

The
GRAPEVINE NEWSLETTER
March 2020



From Our Pastor:

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I am so grateful to now be part of you, and very much look forward to growing in relationship with each one of you. It will take time to develop those relationships and build the trust that comes with living and serving side-by-side, but your warm welcome has been heartwarming and much appreciated.

Wow, there is a lot of life going on in and through Beautiful Savior's building! It is delightful to see how committed this congregation is to providing space for various groups and activities that support the people across a broad spectrum of people in the community, *and* witnessing how different teams within the congregation make use of the building stage outreach care for people beyond our walls. It is exciting to join in ministry with folk who so actively engage the world!

Lent is fast upon us, with Ash Wednesday Feb. 26, beginning our 40 days and nights of intentional contemplation of God's love shown to us through Jesus' risky commitment to life (and death) on earth. This year we will use the season to explore what it means to "live wet" (focus: implications of the baptismal covenant). On Wednesday this theme will be enfolded within *Holden Evening Prayer* as follows:

Overarching Theme:

Open My Life, Lord

Focused by the

Promises of our Baptismal Covenant

- #1 **Theme:** *Open My Eyes, Lord*
Covenant promise: To live among God's faithful people
Scripture: Isaiah 42:5-9 & Acts 26:4-18

- #2 **Theme:** *Open My Hands, Lord*
Covenant promise: To serve all people, following the example of Jesus
Scripture: Deuteronomy 15:7-11 & John 13:12b-15, 14: 12

- # 3 **Theme:** *Open My Ears, Lord*
Covenant promise: To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper
Scripture: Psalm 19:7-10 & Luke 22:14-20

- # 4: **Theme:** *Open My Heart, Lord*
Covenant promise: To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
Scripture: Acts 16:11-15 & Luke 24:44-49

- # 5 **Theme:** *Open My Life, Lord*
Covenant promise: To strive for justice and peace in all the earth
Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:15-20a & John 14:10-13

Blessings along the way,

Pastor Jean



Youth and Family Ministry -Kirsten Larsen

Newsletter Article March 2020 - "RESET"

RESET. As we are in the season of Lent, preparing for Jesus' triumphant resurrection on Easter, the word "reset" comes to mind: re-set, re-center, return to the Lord your God, whose love is everlasting. With all the trauma and transitioning that has happened in my time here, it is an appropriate season to reset our children, youth, and family ministry programs at Beautiful Savior, and start things off on a good note with Pastor Jean. I'd like to accomplish this in two ways:

First, relational work with all our students and families. I'd like to come to your house (or wherever you eat together as a family!) for a meal, to get to know you and your kids better, and be in conversation about your family's faith journey. This doesn't need to be an elaborate meeting or meal, and I appreciate the opportunity to meet with your family amid busy schedules. I am available most weeknights and weekends, and I'd like to meet with every family with children and youth before Easter. Please contact me to set up a date!
youthdirector@beautifulsaviorlutheran.com

Second, establishing a children, youth and family (CYF) ministry board that incorporates leaders, volunteers, parents, and students to strengthen and build our existing ministries. We'll have a meal after church, a family devotion, brainstorm ideas for CYF ministry, and share event dates for the next 3-4 months. The first meeting will be Sunday, March 22, 12:15 -1:15 pm in the fellowship hall, with a lunch served. All are welcome (including children and youth), but RSVP to me so I know how much food to provide.

SWWA Synod Youth Gathering, March 6 - 8 at Camp Arnold in Eatonville, WA: All youth (6th - 12th grade) are welcome to attend this annual retreat, hosted by the ALYVE board! There will be games, good food, workshops, night games, prayer stations, and music lead by National Youth Gathering musician Ryan Brown. We need TWO adult leaders to make this happen, would you be willing to have fun with the youth for a weekend? Talk to Kirsten if you want to be an adult leader! Retreat registration at this link: <https://forms.gle/cxGPhTQYWfcZvQiL9>

Vancouver/Camas Lutheran Young Adults group

The Vancouver/Camas Lutheran Young Adults group (20's & 30's) will meet at Final Draft Taphouse, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Join us for Pub Theology! All young adults and their friends are welcome to join us!

Sunday Adult Forum Opportunity!

"Anger, Judging, Compassion, and Confession"

A study of biblical texts about anger, judging and compassion, and taking a closer look at the words and practice of Confession in our worship.

We live in a world increasingly divided by politics, religion, and a host of other factors. As a Reconciling in Christ congregation, we "commit ourselves to offering openness and understanding, justice and healing to all people". This faith formation opportunity is intended to help us explore what scripture has to say about these concepts of faithful living. Taught by retired pastor Gerald Hoffman, this class will begin March 1st and meet each Sunday morning in between services during the season of Lent. If you are interested in exploring how we can more fully live into our commitment to be a RIC congregation, please come! All are welcome for a time of study and conversation.

Can we do more to make Beautiful Savior Lutheran a truly inclusive congregation for children and adults with disabilities?

Let's talk about it! March 22, 2020 from 1:30-3:30 at St Andrew Lutheran Church in Vancouver, let's hear about the issue of faith communities and inclusion. PEACE (Parents Empowered And Communities Enhanced) is a local nonprofit providing resources and support for adults and children with disabilities and their families. PEACE, Bethesda and St. Andrews Lutheran Church, together are sponsoring this event and you are invited. We couldn't get Jesus as a speaker -- and I think he'd be SO into this issue-- but Dr. Erik Carter, a national expert on inclusion, will present almost as well. The fact is, some families need a more than a welcome mat at the front door in order to participate. They want to be part of our congregation, but disabilities can make it overwhelmingly hard. We can't change what we don't notice is a problem. Please, come be part of the solution. Questions: please contact Eva Luchini at (360) 241-7168 or eva.bigmama@gmail.com



Faith on Foot: March 21st to hike in Forest Park. Meet at BSLC at 7:45 AM to carpool. All are welcome! Bring water and a snack. Talk to Don Houck with any questions.

Wednesday @ Church full program - Resumes on April 22.

Ash Wednesday is February 26 @ 12:15 PM and 7 PM.

Soup 'n Bread Suppers begin at 6:15 during the Wednesdays in Lent. Lenten Worship is at 7 PM. Please sign up in the narthex to share a pot of soup, loaf of bread, or help with clean up.

Next Shred Day - May 16th, 10 - 1 PM

\$5.00 - \$10 donation per banker sized box. Proceeds benefit Mexico Mission 2020

Worship & Music Committee Meeting

Mar 10th, 4:30 PM

Peace and Justice Meeting

The Peace and Justice Ministry will be holding their monthly potluck and meeting on Monday, March 16th, 6 PM at the home of Rick/Ann Giles (6132 Broadview Lane, 98661)



Congregational Bible Study Book Club

Beautiful Savior's Bible Study Book Club will be meeting at 5:45 on Ash Wednesday (bring your own supper) and at 5:30 throughout Lent. We've got too much good stuff to talk about! For example:

"[T]oo many Easter Services begin with a man standing before a congregation of Christians and shouting "He is risen!" to a chorused response of "He is risen indeed!" Were we to honor the symbolic details of the [role of Mary Magdalene in the Bible], that distinction would always belong to a woman." A Year of Biblical Womanhood p. 145.

More food for thought as we ponder the near invisibility of Mary Magdalene in our celebration of the Easter story:

"In this faith, this church confesses that Christianity has been complicit in the sin of patriarchy and sexism through certain beliefs, practices and aspects of its history." Pg 6 of ECLA's Faith, Sexism and Justice Social Statement issued 2019. Find it at www.ELCA.org/womenandjustice

Questions? Contact Eva Luchini at (360) 241-7168 or eva.bigmama@gmail.com.

A belated THANKS to all who participated in the Craft Fair of 2019! Together we raised over \$1500 for our church programs! The funds went to the following programs:

\$200 to the Free Clinic Lunch program
\$150 to the Beautiful Savior Winter Shelter
\$200 to youth programs
\$204 to the Pastor's discretionary fund
\$754 to partner Ministry for 20129, Lutheran World Relief.

Thank you to those who donated, worked at the Craft Fairs or purchased items!

Free Clinic of SW WA - Breakfast/Lunch Program

Did you know that Beautiful Savior packs 250 sack meals a month to hand out to the clients of the Free Clinic? It's one way we can show hospitality to our neighbors! We can always use a few extra hands in the meal making process and delivery of the sack breakfast/lunches. It takes about an hour to make 30 lunches and 20 breakfasts per shift.

The times for making the sack meals are:

Second and Fourth Tuesdays

First and Third and Fifth Thursdays

Start time is either 3:30 or 4 PM, depending on the Team leader.

Team leaders are: Sue Calvert, Hilary Heizenrader, Martha/Gerald Hoffman, Don Houck, and Lynn Shebilske. Contact one of these people to volunteer and find out what time their team begins.

If you're not able to volunteer, the ministry welcomes your financial donation. Just use one of the "pew envelopes" and designate on the front, "LUNCH PROGRAM". Thank you!



We are a
RECONCILING in CHRIST
Congregation

DID YOU KNOW?

Seven members of Beautiful Savior braved the I-5, I-405, Hwy 26, and Hwy 217 circuitous route to Spirit of Grace where we celebrated with other Reconciling in Christ communities. Oregon Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar offered the "Celebration of Welcome" followed by guest pastor, the Reverend Phyllis Zillhart. Yes, Pastor Phyllis was one of the three who were "extraordinary ordained" 30 years ago in San Francisco. I wish I could recall some key phrases that she used....but alas I was caught up in the joy of hearing her words that inspires all of us to continue the path of inclusiveness. We were all uplifted with songs, scripture, special readings

(specifically Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney and Joel Workin), and the soloist from Augustana Lutheran, Marilyn Keller.

An RIC statistic that I'd like to share with you. There are now 930 Lutheran communities that are committed to welcoming LGBTQIA+ persons....500 of which in the last 5 years. I am so proud that Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church of Vancouver, Washington is "out & proud"!!

Submitted by Janelle Petersen

Reconciling In Christ Meeting -

Our next meeting is planned for **Sunday, Mar 29th at 2:00** at the church. Help us plan educational and advocacy events. For questions contact Linda Anglin at 360-597-6093 or nwpeacenik@gmail.com

LGBTQ+ Cultural Competency Workshop -

With Dan Hammer, Lambert House, Seattle

Healing Bridge invites you to this FREE event:

Saturday, March 14, 2020, 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm
Holy Spirit Episcopal Church
2400 NE 9th Ave. Battle Ground

Topics:

- Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation 101
- Emerging LGBTQ+ Vocabulary
- Caring Well When Someone Comes Out
- Extended LGBTQ+ History in the US
- Current Social Landscape and Challenges

Contact: HealingBridgeInfo@Gmail.com to RSVP, so we can prepare enough seats and snacks.

Outreach Committee -

Lunch Buddy Program sponsored by Columbia Valley Elementary School. The program is scheduled for Thursday of each week. Volunteers would spend approximately 30 minutes every Thursday's having lunch with a student. Students can ask to have a lunch buddy, as well as the school's resource dept. picking students that they feel will benefit from having a lunch buddy. Ginger Buzzell has participated in a lunch buddy program in the past and would welcome your call if you would like to ask her any questions. You may also call the school directly. Volunteers will need to fill out a brief clearance form, you can contact Karen Gustafson if you would like to have copy of that form.

Contacts: Danielle Hokanson, Columbia Valley School

Danielle.Hokanson@evergreen.org or call 360-604-3375

Ginger Buzzell, 360-828-7559

Karen Gustafson, 360-260-4175

Partnership with Crestline Elementary School:

Spring Break is scheduled for March 30-April 6th. That means that the children in the free breakfast and lunch program will go without good balanced meals. As we did for their Thanksgiving Break, we sponsored a family and asked our members to donate food to help feed them. And I might add a wonderful job you did. We are again going to sponsor a family for Spring Break. We will be putting a tree in the Narthex. On the tree branches there will be slips of paper with needed food items. Please take one of those slips of paper and return the item, by placing it under the tree. The tree will be up from March 1st thru March 22nd. Once again I would like to thank you, for all you do for our community.

e-Blast



Submitted by David Schroeder ...

“In the end, everyone is our teacher on one level or another. The child is our teacher, our friends, our family, the stranger on the street. Every experience is a challenge; a teaching is always hidden in it. Every thought that bubbles up in our mind can teach us things about ourselves, if we are able to listen ... Our work is not so much to find a teacher as to improve our own receptivity and sharpen our ability to hear the teachings all around us.”
~ David A. Cooper, *“Silence, Simplicity, and Solitude: A Complete Guide to Spiritual Retreat”*

March Birthdays & ♥ Anniversaries ♥

*(Sorry if we missed your name;
please contact the church office)*

03/01	Neal ♥ Joyce Arnston Mike Quigley
03/05	Kathie Fitzgerald Kathe Yorkers
03/07	Mark Jenks Tim Kilgore
03/08	Pete ♥ Laretta Geren
03/11	Benji Hellerud (21 st !) Sean McMillan Hank Woodward
03/12	Dave Engle Marilyn Meek
03/13	Chad Hertel
03/15	Dan ♥ Susan Gustafson Kai Christensen
03/17	Jerry ♥ Nancy Kingston
03/20	Becky Kadrmas Janelle Petersen Jan Voldal
03/22	Rick Giles Gary Johnson Jeremy Robb
03/23	Janet Tipton Charlene Welch
03/24	Lee ♥ Gloy Vining
03/29	Vance Cordell

Thinking about serving?

Here is a current list of Committees, Ministries and Task Force Groups w/contact person(s). Contact the church office or your church directory for phone/email contact information.

Committees:

Christian Education – Sue Calvert
Fellowship – Stacey Benson
Finance – Mary Allred
Music & Worship – Laura Blaisdell
HR Committee – Charlie Heiserman
Outreach – Karen Gustafson
Property – Don Houck/Doug Pike
Social Ministry – Cheryl Pfaff
Stewardship/Mission Endowment –
Carol Taylor

Ministry Teams:

Care Team – Bert Alvaro
Community Garden – Doug Pike
Free Clinic Lunches – Hilary Heizenrader
LWR – Sharron Brainard
Mexico Mission – Kathy Esparza
Peace & Justice – Sonja Vegdahl
Reconciling in Christ – Linda Anglin
Sunday Servant Coordination – Jill Hellerud

Task Force:

Strategic Design –
Lynda Harriman/Terry Snyder
Homelessness – Cheryl Pfaff
Capital Campaign – Lynda Harriman
Emergency Preparedness – Mary Allred
Bylaws/Constitution – Mary Allred

Council Officers:

Ann Giles – President
Heide Maize – Vice President
Karen Cleveland – Secretary
Chuck Woods – Treasurer



clothesline

i
you
us
them
those people
wouldn't it be lovely
if one could
live
in a constant state
of we?
some of the most
commonplace
words
can be some of the biggest dividers
they
what if there was
no they?
what if there
was only
us?

if words could be seen
as they floated out
of our mouths
would we feel no
shame
as they passed beyond
our lips?
if we were to string
our words
on a communal clothesline
would we feel proud
as our thoughts
flapped in the
breeze?

Marilyn Maciel

"clothesline," poem by Marilyn Maciel. Published in Patti Digh, "Life Is a Verb: 37 Days To Wake Up, Be Mindful, And Live Intentionally." (Rowman & Littlefield, 2008), 42.