



# LUTHER MEMORIAL

## lutheran church



# Messenger

May 2015

*Actively Sharing Christ's Love in Community*

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**All are welcome at Luther Memorial.**  
**Come join us for worship every Sunday at 10 am!**



*Alleluia! LMLC celebrated Easter Sunday with food, flowers, family, and festival worship!*

### THE LUTHER MEMORIAL MESSENGER

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13047 Greenwood Avenue N, Seattle, WA 98133 | 206.364.2510

[www.luthermemoralseattle.com](http://www.luthermemoralseattle.com) | [office@luthermemoralseattle.com](mailto:office@luthermemoralseattle.com)

**May 15** is the deadline for articles in the **June** issue.

**Rev. Julie G. Hutson**, Pastor

**Steve Olson**, Congregation Council President

**Paul Olsen**, Choir Director

**Katy Sarff**, Office Administrator

## PJ's Page

Finally! There is hard, scientific evidence that attending worship in a faith community is actually good for your health! Researcher and author Dan Buettner is reporting that attending worship services in your church community four times a month can add up to 14 additional years in your life. If this is true, I



will live forever.

I am the daughter of deeply faithful Christian Lutheran parents. There was never any question about whether we'd be in worship on Sunday mornings. We went to Sunday School, then to worship. We prayed a blessing when we gathered at meals (and still do). It is perhaps the greatest gift my parents have ever offered to me, this being a part of a faith community, a congregation. Because of this, I came to know God before I knew about God.

The point of Buettner's research and of this newsletter article from your pastor, is that

there are real and concrete ways that being part of a faith community matters in your life, whether you are a child or an adult or undecided. Being a part of a community of any kind means that you have others in your life who care deeply about your well being. You are part of a tribe, if you will. Being a part of a *faith based community* means that there are others in your life who care deeply about your well being in response to Jesus' command that we love one another. That is a real game changer.

Because this is what I know to be true: if I join a community that has formed around a skill or interest area, but I'm unable to hold up my end of the bargain (let's say I join the tennis club but I can't play tennis or the Latin club when I have no interest in learning to speak Latin) then the community is not likely to continue to invest in me. At some point, I will be either literally or figuratively cast out.

But when we are part of a community of Jesus-followers, when we stumble or fall or just can't seem to hold it together any longer, the community actually bears our burdens for us until we can. Because it's what Jesus said to do.

When we imagine that it's more important for our child to take part in a Sunday morning sporting event than it is for them to be in worship, this helps us find our sure footing

## *PJ's Page*

again. Because not many of our children will grow up to be professional baseball/football/soccer players or opera singers or piano virtuosos (although so far I know of no Sunday morning piano recitals), but all of them will come to a time in their lives when they need a community to support and sustain them. And in turn, they will learn to do the same.



So, Mom and Dad, thanks for every time you took me to church! How was I to know that you were literally thrusting me into the love of God and the Body of Christ?

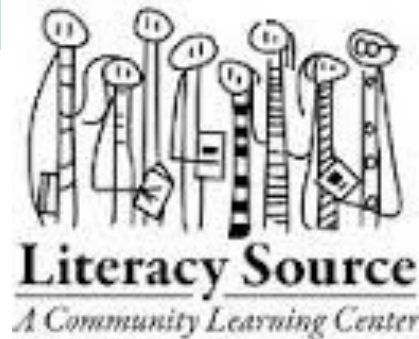
*Pastor Juli Hubert*



## LMLC News and Events

### First Sunday Faith Forum – May 3<sup>rd</sup>

On Tuesday and Thursdays the atmosphere at Luther Memorial is charged with the sound of immigrant parents learning to speak English and apply their new skills as they advocate for their children in the education system. The nursery space is staffed by a child care provider (though volunteers are welcome) and the class is taught by instructors from Literacy Source. Funding and support for these classes is provided by Literacy Source, the Seattle Public Library Foundation, Broadview-Thomsen School, and Luther Memorial.



On May 3<sup>rd</sup> we welcome Anne Soerens, the Community Partnership Coordinator and Parent ELS Instructor from Literacy Source to our First Sunday Faith Forum, to talk about their work and about the program at Luther Memorial.

### Spring Forum: Sesame Street

Sunny day....sweeping the clouds away....

On my way to where the air is sweet....

can you tell me how to get, how to get to Sesame Street?



Ever since your Council started talking about the possibility of affordable housing on what is currently our parking lot, we have referred to it as “Sesame Street.” Part of the reason for this was that we needed a way to identify it in our speaking, but we didn’t have an actual name for it. And let’s face it “the possibility of affordable housing on what is currently our parking lot” is a mouthful! So we started calling it Sesame Street. After all, we envision a place where children thrive in a safe home environment, off of the streets. We envision a place where their parents have good support systems in place. We envision, community. A place where by virtue of its existence, Christ’s love is actively shared.

At our Spring Forum, on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will offer an update to the congregation about the progress made on this vision. This will include some initial architects’ visions, possible timelines, the response from the City of Seattle, and of course, Questions and Answers.

As always, it will be a time of sharing in faithful ways what the Holy Spirit is up to in our midst.

***There will be a potluck and you are invited to bring a dish to share that was a favorite from your childhood! Mac n cheese, anyone?***

Come and play, everythings, A-OK...

Friendly neighbors there, that’s where we’ll meet....

Can you tell me how to get, how to get to Sesame Street?

## LMLC News and Events

### Memorial Funds: A Primer

*It's recently been observed that there are many details and aspects of congregational life that are not known by every person in the congregation. So, to borrow an old fashioned phrase, from time to time we will offer a "primer" (as in first instruction book) on why and how we do the things we do. If you have suggestions for the Primer column, send an email to the office:*

[office@luthermemoralseattle.com](mailto:office@luthermemoralseattle.com)

Memorial funds are monetary gifts given to Luther Memorial in memory of someone who has died. Usually, but not always, those funds are offered at or shortly following the death or funeral/memorial service.

The family of someone who has died may indicate their wish for memorial gifts to be given to Luther Memorial Church and/or any other charitable organization. Often this is done in lieu of flowers. This wish is made known to the funeral home director, in the obituary, and to the pastor.

Unless otherwise designated, Memorial funds go into a general Memorial Fund and are used for special off budget projects in the life and ministry of the church. Recent examples at Luther Memorial include the use of memorial funds to purchase new acolyte robes and provide organ instruction to our musician.

Families who wish to designate their memorial funds may do so to a ministry area of their choice. Recent examples of this option include memorial funds designated to Helping Hands, the Intern Fund, and the Altar fund. Designations must be noted at the time of the death/church service, so those funds may be properly moved out of the general memorial fund and into the designated funds designated by the family or the deceased prior to their death.

Memorial Funds are a unique and thoughtful gift that enables our ministry to thrive and grow.

### Synod Assembly

Voting members from the congregations of the NW Washington Synod will meet in assembly at the Lynnwood Convention Center on May 15, 16, and 17<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year is "Can We Talk?". Voting members elected at the Annual Meeting in January are Katy Sarff and Gordon Trombley, along with Pastor Julie who is a voting member by virtue of the office of Pastor. Please keep this gathering in your prayers.



### Office Closed

The LMLC office will be closed on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, so our Office Administrator can celebrate her birthday, and also closed on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

## LMLC News and Events

### Greetings from the Choir Room –

I have been asked to do a monthly column and am very pleased to do that. Our recent journey through Lent and the widely varying emotions that are part of Holy Week call for music of a particular style and substance and I am grateful to our wonderful choir and to Lennon and Jerry Z (as well as trumpeter Ron Barrows and Katy Sarff's sister and her friend Katie) for their contributions.

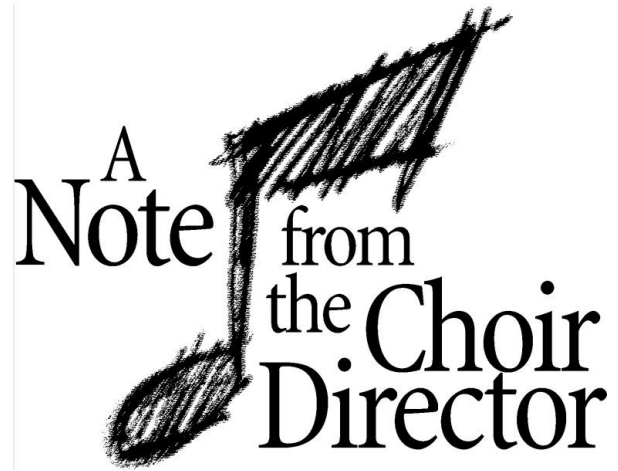
As many of you may know, I have been directing church choirs almost continuously since I graduated from college over 45 years ago, and before that sang in my adult church choir while in high school and in the Choir of the West at PLU. I have directed choirs in Washington, Oregon, Wyoming and Florida, and usually sang in civic choirs in those locations too. All these experiences have been gifts to me and I sincerely enjoy continuing the adventure.

I thought you might be interested in knowing a little bit about the anthem we sang on April 26 (Easter IV). The psalm for that day was Psalm 23, for which a very large number of choir anthems and solos have been written. Probably the best known solo is by Albert Hay Malotte, who also wrote a setting of The Lord's Prayer that is almost always sung at weddings, or used to be. The choral setting we did here is my favorite and is titled "Brother James' Air". I sang this anthem in another arrangement in a junior choir I sang in at Trinity Lutheran Church in Tacoma, across the street from PLU, back when I was 7 or 8 they had the "old church". That is a LOT of years ago!

The Brother James in the title was James Leith Macbeth Bain (1860-1925), a Scottish hymn writer, minister, and religious author. Bain composed both the words (a second version of Psalm 23 by Bain is sometimes sung also, "My Shepherd is the living God") and the wonderful tune. An older musical friend of his describes him as "a nature-lover, a wanderer among woods and hills, a shade eccentric perhaps, author of a number of books, mainly religious, and added Macbeth as another middle name for these publications."

Interestingly, Bain did not have a formal musical background and is not known to have played any musical instruments, but when his friend queried a neighbor of his about his musical activities, this older Scottish woman said that "he was aye hummin' (always humming)." It does make it remarkable that he would compose this melody, but is perhaps a reason for its wonderful simplicity.

The choral arrangement, which passes the melody from soprano to the men to the altos, is from 1935 by the notable 20<sup>th</sup> century British composer Gordon Jacob.



## LMLC News and Events

Here are the words of the anthem, based on Psalm 23:

*The Lord's my Shepherd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie In pastures green; He leadeth me The quite waters by.*

*My soul He doth restore again, And me to walk doth make Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for his own name's sake.*

*Yea though I walk through death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill; For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.*

*My table Thou hast furnished In presence of my foes; My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my days Shall surely follow me; And in God's house Forevermore My dwelling place shall be.*

I wish you all of God's blessings. If you can make it, I'll look forward to seeing you in church.

- Paul Olsen

### Music Monday!!

Have you been thinking about singing with the choir, but rehearsing at 8:30 on Sunday morning just doesn't work well for you? Now is your chance! Beginning with a "trial run" in May, then resuming with the Program year in autumn, you can join the choir and possibly others for "Music Monday."

Here's how it works: On the Monday before the second Sunday of every month, anyone interested in making some music for worship will gather in the evening for a time of fellowship and food, followed by rehearsal time. The adult choir plans to rehearse all of the music for the month.

Possible future additions to Music Monday include handbells, children's choirs, and specialized music groups.

Mark your calendar NOW for our first ever Music Monday on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

## Love to Sing?



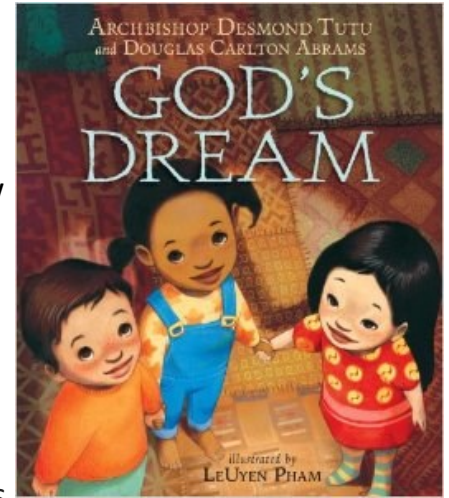
## LMLC News and Events

### What's New in the Children's Library?

Thanks in part to a gift from the Endowment Fund, the Children's Library is being formed into a space for children to spend time looking at (and checking out) books. Stop by and check out the new chairs and table and peruse the books in the Children's library, located in Katie's Parish.

Don't miss this new book!

Archbishop Desmond Tutu along with Douglas Carlton Abrams have written a gorgeous tome for children entitled **"God's Dream."** "In this warm and beautiful collaboration, the answer to this question is as simple as holding hands yet vast as a prayer. For families and friends to share together, God's Dream is a lovely introduction to Archbishop Tutu's unique message of forgiveness and empathy and a beckoning pathway toward joy that even very young readers will delight in following"



### Vacation Bible School is Coming!

This will be the third year Camp Lutherwood and their VBS Program has joined us at LMLC.

#### Mark on your calendar:

June 29 through July 2, 2015

Monday through Thursday

9 AM - 2 PM

3 years old through 5th grade

\$20 per Child

Scholarships available

Lunch and Snacks provided



#### Volunteers and Helped Needed for the Following

- Lodging for Camp Lutherwood Staff
- Assistances for Camp Lutherwood
- Snack and lunch preparations
- Buying food for the four days
- Registration
- Preschool teachers and assistances
- Cookie donations



# LMLC News and Events

GOD SAVED US THROUGH THE WATER OF REBIRTH AND RENEWAL BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, Titus 3:5

CONFIRMATION



## The Rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)

During worship on Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, Kyle Gough, Sandy Jamieson, and Jackson TerHark will affirm their baptisms in the rite we usually call Confirmation. They have studied and learned and questioned over the past two years with students from Bethany and Maple Leaf Lutheran churches, and under the direction of Pastor Julie Hutson, Pastor Annette Andrews-Lux, and Pastor Julie Blum.

The congregation will honor them with a reception immediately following worship on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

On Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, all three congregations will gather together to celebrate these fine young folks. We will enjoy a pot luck gathering at Luther Memorial. (Time to be determined – watch your bulletin and mid week online updates.)

## Nepali Efforts

Lord in your mercy....

We join our prayers with many others for our sisters and brothers in Nepal, as they bury their dead, tend to their injured, search for the missing, and rebuild their

communities. Lutheran Disaster Response in partnership with Lutheran World Relief is on the ground in Nepal and will remain for the long haul. 100% of your contribution goes to direct aid as overhead costs are covered by the ELCA. You can give in the offering by indicating "LDR/Nepal earthquake relief" on your check. You can give online at:



**DISASTER  
RESPONSE**

<https://community.elca.org/donations/nepalearthquake>

## LMLC News and Events

### Stewardship Living

By now you have likely heard of the story of Gravity Payments, a Seattle based company that works with credit card payments. Their CEO, Dan Price, announced recently that he was cutting his almost \$1 million salary so that all of the company's employees could earn at least \$70,000. He based his decision, essentially, on what he understood to be fair and right.



I don't know Dan Price, but I do know that he's a graduate of Seattle Pacific University, a Christian based university. I also happen to know someone who has worked for Gravity Payments for several years. And knowing those two things, I would venture to say that this move on Price's part is a wonderful example of stewardship. It's what he's chosen to do with what he's been given.

This is a choice we all have every single day. For some of us, we have been given much and the choices around what we do with it are many. Others struggle just to get by, but like the widow in the Biblical story, we can offer what we have in service to God's kingdom. Sometimes that results in a splashy, awesome, inspiring, ready for network news story. But most of the time it does not. Most of the time it means that we figure out who we are by what we do with what we have and that figuring out is our response to God. It's Stewardship Living.

### Financial Notes:

Thanks to a generous donation, our budget in April reflects a positive balance. We are grateful to everyone for your financial support of the mission and ministry in this place. First quarter statements of giving were mailed to everyone who has contributed thus far in 2015. Please check your statements against your own records and let Donna Smith, Financial Secretary, know if you have any questions.

Your Church Council & Your Stewardship Team

## Financial Picture

Monthly financial reports are now found in *The Messenger*. Your Council, Treasurer, Stewardship Team, and Pastor hope that these will give you a good idea of how our finances are faring. Talking about money, budgets, and giving is a part of Stewardship. We hope that having this information in the *Messenger* will be helpful to you in your financial support of the ministries of Luther Memorial.

### April 2015

#### **Preliminary Financial Picture**

*Data is not finalized and is subject to reconciliation.*

**LMLC 2014 Full Year Budget:**

**\$222, 847**

**Contributions Needed per week :**

**\$4,285.52**

#### April Contributions Received

<b>April 5</b>	<b>\$8,486.67</b>	<b>April 19</b>	<b>\$3,506.69</b>
<b>April 12</b>	<b>\$2,978.69</b>	<b>April 26</b>	<b>\$2,604.97</b>

**Contributions: \$17,577.02**

**Budgeted: \$17,142.08**

**Difference: +\$434.94**

#### April Contribution Designations

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Gifts other than Offerings and Tithes - General Fund	\$3,182.67
Unpledged Offerings and Tithes	\$3,785.35
Pledged Offerings and Tithes	\$8,906.00
Memorials	\$275.00
ELCA World Hunger	\$40.00
Lilies	\$40.00
Income-Other (eScrip, etc.)	\$20.00
ELCA International Relief (Nepali Earthquake)	\$120.00
Room Use	\$575.00
Helping Hands	\$50.00
Greenwood Foodbank	\$10.00
Vacation Bible School	\$73.00
Camp Lutherwood	\$500.00
<b>Total April Contributions:</b>	<b>\$17,577.02</b>



## Easter Lily Dedications

Easter Lilies were given by members of the LMLC congregation and community in honor or memory of loved ones. The lilies helped decorate our Sanctuary on Easter morning.

Vioki Anderson

In memory of Virginia Anderson

In honor of Darin Anderson

Ruth and Amy Bartling

In memory of Paul

Laurie Baughman

In memory of Oddier

In Memory of Ragna

Morgan and Kay Brassfield

In honor of our great grandson, Crispen Simmons

Laurine Booth

In memory of Chuck Booth

Bob and Marlys Carlson

In memory of our parents

Vioki Cook

In memory of Gail and Kitty Peck

In memory of Marge Anderson Peck

Krissy, Chris, Mason, and Mackenzie  
Gulmer

In memory of Doug Howell

Lorraine Gibbs

In memory of Henry and Gladys Gibb

In memory of Kathleen Valladao Long

Elaine Hardin

In memory of Gene Hardin

In memory of Aila and Leonard Fick

Mary Hinderliter

In memory of Celia Hinderliter Helm

Sharon Howell

In memory of Doug Howell

Bruce Hutson

In memory of my dad, Hut, and my grandparents Nannie,  
Elbert, Molly, and Grant

Pastor Julie Hutson

In memory of my grandparents, Kathryn and Loyd, Jane and  
Henry

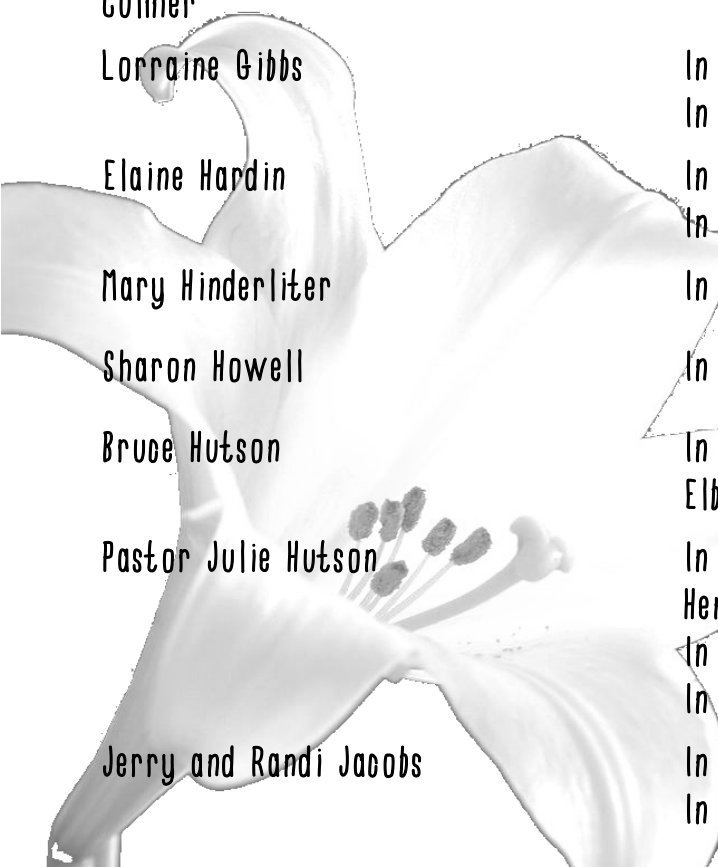
In memory of my friends Lynette and Amy

In honor of the people of God at Luther Memorial

Jerry and Randi Jacobs

In memory of Helga Nimbar

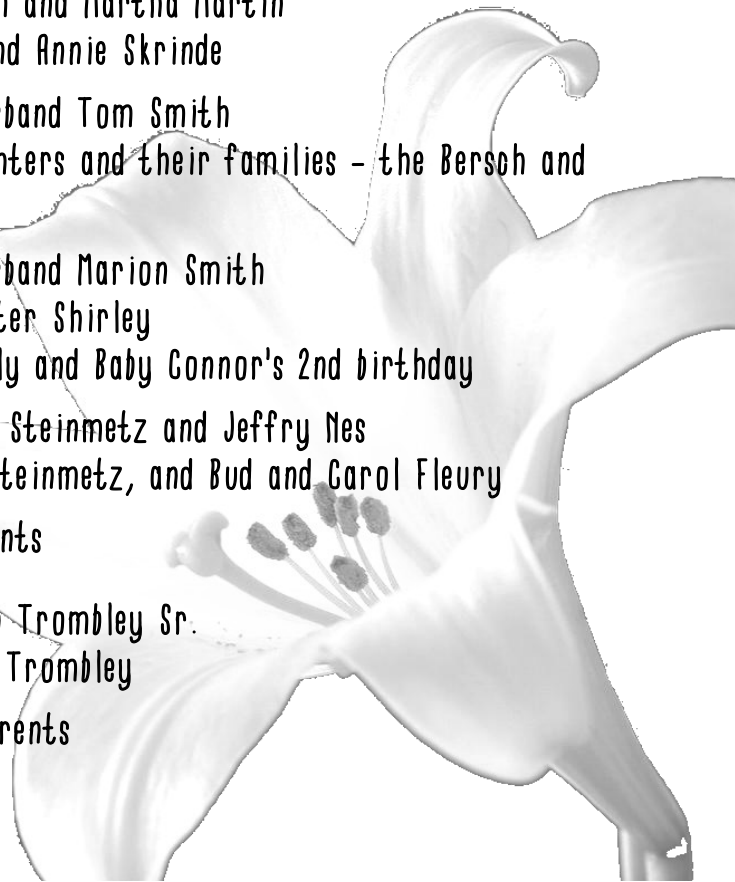
In memory of Robert Jacobs





## Easter Lily Dedications

Colleen and Raj Lingappaiah	In memory of Our Fathers. Tom Smith and Giri Lingappaiah In honor of Our Mothers. Donna Smith and Rebecca Lingappaiah In honor of Our Children. Joshua and Daniel Lingappaiah
Dorothy Lundahl	In memory of Stuart Lundahl In memory of Robbie Riser.
Julie Moe and Janice Sherlock	In memory of Eunice Moe In Memory of Jordan Moe.
Lorraine Molzahn	In memory of Elmer Molzahn
Beverly Mueller	In memory of my nephew, Kevin
Paul and Karen Olsen	In honor of Lily and Joey In memory of Mildred and John Walley and Josephine and Robert Olsen
Nancy Sandbloom	In memory of Ed Sandbloom
Katy Sarff	In memory of my mother, Kris Nelson-Goble In memory of my father, Dan Penland
Marge and Rolf Skrinde	In memory of Wilhelm and Martha Martin In memory of Rolf and Annie Skrinde
Donna Smith	In memory of my husband Tom Smith In honor of my daughters and their families - the Bersoh and Lingappaiah families
Mary Smith	In memory of my husband Marion Smith In memory of my sister Shirley In honor of my family and Baby Connor's 2nd birthday
Laura Steinmetz	In memory of Robert Steinmetz and Jeffery Nes In honor of Yvonne Steinmetz, and Bud and Carol Fleury
Norman and Phyllis Swenson	In honor of our parents
Gordon Trombley	In memory of Gordon Trombley Sr. In memory of Evelyn Trombley
Shirley and Andre Yandl	In memory of our parents



# ELCA Prayer Ventures



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

*These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the church.*

*Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.*

1 We are a church together. We remember in our prayers the ELCA Rocky Mountain, Northeastern Minnesota, Arkansas-Oklahoma and Southwestern Texas Synod Assemblies, that the Spirit will guide their members and leaders in God's work and service in the world.

2 There are 100 Asian ELCA congregations and ministries and about 22,000 Asian and Pacific Islander members. We give thanks for their ministries and for the work of The ELCA Association of Asian and Pacific Islanders, especially during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

3 As Jesus is the vine and we are the branches, we pray that our lives bear abundant fruit that will glorify God and serve God's children.

4 We remember in prayer ELCA Global Mission Gatherings, as they further equip us for God's work in global and local realities.

5 We give thanks for the presence and ongoing work of Lutheran Disaster Response in communities recovering from tornadoes and other devastating natural disasters.

6 On National Nurses Day we thank God for nurses who provide physical, spiritual and emotional care for us, and for the work of the Evangelical Lutheran Parish Nurse Association.

7 *National Day of Prayer* We ask God to hear our cries and prayers this day, and to deepen our trust and faith in God in all situations.

8 We are a church together. We remember in our prayers the ELCA Southeastern Pennsylvania, Southwest California and Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assemblies, that the Spirit will guide their members and leaders in God's work and service in the world.

9 We remember in our prayers mothers who have nurtured the development and faith of children, and who yearn for support and guidance in their lives and parenting.

10 Living in God's boundless sacrificial love, we pray that we be stirred to embrace each other in love and friendship – differences, complexities and all.

11 We remember in prayer the more than 6 million Lutherans living in Indonesia, and the Lutheran churches with whom the ELCA relates and accompanies in ministry.

12 Racism is a difficult problem and conversation, but we ask God to help us be persistent in pursuing justice and reconciliation, respectful of all people and open to self-reflection.

13 We pray that the good news of Easter remains fresh in our hearts and on the tips of our tongues each and every day.

14 *Ascension Day* Today we pray with joy and thanks for the ascension of Christ, and that God's Spirit is among us and guiding us in continuing God's work in the world.

15 We are a church together. We remember in our prayers the ELCA Northwest Washington, Northern Great Lakes, Southwestern Washington and Minneapolis Area Synod Assemblies, that the Spirit will guide their members and leaders in God's work and service in the world.

16 We remember in our prayers the ELCA East-Central Synod of Wisconsin, Southeast Michigan, Northwestern Ohio, Northeastern Ohio and Northwestern Minnesota Synod members and leaders gathered in assemblies.

## ELCA Prayer Ventures

17 As Jesus was sent into the world, so we, too, have been sent into the world. We pray for wisdom and strength as servants called through our baptism to share the gospel.

18 We remember in our prayers the ELCA North/West Lower Michigan Synod Assembly, that the Spirit will guide their members and leaders in God's work and service in the world.

19 In the midst of divisions and confrontation in our country, we pray for civility and the growth of unity among government leaders and communities for the wellbeing of all people.

20 We pray for the work of Pastor Bradn Buerkle supporting the training of pastors and lay people throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia.

21 We pray that God's Spirit will help us translate our hopes for peace and healing in the world into new actions and covenants with one another.

22 Thousands of youth and adults are preparing for the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit. We pray that they find insight and direction in our common identity in the crucified and risen Christ.

23 *Vigil of Pentecost* We trust in God's attentiveness and compassion. Whether spoken or silent, alone or with others, we bring in prayer to God our joys, sorrows, questions and concerns.

24 *Pentecost* Across all nations and cultures, we ask God to give us language to proclaim the gospel and give witness to the abundant life given in Jesus Christ.

25 *Memorial Day* Today we remember and recognize the men and women who have served in the armed forces and have lost their lives in the pursuit of justice, peace and freedom for our country and all nations.

26 May we experience God's Word and presence through the work of artists, musicians, writers and performers. We give thanks to God for their creativity and expressions of faith.

27 For students preparing for finals and graduation, we pray that they may be confident and eager to share their knowledge and skills in service with others.

28 We are a church together. We remember in our prayers the ELCA Pacifica, Nebraska, Upstate New York, Delaware-Maryland, North Carolina and South Carolina Synod Assemblies, that the Spirit will guide their members and leaders in God's work and service in the world.

29 We remember in our prayers the ELCA Sierra Pacific, South Dakota, Metropolitan Chicago, Southeastern Iowa, Western Iowa, Greater Milwaukee and Metropolitan New York Synod members and leaders gathered in assemblies.

30 We remember in our prayers the ELCA Northeastern Pennsylvania, Northwest Synod of Wisconsin and South-Central Synod of Wisconsin Synod members and leaders gathered in assemblies.

31 *Trinity Sunday* Admitting that God is an infinite mystery for us, we pray for an enduring faith in God's love for us – promised, revealed and present in the world as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact [info@elca.org](mailto:info@elca.org) for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 West Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.*

# Synod News

Volume 32, Number 4

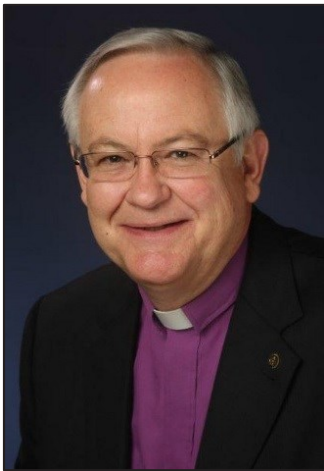
May 2015

**Always**  
being made  
**New.**

25 YEARS TOGETHER IN CHRIST

# The Spirit

## Not a Meeting Guy by the Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop



I am an ENFP on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator personality inventory. This is code language for "you will find such characters roaming the halls at Synod Convention and rarely present in the assembly itself."

Truth be known, the first Synod Assembly that I was present for

from start to finish was last year's.

You may remember the year I was elected all the nominees were cloistered so I can't even count 2013. In fact there is very little of the 2013 Assembly that I remember.

Needless to say, now that I serve in the Office of Bishop I am expected to not only attend the Synod Assembly but to be present in the Plenary Hall when the sessions are in order. This has caused me more than a little heartburn. It is right up there with being asked to go out on the dance floor knowing I have no sense of rhythm whatsoever.

Not only am I expected to be present, I am expected to "chair" the meeting which means I am supposed to have some understanding of Robert's Rules of Order. Bless Robert's heart but his rules have never been my thing. And bless former ELCA Secretary David Swartling's heart because he took me on last year as his "parliamentarian project." Little did he know how inept his student was!

The last guy to serve in this office is so in love with Robert's Rules that he now is the Secretary of the ELCA. He prides himself in being one of the first to purchase the latest edition and can hardly wait to read it from cover to cover. You can see the bar is set really high in this Synod.

So this year when we gather at the Lynnwood Convention Center under the theme "Can We Talk," I will do what I have done all my life: I will ask of God the Moses question, "Who am I that I should go?" I will take comfort in knowing that the Bible is full of reluctant leaders from Moses, to David, to Paul. Some might even argue Jesus. And, I will stand before the Assembly trusting that the Spirit will provide all that I need for that which the Spirit has called me to do.

And I will pray that those who gather will be as gracious as those who gathered last year and together we will experience the joy of what it means to be the church together. I trust we will worship well, laugh often, enter into deeply respectful conversation and conduct the work of this Synod - to dish up God's grace for a hungry world.

You will delight in journeying with our very own theologian and Biblical Guide Cynthia Moe-Lobeda who will offer us a Lutheran lens on what it means to value the other. Presenter Mark Lau Branson will help us see how the use of Appreciative Inquiry can set the table to engage our neighbors in the pressing conversations of our times. This year breakout sessions and an Open Space setting will provide you with the opportunity to learn critical listening skills while exploring challenging conversations into which we are called. See you at Assembly!

I will be the guy up front with the wooden hammer!

**Synod Assembly - May 15 & 16 - Lynnwood Convention Center**

**Online Registration Open through May 4**

Check out the details at:

[www.lutheransnw.org/2015-Synod-Assembly](http://www.lutheransnw.org/2015-Synod-Assembly)



# Synod News

## Meet Our Synod Assembly Presenters

### Cynthia Moe-Lobeda

Dr. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda has lectured or consulted in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and many parts of North America in theology; ethics; and matters of climate justice and environmental racism, globalization, moral agency, public church, and eco- feminist theology. She is author of *Healing a Broken*

*World: Globalization and God* (Fortress, 2002), *Public Church: For the Life of the World* (Fortress, 2004), *Resisting Structural Evil: Love as Ecological-Economic Vocation* (Fortress, 2013), and numerous articles

and chapters. She is co-author of *Saint Francis and the Foolishness of God* (Orbis, 1993) and *Say to this Mountain: Mark's Story of Discipleship* (Orbis, 1996). Dr. Moe-

Lobeda was appointed theological consultant to the Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and has served as a health worker/church worker in Honduras and as Director of the Washington, D.C. office of Augsburg College's Center for Global Education. She is on the faculty of Seattle University in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies, Environmental Studies Program, and graduate School of Theology and Ministry. Moe-Lobeda holds a doctoral degree in Christian Ethics from Union Theological Seminary, affiliated with Columbia University.

A resident of Seattle, she loves hiking in the Cascade Mountains and relishing the beauty of Western Washington.

### Mark Lau Branson

Rev. Mark Lau Branson, Ed.D., is the Homer L. Goddard Professor of the Ministry of the Laity at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, where he teaches courses in congregational leadership and community engagement.

Dr. Branson was ordained at San Francisco Christian Center, an African American Pentecostal church, and has served on the pastoral teams in United Methodist and Presbyterian churches, and has worked with several Christian agencies active in education, campus ministry, consulting, community development, and community organizing. He is a founder and vice-president of the Institute for Urban Initiatives, which works on homelessness, job training, and other faith-based initiatives.

He has graduate degrees from Claremont School of Theology and the University of San Francisco. His most recent books include *Starting Missional Churches: Life with God in the Neighborhood* (co-edited with Nicholas Warnes; InterVarsity, 2014) and *Churches, Cultures and Leadership: A Practical Theology of Congregations and Ethnicities* (coauthored with Juan Martinez; InterVarsity, 2011). Previous publications include *Memories*,

*Hopes, and Conversations: Appreciative Inquiry and Congregational Change* (Alban, 2004) and chapters in *The Missional Church in Context* (Craig Van Gelder, ed.), *Leadership in Congregations* (Richard Bass, ed.), and *The Three Tasks of Leadership* (Eric Jacobsen, ed.).

Mark and his wife, Nina, have two adult sons, Noah and Nathan, and are part of the leadership team for a new Free Methodist church in Altadena, California.

### Christina Jackson-Skelton

Christina Jackson-Skelton serves as the Executive Director of the Mission Advancement unit of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The Mission Advancement unit is responsible for coordinating communications, marketing, public relations, mission funding, major gifts, planned gifts, constituent data management and Always Being Made New: the Campaign for the ELCA.

Prior to this, Jackson-Skelton served as the President of the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA and Treasurer of the ELCA from 2002 – August 2011.

Prior to her election as ELCA Treasurer and MIF President, Jackson-Skelton was the Director for Finance in the Global Mission unit of the ELCA.

She currently serves on the Council of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and is a member of the LWF Council's Meeting of Officers. She is chair of the LWF Finance Committee and serves on the LWF Standing Committee for Communications. Jackson-Skelton is President of the Endowment Fund of the ELCA. Jackson-Skelton earned a Master's in Business Administration in 1988 from Thunderbird Graduate School of Global Management, Glendale, Arizona and Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Spanish in 1987 from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota. She has certification in Nonprofit Management from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

She and her husband Tim and children Benjamin, Anna and Ella are members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Libertyville, Illinois

***The Spirit***, a publication of the NW Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is intended for synod congregations & organizations.

#### Northwest Washington Synod, ELCA

5519 Phinney Ave North  
Seattle, WA 98103

Phone: 206-783-9292; Fax: 206-783-9833

Toll Free: 844-597-0452

Email: [office@lutheransnw.org](mailto:office@lutheransnw.org)

Website: [www.lutheransnw.org](http://www.lutheransnw.org)

Info for the June issue is due to the Synod Office by May 6

# May Worship

## Worship Leaders

	5/3	5/10	5/17	5/24	5/31
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Katy Sarff	Paul Olsen	Steve Olson	Gordon Trombley	Katy Sarff
<b>Lector</b>	Gordon Trombley	Karen Olsen	Confirmation Students/Parents	Stephanie Bloom	Tom Baker
<b>Acolyte and Book Bearer</b>	Payton Johnson	Jackson Ter Hark	Donna Smith	Kyle Gough	Gavin Gough
<b>Communion &amp; Altar Care</b>	Shirley Yandl, Marlys Carlson and Elaine Hardin				
<b>Greeters and Ushers</b>	Lynne Greenup Lollie Ellingson	Gordon Trombley Bruce Hutson	Phyllis Swenson Diane Chapman	Laurie Meade Bill Meade	Heidi Gough Kyle Gough
<b>Song Leader</b>	Julie Moe	Heidi Gough	Paul Olsen	Kris Johansson	Paul Olsen
<b>Crucifer</b>	Katy Sarff	Paul Olsen	Steve Olson	Gordon Trombley	n/a
<b>Children's Time</b>	Pastor Julie	Heidi Gough	Pastor Julie	Heidi Gough	Pastor Julie
<b>Welcome Center</b>	Mary Smith	Vicki Cook	Lollie Ellingson	Karen Olsen	Paul Olsen
<b>Torch Bearers</b>	Zac Johnson Taliyah McElroy	Jed Ter Hark Jackson Ter Hark	Donna Smith Joshua Lingappaiah	Kyle Gough Gavin Gough	n/a
<b>Musician</b>	Lennon Aldort				

## Happy May Birthdays!

1 Kaitlyn Ebeling	10 Steven Elliott	19 Colleen Lingappaiah	25 William Fisher
4 Katy Sarff	Donna Smith	Diane MacKechnie	27 Dave Cederberg
6 Cindy Foster	11 Kelsey Stever	21 Marilyn Eden	28 Carla Burgason
9 Laurie Meade	13 Jeff Elliott	24 Mary Hinderliter	Bill Kuklenski
		Payton Johnson	30 Jonathan Martinez

## Congrats to our May Anniversaries!

3 Vicki & Larry Cook	9 Laurie & Bill Meade
8 Karlyne & Mike Noriega	23 Pam & Jonathan Stever

# May Worship

## Scripture Readings

### May 3 | Easter 5

Acts 8:26–40

Psalm 22:25–31

1 John 4:7–21

John 15:1–8

### May 10 | Easter 6

Acts 10:44–48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1–6

John 15:9–17

### May 17 | Easter 7

Acts 1:15–17, 21–26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9–13

John 17:6–19

### May 24 | Pentecost

Acts 2:1–21

Psalm 104:24–34, 35b

Romans 8:22–27

John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15

### May 31 | Holy Trinity

Isaiah 6:1–8

Psalm 29

Romans 8:12–17

John 3:1–17



## Thank You!

Thank you to our Choir for the incredible Good Friday cantata and for our Easter Sunday anthem, complete with trumpet and organ! And thanks to Paul Olsen for his patient and stellar direction. Thanks to our guests who sang with us as well.

Thank you to Marlys Carlson, Shirley Yandl, and Sharon Howell for the placement of the lilies that graced our sanctuary for Easter.

Thank you to Lennon Aldort, our wonderful musician, whose postludes inspire us to new levels of appreciation and applause every Sunday!

Thank you to the Kitchen Crew for Easter pancake breakfast – to Joe, Bill, Bob, Steve, Dave, Jackson, Kyle, Taliyah, Payton, Zachary, and Kelsie. And thanks to everyone who came and offered support to Camp Lutherwood.

Thanks to the Reception crew for the lovely tribute to Robbie and to Katy Sarff for her gift of music as cantor for his service.

# May 2015

See our live calendar online for any changes or updates: [www.luthermemorialseattle.com/calendar](http://www.luthermemorialseattle.com/calendar)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> 9 First Sunday Faith Forum, Sunday School and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast 10 Worship 11:30 Spring Forum: Sesame Street! <b>3 Emmanuel Charisma Church</b>	<b>4</b> <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i> <b>2 Foss Event</b> <b>6 Girl Scouts</b> <b>6 Music Monday!</b> <b>LMLC Office Closed</b>	<b>5</b> 9-4 ESL Classes <b>7 Early Ford V8 Club</b>	<b>6</b> 9:30 Seekers <b>7 Nar-Anon</b>	<b>7</b> 9-4 ESL Classes <b>7 Broadview Garden Club</b>	<b>8</b> <b>1</b>	<b>9</b> 7:30 FARA <b>2</b> 7:30 FARA <b>4 ECC Event</b>
<b>10</b> <b>Mothers' Day</b> 9 Sunday School and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast 9:25 Choir Rehearsal 10 Worship 11:30 Fellowship <b>3 Emmanuel Charisma Church</b>	<b>11</b> <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i> <b>1:30 Book Brigade</b>	<b>12</b> 9-4 ESL Classes <b>6 LMLC Council</b> <b>6 Cub Scouts</b>	<b>13</b> 9 Retired Firefighters 9:30 Seekers <b>7 Nar-Anon</b>	<b>14</b> 9-4 ESL Classes <b>7 Broadview Garden Club</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 7:30 FARA
<b>17</b> 9 Sunday School and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast 9:25 Choir Rehearsal 10 Worship with Rite of Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) 11:30 Fellowship <b>3 Emmanuel Charisma Church</b>	<b>18</b> <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i> <b>6 Girl Scouts</b>	<b>19</b> 9-4 ESL Classes <b>6 Cub Scouts</b> <b>6:30 Broadview Community Council</b>	<b>20</b> 9:30 Seekers <b>7 Nar-Anon</b>	<b>21</b> 9-4 ESL Classes	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 7:30 FARA
<b>24</b> 9 Sunday School and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast 9:25 Choir Rehearsal 10 Worship 11:30 Fellowship <b>3 Emmanuel Charisma Church</b>	<b>25</b> <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i> <b>Memorial Day Office Closed</b>	<b>26</b> 9-4 ESL Classes <b>6 Cub Scouts</b> <b>7 Spiritual Growth</b>	<b>27</b> 9:30 Seekers <b>7 Nar-Anon</b>	<b>28</b> 9-4 ESL Classes <b>6 Seattle Public Utilities Meeting</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 7:30 FARA <b>7 Confirmation Class</b> <b>Dinner with Bethany Lutheran and Maple Leaf Lutheran</b>



LUTHER MEMORIAL  
lutheran church

Actively Sharing Christ's Love in Community

Missing a Sunday this month?  
We now have Online Giving on our website:  
[www.luthermemorialseattle.com/onlinegiving](http://www.luthermemorialseattle.com/onlinegiving)

**31**  
 9 Sunday School and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast  
 9:25 Choir Rehearsal  
 10 Worship  
 11:30 Fellowship  
**3 Emmanuel Charisma Church**