



## **Mt Si Lutheran - March 2021**

### **Mini GOOD - NEWSletter**

Grace and Peace to you, Siblings in Christ—

How are you? Honestly and truly, how are you? When you take that breath and can still your thoughts for just a moment, what is your body, your mind, your heart saying to you? I know this can be an uncomfortable exercise. Many of us over the last year have put our heads down and done our best to push through all that is swirling around us regarding our personal lives, family life, work life, pandemic, national and world news, etc. There are times this approach is necessary for survival—but there comes a time when we have to look up, when we have to take it all in and begin to process what this year has been like for each of us. Some have had the ability to process all along, but it is an ongoing process to be sure. I pray that Lent can be a safe time for you look up, take that deep breath and listen to your body, your mind and your heart. I pray that Lent can be that safe space for you to be acutely aware of the deep love our Lord Jesus has for you. I pray this Lent can be a safe space for you to hear the Spirit call to you as you listen to you body, your mind and your heart...a voice that speaks to us of hope and life and restoration. I pray this Lent can be a time for you to lament all that this year has cost you, our community, our nation, our world. I pray we can lament 500,000 lives lost in our country not as a number, but as people who had stories to tell, love to give and people who mourn their absence. I pray this Lent can be a time to let go and give to Jesus our pain, sorrow, anger, anxiety, hopelessness and so much more and watch as Jesus takes all that to the grave and then, dear ones, three days later returns and hands to us life, healing, redemption, hope, peace and joy. As always, siblings in Christ, be gentle with yourself and others. Through the strength of the Spirit, extend grace to yourself and one another. Many if not all of us are hurting right now in one way or another. Let us seek to follow Jesus' primary command—to love God and love our neighbor. Thanks be to God. - Pastor Krista

#### **OFFICE CLOSED March 1-7**

If you need assistance, please email Pastor Krista or call and leave a message.

Thank you!

## March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Suzy Cassidy—Mar. 01

Cassandra Koukol—Mar. 14

Hannah Miller—Mar. 08

Austin Hall—Mar. 18

Mark Imsland—Mar.09

Anja Yocom—Mar. 19

Hayden Imsland—Mar. 09

David VanHandel—Mar. 20

Raleigh Imsland—Mar. 10

Anne Keiser—Mar. 24

Gretchen Chase—Mar. 13

Jeffrey King—Mar. 31



### **\*\*Belated birthday wishes for February:**

Tammy Hayes—Feb. 10

Charlie Tiongson—Feb. 15

Mike Buckmaster—Feb. 15

John Grebe—Feb 23



### **March Anniversaries:**

Rick & Sheila Rodriguez—Mar. 22

**If we missed including you in the Monthly Birthdays or Anniversaries and you wish for names/dates to be honored, please contact the office.**



## ADULT STUDY

The Manifesto of the King  
(Title by G. Campbell Morgan)

### How to Access the Bible Study

The videos for this study are available on our website. You can watch them anytime, just click education tab and scroll to Sermon On The Mount link

**\*\*First three sessions now available on-line.\*\***

## Parish Ed. and CYF goes virtual!

### **Education and Mid-week Learning**

Our education packets will be available for pick up on Sunday March 7 during drive through communion. If you are unable to pick one up, please let us know so we can deliver it. For this month we will be using our mid-week readings and we hope that you will join us at the church for a time of prayer.

Each Wednesday in Lent between 6:30-7:30pm there will be an opportunity to come, reflect, and pray at the church. We will provide slips of paper to write words, phrases, or prayers on that will then be attached to the provided crosses. One cross will be wrapped in world maps and the other will be bare wood, found under the breezeway in front of the fellowship hall. The slips of papers will be collected throughout Lent and then placed in a fire on Good Friday as part of the service. Burning these prayers will be symbolic of lifting our prayers to God. If you choose to participate from home the list of lectionary passages for each day are below, we will be highlighting those in bold to go along with the theme. Feel free to drop your prayers off at the church to be included on the crosses.

## Wed—Feb. 24 Prayer

Proverbs 30:1-9

Matthew 4:1-11

\* Psalm 77

## Wed—Mar. 3 The world needs the light

Jeremiah 30:12-22

\*John 12:36-43

Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45

## Wed—Mar. 10 Cleansing the temple/Baptism

Ezra 6:1-16

\*Mark 11:15-19

Psalm 84

## **Confirmation**

We meet 2 times a month on Zoom from 5pm – 6pm. For this month the dates are **Mar. 4** and **Mar. 18**.

## **Little Library Scavenger Hunt**

Hi everyone, on March 5 & 6 our church is going to participate in the 'national day of unplugging' with a little library scavenger hunt~ where families will go around looking for little libraries in their neighborhoods. Our little library will have bookmarks for the kids, and we want to make sure we have lots of books for them too. If you have any kids or teen books lying around, we would love to have them. A lot or a few ~I would be happy to come pick them up & I will also have a container at the church. let's make this day a fun one for community families! If you have any questions? feel free to reach out to Courtney Adams.

*\*With state requirements and uncertainty due to COVID 19 we continue to seek flexible ways of doing activities. All activities are subject to change as we receive new guidelines and information.*

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## **Council President's Update**

Hello Mount Si Lutherans!

I hope this letter finds you all in the Lenten season, that is, in preparation for the coming of Easter. On Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, your Council and CYF Director gathered over the Zoom platform for the annual Retreat. The three-plus hour meeting was aimed at the direction the Council will focus on for this year. The focus areas surely will have lasting impacts.

One of the main focus areas I want you to be aware of is the Discernment project. If you recall we were all asked a few months back to read through fifteen scripture readings. The goal was to get forty members to provide the 5 most impactful readings to focus on for the discernment project. Of the thirty-five or so respondents

the readings have been narrowed to five: **2 Corinthians 4:1-18, John 13:1-20, Matthew 25:34-40, Psalm 96, and Psalm 121.** If you refresh yourself with these scripture readings I believe you will also agree with the Council's enthusiasm to continue on with the next steps. I firmly believe Pastor Krista's leadership will guide us to learn more about ourselves and define the heart and soul, and mission, of our church.

The other focus area discussed at the retreat was putting a Team together to research the possibility to reopen the church to in-person service. The current Synod guidelines do not recommend in-person service at this time. Because we are hopeful the pandemic will wane due to the COVID vaccine being administered as rapidly as possible, the Team will look into the conditions required to reopen. I cannot tell you when the conditions will be right to reopen I can only tell you the Team is working in that direction. So I ask that we all continue praying for our healthcare professionals, for those infected to be healed, and for those feeling isolated to be comforted. Council is grateful for Janey Benson, Jenna Rhyne, and Inge Burnside leading up this Team.

Council and ministries are looking into the Synod's Grace Grant program to see if it is something we should pursue. For some background, the Synod recently announced they are accepting grant applications under the Grace Grant program. You may or may not know that after Grace Lutheran Church closed, a portion of the remaining proceeds were given to the Synod to manage as a grant program. The four focus areas are Equity and Justice for Marginalized Communities, Post-COVID Ministry Innovation, Community and Inclusion, and Youth & Young Adult.

Lastly, I want to bring you up to speed that the Small Business Administration approved our church for a second Paycheck Protection Program loan under the Cares Act. The loan amount is \$28,438. Working with Stewardship and Finance this loan will be applied to cover payroll costs and utilities. The Cares Act also offers these loans to be forgiven if at least 60% of the loan is applied to cover payroll. Our intent is to submit an application to have the loan forgiven, just as we did for the first loan.

Thank you for your continued prayers of support and guidance under these trying times. At our monthly meetings we open and close in prayer for the health and well-being of God's people and ask for the Holy Spirit to guide us in our efforts to carry out the mission of Mount Si Lutheran Church. If you are interested in helping out with any of the ministries please reach out to any Council member. Or you can contact me directly at [rsnmrod@mac.com](mailto:rsnmrod@mac.com) or (206) 384-1042.

With God's peace and in Christ's love, Rick Rodriguez

### **Sunday Worship for March—10am**

10am On-line—See website for link to FB or YouTube [www.mtsilutheran.org](http://www.mtsilutheran.org)

Mar. 7th—John 2:13-22

Mar. 14th—John 3:14-21

Mar. 21st—John 12:20-33

Mar. 28th—Mark 14:1-15

### **1st Sunday of Every Month Drive-thru Communion - 11:30a-12:30p**

You can also pick-up your Education Kits, along with monthly newsletter and devotionals!

## March Bishop's Message



This is a picture of a calendar I have on my desk. The date on it is, "March 10, 2020. Yes, I am not making a mistake, the year on this calendar is 2020.

Last year, when I turned the page on this calendar, I had no idea that this date would mark the last time I had a "normal" day in my office – with my staff and I talking, sitting at our desks, crowded together, laughing, doing business – not thinking at all of masks or physically distancing or washing hands (well, hopefully we were washing our hands!).

I have kept this calendar on March 10, 2020 as a snapshot of when life changed to a new reality. Like many of you, I never dreamed that one year later we would all be planning our second Easter of COVID or having second birthdays under these strange circumstances or still not knowing for sure when we might gather together safely.

I did not anticipate the suffering so many people have undergone. The hundreds of thousands of people who have died. So many who are still suffering from the ravages of COVID. The impact of this virus has been brutal for millions of people.

While I consider myself a patient person, truth be told, I am becoming impatient. I am ready to be done with this pandemic. I am ready for the pain and anxiety of this disease to be over. I am ready for the loss of life and health of so many to stop. I am ready for this underlying feeling of anxiety and fear to end.

And you? My guess is you are feeling some of the same things.

But, as we hear in many of the psalms, we don't stop at despair. As people who believe in resurrection, we don't stop at death. In this Lenten season as we move towards Easter, we proclaim that we are a people of hope, too. As I read in my devotions this morning from Psalm 147: "The Lord heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds." Through community with one another, through helping those who are marginalized, through coming together in prayer and song and worship, we are healing the brokenhearted and binding up wounds.

So, let me ask you, even as we wait, what are you looking forward to? Truly, what is bringing you hope right now? What are some things that you have learned and discovered during this pandemic that you want to take forward? We know that God works through all things – how do you see God working in your life and in the life of this nation and world?

I would love to hear from you where you see God's Holy Spirit – in your congregation, in your home, in your workplace, in the world. Where are you finding hope? Where are you finding resurrection joy? You are welcome to email me at [bishop@lutheransnw.org](mailto:bishop@lutheransnw.org). I would love to hear from you.

In this Lenten season (a season that sometimes feels like it began last March and is still happening) we trust that we are walking the way of the Lord. God's hand is guiding us. God's love is surrounding us. And God brings us hope. May you feel God's grace through Jesus in these days. And may we soon gather in-person again.

- continued on next pg.



Stay safe. Wear a mask. Wash your hands. Get a vaccine when you are eligible. And know that we are church together, even when we are physically separated.

In the Hope of Christ,  
Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

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### **Outdoor Mid-Week Lent Opportunity**

Each Wednesday in Lent between 6:30pm and 7:30pm



Ash Wednesday Photo, 2021

you are invited to stop by the church and participate in a time of guided prayer. We will provide slips of colored paper and a way to tack the prayers to a cross. At the end of Lent we will be burning these as part of the 7pm Good Friday gathering (following 6pm Online Worship). Also, since we cannot gather for soup and bread together, we are inviting you to bring a can of soup each Wednesday when you stop by for prayer. These cans of soup will be given to the Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank.

Pastor Krista will also offer an online prayer service via Facebook Live and YouTube Live each Wednesday at 6pm.

#### **Maundy Thursday-Apr. 1**

You can watch a simple Maundy Thursday worship service on our Mt Si Lutheran Facebook and YouTube page at 6pm.

#### **Good Friday-Apr. 2**

You can watch a simple Good Friday worship service on our Mt Si Lutheran Facebook and YouTube page at 6pm

You are invited to participate in self-guided outdoor prayer stations from 10am-6pm

At 7pm please stop by for a special outdoor prayer opportunity with campfires and special appearances by Peter and other Biblical Characters.

*\*\*In lieu of our traditional in-person Soup Suppers, we encourage you to ask friends, neighbors, and family to have a virtual Soup Supper together. This will be another way to connect with our loved ones during Lent. If you are unable to have a virtual Soup Supper, maybe you can exchange soup recipes and try something different. \*\**

# 40-40-40

## Lenten Hunger Walk

February 17 - April 3, 2021

40 Days. 40 Miles. \$40

Sign up at  
**ELCA-SES.org**  
TODAY!



**SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD**  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

## Support ELCA World Hunger

I invite you all to join me. All funds raised will go to ELCA World Hunger

Walk 40 miles over 40 days and give 40 dollars.

Sign up at [ELCA-SES.org](http://ELCA-SES.org)

Enjoy!

### Lent Mid-week Service Schedule

All services can be seen on Mt Si Lutheran's [Facebook Page](#) AND [YouTube Channel](#), Live, at 6pm each WEDNESDAY.

[Links](http://www.mtsilutheran.org) are on our website: [www.mtsilutheran.org](http://www.mtsilutheran.org)

Wed, March 3rd—6pm

Wed, March 10th—6pm

Wed, March 17th—6pm

Wed, March 24th—6pm

April 1st, Maundy Thurs.—6pm

April 2nd, Good Friday—6pm



Image by [singerdesign](#) from [Pixabay](#)

### **Sunday—March 28th—Palm Sunday Offerings**

**Worship Online—10am**—For worship, please send in a photo of you/your family holding leafy greens of your choice by March 22nd to Pastor Krista. This will be used in online worship on the 28th.



**In-Person Palm Procession—11:30-12:00pm @ Mt Si Lutheran** Be prepared to walk around the block with palms raised high as we spread out and shout Hosanna to our Lord! Place your fern in the sand box cross in-front of the main doors of the sanctuary at the close of the procession and receive a blessing for Holy Week. More details to come!

## March Devotion

PSALM 23 (NKJV), “The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness, for his name’s sake.”

Who is this Shepherd? At the outset, He is the One who does not leave his sheep in lack. This wonderful Shepherd Lord knows intimately the sheep over which he has charge and what their needs are. In the vernacular of the counseling profession, I liken this to parental “attunement”, that special attentiveness of a mother to her child, who comes to not only anticipate her baby’s needs, but to know from her baby’s cries and behavior if the baby is hungry, tired, upset or content. And what parent doesn’t know the satisfaction that comes from soothing and providing rest for an upset child?

The same is true of our Shepherd God who desires peace and rest for each one of us. It may have been a long time for some of us to consider this Shepherd as concerned for our needs. Or perhaps life’s road has been rugged, and we learned long ago to shelve our needs, or have little expectation of them being met. Having needs is being vulnerable, and being vulnerable can be risky.

Consider this Shepherd Lord who cares that we be able to lie down, to rest, who gives restoration to our very *soul*. God gives leading and guidance, and provides righteousness.

Meditate on this Psalm; soak in this revelation of our Provider God in verse after verse. Open your heart and mind to hear God’s

heart speaking to *you*. Written by a staff member of Lutheran Counseling Network

<https://www.lutherancounseling.net/>



**Remember to turn  
clocks ahead one hour  
at 2AM March 14th**