

Faith Abounds

Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church – March 2009



Words from Pastor Kari....

- Plunging into Lent -

From the brilliant white light of Transfiguration Sunday (February 22), we plunge into the somber purple of Lent. Right before heading up the mountain, Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.’” (Mark 9:1).

Six days later, Peter James and John see the kingdom of God coming with power right before their eyes in the person of Jesus himself. Peter gets so excited about it that he wants to capture the moment – capture the kingdom-of-God-power and stay there on the mountain. Instead, Jesus leads them back DOWN the mountain again.

And soon after that they “taste death” with a vengeance, watching that same Jesus - their own Lord and Messiah – crucified. It seems like the most tragic horrifying defeat of the kingdom of God they could ever imagine: to see that bright and shining Jesus brought low and bloodied on a cross.

Of course Peter James and John – and the rest of us too – come to learn the glorious good news that Jesus defeats death itself by dying. Alleluia!

But it’s important not to skip over the darkness and death that Jesus experienced. It’s important that we don’t jump from Transfiguration Sunday to Easter Sunday, ignoring Ash Wednesday, Lent, and the Passion of the Jesus story. It’s important that we follow Jesus even through those dark places – because Jesus did not skip death. Jesus conquered death. By dying. *And* rising again. And, in the end, that’s the best news of all. Jesus redeems all that we experience by experiencing it fully. He gives us the gift of eternal life and calls us to face our own deaths with the freedom that comes with knowing he has faced it first. Death is not the “undiscovered country.” Even death itself belongs to Jesus Christ.

The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday (February 25), which is the day we gather to remember together that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Sounds gloomy, eh? And yet – we are also marked with the cross of Christ forever. Which means that we are in God’s hands forever – nothing can snatch us out of God’s hands. Not even death.

Like all Jesus’ disciples before us, we will indeed taste death. We won’t escape it. AND we will also “see that the kingdom of God has come with power.” And that power will break the chains of death so that we will not be held in its grip. Brothers and sisters: we are in God’s hands forever. YOU are in God’s hands forever. Alleluia!

Vision Statement

Faith Lutheran is a congregation, which *equips* members to be disciples of Christ, and *provides* for the spiritual well being of one another.

An Invitation to Prayer



“Let us pray for the whole people of God...”

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| † Family and friends of Hilda Davidson at her death. | † Tom & Charlotte Hudson |
| † Jeffrey & Aidan Roe (Arne’s son & grandson) at the death of wife & mother Jennifer. | † Phillip Stordahl for guidance and healing. |
| † Family & friends of Ron Hegedus (the Briggs son-in-law’s brother) at his death. | † Georgia Mallery (mother of Diane Scott). |
| † Ella Songstad & Barbara Englund for healing. | † Our Bantu family. |
| † Elma Hough, mother of Nancy Bolling. | † Mayskiy & Prohladniy congregations. |
| † Dana (Betty Woods’ grandson) & Pastor Dick Wendt. | † Maluhia Lutheran & St. Phillips Episcopal in Hawaii |
| † Patricia & Jeffrey Mallery for continued healing & strength. | † Our Trinity Lutheran College interns: Michele, Shannon, Jocelyn & Leanne. |
| † Ken Scott, Crystal & James Abada-O’Mallery deployed to Iraq. | † Pastor Iqbal and the Faith International congregation. |
| | † Pastor Esa and the Micronesian congregation. |
| | † All others in our Faith & Zion families who are ill or housebound. |

“Through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”



Come Celebrate Lent with us at Faith Lutheran

Each Wednesday during Lent (**March 4, March 11, March 18, March 25, April 1**) come celebrate with a Soup Supper beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and a Holden Evening Prayer beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Signups for soup/bread/beverages are posted in the Fellowship Hall. Please speak with Karen Hanson (425) 353-1895 if you have any questions.

Also, IF you would like to sing/play and instrument during the Holden Evening Prayer, please contact Pastor Kari.



During Lent, Christ invites you to follow him. . . daily

Daily Discipleship is a free, online, downloadable, lectionary Bible study based on the gospel lesson used at Sunday worship. Each weekly session is designed for "Daily Discipleship Groups" of two–seven people who gather to prepare for upcoming Sunday worship (or to reflect on the previous week's reading) by discussing the assigned gospel lesson's implications for daily living. It can also be used for personal devotions.

We will be using this format for Wednesday afternoon Bible Studies 1:15-2:30pm during Lent. Please use this internet resource. We will print copies for those who would like to use the resource but do not have a computer.

<p>March 1 First Sunday in Lent The Path of Discipleship: <i>Into the Wilderness</i> Primary Text: March 1:9-15</p>	<p>March 29 Fifth Sunday in Lent The Path of Discipleship: <i>In the Footsteps</i> Primary Text: John 12:20-33</p>
<p>March 8 Second Sunday in Lent The Path of Discipleship: <i>Beyond Oneself</i> Primary Text: Mark 8:13-38</p>	<p>April 5 Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion The Path of Discipleship: <i>Beneath the Cross</i> Primary Text: Mark 14:1-15:47</p>
<p>March 15 Third Sunday in Lent The Path of Discipleship: <i>Through the Maze</i> Primary Text: John 2:13-22</p>	<p>April 12 Easter The Path of Discipleship: <i>Beyond the Grave</i> Primary Text: John 20:1-18</p>
<p>March 22 Fourth Sunday in Lent The Path of Discipleship: <i>Within the Light</i> Primary Text: John 3:14-21</p>	



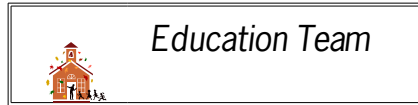
Fellowship Committee is still working on our "calendar of events" for 2009. We would encourage you to mark these dates on your calendar to avoid conflicts of scheduling.

Starting on March 4, there will be the Lenten Soup Suppers at 6:00 p.m. before the Evening Holden Prayer services at 7:00 p.m. On April 18, we will have the Women's Luncheon at 1:00 p.m. with a speaker on Laughter Therapy. On Sunday, May 17 (Norwegian Independence Day) we will be having a special celebration to honor Inez Anderson before she leaves to move to California.

On Sunday, June 14, we will celebrate the last day of Sunday School with an ice cream social during coffee hour. In August (tbd), we hope to go to an Aquasox game (always fun)

and in September, there will be a Rally Day event with a hotdog picnic. On Sunday, October 18, we will have a movie event in the Fellowship Hall with popcorn and ice cream.

We welcome your input on these and other events you would like to see and help facilitate.
~ Andrea Hookey



We would like to thank everyone that participated in our fundraiser dinner on Feb. 13th, because of your generosity we raised over \$500.00.

We would also like to thank the kids for all their hard work - they were awesome! Thank you Aubree, Courtney, Kayla, Taylor, Shannon, and Vincent - you went above and beyond! We are so very proud of you. Thank you to the fellowship committee, and the quilters for your donations to the raffle. We made \$114.00 on the raffle. Thank you to Andrea for running the raffle. All and all it was a big success!

The kids have done a number of jobs that we are very grateful for such as, baking communion bread and singing special music for Community Celebration of Pastor Kari's anniversary, finished the nursery service project during a sleepover at the church, and ushering on Sunday mornings.

We are also working on putting together a preschool program for Sunday mornings, hopefully to start in March. We have a good number of preschoolers now so we want to offer them a class too. We will keep you posted on this new endeavor.

The elementary kids have a chance to go to an overnight camp at Camp Lutherwood in March - we are working on the registration process now. The kids are excited about this. The youth group will be going to camp from July 19 to July 24 this year. Our three senior high students will be attending a camp called Councilor In Training, as they are all interested in being camp leaders. The other kids are attending Adventure camp, which coincides with the senior high program. They are all looking forward to going to camp this year.

Thank you to all who have helped in our education program for Jan and Feb. We appreciate all you do!
~ Submitted by, Janie May - Education team



The Women's Annual Spring Luncheon is set for **Saturday, April 18 at 1:00 p.m.** Come and learn more about therapeutic laughter and how to laugh your way to a better 2009.

Our featured speaker is Betsy Wright Loving, a licensed psychotherapist with a Master's Degree in social work. She is also a certified laughter leader.

Please join us for lunch and a wonderful afternoon. We request your R.S.V.P. by April 10th. Respond if you will to: Sonja Bartholomew-(425) 353-7315 or Karen Hanson-(425) 353-1895.



Mission Discovery Process

Letter we received from Zion Lutheran Church:

"The congregation of Zion Lutheran Church, Everett, WA, wishes to thank God for the love and support given to us through our gracious neighbors in Christ, Faith Lutheran Church in Everett. Our fruitful journey together magnifies the Lord. Let us

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continue to proclaim the gospel and share the word and sacraments together. May God in his grace guide our congregations, sharing his gifts in South Everett."

Letter from Faith Lutheran sent to Zion Lutheran Church:

"During our annual congregational meeting February 1, 2009, Faith Lutheran Church congregation voted overwhelmingly to accept all recommendations of the Joint Mission Discovery Report which included the commitment to a shared future with Zion Lutheran Church. **Thanks be to God!**

The presence of the Holy Spirit was quite evident in that John Mickelson arrived at our meeting (just as discussion was to begin on this subject) with your heartfelt note expressing Zion's faith and trust in the Lord to discover God's mission in south Everett and appreciation for love and support from the Faith congregation. We were able to share this note with our congregation as it considered the recommendations.

It is with glad and open hearts that we look forward to the next steps to a future with the Zion congregation."



New Council Members

After prayerful consideration at last Saturday's Council Retreat, the following were elected as our Council officers:

- † **Ethel Briggs – President**
- † **Pete Kinch – Vice President**
- † **Norma Homann – Secretary**
- † **Arne Roe - Treasurer**
- † **Council Members include: Sonja Bartholomew, Nancy Bolling, Carl Hanson, Verna Randall, Yvette Schneider and Ken Weissinger.**

Thank you for your service to our church and community.

Please note that all council meetings are OPEN. Please join us the second Tuesday each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Library. Our March meeting is Tuesday, March 10 at 6:00 p.m.

Save the Date!



Mark your calendars:

- Leadership Council – **March 2, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** at the South Everett Neighborhood Center. Join you fellow community members to secure resources for the Center and make a difference in your neighborhoods. www.senc.familiasunidadeverett.com
- Lutheran Community Services NW and your host Yvette Schneider invite you to a Champagne Brunch to celebrate the programs of LCS and their impact on the lives of children, families and seniors – **Sunday, April 19 at 1:00 p.m.** with social time and banquet at 1:30 p.m. Lynnwood Embassy Suites. For more info., call (206) 694-5700.



January 2009

* Offerings *



January	4	\$ 3,816.50
	11	1,229.18
	18	1,419.00
	25	<u>1,186.00</u>
Total		\$ 7,650.68
Expenses		\$12,090.20

Mar. Anniversaries

Stan & Shirley Palmer
Eliphaz & Nargis Mall



March Birthdays & Anniversaries



1	Ella Songstad
5	Carol Donaldson
11	Elaine Heming
11	Yvette Schneider
13	Sally Maynard
17	Ethel Briggs
19	Mamie Olson
22	Virginia Hull

 Serving Us In Worship 

March Deacon – Dave Hull

Assisting Minister (Reader)

Mar. 1	Sonja Bartholomew
8	Jennifer Mease
15	Ethel Briggs
22	David Schneider
29	Pete Kinch

Communion Assistant

Mar. 1	June Rigby
8	Ginni Hull
15	Inge Duerr
22	Yvette Schneider
29	Diane Kinch

Altar Guild

Mar. 1	Carol Donaldson
8	Ginni Hull
15	June Rigby
22	Inge Duerr
29	Winnie Atkinson

Acolytes

Mar. 1	Courtney Strom
8	Kayla Olson
15	Shannon Tomsheck
22	Taylor Abramson
29	Aubree Strom

Flowers

Mar. 1	Diane & Rick Scott
8	Albert & Andrea Hookey
15	Karen & Carl Hanson
22	Ginni & Dave Hull
29	Sonja Bartholomew

Coffee Hosts

Mar. 1	Hookeys/Scotts
8	Pete & Diane Kinch
15	Karen & Carl Hanson
22	Ginni & Dave Hull
29	Tomshecks/Anthony

Minister of the Altar

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Sunday School

March Teachers –

March - Bud Alkire

Andrea Hookey / Nancy Bolling
March Snacks – Diane Kinch

Ushers

Mar.1 Don & Ethel Briggs
8 Taylor Abramson/Nancy Bolling
15 Inge Duerr/Marie Whittaker
22 Aubree Strom/Kristen Anderson
29 June Page/Winnie Atkinson

Offering Counters

Mar.1 Ethel Briggs/Juanita Starkey
8 Norma Homann/June Page
15 Andrea Hookey/Charlotte Benusa
22 Karen Hanson/Shirley Palmer
29 Marie Whittaker/Lois Hardtarfer