Larry Bean
November 14	Janeen Smith Jordy Tyler	Jordy Tyler	Connie DiGregorio	Karen & Dennis Dicken
November 21	Larry Bean Mary Fuentes	Stephanie Bean	Mary Fuentes	Al & Judy Camp
November 28	Jordy Tyler Mary Fuentes	Patti Jones	Mary Fuentes	Ralph & Gwen Dalseg



- 1 Jim Lux
- Bill Rod
- 9 Shirley Cupic
- 12 David Sather
- 14 Ruth Schei
- Sunny Moyer
- 21 Connie DiGregorio
- 22 Gwen Dalseg
- 24 Patti Vroman
- Ralph Dalseg
- 24 Joan Johnson
- 25 Mike Brady
- 28 Elizabeth Hubbard
- 29 Ron Cabe

Holiday Food bank items

Once again we will be collecting canned corn for the Arlington Food Bank’s Holiday baskets for both November and December. We usually provide 300 cans or 25 cases for each month. Cash is also welcomed.



Other holiday meal items will also be accepted.

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 collections in October:

Last months collection for healthy kids snack items was a success. There were 72 assorted fruit cups, 48 fruit snacks and roll ups, 18 boxes of raisins, 16 granola bars, 8 packages of cocoa mix and 1 jar of peanut butter. There was also a collection of other food items including the 5 jars of oil which were a carry over from September.

*The Stanwood/Camano Food Bank
Thanks you!*

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.



November



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 10:00 Women's AA 6:15 Lydia	2 10:00 Alanon 12:00 AA	3 11:30 PLCW in person meeting	4	5 12:00 AA	6
7 9 am Sunday school 10am Worship in the sanctuary & broadcast to the parking lot.	8 10:00 Women's AA	9 10:00 Alanon 12:00 AA	10 9:30 Naomi Circle	11 Veteran's Day	12 12:00 AA	13 Lutherwood Auction on-line 10-2:30 Freeborn craft fair & bake sale 5:30 4-H
14 9 am Sunday school 10am Worship in the sanctuary & broadcast to the parking lot.	15 10:00 Women's AA 6:15 Lydia	16 10:00 Alanon 12-AA 6-AA 6-Council	17 10:00 LWR Quilting	18 3:30 or 4pm Gathering Place dinner preparation 5pm Dinner	19 12:00 AA	20 5:30 Thankful Family Night
21 9 am Sunday school 10am Worship 11am Congrega- tional Meeting	22 10:00 Women's AA 6:15pm Lydia Circle	23 10:00 Alanon 12-AA	24	25 Thanksgiving Day	26 12:00 AA	27
28 9 am Sunday school 10am Worship in the sanctuary & broadcast to the parking lot.	29 10:00 Women's AA	30 10:00 Alanon 12-AA 6pm Book Club	Go-Green tip: When its time, replace appliances to energy efficient models (look for the energy star label).			

Peace Lutheran Church
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Contact us:
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pastor@plsilvana.org



WORSHIP OPTIONS AT PEACE

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

At 9am we will now have Sunday School!

At 10am there is a masked and socially distanced **worship** inside in the sanctuary at Peace. At the same time the service will be broadcast over the radio to the cars in the parking lot.

Our website, 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.