

Mount Si Lutheran
411 NE 8th St
North Bend, WA 98045
425-888-1322

Mount Si's GOOD NEWSletter

January 2019

Key Dates:

Jan. 1st-Happy New Year!
Office closed

Jan.6th-1:oopm Epiphany Bon Fire @ The Burnside's

Jan. 12th- 4:00pm Game Night in Fellowship Hall

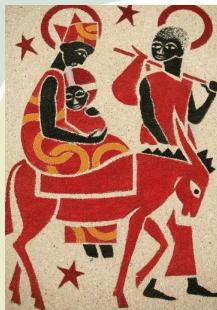
Jan. 18-20th Confirmation Retreat

Jan. 25th.- 4:00pm Kid's Story Time at the Parsonage

Jan.27th-Annual Meeting part II One 9:30am Worship

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Dearest Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
Welcome to the Epiphany Season of the church. A season of light and joy as we hear the stories of Jesus' life and ministry. It is perhaps easy to gloss over how the season begins. Often we spend little time with the wisemen arriving from the East and then we briefly hear the lines of Scripture in which the angel tells Joseph to take his family and flee to Egypt. This is where we tend to stop our reading and it is understandable. What happens next in the Gospel of Matthew is the frightening and horrific decree by the King to kill all the baby boys under two years of age in an attempt to protect his authority and ease his fear at the proclamation of the wisemen that the baby born in Bethlehem was the Messiah and King of the Jewish people.

There is no doubt that the deaths recorded here cause us to squirm a bit in our seats. We just sang Silent Night and Joy to the World...we just opened presents and ate extra cookies and food....we just celebrated a birthday; the birthday of Jesus Christ, the Lord! How could the story of Jesus life take such a dark turn so quickly?

If we can say one thing about Scripture and the work of the Holy Spirit to convey the message of God to God's people, it is this: Scripture *never* shies away from the truth. And, the truth shared in this lesson reminds of the reality of darkness in our world and the ways in which we humans can act in cruelty out of our fear of the light of the Gospel. I want you to really think about that over this Epiphany season. The light that Jesus brings is one that first exposes us for who we are. Sometimes that means that the light of Christ exposes our selfishness or greed or fear or lust or The second thing the light of Christ does is drive out the darkness within us and leave light that shines forth hope, peace, love, compassion, joy, reconciliation and a deep desire to serve all in need. This is what we call the "new life" in Christ. It is a life that removes all our fear and leaves our hearts open and willing to reach out a hand in welcome rather than make a fist of violence out of fear.

As a fellow sister in Christ my heart breaks every day as I read the news and watch humanity react to fellow humans out of their fear. Jesus and his family suffered the consequences of such fear and violence. They had to leave their home country and run to a foreign land to seek refuge. That is simply the reality of the story. It is the reality of many families in our world today.

The question of Epiphany for us as God's people in the world today is this: Will we follow a Lord born in a manger, made a refugee, teacher of common fishermen, healer of foreign lepers, eater with prostitutes, dissident who spoke against the religious authorities, condemned enemy of the state crucified on a cross next to thieves.....dare we follow this king of light? Dare we trust this light was the light resurrected on the third day, opening the way of everlasting life? This is a light that is not afraid of the dark, but instead, seeks out the darkness in our world and in each of us and does not give up until we are free from all darkness. Jesus, Emmanuel, Messiah saw exactly what humanity was capable ofall the good and the bad...and he was not afraid...instead, he loved us so fiercely he went to the cross for us...and he loves you still. Amen.

- Pastor Krista

JANUARY COMMUNITY GATHERINGS!



Annual Epiphany Bonfire at the Burnside's

Bring your old live Christmas tree on January 6th at 1:00pm.

Look in your church directory or call the office for the address



Kid's Pajama Story Time at the Parsonage!

Come in your pjs, curl up with your comfy blanket, and listen to stories while sipping on some hot cocoa by a warm fire.

What to bring:

- You in pjs or your most comfortable outfit
- A blanket or snuggie
- Your favorite short story to share

Game Night!

What: Game Night

When: Jan. 12th at 4:00pm

Where: Fellowship Hall

All are invited to Game Night! Bring your game face and/or a game to share!



NEW ADULT STUDY FOR JAN. Wednesday Evening @ 6:30pm starting January 2nd

Sunday Morning @ 9:45am starting January 6th

This is a four week series on how the Bible we have in front of us came into being by the work of the Spirit through many centuries of humans and councils.

Week One: Hebrew Scripture—The Torah
Week Two: Hebrew Scripture—Ketuvim and Neviim

Week Three: Intertestamental Scripture and Non-canonical Scripture

Week Four: Christian Writings and the Council of Rome, 382

Pastor Krista will be teaching these classes!

ONGOING GATHERINGS...

Women's Bible Study every Monday afternoon from 12:30-2:00pm.

Men's Bible Study and Breakfast every Saturday morning @ Country Pride Restaurant at 8am

Monthly Birthday Celebration happens the first Thursday of every month at 11:30am in the fellowship hall. Celebrate the birthdays of the current month with cake, conversation and lunch

Quilters gather every Tuesday at 9:30am to make quilts for LWR.

Prayer Shawls & Needlework group meets every Thursday at Mt Si Golf Course at 9:30am

2018, THAT'S A WRAP!

December was an amazing month full of so many activities and wonderful memories were made. Here is just a small dose of what went on!

Advent Festival



**A Luther's Christmas
Christmas Pageant**



**Happy Holly Holly
Days**

Holly Days was a big hit with cookie decorating, hot chocolate, and the tree lighting in downtown North Bend



Decorating of the Tree



Caroling!



Bell Choir had their first big performance during the December 16th Worship Service. We all look forward to more performances

**House of Hope
Giving Tree**

Once again this year, due to the congregation's generous hearts we were able to make the holidays brighter for the House of Hope. We purchased many gifts for 26 people – 8 mothers and 16 children. Every year our church is so amazing. Thank you so much for your generosity and support for this very worthwhile cause.



DECEMBER CYF EVENTS!

Youth Christmas Party

Gingerbread houses, pizza,
white elephant gift exchange,
and sooo much laughter!



Nine youth were able to attend this fun event!



Children's Ministry Service Project and Shopping.

The kids had a great time putting together hot cocoa mix and cookie ingredients to hand out to newcomers and/or someone who needs a little comfort.





PARISH EDUCATION

Recycle! Reduce! Reuse!

This year as you put away your Christmas decorations we ask that you bring back your container & unburnt candles used in making the Advent wreaths rather than throwing them away! Each year the Parish Education committee purchases these items and would like to recycle them if possible not only to save money but to cut down on refuse as well. We would love to collect any flower arrangement containers you use throughout this year that might be appropriate for next year's wreaths. Please place them in the specially marked box in Fellowship Hall! Thanks for helping us be more responsible by recycling

Mount Si Women of Christ Christmas Brunch

Unwrapping the Gift of Christmas

“All good and perfect gifts are from above.....” James 1:17

On Saturday, December 8th, 36 ladies and two little ladies gathered to spend a lovely morning together and share in the wonder of the Christmas season. We had a wonderful time visiting with our fellow Sisters in Christ. We laughed, exchanged ornaments, and enjoyed a delicious brunch. The theme of the morning was “Unwrapping the Gift of Christmas.” Pastor Krista shared a devotion call “Unwrapping the Gift” which focused on all the amazing gifts God gives us every day not just at Christmas time. These are gifts that we won’t find under the tree—peace, joy hope, grace and many more. We welcomed a special guest Karina O’Malley from The Sophia Way who shared with us the story of their program that is committed to supporting single adult women experiencing homelessness in King County. We took a free will love offering for The Sophia Way and collected \$ 185 to help this amazing program keep doing the work they are doing. Laura Ritzenthaler, Janey Benson and Karina O’Malley won the beautiful quilts and the tree skirt in our quilters drawing. All the money donated (\$128) will go toward buying supplies to support this ministry. It was a joyous morning filled with love, laughter and fun! A special Thank you goes out to Pastor Krista, Janey Benson, Suzy Cassidy, Erica Haycox, Debbie Jones & Courtney Adams for planning the event. The Mount Si Women of Christ would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas season and Blessed New Year!

Sunday school Update! Sunday school is going strong and we are excited for the year ahead. Beginning on January 6- we will meet Simeon and Anna and hear how the Magi from the East went seeking for a healer. We will continue to learn more Habitat for Humanity and collect money for this wonderful outreach program. We are always looking for volunteers to help us with special projects, crafts etc., if you are interested please see Debbie Jones or Courtney Adams. 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 - please come and be ready to start right at 9:30 as we worship and celebrate together!

*Submerge: 9:45 Ready! 9:50 Set! 10:20 Go!

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

Sunday School Staff for the 2018-2019 School Year:

Preschool—Peggy Halferty & Rosemary Hanson Kindergarten/First grade—Debbie Jones
Second/Third grades—Courtney Adams Fourth/Fifth grades—Kim Buckmaster & Joanne Chase
Submerge Teen Time—John Grebe
Adult Education Hour—Pastor Krista/ Marlin Olson/Dan Luke
Substitute teacher- Enid Gast

COUNCIL CORNER

2019 Council

President

Erica Haycox 2020 (1)
Email: er35@comcast.net

Vice President

Nancy Flanagan 2020 (2)
Email: nf2469@gmail.com

Secretary

Suzy Cassidy 2019 (1)
Email:
suzy@chocolate2die4.com

Treasurer Annual Renewal

Jeff King
Email:
jeff_king_pnw@yahoo.com

Terry Adams 2020 (1)
Email:
terryadams@hotmail.com

Ed Benson 2020 (1)
Email: edwinsdad1@yahoo.com

Janey Benson 2021 (2)
Email: bensonja@yahoo.com

Bill Gast 2021 (1)
Email: wmagast@yahoo.com

Debbie Jones 2020 (1)
Email: bizzybee1@comcast.net

John Keiser 2019 (1)
Email: johnm@johnkeiser.com

Dan Luke 2020 (2)
Email: luked1@mac.com

Marlin Olson 2021 (1)
Email: marlinnotes@yahoo.com

Debbie Spurling 2019 (2)
Email: angeltender@hotmail.com

Council Report.....

We are at the end of a very eventful year for our congregation.

We began the year with a new pastor, Krista Oppie. Through the year the council has worked with her to assess our needs as a congregation and to decide where we should direct our efforts to minister to our church family and to the broader community in the valley. We began a fund raising campaign with a goal of raising \$100,000 for the roofs. We are a little over half way through the year that we committed to the campaign and have collected over \$50,000 thus far. With the help of representatives from Thrivent we will be holding a silent auction for the community after the first of the year. The goal for this event is \$20,000. We have already received several commitments from local artists and businesses to donate items for the auction. The roof campaign will run through spring next year. Watch the bulletins and webpage for more information.

Early in the year we hired John Grebe to be our Children Youth and Family ministry (CYF) director. He formed a task force to assess our needs and establish some goals for this ministry. At our November annual meeting we presented a vision/ mission statement that was developed by the CYF task force over the summer and fall. This statement closely aligns with Mt. Si's Mission statement. From this statement we will be developing goals for the CYF program and then organizing a variety of activities that help us to achieve these goals. For more information on this talk to John.

In the fall our long-time secretary/administrative assistant decided to retire. To replace her, we hired Ambur Brown . She has been working hard with Pastor Krista to come up to speed on her various duties.

At the December council meeting we elected new officers for the coming year. Erica Haycock is the new president, Nancy Flanagan is the vice president, and Susie Cassidy is the secretary. We also welcomed Marlin Olson and Bill Gast as new members. My term has expired and so I will be stepping off council for the coming year. If you have any ideas or issues you would like to raise to the council, please contact any of the council members or Pastor Krista and we will work with you to get them to the council. As we move ahead, be watching for opportunities to volunteer to serve in our ministries and help fulfill our mission to serve our members, our community, and the larger world.

Submitted by Jack Boller, outgoing Council President



Fundraising Goal: \$100,000 to replace the roofs on the sanctuary and fellowship hall. Please prayerfully consider helping Mt. Si reach this goal!

Current giving/pledges total : \$46,000!

CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILY

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I try and celebrate the full 12 days of Christmas and even throw in a day or two in the summer. Truth be told, every Sunday is Christmas and Easter. As I look forward to January I am wondering what new and exciting things to consider for the year. The Children, Youth, and Family ministry has many facets that provide great opportunities for getting involved. Please take some time to consider ways you would like to connect with these ministries and ways I can serve you better. Here are a few upcoming events to be aware of!

Children's Ministry Event

Friday January 25 4-5:30pm

Children's Story with hot chocolate and treats at the parsonage.

Family / Community Ministry Event

Saturday January 12th, 4-6pm!

Hey, its cold outside, so come to the church for a community game night!!!!
Bring snacks and games to share!!! I hope to see you here!

February (Date TBD)

Inner tubing and Cookout at Snoqualmie Pass

Confirmation Classes/Events

Sunday January 13

Confirmation Class 4-5:30pm

Friday-Sunday January 18-21

Winter Retreat, Telling your story!

Preparing to help with worship on 1/27.

Sunday January 27th

Confirmation Class 12-1:30pm.

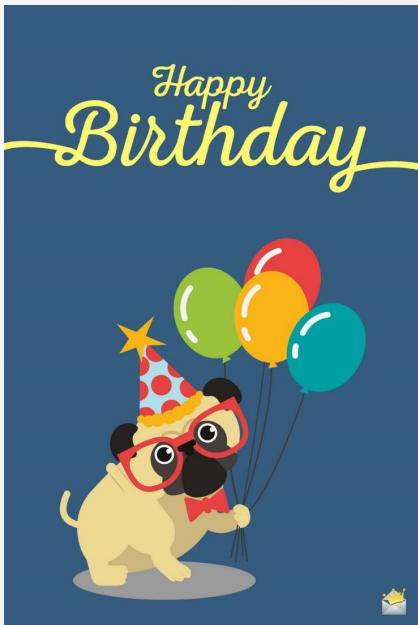
Serving together in Christ, John Grebe



Thank you!

Thank you to all who helped serve at our latest Hot Meals breakfast at NBCC. It was the day after Christmas and this team pulled together and made it happen! Thanks to Thrivent for the monies to serve in December.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Peggy Halferty January 4
Brent Koukol January 7
Michael Hanson January 10
Ashley Kober January 10
Lisa Sampson January 10
Rachel Flanagan January 14
Joe Stone January 14
Vicki Wallentine January 14
Darrell Willson January 15
Mary Abrahamson January 16
Brett Imsland January 16
Paul Katocs January 16
Leslie Hatling January 18
Larry Johnson January 19
Coby Joseph Still January 21
Nancy Flanagan January 24
Dana Koukol January 25
Curtis Lynn January 27
Krista Cassidy January 29
Judy Stoddard January 29



Thank you so much for the wonderful Christmas gifts this year! There were so many thoughtful and lovely gifts. I was cozy and comfy in my new onesie with tea and coffee accessories and I will enjoy the gift cards and homemade treats. Thank you! -Pastor Krista

Tuesday—March 12th
Exact Time and Place TBA

Silent and Live Auction Fundraiser for the Roof
Partnered with the Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank

We are inviting community leaders to support our roof fundraising efforts by inviting them to a silent auction with high value items donated by local businesses. Our goal is to raise \$20,000 for the roof. Look for all the details to come! Thank you to Thrivent for partnering with us!





Northwest Washington Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you Bishop Kirby Uni



Our Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Shelley Bryan Wee, and I had the joy of attending the Faith Action Network Annual Dinner at the Renton Pavilion. We were among the nearly 500 guests who joined the feast. There were Christians of many denominations, Jews, Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists, Native Americans, and members representing labor, earth ministries, and immigrant rights groups. Add to this a robust representation of ethnic, racial and LGBTQ members and you start to get the picture.

The spirit was overflowing with celebration and a genuine sense of hope during what are some challenging times in our world. Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal and TV Host Rick Steves keynoted the event, inspiring those in attendance to reach the \$50,000 goal—which was matched by Rick Steves.

Pastor Shelley and I looked at each other and we both had the same thought on our minds, “This is what the Kingdom of God looks and feels like. All of God’s children, from all over the world, feasting together.”

“Yes, yes,” we said. “This is a foretaste of the feast to come.”

The Synod Staff has been dwelling in God’s word from the 17th Chapter of the Book of Luke, verses 11-21. It is the story of the Ten Lepers who have spent their lives distanced from the community. They cry out to Jesus for mercy. Jesus tells them to overcome the distance that has long separated them from the community by going and showing themselves to the priests. “And as they went they were cleansed.”

Healing always restores people back into the community from which they have been ostracized. What has captured my heart in this dwelling is Jesus’ comment in verse 21, *“For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you.”*

The Kingdom of God is in the midst, in the middle, between us, and amongst us. I know in my life I have experienced the Kingdom of God when I have experienced the distance between me and my neighbor lessened—when we eliminate that which is between us and come together to break bread at the same table.

This was the joy Pastor Shelley and I were drinking in the night we joined in the feast. And like the one leper, we have returned to Jesus to give him thanks for allowing us to experience the closeness of God. The kingdom of God in the middle of God’s children.—BKU

SERVING SUNDAY

Coffee Hour Hospitality

If you enjoy our coffee hour between worship services perhaps you would consider serving as a host for a coffee hour. If you aren't sure what that looks like, reach out to Pastor Krista or Courtney Adams. We are happy to teach anyone how to make the coffee. Goodies can be as simple as you like. The dishwasher makes clean-up easy. Thank you for considering this way of serving here at Mt Si!



Sunday Worship Assistants

Thought about serving during worship? Pastor Krista is happy to train Lectors and Communion servers anytime. We also have someone to train ushers and acolytes. If you are interested please just let us know and we will get you trained and ready. Youth are more than welcome to lector and serve in all other ways on Sunday.

Are you a musician? Want to offer special music at a service? Contact Pastor Krista or Dave Spurling or Andy Velebir to get involved in our music ministry. Thanks!

Flowers

If you would like to bring flowers for the altar for a special occasion in 2018, please see the sign up chart in the Fellowship Hall for openings or call the church office at 425 888-1322.

There is a new sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall

If you cannot assist on the day assigned, please contact the church office so we can help you find a replacement. Thank you for serving!

Worship Assistants For January

	LECTOR	USHER	COMM. ASST.	ACOLYTE	CANTOR
Jan. 6th, 8:15	Tom B	Tom C/Dana K	Inge B	NEED	Jack
Jan. 6th, 10:45	Lisa S	Janey B/Ed B	Vicki W	NEED	Praise Team
Jan. 13th, 8:15	Bill G	Mike K/David V	Courtney A.	NEED	Warren
Jan. 13th, 10:45	Anne K	Linda L/Mike H	Suzy C	NEED	Praise Team
Jan. 20th, 8:15	John A	Bill G/Dana K	Marlin O	NEED	Andy
Jan. 20th, 10:45	Ed B	Janey B/Tom C	Vicki W	NEED	Praise Team
Jan. 27th, 9:30am ONLY	Pat P	Mike K/David V	Joanne C	NEED	John C.

Counters

Jan. 6	Jan. 13	Jan. 20	Jan. 27

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Years! <i>*Office Closed</i>	2 6:30pm Dinner and Faith	3 11:30am Birthday Lunch 9:30am Needle Art/Fellowship at Mt Si Golf Course 4pm Girl Scouts 6pm AA	4	5 8am Men's Breakfast Bible Study@ Country Pride
6 8:15am Worship 9:30am Education and Fellowship 10:45am Worship 1pm Epiphany Bonfire	7 12:30pm Women's Bible Study	8 8:30am-4pm Homeschool Group 9:30am Quilters 7pm Council	9 6:30pm Dinner and Faith	10 9:30am Needle Art/Fellowship at Mt Si Golf Course 6pm AA 7pm Boy Scouts	11	12 8am Men's Breakfast Bible Study@ Country Pride 4pm Game Night in Fellowship Hall
13 8:15am Worship 9:30am Education and Fellowship 10:45am Worship 4pm Confirmation Class	14 12:30pm Women's Bible Study	15 8:30am-4pm Homeschool Group 9:30am Quilters 7pm Parish Ed	16 6:30pm Dinner and Faith	17 9:30am Needle Art/Fellowship at Mt Si Golf Course 4pm Girl Scouts 6pm AA	18 Confirmation Retreat (Jan.18th-20th)	19 8am Men's Breakfast Bible Study@ Country Pride
20 8:15am Worship 9:30am Education and Fellowship 10:45am Worship	21 12:30pm Women's Bible Study	22 8:30am-4pm Homeschool Group 9:30am Quilters	23 6:30pm Dinner and Faith	24 9:30am Needle Art/Fellowship at Mt Si Golf Course 6pm AA 7pm Boy Scouts	25 4pm Kid's Story Time 6pm CC Science Fair	26 8am Men's Breakfast Bible Study@ Country Pride
27 9:30am Worship 10:30am Annual Meeting Part II 12pm Confirmation	28 12:30pm Women's Bible Study	29 8:30am-4pm Homeschool Group 9:30am Quilters	30 <i>Pastor Krista</i>	31 9:30am Needle Art/Fellowship at Mt Si Golf Course 6pm AA <i>Off For Cont.</i>		
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Confirmation

January Meeting Schedule

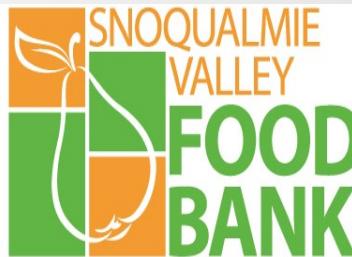
Confirmation Class

Jan. 13th 4:00pm

Jan. 18-20 Confirmation
Retreat

Jan. 27th 12:00pm

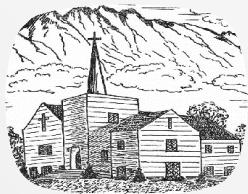
See you there!



**Food of the
Month:**

Canned Soup

All Except
tomato and
chicken noodle



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.

Church Contact Information

Church Location: 411 NE 8th St., North Bend, WA

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 487, North Bend, WA

Phone: (425) 888-1322

mtsilutheran@mtsilutheran.org Website:
www.mtsilutheran.org

Office Hour: Monday-Friday 9:00-2:00pm

Staff Information

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(206) 473-7460

John Grebe, Children Youth and Family Dir.

snowshoe2day@hotmail.com

360-920-5876

Office Manager, Ambur Brown

Custodian, Sue Oster

Treasurer, Jeff King

Financial Secretary, Leslie Hatling

Council President, Jack Boller

Are you interested in contributing to the newsletter?

Please contact the church office and let us know!

We are happy to include your articles and stories.

Peace to you!