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Mount Si Lutheran Church

To Serve  
To Reach Out  
To Grow In Grace

# GOODNEWSletter

APRIL & MAY 2026



## Pastor's Note...

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. Christ is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia! \*let's hear those slide whistles!!\* LOL

What a wonderful season of Lent and Holy Week we shared together. Holding our beach glass, remembering our brokenness and God's holistic healing - from shattered to resurrected - this is our faith story - this is God's gift to us.

My heart is full of all the ways I see the spark of the Holy Spirit growing within our faith community. I pray you are feeling and seeing it too - I see it in the new faces gifting the community with their presence and gifts - I see it in voices raised in song - I see it in the conversations of support I witness - I see it in the laughter at coffee hour - I see it in hands painting and rebuilding Luther's Lounge - I see in the flowers in bloom around the church - I see in groups taking on new roles and others continuing in faithful gathering - I pray that in all we do together we take time to recognize the work of the Spirit.

Not all work around the church is obviously "fun" or "spirit-filled" or "holy" and yet, part of our Lutheran tradition reminds us that any task we undertake in faithful love and service is holy and significant in God's eyes.



Luther talks about this in terms of the holiness of changing a diaper or the holiness of building furniture or cooking or - really - anything that serves another person. In our community that means that we celebrate every job we do - painting, mowing, weeding, writing a check, counting, changing a lightbulb, changing the slides, caring for the audio, handing out a bulletin, bringing flowers, vacuuming, dusting, washing dishes - all of it - is as important as some of the roles we assume are "better" or more "holy" such as worship leadership or prayer or Bible Study or evangelizing or handing out food or....fill in the blank.

Our fancy word for this is Vocation. You each have one in the church and out of the church - whatever job you have - I pray you do it with the realization that you are serving and your neighbor and therefore living out your faith active in love - this is the core of what it means to follow Jesus. Thank you for whatever job you do - it is holy and important.  
Peace, P. K.

In this newsletter  
you will find:

Special Events  
In April, May, &  
June

Additional May &  
Summer Events

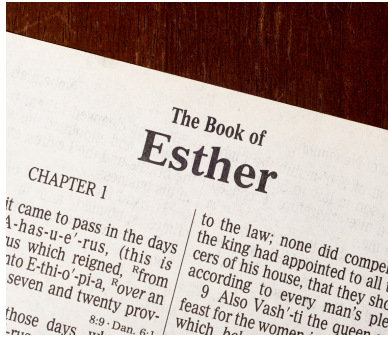
Sunday Readings  
& Weekday  
Education  
Opportunities

April & May  
Birthdays  
and Anniversaries

Letter From  
The Bishop

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## Special Events in May & June



### Esther Bible Study Wednesdays

Starting April 22<sup>nd</sup> - come learn more about the book of Esther during this 8 week Bible Study.

Meet in the multi-purpose room from 6-7:30.

See sign-ups in the Fellowship Hall or talk with Courtney A.

Why Esther? Because it reminds us that God places us "for a time such as this."



### Day of Service, May 2

The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Day of Service, hosted by Sammamish Hills, is taking place on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10-4pm with specific projects happening at over 20 sites around North Bend, Issaquah, Sammamish, Bellevue and more! To sign-up for a team, go to: [www.dayofservice.info](http://www.dayofservice.info)



### Prayer Retreat May 16, 10-12pm

All are welcome to this all age prayer retreat on Saturday, May 16 from 10-12pm in the Fellowship Hall. Pray together, sing, read scripture and build community during this special retreat.

Sign-ups coming soon or talk with Pastor Krista



### Red Cross Blood Drive, May 19

We will host a Red Cross Blood drive from 10-3pm on May 19<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall.

You can sign-up at: [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). Go to Sign-up and put in our zip code: 98045



### May Youth Weekend, May 23-25

Please pray for Pastor, Kelsey, and Addison as we head to Camp Lutherwood for a youth retreat with other youth from around the Synod!



### Lantern Hill Mission Trip - June 25-July 1

Pray for our mission team as they get ready to serve in Ensenada Mexico. Thanks to your generosity during the Easter Breakfast, we are fully funded! Thank you!!!

# Additional Event Information

## QUILT BLESSING

**Thank you** to our quilters who created so many beautiful quilts to share with Lutheran World Relief and thank you to all who donated fabric so they can continue this ministry.



## HOLY WEEK SERVICE THANKS

**Thank you!** to all who made our Holy Week services so special this year - to our leaders on Maundy Thursday to our actors for Palm Sunday to the choir and musicians to the brass players and lectors to our sound and slideshow gurus and all who brought flowers for the Easter cross and all who made the Easter Breakfast so yummy! Thank you! It was truly a season to celebrate.



## MAY 24 FELLOWSHIP HOUR NOTE

Please note - no Fellowship Hour on Memorial Day Weekend - May 24<sup>th</sup>. Our volunteers appreciate the break. Thank you for your understanding.



## VBS - AT THE TABLE

Register Now for VBS!

July 13-17

9-12pm

Come learn about telling God's Story and share in the making and eating of bread from around the world!

[www.elfpnw.org/events](http://www.elfpnw.org/events)

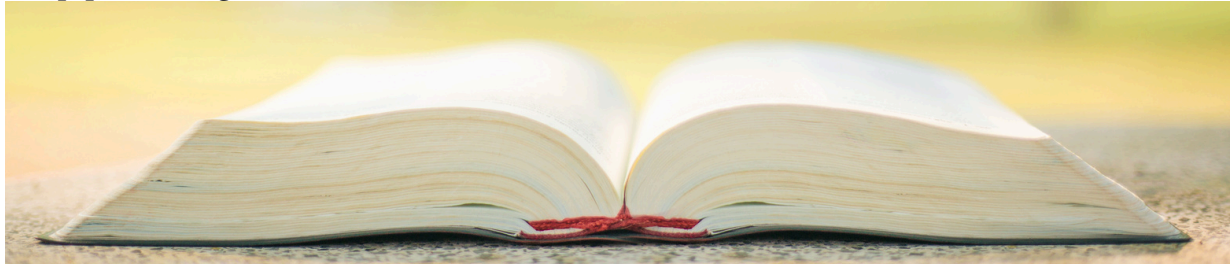
## NEW Online Giving Platform

We are now using a new online giving platform called **Tithe.ly** for all recurring and onetime donations to Mt Si Lutheran.

If you would like help setting up an account, please reach out to Jenna Rhyne or Laura Holmes or Pastor.

If you had account with the old system and have not set-up a new account, we invite you to do so soon. The old system is now shut down and no longer taking donations. Thank you!

Supporting one another in faith.....



## Sunday Readings & Weekday Education Opportunities

### MAY SUNDAY LESSONS

#### May 3<sup>th</sup>

First Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Gospel Lesson: John 14:1-14

#### May 10<sup>th</sup>

First Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Gospel Lesson: John 14:15-21

#### May 17<sup>th</sup>

First Lesson: 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

Gospel Lesson: Acts 1:6-14

#### May 24<sup>th</sup>

First Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Gospel Lesson: Acts 2:1-21

#### May 31<sup>st</sup>

First Lesson: Psalm 8

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 28:16-20

### EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES IN MAY

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

**Women's Bible Study** - Mondays starting at 12:30pm. We are currently studying the book of Acts. Talk to Sue Oster for details

**Sunday after Worship** - beginning on May 3 we will share in conversation and scripture study as part of our fellowship time together.

**Esther Bible Study** - begins April 22, Wednesday evenings, 6:00-7:30pm in the multi-purpose room. Talk to Courtney Adams for details.

#### April Birthdays

Vivian Waid 3rd

Krista Johnson 5th

Tyler Koukol 14th

Nellie Sampson 19th

Addison Harding 20th

Abe Abrahamson 24th

Ryan Buckmaster 24th

Mauricia Case 27th

Valerie King 28th



#### May Birthdays

Tom Chase 1st

David Wilkerson 1st

Shelley Huestis 2nd

John Keiser 4th

Alex Adams 8th

Jenna Haynsworth 9th

Ava Lee 13th

Jim Garhart 30th



#### April

Hollis & Darlene Lockwood 1st

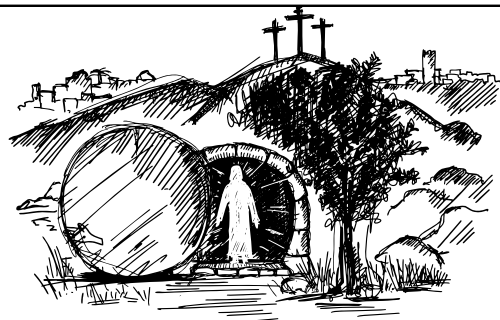
Jim & Ingrid Garhart 25th

#### May

Mike & Kim Buckmaster 1<sup>st</sup>

John & Anne Keiser 22<sup>nd</sup>

Ed & Jane Benson 26<sup>th</sup>





Northwest Washington Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.



## Bishop's Letter

May 2025

I am so glad that the cherry trees and magnolia trees and dogwoods are blooming. I am ecstatic to see daffodils and tulips ... and to trust that the azaleas and rhododendrons are on the way. I can almost taste local strawberries ... ones with real flavor. And the promise of juicy tomatoes is getting closer. I can feel the dirt under my fingernails as I begin to plant in my small yard and garden. There is something both ancient and new, hopeful and earthy about planting a garden.

If you think about it, one of the first images we have in scripture is of a garden. God created humans and put them in a garden. And at the very end of the Bible, in Revelation 22, we hear a description of another beautiful garden – this one with a river flowing on and on, and the tree of life on either side, bearing fruit and offering healing for all nations. It is in our bones, our hearts, our souls to be in a garden – to be grounded in abundance. To be planted by the river of the water of life, flowing from the throne of God.

Still, we might look at our communities and this world and think, “There isn’t enough. There isn’t enough care. There is a lack of justice and empathy and hope.” We might look at our congregation and lament, “There aren’t enough resources. We have so little. What can we possibly do?” We might look at our own lives and wonder if we can make any difference at all.

But while we are holding to what little we think we have, God is busy growing and creating, bringing new life from what seemed dormant. Scripture reminds us again and again that we are planted in God’s abundant garden, even when we forget it. God provides water when we feel parched. God feeds us when we are hungry. God is ripening tomatoes right before our eyes – even as we complain about the pale and tasteless ones from the grocery store.

What a gift and promise this is – from the beginning of creation to today and into God’s future: God provides. Even when we doubt. Even when we hoard. Even when we grasp for more. God still provides. God provided clothing in the garden, manna in the desert, water from a rock, oil that didn’t run out. Jesus fed 5000, and Jesus appeared to Mary in a garden. What a generous and extravagant God.

We are truly planted in God’s abundance.

And with that promise, I invite you to come to the synod gathering on May 30 for Life in God’s Garden: Seeds of Generosity. (Learn more and get registered here: <https://www.lutheransnw.org/events/synod-gathering/2026-05-30>) It will be a day of learning, community, encouragement, and imagining together how we live generously for the sake of the world. For we trust that through the Spirit, God plants. God waters. God brings life. And by grace, we get to be a part of it – as people rooted in God’s garden.

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee [bishop@lutheransnw.org](mailto:bishop@lutheransnw.org)

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**Special screening package for \$129 for our members includes:**

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

Call to schedule an appointment near you! **800-324-9458** and use code: **HABC001**

**LIFE LINE SCREENING**  
The Power of Prevention

Lifeline Screening  
Wednesday, June 3,  
9am-5pm in the  
Fellowship Hall

NW Washington Synod Gathering

**Life in God's Garden:  
Seeds of Generosity**

Saturday, May 30 | 9am-5pm

Worship  
Workshops  
Rev. Tim Brown, Keynote  
Lunch included  
\$40/person

at Trinity Lutheran Church, Lynnwood  
& Lynnwood Neighborhood Center

[lutheransnw.org/events](http://lutheransnw.org/events)

**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!