



PASTOR'S NOTE

Blessings Dear Siblings in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God, our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

What a joy to study Colossians together in July. I hope it was a blessing to you. As we enter the fall we will shift our Scriptural focus on Sunday to the Narrative Lectionary. We have done this in the past, but for those who may not recall or for whom it is new, I wanted to take a moment to explain what this means for us.

First of all, a quick refresher on what we mean when we say lectionary. Lectionaries are collections of readings, in our case, readings from the Holy Bible. For decades, each denomination and/or congregation, developed and chose their own set of readings for Sunday worship. A desire to collaborate among denominations grew out of the II Vatican council of 1969. One area they wished to collaborate on was worship. Worship leaders met and decided to develop a three year cycle of lectionary texts that each denomination would use. The hope was to cultivate unity among denominations and develop broadened Biblical literacy among worshipping communities. The Common Lectionary was finalized in 1983 with the Revised Common Lectionary coming out in 1994. The lectionary contains a reading from the Old Testament, a Psalm, a NT reading that is not from the one of the four Gospels and a Gospel lesson. The lessons were selected with the intent of showing connected themes/ideas/concepts throughout scripture. For example, we might get a reading about shepherds in the OT paired with the 23rd Psalm paired with "I am the Good Shepherd" in John paired with a lamb of God image in the letters of Paul. It was a monumental effort that still offers a richness and depth of Scriptural teaching.

Some 25 years later, professors at Luther Seminary asked the question, "what impact has the RCL had on a worshippers knowledge of the Bible?" What they learned is that many worshippers had a solid sense of many individual Biblical stories and that many worshippers named a desire to have a better grasp of the full chronological narrative of Scripture. With that in mind, they developed a four year narrative lectionary that begins in Genesis and then picks up one Gospel at Christmas through Easter and then moves into Acts and Paul's letters over the summer. I have enjoyed preaching and developing worship from this resource and look forward to exploring these texts with you all starting in mid-September. Blessings!

Peace, Pastor Krista



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Bishop's Letter on last page—*great read!*
- Council Report pg. 3
- Children & Youth Programs pgs. 4 & 5

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Re-joice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone."

Philippians 4:4-5

Mt Si Financial Summary

Jan-June Budget =
\$97,804
Jan-June Giving =
\$82,236
Jan-June Exp. =
\$90,125
net income/loss =
-\$7,890

*since we print the newsletter prior to the end of the current month, the newsletter reporting will always be one month behind.



SUNDY ADULT EDUCATION

On break for the summer!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

All ladies are welcome to participate. The Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall each Monday at 12:30pm. They are studying the book of Joshua. If you have any questions, please reach out to Vivian Waid.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Each Saturday @ 9am the men gather 9:00am Little Si Restaurant in North Bend for breakfast and Bible Study. The Study focuses on the readings for the upcoming Sunday worship. Reach out to Dave Spurling or Ed Benson for details.

THIRSTY FOR THEOLOGY

This group meets to discuss various theological topics. This is a low key group that welcomes open minds and hearts. We tend to laugh a lot and rarely get to an answer outside of our grounding in Christ and his abundant grace and mercy. Please bring a beverage of choice to the gathering. We meet at the parsonage next to the church. Reach out to Pastor with any questions.

Our next gathering is on **Thursday, September 8th, 7pm @ the Parsonage**

Topic of conversation: TBD

QUILTING GROUP
On break for the Summer!



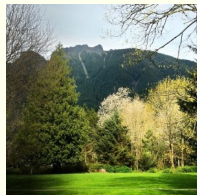
AUGUST WORSHIP NOTES

Annual Outdoor Worship and Picnic

August 14th

9:30am—12:00pm

at E J Roberts Park



Bring a sack lunch and a summer salad or dessert to share!

The park has paved walkways that make it accessible to all.

Worship with Sammamish Hills Lutheran! **August 28th**

We are worshipping
In the parking lot at
Sammamish Hills Lutheran &
Grace Chinese
(22818 SE 8th St., Sammamish)
with a picnic to follow.
Service is at **10:30am**.
The area is paved and accessible.

For the picnic, Mt Si is asked to bring desserts and salads to share. We are anticipating about 150ppl in attendance. SHLC is providing sandwiches and beverages. Grace Chinese is providing a main dish.

We are offering an in-person service on the 28th at 9:30am here at Mt Si for those who cannot make it to Sammamish Hills or for any visitors who would not be aware of the change in time and location

COUNCIL REPORT

Greetings from your council.

At our July council meeting we discussed our financial situation with the Stewardship and Finance committee. Since the beginning of the year, our spending has exceeded our income by approximately \$1,400 each month. In spite of this, because of the COVID relief money we received from the government, our bank account is healthy. We estimate that if we do nothing and things stay the same we have about four years before we have trouble meeting our expenses. After some discussion, it was decided that a more urgent need was trying to grow our membership so we can continue doing God's work in the community and the world.

The valley population is growing rapidly and there are families looking for a church home. Through the farmer's market and other community activities we are contacting 50 to 100 kids each week. At these events we have had parents of some of the kids ask us about our church. They are new to the area and are looking for a church. Council decided to form an Evangelism and Outreach committee to develop a plan for communicating to prospective members who we are as a church community and encourage people to join us in our mission of serving, reaching out, and growing in grace. If you are interested in helping with this effort let Pastor Krista or any of the council members know.

As a follow-up to the East King County Cluster meeting the executive teams of five of the churches met to begin to identify how we might team up to better use our resources. All five churches expressed concern about decreasing membership and income. In spite of this, all of the churches are very involved in ministries within their communities. There was interest in exploring how we might share resources to potentially reduce costs. We agreed to keep meeting and possibly have a retreat in the fall to develop plans for collaboration. Because of the impact of COVID on our lives and other factors we are in a time of transition. With our discernment activity, our drive to attract new members and the interaction with the churches in our cluster we will be identifying mission goals and how we will operate in the future. I see this as an opportunity to grow and adjust to our new reality so that we can continue to serve, reach out and grow in grace well into the future.

The Building and Grounds committee will be organizing a group to paint the window frames and doors on all of our buildings. If you are interested in helping, contact Rick Rodriquez. We are also identifying projects or activities we can do for the God's work our hands Sunday coming up in September. If you have any ideas please let Courtney Adams know.

For concerns or questions about facilities and programs please contact a council member.

Jack Boller

Ways to Give



If you purchase from Amazon:

1. Set up Amazon Smile
2. Select Mount Si Lutheran as a beneficiary.

We will receive a percentage as a donation from Amazon to Mt Si. See our website for links and more info.

Make a gift online through our website:

www.mtsilutheran.org/onlinegiving

Thank you for your continued generosity.

-Treasurer

*"You show me
the path of
life. In your
presence
there is full-
ness of joy"
Ps. 16*



UPDATE

Sadly Holden has cancelled fall registration. They do not have the staff to support fall guests.

We are working to develop some alternative plans.

Thank you for your understanding!

GIRL SCOUTS

The Girl Scouts Leaders will be meeting at the church on the third Thursday of each month

AA

AA will be meeting again at the church every Thursday evening from 7:00pm to 9:30pm

BACK TO SCHOOL 2022-2023



BACKPACK DISTRIBUTION
at Mt Si Lutheran Church,
Tuesday, August 23rd 3pm-6 pm &
Wednesday, August 24th 11am-3pm.

*Signs ups for helping with distribution will be posted in early August or you can contact Erica Haycox.

This year we **do not** need physical supplies. We are seeking monetary donations. We need \$500 to offset the costs this year.

Community event:

Lake Side Activities and Picnic

August 24st

2pm-7:30pm

at Rattlesnake Lake

Parents are responsible for safety of their children. John G. can transport any non-motorized water toys, picnic supplies, furnishings, and other activities in his trailer to the lake to provide access for members throughout the time at the lake.

There is a kiosk at the lake that provides some life jackets, please bring your own if you have any. Participants can come at any time and will be asked to bring food to share for the picnic at 6pm. Carpooling is recommended.



Mt. Si Festival Aug 13th-14th We are listed as co-sponsors of the Kid Zone at the festival along with Facilitating Team Solutions. John Grebe is helping to organize and run it from 1-6pm on Saturday 8/13, and 1-4pm on Sunday 8/14. If you are interested in helping, please let him know. Volunteers are needed to help set up and take down, direct parents to the consent forms, and hand out wrist bands to enter.

Parade at Mt. Si Festival – Aug 13th 10:30am. Vicki W. will be helping to create the float. If you are interested in helping design or being on the float, please let John G. know.

FAITH FORMATION

A note from John Grebe

I hope your summer is full of some great adventures! Summer is seen as the greatest season for growth and harvest in nature. So much of our food and stockpiling for winter happens during this time and one wonderful tradition is the Farmer's Market. Evangelism is in many ways an effort to increase growth for a different kind of harvest. By sharing the love of Christ with others in the world we are more likely to become an extended family knitted together with love.

It is a wonderful image to see our church being in the center of the Farmer's Market. I am hesitant to consider the full implication of evangelism or at least the definition that includes preaching in public. I am not unwilling or afraid of preaching it just isn't something that I feel comfortable doing when in a public setting that isn't intentionally gathered to participate in worship. Perhaps participation in worship is key to my appreciation or willingness to preach.

While at our booth providing crafts and activities, I was recently approached by a mother whose daughter frequented our booth. She asked me if I thought we were sharing the gospel. This has been an ongoing question in my head and heart. We try to make the crafts accessible to everyone, not just Christians. Perhaps more importantly we are trying to create a safe space for relationships to form. I believe it is through relationship that we are granted access to intimacy that reveals faith. Allowing an opportunity to talk about our faith, needs, and desires as we relate to one another.

I told her that "yes, I believe we are sharing the Gospel". I went on to explain how our actions and attitude towards others reveals truths about the Gospel. I went on to explain that the craft we offer may not have a specific Christian theme or that our lack of preaching may not represent a literal interpretation of evangelism but that building relationships and serving others is also a significant part of what makes us Christian and therefore we share the Gospel by living it out through our actions!

Si View Farmers Market

Each Thursday through September 8th
we provide crafts for approximately 30-
100 participants

We have developed some great
relationships because of this
interaction. We would love to have you come and volunteer.

We need help from between 3:30 and 8pm

If you are interested in helping with this fun outreach please
let John G. know.



Updates to events are communicated through Constant Contact and an email list of families and friends, if you are not on this list but would like to be included please let John Grebe know.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Pat Palmer 1st
Rick Rodriguez 2nd
Katherine Yocom 3rd
Grace Culver 5th
Rosemary Hanson 5th
Sydney Yocom 5th
Erica Haycox 7th
Debbie Jones 10th
Manch Garhart 11th
Joyce Hibma 13th
Jonathan Spurling 13th
Laura Ritzenhaler 16th
Virginia Williams 17th
Sue Oster 25th
Ralph Freeman 27th
Paul Dukich 31st

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES



John & Suzy Cassidy 3rd
Shelley & Michael Harding 6th
Dave & Debbie Spurling 7th
Jim & Nancy Flanagan 12th
Jeffrey & Valerie King 18th
Terry & Courtney Adams 19th
David & Lorraine Wilkerson 20th
Marcus & Lesia Tiongson 26th
Katherine & Nate Yocom 26th
Mark & Julie Imsland 27th
Pr. Krista & Doug Johnson 27th

6



**“Arise,
Shine,
for your
light has
come!
The glory
of the
Lord has
shone
upon
you.
Is. 60:1**



**Thanks
be to God
for a
joyful
and
awesome
VBS!**

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please reach out to the office so we can make the correction.



Red Cross Blood Drive September 13th

10am to 3pm

Blood Drive registration is live for signups
at www.redcrossblood.org

[Donate Blood, Platelets or Plasma. Give Life](#)

The Red Cross is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade. The dangerously low blood supply levels have forced some hospitals to defer patients from major surgery, including organ transplants. www.redcrossblood.org

The drive is open to the public and a spot can be reserved using the code:
MtSiLutheran. If you are interested in helping with this blood drive
please reach out to Rick Rodriguez.

The Red Cross plans to use Mt Si Lutheran Church as a quarterly blood donation site for the near future



One Year Later....Almost....

We are so excited to invite you to our backyard to celebrate! Thank you for all your wonderful support last year as we celebrated our wedding online.

It was a wonderful day, but we missed seeing you all face-to-face.

Now it is time to celebrate! Please join us for food, festivities and fellowship on:

**Friday, August 12th
from 5-9pm @ Mt Si Lutheran**

We will have lots of fun activities for all ages and dedicated folks to help watch over young ones if you desire.

Pizza from our pizza oven and other yummy food and delicious beverages will be provided.

Please RSVP using the QR code below or email Pastor Krista directly and let her know.



The Sunday flower chart is in the Narthex

(area outside
sanctuary)

You are welcome
to sign-up for a
Sunday to
provide one vase
of flowers for the
altar.

AUGUST

SUNDAY LESSONS

August 7

Frist Lesson: Ps. 33:12-22

Gospel Lesson:

Luke 12:32-40

August 14

First Lesson: Ps: 82

Gospel Lesson:

Luke 12:49-56

August 21

First Lesson: Ps. 103: 1-8

Gospel Lesson:

Luke 13: 10-17

August 28

First Lesson: Ps. 112

Gospel Lesson:

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Send content for our weekly
News from the Pews to
Kathleen at:
mtsi.assistant@gmail.com

BISHOP'S LETTER

August 2022

We are extravagantly blessed in this state to be surrounded by amazing nature. Not far from us, on the Olympic Peninsula, there is a rainforest that has trees over 300 feet high and which are over 1000 years old. In human history, when those trees broke through the ground, Christianity was just beginning in the Scandinavian countries of Europe, the Charter of Liberties was signed by Henry 1 in England giving some rights to landowning men (revolutionary for its time), Islam was in its scientific golden age with many of the preeminent scholars and scientists of the Middle Ages, the person we know as Genghis Khan united about half of the Mongol clans under his leadership, and, in the area we now know as the Hoh Rainforest, indigenous people laughed and argued, loved and fought, hunted and fished. And there, on that land, tiny, fragile trees peeked through the ground.



One thousand years ago.

Since then, there has been love and birth, illness and disease, heartache and abandonment, war and rumors of war, laughter and joy. Pandemics have ravaged populations. Peace has been declared and lived into and broken. Nations have risen and nations have fallen and other nations have taken their place. Millions upon millions of people have come and gone. As long as those trees have been growing, there has been life and death and new life again. For one thousand years. When life gets too fraught - when I worry about pandemics or elections or the state of many congregations or my children's future or humanity's future or this planet's future - when I begin to believe that I'm to save the church or humanity or the world - when I simply don't know what to do next - I think of the trees. One thousand years old and still growing.

And I take a breath. I breathe. And I trust in God's Holy Spirit.

For, as hard as it sometimes is to believe, dear beloved people of God, neither you nor I am called to save the church. Nor are we called to save the country. Nor are we called to save the world. As we have heard many times (I hope!) in church, Jesus died for the world already, you don't need to. And this world is redeemed through Jesus.

So, when we worry and stew and lose focus, what are we called to do and to be? As followers of Jesus, we are called to live and love in this world. As followers of Jesus, we are called to love the beautiful broken beloved people around us (even those you might not agree with or like). As followers of Jesus, we are called to love this beautiful broken beloved world and work to be good stewards of it. As followers of Jesus, we are called to leave this world and all of its inhabitants better because of us. As followers of Jesus, we are called to live and love in grace and move towards justice together.

When I think of the root systems of the trees in the Hoh rainforest - the roots that started shallow and individual but now go deep and wide, tangled up with other root systems, drawing from the same water source, burrowing as deeply down into the soil as much as they soar above the ground, interdependent with one another, needing one another - I think of how we are called to draw strength from one another, live together with each other, and deeply draw from the resources around us so that we all may thrive.

When I think of the Hoh Rainforest trees, peace comes over me. For I truly believe that, through the Holy Spirit, the Church will continue with deep roots and soaring heights. In one thousand years, the Church will not look the same as it does now (much like it has changed from 1000 years ago) and yet, Christ will continue to save through grace - of this I am certain.

I am thankful that in this time and place, we are called to live into the good news of Jesus' radical acceptance together. I am thankful that God is living and moving and being in me and I am living and moving and being in God. I am thankful that God is living and moving and being in you as you are living and moving and being in God. And, together, we look to those thousand-year-old trees. We look to seedlings and saplings. And we remember these words from Psalm 90:

Lord, you have been our dwelling-place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust, and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.' For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.

May the beauty and blessing of God be with you always.

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee