

MOUNT SI LUTHERAN CHURCH

411 NE 8TH ST
NORTH BEND, WA 98045

Special Points of Interest:

- Jan. 1st Holiday-Happy New Year! (office closed)
- Jan. 7th—12-1PM Acolyte Training after 10:45 worship —2PM Mt. Si Annual Epiphany Bonfire (Burnside's)
- Jan. 8th—7PM New Member Workshop
- Jan. 14th—9:30AM Tentative New Member Workshop
- Jan. 15th—HOLIDAY-Martin Luther King Jr. (office closed)
- Jan. 20th—8:30AM-12Noon Church Council Retreat (Cassidy's home)
- Jan. 28th—11:45AM Church Potluck & Annual Congregational Meeting



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Mount Si's GOOD NEWSletter

January 2018

From Pastor Krista's Desk.....

Season of Epiphany

by Pastor Krista Mendoza



Welcome to the season of Epiphany! Churches around the world will spend an extra moment in prayer and worship on Saturday, January 6th to celebrate what is known as Epiphany....this is the moment in Jesus' birth story that we learn of the star that has guided scholars "wise men" from lands far away to the child Jesus. They arrive to bring gifts to the child whose birth was announced with a unique star in the heavens. Here at Mt. Si we will celebrate Epiphany on the first Sunday in January. At this important festival we recall that Jesus, the Messiah, came not only to bring news to the Israelite people. Jesus came to share a word of hope and promise with the entire world as illustrated in the presence of important emissaries from foreign lands.

We may not make much of this story today since most of us have grown up with the idea that Christianity is a global religion...a faith that spans cultures, languages, countries and races. Anyone can follow Jesus.

We may not realize how radical the arrival of the Wise men and their entourage really is. (Oh, yes, there were far more than three people who showed up to see Jesus...people of importance would have travelled with an entire retinue of servants, soldiers and officials) Jesus' insistence on opening up the promises of God to all people would be a first in history...a first attempt at claiming a universal faith for all people. I think it is hard to wrap our minds around. Prior to the arrival of Jesus the people of Israel understood the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to be the God of their people, their nationality...others may convert and adopt their faith, but they were not going around trying to actively convert people to their way of life and faith. In the same way, other tribes and people groups had their own faiths and did not work to convert others to their beliefs unless you married into or were conquered by those people. Religions were regional, ethnic and personal. Even Rome did not insist that conquered peoples follow their gods...you simply had to worship the Emperor and at the same time you could keep your own personal ethnic religion.

So, when the Gospel story claims that the Good News of Jesus is for all people...not everyone knew what to do with such a radical idea. The disciples are upset by it, the religious leaders of the day are upset by it, the government is upset by it....no one is a big fan of this universal faith thing. It complicates things.

You see, we are used to dividing ourselves into neat groups...women over here, men over there. Mothers over here, doctors over there. Swedish people over here and Kenyan people over there. Straight A kids here and special needs kids there....you get the idea. We are a species that really seems to enjoy our categories and labels. Right? And we can get into a lot of trouble with these categories because it doesn't take us long

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to assign worth and value to the labels, does it? It really is scary what we are able to do when all the sudden we place a label on someone. Sexual orientation, gender and race...depending on what label you get your life can be on the line because of the value society has placed on those labels. You want to talk about humanity's sinful nature? Look no further than our need to categorize people...we even do it to ourselves! There have been too many times in my life that my pant size and marital status have dictated how worthy I feel...how ridiculous! Why do we do this? Well, I don't think we can solve that problem....except....Jesus desperately invites us into a faith and belief that knocks down all those petty labels and casts a net so wide of inclusivity that the whole world is captured by it and invited to share one common label...child of God. Jesus invites us to take ownership of this label and begin to see our neighbors as owners of this label too....

What an absolutely freeing way to live! When we attempt, even a little, to see each person we meet as Child of God first...how might our attitudes towards people change? How would our valuation of people change? Here is the stickler....the label, Child of God, is not dependent on church membership, denominational affiliation, or even baptism...the label, Child of God, is a gift to every human on the face of the planet, that is the message of Epiphany.

I know, I know.....doesn't faith matter in this? Doesn't belief matter? Surely, baptism matters, right??? Look at all those extra labels we want to add on....Child of God is a label God gives and Jesus proclaims and bestows on humanity from the moment of his incarnation. Faith comes into play when we finally recognize the truth of who we already are in God's eyes, children of God. Baptism is a sacrament in which we hear God say again that we are his children and in which we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit...it is the work of the Spirit to remind us that we are a child of God. Following Jesus comes when we embrace our identity as children of God. The truth is, you are a child of God and so is your neighbor. The hope is that we claim this to be true.

Why celebrate Epiphany? It is the moment God turned our world upside down and claimed us all for his love, grace and glory. It is the moment the earth received the ultimate gift....Jesus the savior **of** the world and Jesus the savior **for** the whole world...Jesus whose love extends to the ends of the earth...Jesus whose forgiveness knows no bounds...Jesus who invites all to see themselves as beloved children of God and so find themselves worthy beyond measure in the eyes of their Creator. Thanks be to God!



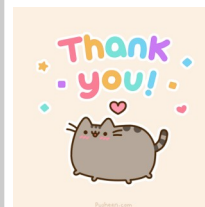
Thank you all so much for the warm welcome on Sunday, December 3rd! Thank you also for your generosity! The gifts baskets were such a surprise. Thank you for the many gifts cards and goodies including so many great toys and treats for the dogs and cats. They are so spoiled! Thank you also for the beautiful quilt and prayer shawl. What a beautiful welcome. Thank you, thank you! Peace, Pastor Krista

Service of Installation for Pastor Krista Mendoza *Saturday, Dec. 16, 2017*

It was a beautiful Service of Installation for Pastor Krista on Sat., December 16, 2017 at Mt. Si Lutheran Church. Bishop Kirby Unti and Pastor Shelley Bryan Wee, Assistant to the Bishop, both assisted during worship. We were honored also to have Pastor Krista's friend and colleague, Pastor Norma Malfatti, Director of Evangelical Mission for Upstate New York Synod, give the message. Many members, guests, family, and friends attended the installation. A reception was held afterward in Pr. Krista's honor.



Bishop Kirby Unti, Pastor Shelley Bryan Wee, Pastor Krista Mendoza, Pastor Norma Malfatti



**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!
Mt. Si Lutheran!**

Another thank you is in order for the generous Christmas gifts! Dad stayed overnight and the two of us had a low key Christmas morning opening a few gifts. When I opened the ones from Mt. Si I was overwhelmed by your generosity! Inside a Seattle-opoly game (like monopoly but Seattle themed) was real money instead of fake! My goodness, what a surprise! I was also the envy of my brother when I showed him a beautiful Seattle neighborhood cheese board. Thank you for bringing Christmas cheer to my home. Thank you, thank you!

~ Pastor Krista

In the News!



Greeting brothers and sisters in Christ! It has been brought to my attention that we have several folks who have been worshipping on a regular basis here at Mt. Si, but who have not officially been welcomed as full voting members of the congregation. I would like to invite anyone interested in being welcomed as a voting member of the congregation to attend ONE welcome workshop on either: **Monday, January 8th, 7pm OR Sunday, January 14th, 9:30am.**

If you are interested in membership and cannot attend either of these meeting times, please call me and we can set-up a time to meet individually. 425-888-1322 OR email: pastorkristar@gmail.com



Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018
Mt. Si's Annual Epiphany
Bonfire at 2:00PM at
Tom & Inge Burnside's home!

We are all invited to bring our real Christmas trees to the Burnside's house for Mt. Si's Annual Epiphany Bonfire! Please bring goodies to share. Directions are available in the narthex or call Tom & Inge at 425 888-1658. Come join the fun even if you don't have a Christmas tree to burn.

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER @ Mt. Si Lutheran

AROUND THE WORLD

A vespers service
written by Marty Haugen

February 7th, 7:00pm

Worship with people around the world
at this special community service open
to all! Let us worship our God!



Council would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your consistent giving of your time and money to the church this year. With your support, we met our budget for 2017 and contributed each month to the ELCA. Together, we surpassed our goal of giving ten percent of our income toward benevolence. This year we were able to send an extra contribution, and designate it towards Lutheran World Relief. Thank you for helping to make this happen!



SAVE THE DATE!!! SAVE THE DATE!!! SAVE THE DATE!!!

Saturday, June 2nd 8:30am-4:30pm

Synod Assembly Gathering @ St. Andrew's Bellevue

Theme: "Who is My Neighbor?"

All are invited!! \$40 per person



Mike and Rosemary Hanson would like to thank everyone who came to our 50th wedding anniversary celebration. Also thank you for the many cards and well wishes. You're a blessing to us.

Parish Education News!

Sunday School Update! Sunday School is going strong and we are excited for the year ahead. Beginning on January 7- we will begin discussing Epiphany—Three visitors from the East and then meet John—the voice in the wilderness and then learn about Jesus and His amazing ministry. We will continue to learn more about Guatemala too as we continue to collect money for Pura Vida – the wonderful program that is working to promote health and education in the western highlands of Guatemala. We are always looking for volunteers to help us with special projects, crafts etc., if you are interested please see Debbie Jones or Courtney Adams. Come check us out! We have classes for ages 3-103, so there is sure to be something that will meet your needs! Check the schedule below:

***Children's Sunday School 9:30-10:30 AM**

***Submerge Teen Time 9:45 Ready! 9:50 Set! 10:20 Go!**

***Adult Education Hour 9:45-10:30 AM**

Sunday School Staff for the 2017-2018 School Year:

Preschool—Nancy Flanagan/Rosemary Hanson

Kindergarten/First grade—Debbie Jones/Peggy Halferty

Second/Third grades—Courtney Adams/Lisa Sampson

Fourth/Fifth grades—Kim Buckmaster/Joanne Chase

Submerge Teen Time—Erik and Jenna Rhyne

Adult Education Hour—Dan Luke/Marlin Olson/Pr. Krista

Schedule Notes

Adult Forum continues: **“This Changed Everything: A History of the Reformation”**

Jan. 7th — Act 3: The Puritans

Jan. 14th—Act 4: The New World

Jan. 21st—Act 5: A New Era?

Jan. 28th-March 25th—Making Sense of the Cross (see below)



**NEW Sunday Adult Education
Study—Starting Jan. 28, 2018**

Led by Marlin Olson, Dan Luke, or Pr. Krista

Have questions about Jesus and the Cross?

In the series, Making Sense of the Cross, Rev. Dr. David Lose outlines the progression of theories over the centuries regarding what happened on the cross. Called Atonement theories, you might be surprised by the many ways in which people of faith believe regarding the cross. Perhaps you may be surprised by what you believe...This nine week study will begin January 28th and end March 25th.



Recycle! Reduce! Reuse! This year as you put away your Christmas decorations we ask that you bring back your container & **unburnt** candles used in making the Advent wreaths rather than throwing them away! Each year the Parish Education committee purchases these items and would like to recycle them if possible not only to save money but to cut down on refuse as well. We would love to collect any flower arrangement containers you use throughout this year that might be appropriate for next year's wreaths. Please place them in the specially marked box in Fellowship Hall! Thanks for helping us be more responsible by recycling!

Meet your 2018 Council Members

President To be determined	Vice President To be determined	Secretary Nancy Flanagan 2020 (2) Email: nf2469@gmail.com	Treasurer Annual Renewal Jeff King Email: jeff_king_pnw@yahoo.com
Terry Adams 2020 (1) Email: terryaadam@hotmail.com	Ed Benson 2020 (1) Email: edwindsad1@yahoo.com	Janey Benson 2018 (1) Email: bensonja@yahoo.com	Jack Boller 2018 (2) Email: jboller2@comcast.net
Suzy Cassidy 2019 (1) Email: suzy@chocolate2die4.com	Erica Haycox 2020 (1) Email: er35@comcast.net	Debbie Jones 2020 (1) Email: bizzybee1@comcast.net	John Keiser 2019 (1) Email: johnm@johnkeiser.com
Dan Luke 2020 (2) Email: loked1@mac.com	Paul Ritzenthaler 2018 (2) Email: paul.ritz@comcast.net	Debbie Spurling 2019 (2) Email: angeltender@hotmail.com	

Council Corner!

Submitted by Nancy Flanagan, Church Council Secretary

As we look back over 2017, Mt. Si Lutheran has much to be thankful for. Our year began with the Call Committee embarking on their task to find a new pastor for our church. For months, they worked together to create a pastoral profile and a Ministry Site Profile. From there, they began interviewing possible candidates that they felt would be a good fit for our church. In August, council was invited to meet Pastor Krista Mendoza, followed by a "Meet and Greet" in October for the congregation. The congregation then voted to call Pastor Krista to be our new pastor. We welcomed Pastor Krista on December 1st and celebrated her first Sunday on December 3rd for Advent Sunday. We are thankful for Pastor Larry Thomas, as he shepherded us for 18 months through a time of transition.

After hosting the homeless shelter for five years, the liaison committee proposed to council that we take a break from hosting for the upcoming winter months. This was due to some security issues for both the staff and the congregation of Mt. Si Lutheran, as well as, some management issues of Snoqualmie Valley Shelter Services. This was a difficult decision for both the liaison committee and council. On August 20th, the congregation voted and agreed on the proposal. The liaison committee strongly recommended that we support the homeless shelter in other ways, such as working at the day shelter in Snoqualmie on "God's Work, Our Hands" Day in September and signing up to provide dinners.

We had strong hopes of selling the parsonage to LEO, a non-profit organization that provides low-income housing to people with disabilities. Unfortunately, obstacles with outside governmental entities did not allow for any exceptions to their rules and regulations. Therefore, after many hours of research and discussions with LEO, this possibility was not to be. However, God had other plans! The parsonage has turned out to be a perfect new home for Pastor Krista and her five pets. Thank you to the Buildings and Grounds Committee for their time and efforts in preparing the parsonage for Pastor Krista.

We can celebrate new and well-established events that took place this year. In July, we sent 10 members of our congregation to Guatemala on a mission trip. They successfully built homes for people who greatly needed shelter. Our Lenten soup suppers, Sunday School, CROP Hunger Walk, Backpack project, VBS, "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday, Harvest Carnival, Quilters, Christmas Women's Brunch were fruitful, not only for the congregation, but for our local and global community.

We said farewell to Tom and Connie Som, Bob and Ann Bartlett, and Carol and Emilie Reitz who have moved and transferred their membership. We are thankful for their service to Mt. Si Lutheran. This past year we celebrated the life of Mae McLean (June) and Sue Shardelman (Dec.), both beloved life-time members of Mt. Si Lutheran.

As we look ahead, we are excited about the Family and Youth Committee beginning their search for a youth and family director. **Ed Benson, Erica Haycox, Terry Adams, and Debbie Jones** will be serving on council. We are thankful for the service of outgoing council members: **Heidi Dukich, Courtney Adams, Michael Hanson.**

Don't forget, your council members are your servant leaders that you have entrusted with the ministries of your church. Feel free to contact them to discuss issues that you feel are pertinent to the life of your congregation.



HERE'S THE NEWS

Calling all people who love to light candles! Pastor Krista will lead an acolyte training class following the 10:45am worship on **Sunday, January 7th**. How do you know if you are old enough to attend? If you can hold a candle lighter nice and steady and can carry the responsibility of lighting candles with joy and reverence, then you are old enough. How do you know you are too old to attend? There is no such thing! All ages are welcome. If you cannot attend the training, but would like to be an acolyte, please let Pastor Krista know so we can work something out.



Chronic Conditions Support Group (CCSG) This group is for anyone coping with a chronic condition. Whether dealing with arthritis, migraines, Parkinson's, cancer or other illnesses, participants are invited to share their stories and challenges. The group is also open to caregivers and people with age-related health issues. Each group-facilitated meeting will include prayers, Bible readings, helpful resources and pertinent topics such as "Staying Optimistic in the Face of a Chronic Condition." We also will include activities such as journaling, crafts and local outings. We meet on a Saturday from 10:00-11:30AM in the Library and coffee and tea are provided; snacks are welcome. This month we meet on Jan. 13th from 10:00-11:30AM. If you are interested in finding out more, please call Susan Olds at 425-888-0281 or Sheila Rodriguez at 425-888-1322.



8:15AM Pianist Needed: Mt. Si Lutheran Church is looking for a pianist to play for the 8:15AM traditional worship service. If interested, or know of someone, please contact Andy Velebir at (425) 457-6373 or email Andy at: amvelebir@comcast.net.



Library Update: Love to read? The Mt. Si Library is a treasure trove of Christian non-fiction and fiction books. Daily devotionals, treatises by Luther and books on the History of the Protestant Reformation, classic Christian authors including C.S. Lewis, Catherine Marshall, C.K. Chesterton, and treatises by the early church fathers: St. Augustine, Thomas a Kempis, John Milton and the amazing Bother Thomas' "Practicing the Presence of God". Other categories include inspirational books for families, for troubled teens, for the bereaved and for women and men seeking a closer walk with God. The library includes a whole wall of Bibles, Bible study guides and books on Biblical history, many of which are out of print. Another entire wall is dedicated to Christian fiction and includes popular contemporary authors Jan Karon, Jane Kirkpatrick, Melody Carlson, Francine Rivers and many more. In addition there is a section for children. The library is a great resource for church members and is open during office hours. So check it out (literally!). Put down that Nook and grab a book! For more information please call Susan Olds at 425-888-0281 or Joyce Ayers at 425-865-9853.



Previously Valley Renewal Center
Snoqualmie Valley Shelter Services
7829 Center Blvd SE #239, Snoqualmie, WA
98065 <http://www.svshelterservices.org/>

2017-2018 Shelter Season Locations:

Nov. 18th-Jan. 16th—Snoqualmie United Methodist
Jan. 17th-Mar. 2nd—Sallal Grange, North Bend
Mar. 3rd-30th—Fall City United Methodist Church

Are you in need of shelter? Please call or text 425.505.0038



Community In Action

www.snoqualmievalleyfoodbank.org

Help us maintain a healthy community and provide food to our neighbors in need. Be part of a community in action.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Every Wednesday
9:00 a.m.- 6:30 p.m.

No Appointment Necessary

122 E 3rd St

North Bend, WA 98045

Located next to the King County Library in North Bend

FOOD DONATIONS

Non-Perishable Donations

Monday & Tuesday 9 a.m.-11 a.m.

Wednesday from 9 a.m.- 6:30 p.m.

Perishable Foods

Monday & Tuesday 9 a.m.- 11 a.m.

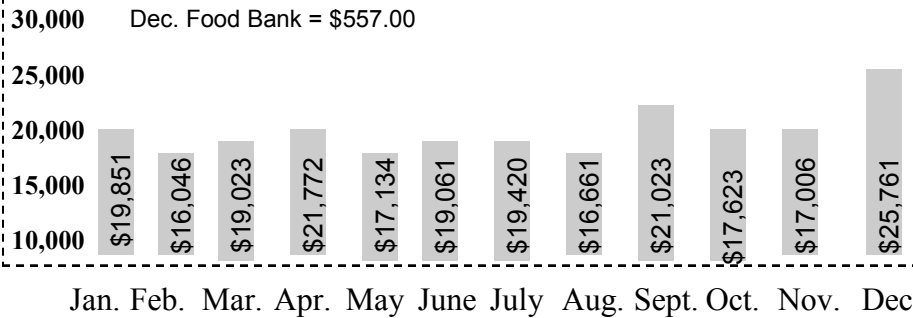
Wednesday from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Bring donation to food bank located at
122 E 3rd St North Bend, WA 98045

You may contribute to the newsletter by submitting your articles to the church office by email or a simple phone call. The Deadline for submissions is the 3RD MONDAY of each month, except when earlier deadlines are required due to holidays, etc. Call 425 888-1322

2017 Monthly Giving

2017 Approved Budget = \$277,055



Automate Your Giving

Are you interested in automating your giving to the church? Through the on-line giving program your gifts are made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account or credit card. Just go to www.mtsilutheran.org and click on Giving. If you have questions, please speak to Leslie Hatling, Financial Secretary.



Any purchases you have made for Mt. Si, but are not asking for reimbursement, must still be on your Mt. Si contribution statement in order to be a tax deduction. To get those purchases/expenses on your contribution statement, please fill out an "Unreimbursed Expenditures" form and turn it in to Leslie Hatling by Jan.15, 2018. Forms are available on the table by elevator in the Narthex, in the Fellowship Hall, or from the office.

**2018 Offering Envelopes are available in the Narthex. If you do not have offering envelopes and would like them, please see Leslie Hatling, Financial Secretary, and let her know if you want weekly or monthly envelopes.

Volunteer Opportunities



Is Serving as Worship Assistant Really a Ministry? Absolutely!

Ushering is a public ministry of hospitality and evangelism. In a real and vital way, ushers are the "welcoming committee" here at MSLC.

The Lector is the minister who brings the Word of God to life for all to hear. This calling requires preparation so that the readings can become a vehicle for sharing the Word with God's people.

Communion Helper also serves a vital and holy ministry. They assist the Pastor with distributing the "bread" and "wine" to those wishing to receive Holy Communion.

Acolyte is an ancient Greek word meaning helper or follower. Acolytes help shape the worship experience by lighting and extinguishing (putting out) the altar candles.

Those wanting to assist as Usher, Communion Helper, Lector, or Acolyte, will need some instructions. Please contact the church office if interested in being trained.



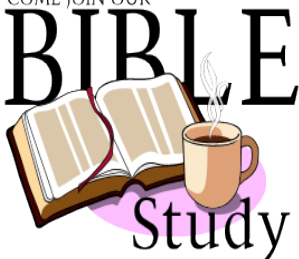
OFFICIAL ACTS

Memorial

12/23/17 A Memorial Service was held for Sue Shardelman, member, Mt. Si Lutheran Church, presided by Pastor Krista Mendoza

Bible Study News...there's one for you!

COME JOIN OUR



Men's Saturday Breakfast Bible Study

Come join the men at 8AM and review the Sunday readings and lessons for that Sunday. All men are welcome. For more information, contact Paul Ritzenthaler at 425 888-5294.

Bible Study for WOMEN

Monday Women's Bible Study Group. Please join us every Monday at 12:30PM in the Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Grace Culver at 425 222-7515 or Laura Ritzenthaler at 425 888-5294.



What's Been Happening.....

Thanks to all of you who attended our Christmas Program titled "The ABC's of Christmas" on December 17th. The Sunday School children retold the Christmas story with their ABC cards, and the middle and high school students were our scripture readers. The children loved dressing up in costumes and did a fantastic job with their parts! A special thanks to Dave Spurling for playing the music for the carols! We heard from many of you how much you enjoyed the program, and the children certainly appreciated having such a large audience! ~Courtney Adams and Debbie Jones



What a joyful evening we spent Christmas Caroling to our neighbors. Sixteen of us gathered for hot chocolate and cookies before heading out to the neighborhood to carol and hand out invitations to the Christmas Eve worship service. I think my favorite moment was caroling to a group of high school girls who were having a sleep-over...when we rang the doorbell the person who answered yelled for her friends and said, "hey! Bring the party down here!" about 8 girls crowded the doorway and took video of us! Who knows where that will end up :o) Thanks to all who lent their voices to this fun evening of meeting our neighbors.

~Pastor Krista



Mount Si Women of Christ Christmas Brunch

A Cookie Cutter Christmas

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.." Psalm 139:14



On Saturday, December 8th, 38 ladies and one little lady and one little gentleman gathered to spend a lovely morning together and share in the wonder of the Christmas season. We had a wonderful time visiting with our fellow Sisters in Christ. Together we laughed, sang Christmas carols, played games, and enjoyed a delicious brunch complete with sugar cookies for dessert. The theme of the morning was "A Cookie Cutter Christmas." And there were cookie cutters everywhere! We were very excited to welcome our new Pastor, Krista Mendoza, and she shared a devotion with us about slowing down and being present during the holidays and look for the joy the holidays bring. Brenda Oster was surprised and excited to win the beautiful handmade Christmas quilt donated by our awesome Mount Si Quilting Ladies and Janey Benson won an adorable little snowman baby blanket! We collected \$77 for the Quilting Ministry to go towards buying supplies to support this amazing ministry. We took a free will love offering for the Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank. We collected \$119 to help our neighbors here in the Valley. All in all, it was a joyous morning filled with love, laughter and fun!

A special thank you goes out to Sue Oster, Sheila Rodriguez & Courtney Adams.

The Mount Si Women of Christ would like to wish everyone a very

Peace-filled Christmas season and a Blessed New Year!

**Watch for announcements about an upcoming year ministry planning meeting in February! We would love to have new faces join us and share some new ideas as to how we move forward in the New Year!*

If you are interested in joining this planning team please see Courtney Adams.



House of Hope Giving Tree Update

Once again this year, due to the congregation's generous hearts we were able to make the holidays brighter for the House of Hope. We took and purchased items from 40 gift tags from our Giving tree but delivered over 70 gifts to House of Hope families. It was amazing. Thank you so much for your generosity and support of this very worthwhile cause.

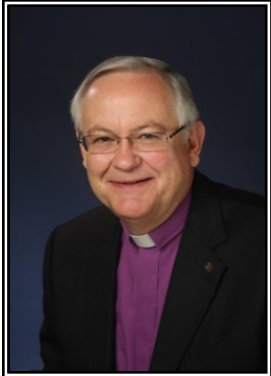






The Spirit

A Publication of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Joining with God in 2018

By the Rev. Kirby Unti, NWWA Synod Bishop

The Synod's Living Local movement invites us to be alert to where we see God acting beyond the four walls of the church. It is about developing the eyes to see and the ears to hear. It helps to have a few clues of where to look and listen. Here are two that have been helpful to me recently.

Clue #1: Suffering

The scriptures encourage us to look for God wherever we see and hear people crying out because of oppression, suffering, and pain. We have all had experiences of being with people and groups who are hurting deeply. It is not always easy to be present in these situations. When we are, something power-filled often happens. We experience empathy, love, and compassion. We experience blessing. We experience God.

Recently, I was with a new friend from Peru who has spent a significant amount of time living amongst the poorest people of his country. While raised in a very wealthy family, as a teenager he felt a strong call to be with the poor. Much to the consternation of his father, he left home to spend a year with a peasant farmer's family. He fell deeply in love with this family and their neighbors. He said, "I was privileged to reach out and touch the wounds of Jesus." When he returned home, he completed his education and landed a very prestigious job in the banking industry. He excelled in this work and had all the resources to live the "good life." But he missed the people he had come to know and love.

It was a shock when he told his boss, who wanted to promote him, that instead he felt called to enter into the priesthood and become a Benedictine monk. He wanted to devote his life to living in poverty and discovering God's love among the poor. It is the one place he knows he will see, hear, and experience the presence of God.







Clue #2: New Life

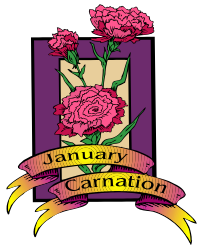
There is another place that I have learned to see and hear God. I find God whenever I see new life happening - whether it is the first crocus erupting in the still-cold soil of winter, the first birdsong of an early spring morning, or being on stage in my role as Community College Trustee to shake the hand of a "first person in the family" to ever graduate from college. Each of these experiences speak of hope, promise and new life and bear the fingerprints of God.

For me, there is one experience of new life that tops all others. I know of no greater joy than to hold a baby in my arms, to stroke the child's soft hair, to hear the coos of wonder, and to smell the newness. I know I am holding a miracle: one so vulnerable, so innocent, so full of fragile life. To hold a baby is to experience the presence of God.

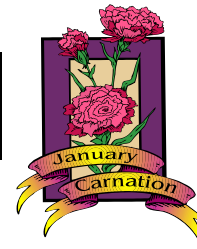
There is a category of people who revel in the opportunity to hold a child. They are called grandparents. Grandparents who are so touched by this encounter of new life that they are willing to pack up their belongings and move across the country just to be in the presence of their grandbaby. They take hundreds of photos, eager to show the latest, and relish being able to Facetime with their grandbaby. The child re-centers their lives and becomes the source of their greatest joy.

These two clues remind us that God is present all around us - all the time. In suffering and new life; in sorrow and in joy. Let us look and listen together for where we can join God in 2018.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div> <div>JANUARY</div> <div>  <div>2018</div> </div> </div> <div>Mt. Si Lutheran</div>						
	Jan. 1 HOLIDAY (office closed) 	2 9:30AM Quilters 6:15-7:45PM Boy Scout Den #5	3	4  11:30AM Monthly Birthday Luncheon 4-5:30PM GS Troop #42902 6-8PM AA	5	6 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course
7 Epiphany of Our Lord 8:15AM Traditional Worship & Epiphany House Blessing 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Coffee Hour Fellowship 10:45AM Praise Worship & Epiphany House Blessing 12-1PM Acolyte Training 2PM Mt. Si's Annual Epiphany Bonfire at the Burnside's home	8 12:30PM Women's Study 7PM New Member Workshop 	9 9:30AM Quilters	10	11 6-8PM AA 6-7PM Family & Youth Team Mtg.	12	13 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course 10-11:30AM CCSG Chronic Conditions Support Group (Library)
14 Second Sunday after the Epiphany 8:15AM Traditional Worship 9:30AM New Member Workshop (tentative) 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Coffee Hour Fellowship 10:45AM Praise Worship Baptism for Eleanor Haycox	15 HOLIDAY Martin Luther King Jr. Day 12:30PM Women's Bible Study Newsletter Deadline 	16 9:30AM Quilters 6:15-7:45PM Boy Scout Den #5	17 7-8:30PM Worship & Music Meeting	18 4-5:30PM GS Troop #42902 6-8PM AA	19 	20 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course 8:30AM-Noon Church Council Retreat At Cassidy's
21 Third Sunday after the Epiphany 8:15AM Traditional Worship 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Coffee Hour Fellowship 10:45AM Praise Worship	22 12:30PM Women's Study	23 9:30AM Quilters	24	25 6-8PM AA	26	27 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course
28 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany 8:15AM Traditional Worship 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Coffee Hour Fellowship 10:45AM Praise Worship 11:45AM Church Potluck & Annual Congregational Mtg.	29 12:30PM Women's Study 	30 9:30AM Quilters	31	Feb. 1 4-5:30PM GS Troop #42902 6-8PM AA	2	3 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course



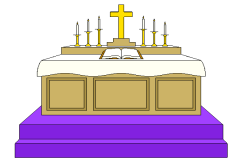
Flower Chart for the Altar



DATE	NAME	IN MEMORY OR HONOR OF
Jan. 7	Mt. Si Lutheran	Epiphany of Our Lord
Jan. 14	John & Erica Haycox	In Honor of Eleanor's Baptism
Jan. 21		
Jan. 28		



If you would like to bring flowers for the altar for a special occasion in **2018**, please see the sign up chart in the Fellowship Hall for openings or call the church office at 425 888-1322.



Worship Assistants for January

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE 8:15AM & 10:45AM	Jan. 7 Epiphany of Our Lord	Jan. 14 Second Sunday after the Epiphany	Jan. 21 Third Sunday after the Epiphany	Jan. 28 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Usher				
8:15AM	Herman Schlaht Mike Kober	NEEDED	Herman Schlaht Mike Kober	NEEDED
9:15AM	Sunday School & Coffee Hour Fellowship			
10:45AM	Ed & Jane Benson	Mike Hanson Mark Imsland	NEEDED	Mike Hanson Mark Imsland
Counters	Janey Benson NEEDED	Courtney Adams Suzy Cassidy	NEEDED	NEEDED
Communion Assistants				
8:15AM	Courtney Adams	Inge Burnside	Dave Franson	Kay Boyle
10:45AM	Debbie Spurling	Rosemary Hanson	Ed Benson	Rosemary Hanson
Lector				
8:15AM	Terry Adams	Tom Burnside	Suzie Franson	Pat Palmer
10:45AM	Linda Velebir	Suzy Cassidy	Ed Benson	Linda Velebir
8:15 Cantor/ Music	Warren Wambsganss Suzy Schuba/Dave S.	John Cassidy Dave Spurling	Jack Boller Dave Spurling	Andy Velebir Dave Spurling

Worship Assistants

If you are interested in assisting on Sunday mornings as Usher, Communion Assistant, Lector, or Acolyte, please call the office and speak to Sheila Rodriguez. She would be happy to add your name to the Worship Assistants list.

Please consider helping with the Sunday coffee hour at Mt. Si. It's a wonderful way to welcome and show fellowship to our members and guests. A sign up sheet is available during coffee hour.



January Birthdays!

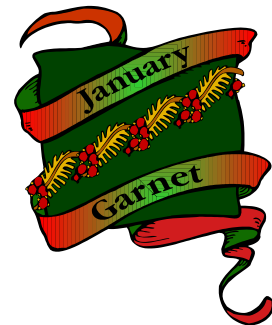


NAME	DATE	NAME	DATE
Peggy Halferty	4	Paul Katocs	16
Brent Koukol	7	Leslie Hatling	18
Michael Hanson	10	Kirsten Hayes	19
Ashley Kober	10	Larry Johnson	19
Lisa Sampson	10	Coby Joseph Still	21
Rachel Flanagan	14	Nancy Flanagan	24
Joe Stone	14	Dana Koukol	25
Vicki Wallentine	14	Curtis Lynn	27
Mary Abrahamson	16	Krista Cassidy	29
Brett Imsland	16	Judy Stoddard	29



Anniversaries!

Lee & Kathi Prewitt	Jan. 9
Earl & Rose Wildes	Jan. 14



Please call the church office at 888-1322 and let us know if we skip your special day.



Read All About it!!

If you have any questions regarding the newsletter, please call the office and speak with Sheila Rodriguez, Administrative Assistant at 425 888-1322, or via email at mtsilutheran@mtsilutheran.org. We would love to include special interest articles, i.e. awards & recognition for sports or academics, special events or gatherings, etc. The **GOOD NEWSletter** is your newsletter, so be sure to share your comments, suggestions, and articles! Visit our website: www.mtsilutheran.org.



Hospitality Coffee Hour Fellowship and Worship Assistants

We like to encourage a combined fellowship/coffee hour between services in the Fellowship Hall from 9:15-10:30.AM We need volunteers to sign up for hosting the coffee hour. There is always a sign up sheet at the coffee hour. Sue Oster is our coordinator for the coffee hour fellowship. If you would like to help with our coffee hour fellowship, please contact Sue at 425 888-4056 or soflicka@gmail.com Also, if you are interested in being a worship assistant, please call the office at 888-1322. Mt. Si needs you!

Mount Si's Mission and Vision Statement

THE MISSION OF MOUNT SI LUTHERAN IS:

~SERVING~

Mount Si Lutheran is a Christ centered community in service to others.

~REACHING OUT~

We are following Christ's Great Commission,
bringing others to Christ through our love,
our faith, our hope and our actions.

~GROWING IN GRACE~

As we grow in understanding of God's unconditional
acceptance and forgiveness, we encourage others to grow
in the biblical principles of faith, hope and love.

THE VISION OF MOUNT SI LUTHERAN IS:

To develop ministries that encourage individual and group
involvement in service, outreach and spiritual growth.

These ministries follow the Six Marks of Discipleship:

1.~Prayer

2.~Worship

3.~Reading the Bible

4.~Serving at and beyond Mount Si

5.~Spiritual Relationships

6.~Giving of our Time, Talents and Resources

We are a Christ Centered Community Located near Mount Si

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:15AM Traditional Worship

9:15AM Fellowship/Coffee Hour

9:30-10:30AM Sunday School

9:45-10:30AM Submerge Teen Time

9:45-10:30AM Adult Christian Ed

10:45AM Praise Worship



Pastor Krista Mendoza

Pastor's email: pastorkristar@gmail.com

Pastor's phone: (206) 473-7460

Sheila Rodriguez—Administrative Assistant

Heidi Dukich—Council President

Andy Velebir—Worship & Music

Vacancy—8:15AM Accompanist

Sue Oster—Custodian

Jeff King—Treasurer

Leslie Hatling—Financial Secretary

Office Hours: M-F 9AM-12:30PM & 1:00-3:30PM

(office coverage may vary)

Church Location : 411 N.E. 8th North Bend

Mailing Address P.O. Box 487 North Bend, WA 98045

Office: (425) 888-1322

Church email: mtsilutheran@mtsilutheran.org

Web Page www.mtsilutheran.org

U.S. Postage Required

Mount Si Lutheran Church (ELCA)

P.O. Box 487

North Bend, WA 98045



We are a Christ Centered Community
Celebrating 68 years of Faith and Fellowship

Mount Si's GOOD NEWSletter