



**Mt Si Lutheran
November
2020
Mini GOOD
NEWSletter**

Grace and Peace to you all, beloved of God.

This is a season for taking the time to breathe deeply. Not only is it a joy to take in the crisp fall air, but deep, intentional breaths, calm and center us.

Beloveds, God is here. The Spirit is moving in, through and around you. Jesus is still beckoning with those two simple words, “follow me.”

As we watch the leaves fall and the flowers fade away we come to the season in the PNW that we once again remember that all we see is fleeting...out of our control. The Thursday evening Bible Study group is picking up Ecclesiastes this month and through December. We watched a short video that taught us more about the Hebrew word, hevel. The word means smoke or wind. The author of Ecclesiastes says over and over in the book, “everything under the sun is hevel.” It is meant to evoke the idea that all we see is like smoke...it appears solid at times, but you cannot grasp it or hold on to it. Everything under the sun is like chasing the wind; we cannot catch it. The book can seem all negative and pessimistic, but in truth, the author is trying to highlight a reality we don't like to face...we don't have control of life...and to then see a greater truth...we follow a God who remains with us even in the chaos of life. We follow a God who has told us what will come at the end of all things—justice, mercy, peace, reconciliation and new life.

As human beings we can spend our life trying to make everything work the way we want it and inevitably fall short or, we can recognize that everything under the sun is hevel and focus instead on the joy of the moment we are in and rest in the promise that God is here. The Spirit is moving in, through and around you. Jesus is still beckoning you, “follow me.” And, the greatest promise of them all...out of death, God will bring life...always. I see so much new life springing up even now. Hope abounds beloveds! It is right here and right now. Let go of worrying about the things you cannot control. Enjoy what is right in front of you. Thanks be to God. - P. K.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!! November Birthdays:

Barbara Touchette	Nov. 1st
Terry Adams	Nov. 7th
Joanne Chase	Nov. 7th
Sheila Rodriguez	Nov. 11th
Tom Lee	Nov. 13th
Charles Lynch	Nov. 17th
Bert Sievertson	Nov. 20
Lindsey Cassidy	Nov.23
Andy Velebir	Nov.29



Sunday Worship for November

10am On-line—See website for link to FB or YouTube

Scripture for November

Nov.1st — Matthew 5:1-12 * All Saints Sunday

Nov. 8th — Matthew 25:1-13

Nov. 15th — Matthew 25:14-30 * Annual Meeting after worship

Nov. 22nd — Matthew 25:31-46 * Christ the King Sunday

Nov. 29th — Mark 13:24-37—ADVENT ONE

COFFEE HOUR: Nov. 8th

Office Update The office is open to receive calls

Monday-Thursday 10am-12pm.

However, the office will not be open for drop-in visits. Please continue to call and email for best communication. Thank you!

Winter Ministry

We are joining with Saint Clare's church and other Valley churches to provide socks, hats, gloves and scarves to the clients who visit the Snoqualmie Valley food bank. Please donate new or gently used items to our church by November 29th. The biggest focus is on warm socks. We need a total of 400 pairs for men, women, and kids. The gloves which are stretch and one size fits all for kids size, and/or adult size would also be great. Hand knit hats and scarves would also be appreciated. Thanks for your support for our community!

Please contact Janey Benson for more information

Council Report

Greetings from the council. We hope you are all staying well.

Fall has arrived with its cooler and wetter weather. We are still operating under Phase 2 of the reopening process laid out by the governor and supported by the synod. We are making plans for virtual services and meetings in the foreseeable future. This means that we won't be able to have our traditional Harvest Carnival. However, we are planning to hold a "trunk or treat event" outdoors in the parking lot.

We will be holding a congregational meeting in **November 15th @ 11am** to vote on the budget and elect new council members. We have determined that we are able to vote electronically, so the meeting will be a virtual meeting. We will provide you with more information on how to participate in this meeting. We will need a quorum of 40 adult members to be able to vote. Please plan to attend.

At our October meeting the council approved a budget for 2021 that was developed by the stewardship committee. We attempted to develop a budget that matched our projected income for the year without significantly reducing our staffing and day to day operations. We didn't quite achieve this but we did end up with a budget that is significantly below our 2020 budget. We will be presenting the budget to the congregation for approval at our congregational meeting in November.



We will have five council vacancies to fill for 2021. There will be four 3 year terms due to terms expiring and one 2 year term due to a member moving. If you are interested in being on the council please let Pastor Krista or a council member know. Our agenda for 2021 will be to determine what our mission in the community and the world should be and to begin planning into the future how best to accomplish that mission.

To aid in this process the council has initiated a mission discernment process. As part of this process you should have received a letter from Pastor Krista with a list of 26 Bible passages. The letter requests that you read the passages and pick 5 that you think best relate to our mission. If you have not done so already, please do so and send your top 5 stories to Pastor Krista. We will be using this input to guide us as we assess our spiritual gifts and how we can best use them to plan activities that best carry out our mission. We want to have input from at least forty members.

Our garden is done for this year. Thank you to all of you who helped with the planting, weeding, watering, and harvesting. Because of your work we were able to donate over 400 pounds of fresh vegetables to the food bank.



The council and staff are still trying to maintain contact with everyone. If you need anything, please contact Pastor Krista, John Grebe or the council executive team of Jack Boller, Rick Rodriguez or Terry Adams. Be safe, stay well, and keep the faith. We are looking forward to when we can be together in person again. We wish blessings on you all.

Jack Bolle

Parish Ed. and CYF goes virtual!

Thanksgiving is quickly approaching, please someone, anyone tell me it isn't so. Even more amazing is the fact that Advent is coming up at the end of the month on Sunday November 29. We hope you enjoyed your Gratefulness Pumpkin activity! After finishing yours please email a picture of it to John Grebe at cyf@mtsilutheran.org.

Advent Festival: Each month the Parish Ed and CYF Team is working on providing both educational and social opportunities. For the month of November, we are planning on providing activities that will replace ones that we normally are able to do. We are planning on providing the Advent Wreaths or an Advent Log for you to decorate. This will either take place outside at the church under cover or there will be a bags you can use to take the activity home to decorate. NOVEMBER 29th



Faith Formation: The packets will be available on November 1, there will be lesson plans and crafts provided in the packets. The videos can be found online at mtsilutheran.org/education under the Children's Sunday School Tab.

Confirmation: Our final class for the first session of Manna to Mercy will be in November, date to be determined. We will inform the students directly. If you know of anyone in 6th grade or u who would be interested in joining our next session which will explore Luther's Small Catechism, please let Pastor Krista or John Grebe know.



Youth and Children activities: During the fall we are paying close attention to the needs of families both with safety specific to the COVID 19 infection rate, the weariness due to isolation, and the drain from too much screen time. As we are able, and families are willing we will offer opportunities to socialize appropriately as well as serve.

Serving: We are exploring a variety of service opportunities for individuals and small groups, like helping at the food bank or putting care packages together. We will be reaching out to you by email to keep you informed.



Mentoring: You should have received by email information regarding an effort to reintroduce mentoring to our children and youth. Please let me know if you are interested or if you did not receive the email by reaching out to John Grebe at cyf@mtsilutheran.org or by calling (360) 920-5876.

Serving together in Christ, John Grebe

Thank you to all who sent photos of your thankfulness pumpkins!

Trunk or Treat 2020



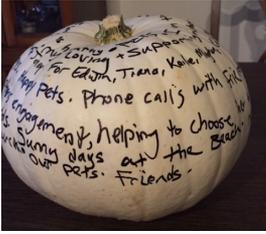
THANK YOU ALL
FOR COMING!



Celebrating Stewards

“All things are yours ... and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.”

1 Corinthians 3:21-23



Is not our goal, as stewards, to find the life that God wants us to have? In his book, ‘Giving to God: The Bible’s Good News about Living a Generous Life’, Mark Allan Powell, asserts that being a steward “is not just a way of life; it is a good way of life. In fact, ... it is a way to a better life.”

This journey begins with recognizing a fundamental truth about life. Think about it. You did not ‘make’ yourself. You were born, not by your choosing, into your life. Your first vocal protests to being birthed started you on a journey of exploration, struggle, curiosity, triumph, and self-discovery. It is counter intuitive to our modern western culture to accept at a fundamental level that we are not self-made. In short, as Paul said, “You belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God.” It follows that you, your life and possessions are ultimately held in trust from God.

Far from being an imposition or a demand on us, accepting that life belongs to God is a ‘way to a better life,’ as Mark Allan Powell suggests.

The devotional booklet, *A Generous Life* begins: You were born to be generous! The journey to discovering your best self begins with this truth: you are created in the image of a loving and generous God! The very essence of God is love and self-giving. Created in the image of God means that God’s generosity DNA is woven into the fabric of human community. Into you! Eugene Peterson in *Run with the Horses* says it this way: “Giving is what we do best. It is the air into which we were born. It is the action that was designed into us before our birth.”

A more civic twist to this is how Scott McKenzie rewrote the opening words of the Declaration of Independence in *Generosity Rising*.

He writes: “We hold these truths to be self-evident that all people are created in the image of a loving, giving, and generous God. We believe real life, true liberty, and eternal joy are only realized when we live lives of abundant generosity and sacrificial love.”

Giving to God is good news because as we practice giving, we are connected to our birthright, to a life of purpose and meaning in community! Giving to God is good news because it ushers us into a pattern of worship where we are reminded, ‘For God so loved the world that God

gave . . .' Giving to God is good news because as we accept and take up our calling as stewards, entrusted by God with the weighty matters of choosing how we will manage our lives, our wealth, our energies and our relationships, we too can experience, in a measured way, the delight with which God must have reveled on that first dawn as God announced – “and indeed, it is very good!” You are



born to be generous. You are born a steward. You are the beloved of God, freed to be generous, caring and loving for the sake of the world. Thanks be to God! ‘Celebrating Stewards’ is a theme that will be woven into the fabric of worship and daily life ministry during the first four weeks of November at Mt. Si Lutheran. You will be invited into times of prayer. You will be invited to celebrate the stewards around you and your own calling as a steward in worship and fellowship. You will also be asked to consider how you will share God’s blessings as you invest yourself in the work of ministry through Mt. Si Lutheran.

These are exciting times as we listen, learn, and celebrate again the many generous stewards in this community who already know the good news of giving to God from their wealth, through their worship, and in their serving even as we daily receive from God’s love in Christ Jesus! Let the celebrations begin! Amen. Sincerely in Christ, Transition Pr. Philip Reitz

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

In the month of November, MSLC and SHLC will partner in our worship to focus on Celebrating Stewards. You Will be hearing from our Stewardship Team with resources for prayer, devotion, reflection and ways to negate this Stewardship focus. Look for mailing with more information in the next few weeks.

Sunday Themes for November

November 1st - All Saints Sunday—’People we care for’

November 8th—’The World We Care For’

November 15th—’Caring for the Gospel’

November 22nd—Christ the King Sunday—’God Cares for Us’

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry of Mt Si Lutheran. The council and Finance team have completed a proposed budget for 2021. This will be mailed to you on Nov. 9th

Important Upcoming Events

~Annual Meeting November 15th following service~

We will vote on the 2021 proposed budget and new council members. Please plan to attend. The meeting will take place via Zoom. You can use the internet to connect on your smart phone or computer. You can also dial in with out internet on any phone. The meeting will begin at 11am. Instructions and details will be mailed to each member on Nov. 9th.

Save the Date! Outdoor Advent Festival

November 29th 11:30am-1:30pm More details to coming soon!

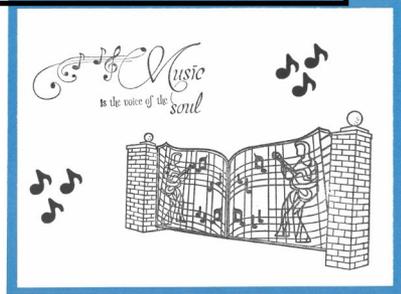
A thank you from a couple of our Mt Si Family



*Please put this in
our next newsletter:*

*I thank all my
sisters + brothers in
Christ for the cards +
prayers + encouraging
words I've received on
this breast cancer
chemo road I'm on.
God is good + I know
his healing hands are
on me.*

Et Palmer



Dear Mt Si friends,

Nov Oct 7-2020

*Thank you for your cards + warm
wishes!*

*I love our new home. I love Paul
Parrot + can't enjoy it with me.*

Dad + Mom made this beautiful card.

She + Dave are a beautiful people.

God Bless you all,

Etta Kelson



Garden of Giving Update:

A total of 487lbs was donated to the Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank!
Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to help make this happen!