

**MOUNT SI LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

411 NE 8TH ST
NORTH BEND, WA 98045

Mount Si's GOOD NEWSletter

JANUARY 2014

Special Points of Interest:

- Jan. 1, 2014—Happy New Year (offices closed)
- Jan. 5th—2PM Epiphany Bonfire at Burnside's home
- Jan. 20th—MLK Jr. Holiday (offices closed)
- Jan. 26th—11:45AM Annual Congregational Meeting



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From Pastor Mark's Desk.....

Navigating life after the holidays...

Starting with Halloween the world goes into a holiday buzz. For many it is an anxious time of shopping, parties, and activities. It seems relentless until after the bells ringing in the New Year have gone silent. Then we come to a roaring halt and crash into a post-holiday funk.

Many people report an after Christmas depression. After the marketed holiday expectations, how could reality possibly meet our projections? A letdown ensues.

What if, rather than slipping into the after Christmas blues we reframe this time as a beginning not an end. After all, our story doesn't end at the manger—it's the beginning of our life with Christ. The end of the holiday season can be a bummer but let's remember our story is just getting started. After we've been through the season of Advent; a season of longing and expectation our savior has arrived. Our story is getting even more exciting. The glitz and glitter may fade, the needles fall off the tree, but unto us a savior is born—Jesus is with us! Now we hear the story of how God in Christ is at work in the world, we hear the story of the light overcoming the darkness. This is good stuff.

Remember, the manger is the beginning of the story, and we're not left there to linger very long. The story of Jesus is just getting started.

In our life together we have a lot of things going on yet this winter. Look forward to the epiphany bonfire, tubing and tailgating, and hopefully in the midst of all of this we will be welcoming a new director of family and youth ministry to Mt. Si Lutheran.

So take a deep breath and join your faith family beyond the holidays!



Heather, Sadie, and I want to say thanks to all of you for your Christmas gifts to us. You are a generous and caring congregation and we are deeply grateful for all you do. We are looking forward to another great year of ministry together and we thoroughly enjoy being a part of this vibrant faith family.

In Christ, Pr. Mark

Welcome to the Book of Faith page. The purpose of this page is to share all things related to the Book of Faith focus at Mount Si Lutheran. Stay tuned each month, and prepare to share your input as we together do what the above tag line says, “Open Scripture and Join the Conversation”.

THE NEW YEAR

Happy New Year! The first of January often brings a time of reflection. It is a chance to look back at the previous year and to look forward to the year ahead. As followers of Christ, let’s look at a few things we might want to ponder at this time of year.

When we look back over the last year(s), we need to be willing to accept all of it—both good and bad. There will always be trials, disappointments, and even failures. They are part of the human condition. And these challenges help us grow in our relationship with God. But there will also be many good moments to reflect on. We need to take time to thank God for the many blessings we have received—special times with family and friends, enjoying the beauty of God’s creation, feeling God’s presence in the midst of a difficulty. It is important to look back and embrace the lessons learned. But don’t get stuck in the past. If we drive looking in the rearview mirror, we’ll end up in the ditch. So look ahead.

At this time of year, we also spend time reflecting on the future. Here are some things to consider. First, we need to remember our identity. We are the children of God Almighty, the One True God. We are *chosen* by God, *redeemed* by the blood of Jesus Christ, *adopted* into the family, *sanctified* and *set apart* to be God’s holy people, and *called* to live in a way that reflects God’s presence, character, and love.

Second, we need to look ahead without fear. *“I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go (Joshua 1:9).”* As children of God, we know that we are never alone. God will be by our side. *We “can do all things through him who strengthens” us (Phil. 4:13).* When we feel anxious about the future, all we have to do is recall God’s past faithfulness. Then we can move forward with faith, hope and courage.

Third, as we set our goals and resolutions for the coming year, we need to ask God to guide and direct our plans. Our lives belong to God, so our time and energies need to be dedicated to God’s priorities. What does *God* want to accomplish in and through our lives this year? *“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope” (Jer. 29:11).* We need to trust and believe that God’s plan will be better than anything we come up with on our own. Then we pray that God will give us courage to follow wherever we are led.

Dear Heavenly Father, we praise you for the past year. We thank you for the many blessings we received, and for the challenges that caused us to become more dependent on you. Help us to carry forward the lessons we learned, and to leave behind the unnecessary baggage. As we enter 2014, help us move forward hand in hand with You. Thank you for the reminder that we are your children and that we are always in your care. We know that our lives are not our own. Rather, they belong to you. Guide our steps, Lord, in the way that you would have us go. And give us the courage to follow where you lead. Help us to be faithful and positive witnesses for you. In this often dark world we live in, help us to *“let our light shine before men in such a way that they may see our good works, and glorify our Father who is in heaven” (Matt. 5:16).* Amen.



**From Dec. 1-22,
we collected
\$608.32 to help
feed hungry
children around
the world.
Thank you to
all who
donated.**



Wednesday Evening Worship at 7PM

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

Parish Education News!

Our Sunday School season is going strong. 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 2013-2014 School Year:

Opening Music—Earl Wildes
Preschool & Kindergarten —Rosemary Hanson/Nancy Flanagan
1st & 2nd grade—Debbie Jones
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

**Resume Sunday
School Jan. 5**

Adult Education

This winter the adult class will be reading and discussing a book about theologian Paul Tillich. Pastor Mark will lead us through these conversations. Grab a cup of coffee and join us in the library for lively conversation & fellowship. We meet at **9:45 am**.

About the book: Tillich: A Brief Overview of the Life and Writings of Paul Tillich by Daniel Peterson.

This volume introduces readers to the life and work of Paul Tillich, a theologian who is virtually unknown outside academic circles. This book provides smaller bite-sized introductions to make the journey into his thought world easier for newcomers who are curious to learn more.

Considered at the height of his career to be “the most dangerous theologian alive” for challenging conventional notions of God, Paul Tillich (1886-1965) exercised a major influence on twentieth century American Christian thought. A native of Germany, Tillich immigrated to America after openly defying Hitler and the Nazi regime. By the end of his life he had made the cover of TIME magazine as America’s “premier” Protestant intellectual, his thought becoming the subject of hundreds of books, articles and dissertations—including one written by Martin Luther King, Jr.

Yet for all his popularity at the time, Tillich became virtually unknown to American audiences by the end of the twentieth century. In this brief introduction to his work, Dr. Daniel Peterson makes the case for Tillich’s broader relevance again as a theologian who can take us beyond the extremes of fundamentalist religion and empty skepticism to a deeper religious faith or spiritual path open to doubt and questioning.

Mt. Si Holiday Choir—Thank you to Suzy Schuba who showed great enthusiasm and spirit to lead a Holiday Choir at Mt. Si this year. Thank you to Carol Reitz, Accompanist also. The Holiday Choir sang at both services on Dec. 22nd, and on Christmas Eve. Thank you to the entire choir for blessing Mt. Si with your “joyful noise”.

Help Needed!

Vacation Bible School: We need leaders for next year. Please pray about taking on this project. We have already ordered the material. **2014 VBS theme: *Weird Animals***. All you have to do is follow the detailed instructions in the kit. The kit is available in the church office or contact Sheila Rodriguez to take a look at it.

If you are interested in helping with VBS, please contact Courtney Adams, Joanne Chase, or Sue Shardelman as soon as possible. Thanks.



Recycle! Reduce! Reuse! This year as you put away your Christmas decorations we ask that you bring back your container & 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!



Senior Fellowship—We do not have any upcoming events planned at this time. Please stay tuned to newsletter & bulletin announcements for scheduled events. If you have any suggestions for Senior Fellowship activities or programs, please call Joyce Ayers at 425 865-9853 or Genada Lynn at 425 292-3124.



LIBRARY NEWS—We feature a wonderful variety on the book table this month — different genres to entertain and educate. **Into the Free** by Julie Cantrell. This novel received two Christy Awards in 2012, both as debut novel and also as Book of the year. Christy Awards are presented by a group of major Christian Publishers. The novel takes place in depression-era Mississippi. Moving and gritty, it will touch your heart. **My Foolish Heart** by Susan Warren. This contemporary romance received both a Christy Award in 2012 and a Carol Award as well – presented by the American Christian Fiction Writers organization. To help us sort out some contemporary issues in the church, we also feature: **What Christianity Is Not** by Douglas John Hall: With so many dogmatic differences, how can the Christian Church hope to unite? Douglas John Hall takes a negative route to reach a positive outcome. McGill is Emeritus Professor of Christian Theology at McGill Univ. in Toronto. And finally a beloved classic: **The Imitation of Christ** by Thomas ‘a Kempis: Kempis, an Augustinian Monk, wrote this meditation on the spiritual life between 1420 and 1427. 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.



Mt. Si’s Second Epiphany Bonfire—Sunday, January 5, 2014

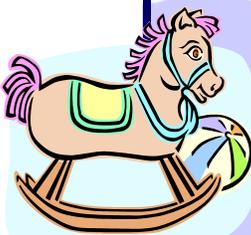
We are all invited to bring our real Christmas trees to Tom & Inge Burnside’s house at 2:00PM for Mt. Si’s Second Epiphany Bonfire! Even if you don’t have a tree to burn, come and enjoy the event with friends & family. Please bring goodies to share. For directions, pick up a copy in the Narthex, or call Tom & Inge at 425 888-1658.



Staff opening in the church office - the church is looking for someone to take over the role of Church Financial Secretary. It is a part-time position requiring a few hours each week. We would like to fill the position as soon as possible. For more information about the job please ask Pastor Mark or Joan Guenther who currently serves the church in this capacity. Thank you, Joan for your dedication and contributions!!!!!!



The gift of generosity— This holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported **Mt. Si Lutheran** this past year with their time, talent and financial contributions and look forward to support from all of our members in the year ahead. If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings or if you plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to look into our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up, especially around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. Visit mtsilutheran.org, go to the Home page, click “On-line Giving” and follow directions, or contact the church office for more information.



It’s A Boy!

**Please join us
for a baby shower**

For: _____ Suzie Franson _____
Date: _____ Saturday, January 25, 2014 _____
Time: _____ 2:00-4:00PM _____
Place: _____ Mount Si Lutheran Church _____
Given by: _____ Sheila Rodriguez & Paula Hower _____
RSVP: _____ 425 888-1322 or mtsilutheran@
mtsilutheran.org _____



Meet your 2014 Council Members

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer Annual Renewal
Bob Bartlett 2014 (2) Email: bobnannieb@comcast.net	Ed Benson 2015 (2) Email: edwinsdad1@yahoo.com	Courtney Adams 2014 (1) Email: courtneymadams@hotmail.com	Paula Hower Email: pjhower@comcast.net
Lee Prewitt 2014 (1) Email: prewitt_8321@msn.com	Paul Dukich 2016 (2) Email: pdukich@earthlink.net	Linda Luke 2014 (1) Email: half90a@gmail.com	Michael Hanson 2014 (1) Email: mrhanson@centurytel.net
Paul Ritzenthaler 2015 (1) Email: paul.ritz@comcast.net	Debbie Spurling 2016 (1) Email: angeltender@hotmail.com	Heidi Dukich 2015 (1) Email: hedukich@hotmail.com	Kay Boyle 2015 (1) Email: kay.boyle@comcast.net
		Kelly Luna 2016 (1) Email: ksluna@gmail.com	Jack Boller 2015 (1) Email: jboller@comcast.net

Council Corner!

At the Nov. 24, 2013 scheduled congregational meeting, we did not have a quorum to vote on fiduciary matters, so the meeting was rescheduled for Dec. 15, 2013. At the November meeting, those present did vote to approve the request for Mount Si Lutheran Church to sponsor the winter shelter beginning Jan., 2014 for 45 days.

At the December 15 meeting, on behalf of the Stewardship & Finance Committee, Bob Bartlett and Jeff King presented the 2014 Proposed Budget with one revision to add \$1,127 to the total budget. Bob explained that this amount is to allow for the addition of medical benefits being paid for a new Family & Youth Director taking into consideration the new health care bill. This raised the proposed budget amount to \$247,572.00. After a period of review, discussion, and questions, the congregation voted favorably to approve this new amount and the 2014 Proposed Budget was approved by majority vote.

A candidate for the Family & Youth Director position has been selected and we await the acceptance of a job offer. Please stay tuned for an update as we anticipate filling this position very soon.

As 2013 comes to a close, we say good-bye to John Cassidy and Rick Rodriguez who have both stepped down from their council positions to pursue other interests in the church. We wish to say **THANK YOU** to both John and Rick for their devoted service as the President and Vice President on the church council and as active leaders of the congregation. We welcome two new members to the 2014 council. Debbie Spurling and Kelly Luna were unanimously approved by written ballot to serve on council. Thank you to all of the members of 2013 council and to those continuing to serve through 2014. The council will be voting on the executive committee at the upcoming January council meeting.

We wish to thank Sue Schuba for graciously accepting to lead a Mt. Si Holiday Choir for Christmas, and to Carol Reitz, accompanist. The choir sang at both worship services on Dec. 22nd, and at the 7PM Christmas Eve service. All were blessed by the beautiful voices of all those who participated in the Holiday Choir. We look forward to hearing the choir again!



Annual Congregational Meeting—Jan. 26, 2014 at 11:45AM

Since the 2014 budget was approved at the December Congregational meeting, our **Annual Meeting on January 26th** will be a forum with ministries reviewing 2013 in their reports and presenting their goals for the coming year. Please plan on attending to learn about 2013 accomplishments and 2014 plans, and be ready to offer comments and ideas for 2014. **All Committees/Ministries should have their 2013 annual report to Sheila Rodriguez at mtsilutheran@mtsilutheran.org by Jan. 20, 2014 at 12 Noon.**

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.



Mount Si Lutheran Church's Rich History Trivia

- **December 10, 2009** Due to extreme cold temperatures, a pipe broke in the Library causing water damage to Library and into Fellowship

Hall. After our deductible, this was covered by our insurance with Zurich North America. Renovations were done by Alliance Restorative SVC, Inc. Determined the carpet would need to be replaced in Library and Fellowship Hall.

- **April 5-9, 2010** New carpet installed in Library, Fellowship Hall and office side.
- **April 18, 2010** Mount Si Community Garden is completed and after a garden blessing, we began planting the first seeds.
- **February 12, 2012** Mount Si's old wooden church sign was removed and replaced by a new lighted sign board that we can publicize worship times and events. The sign was donated by a generous, anonymous donor.
- **February 19, 2013** Removal of steeple from former Calvary Lutheran Church in Ballard, WA and transported steeple safely to Mount Si Lutheran Church property. The steeple was stored until a platform base was built in order to erect the new steeple.

- **June 4, 2013** Following the installation of the steel platform frame, the new steeple was successfully positioned on top of Mount Si Lutheran Church. Tom Burnside designed and built the steel platform, along with help from Inge & Carsten Burnside. After the steeple was placed on the platform, the steel platform was covered with white vinyl siding to match the church siding.
- **September 29, 2013** Mount Si Lutheran Church had a steeple dedication and celebration. Special guests included the congregation from Calvary Lutheran Church which merged with Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church after Calvary Lutheran closed.



Any purchases you have made for Mt. Si, but are not asking for reimbursement, must still be on your Mt. Si contribution statement in order to be a tax deduction. To get those purchases/expenses on your contribution statement, please fill out an "Unreimbursed Expenditures" form and turn it in to Joan Guenther by Jan.13, 2014. Forms are available on the table by elevator in the Narthex, or from the office.

2013 Contribution statements will be available by the end of January, 2014.

Also, if you have not been issued offering envelopes and would like either weekly or monthly contribution envelopes, please contact Joan Guenther. If you have any questions, please speak to Joan Guenther, Financial Secretary, or call the office at 888-1322.

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.

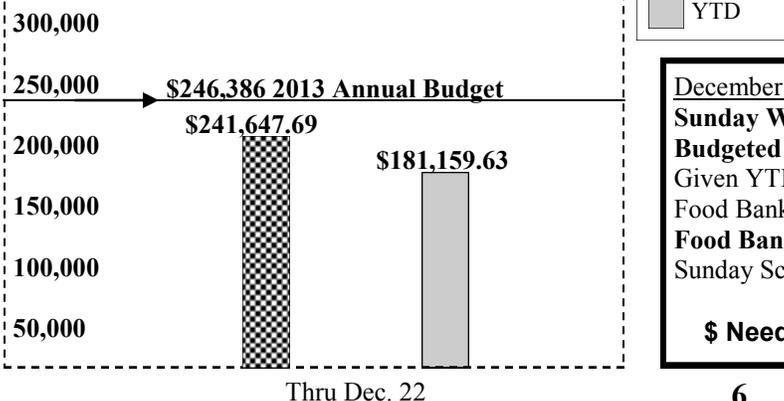
Location: Mt. Si Golf Course

Bible Study for WOMEN

The Monday Women's Bible Study Group has begun the Book of Hebrews. Please join us every Monday at 12:30PM in the Fellowship

Hall. For more information contact Grace Culver at 425 222-7515 or Betty Shardelman at 425 888-0772.

2013 Budget vs Actual YTD



December Finances and Attendance	YTD= YEAR TO DATE
Sunday Worship Attendance 390 (thru Dec. 22)	
Budgeted YTD	\$ 241,647.69
Given YTD	\$ 181,159.63
Food Bank Offering	\$ 74.00 (Dec.)
Food Bank YTD	\$ 3,025.18
Sunday School Offering (Sept.-present)	\$ 166.21
\$ Needed to reach budgeted \$ YTD = \$60,488.06 (under)	

2013 North Bend Holiday Tree Lighting Festival



Mount Si Lutheran was honored to once again host a booth at the North Bend Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 7th. This was our fourth year at the event. Terry Adams said a lot of kids came to the booth to make edible Christmas tree treats and warm up by the fire pit. According to Terry, it was so cold, the volunteers helping the children had to warm up the icing for the treats before the kids could decorate them. Thank you to Terry & Courtney Adams, John, Suzy & Lindsey Cassidy, Steve, Shelley & Will Huestis, Paula Hower, Vicki Wallentine, and all the others who helped make this a super special event for the community. We also want to say **CONGRATULATIONS** to our very own **Vicki Wallentine** who won **First Place** for the gingerbread house decorating contest. It was a replica of Mount Si Lutheran Church! See all the details in the photo? There were pews, an altar (with Bible), stained glass, maroon carpet, arched entryway, Christmas wreath, and of course, our new steeple!!! What a lovely way to imagine Mt. Si Lutheran Church if it were edible!! Thank you Vicki for choosing this form of decorating the gingerbread house for the competition! Your love and devotion to Mt. Si is evident in all that you do, and for that, we all return that love and devotion back to you!



Vicki Wallentine



Mt. Si Holiday Choir

The holiday choir, led by Sue Schuba, sang on Dec. 22 and 24. Thank you to Sue, Carol Reitz, and all those who graced us with your beautiful harmony and joyful sounds!



Women's Christmas Brunch

MOUNT SI WOMEN OF CHRIST CHRISTMAS BRUNCH



"...And Wonders of His Love"

"For unto us, a child is born, unto us a son is given. Isaiah 9:6

On, Saturday, December 15th, 38 ladies and 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. Together we laughed, sang Christmas songs, played games, and enjoyed a delicious brunch. The Theme of the morning was **"And Wonders of His Love"**. We welcomed a special speaker, Brenda White, who introduced us to "Martha & Mary Stewart." She shared a moving devotion that taught us that no matter how hard we strive for perfection in our lives - we will never attain except in one place and that is with our Lord Jesus Christ who gives the most perfect love. With Him, in our lives we have all we need. Mary Abrahamsen was very excited to win the drawing for the beautiful winter themed handmade quilt by our awesome Mt. Si Quilting Ladies. They were able to raise \$80 to put toward the expense of materials for more quilts. We ended the morning with a freewill love collection for our Corner of Love family sponsorship program and collected \$156.00 to put toward this fabulous program.

All in all, it was a joyous morning filled love, laughter and fun! The Mount Si Women of Christ would like to wish everyone a very Peace-filled Christmas season and Blessed New Year!

Brenda White's bio: Writing and performing took her into recording studios in Seattle, LA and Vegas. Recording her own music, along with a career of singing and acting in commercials for radio and television, Brenda had the opportunity to submit music for a project that would benefit Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center. The song she wrote, very simply entitled "Christmas in the Northwest" became the theme for the project, an endeavor that has benefited countless children throughout the Northwest. Brenda has performed with Ray Charles, Kenny G and many others, She won a regional Emmy award for the score of "Choices," a television movie. She has recorded two CDs, formed her own publishing company, developed a line of greeting cards, a skin care line for men, two storytelling series for children and is raising four boys of her own.



Ann Bartlett, Brenda White, Paula Hower & Courtney Adams



House Of Hope Holiday Update—Once again, due to the congregation's generous hearts we were able to make the holidays brighter for the House of Hope families. With our congregational offering, we were able to purchase \$270 gift cards for the families of House of Hope. We also were able to deliver 36 beautifully wrapped gifts for the moms and little ones from our Giving Tree. It was amazing. Thank you so much for your generosity and support of this very worthwhile cause



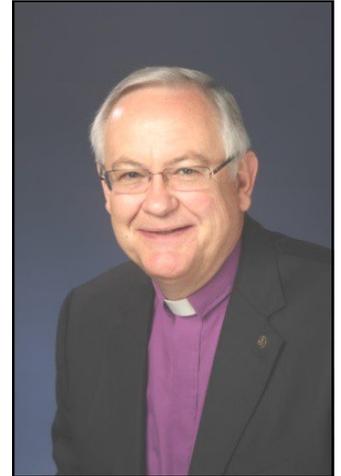


The Spirit

News for the congregations of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Young People a Source of Good News

by the Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop



It is always good to enter the New Year with some Good News! Take a look around our typical Lutheran congregation and you may not see a lot of younger people in the pews. It would be easy to conclude that our young people are no longer participating in the church. Could we be looking in the wrong place to see them?

When I was back in Pittsburgh for the ELCA Churchwide Assembly this year there were a record number of youth and young adult voting members. They were not only present but they made their voices heard on many issues. I was so impressed with how composed and articulate they were.

It is also worth rejoicing in the fact that we have a growing number of young adults applying to participate in the Young Adults in Global Mission Program. This program is growing with a goal of having 100 young people serving in ministry sites around the world. This year we have four young people from our synod serving: Gabe Moe-Lobeda, Luke Roehl, Abby Cress and Anna Guthrie.

There is also a surging interest in young people who want to serve domestically through Lutheran Volunteer Corps. Again, the applicants exceeded the number of positions available. Our LVC young adults are serving in some of the poorest communities in America and do so while living on a meager income. LVC unites volunteers with financial supporters, non-profit organizations and ministries to work for peace with justice across the nation, including an office here in Seattle.

Recently I attended a gathering of Ecumenical Partners at Seattle University some of whom just returned from the World Council of Churches in Korea. Guess what they said? They spoke of how impressed they were by the number of young adults who were present and actively engaged in the deliberations.

Add to this list a update I received about the United Nations Climate Change meeting in Warsaw where a group of seven Lutheran young adults have been leading the ecumenical and interfaith effort and initiating a fast, especially in solidarity with one of the leaders of the Filipino delegate who linked the lack of inaction with the devastation that has recently hit his homeland.

There are many more sightings that I am sure you could add to this list. Our young people care about this world and they want to be actively involved in serving it. We need to applaud them for putting their faith into action and encountering Jesus throughout the world.

Adding to their hearts of service, I increasingly value our young people because of their cultural competency and fluency. They know how to navigate this culture. This is a form of wisdom our church needs to value and lift up for leadership.

Jesus often had to redirect the eyes and ears of his followers so that they could see and hear the signs of the kingdom. I count our young people as a source of great news as we enter a New Year.

Opportunities for volunteers & paid staff who work with children & youth:
Time 4 You: Join other children & youth leaders to share the joys & challenges of ministry. Exchange ideas and connect with other leaders in the synod on the 3rd Thursday of the month.
The Well Devotional: We gather on the 1st Wednesday of each month for devotions/reflection time to focus on our personal spiritual journey.

Keep an Eye on our Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM)

The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program invites ELCA young adults ages 19-29 into a transformative, year-long journey in international service. They are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors, sharing in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine countries around the world. A year of service through the YAGM program invites young adults to become the hands and feet of Jesus in the world, providing critical support to ministries and projects in communities of need. It also invites volunteers into a journey of self reflection, providing space to consider their sense of identity, God's work in the world, and their place within it all. Young adults serve in the spirit of accompaniment, walking alongside global companions in a manner that practices mutuality, interdependence and solidarity. Areas of service include, but are not limited to, health and development, congregational ministry, human rights, education, homelessness, addiction recovery, women's issues and children and youth. All site placements provide opportunities for young adults to confront issues of wealth and poverty, racial privilege, economic disparity and globalization, all through the lens of faith.

Keeping touch with our young adults who are serving in YAGM is a wonderful opportunity for members of our congregations and for these fantastic folks who are spending time with sisters & brothers around the world:

- 1) Encourage your youth group to follow one of the YAGMs' blogs.
- 2) Include the YAGMs in your congregational prayers.
- 3) Invite your Sunday School classes to become e-mail pals with one of the YAGMs. Contact the Synod Office if you would like one of their email addresses.
- 4) Hold a Skype Q & A between a YAGM and your Adult Sunday School Class.
- 5) Highlight updates from a YAGM newsletter in your congregation's newsletter.
- 6) Share your financial resources: <http://www.elca.org/yagm>

Our YAGMs

Luke Roehl

Immanuel Lutheran, Seattle

Serving in Southern Africa

Group Blogspot: <http://yagmsa.wordpress.com/>

Gabe Moe-Lobeda

University Lutheran, Seattle

Serving in Mexico

Group Blogspot: <https://www.facebook.com/yagmmexico>

Anna Guthrie

Our Savior Lutheran, Issaquah

Serving in Madagascar

Group Blogspots: <https://sambatra.wordpress.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/YagmMadagascar>

Personal Blog: <http://blogtravelpod.com/members/annaguthrie>

Abby Cress

Phinney Ridge Lutheran, Seattle and

St. Peter's Episcopal Parish

Serving in Jerusalem/West Bank

Personal Blog: yagminjerusalem.shutterfly.com

*“O come, all ye faithful, joyful
and triumphant.”*



We all know the story. The shepherds traveled to Bethlehem and found the little Lord Jesus wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. But what I think we often overlook is what the shepherds did after they left the manger.

“When they saw this, they made known what had been told about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them” (Luke 2:17-18).

The shepherds shared the good news that God is now with us, has become one of us and remains with us, bringing abundant life to all. As we gather this Christmas to celebrate the birth of the Christ child and hear the wondrous story, let us join together as a church to proclaim the good news. “Christ the child was born for you!”

This time also marks the completion of our observance of over 25 years together in Christ as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We are a church that belongs to Christ, and we give thanks and praise to God for the many ways in which the coming of Jesus has blessed this church and our world.

It is all too easy for us these days to be constantly aware that this world is fraught with turmoil and danger. The same was true for the world in which Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus lived. But the ultimate hope for all people across all times is the hope God gives us in the Word made flesh, our Lord Immanuel.

“O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!”

Christmas blessings,

Elizabeth A. Eaton

*The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop*



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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<h1>Mt. Si Lutheran</h1>				
			<p>1 Holiday (office closed)</p> <p>A HAPPY NEW YEAR</p>	<p>2 4-5:30PM GS #42488</p> <p>7PM AA</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 Noon-5PM Private Event in the Fellowship Hall</p>
<p>5 Second Sunday after Christmas</p> <p>8:15 Traditional Worship 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Coffee Hour 10:45AM Praise Worship 6-8PM Cub Scouts Den #1</p> <p>2PM Epiphany Bonfire at Burnside's house</p>	<p>6 12:30PM Women's Bible Study</p>  <p>BONFIRE</p> <p>Epiphany of Our Lord</p>	<p>7 9:30AM Quilters</p>	<p>8 6:30-7:30PM CS Den #4</p> <p>7:00PM Wednesday Worship with Communion</p> 	<p>9 Noon ELCA Pastors' study</p> <p>7PM AA</p>	<p>10 12:45-2:45PM GS #42385</p>	<p>11 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course</p>
<p>12 Baptism of our Lord</p> <p>8:15 Traditional Worship 9:30-10:30AM Sunday School & Coffee Hour 10:45AM Praise Worship</p>	<p>13 12:30PM Women's Bible Study</p> <p>7PM Food Bank Mtg.</p>	<p>14 9:30AM Quilters</p> <p>6:30PM Stewardship & Finance</p> <p>7PM Parish Ed mtg.</p>	<p>15 7:00PM Wednesday Worship with Communion</p> 	<p>16 Noon ELCA Pastors' study</p> <p>4-5:30PM GS #42488</p> <p>7PM AA</p>	<p>17 12:45-2:45PM GS #42506</p> <p>EARLY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</p> 	<p>18 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course</p>
<p>19 Second Sunday after Epiphany</p> <p>8:15 Traditional Worship 9:30-10:30AM Coffee Hour 10:45AM Praise Worship 6-8PM Cub Scouts Den #1</p>	<p>20 Holiday (office closed)</p> <p><i>I Have A Dream</i></p>  <p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</p>	<p>21 6:30PM Evangelism Meeting</p> <p>7PM Council Meeting</p>	<p>22 6:30-7:30PM CS Den #4</p> <p>7:00PM Wednesday Worship with Communion</p> 	<p>23 Noon ELCA Pastors' study</p> <p>7PM AA</p>	<p>24 12:45-2:45PM GS #42385</p>	<p>25 8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course</p> <p>2-4PM Franson Baby Shower</p> 
<p>26 Third Sunday after Epiphany</p> <p>Annual Congregational Meeting at 11:45AM</p> 	<p>27 12:30PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 4-6PM Teen Closet</p> <p>7:00PM Wednesday Worship with Communion</p> 	<p>30 Noon ELCA Pastors' study</p> <p>7PM AA</p> <p>4-5:30PM GS #42488</p>	<p>31 12:45-2:45PM GS #42506</p>	<p>Feb. 1</p> <p>8AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study @ Mt. Si Golf Course</p>



Flower Chart for the Sanctuary



DATE	NAME	IN MEMORY OR HONOR OF
Jan. 5		
Jan. 12		
Jan. 19		
Jan. 26		



If you would like to bring flowers for the altar for a special occasion in **2014**, please see the sign up chart in the Fellowship Hall for openings or call the church office at 425 888-1322.

Worship Assistants for January



SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE 8:15AM & 10:45AM	Jan. 5 Second Sunday after Christmas	Jan. 12 Baptism of our Lord	Jan. 19 Second Sunday after Epiphany	Jan. 26 Third Sunday after Epiphany
Usher				
8:15AM	Mike Kober Herman Schlaht	Paul & Laura Ritzenthaler	Bert Sievertson Herman Schlaht	Tom & Connie Som
9:30AM	Sunday School & Coffee Hour Fellowship			
10:45AM	Ed & Jane Benson	Mark Imsland Mike Hanson	Bob Bartlett Tom Chase	Mark Imsland Mike Hanson
Counters	Ed Benson Courtney Adams	Lee Prewitt	-- Counters Needed--	
Communion Assistants				
8:15AM	Courtney Adams	Inge Burnside	Dave Franson	Kay Boyle
10:45AM	Debbie Spurling	Rosemary Hanson	Joanne Chase	Rosemary Hanson
Lector				
8:15AM	Terry Adams	Tom Burnside	Suzie Franson	Vivian Waid
10:45AM	Suzy Cassidy	Ed Benson	Joan Guenther	Linda Velebir
Cantor 8:15AM	John Cassidy	Jack Boller	Dave Spurling	John Cassidy

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.



January Birthdays!




NAME	DATE	NAME	DATE
Tom Som	6	Paul Katocs	16
Brent Koukol	7	Leslie Hatling	18
Mike Hanson	10	Camille Weber	20
Ashley Kober	10	Nancy Flanagan	24
Freda Daubert	11	Kim Auxter	25
Rachel Flanagan	14	Dana Koukol	25
Joe Stone	14	Curtis Lynn	27
Vicki Wallentine	14	Magalie Wilkerson	28
Michael Wilkerson	15	Krista Cassidy	29
Mary Abrahamson	16	Judy Stoddard	29
Brett Imsland	16		

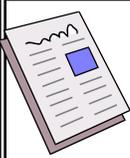


Anniversaries!

Lee & Kathi Prewitt	Jan. 9
Earl & Rose Wildes	Jan. 14
Bob & Ann Bartlett	Jan. 29



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 sofficka@gmail.com. Also, if you are interested in being a worship assistant, please call the office at 888-1322. Mt. Si needs you!

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



Pastor Mark Griffith

Sheila Rodriguez—Administrative Assistant

John Cassidy—Council President

Andy Velebir and Carol Reitz—Worship & Music

Brittney Hower—Piano

Joan Moe—Custodian

Paula Hower—Treasurer

Joan Guenther—Financial Secretary

Church Office Hours: M-F 9AM-12Noon & 12:30-3:30 PM

additional 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 email: pastor@mtsilutheran.org

Church email: mtsilutheran@mtsilutheran.org

Web Page www.mtsilutheran.org



Mount Si Lutheran Church (ELCA)

P.O. Box 487

North Bend, WA 98045

U.S. Postage Required



We are a Christ Centered Community
Celebrating 60+ years of Faith and Fellowship

Mount Si's GOOD NEWSletter

