

June
2022

A graphic of the Bethlehem Star, depicted as a bright yellow star with a long, dark blue, pixelated or starburst-like trail extending from its base.

Bethlehem Star

Guest Pastor Art Werfelmann • James Hing, Organist

To the People of God at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Our Friends,

This month I will have finished another eight weeks as a supply preacher at Bethlehem. I want you to know that it has been a privilege to serve you in one small way. I find you to be a caring group of people who love each other and care for the people of God in this congregation but are struggling to know what future God has in store for you. I am acquainted with the struggles inherent in a world that is not the church you grew up in, and the challenges most congregations are facing in a more secular world. I also know that no matter whatever it is that you decide, people are not going to be happy. This is a natural outcome when God might be calling you to a new thing.

I think one of the most difficult things to do is “speak the truth in love.” First, “speaking the truth” means we must speak the truth to ourselves. Some truths that need to be explored is what do we think our mission is? And, right after that, do we have the energy to carry out that mission? You can have a fine mission statement that is true in every way, but if you do not have the energy to carry it out, it is just a statement. Another question to answer is are we looking for a pastor (the pastor) to do our mission, or are we in it with them. Paul reminds us in Ephesians 4:1-2: ***“I urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all the humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”***

One last thing you must do is pray. Pray in worship, pray in meetings, pray in Bible studies, and pray as individuals for your church and its

Continued from first page

people. This can't be a one time and done. It has to be continually and fervently and in the belief that God will answer our prayers as he promised us.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Werfelmann

What is God whispering for you to do?

Thank you to the 25+ members that attended the "Bethlehem Gets Real" series each week.

We discussed the following topics and learned from each other.

Week 1 – 'What BLC is to me'; Members Age; Strength & Challenges

Week 2 – Renewal; Legacy; Sharing (a pastor and property)

Week 3 – Most important Actions and who would work on them

I will finish writing a recap after the newsletter is published. I will email or print copies of the recap.

There were volunteers for a few of the important actions. I will be following up with those teams to understand what their plan is.

This month I want to call out two important topics from the 'get real' series.

1. We discussed whether Bethlehem can afford a full time settled pastor or if sharing a pastor with either another congregation or another ministry might fit our needs better at this point.
2. We discussed a couple of property sharing options we have been asked to consider. A private Christian school gave us their idea of what we might do. This was interesting in that they thought they would buy the building and build us a new building elsewhere on the property. Another idea was a group that builds and manages housing (for Vets or low income people). We have not gotten to the stage of a proposal from them.

Both of these options are just that —options— for us to consider in the context of "What is God calling Bethlehem to do?"

I will add more from the Bethlehem Gets Real series in coming months.

God Bless – Don Kuhlmann, Congregational President



June



| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Nancy Jackman | June 3 |
| Robert Pankow | June 4 |
| Jeanie Hack | June 6 |
| Katelyn Bumpus | June 7 |
| Donna Kahn | June 8 |
| Joyce Baade | June 9 |
| Mary Duett | June 9 |
| Teresa Feltmann | June 10 |
| Halley Gentil | June 11 |
| Ella Browning | June 12 |
| Jon Kuhlmann | June 12 |
| Kathy Logan | June 14 |
| KaLyla Troseth-Singleton | June 14 |
| Gary Jordanger | June 17 |
| James Sturgul | June 24 |
| Neal Duett | June 25 |
| Larry Holcomb | June 26 |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

Jordanger, Gary & Joanne
June 6, 1970
52 years

Holcomb, Curtis & Cindy
June 18, 1983
39 years

Bumpus, Michael & Cheryl
June 30, 2006
16 years

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS:

Jeannie Hack celebrates 6 decades this month!



KaLyla turns 3 on June 14.

*We wish you continued happiness and
 God's blessings!*

*If we don't have you listed,
 please let the office know.*

Larry is our newest nonagenarian. He turns 90 on June 26.

Carolyn Hough wrote a letter to our members. She sends her thanks for the Mother's Day gift packet as it made her Mother's day extra special. She is grateful for Zoom since it's challenging for her to get into the building. Carolyn is grateful to receive the bulletins each week. She hopes all the mothers at Bethlehem had a wonderful Mother's Day and sends her love to all.

The full note is posted on the bulletin.

We pray for God's ongoing mercy to all. In particular, we pray for:

**Those living & working in our AbleLight home
Our friends in the Moldovan Church**

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sharon Buechler | Michael Bumpus |
| Harold Carlson | Frank & Betty Downing |
| Jesse Hack | Marcy Hall |
| Mardelle Hammond | Gary & Kaye Hanno |
| Carolyn Hough | Jeanne-K Hughes |
| Jenny Iles | Joel & Karen Jackman |
| Donna Kahn | Glen Koppelman |
| Bob Pankow | Hannelore Payne |
| Linda Sheets | Ruth Schroeder |



**Mark Humphrey
Joanne Jordanger
Andrea Mangold
Debbie Porter
Bev West**

David Willett

**Brent & Karen Begalka's friend Regina S
Jim & Sharon Buechler his sister JoAnn, her brother James, his cousins Milton & Jerome,
his cousin John, her cousin Wendy
Gretchen Engum's brother-in-law Joel
Cathy Frank's nephew Gerard
Jesse Hack's dad Don
Mardelle Hammond's sister-in-law Barbara
Chene'e Holcomb and her mom Jocelyn
Curtis Holcomb's friends Wayne H and Crystal
Jeanne-K Hughes' sister Dawna, friend Angie
LuAnne Humphrey's cousin Brenda & husband Chris, friends Chris, David B, Joyce & Max
Gene & Donna Kahn her sister Carol
Don & Dielda Kuhlmann her sister Brenda & friends Lynn & Dan
Pete & Hannelore Maas' friend Bill
Hannelore Payne's stepdaughter Becky, relatives Rolf & Elvi, June, Johanna & Susanna,
son Patrick, brother Frank, friend Marge
Debbie Porter's friend Ada
Linda Sheets' daughter Corrie
Dick & Ellen Taylor's grandchildren Landon & Caroline, his cousins Bill & Eileen
Carolyn Troseth's sister Viola, sister-in-law Viona, friend Anita**

**Pastor Paul Zimmerman's daughter, Michelle.
Pastor Douglas & Carol Iben's daughter, Becky.**

We pray for the health & safe return home of our members and relatives serving our country in the military: **Austin Kahn (Air Force), Garrett Kahn (Air Force), Ben Boykin (Army).**

We pray for peace, love, safety, and comfort to our members who can't attend church services: **Wanda Brooks, Betty Cowan, Gretchen Engum, Emma Humphrey, Evelyn Lundstrom-Weiss, Sabine Muller, Jean Shaw, and David Willett.**

FOREVER LOVED. FOREVER MISSED.

May we and her family find comfort in Aggie's faith.

Pastor Randy Grauer baptized Agnes & her husband Joe into the Lutheran faith on Feb 26, 1978. He officiated at Joe's funeral, and he was here at Bethlehem to officiate at Aggie's funeral service. Aggie lived 92 years of love.

She was preceded in death by husband Joe (age 53) on March 26, 1983, her parents Alfons & Mary Kadlecek, son Michael (age 29), son Kenneth (age 3 months), sister Georgia Brubaker, brothers Bobby, Edmund and Raymond Kadlecek.

Agnes is survived by 7 children: Kathleen Phillips, Nancy (Earl Rogers), Brenda (Gary DenAdel), Janet (Robert Lee), Stephen (Shari), Cynthia (Alan Snider), Jennifer Caskey; sisters Mary Jo James, Louise Hobbs, Jeannie Brown and Dorothy Diyer, and brother Joey Kadlecek.

She was blessed with 16 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren.

Her funeral service was held on Saturday May 21. The altar area was overflowing with beautiful flower arrangements. Six grandsons, Ken, Joe, Cole, Devan, Elijah, and Noah were the pall bearers. Several people spoke about Aggie's kindness, generosity, and love. Family and friends were also able to watch the service via Zoom. Mary Martha ladies served the lunch that was provided by the family. The sun was shining, the flowers were blooming, and the tears were flowing.

Member Kathy Logan shares, "Aggie Brown was very loving and always pleased to see you. She was always glad when she could come to church and worship. I said a little prayer of thanks every Sunday she managed to make it in."

Aggie will be cremated and then interred at Mt Olivet in June at a private service. She will be placed with her husband, and next to her 2 sons.



Agnes Brown
Dec 19, 1929

May 7, 2022

FORMER MEMBER Barbara Warwick-Sutton

June 25, 1957 — May 3, 2022



Barbara Warwick-Sutton

Photo taken 1992

Our good friend from back "in the day" at Bethlehem has passed away.

Barbara was an active member of Bethlehem all throughout the 80's and into the 90's. She played the organ with me (remember those piano/organ duets with the piano downstairs and the organ upstairs?). Doug is probably the only one who knew that she and I would sometimes exchange positions on the organ bench right in the middle of a song. Never missed a note! She also sang with Praise Singers, did many solos and also sang duets with Curtis Holcomb as well as directing the children's choirs. There were many nights when the youth group (Joy in Hymn) gathered at the Gardner's house to play games. Remember Trivia and Pictionary?

After Barb married Tom Sutton they had two boys (Kristian & Michael) and moved to California. We visited there a few times. Those boys were the LOVE of her life! These last few years she has lived in Texas to be close to her brother but made frequent trips to Seattle area to visit her sister. She also moved her parents from Puyallup to Texas, and they just passed away a few years ago. Barbara and Kris visited us once in Kennewick about 6 years ago but we have kept in contact with Barbara by phone these last years.

Sing with the Angels, my friend!

-Doug & Wilma Gardner

Barbara's Memorial Service was held Saturday, May 21 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Bryan Texas.



We pray for Ukraine.

HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES



to Mardelle Hammond on the unexpected passing of her son, Mike, on Sunday May 1, 2022. Mardelle shares she ate lunch with him and his wife Diana just a few days earlier. His funeral service was May 21 in Lacey, Washington.



to Pastor Paul Linnemann on the passing of his mother, Vernetta Linnemann, on Sunday, May 15, 2022. She was 93 years old. Pastor Linnemann's father passed on March 18, 2021 at the age of 91. There will be a joint celebration of life and ministry on June 12 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Portland, Oregon.



HARMONY WITH GOD

There are over 7,300 languages in the world. Sixty percent provide understanding through tone (variations in pitch). Maabatengi in the Bandi language has three meanings. It can mean 'gift', 'his/her gift', or 'my gift' determined by the melody placed on the different syllables. **Lack of harmony between speaker and hearer brings miscommunication and confusion.**

Harmony with God was Martin Luther's purpose as he translated the New Testament into common German in 1522. Germans were then able to understand God's message to them in Scripture for themselves. It changed their world.

It is the same today — 500 years later — as members of remote language communities such as the Bandi, hear God's Word for themselves. The Holy Spirit gives faith where we understand Scripture — Jesus died and rose again for us. It changes the world.

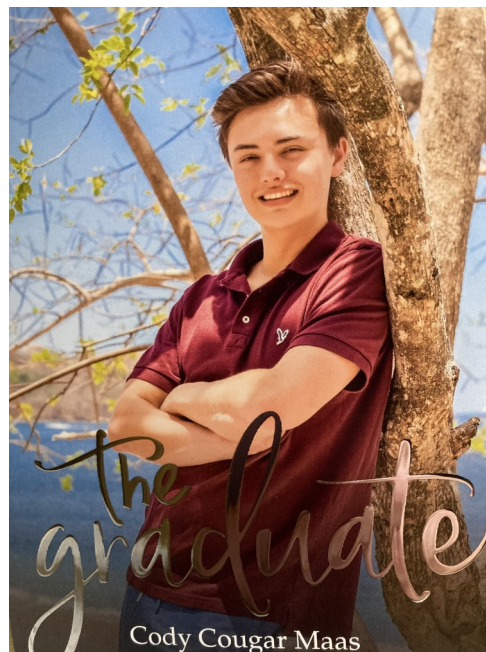
Mary Martha donates to LBT, helping put God's Word in everyone's hands.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 GRADUATES

**This is the day which the LORD has made;
We will rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24**

Our youngest grandson, **Cody Cougar Maas**, graduated May 19 from Kings High School in Shoreline. He has an almost perfect grade point average, and got a scholarship to Texas A and M, pursuing engineering research.

We are very proud of him.
Pete and Hannelore Maas



Hannelore Payne's granddaughter, **Claire Banasky**, turns 18 in June. Four days later she will graduate from Ingraham High School in Seattle. She will attend the University of Portland where she will join the women's rowing team and study biology.

Claire will be competing in Florida for Nationals and participate in rowing events in London, England!



Hannelore says, "Claire is growing into a beautiful young lady and already accomplished so much. I am very proud of her, and she calls me Oma."





We thank Fenice Fregoso from REACH for coming to our church on Sunday, May 22nd!

REACH stands for **R**enton **E**cumenical **A**ssociation of **C**hurches. Our church is one of the original founders of REACH which started in 1970. They want people to have a sustainable and full life by having compassion in action to end homelessness and hunger.

Our donated funds go to help provide meals, special activities like celebrating Christmas, maintaining the Center of Hope facilities, and help pay for folks getting into an apartment.

There are two meal programs that are free to anyone. Breakfast is Monday through Friday 8am to 10am and dinner is Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 5:30 to 7:00pm. The address is 300 Rainier Ave N, near the Renton Airport.

The Center of Hope is a 24 hour shelter for families experiencing homelessness that can sleep up to 35 Individuals at the Lakeridge Lutheran Church. Here, REACH provides three meals a day, showers and laundry services, mail, phone, and computer services, housing navigation, health care support, employment and education resources, and diversion services.

REACH works with many other organizations in the community to provide for the needs of the people they serve which includes men, women, and children as well as Veterans and people with a wide background of religion and ancestry. The people that REACH helps feel like REACH is family. One staff member even says, "This is not just a job. It is for me being part of a family. We give hope and love." Another staff member says, "I enjoy helping others. REACH is small so I get the chance to know our clients personally."

We can continue to support REACH by giving monetary gifts, providing meals, volunteering, giving diapers and clothing.

REACH in our church is financially supported by both the Missions Board and LWML's Mary Martha.

Thank you for supporting REACH.
Amber Wolf, Missions Board



Fenice Fregoso
REACH Speaker

If you know any one looking
for shelter, they can call
425-321-4816

CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD



In early May, **Dick Taylor** visited the Burlington Lutheran Church and shares this photo with us. This church was started in 1904. They consider themselves "*A vibrant community of faith in the heart of Burlington, WA*".

This BLC offers in-person worship on Sunday mornings and livestream options for those who prefer to worship from home.

While **Halley Gentil** was in Iceland this spring, she attended 2 different churches and helped with a Mission Project.

Strandarkirkja Lutheran Church (on the right) was established in the 12th century and is known as the "Miracle Church". A group of sailors caught in a storm prayed for safety and vowed to build a church wherever they landed. An angel appeared before their bow and guided them through the rough surf and into the bay that is now called Angel's Bay. The sailors built the church as promised, and many miracles have been attributed to Strandarkirkja.

It's not open for regular services right now but Halley was able to take a tour of this church.

As is common in Europe, a cemetery surrounds the church building.

Interior of Strandarkirkja —>



Halley's other Icelandic church experience was at Iceland's only Baptist church, Lofstofan Baptistakirkja, which was launched in 2013. Halley is pictured in the middle (below) giving away free cereal at the University of Iceland in Reykjavik with members of the Lofstofan church.



Interior of Lofstofan Baptistakirkja



Jim & Sharon Buechler share their photo of the interior of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

This is the church where Jim was confirmed. They visited recently while on vacation.

THE STORY BEHIND THE HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing **1758**

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9



Robert Robinson
1735—1790
England

Robert Robinson had a rough beginning. His father died when he was young, and his mother, unable to control him, sent him to London to learn barbering. What he learned instead was drinking and gang-life. When he was 17, he and his friends reportedly visited a fortune-teller. Relaxed by alcohol, they laughed as she tried to tell their futures. But something about the encounter bothered Robert, and that evening he suggested to his buddies they attend the evangelistic meeting being held by George Whitefield.

Whitefield was one of history's greatest preachers, with a voice that was part foghorn and part violin. That night he preached from Matthew 3:7: **"But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?'"** Bursting into tears, Whitefield exclaimed, "Oh, my hearers! The wrath to come! The wrath to come!"

Robert immediately sobered up and sensed Whitefield was preaching directly to him. The preacher's words haunted him for nearly three years, until December 10, 1755, when he gave his heart to Christ.

Robert soon entered the ministry, and three years later at age 23, while serving Calvinist Methodist Chapel in Norfolk, England, he wrote a hymn for his sermon on Pentecost Sunday. It was a prayer that the Holy Spirit flood into our hearts with His streams of mercy, enabling us to sing God's praises and remain faithful to Him. "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing," has been a favorite of the church since that day.

Robinson continued working for the Lord until 1790, when he was invited to Birmingham, England, to preach for Dr. Joseph Priestly, a noted Unitarian. There, on the morning of June 8, he was found dead at age 54, having passed away quietly during the night.

Come, Thou Fount Of Every Blessing

Robert Robinson

John Wyeth



Come, Thou Fount of ev-'ry bless-ing, Tune my
Here I raise mine Eb-e-ne-zer, Hith-er
O to grace how great a debt-or Da-ly

heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of mer-cy, nev-er
by Thy help I'm come; And I hope, by Thy good
I'm con-strained to be! Let Thy good-ness like a

ceas-ing, Call for songs of loud-est praise. Teach me
plea-sure, Safe-ly to ar-rive at home. Je-sus
fet-ter, Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee. Prone to


some me-lo-dious son-net, Sung by flam-ing tongues a-
sought me when a strang-er, Wan-d'ring from the fold of
wan-der, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I

bove; Praise the mount, I'm fixed up-on it, Mount of
God; He, to res-cue me from dan-ger, In-ter-
love; Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it

Thy re-deem-ing love.
posed for His pre-cious blood.
for Thy courts a-bove.

The first time this hymn was sung was on Pentecost Sunday in 1758. This year, June 5 is Pentecost Sunday. It is hymn #686 in our Lutheran Service Book. Take a few moments to offer this hymn as a personal prayer.

Submitted by Joel & Karen Jackman. Sources: Then Sings My Soul by Robert J Morgan, hymnary.org and Wikipedia.com

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed |
|--|---|---|---|
| OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. | | | 1 Office Clc 7 pm Bible Stu Galatians with Begalka - hybr |
| 5 FOOD BANK SUNDAY PENTECOST SUNDAY 10 Hybrid Worship Service With Pastor Werfelmann HOLY COMMUNION | 6 TBD Trustees Meeting 7 pm New Purpose | 7 11 am Board of Ed 6:30 pm Elders Mtg | 8 Office Clos 7 pm Bible Stu class before su break |
| 12 TRINITY SUNDAY 10 Hybrid Worship Service With Pastor Werfelmann 12:30 Council Meeting Zoom only | 13 7 pm New Purpose | 14 3 pm ORG Team | 15 Office Clc |
| 19 FATHER'S DAY 10 Hybrid Worship Service Pastor Arthur Werzner HOLY COMMUNION Special Treats for the Men | 20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 7 pm New Purpose | 21 1st day of Summer  | 22 Office Cl |
| 26 10 Hybrid Worship With Pastor Robert Grothe | 27 7 pm New Purpose | 28 | 29 Office Cl |

Save the date: Saturday July 9. We will be celebrating Kathy Zable's life in a service at Bethlehem. Pastor Gene Baade will officiate. Kathy passed away from complications of COVID on December 22, 2020.

JUNE 2022

| Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---------------|--|
| Closed Study— with Brent hybrid | 2 10 am Stewardship Meeting 6:30 pm Missions—Zoom 7 pm New Purpose | 3 | 4 |
| Closed Study—Last of summer | 9 7 pm New Purpose LCMS NW District Convention, Portland Oregon | 10 | 11 |
| Closed | 16 7 pm New Purpose | 17 | 18 3 pm Matinee “movie to be decided” |
| Closed | 23 7 pm New Purpose | 24 | 25 |
| Closed | 30 Last day to bring in glasses, diapers, women’s supplies. See page 23 7 pm New Purpose | JULY 1 | JULY 2 |

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

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 blessings@BethlehemLutheranRenton.org 425-255-9772
 www.BethlehemLutheranRenton.org



A Rose Is A Rose Is A Rose Quiz

O my love's like a red, red, rose that's newly
sprung in June.
O my love's like a melody that's sweetly
played in tune.
by Robert Burns

Match the color of the rose with the letter corresponding to the correct answer:

1. ___ **Red** a. thoughtfulness, charm, perfection, richness
2. ___ **White** b. congratulations, fascination, enthusiasm, energy, desire
3. ___ **Cream** c. warmth, cheerfulness, goodness, joy, friendship, delight
4. ___ **Yellow** d. love, passion, courage, respect, admiration, beauty
5. ___ **Orange** e. grace, happiness, elegance, expectation, grief
6. ___ **Pink** f. devotion, unconscious beauty, deep passion
7. ___ **Burgundy** g. purity, loyalty, reverence, everlasting love

Submitted by Karen Begalka. Answers on bottom of page 27.

April 2022 Treasurer's Report (33% of the year done)

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Total Income | \$42,996.85 | 25% of the budgeted amount |
| Total Expense | <u>\$26,217.30</u> | 15% of the budgeted amount |
| Difference | \$16,779.55 | |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Total Assets | \$95,928.25 |
| Total Equity | \$49,451.01 (Assets not in memorials or designated funds) |

—Kathy Logan, Treasurer

SEATTLE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL CLOSES AFTER 45 YEARS

It is with a heavy heart that the Board of Directors of Seattle Lutheran High School announced it is closing this June, at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year. This is one of the organizations that Bethlehem supports.

MOVIE MATINEE



May's movie was the musical classic **My Fair Lady**. This newsletter was printed before we Zoomed the film but many are eagerly looking forward to it. Don & Dielda Kuhlmann saw a live performance of My Fair Lady in San Francisco in 1980 with the one and only Rex Harrison.

June's movie has not yet been selected but will be shown on June 18, the Saturday before Father's Day.

OUR LANDSCAPERS LOVE THEIR TASKS

Summer flowers were planted in mid-May. The two Karen's were in charge of geraniums, Dick Taylor is in charge of the lawn, and Pete & Hannelore Maas planted the African daisies. Now it's up to them to grow and flourish!



Karen Fritsvold

By Hannelore Maas



Karen Marsyla

What can we learn from the Fathers in the Bible?

Scripture is filled with people we can learn much from. When it comes to the challenging vocation of fatherhood, several fathers in the Bible show what is wise to do—and what is not wise to do. Of course, the most important father figure in the Bible is that of God the Father, the ultimate role model for all human dads. His love, kindness, patience, wisdom, and protectiveness are impossible standards to live up to. Fortunately, he is also forgiving and understanding, answering fathers' prayers, and giving them expert guidance so they can be the man their family wants them to be.

Adam—The First Man As the first man and first human father, Adam had no example to follow except for God's. Regrettably, he strayed from God's example and ended up plunging the world into sin. Ultimately, he was left to deal with the tragedy of his son Cain murdering his other son, Abel. Adam has much to teach today's fathers about the consequences of our actions and the absolute necessity of obeying God.

Lessons to Learn from Adam

- God is looking for fathers who freely choose to obey him and submit to his love.
- Fathers with integrity live in the knowledge that nothing is hidden from God's sight.
- Instead of blaming others, godly fathers take responsibility for their own failures and shortcomings.

Noah—A Righteous Man Noah stands out among fathers in the Bible as a man who clung to God in spite of the wickedness all around him. What could be more relevant today? Noah was far from perfect, but he was humble and protective of his family. He bravely carried out the task God assigned to him. Modern fathers may often feel they are in a thankless role, but God is always pleased by their devotion.

Lessons to Learn from Noah

- God promises to bless & protect those who faithfully follow & obey him.
- Obedience is not a sprint but a marathon. It means a lifetime of faithful devotion.
- Even the most faithful fathers have weaknesses and can fall into sin.

Abraham—Father of the Jewish Nation What could be more frightening than being the father of an entire nation? That was the mission God gave Abraham. He was a leader of tremendous faith, passing one of the most difficult tests God ever gave a man: offering his son Isaac as a sacrifice. Abraham made mistakes when he relied on himself instead of God. Still, he embodied qualities that any father would be wise to develop.

Lessons to Learn from Abraham

- God wants to use us, in spite of our shortcomings. He will even rescue and support us through our foolish mistakes.
- Genuine faith pleases God.
- God's purposes and plans are revealed in phases over a lifetime of obedience.

Isaac—Son of Abraham Many fathers feel intimidated trying to follow in the footsteps of their own father. Isaac must have felt that way. Abraham was such an outstanding leader that Isaac could have gone wrong. He could have resented his father for offering him as a sacrifice, yet Isaac was an obedient son. From his father Abraham, Isaac learned the invaluable lesson of trusting God. That made Isaac one of the most favored fathers in the Bible.

Lessons to Learn from Isaac

- God loves to answer a father's prayers.
- Trusting God is wiser than lying.
- Parents should not show favoritism to one child over another.

Jacob—Father of the 12 Tribes of Israel Jacob was a schemer who tried to work his own way instead of trusting God. With the help of his mother Rebekah, he stole his twin brother Esau's birthright. Jacob fathered 12 sons who in turn founded the 12 tribes of Israel. As a father, however, he favored his son, Joseph, causing jealousy among the other brothers. The lesson from Jacob's life is that God works with our obedience and in spite of our disobedience to make his plan come to pass.

Lessons to Learn from Jacob

- God wants us to trust him so we will benefit from his blessings.
- Fighting against God is a losing battle.
- We often worry about missing God's will for our life, but God works with our mistakes and bad decisions.
- God's will is sovereign; his plans cannot be undone.

Moses—Giver of the Law Moses was the father of two sons, Gershom and Eliezer, and he also served as a father figure to the entire Hebrew people as they escaped from slavery in Egypt. He loved them and helped discipline and provide for them on their 40-year journey to the Promised Land. At times Moses seemed to be a larger-than-life character, but he was only a man. He shows today's fathers that overwhelming tasks can be achieved when we stay close to God.

Lessons to Learn from Moses

- With God all things are possible.
- Sometimes we must delegate to be a good leader.
- God desires intimate fellowship with every believer.
- No one can follow God's laws perfectly. We all need a Savior.

King David—A Man After God's Own Heart One of the great stories of struggle in the Bible concerns David, a special favorite of God. He trusted God to help him defeat the giant Goliath and put his faith in God as he was on the run from King Saul. David sinned greatly, but he repented and found forgiveness. His son Solomon went on to become one of Israel's greatest kings.

Lessons to Learn from David

- Honest self-examination is necessary to recognize our own sin.
- God wants our whole hearts.
- We cannot hide our sins from God.
- Sins have consequences.
- The Lord is always there for us.

Joseph—Earthly Father of Jesus Surely one of the most underrated fathers in the Bible was Joseph, the foster father of Jesus Christ. He went through great difficulties to protect his wife Mary and their baby, then saw to Jesus' education and needs as he was growing up. Joseph taught Jesus the carpentry trade. The Bible calls Joseph a righteous man, and Jesus must have loved his guardian for his quiet strength, honesty, & kindness.

Lessons to Learn from Joseph

- God honors men of integrity and rewards them with his trust.
- Mercy always wins.
- Obedience may result in humiliation and disgrace before men, but close friendship with God.

GOD THE FATHER - God the Father, the First Person of the Trinity, is the father and creator of all. Jesus, his only Son, showed us a new, intimate way of relating to him. When we see God as our heavenly Father, provider, and protector, it puts our lives in a whole new perspective. Every human father is also a son of this highest of God, the constant source of strength, wisdom, and hope to Christians everywhere.

Lessons to Learn from God the Father

- God is constant; he never changes. We can depend on Him.
- God is faithful.
- God is love.
- Our heavenly father is an example for earthly fathers to emulate.

Source: www.learnreligions.com/fathers-in-the-bible-701219



MEMBERS RAVE ABOUT DR PAUL MAIER

Dr Paul Maier, Emeritus Professor of Ancient History at Western Michigan University, historian and author, gave his last seminar on May 14 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Tacoma, and some of our church members were able to attend in person and via Zoom.

Hannelore Payne describes him as very intelligent and funny with a positive attitude. She felt blessed to be able to see him.

Brent and Karen Begalka appreciated his knowledge and his talk about the life of Christ, incorporating history, archaeology and geography of the places where Jesus lived and traveled. Dr Maier discussed his book "The Genuine Jesus" and others. He has written several scholarly non-fiction and novels for adults and children.

His youngest daughter has been accompanying him all over the world since she was 17 years old. At age 92, he has decided to retire from traveling.

OUR TRANSITIONAL PHASE FOR MASKS CONTINUES



Until further notice, we will continue our GREEN/RED zones in the sanctuary and social hall. Green (left side) is the safety zone where masks are required. The red zone (right pulpit side) is a mask optional area.





MARY MARTHA 80 YEARS OF SERVICE

LWML celebrates its 80th anniversary this year with the theme "What's Your 80?" They asked us to think about different ways we could provide service. Are there 80 ways?



Mary Martha ladies donated 80+ cans of food to the Renton Food Bank.



Thank you to our generous Bethlehem members who contributed over 80 pairs of socks! They and more than 80 sets of disposable silverware were given to REACH for their shelter and meal programs.



Thank you to everyone who brought Easter lilies and other flowers to church for Easter, and decorated the cross with gladiolas. There were 90 people who attended our Easter service, heard God's Word, and saw the beautiful testament of our adoration for God.

Hannelore Maas took this photo of Pat Eskam, Cathy Frank, Carolyn Troseth and Marjie Boydston.



Thanks to all who helped with Ron Muller's Memorial luncheon in April and Aggie Brown's Funeral luncheon in May. Another testimony of Christian service and love.





Thank you to Karen Begalka, Teresa Feltmann, and Ellen Taylor for the gift to the mothers on Mother's Day. The flowers, poetry, & candy were appreciated by all of the recipients.

We **continue** to find ways to serve. The 2022-2023 elected officers of Mary Martha are:

- President Sharon Buechler
- Vice President Joanne Jordanger
- Secretary Karen Begalka
- Treasurer Amber Wolf
- Christian Growth Ellen Taylor

And Marlene Holcomb is the person to contact to arrange funeral receptions.



Mary Martha will provide a tasty treat for all men who attend church in person on Father's day.

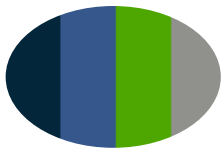
How Can you Serve?



Donate items for Grace House, a Christ-centered transitional home for 40 women & children. Full list of items on bulletin board. Toilet paper, paper towels, razors, women's shampoo, 13-gallon garbage bags, size 3 & 6 diapers, and more. Bring items to church by June 30.



Donate eyeglasses or sunglasses, adult or children by June 30.



Buy \$1 chances to win the Seahawk-colored afghan made by Karen Marsyla. Tickets will go on sale this fall.



Support the Saturday, November 12 Bazaar.

- Donate items
- Buy stuff at the bazaar
- Be a vendor or ask your friends to buy a vendor Table for \$25.

Have a Happy Summer of Service. Faithfully yours, Karen Begalka

The Legacy of the Rose

By Karen Begalka

When we think about the month of June, what comes to mind is Father's Day, Summer Solstice, Weddings and Roses. According to Martha Stewart, red and white roses are appropriate for Father's Day. Red roses are for our living fathers and white roses are to honor deceased fathers. Red and white roses in a bouquet represent unity and oneness. Also, for weddings, white roses represent purity, loyalty, reverence, and everlasting love. Add pink to that and you add grace, happiness, elegance, romance, strength and expectation. Bouquets of tiny tea roses mixed with other delicate flowers are also popular for weddings.

The Summer Solstice, June 21st, bursts out with many colorful and fragrant flowers. There are over 300 different varieties of roses alone, of every color, including hybrids, grandiflora, floribunda, polyantha, miniature shrubs, ground covers, climbing and tea roses.



My favorite hybrid is the yellow and pink peace rose, Rosa Madame A. Meilland, representing world peace, joy and the glory of God. It was first cultivated and named by Francis and Alain Meilland, in honor of his mother in 1935, and was used to signify a hope for peace during every war ever since then.

In John 15:5 Jesus said, ***"I am the vine and you are the branches, whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."***

Our lives are like a thorny rose branch, not perfect, but always beautiful. The thorns represent the hardships in our lives which also gives us strength and endurance. The thorns are the guardians which protect each rose, and the delicate petals represent the fun and beauty we experience. Also, the thorns teach us caution and how to handle delicate things with gentleness.

Abraham Lincoln wrote: **"We can complain because rose bushes have thorns or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses."**

The lesson of the rose teaches us love, peace, kindness, joy, patience, goodness, faithfulness and self control. Each color of a rose conveys a different message and can say more to the recipient than mere words.

The Legacy of the Rose is that Jesus is the rose vine and we are the branches bearing roses or gifts to others. Each person's life is as delicate as a rose petal, so we need to treat them gently with kindness, patience and goodness. We need to work on building a legacy of our lives now, before we expire, using all of our talents, gifts and abilities to bless others. When we leave this world, the earthly possessions we have will become insignificant to us, and be of little importance to anyone else, compared to heavenly riches.

According to the Lutheran Hour's Stewardship Bible Study, "He Who Dies With the Most Toys Still Dies," everything we have is on loan from God, including us!

The greatest legacy that Jesus left us was teaching us about our Father's love and forgiveness. God the Father has welcomed us to our eternal home through the work of His beloved and only Son Jesus. As believers, the legacy Christ gave us is the same spiritual legacy we pass on to our children and grandchildren. Jesus wants all people to believe in His salvation and inherit eternal life.



TEAMWORK SAVED A DUCK FAMILY

Doris Pankow, Bob's daughter, gives a huge shout out to the Kent Puget Sound Fire Department for their compassion and willingness to spend time helping 8 ducklings that fell through the grate of a storm drain near their home.

A big rave for teamwork! A witness called 911, Doris borrowed her dad's fishing net and a loaf of bread, and the fire fighters worked for an hour intently and carefully bringing up each duckling.

Seven were returned to momma but one had an injured leg so Doris nursed it overnight and delivered it to PAWS, a wildlife rescue facility, the next morning.

Photos by Doris Pankow



BRUCE + TERESA FELTMANN GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY



May 12, 1972



Celebrating 50 years together
2022

Bruce & Teresa were married by Pastor Walter Luttmann at Bethlehem.

***Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor;
If either of them falls down, one can help the other one up.***
Ecclesiastes 4:9,10a

GIVE GENEROUSLY

- ▶ **EYE GLASSES** and non-prescription **SUNGLASSES**. Mary Martha is collecting these for an LWML missions project. Glasses can be adult or child-sized. Please put in hallway box by June 30.
- ▶ **PAPER PRODUCTS & TOILETRIES**. Women's shampoo/conditioner, razors, toilet paper, paper towels, garbage bags (13-gallons), diapers (Size 3 and 6). Mary Martha is collecting these as Gifts from the Heart for Grace House, a Christ-centered transitional home for 40 women and children, to give them a chance to heal and grow into the women and mothers God created them to be. More details on bulletin board. Items are due by June 30.
- ▶ **SOFT GOODS**. Used clothing, towels, bedding, suitcases, shoes, backpacks, belts, etc. The more pounds we collect, the more dollars Bethlehem receives! Deadline not set yet; bring in your bags of clean items!
- ▶ **FOOD**. We continue to collect Food for the Renton Food Bank. There's a box in the narthex.
- ▶ **USED INK CARTRIDGES** earn us discounts on our paper and ink purchases. Box is in the narthex.



Tuesday July 19 at Bethlehem.
You can make an appointment
for their health screening at
www.lifelinescreening.com/
or call 888-683-4067.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1024 Monroe Ave N.E.
Renton, WA 98056

June 2022

BethlehemLutheranRenton.org

MOTHER'S DAY HIGHLIGHTS

Our worship service on Mother's Day had several special moments. Beginning with James Hing's opening remarks about the African word "*ubuntu*" which translates to "I am because of you." He adapted it for today — "We are because of our moms. We are because of Him."

The prelude was a festive version of "To God Be the Glory" composed by Joel Raney, played by an accomplished piano/organ duo. Choirs from around the world led us in singing today, giving our cantor Curtis Holcomb the opportunity to sit with his mom in the pews.

On Zoom, Mark Humphrey's virtual background was an homage to his Norwegian grandmother. It was a colorful aurora Borealis light display near Norway. Mark shared it as a reminder that God paints our night sky. On Mother's Day, he wanted to "show God's love for us, through our mothers, is forever with us."

Pastor Art Werfelmann gave a meaningful and powerful sermon. Dick Taylor was our elder for the day and his wife, Ellen, was our lay reader.

Afterwards, Mary Martha Society handed out bags of sweetness and love to all the ladies.

It was a good day to worship at Bethlehem.

Our Mission Statement

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, empowered by the Holy Spirit,
will **encourage** and **inspire** our brothers and sisters by prayer and service.

By the grace of God,
we will **reach** out with God's Word and **show** love and fellowship to all.