



# Peace Lutheran Church Peace Notes

A Publication of  
Peace Lutheran Church  
West Seattle, Washington



October 2020

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## *Pastor's Pen ..... The Rev. Erik P. Kindem*

*"I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat." – Matthew 25:35*

Beloved of God,

**October is a harvest month.** The pumpkins and squash are getting rip, the last of the summer garden produce is being harvested, fresh apples are being picked and making their way to the market. It's time for *"bringing in the sheaves"*—the harvested grain—a sign of God's providence and plenty. Our family has long had a tradition of traveling to *Jubilee Farm* in the Snoqualmie Valley to join in making fresh apple cider, ride in a wagon behind a team of horses to the pumpkin patch, and witness the hourly hurling of the sacrificial pumpkin using the farm's famous *trebuchet*. What fun! We come back each year with renewed appreciation for what the good Earth produces and for those who work that fertile land so that others may eat.

Yet, in the midst of this time when we celebrate Nature's plenitude, as Bishop Shelley Wee notes in her column below, nearly 1 in 8 families in our country doesn't have enough to eat. The pandemic has only increased the "food insecurity" that many had already been experiencing. There are a number of ways we can respond to this. One is through our steady relationship with the White Center and West Seattle Food Banks, both of which have seen a huge uptick in demand since last spring. Our last Sunday of the month collection of food during worship isn't an option right now. The Seafarers Garden helps to fill the gap. In addition, our AGAPE FUND serves people in desperate need through grocery gift cards as well as other funds for bridging a gap when no other resources are available. You can read also ready about the importance of ADVOCACY via the Offering of Letters campaign in the pages that follow. And now, there is another avenue for reaching out: **THE LITTLE FREE PANTRY.**

Over a few weekends in August and September, a crew of Peacefolk, using materials donated from Dunn Lumber (arranged by Karl Coy), and seed money from a Thrivent Action Grant, constructed a free-standing, moveable, weatherproof pantry for the neighborhood and anyone in need. When God calls us to care for the neighbor, God provides what we need to fulfill that call. Look for the pantry on our westside patio soon! With you, on the Way.



## Youth & Family Ministry..... Nicole Klinemeier

We had our first Sunday school zoom for the Fall this past Sunday. It felt so wonderful to see faces again. I have been missing our connection. Missing connecting through face to face time, small and large conversations, laughing together, learning together, and just being together. It isn't lost on me that the curriculum I am using for the middle schoolers is called Connect. What a year to be talking about connections.

Together we will walk through the big stories of the Bible. Connecting those stories to not only the larger picture, but also connecting stories through themes and ideas. This first week we looked at the Creation story, and then turned to Psalm 104 where we explored how creation continues with grass for the cattle, rocks as refuge for the coney, and the moon to mark the seasons. Creation isn't just contained in that first chapter of Genesis. I love finding these connections in the Bible. Learning that what Jesus said actually goes back to a Psalm or the book of Deuteronomy. It feels like a mystery is being unpacked. The same is true as we learn about each other. Little bits of sharing become the basis for deeper connection and deeper friendship. Despite our loss of in person connection, I look forward to how we will connect this year.

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## Minister of Music..... Jon Lackey



**FELIX MENDELSSOHN** (1809-1847) - A Gifted Composer and Person of Deep Christian Faith  
Felix Mendelssohn was born into a Jewish family but converted to the Christian faith in childhood. He was baptized along with his brother and two sisters into the Lutheran Faith. His biographer wrote the following about the composer, "He was faithful to the Christian religion and took it seriously. Reverence, fear of God, the sense of praise, of gratitude, of bitter complaints and of pride in one's faith, all these lie in his personality. He had great respect for the Biblical Word." Another writer states that, "The Bible was an important part of Mendelssohn's life. It provided much of the inspiration for his work. Whenever he had to set a piece of scripture to music, he was always painstakingly precise about the wording."

One of the major compositions written by Felix Mendelssohn is his Symphony # 2 – Lobgesang (*Hymn of Praise*). It was written for the Leipzig festival commemorating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Johannes Gutenberg's invention of the moveable printing type. Mendelssohn's selection of texts from Luther's German translation of the Old Testament and the incorporation of the well-known Lutheran hymn, "Now Thank We All Our God" into his Symphony # 2 confirms the work's close ties to Mendelssohn's Christian faith. The 3rd movement of the symphony is written for a tenor soloist:

*Say it that you are redeemed by the Lord, he has delivered you out of trouble, of severe tribulation, from shame and bondage captives in the darkness, all which he hath redeemed from distress Say it! Give thanks to him and praise ye, His goodness! (Psalm 107) He comforts all our sorrows in the time of need, he comforts the bereaved with his regard. (Psalm 56) Give ye praise! Give ye thanks! And say aloud his goodness!"*

Included here is a link to a video recording of one of my performances of this incredible work by Mendelssohn. I was so fortunate to have shared this performance with a fine conductor and orchestra and I hope you will enjoy the performance.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WdKjVfmzyB0>

## A Word from our President..... Heidi Eilers

I recently was reading about the science behind autumn leaves. It turns out, that green leaves which change to orange and yellow actually have the orange carotenoids and yellow xanthophylls present during the whole year. However, the large quantity of green chlorophyll in the leaves masks the other colors throughout the spring and summer. In the autumn, when the shortening daylight and cold temperatures cue the tree to stop its photosynthesis, the chlorophyll starts to break down, and voila! the other colors are revealed. My little science-loving mind just loves that! The story of red and purple leaves has even another twist. In the fall, the deciduous trees start to produce anthocyanins. Not only do anthocyanins give leaves red and purple pigments, they also help to break down the chlorophyll and move those hard-won nutrients and minerals (especially nitrogen) into the wood of the tree. There, it is stored until the spring thaw, to help the tree during the growing season, when nitrogen is so needed. A tree is such a miracle, perfectly designed by our Creator. You, too, were made with loving care. As the seasons dance in their circle, may each of us create beauty in our own small spaces, like the trees. Whether you are in a season of growth, of pausing, or of bringing forth flowers or fruit, peace and joy be to all of you, my friends.

Heidi

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## Highlights from Council Meeting on September 22, 2020

- Financial reporting continues to be refined, and is continuing to improve. Some of the Executive Committee met with the Bookkeeper to dive into a few areas where we had questions, which was very helpful. There will be another similar session in December. Our deficit is growing slightly, but this is not unusual at the end of summer. We will continue to keep a careful watch in income vs expenses.
- We have now officially used our PPP (Paycheck Protection Plan) funds and now continue the process by applying for loan forgiveness. Use of these funds has helped us to continue to pay our hourly staff through these difficult times.
- We are still working on options, in addition to Adult Education, for fellowship time for adults, so stay tuned. The Rally Sunday informal outdoor open-house style event may be a good model for future fellowship as well. The current Adult Sunday class is covering the book "White Fragility" and centers around why racism is so hard for white folks to discuss. Adult learning time is 8:45 to 9:45 and children's time is 9:45 to 10:25.
- Due to COVID concerns, there will be no bazaar this year.
- The council, and especially the Technology committee, are working diligently on a plan to be able to hold our congregational meeting remotely. We are exploring various means to view and ask questions to allow for varying levels of technical expertise and do our best to assure that the meeting is accessible to all.

Next council meeting is scheduled for **OCTOBER 20 @ 7:00 PM**. Complete minutes can be found on the board in the narthex.

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## News from the SAFE OPENING TASK FORCE

You recently received a letter from President Heidi Eilers on behalf of the Church Council. The letter included our current thinking regarding the resumption of use of our building. Based on your feedback and King County Health Department protocols, we will continue for now to hold services remotely. In addition to the King County guidelines, the Safe Opening Task Force established these criteria: your concern about in-person worship is reduced, the level of risk is reduced, a safe and clean environment can be assured, and clear protocols are established for use of the building. At this time, only people involved in essential tasks related to livestream worship and Christian Education/ Faith Formation will be physically present at the building. If you have questions or thoughts, please contact any member of the task force: Randy Hernandez, Magnus Cole, Marian Christjaener, Michael Boeckh, Karl Coy, Kjersta Larson-Smith, Sonja Outlaw, and Pastor Kindem.



## Peace Lutheran Church: Our Life Together

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### Our Worship Life in October

**October, traditionally, is a month marked with several special worship themes. This year, in light of the pandemic, these foci will be experienced a bit differently—but we hope still meaningfully!**

**Feast of St. Francis, 10/4** On the first Sunday of each month, a member of the NW Washington Synod Staff is welcomed as our guest preacher. This month it's Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee's turn. Watch, listen, and participate in hymnody and prayer themes that reflect the commitment that Francis brought to ministry: care for the poor and connection with the natural world.

**Offering of Letters, 10/18** Last year, the campaign focused on global nutrition so mothers and children could get the foods they need to lead healthy and fulfilling lives. In 2020, the focus is once again on nutrition. **Clark Hansen, Bread for the World Regional Organizer**, will be our guest preacher that Sunday. [Editor: Read more under *Serving the Neighbor*, below.]

**Reformation, October 25.** This Sunday our focus for Reformation is the Anniversary of Women's Ordination in the Lutheran Church. (50 years). Pastor Nancy Winder, a retired pastor in our synod, will proclaim the gospel to us this day. And in addition, Boots Winterstein will interview Pastor Winder about the journey toward ordination for women. [Editor: For the history of women pastors serving our parish, refresh your memory by reading ARTICLE #5 in the HISTORY series co-written by Boots Winterstein and Eldon Olson, following this link: <https://www.peacelutheranseattle.org/?p=2857>]



## **LECTORS AND ASSISTING MINISTERS NEEDED**

As we move into Fall here at Peace, we want to reintroduce using LECTORS to read lessons for our Live Stream worship and the use of ASSISTING MINISTERS to lead the prayers of intercession. If you are willing to serve as lector and/or assisting minister please let Kathleen and Pastor Erik know. Once we have your responses, Kathleen will set up a rotating schedule. We're looking forward to having more faces visible in our worship life during this time when we are unable to worship in person. Thanks for your consideration.

## **WORSHIP MATTERS: Putting the works of composer David Haas aside**

Following the lead of several publishers of religious music, Peace is suspending the use of worship compositions by church music composer David Haas. The Worship Team is taking this action as a result of the announcement by GIA Publications that it has ceased its sponsorship and publishing relationship with Mr. Haas after becoming aware of multiple allegations against Haas of sexual and spiritual abuse occurring over a significant period of time. The decision to set aside Mr. Haas' music was taken with sadness yet strong resolve and is in effect "until and unless," in further developments, Haas is cleared of the charges. Background information on the decision may be found in the links below, at Christian Century.

<https://www.christiancentury.org/article/news/church-music-composer-david-haas-accused-sexual-battery-and-spiritual-manipulation> and: <https://www.christiancentury.org/article/opinion/why-my-church-dont-sing-david-haas-songs>

Among Haas' compositions used in our worship services are: "We are Called," "Blest are They," and the sung version of the Lord's Prayer which we have used in our summer liturgy.

*Representing the Worship Planning Team,*

*Marian Christjaener, Liz Hernandez, Pastor Erik Kindem, Jon Lackey, Boots Winterstein*

## **FAITH FORMATION AND SUPPORT**

**ADULTS FORUM meets @ 8:45am Sundays via ZOOM** Our first series this fall focuses on the book: **WHITE FRAGILITY: Why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism**, by UW Professor Robin DiAngelo. White privilege, White supremacy, and systemic racism are hot topics in our church body and in society. DiAngelo's book helps readers unpack these terms and reflect on what they mean both for individuals and for society at large. This discussion is open to all, and we strive to create a "safe container" for conversation and reflection. To participate, acquire a copy of the book, and then email Pastor Kindem [pastor@peacelutheranseattle.org](mailto:pastor@peacelutheranseattle.org) and let him know you'd like to join. Participants receive a ZOOM invite in their email inbox each Sunday morning.

## **EXAMINING WHITENESS IN THE ELCA Thursdays in October (1, 8, 15, 22, 29) 9:30-11am (come to one or all five)**

"This series brought you to by the Office of Congregational Relations at California Lutheran University. This is a brave space to uncover our whiteness and process racism in ourselves. We will do the personal work, in community, necessary to show up as more effective co-conspirators and change agents for racial justice in our church." Anti-Racist work for:

- ELCA Regions 1 & 2
- White people
- Those who benefit from White privilege
- those who want to explore whiteness with others

**RSVP** to [Leblanc@CalLutheran.edu](mailto:Leblanc@CalLutheran.edu) for pre-registration and zoom link.

Check out this website for more details. <https://www.callutheran.edu/mission-identity/congregational-relations/events/examiningwhitenessintheelca.html>

## **FELLOWSHIP TIME (via ZOOM) FOLLOWING WORSHIP LIVE STREAM? Share your thoughts!**

Pastor Erik would like your input regarding the establishment of a FELLOWSHIP TIME (via ZOOM) that would meet sometime during the week. Look for a SURVEY soon.

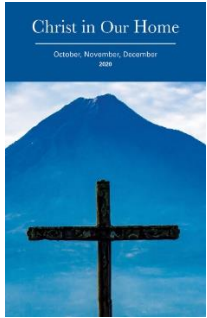
**ZOOM LUKE-ACTS STUDY** continues Mondays, 7-8:30 pm, under the leadership of Pastor Paul Winterstein. We're taking a detailed look at this collection of writings for the early Church in light of current questions and concerns. Newcomers welcome! Email [bandpwinterstein@gmail.com](mailto:bandpwinterstein@gmail.com) to receive a Zoom invite.

## **LUNCH & LEARN - America and the Holocaust Tuesdays, October 6, 13 and 20, 12noon-1pm via zoom**

This 3-part series is offered by the Holocaust Center for Humanity in partnership with Pacific Lutheran University, generously supported by the Powell Family Foundation.

**Tuesday, October 6** - *Hell Before Their Very Eyes: American Soldiers Liberate Concentration Camps in Germany* with Dr. John McManus, Military Historian

**Tuesday, October 13** - *Rescue Board: The Untold Story of America's Efforts to Save the Jews of Europe* with Dr. Rebecca Erbelding, Historian at the *United States Holocaust Memorial Museum*  
**Tuesday, October 20** - *Atrocity Pictures: Antisemitism, the Holocaust, and the Hollywood Studio System Before 1948* with Dr. Steven Carr, Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne.  
All sessions are free and open to all. [Go HERE for more information and to register.](http://holocaustcenterseattle.org/programs-events/virtual-lunch-and-learn-series)  
<http://holocaustcenterseattle.org/programs-events/virtual-lunch-and-learn-series>



**CHRIST IN OUR HOME AND WORD IN SEASON** for October, November, December are now available at the church. If you would like one, you can come to the church to pick it up, or you can contact Kathleen in the church office, and she will mail it to you. They are available on a cabinet counter in the Narthex. If you are willing to come to the church and don't have a key, let Kathleen know, and it will be put in an envelope on the 39<sup>th</sup> Street door.

In addition to being available in print, both standard size and large print, *Christ in Our Home* and *The Word in Season* are now available as eBooks. You can purchase them on Amazon Kindle, Barnes and Noble Nook, Apple iBooks, Google Play Books, and Kobo Reader Stores. This is a great way to get the devotional if you can't get to church to pick up your subscription, or if you're new to the devotional.

## Youth and Family

**ABCS, THE BIBLE, AND YOU** Hey, kids, are you age 3 through 2nd grade and like stories? Join Julie and Melanie on Zoom for a Bible story each week. You'll also get to do crafts and sing fun, silly songs, and see you friends. Sounds like a blast! Class will run from 9:45 to 10:15 or so.

**WHIRL KIDS** Calling all 2nd to 5th graders. Chris will meet you on Zoom for Whirl videos, digging into the Bible, and talking about life together. Don't miss out! Class will run from 9:45 to 10:30.

**GET CONNECTED** Middle school and high school youth are invited to get connected to the Bible and each other. We will be walking through the Bible with the Connect curriculum videos and drawing connections between different stories. This class will be great for anyone who wants to know more about the Bible even if you know very little. That's the book with Jesus in it, right? Class will run from 9:45 to 10:30 or so.

**FAITH LENS** High school youth and beyond are invited to discuss the current news stories and the weekly Gospel reading. There is a lot happening right now. Lets come together and try to make sense of it asking "where is God in this story?" This class will meet from 9-9:45am. Having your breakfast or morning beverage close by is encouraged.

**RESOURCE PICK-UP AND LIBRARY DAY NOVEMBER 1** Stop by the Peace Patio to pick up materials for Sunday School. Don't forget your tote bag, so you have something to carry all your goodies in. While you are here, you will have the opportunity to look through the Peace library books and exchange what you picked up last time for something new to read. This is also a perfect opportunity to help keep our Little Free Pantry stocked.

**CROP WALK** Crop Walk is a yearly fundraising walk where churches across denominations and countries raise money to fight hunger both close to home and around the world. This year the Crop Walk is virtual. You can donate to our team by visiting the Crop Walk- Seattle page and look for the Peace Youth team.

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/seattlewa/Team/View/139803/Peace-Youth>

**INSTAGRAM** You can follow [peaceyouthseattle](https://www.instagram.com/peaceyouthseattle) for updates and inspiration.

## Stewardship of Life

### FINANCIAL GIVING TREASURER'S REPORT

Our regular income continues to be steady, though below what we had budgeted, partly because of the loss of building use income. Our expenses have stayed in check but are greater than our income at this point. Thankfully, the money we received through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) has ensured that we could continue to pay our employees without compromising our ability to pay other bills. We are now beginning the process of applying for PPP loan forgiveness, confident that we have met the requirements.

We have also begun the process of developing our 2021 budget. This will be even more challenging than usual, with so many uncertainties about what ministry and church life will look like in the new year. We will do the best we can with the information we have, and as always will welcome your input. The council is making plans for virtual budget forums with the intention of making them accessible to as many of you as possible, mindful that not everyone in our community has easy access to internet-based tools or comfort with using them. Stay tuned for more information as plans develop. - Sarah Bliss



### SEPTEMBER GIVING SUMMARY

Automated gifts \$11,857.31

Mailed in gifts \$ 6,218.00

**Offerings total = \$18,075.31**

### KINDEM MORTGAGE LOAN FROM PLC REPAID IN FULL

When the Kindem family moved to West Seattle in January of 2005 to begin ministry with Peace, they needed an extra “leg up” in order to purchase a home in the community. That “leg up” came in the form of a 2<sup>nd</sup> mortgage loan from Peace Lutheran, using proceeds from the recent sale of property adjacent to the church building. In 2015 the Kindems refinanced their home, which enabled them to pay off a portion of what they owed the congregation. Last month, the Kindems, taking advantage of historically low mortgage interest rates, refinanced their home again. The terms of this refinance, completed on September 30<sup>th</sup>, allowed them to pay the 2<sup>nd</sup> mortgage loan to Peace Lutheran in full. The total payment was just over \$98,000. Pastor Erik and Chris write:

***“The congregation’s extension of a 2<sup>nd</sup> mortgage loan to us back in 2005 enabled us to purchase a suitable home close to the church for our growing family. This act of generosity on the part of the people of Peace spoke volumes to us, and we continue to be deeply grateful. We give thanks and praise to God that we have been able to repay the congregation’s loan in full!”*** - Pastor Erik and Chris Kindem, Kai, and Naomi



The AmazonSmile Foundation recently surpassed **\$200 million** in donations to charities worldwide!

Our thanks go out to you, **Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church** supporters, and every supporter

who shops at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). You can help increase AmazonSmile donations to **Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church** by shopping at [smile.amazon.com/ch/91-6052141](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/91-6052141) or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon Shopping app. Simply follow these instructions to turn on the AmazonSmile app and start generating donations.

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device
2. Go into the main menu of the Amazon Shopping app and tap into 'Settings'
3. Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to complete the process

## CARING FOR EACH OTHER

**Prayer List** - Please continue to remember the sick and home-bound of our congregation and others who have sought our prayers: **Sick/Recovering:** Kathy Anderson; Jim Baker; Catherine Bell; John Berrell; Joyce Berrell; Cindy Collie; Peggy Craigen; Dana; Gavriella DeBoer; Donna Dickson; Georgine Epley & family & employees; Keili Geller; Mackenzie Hull; Jeffry; Kathleen Keyes; Ken Keyes; Peter Kindem; Rae Ann Marrelli; Kenneth Marrelli; Maria Martinez; Bill Marts; Esther McKee; Carol Mikesell; Dana Munn; Bill Nandor; Katie Porch; Sharon Roberts; Eunice Schneider; Bob & Rosemary Smalading; Aaden Smith; Leon Smith; JoAnne Spangler; Sean Stephens; Sarah Taylor; Annemie VanHove; Karin VanSant; Louisa Wagner; Alice Ward; Carrie Winden; Elisabeth Wold.

**Homebound:** Ruth Johnson; Lee Lamson; Dorothy Linnell; and Ethel Wright.

**Added:** Dana; Peter Kindem; Esther McKee; Dana Munn; Annemie VanHove; Elisabeth Wold; Catherine Bell.

**Removed:** Juliana Boeckh; Donna Heiland; Jerry Heiland; Donna Kehle; Kristofer Kindem; Howard Wingfield.

**Our Christian sympathy** to Karen Wetzlar on the death of her husband, Bryon in May. (Karen is the daughter of Carl and Ruth Johnson.) Susan Munn and family on the death of her mother, Phyllis Roberts on 9/29 and to Pastor Paul Ko, Miri, Esther, and Elizabeth on the sudden death of Paul’s father, Jeongsun Ko, in Korea. Due to travel restrictions, the family cannot go to Korea to be with Paul’s mother.

**JEREMY & COLLEEN MADSEN ARE MOVING TO MICHIGAN** Jeremy and Colleen found Peace in the months leading up to the pandemic, and we were looking forward to getting to know them better. Now we learn that Jeremy, who serves in the U.S. Coast Guard, is being transferred to the Michigan. He will be on will be on Lake Saint Clair, Lake Erie,

and Lake Huron. We wish Jeremy and Colleen GODSPEED AND BLESSING as they embark on a new leg of their life journey together! GO WITH GOD!

**GETTING TOGETHER** At this time, only people involved in essential tasks related to livestream worship and Christian Education/ Faith Formation will be physically present in the building.

### **Celebrate October Birthdays and Anniversaries**

- 10/01 - Bella Frank
- 10/04 - Kathleen Keyes
- 10/06 - Noah Marx
- 10/07 - Steve & Candy Bernd
- 10/09 - Connie Benjamin
- 10/10 - Natalie Toso
- 10/15 - Steve Bernd
  - MaKaylee Smith



- 10/17 - Lisa Boeckh
  - Alan Jarvimaki
  - Corinne Otakie
- 10/18 - Jennifer Mersing
- 10/25 - Liz Hernandez
- 10/29 - Gabriel Toso
- 10/31 - Hannah Fix

## **Caring for Creation ~ A message from the Creation Care Team**

### **AN EXHIBITION FOR EARTH – We invite you to get creative!**

While our congregation observes the Season of Creation for several weeks in June, much of the Christian family celebrates it from September 1<sup>st</sup> until October 4<sup>th</sup>. The worship service in which we participated on September 20<sup>th</sup>, prepared by Lutherans Restoring Creation, was a part of that observance.

This year’s challenging events – the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the world, multiple hurricanes and floods in the southeast US, raging wildfires throughout much of the west, the acrid smoke from those fires that blanketed our own skies, – are a tangible reminder of both the power and fragility of our Earth home, and in many ways, of the impact of human influence on God’s creation. These events remind us that our relationship with the environment and our responsibility for its care cannot be limited to a few weeks on the calendar; we must be engaged on a continuing basis.

**As a way to embrace and celebrate our stewardship of creation, let us be creative ourselves!** We invite you to reflect on the themes chosen for this year’s Season: in our congregation, trees; and in the larger church, these five areas of focus: “The Greatest Commandment, Love your Neighbor,” “Practicing the Commons,” “There is Enough for Our Need, Not Our Greed,” “The Gift of Water,” and “Creation Spirituality.” Then, grab your camera, crayons, modelling clay, or pen and take a photo, draw a picture or painting, make a collage or sculpture, or write a poem about one or more of these themes. Make art to celebrate or commemorate God’s creation, how we live in it, what we have done to it, or how we might care for it. Then, if you are willing to share, take a digital picture of your item. Be sure to sign the original so we know whose work we’re enjoying; if you’d rather be an anonymous artist, that’s ok, too! Send it throughout October and November to Kathleen Fueger at [kmfueger@gmail.com](mailto:kmfueger@gmail.com). It will be posted on the church’s People of Peace and Peace Connection Facebook pages and may be shown during upcoming worship services so that we can all share in the imagination and creativity of our church family. This activity is for *everyone* – “artistically inclined” or not! Please join us in this virtual exhibition for our Earth, creating to remember creation.

### **EARTH MINISTRY WEBINARS AND ZOOM MEETINGS**



#### **SALMON, JUSTICE, AND COMMUNITY – A PERSPECTIVE FROM NW FAITH LEADERS Thursday,**

**October 15, 6-7:30pm** Salmon are a Northwest icon, a species of great cultural, ecological, and spiritual significance. Join LeeAnne Beres and Rev. John Rosenberg of Earth Ministry to explore the sacredness of salmon and how the faith community is bringing



people together to restore the Lower Snake River for the benefit of all. [Register to receive the Zoom link](https://secure.everyaction.com/SfMf_ZorDkeO3XuzH7P07w2?emci=43e23f71-7502-eb11-96f5-00155d03affc&emdi=4ccbab89-8302-eb11-96f5-00155d03affc&ceid=4541334)  
[https://secure.everyaction.com/SfMf\\_ZorDkeO3XuzH7P07w2?emci=43e23f71-7502-eb11-96f5-00155d03affc&emdi=4ccbab89-8302-eb11-96f5-00155d03affc&ceid=4541334](https://secure.everyaction.com/SfMf_ZorDkeO3XuzH7P07w2?emci=43e23f71-7502-eb11-96f5-00155d03affc&emdi=4ccbab89-8302-eb11-96f5-00155d03affc&ceid=4541334)



## FORUM2020: SCIENCE, SPIRITUALITY, THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY, AND OUR FUTURE Friday, October 16, 7-10am

Temple of Understanding hosts this event of three forums on the state of the earth, women in leadership on the environment, and intergenerational wisdom & our future. [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/forum2020-on-the-climate-emergency-interfaith-prayer-service-oct16-17-tickets-119378170321?utm\\_campaign=post\\_publish&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=eventbrite&utm\\_content=shortLinkNewEmail](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/forum2020-on-the-climate-emergency-interfaith-prayer-service-oct16-17-tickets-119378170321?utm_campaign=post_publish&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eventbrite&utm_content=shortLinkNewEmail)



## Peace Lutheran Church: Equipped to Serve

### Open Hearts ~ Open Doors

#### RECONCILING IN CHRIST AFFIRMATION OF WELCOME

*Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness, in a world that can be filled with alienation and brokenness. In faithfulness to the Gospel and to our Lutheran heritage, we answer Christ's call to be agents of healing and safety, particularly for people who have been marginalized by our society. As a Christian community, we invite all people to join us as we work to better understand the meaning of grace for our lives. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities into the life and mission of our congregation.*

### Serving Our Neighbors



#### PLEASE HELP: HYGIENE DONATIONS NEEDED AT LUTHERAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Lutheran Community Services NW (LCSNW) is asking for your help to donate new, unopened hygiene items to support multicultural neighbors in King and Snohomish Counties experiencing crisis due to COVID-19. Requests for basic need resources such as emergency food, rental assistance and personal hygiene items have grown significantly, and we are working to keep our free community pantries in Everett and SeaTac stocked. Thank you for your generosity, that is needed now more than ever.

- Diapers (child & adult)
- Baby Wipes
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Bar Soap
- Deoderant (men & women)
- Face Masks
- Hand & body lotion
- Hand sanitizer
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Razors (men & women)
- Shaving cream (men & women)
- Maxi pads

**To coordinate a hands-free drop off of your donation, please contact:** Andrea Simmonds, Development Manager: [asimmonds@lcsnw.org](mailto:asimmonds@lcsnw.org).

#### HOLDEN VILLAGE AUCTION September 30th – October 4th for this inventive 5-day, virtual silent auction.

Create your account and start browsing items today so you will be ready to bid when the auction goes live on September 30th. We are finalizing and adding more items every day so check back often! THANK YOU for your gifts - they will keep the Village running until gathering in person is possible and the Village can once again welcome all who seek contemplation and community in the remote wilderness of the beautiful Cascade Mountains. [LEARN MORE HERE.](#)

<https://www.charityauctionstoday.com/auctions/Jubilee-Auction-13471>



#### WELCOME TO BREAD FOR THE WORLD'S 2020 "AT HOME" OFFERING OF LETTERS

Bread for the World is doing the Offering of Letters differently this year. Instead of writing letters and collecting them for a centralized delivery to our legislators, we are organizing letter writing at home and folks will mail them directly to their Members of Congress. Thank you in advance for your patience and your faithful commitment to ending hunger. If you need any assistance with, or clarification of, these instructions,



please don't hesitate to contact **Clark Hansen, Bread for the World Regional Organizer** at [chansen@bread.org](mailto:chansen@bread.org) or 509-264-1214 or Marcia Olson at 206-937-3765. Hand-written letters have the greatest impact. But a typed document is the next most impactful format. The sample letter provided in this kit is focused on BOTH topics of this year's Offering of Letters campaign - International Nutrition and Domestic Summer EBT. Please write one letter to **EACH** Senator (Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell), and one letter to your Representative. (**3 letters in total**). Here is a sample letter:

[http://files.bread.org/campaigns/2020/offering-of-letters-bulletin-insert.pdf?\\_ga=2.192387948.773612086.1601407293-935124080.1601407293](http://files.bread.org/campaigns/2020/offering-of-letters-bulletin-insert.pdf?_ga=2.192387948.773612086.1601407293-935124080.1601407293) **Washington Senators are Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell**

**To find your Representative [CLICK HERE](https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/WA#representatives)** <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/WA#representatives>

In previous years, we have hand-delivered thousands of handwritten letters to legislators to demonstrate the size of our movement. Due to COVID-19, we ask that each letter writer submit a report on their handwritten letters. This will allow us to tally the number of handwritten letters sent and to which Members of Congress. This will help us when we meet with Members of Congress in DC or In-district we can let them know how many constituents have written to them on this issue and we are able to show the strength of our cause. **To report your handwritten letters [CLICK HERE](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdr9jHEjCSCqPT4-pnlqK9Qv2aRBU7-oM3cf3pZLiPI364hmA/viewform)**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdr9jHEjCSCqPT4-pnlqK9Qv2aRBU7-oM3cf3pZLiPI364hmA/viewform>

#### **TIPS FOR AN EFFECTIVE LETTER OR EMAIL**

- Share your experience. What made you write? If you have one, share a story about your personal connection to people suffering right now.
- Be clear - "I urge you to cosponsor S. 1918" (*The Hunger Free Summer for Kids Act – Summer EBT*).
- Include your address so they know you're their constituent.

***Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. (Matt. 25:31)***

### **SAVE the DATE: November 4-7 — A Virtual Open Door Ministries Fall Gala and Auction.**



Open Door Ministries Fall Gala will be a VIRTUAL GALA and Auction this year. Because of the need to wear masks, this year's Gala theme is Masquerade. So, let us come together virtually for a special Open Door Ministries' Masquerade to celebrate our ministries **between November 4 and 7th**.

The annual Gala is our main fundraiser, so we hope you will go online and see what we have to offer. With the guidance of Pastor Rick, there will be some informative videos about Open Door Ministry services **and how they continue** during these unusual times. As with past Galas, we will have [items to bid on starting November 4th](#) and culminating with a closing Gala Gathering on November 7th. In addition to auction items, **you will have the opportunity to make a Fund-a-Ministry donation, without having to raise your paddle this year, but by just a key stroke on your computer!**

More information will be **forthcoming** as the dates get closer. If you would like to donate an item(s) for the auction please contact Jill Bossen or Fred Row at [odmauction@gmail.com](mailto:odmauction@gmail.com). Blessings to you all and stay safe, wear your masks and keep washing your hands. Please mark your calendar and plan to participate in our first Virtual Gala and Auction between November 4 and 7<sup>th</sup>. - *ODM Board of Directors and Auction Team*



### **HELP NEEDED WITH DONATIONS FOR LUTHERWOOD'S AUCTION on November 14**

Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center is putting on a [virtual fundraising event November 14th, 4:00 - 5:30 pm 2020](#). This year more than ever, your help is needed with donations for the event!

As many of you know, we weren't able to host overnight summer camp. This has put a huge hole in our yearly operating budget. Any help that you can provide would be much appreciated. Thank you to those who have supported us and continue to support us during this time.

***We are looking for quilts, items, cabin rentals, trips, dinners, baskets, and outings, etc.***

Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center is a year-around organization that supports youth, adults and families. Lutherwood leads on-site summer camps, high ropes adventures, and congregational day camps. It is part of our mission to make camp available to everyone regardless of their financial situation. To make this possible, we rely heavily on support from individuals and fundraising to provide "campership" scholarships.

We appreciate your consideration and support. If you wish to make a donation, or arrange for pick up, please call our office at 360-734-7652, email [adventure@camplutherwood.org](mailto:adventure@camplutherwood.org), or send to the office. Thank you for your support!

Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center, 1185 Roy Road, Bellingham, WA 98229

**THRIFTWAY RECEIPTS HELP WEST SEATTLE FOOD BANK** Floie Vane brought \$15,672 in receipts to Thriftway last month, and they will donate \$156.72 to the West Seattle Foodbank. Please bring in your Thriftway receipts. There is a bin on the counter in the narthex. You can call Kathleen in the Office to make arrangements to drop off your receipts!

**FALL ROUNDUP: MISSION TO SEAFARERS GARDEN** 163 pounds so far this growing season to the White Center Food Bank—that's a lot of almost-weightless kale and chard, plus carrots, green beans, snow peas, beets, summer squash, cherry tomatoes, and tomatillos from the "garden by the bridge." Early season rabbit cage- (to keep plants in and rabbits out) builders included Betty Beller, Paul and Boots Winterstein, and Marian Christjaener. Friends Jean Manwaring, Audrey Zemke, Paul, and Marian watered, weeded, tended, and harvested throughout the summer season. Will there be a fall harvest? That is the question. The first fall planting has bit the dust, so to speak. (See following message.)

*Dear generous (finally) friends,*

*My friends and I wish to thank you for the absolutely scrumptious, tender kale and chard, and, especially the delectable snow pea vines. Note: we left the peas for you, a bit muddled, we admit. Your cages proved a formidable barrier up until September when we got our act together, but the wait was worth it. We hope you appreciate our keeping an eye on things for you all summer. - P. Rabbit and friends*

### **PASS THE HAT FOR OCTOBER: LUTHERAN COMMUNITY SERVICE**



**Lutheran Community Services Northwest** is a non-profit human services agency serving communities throughout Washington, Oregon and Idaho. The caring staff provides a wide variety of services to adults, adolescents, children, families, schools, businesses, congregations, neighborhoods and communities. They feel privileged to touch the lives of people of all ages, cultures and faiths. Their services include: Behavioral Health, Family and Community Support, Refugee and Immigrant Services, Child Welfare, Aging and Independent Living, Crime Victim Services. Donations can be made through Peace via our website [www.peacelutheranseattle.org](http://www.peacelutheranseattle.org) or via check made out to Peace. Put in the notes (on the website or on the check) Lutheran Community Service.

**OUR PASS THE HAT FOR SEPTEMBER WAS LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY @ WWU** \$170 was collected.



**DURING THIS PANDEMIC, FOOD BANKS HAVE BECOME MORE ESSENTIAL THAN EVER. SINCE WE CANNOT RECEIVE FOOD GIFTS AT THE CHURCH, CONSIDER MAKING A CASH DONATION OR CONTACT THE FOOD BANKS DIRECTLY. REMEMBER: The White Center Food Bank does not accept foods that are more than a year old and foods that are not readily identifiable, such as rare gourmet items. **Kid-friendly food donations are very welcome.** Both the White Center Food Bank and West Seattle Food Bank continue to see increasing need in our community.**

**Thriftway receipts were recently picked up by Floie Vane to be processed. If you have any at home, keep ahold of them, and you can either make arrangements to drop them off at Peace or can bring them in when social distancing ends.**

## **This 'n That**

### **PUBLIC TELEVISION SERIES: THE AGE OF NATURE**

Narrated by Uma Thurman, this fascinating three-part series explores humanity's relationship with nature and wildlife, as scientists and conservationists from all over the world examine ways we can restore our planet. Can our newfound understanding of nature bring about a fresh chapter in the human story?

**Local connection:** Episode 2 of the series, airing October 21, focuses on the restoration of the Elwha River ecosystem in Washington state following the removal in the last decade of two dams. Link: <https://www.pbs.org/show/age-nature/>

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## Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

Dear Beloveds of Christ,

There are stories in this world that we will never know. Stories that beg to be told and yet they will never be heard because they have been forgotten, covered up, never told or intentionally destroyed.

A few weeks ago, I was floating down the Wenatchee River on an inner tube. It was a beautiful day – perfect weather – no sign of humanity anywhere. Rounding a bend, I suddenly saw a strange site: An old skinny white man wearing only a loin cloth flying a rainbow-colored kite. This man camping/living in an old RV on the banks of the Wenatchee, basically naked, long full beard and hair, arms outstretched towards the heavens and flying a beautiful multi-colored kite. *What story does he have to share?*

A few Sundays ago, the *New York Times* ran a photo essay about hunger in America. The author writes, “In the pandemic economy, nearly one in eight households doesn’t have enough to eat. The lockdown, with its epic lines at food banks, has revealed what was hidden in plain sight: that the struggle to make food last long enough, and to get food that’s healthful — what experts call ‘food insecurity’ — is a persistent one for millions of Americans ... Like many hardships, this burden falls disproportionately on Black and Hispanic families, who are almost twice as likely to experience food insecurity as white families.” ([www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/09/02/magazine/food-insecurity-hunger-us.html](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/09/02/magazine/food-insecurity-hunger-us.html)) Through the photo gallery in this *New York Times* photo essay, we catch glimpses of the lives of Kandice, Brayden, Doris, Armani and many others. *What other stories are held in this story?*

As I write this article, large swaths of California, Oregon and Washington are on fire. Houses burned to the ground. People missing. People killed. Treasured items gone. Lives disrupted and forever changed. *What stories are lost in the raging fires?*

When you read this article, there is a very good chance that over 200,000 people in the United States will have died from COVID-19. Over 6 million will have been infected. Common sense measures to mitigate the spread of COVID have been politicized. Suicide, depression, hunger, loneliness, domestic violence, joblessness, and other hardships have increased in these last six months. *What story is no longer possible?*

Today I am more and more aware of the stories that have disappeared, been forgotten, or pushed underground. And I am ever mindful that as people who follow Jesus, we have the responsibility, the obligation – maybe it is a calling – to listen to the stories in the gaps of other stories. And to understand that the biggest voice might not be the place where the story is happening.

In Matthew 18, Jesus says, ‘Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven.’ A few verses later Jesus says, “It is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.”

You see, we are the people of the book – we are the people who claim the Holy Story. We are the people who believe that the story of God and humanity did not end with the cross but continues in, with and under all of us today. The Holy Spirit is alive and active among us. And the Holy Spirit is calling us through the stories we remember, the stories we share, the stories we hear, and the stories we notice.

Let us listen to one another’s story. Let us be mindful of the stories that exist on the margins. Let those of us who have had big voices quiet ourselves to hear other stories. And let us be mindful that listening to stories is not the end. For those of us who are white, let us take to heart these words from Austin Channing Brown, “In too many churches and organizations, listening to the hurt and pain of people of color is the end of the road, rather than the beginning.” (From *I’m Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness*)

I would love to hear your story. How are you doing? Where is God working in your life and in the life of the Church? Where do you see God? What stories need to be told? What pain needs to be shared? What stories do you want to hear?

May the One - whose story we live in - provide care, comfort, love, and justice for you and for this world.

Let us live, move, and be in God’s Holy Story.

From the October 2020 edition of *The Spirit*

*Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness  
in a world that can be filled with alienation and brokenness.  
In faithfulness to the Gospel and to our Lutheran heritage, we answer Christ's call to be agents of  
healing and safety, particularly for people who have been marginalized by our society.  
As a Christian community, we invite all people to join us as we work to better understand the  
meaning of grace for our lives. We welcome people of all sexual orientations and gender identities  
into the life and mission of our congregation.*

## Reconciling In Christ Affirmation of Welcome

Office Hours: 10:30am – 2:30pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

<a href="mailto:office@peacelutheranseattle.org">office@peacelutheranseattle.org</a> Kathleen Keyes	<a href="mailto:music@peacelutheranseattle.org">music@peacelutheranseattle.org</a> Jon Lackey
<a href="mailto:youth@peacelutheranseattle.org">youth@peacelutheranseattle.org</a> Nicole Kinemeier	<a href="mailto:pastor@peacelutheranseattle.org">pastor@peacelutheranseattle.org</a> Pastor Erik Kindem

*Grounded in God's grace,  
we are called to cultivate faith and trust in our life together,  
to discern God's challenge into unfamiliar places,  
and to venture beyond ourselves,  
so all people will experience God's love.*

## Our Vision Statement

**NOTE:** The deadline for the November 2020 newsletter is Sunday, October 25.



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED