



Grace and peace to you,

In May we said goodbye to our youth director, John Grebe, after five years of ministry at Mt Si. He has taken a position at Camp Lutherwood up in Bellingham and we wish him all the best in this new ministry.



In this time of transition I wanted to share with everyone that all the items John had leadership of have been handed off to our capable and dedicated Faith Formation team volunteers. Jack Boller will be our



consistent volunteer present each week at **Farmers Market** with Courtney, Erica and myself sharing the responsibility of pulling together the crafts. Thanks to Ed and Terry who I know will also be present consistently at the market. **VBS** leadership is shared between many folks including Courtney, Lisa, Ed, Marlin, Nancy, Rosemary, Debbie, Shelley, Vicki, Terry, Dave, Jennifer, myself and

many more! The **North Bend Block Party** leadership will be split between myself and Erica (you'll see signups for additional help soon!) Lisa and I have stepped up to coordinate with other leaders for the **Tiny House Build** in August. I will also pick up admin items for the time being and offer leadership for the Faith Formation Team. Fall education planning is already being discussed with more conversations planned. All this to say that our children, youth and families are in the loving hands of our community. There will be changes and growing pains as we adjust. We ask for your support, patience and prayers as we seek to serve our families. We are the Body of Christ together and every member has a place and purpose in the Body. If you have a desire to help serve our children, youth and families, please let me know! Questions? I'm always open for conversation. I trust the Spirit will guide us on the path forward.

On another note—Thank you to all who participated in the Adult education hour when we discussed **summer worship themes** and content. Per our conversation we are going to take time to learn together the worship practice of chanting the Psalms. We will take our time and learn together how to read the hash marks in the text that indicate when we change notes. This is an experiment to see if this is something we all enjoy doing or say we tried it and go back to reading! Either is ok.

We also heard from you all a continued desire from some to hear traditional hymns and from others to incorporate more contemporary Christian music. Dave and I are working to balance these two musical styles in our worship.

We also discussed what texts, themes, series topics folks would like to focus on. There was interest in lifting up 1 John as a sermon text rather than a first reading. There was also interest in evangelism texts and hearing texts we don't always spend time with on a Sunday morning. Taking these ideas with the materials I found we will begin with a four-week series in Isaiah. Many of the passages will be quite familiar and tend to be read in the Advent season, but rarely are up front and center for preaching/teaching. After that we will take five weeks in 1 John - one chapter a week. On August 13th we will join in a hymn sing with storytelling behind each hymn/song. For example, sharing about the composer, the inspiration for the lyrics, etc. I pray the Spirit will minister to you in the way you need this summer through these worship offerings.



Peace
P. K.



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Special points of interest

- Bishop's Letter on last page—*great read!*
- Council Report pg. 3



WELCOME TO MOUNTAIN VALLEY PRESCHOOL—

Class will begin in early September for around 10 students, M-F from 9-1pm. The church receives compensation for this use of space. The preschool will run over the summer. Questions? Please ask Jack or Pr. Krista. Please welcome Keeley when you see her!



Mountain Valley
Preschool
Where a Love for Learning is Created

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 Pastor Krista know.

AA

Will meet Thursdays in Luther's Lounge weekly - 7 pm
Ogle Street entrance

GIRL SCOUTS

The Girl Scouts Leaders meet at the church on the third Thursday of each month from

We seek to offer a range of education opportunities for all ages. If you any questions about these offerings please talk to Pr. Krista.

SUNDAY EDUCATION

Sunday education for all ages is on break for the summer—see you again in min September!

THIRSTY FOR THEOLOGY

Our Summer Thursday, Thirsty for Theology first gathering will be around the parsonage fire pit or inside depending on weather , 7pm on Thursday, June 8th.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

On summer break. We will resume our group study in September If you have any questions, please reach out to Vivian Waid.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Each Saturday @ 9am the men gather at 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.



It's time again for the Si View Farmers Market! We are ready to once again offer free crafts to children and youth who attend the Farmers Market each Thursday from 4-8pm. **We need your help** to be present at the booth and help facilitate the craft and engage in conversation with the children, youth and families who stop by. The crafts are all provided with clear instructions. **Jack Boller** has stepped up to offer leadership each week and is there to guide new volunteers through the process. If you are interested, please sign-up for an early (set-up) shift or late shift.

We are excited this year to partner with the market in a new way in the month of July through the **Power of Produce (POP)** Kids program. The market received a grant to teach kids about healthy eating and we've been asked to be Mt Si at their booth and lead crafts while continuing to share all our normal advertising, bring our banner, etc. This will be a great way to engage the community even more than we already do at the market.

Questions about any of this? Please talk to Pastor Krista—Thank you!

COUNCIL REPORT

Greetings from your council.

Representatives from the council executive team and the finance committee met with Pastor Herb Shao of our Synod office to discuss our financial situation. He stated that the synod is very much concerned about Mt Si Lutheran and wants to do what they can to help us continue operating long into the future. The synod does not have the ability to help us financially but they can support us in other ways.

Pastor Herb encouraged us to expand our collaboration with Sammamish Hills Lutheran to explore options for sharing our resources. We have already been collaborating with them for youth activities. Another option would be to share our facilities with another congregation. If we did this we would receive money from the other church for the use of our facility. We would also need to coordinate with them so we are not both trying to use the facility at the same time. In cases he was aware of Pastor Herb said the user fee is usually \$1,000 to \$1,500 per month.

As you probably know, John Grebe resigned as our youth and family director effective May 18th. He will be serving as an associate director for Camp Lutherwood near Bellingham. We are sorry to see him leave and he will be missed. Because of our financial situation we have decided to hold off on filling his vacancy. We will be reevaluating our financial status to see what impact not paying for the position will have on our finances. It will not make up the total monthly deficit, but it will reduce it significantly.

The council is looking for volunteers to serve on a planning committee to make plans for celebrating our 75th anniversary next year. If you are interested in serving on this committee let Pastor Krista or a council member know.

We still have a council vacancy that we would like to fill. We meet the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. If you are interested, let Pastor Krista or a council member know.

Jack Boller

Backpack Distribution for School Year 2023-2024

We will once again be providing school supplies for students in need enrolled in the Snoqualmie Valley School District grades K-12. We purchased 120 backpacks this spring, however, we are still in need of school supplies for over 200 backpacks. We are hoping to partner with the school district to enhance our buying power and use our community resources.



This year we are asking for monetary contributions for our annual school supply and backpack drive. Please make any checks payable to **Mt Si Lutheran** with the note of **School Supplies**. Thank you all for your loyal support of our valley students.

Distribution: August 22nd and 23rd at Mt Si Lutheran. More information coming soon. If you have any questions, please reach out to Erica Haycox or Pastor Krista

JUNE SUNDAY LESSONS

June 4th

First Lesson: Psalm 100
Narrative Lectionary Text:
Isaiah 6:1-8

June 11th

First Lesson: Psalm 121
Narrative Lectionary Text:
Isaiah 9:1-7

June 18th

First Lesson: Psalm 23
Narrative Lectionary Text:
Isaiah 40:1-11

June 25th

First Lesson: Psalm 146
Narrative Lectionary Text:
Isaiah 61:1-11



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

Cluster Youth Events

As we enter 2023, Mt. Si Lutheran is identifying ways to partner with other churches in our Cluster. If any of these peak your interest, reach out to Pastor Krista, or Lisa for more information! Here are a few upcoming events to consider – more will be added as we get more details:

- VBS at SHLC the week of **July 17-21**
- VBS at St. Luke's Lutheran Church the week of **July 24-28**
- Summer Family Camp **August 3-6th**. See article on pg. 5 for more info!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH EDUCATION

Sunday School is on break for the summer—see you again in the Fall!

Did you take photos of an event with Mt Si that you would be willing to have used in our newsletters or other promotional purposes? Short videos are also appreciated. Please send to Kathleen at: mtsi.assistant@gmail.com

FAITH FORMATION

VBS 2023

Please consider volunteering your time or donations to help make an amazing experience for youth in our community!

Mt Si Lutheran Church
North Bend
Vacation Bible School
"Christmas in July"
For ages 4-12
open to whole community

Friday, July 28th 6PM - 8PM
Saturday July 29th 9AM-3PM (lunch is provided)
Sunday July 30th Celebration Service 9:30AM
with festivities to follow until 11:30AM

The sessions will include
snacks, crafts,
games, science,
and bible study.

We will be following 4 characters as they explore the true meaning of Christmas. From the myths based on the historical Magi figures who visited the holy family, we will introduce to their three steeds: a horse, an elephant, and a lion. And one of Santa's elves who believes the purpose of Christmas is to celebrate her birthday.
An original study created by John Grebe

For more information: <http://www.mtsiluthean.org/vbs>



Link for the VBS 2023 registration:

<https://forms.gle/eZNdWouEYe8RLFRK9>

Or use QR code

Camp Lutherwood, Here We Come!

Many camp offerings :Traditional, H2O, and Counselor-In-Training. For multiple grade levels: 1-5, 6-9, 10-12. In multiple weeks: June 25-Aug.11. We hope you can find a week that works for you. Several Mt. Si Youth are already making plans to attend, so feel free to reach out to Lisa Sampson if you know of someone who would be interested in attending. Find the brochure in the Fellowship Hall, and all the details here: Summer Camp — [Lutherwood Camp & Retreat Center](#)



Big House? No! A Tiny House!

Mt. Si is thrilled to be partnering with St. Andrew's and Sammamish Hills Lutheran Churches for an all-hands-on-(tiny)-deck service project!

If you're available days the week of August 7-11, or evenings the week of August 14-18, join us as Mt. Si hosts this amazing experience! Whether you like the carpentry aspect, the opportunity to learn or lead side service projects, or you just want to hand out or donate water and snacks, we would love to see you there!

[Here the link](#) for the Adult Signup, and the Youth Signup for those entering grades 6 through 12th grade graduates.

Doug Johnson will be coordinating all the logistics, so if you have ideas or questions, you can reach out to him, Pastor Krista or Lisa Sampson.

We hope to see many of you there!

The poster features a central graphic of a house with a green roof and a white body, with a sun and a cross above it. Text on the poster includes: SAINT ANDREW'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, SAMMAMISH HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH, MOUNT SI LUTHERAN CHURCH, TINY HOUSE 2023, Aug. 7-11, 9am-4pm, Aug. 14-18, 5:30pm-8pm, Youth grades 6-12, Adults, At Mt. Si Lutheran, North Bend, and a QR code with the text 'Scan Here to sign up and get more information'.

Kids and Farmer's Market Fun!

If there's one thing Lutherans are good at, it's fellowship! Combine that with some old-fashioned Vitamin D, fun crafts, and reconnecting with friends in the community- and I think you'll find a very lovely Thursday evening indeed!

If that sounds enticing, please check your summer schedule, and sign up on a clipboard in the Narthex for as many 2-hr shifts as your fellowshiping heart desires!

Kids, we're talking to you too! See how many school friends you can see each night you're there! And if you happen to invite them to VBS, worship, and other activities, imagine how much fun THAT would be??

More information on page 2

Farewell, John! Thank you for five years of ministry at Mt Si Lutheran.



Thank you to those who donated to John's thank you gift from the congregation. We were able to give him a sturdy wagon full of fun along with a significant cash gift. In addition, others made lovely personal gifts for John that he received on the 18th during our family farewell.

We wish John all the best as he shares his gifts with those at Camp Lutherwood.

Peace, P. K.



**JUNE
BIRTHDAYS**



Darlene Lockwood 2nd
Inge Burnside 9th
Paige Lee 10th
John Haycox 15th
Emma Imsland 20th
Julie Imsland 25th
Susan Schuba 30th
Megan Stone 30th

**JUNE
ANNIVERSARIES**

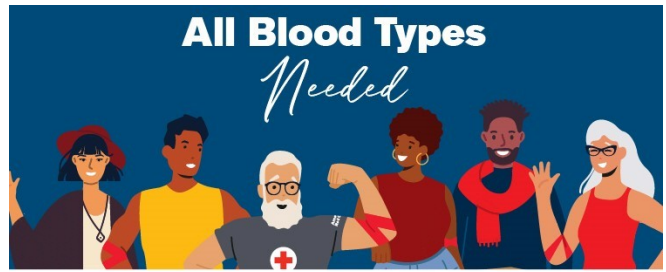


Joe & Denise Stone 14th

**The Sunday flower chart
is in the Fellowship Hall
outside of the library.**

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

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



**Blood Drive
Mt Si Lutheran Church**

Fellowship Hall
411 NE 8th St
North Bend, WA

**Tuesday, June 13, 2023
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**



[Link for registering](#)

If you are interested in helping with this blood drive
please reach out to Rick Rodriguez.

Save the Date!

**All are welcome to meet Pr. Iverson and his family on
JUNE 22nd, 6:30pm @ the Parsonage.**

Pr. Iverson reached out last year to see if Mt Si could host his family as they adventure across the country. Pr. Iverson is an ELCA Lutheran church in Galesville, Wisconsin. This summer he is taking his family on a long awaited sabbatical and will be going to churches across the country on a cross country biking ministry tour. Pr. Iverson wrote to say, "My wife and I have done this before, doing programs, but now that we have 3 kids, and 10 years later, this will be a whole new adventure. When we visit a church we sing some songs, share stories, talk about where we've 'seen God on the road.' Meeting other people of faith on tour always ends up being more of a highlight than the actual cycling. But I've long found outside adventures as a primary way I personally connect with God.



We are going to complete the 3700
mile tour of the Great American Trail in 10 weeks.

We are so blessed to host Pr. Iverson and his family on June 22nd to hear their story and share in prayer, song and fellowship with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

Doug and I will have the pizza oven fired up and will provide pizza and toppings. Please bring a side dish to share if you are able. If you are interested in hosting the Iverson family the night of the 22nd, please let me know! They will continue their adventure after breakfast on June 23rd.

HOW YOUR OFFERING BECOMES MISSION SUPPORT



Each year ELCA congregations pledge to send a portion of their offerings to fund ELCA ministries in their synods and beyond. These funds are called Mission Support.

Mission Support enables the ELCA's more than 8,900 congregations and 65 synods to pool resources to love and serve our neighbors in ways no individual congregations can do alone.

WHERE DOES MY OFFERING GO? (from 2021)

94.6%
Congregations

\$1.59 billion was stewarded by over 8,900 ELCA congregations and worshipping communities.

\$90.8 million was shared by congregations with their synods as Mission Support.

3.0%
Synods

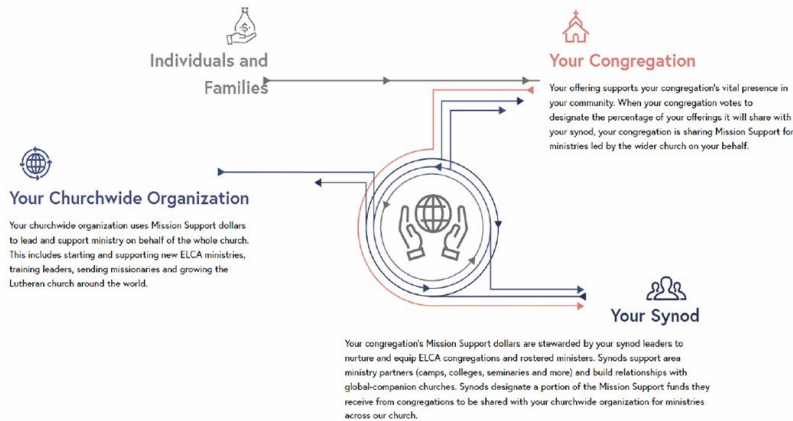
\$50.2 million in Mission Support was stewarded by the ELCA's 65 synods.

2.4%
Churchwide Organization

\$40.6 million in Mission Support was stewarded by the ELCA churchwide organization.

*Unrestricted offerings do not include special offerings (e.g., congregational capital improvements or gifts to ministries such as Lutheran Disaster Response or ELCA World Hunger).

HOW MISSION SUPPORT FUNDS MINISTRY ACROSS OUR CHURCH



Ways to Support

Make a gift online through our website:
www.mtsilutheran.org/onlinegiving

Thank you for your continued generosity.

-Treasurer



Mt Si 2023 Finances

We will give updated financials in August after we see how everything balances out with staff changes and new income from the preschool

The 2023 Thrivent Action Team Board

Did you know that Thrivent Financial for Lutherans awards \$250 gift cards as “seed money” to help fund activities that benefit the church community – including events that educate church members about Lutheran missions?

If you have project you would like to be considered for a card donation, sign up on the bulletin board in the hallway off fellowship hall listing the project and the date! If you have cards you would like to apply for and donate please check out the board too!

The cards do take some time to process so don't delay if you have a project coming up in the near future!

Together we can make a difference.

Any questions See Pastor Krista.

Garden of Giving

Garden of Giving has started up again! Reach out to Terry Adams if you would like a garden plot this year.



BISHOP'S LETTER

June 2023



In 1994, the ELCA adopted a social message entitled, *Community Violence*. This social message acknowledges that the causes of violence are complex and pervasive and that violence breeds violence. This social message raises these questions:

In the face of this, what are we as a church called to be and do? What resources of our faith can we bring to bear on this apparently intractable predicament? How shall we respond to both victims and perpetrators of violence? What shall we do in cooperation with others as together we seek to counter violence in our communities?

As I write this, we have had more mass shootings in the United States than days of the year (mass shootings are defined as an incident in which four or more victims are shot or killed). The sheer volume of these killings naturally brings up the questions above – how do we respond?

First, we are called to pray. We are called to pray individually and collectively. We are called to pray for the victims of violence and for the loved ones of those harmed. We are called to pray that justice might come, for reconciliation and for peace. We are called to pray in repentance that we are not paralyzed in fear or hatred or numbness. I confess that I do not like memes that make fun of people saying, “thoughts and prayers.” My siblings in Christ, we are called to pray as people of faith! But prayer is not an excuse to do nothing. Through prayer, we are called to action.

Second, we are called to prayerfully enter into hard conversation about this issue with one another – in love and grace and accountability. Have someone directly affected by gun violence come and speak – a trauma doctor, a school counselor, a parent, a social worker. While I know some people would rather come to church to take refuge *from* the world and not engage the world, we, as siblings in Christ, grow in peace and understanding when we carefully listen and learn. When we are faced with difficult decisions or situations, the Holy Spirit gathers diverse people together to challenge one another and to discern where God is calling us to be as people who follow Jesus.

Third, we are called to advocate – especially for those without voice. Provide and call attention to resources and services that prevent violence, racism, and hate. Work individually in your own life to learn more about how systems of oppression lead to violence and humbly learn and practice. Partner with other congregations, churches, interfaith communities, and organizations to have a larger voice toward peace and justice. The advocacy arm of the NWWA Synod is Faith Action Network. Go to their website (www.fanwa.org) and see how to be engaged. For other resources, I encourage you to go to <https://www.elca.org/60days> and download “A 60-Day Journey Toward Justice in a Culture of Gun Violence.”

Fourth, we are called to treat each person as a child of God. We choose life or death every day in our words and in our actions. Fundamentally, as Lutherans, we believe that the good news of Jesus Christ has redeemed each one of us. So how do we live and move and be in this world with such good news?

Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer writes in *The Cost of Discipleship*, “Words and thoughts are not enough. Doing good involves all the things of daily life. ‘If your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink’ (Romans 12:20). In the same ways that brothers and sisters stand by each other in times of need, bind up each other’s wounds, ease each other’s pain, love of the enemy should do good to the enemy. Where in the world is there greater need, where are deeper wounds and pain than those of our enemies? Where is doing good more necessary and more blessed than for our enemies?”

As your Bishop, I pray that through God’s Holy Spirit, we may work together toward peace, toward justice, toward understanding, and toward the end of violence in all forms, especially, in this day and time, the end of gun violence.

Trusting in God’s grace, we pray, we listen, we advocate, we act.

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee