

mtsilutheran@mtsilutheran.org

411 NE 8th Street
North Bend, WA 98045

425-888-1322



Mount Si Lutheran Church

*To Serve
To Reach Out
To Grow In Grace*

GOODNEWSletter

AUGUST 2026



Pastor's Note...

On Sunday, July 26th we heard the Gospel lesson from Luke when Jesus reads from the scroll of Isaiah and proclaims release to captives, recover of sight to the blind and proclaims the year of the Lord's favor.

We discussed how Jesus was stating his purpose for his time on earth and his purpose for the cross/tomb/resurrection. Jesus' purpose was to release people from captivity to sin for every time and place - for the people of Jesus' day and the for us today and for our descendants until Jesus comes again.

Jesus' fulfillment of his purpose left us with a priceless gift. A gift for all who call on Jesus' name and for all who believe in the truth that we are forgiven and reconciled before God. It is the gift of freedom. Freedom from fear that we are not enough and don't do enough to gain God's favor. AND freedom to go out into the world to proclaim this freedom to others.

It frees us to feed the hungry - not because our salvation depends on it - but precisely because it does not. We can remove our mind from worry about our relationship with God and put our energy instead into our relationship with our neighbor. We can notice they are hungry and make sure they are fed.

Once they are fed, we can continue to build relationship with them and share with them about the gift of freedom we've received from Jesus and invite them into that gift of freedom as well.

The freedom Jesus gifts us is to be involved in the world as agents of care and concern and compassion. To be a voice in our particular time for release of the captives, recovery of sight to the blind and announcing the year of the Lord's favor.

I pray you spend time considering the freedom you have in Jesus and what purpose that freedom invites you into each and every day.

May the assurance of your place in the Kingdom give you a deep rooted peace. May the promise that you are reconciled to God alleviate your fear. May the knowledge that Jesus has fulfilled his purpose and gifted you freedom bring you joy.

May you shift your service to a place of love for your neighbor and not obligation to appease God.

In everything - remember you are loved and you are not alone.

Amen.

Peace

P. K.

In this newsletter
you will find:

Special Events
In August &
September

Serving our
Neighbors

Our Mission

Sunday Readings
& Weekday
Education
Opportunities

August Birthdays
and Anniversaries

For Pastoral Emergencies August 8-15 Call:

Pr. Lara 425-505-5590

Special Events in August & September



August 16- 10am Ebright Creek Park Worship

It is time again for our annual joint worship service with Lutheran congregations around the Sno Valley. Worship will be at **10am** at Ebright Creek Park in Sammamish.



Belize 2027 Mission Registration Open! Feb. 5-16

You are invited to Belize to share in community, help run a one day VBS, work with students and teachers at Alvin Young and more. Cost is \$2,500.

Email pastornyla@shlc.org for registration info.



Backpack Distribution Aug 18-19

We anticipate handing out 500 backpacks this year and we need your help! Please talk with Erica or Janey about our distribution dates and how you can assist.
THANK YOU!



Rededication of Luther's Lounge August 29, 1-3pm

Come Celebrate and honor all who helped in the clean-up and reconstruction of Luther's Lounge. Enjoy food, fellowship, slideshow and rededication blessing. See you there!



Beach Church Aug. 5, 12, 19 - 6pm

We meet for potluck, grilled hotdogs, and smores; games and a swim; devotions and songs. This is an intergenerational event for members and friends of Issaquah and Eastside churches. Please bring a dish! Consider bringing your own table setting to reduce trash and recycle. And bring beach games, of course!

Directions: Drive West on E Lake Sammamish PKWY SE; just after Lake Sammamish Park Boat Loading Ramp Road, turn left on SE 44th St and drive to the Lakeshore.



Gods Work. Our Hands. Sunday!

Sunday, September 13 is God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday once again!

Get ready for a fun filled worship centered on service with service projects following worship.

Our mission: to serve, reach out & grow in grace...



A Belize Mission Trip with SHLC
February 5–16, 2027
Cost: \$2,500

What we do: Serve & Enjoy the Beauty of Belize

ITINERARY

First Weekend — Visit Lamanai Mayan Ruin
— Share a one-day VBS style lesson with children in Corozol, Belize

Monday – Thursday — Match the gifts of each participant to service opportunities at Alvin L. Young High School & Victorious Elementary School in Succotz; visit a rainforest canopy, visit Xunantunich Mayan Ruins, and other cultural centers

Final Weekend — Travel to Caye Caulker to rest, snorkel, swim, and delight in the beauty of the Carib Sea

Register Now
Submit registration form and deposit of \$300 by September 27, 2026

For questions or to request a registration form please contact
Pastornyla@shlc.org



Noisy offering for Belize begins again! Starting Sept. 6
Thank you for your gift of change!



Community Worship

August 16 | At Ebright Creek Park
10:00am

FAMILY FUN | WORSHIP | POTLUCK MEAL
Gather your friends, family, and loved ones for a delightful day filled with worship, laughter, delicious food, and the beauty of the great outdoors!

Ebright Creek Park: 1317 - 212th AVE SE, Sammamish

Sammamish Hills, Our Savior, Love of Christ, Holy Trinity, Grace Chinese, St. Luke's, St. Andrew's, Mt Si, Cross of Christ

Mt Si members are asked to please bring your chair for the Aug. 16 Worship & Picnic.
See dessert sign-up in Narthex



NEED HELP WITH BACK TO SCHOOL?

BACK TO SCHOOL ESSENTIALS 2026

FOR SNOQUALMIE VALLEY SD STUDENTS IN GRADES K-12

Pick-Up:	Location:
August 18th 2-6:30pm	Mt. Si Lutheran Church
August 19th 10am-1:30pm	411 NE 8th St, North Bend

Can you help distribute school supplies on Aug 18 or 19? Please talk to Erica or Janey to sign-up!

ELCC Choir

TommieBurton

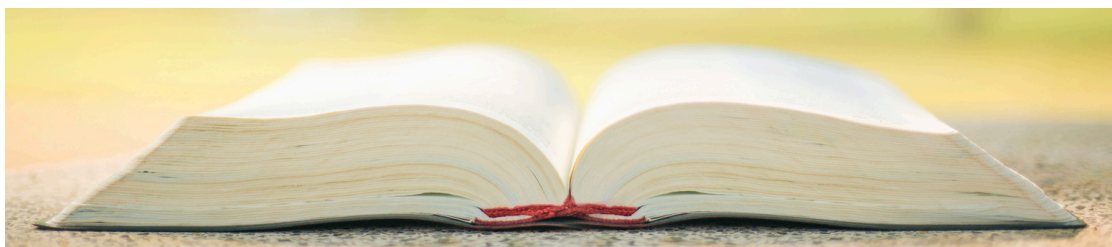
Performing as part of ELCC Annual Ebright Park Service 8/16/26 10:00 am.
Choir singers need to be at the park ready to rehearse song at 9:15 am sharp.

Required Choir Rehearsal:
Saturday 8/15/26 10:00-11:00 am
at St Luke's Lutheran

No pre-learning required. Easy & fun! All ages welcome. Children under 12 require an accompanying adult.

Contact Cheri Neill at 206.851.1035

Supporting one another in faith.....



Sunday Readings & Weekday Education Opportunities

AUGUST SUNDAY LESSONS

August 2

Psalm 30

Luke 4:21-30

August 9

1 Peter 2:1-10

Luke 5:1-11

August 16

Outdoor Worship, 10am

@ Ebright Park

August 23

Rev. 21:1-6

Luke 6:17-26

August 30

Ephesians 2:1-10

Luke 6:27-38

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES IN AUGUST

Men's Bible Study - Saturdays, 9am @
Little Si Restaurant.

Women's Bible Study - is on their
seasonal break. They will resume their study
beginning in September.



Pat Palmer 1st

Rick Rodriguez 2nd

Grace Culver 5th

Rosemary Hanson 5th

Erica Haycox 7th

Debbie Jones 10th

Joyce Hibma 13th

Jonathan Spurling 13th

Laura Ritzenthaler 16th

Virginia Williams 17th

Sue Oster 25th

Nick Adams 27th

Ralph Freeman 27th

Paul Dukich 31st



Shelley & Michael Harding 6th

Dave & Debbie Spurling 7th

Jeffrey & Valerie King 18th

Terry & Courtney Adams 19th

David & Lorraine Wilkerson 20th

Mark & Julie Inland 27th

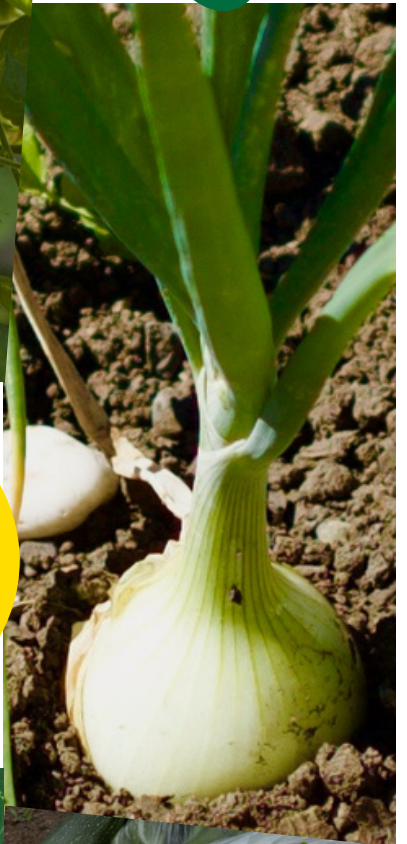
Flower Chart Sign-ups

**Please consider signing up to bring
flowers for our altar on Sunday morning.**

This can be in honor or memory of
a loved one or event in your life
or just because you enjoy flowers!

The flower chart is in the
Fellowship Hall hallway.
Thank you for your offering!

Garden of Giving



Garden of Giving
picking
August 2, 9, 23, & 30
after worship!



In Full Bloom!



All Together in One Place

JULY 28, 2026

Choosing Reconciliation Over Division in a Multifaith America

Dear church,

From its earliest days, the United States has been shaped by religious diversity. Indigenous peoples sustained diverse spiritual and religious traditions long before the nation's founding, and successive waves of settlers, including Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and others, brought a variety of beliefs that helped define the nation's unique and vital religious landscape.

Throughout the church today, many are struggling with debates regarding the religious identity of our nation. While religious diversity did not begin with the Constitution, the Constitution's framers recognized an important truth: the future of our nation could not be tied to a single religious identity. By rejecting religious tests for public office, the Founders created space for people of any or no faith tradition to participate in public life together. That commitment continues to be foundational to our nation's vitality, especially at a time when people are tempted to identify love of the nation, or the government itself, with a single religion. No one faith tradition should rule the United States, just as the framers desired.¹

As the apostle Paul writes, God has given us "the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18). Reconciliation involves living in God's future — including through renewed interreligious relationships.

Religious diversity is the reality of the world we live in. Recognizing this, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which affirms that mutual understanding with other faith traditions can deepen our own faith. Through encountering neighbors and working side by side in shared commitments to love and compassion and community, our own Christian faith is strengthened. This conviction means that through my call as presiding bishop of the ELCA, our church develops and maintains relationships with Jewish, Muslim and many other faith communities. Like personal friendships we hold, these relationships do not require us to set aside Christian faith. Rather they reaffirm that in a nation as diverse as ours, being a good neighbor across religious differences is not optional. It's a part of the shared American experience. It is an experience we can support as everyday Lutherans in God's call to reconciliation.

(CONTINUED)

("All Together in One Place" -continued from page 6)

"The ELCA will explore and encourage inter-religious friendship, accompaniment, and partnership with all who seek justice, peace, human wholeness, and the well-being of creation (ELCA Constitution, Chapter 4.03.f)." —"A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," p. 10

"The ELCA will defend the full participation of all in our religiously diverse society, 'strengthening public space as a just place for all' regardless of religion or worldview ('The Church in the Public Space: A Statement of The Lutheran World Federation,' 2016)." —"A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," p. 11

The ministry of reconciliation is both local and national. God invites us to love one another across differences. Trusting in God's grace, we boldly form relationships with neighbors of all faiths who share a commitment to justice, peace and the flourishing of all creation. I encourage you to engage in this essential ministry, which offers a powerful opportunity to heal divisions, deepen respect across differences and strengthen the bonds of our common life.

In Christ,



The Rev. Yehiel Curry
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

[1] The ELCA social statement Faith and Civic Life, Seeking the Well-being of All states, "The Establishment Clause is cut from the same cloth as the Constitution's prohibition against religious tests for public office. Government is not the church, and the church is not the government. The intent of the Establishment Clause clearly is that government must not promote a particular faith or religion in general" (45).



Meet Ficus!
Our new friend in the
Fellowship Hall.

Please don't water ficus.
Pastor will water and fertilize
on Ficus' schedule.
He's a fussy plant 😊