

Mount Si's GOOD NEWSletter

February 2016

Special Points of Interest:

- Feb. 2nd—6PM All Committee Meeting
- Feb. 9th—6PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
- Feb. 10th—7PM Ash Wednesday Worship
- Feb. 15th—President's Day Holiday (offices closed) —March Newsletter Deadline
- Feb. 17th—6PM Lenten Soup & Bread Supper, 7PM Lenten Worship
- Feb. 24th—6PM Lenten Soup & Bread Supper, 7PM Lenten Worship



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From Pastor Mark's Desk.....

Something for Lent

Lots of people make a New Year's resolution. They can be fun, serious, or silly, but they all imply hope for change. I hear people resolve to eat healthier, lose weight, work out more, floss more regularly, read more, spend time with their kids, and you can imagine the list goes on and on. There is a fun and hopeful optimism that comes with looking at a new year like a clean slate; a fresh piece of paper waiting for a new story.



The funny thing about New Year's resolutions is we mostly don't keep them very long. The plan for something new fades back into the pattern of the ordinary. We realize it's hard to change. It's hard to change ourselves and we notice we certainly can't change anyone else.

Then along comes Lent. It is an intentional 40 days that give you an opportunity to do something different. Lent is an intentionally alternative rhythm for life and it is for a short time period most can manage. It is not an endless commitment but 40 days of practice and investment.

I encourage you to think of a Lenten practice to which you can commit and be disciplined about it. Think of something that you can handle for 40 days, something that will challenge you but not be impossible. Your practice needs to be something that will stretch you a bit but also something that you have a reasonable chance of maintaining.

So here's the challenge: think of a Lenten practice to which you will commit and share it on the Mt. Si Lutheran Church Facebook page. Share your progress, challenges, failures...share your Lenten discipline and how it shapes you.

Ideas. Ok, practical ideas that you might undertake, or maybe they will inspire other ideas.

One year Heather and I gave up buying things. We made a list of necessities that we needed to have to survive and anything that was not on the list we could not purchase. It was harder than I thought. It was a wonderful practice that helped me be content with what I have and made me realize how consumer oriented I am.

One year I worked on my handwriting. I got a grade school handwriting workbook and committed to that practice for 40 days. It made me mindful of communication and made me slow down to think about the words I was writing. I also like to think it made my handwriting more legible—even to this day (that may be a point of contention...).

(continued on pg. 2)

You might give up chocolate, sweets, or other foods as a Lenten discipline. When you find yourself longing for them you remember your commitment to faith and this way of life. You might consider adding something to your life like more time for prayer, scripture, or friends.

I am going to do 40 days of art. I will draw or paint something every day during the season of Lent. I will share that with you all on the Facebook page, or on my blog page, much to my embarrassment I'm sure!

Whatever the practice may be for you, share it, share the journey with it. Join in the joy of it, the discipline of it, the difficulties and the wonder.

Peace, Pr. Mark

*The
Season
of
Lent*



LENT: Do You Ever Wonder About It?

What does the word Lenten mean: Lenten (Lent) comes from the old English word lenchen from which we get the word lengthen. Lent is observed during the time of the year when the days are lengthening, getting longer. During this season many people begin to experience a lifting of their countenance as they look forward to the warmth and new life of spring. Accordingly, during the Lenten season we anticipate the hope of our resurrection as we hear once again of Christ's powerful and gracious new life after the grave on Easter. The traditional color of the Lenten season is purple.

Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship Services Begin Feb. 17th

We are excited once again to partner with other congregations in the valley for this season. Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship will be at Mt. Si Lutheran Church and we will be joined by the Methodists from Fall City and Snoqualmie and the Episcopalians from Snoqualmie. Prior to worship, we will meet together as a community to share a meal at 6pm and Holden Evening Vespers at 7pm. You will hear from one of the leaders from each congregation during those Wed. services.

This year our Lenten Suppers will be hosted by each of the churches who will provide the soup & bread each Wed. Mt. Si will provide set-up/clean up. Please see our sign up sheet (need someone to coordinate the supper with each church, and arrange for set-up & clean-up). During our Lenten suppers, we will take a love offering for HEIFER International's "Fill the Ark" campaign. Coins, dollars, and checks are appreciated. Checks can be made out to **Mount Si Lutheran Church with Heifer International in the memo**. Watch for more information coming soon. After supper, please join us for Holden Evening Vespers at 7PM in the Sanctuary.

***Feb. 17th: 6PM Soup & Bread Supper: Mt. Si Lutheran
Set-up/clean-up—Mt. Si Lutheran Council
7PM Holden Evening Vespers—Pr. Mark Griffith***

***Feb. 24th: 6PM Soup & Bread Supper: St Clare's Episcopal
Set-up/clean-up—Mt. Si Lutheran
7PM Holden Evening Vespers—Pr. Patty Baker***

***March 2nd: 6PM Soup & Bread Supper: Snoqualmie United Methodist
Set-up/clean-up—Mt. Si Lutheran
7PM Holden Evening Vespers—Pr. Lee Carney Hartman***

***March 9th: 6PM Soup & Bread Supper: Fall City United Methodist
Set-up/clean-up—Mt. Si Lutheran
7PM Holden Evening Vespers—Pr. Darryn Hewson***

***March 16th: 6PM Soup & Bread Supper: Hosted by all congregations
Set-up/clean-up—Mt. Si Lutheran
7PM Holden Evening Vespers—Healing Service***

Parish Education News!

Sunday School is going strong and we are excited for the year ahead. 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 is 9:30-10:30 AM**

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

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

Sunday School Staff for the 2015-2016 School Year:

Opening Music—Vacancy
Preschool & Kindergarten—Nancy Flanagan/Rosemary Hanson
1st & 2nd grade—Debbie Jones/Dana Koukol
3rd & 4th grades—Anne Bartlett/Courtney Adams
5th & 6th grades—Kim & Mike Buckmaster/Joanne Chase
Teen Time—Dana Koukol
Adult Education Hour—Pastor Mark/Sue Shardelman

Adult Class

The adults are once again meeting together on Sunday mornings with Pastor Mark as our discussion leader. Bring your Bible, grab a cup of coffee, and join us in the library for lively conversation! We start at **9:45 am**.



Wednesday Evening Worship at 7PM

This is a contemporary, contemplative worship with Holy Communion. Join us and see what all the enthusiasm is about!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Feb. 9 at 6:00PM

Parish Ed Committee will once again host Shrove Tuesday. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for pancakes, sausage (regular and veggie), fresh fruit, and sweets! All are welcome!



Ash Wednesday Worship February 10 at 7PM

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

When ashes are to be imposed, those who desire to receive ashes come forward. The minister applies ashes to the forehead of each person with the words:

***"Remember that from dust you came,
and to dust you shall return".***



Please join us for worship this Holy Season

March 20th—8:15AM Traditional and 10:45AM Praise Palm Sunday Worship

March 24th—7:00PM Maundy Thursday Worship at St. Clare's Episcopal Church, Snoqualmie

March 25th—7:00PM Good Friday Worship at Fall City United Methodist Church, Fall City

March 27th—8:15AM Traditional and 10:45AM Praise Worship 'The Resurrection of Our Lord'

Easter Sunday

Annual Easter Breakfast Buffet in the Fellowship Hall (time TBD)

Free will offering greatly appreciated and will go towards Family & Youth events and HEIFER International's "Fill the Ark"



LIBRARY NEWS—Please visit our library at the back of the Fellowship Hall. We have bibles, commentaries, Luther’s theology, Christian fiction, biographies, books for youth and children. We also have a display rack with DVD’s for adults and children. Check out the FREE Book Cart! If we can help you find a book or if you have questions or would like to volunteer in our library, please speak with Connie Som 425 888-0727, Joyce Ayers 425 865-9853 or Sue Oster 425 888-4056.

Office Volunteer Opportunities



Office Volunteers Needed: We are looking for office volunteers for **Mar. 17-25**. We will have limited office coverage during this time to accommodate the volunteer’s schedules (probably 9AM-Noon). If you can commit to one day or several days, please give Sheila Rodriguez a call at 888-1322. Thank you!



SAVE YOUR OLD CLOTHES, SHOES AND TEXTILES!: Event March 5th & 6th

Now is a great time to start saving those old clothes, shoes and textiles. Tell your friends and family! The Mount Si HS Band program will be holding a **Clothes for a Cause Fundraiser on Friday & Saturday, March 5th & 6th**. Clean out your closets and help us fill the truck in March! Or, contact Carol Reitz, carolreitz@msn.com or 425-765-9284, and she will pick up from your front porch. Mt. Si Lutheran Church will accept drop offs during office hours. Please call ahead so someone is available at 425 888-1322.

Acceptable Donations Include: New & Used Clothing, Pairs of Shoes, Towels, Stuffed Animals, Hats, Sheets, Blankets, Quilts, Bedspreads, Drapes, Purses and Belts. Carol Reitz, MSHS Band Booster Pres.



Fair Trade Update: We are fazing out our inventory of Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, & Chocolates. Come check out the sales in our Fellowship Hall. You can get some great buys! Contact Leslie Hatling or Carol Reitz for more information.



Mt. Si Sound Techs— We are looking for people who may be interested in being trained to join our wonderful Sound Tech/Multi Media Operators. If you are interested, please speak to Andy Velebir, Worship & Music Dir., or Dan Luke. Please call the office for their contact info.



Watch for the **New Church Photo Directory** coming soon! ~Sheila Rodriguez



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

Meet your 2016 Council Members

President Heidi Dukich 2018 (2) Email: hedukich@hotmail.com	Vice President Jack Boller 2018 (2) Email: jboller2@comcast.net	Secretary Nancy Flanagan 2017 (1) Email: nf2469@gmail.com	Treasurer Annual Renewal Vacancy
Courtney Adams 2017 (2) Email: courtneymadams@hotmail.com	Ann Bartlett 2017 (1) Email: anniemb67@outlook.com	Janey Benson 2018 (1) bensonja@yahoo.com	Peggy Halferty 2018 (1) mah065551@gmail.com
Paul Dukich 2016 (2) Email: _pauldukich@tokulcreekmarketing.com	Debbie Spurling 2016 (1) Email: angeltender@hotmail.com	Michael Hanson 2017 (2) Email: mrhanson@centurytel.net	Dan Luke 2017 (2) Email: luked1@mac.com
Paul Ritzenthaler 2018 (2) Email: paul.ritz@comcast.net	<h1 style="color: #800080; font-size: 2em;">Council Corner!</h1>		

Submitted by Heidi Dukich, Church Council President

Council is off to a busy year as we prepare to address some important decisions that the church will make regarding the parsonage and staffing.

More information is being gathered about the opportunities for the parsonage and our goal is to have choices for members to vote on this Spring.

We continue to pray about and explore the possibilities of a part time staff person that will fill the responsibilities of our Family and Youth director. Several council members and Pastor have formed an action team to write a job description that will best fit our church needs.

Lori Murton has given her resignation as treasurer and we need to fill that position. Lori did an outstanding job managing our books and we are thankful for her time. Please be sure to thank Lori when you see her. If you know of someone that may be interested, please contact Pastor Mark or someone on council.

Other church updates:

The Building and Grounds committee has a wish list of items to be done or purchased for the church. One of the -do items on the list is to rekey the church. Presently, there are several different locks that require several different keys. The purpose of rekeying is to have fewer locks thus, less keys. If you currently have a key and will need a replacement or would like to request a key, please contact Sheila in the church office for a key registration form. Once funding is secured, we will proceed with the project.

We will be hosting Life Line Screening on April 29th. Life Line Screening is the leading provider of community-based preventative health screenings in the United States and we have hosted them in the past.

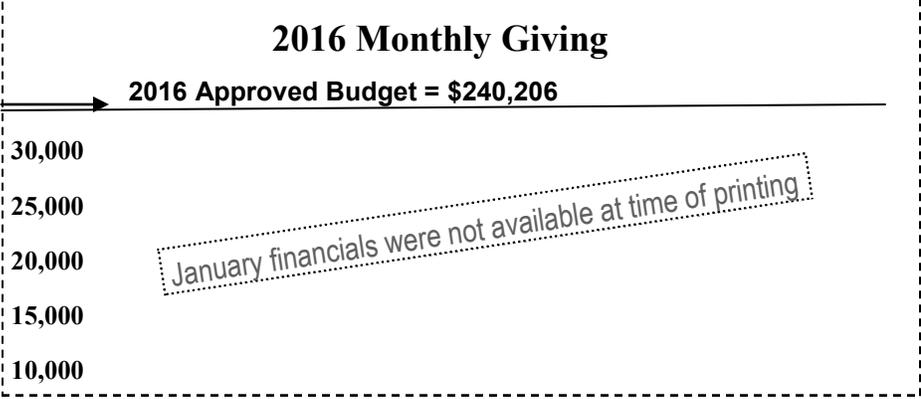
We can look forward to the season of Lent and sharing soup supper with each other and our neighboring churches; St. Clare's Episcopal, Snoqualmie United Methodist and Fall City United Methodist. Wed. soup suppers will begin on February 17th and go through March 16th. We need people to set up and clean up, please contact Sheila in the church office for the sign-up sheet. Each of the churches will be invited to bring the soup & bread on a given Wednesday.

Nancy Flanagan is now filling the role of Secretary on council. Thank you Nancy! I look forward to working with the dedicated council members this year and welcome you to reach out to us if you have something you would like to share or talk about.

Peace and Blessings, Heidi Dukich

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

You may contribute to the newsletter by submitting your articles to the church office by email, snail mail, or a simple phone call. The Deadline for submissions is the **THIRD MONDAY** of each month, except when earlier deadlines are required due to holidays, etc.



Automate Your Giving

Are you interested in automating your giving to the church? Through the Simply Giving program your gifts are made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account or credit card. Forms are available in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall or contact the office. Forms should be returned to the church office with Attn: Financial Secretary.

2015 Mt. Si Lutheran Church Contribution Statements have been distributed and mailed. If you have not received a statement or if you have any questions, please speak to Leslie Hatling, Financial Secretary, or call the office at 888-1322.

Opportunities to Serve, Reach Out and Grow in Grace

All Committees will meet on the second Tues. of each month at 6PM to share a meal and discuss church goals with other ministries, then break into their individual committees. Anyone interested in hearing more about a committee is welcome to come and check it out. A free will offering is taken to go towards the meal.

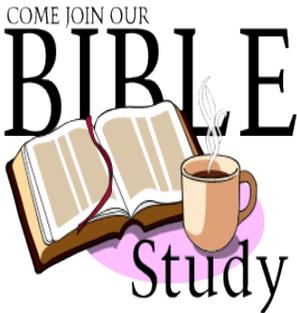
Council meets at 7PM the third Tues. of the month.



Epiphany Bonfire

On January 10, 2016, we were invited to bring our real Christmas trees to the Burnside's home for Mt. Si's Annual Epiphany Bonfire. Thank you to Tom & Inge Burnside for hosting this annual event!

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



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.
Location: Mt. Si Golf Course

Bible Study for WOMEN

The Monday Women's Bible Study Group is studying the Book of Mark. Please join us every Monday a 12:30PM in the Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Grace Culver at 425 222-7515 or Betty Shardelman at 425 888-0772.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Council President's Annual Report 2015

2015 was an eventful year that presented a number of opportunities for change at Mt. Si Lutheran.

Early in the year we hosted the Valley's homeless shelter. The shelter moved to Snoqualmie United Methodist in late January. In November we again hosted the shelter. This continued through December and ended in early January 2016. In providing space for the program to feed and shelter our homeless neighbors we perform a very important ministry for our community.

In February we formed a work group to analyze our budget process and try to be more strategic in our planning and budgeting of our resources. This group met monthly into September and was able to present a budget to the council in September. This allowed the council a month to examine the budget and get any questions answered before council approval in October. The budget was then almost unanimously approved by the congregation in November.

In May our Family and Youth Director James Mehring announced that he would be leaving to take a teaching position. He agreed to stay on through Vacation Bible School in July. We chose to not rush into filling this position so that we could reassess what would best suit the needs of the congregation with regards to family and youth ministries. We will likely fill this position early in 2016.

At the end of May, Pastor Mark began a three month sabbatical. Pastor Larry Thomas very ably provided pastoral services during this period. We went to our usual practice of one service during the summer with a variety of music and liturgy. The services were well attended and giving actually increased slightly over the previous summer.

Vacation Bible School was held in July. It exceeded our expectations with attendance running in the 40s to 50s all week. This provided a valuable opportunity for outreach to the children of our community. We also held our usual summer fellowship activities. Early in August we had a progressive dinner and in mid-August we had a congregation camping trip. Both were well attended and enjoyed by all who participated.

Late in the spring we were approached by Life Enhancement Opportunities (LEO), an organization that provides group homes for developmentally disabled adults. They were interested in buying property to build a home in North Bend. At about the same time Pastor Mark and Heather announced that they were pursuing buying a house in North Bend and moving out of the parsonage, which they did in late August. We met with LEO representatives throughout the year to discuss the possibility of them buying and remodeling the parsonage for their use as a group home. At the end of the year those discussions are at a standstill because of a significant difference between what LEO is able to pay for the property and what the congregation believes we should get for it.

In September we participated in the second annual "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday that was initiated by the national ELCA. We had four projects that member's members participated in. All those who participated felt that it was a worthwhile and rewarding experience.

In October, we joined with Snoqualmie United Methodist Church, Fall City Methodist Church and St Clare's Episcopal Church for a joint communion service preceded by a breakfast. The service was held at the Snoqualmie United Methodist Church and included a joint choir. All four congregations were well represented and most people felt it was successful.

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(continued from pg. 7)

Also in October we held our annual Harvest Carnival and invited the community to participate. It was held at the church. It was very well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy the chili cook off and the various contests for the kids. This year as part of the event, a number of members of the congregation decorated their cars and at the end of the event the kids went from car to car trick or treating.

The year ended on a sad note with the tragic loss of Kelly Luna. Kelly was very active and beloved member of our church family and he will be greatly missed. What we should take forward as we enter into the New Year is Kelly's can-do spirit and willingness to step up and do whatever needs to be done.

As I complete my second year as council president and turn reins over to Heidi Dukich, I will move into the role of vice president. I hope to share what I have learned the last two years to help Heidi and the council to work with the congregation to keep Mt Si Lutheran a strong and viable body working to fulfill God's mission in our community and the world.

Submitted By: Jack Boller, Council President



Additional copies of the Annual Report packets are available in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. Please pick up a copy and read about all of the exciting things going on at Mt. Si Lutheran Church.

Introduction to 2016 Council President

Dear Church Family,

I would like to take a moment to introduce myself as the 2016 elected council president. My husband, Paul, and I moved to the Snoqualmie Valley in 1997 into a modified logging bunk house located in Weyerhaeuser Camp A. Our neighbor at the time and founding member of MSLC, Norm Hanson, would tell us stories about our homes original owner, Mr. Johnson. Apparently, the baptismal font and pews for Mt Si Lutheran Church were made in our basement. I took this as a sign from above. Paul and I were raised Catholic but wanted to explore other churches in the Valley and decided to visit Mt Si Lutheran Church. We started attending regularly in 2003 when our daughter Autumn was 6 and our son Bailey was 3. My love for history, the beauty of the area and our connection to Mt Si Lutheran Church has made it easy to call the Snoqualmie Valley home.

One of my goals this year is to encourage every person that walks through our church doors to embrace the gift of life by sharing their time and talents with our church. We have an amazing opportunity as a church family to help each other grow in God's grace.

Many people get stuck in the same old pattern. I know I do. What would it look like if you tried something new? Have you always wanted to try quilting, knitting, joining our worship/music team, or gardening, but really not sure where to start? Or, perhaps you have a new idea that you would like to share. These opportunities and more are available right here at Mt Si Lutheran. Our church will continue to flourish if each of us takes the time and interest to nurture it.

I look forward to working with the dedicated council members and welcome you to reach out to us if you have something you would like to share or talk about.

Peace, Heidi Dukich

Financial Secretary Annual Report 2015

Simply Giving

Mt Si Lutheran Church continues to offer an automated payment program to our congregation through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans – *Simply Giving*. *Simply Giving* offers an easy, convenient way to contribute to the Church. Contributors sign-up, then set and determine the amount, and frequency of their gift (weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly). Payments are withdrawn from contributors checking or savings account and deposited directly into the Mt Si Lutheran Church bank account. Changes to a contribution plan are easy, and can be done at any time. The Church pays a small, per transaction fee to participate in the *Simply Giving* program. *Simply Giving* is a convenient, safe and easy way to make your church offerings! The program offers Mt Si Lutheran Church greater financial stability, less bookkeeping, and can also help foster good stewardship.

Assigned Offering Envelopes

Mt Si Lutheran Church also has offering envelopes available for our congregation's use. Offering envelopes are available for weekly or monthly contributions. Using an assigned offering envelope when making a contribution helps volunteers who count the offering each week, and assists the Financial Secretary in ensuring that contributions are accurately recorded to contributors Annual Giving Statements. Offering envelopes are available from the Financial Secretary – you can start using them at any time during the year.

Un-reimbursed Expenses (Purchases for the church)

If you purchase something for the church, but do not want to be reimbursed for that expense, please complete an Unreimbursed Expenditures form, attach your receipts, and turn in to the Church office. Unreimbursed expenses are recorded as In-Kind donations on contributors Annual Giving Statements for tax purposes. The information provided is also used for budgetary purposes (this helps us keep track of accurate Church expenses).

\$3869.37 in Unreimbursed Expenditures were reported in 2015 for the following ministries:

Altar Guild	\$161.14	Library	
Buildings & Grounds	\$2719.17	Sr. Fellowship	
Evangelism	\$32.78	VBS	\$16.31
Hospitality	\$455.03	Quilting	\$157.82
Office Supplies & Expense	\$60.45	Family & Youth	
Global Missions		Women's Ministry	
Parish Ed	\$277.94	Stewardship & Finance	
Technical Ministry		Worship & Music	

If you have any comments or concerns, or would like information about the *Simply Giving* program, Offering Envelopes, or Unreimbursed Expenses, please contact Leslie Hatling, Financial Secretary at the church office or via email at financialsecretary@mtsilutheran.org.

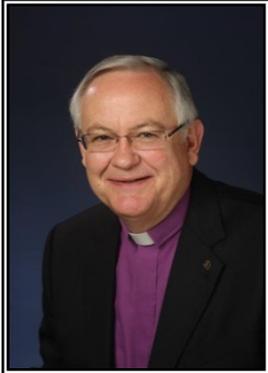
2016 Approved Budget

Row Labels	2014 Actual	2014 Budget	2015 Proj	2015 Budget	2016 Budget
Total Income	210,052	246,480	206,047	209,447	240,206
5010 · Reconciliation Discrepancies			-1,719		
5100 · Advertising	1,521	1,900	1,372	1,104	1,200
5110 · Bank Fees-General Funds	330	60	403	144	300
5120 · Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank	-2,024				
5200 · Benevolence - Other					
5202 · Corner of Love	350	2,030	240	1,872	
5204 · House of Hope	130	1,523	0	1,464	
5205 · Evangelical Lutheran Church	6,600	19,061	13,067	17,568	20,000
5206 · Global Missions			0		
5208 · Lutheran World Relief	170	2,030	63		
5212 · World Hunger			0		
5214 · Miscellaneous Benevolence			0		
Total Benevolence	5,226	24,644	13,369	20,904	20,000
5301 · Altar Guild	166		0	250	460
5303 · Parish Education	1,750	1,200	2,287	1,000	1,375
5304 · Ed Supplies	890	800	0		1,375
5305 · Building & Grounds - Other	3,115		6,530		
5305-02 · Parsonage Maintenance		3,000	3,084		
5305-03 · Church Maintenance	2,465	7,000	189	7,500	12,000
5320 · Evangelism	236	340	47	300	
5322 · Global Missions	-107	500	0	504	
5322 · Global Missions - Other			-60		
5322-01 · Fair Trade			-155		
5324 · Hospitality	1,467	1,000	797	1,000	1,000
5326 · Library	209	600	302	450	500
5327 · Pastor's Discretionary Fund	95		0		
5328 · Transitional Housing			0		
5330 · Quilting	459	500	431	375	500
5332 · Women's Ministry	347	400	121	375	400
5334 · Worship & Music	1,900	1,350	2,023	967	1,900
5335 · Backpack Ministry	258		-978	400	
5350 · Youth Operations	1,161	4,225	889	3,000	1,500
5351 · Family and Youth Mission Trips	-622	2,250	0		
Total Ministries	13,790	23,165	15,505	16,121	21,010
5400 · Conference and Convention	625	700	1,027	500	500
5450 · Insurance	9,594	8,500	9,882	9,504	9,500
5475 · Call Committee			0		
			0		
Total Payroll	142,870	150,657	138,368	161,881	153,796
5650 · Payroll Expenses	835	58	369		
5675 · Office Supplies & Expense	10,872	12,000	11,281	10,000	8,900
5810 · Payroll Taxes	8,152	7,669	8,251	8,000	8,000
5820 · Property Taxes	34	150	77	50	
5850 · Utilities	19,403	18,659	16,289	20,000	17,000
Personnel			0		
8010 · Other Expenses			0		
			0		
Total Expenses	213,251	248,162	214,474	248,208	240,206
Net Income or Loss	(3,199)	(1,682)	(8,427)	(38,761)	0



The Spirit

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



I Pray That They Might Be One

by the Rev. Kirby Unti, NWWA Bishop

For he himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall. Ephesians 2:14

I was not prepared for what I was about to see. I knew it existed but I had never set eyes on it. Living in the State of Washington, I have crossed into Canada many times but I had never seen the iron wall that cuts through the heart of Nogales, Arizona dividing families who live on the United States side of the wall from those living on the Mexican side.

The people of Nogales for hundreds of years moved freely through their town until an agreement was reached between the United States and Mexico that would draw the border which now divides the city. It is North America's Berlin.

Kim and I watched two women, perhaps sisters, trying to hug one another through the narrow opening in the wall. Alongside the woman on the Mexico side of the border stood another woman holding her baby. She was trying to show the baby to the woman on the opposing side. It broke my heart. How could this be America?

We gathered around Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton as bishops and spouses and she led us in prayer reminding us of who our God is. The God who breaks down the walls that separate us from one another. The God who hears the cry of God's people and comes down to be with us. One of our bishops spoke the words of Ronald Reagan, "*Gorbachev*, tear down this wall."

Later that day we gathered at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Nogales and heard the stories of those who are trying to seek legal entrance into the United States. The paperwork is so burdensome and the rules so confusing, that it is not unheard of to take up to ten years or longer. And you better have a good immigration attorney because on your own you have little or no hope of navigating a cumbersome system.

I could not help but think about what it was like to try to secure the military benefits my parents were qualified to receive as they neared the end of their lives. They were both World War II Veterans. If it were not for my brother, who is an attorney, we would have given up.

I understand the need to keep drug dealers and criminals out. But surely we can find a more just and human way to welcome those who are seeking work or to be reunited with their families - in the same manner most of our families were welcomed.

The grace moment of the trip happened earlier in the week as we gathered at the historic San Xavier Catholic Church. It would be a first for this congregation. They not only welcomed us as Lutherans - they were willing to allow us to use their altar table to celebrate Holy Communion. We witnessed one wall erected and participated in breaking down another.

Synod Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 4pm
 Staff:
 Rev Kirby Unti, Bishop
 Rev Kathryn Buffum, Assistant to the Bishop
 Rev Jerry Buss, Assistant to the Bishop & Director for Evangelical Mission
 Rev Nancy Winder, Assistant to the Bishop
 Margaret Spatafore, Synod Office Administrator
 Susan Berg, Synod Relations Administrator

Stay in touch and in the know!
Have you checked out the Synod Website Calendar? www.lutheransnw.org/calendar
Do you receive the Weekly Update eNews?
www.lutheransnw.org/subscribe

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<h1>Mt. Si Lutheran</h1>				
	1 12:30PM Women's Bible Study 5:30-7:30PM GS Troop #43665	2 3:30-5:30PM G.S. Tr. #42902 6:00PM All Ministries meet for meal and group discussions	3 7PM Worship 	4 Noon ELCA Pastors' Study 7PM AA	5	6 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course
7 Transfiguration of Our Lord 8:15AM Traditional Worship & 10:45AM Praise Worship 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Fellowship Coffee	8 12:30PM Women's Bible Study 6:15-7:45PM Cub Scouts Den #5	9 6PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Shrove Tuesday 	10 Ash Wednesday 7PM Worship 	11 Noon ELCA Pastors' study 7PM AA	12 12:30-2:30PM GS Tr. #42385	13 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course
14 First Sunday in Lent 8:15AM Traditional Worship & 10:45AM Praise Worship 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Fellowship Coffee Hour 	15 Holiday President's Day (offices closed) 12:30PM Women's Bible Study NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 	16 7PM Council meeting	17 6PM Lenten Soup Supper  7PM Lenten Worship	18 Noon ELCA Pastors' Study 7PM AA	19	20 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course
21 Second Sunday in Lent 8:15AM Traditional Worship & 10:45AM Praise Worship 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Fellowship Coffee Hour 	22 12:30PM Women's Bible Study 5:30-7:30PM GS Troop #43665 (basement) 6:15-7:45PM Cub Scouts Den #5	23	24 6PM Lenten Soup Supper  7PM Lenten Worship	25 Noon ELCA Pastors' Study 7PM AA	26 12:30-2:30PM GS Tr. #42385	27 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course
28 Third Sunday in Lent 8:15AM Traditional Worship & 10:45AM Praise Worship 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Fellowship Coffee Hour 	29	Mar. 1 3:30-5:30PM G.S. Tr. #42902	2 6PM Lenten Soup Supper  7PM Lenten Worship	3 Noon ELCA Pastors' Study 7PM AA	4	5 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course

February Birthdays!



NAME	DATE	NAME	DATE
Etta Katocs	1	Cole Van Gerpen	10
Edwin Benson	2	Stuart King	12
Nancy Anderson	3	Dave Spurling	12
Blake Imsland	3	Annabelle Cassidy	13
Paula Hower	6	Mike Buckmaster	15
Ethan Yocom	9	Jenny Lynch	19
Jim Flanagan	10	Lindsey Flanagan	20
Tammy Hayes	10		



Anniversaries!



Paul & Laura Ritzenthaler	Feb. 9
Steve & Shelley Huestis	Feb. 14
Brent & Dana Koukol	Feb. 15
Tom & Inge Burnside	Feb. 21



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

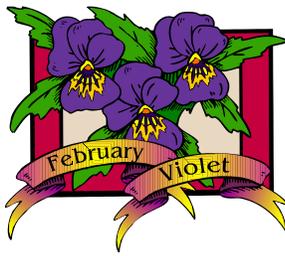
Read All About it!!

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 NEWS**letter 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 9:30-10:30. 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!



Flower Chart for the Sanctuary



DATE	NAME	IN MEMORY OR HONOR OF
Feb. 7	Benson Family	In Honor of Edwin's birthday
Feb. 14	Adams Family	In Honor of Courtney's sister, Valerie's Valentines birthday
Feb. 21	Tom & Inge Burnside	In Honor of their wedding anniversary
Feb. 28		



If you would like to bring flowers for the altar for a special occasion in **2016**, please see the sign up chart in the Fellowship Hall for openings or call the church office at 425 888-1322.

Worship Assistants for February



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE 8:15AM & 10:45AM	Feb. 7 Transfiguration of Our Lord	Feb. 14 First Sunday in Lent	Feb. 21 Second Sunday in Lent	Feb. 28 Third Sunday in Lent
Usher				
8:15AM	Tom & Connie Som	Herman Schlaht Mike Kober	Paul & Laura Ritzenthaler	Herman Schlaht Mike Kober
9:30AM	Sunday School & Coffee Hour Fellowship			
10:45AM	Mike Hanson Bob Bartlett	Ed & Jane Benson	Mike Hanson Bob Bartlett	Tom Chase Mark Imsland
Counters	Nancy Flanagan Peggy Halferty	Nancy Flanagan Peggy Halferty	Ed Benson Ann Bartlett	Tom Chase David VanHandel
Communion Assistants				
8:15AM	Courtney Adams	Inge Burnside	Dave Franson	Kay Boyle
10:45AM	Ed Benson	Debbie Spurling	Rosemary Hanson	Joanne Chase
Lector				
8:15AM	Terry Adams	Tom Burnside	Suzie Franson	Betty Shardelman
10:45AM	Linda Velebir	Joan Guenther	Ed Benson	Joan Guenther
Cantor/Music	Jack Boller Lori Murton	Dave Spurling Abbie Grimstad	John Cassidy Lori Murton	Jack Boller Abbie Grimstad

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.



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 Service

9:15AM Fellowship/Coffee Hour

9:30-10:30AM Sunday School

9:45-10:30AM Adult Christian Ed

10:45AM Praise Service

Fifth Sunday of the Month will be Healing Sunday

7:00PM Wednesday Evening Worship w/Holy Communion

The Rev. G. Mark Griffith—Pastor

Sheila Rodriguez—Administrative Assistant

Heidi Dukich—Council President

Andy Velebir and Carol Reitz—Worship & Music

Lori Murton, Abigail Grimstad & Rachel Combs—Piano

Sue Oster—Custodian

Treasurer —Vacancy

Leslie Hatling—Financial Secretary

Church Office Hours: M-F 9AM-12Noon & 12:30-3:30 PM (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 Pastor Mark 425 922-7384

Pastor's Mark's email: pastor@mtsilutheran.org

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 over 65 years of Faith and Fellowship

Mount Si's GOOD NEWSletter

