



The Illuminate

A publication of Family of Christ Lutheran Church

Family of Christ Vision Statement

Family of Christ is a family of God where all are welcome as we worship and grow in spirit and in life by...



- ~ **Connecting the scriptures** with our Christian faith and life experiences
- ~ **Serving** and caring for our neighbors and communities
- ~ **Building** relationships between people of all ages **and walks of life**
- ~ **Transforming** our world by teaching love, grace, peace, and kindness
- ~ **Moving purposefully** into God's future

and we ask God to help and guide us.

Pastor's Reflection

Have you ever given much thought to how the Holy Spirit works? I know that may sound like an odd question, but really, have you ever given it much thought? On May 24th, we celebrated Pentecost. Pentecost is **the event** that marked the conclusion of Jesus' earthly ministry and the beginning of the ministry of the Holy Spirit, and through the Spirit the ministry of the Christian Church. On that day, 2000 plus years ago the scriptures tell us, the Spirit moved so powerfully that wind filled the house and language barriers fell to the ground and the people were so filled with the energy of God that they nearly glowed—tongues of flame the texts say. The Spirit blew so hard that it propelled that small group of believers to shout the Good News. The Spirit blew so hot that old prejudices that kept people apart melted away to form whole new communities of promise. People who once had nothing in common now shared in life and mission. The momentum of that Spirit filled day has carried us through the centuries. It could be argued that Pentecost is still going on and the Spirit born and driven Christian Church redirected the course of history!

A recent Pew Research poll entitled, “America’s Changing Religious Landscape” seems to suggest that the Christian momentum is slowing down and has much less influence in the world today. In fact, the poll points out that a growing number of Americans do not affiliate with any religious faith or institution. To read the report in total go to www.pewforum.org. According to Pew, gone are the days when we can assume a child born into a family of faith will live among them throughout life. I remember as a child, everyone I knew went to church. Not anymore.

The trends mentioned by Pew are disturbing, if we focus on the lost ground, for sure. One the other hand, they can be a call to renewed mission! The first presiding bishop of the ELCA, Rev. Herbert W. Chilstrom was known to say, “It’s a great time to be the Church!” He said this as the ELCA was navigating some pretty tumultuous waters. Why did he say it? He looked ahead and could see the *Changing American Religious Landscape* and he looked back to that first Pentecost when the Spirit blew the doors open with the Good News of Jesus Christ and the unrelenting love of God that could and would change the world.

People of God, it’s a good time to be the Church here in Felida. *Our calling is to reach out and invite all into the family of Christ, equipping us to worship, follow and serve Jesus.* Together we live the love of God into the fabric of our community and world. Do you believe the Holy Spirit is still blowing hot? I do. Our world may be changing, but God’s love for it never does. It’s a great time to be the Church!

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Kit



WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS "FAMILY NIGHT @ FAMILY OF CHRIST"

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT MADE OUR FAMILY NIGHT @ FAMILY SUCH A HUGE SUCCESS! A special thank you to Sandi Beems for coordinating cooking and handling all the details! Thanks to all our amazing volunteers that pitched in too! Kudos go out to Jamie Leatherwood and Tiffany Alexander for making *Little Christians*, our children's ministry, such a huge success. *Route 56*, our ministry with 5th and 6th grade youth just wrapped up its second year! Thanks to Susan Dollinger and her team of volunteers for making *Route 56* so much fun! Let's not forget our small group leaders, Edie Dietzen and Linda Marousek in Adult Bible Study and Pam Ausman in Confirmation class, for feeding our spirits! **Wednesday Family Night @ Family will resume on September 9thth!**



Thank You!

A Symphony of Thanks to Don Nelson for his many years of leading our Chancel Choir, and to Sue Lincoln for her work with the choir and our bell ringers! To all our singers and ringers—you all rock! What a gift it is to have so many talented folks filling our worship with music. Thank you for all you do!



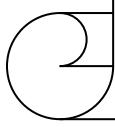
Congratulations to our Confirmation Class of 2015

There's little more rewarding than getting to celebrate the growing faith of our youth! Four of our 8th grade youth have worked hard and on Sunday May 31st claimed the Christian faith and life as their own. They shared faith statements in their own words and took their place as full members of the Church in an Affirmation of Baptism Service. Their journey continues as they enter high school in the fall. Let's keep them in prayer and continue to encourage and cheer them on as they live into their baptismal calling!

Congratulations!

Julia Born, Triston Brock, Breanna Eisenbarth and

Thomas Karcher



**Annual Meeting
Council Elections**

June 14th

**Between Services at
9:45 in Family Room**



❖ June Birthdays ❖

- 6/1 Spencer Alexander
- 6/2 Adam Adolf
- 6/3 Breanna Balzarini
- 6/5 MayMay Adolf
- 6/5 Parker Balzarini
- 6/5 Emma Hoffman
- 6/6 Cliff Scogin
- 6/7 Kathleen Neeley
- 6/9 Sharon Hoffman
- 6/13 Laura Harris
- 6/13 Jeff Herzog
- 6/15 Tim Nelson
- 6/17 Brian Harris
- 6/19 Peg Steinmeyer
- 6/19 Bill Wagner
- 6/22 Dan Bergau
- 6/23 Barbara Martin
- 6/24 Patty Frimberger
- 6/25 Kristy Cameron
- 6/26 Ethan Ness
- 6/28 Sandra Farrell
- 6/30 Sandie Beems
- 6/30 Beth Benjamin
- 6/30 Cliff Jones

♥ ♥ June Anniversaries ♥ ♥

- 6/6 Clifford & Bonnie Scogin
- 6/10 George & Carol Hoffman
- 6/12 Dan & Marilyn Howe
- 6/18 Craig & Jodi Church
- 6/20 Brian & Laura Harris
- 6/25 Pam Ausman & Ken Rausch
- 6/26 Cliff & Betty Benjamin
- 6/28 Ty & Jamie Leatherwood
- 6/29 Jeff & Rebecca Wuethrich
- 6/30 Cliff & Debra Jones



Come & join us on **June 7th** from **10:00-10:45 a.m.** as we celebrate our Sunday School students & teachers! We'll have a friendly game of Bible Jeopardy between the adults and children along with an ice cream social! All of this in the Family Room! You won't want to miss out!

June Senior Lunch Bunch

3rd Thursday, June 18th, 11:30 am

Watch the weekly bulletin for the location announcement. Once decided, there will be a sign-up in the family room.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

This month we will collect donations of **Tuna**.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors is housed in Ridgefield and it really does help your neighbors. Place your donation in the basket by the sanctuary door.

Prayer Ministry

How can we pray for you? Our prayer chain upholds those in need of special prayers. Include your prayer request on your record of worship card or email it to:

prayer@foclutheranchurch.org

Quilters On Summer Break

Quilters will take the summer months off and resume again in September.



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for your prayers of healing, love, and comfort while Chris dealt with his broken arm and surgery. He is mending quickly and doing very well! Your prayers have helped carry us through the difficult days and we are so grateful and blessed! Thank You!!

~Cheri & Chris Herzog

Summer Schedule Begins
June 21st through Sept. 6th
Worship 9:30 a.m.

Save the Date!
All Church Picnic
Wednesday, August 19th
6:00-8:00 PM
Felida Park.



Newsletter Submissions During Summer

June 15th is the submission deadline for our combined July/August summer newsletter.

We will publish our September newsletter a week early! **August 10th** (no late submissions accepted) is the deadline for our September newsletter.

Million Meals

Million Meals Program is a monthly special offering. 100% of your donations go out each month to the Clark County Food Bank to be given as grants to local agencies that purchase food for distribution to those in need for just *8 cents per pound*. So, our loose change makes a huge difference! We have provided 1,647,686* meals since starting this program! Thank you for your gift of generosity and giving. (*at the time of this printing.)

Our next In-Gathering is June 14th



DAILY DEVOTIONS

www.luthersem.edu/godpause



Route 56

We had a wonderful year of fun, faith and service. Thank you Family of Christ for all of your donations of new and gently used school supplies. The 5th and 6th graders tested all the markers, and sorted all the supplies. The boxes will be given to Chinook, Sacajawea, and Hazel Dell Elementary Schools. These schools truly appreciate all school supplies. They will distribute the supplies to the teachers to use in their classrooms.

Thank you to Teare Caton for the times you provided coverage for Route 56 this year.

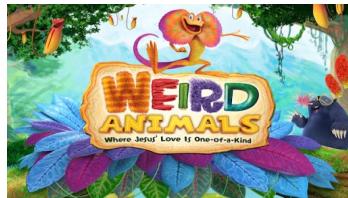


Moving on up into confirmation: Riley Caton and Reagan Karcher.

Vacation Bible School Is Coming

Registration for Weird Animals has opened! Get a registration form online or at church from Traci or Susan D.

VBS runs the last week in July from July 27th-July 31st and a special Sunday Funday on August 2nd.



VBS Volunteers needed:

It takes many hands to have a successful VBS. We are still looking for adult and high school volunteers. Please let Susan D. know if you can volunteer for any of the following positions:

- 2 Adult Crew members for 2nd grade: A crew member leads the kids throughout the VBS day. Sits with the children at each station, engages them in conversation, and has fun.
- 1 Crew member for Preschool: Same as above.
- 2 Craft leader: A person who teaches the daily crafts to the children.
- 1 Story teller: A person who leads the Bible stories. This is more than just reading from the Bible it's engaging the children imaginatively and creatively.
- 2 floaters: People who can help make sure that needs are met for all the volunteers during VBS.

There are also helper spots for children entering 5th grade and up.

NEXT VBS MEETING: June 25 at 7:00 PM for all volunteers.

The Lutheran Choral Association invites all choral singers (especially tenors) to be part of its 78th season. The 100+ voice choir rehearses during the summer and has 5 concerts in the metropolitan area in the fall (beginning August 30 this year). There is no audition, but choral experience is most helpful. The choir has a Lutheran tradition, but is open to all who love to sing God's praises.

Rehearsals are Monday evenings at 7 pm beginning June 1 at Peace Lutheran Church, 2201 N Rosa Parks Way (I-5 exit 304), Portland. Please arrive early (about 6:30) for the first rehearsal for registration and music. More information is available at lutheranchoral.org or by calling Ken Dale at 503-515-8935.

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Lutherans)



New meeting date change for OWLS! We are moving to the 2nd Monday of every month at 12:00 noon. Bring a sack lunch, and ideas.

We are taking June off.

Next OWLS: Monday, JULY 13th.

OWLS wishes to thank Charlotte Doyle, Edie Dietzen, Elaine and Norris Felt, Lynne Dalleck, Sandie Beems, Sandra Farrell, Sharon Ferdig, & Susie Koeser for a wonderful year of OWLS.

The Family Connection

by Sally Aalbue

Donna Lucky and Norris and Elaine Felt share something wonderful. Joe and I were so blessed to learn about this in the last months. Do I have your interest peaked?

Norris and Elaine's niece-in-law, Elizabeth Felt was just called to be a co-pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland, Washington. We met this lovely lady and her husband Rich Felt at her mother's home last weekend and then heard her preach the next day. Norris and Elaine would have been so pleased.

A few weeks before we attended Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church where their new pastor, Jonette Lucky Blakney, Donna's niece preached. Again, she is terrific and Donna would have been so proud.

OK, so there's more. On our previous visit to Whidbey Island, we went into the coffee shop where my brother had coffee every morning and ran into another regular, David Locke, Teresa's Marble's Dad, and minister of Music at the Episcopal Church in Freeland. Can you believe the Family connections out there??



Building Relationships...Transforming Our World

♥ Teacher Appreciation ♥

The Lutheran Church has been a teaching and learning church, and here at Family of Christ, we are grateful for our Sunday school teachers and Adult Bible class leaders.

As we wind down the 2014-15 Christian Education season, we give thanks to those who have faithfully come in each Sunday morning with a lesson prepared, teaching and raising our students up in the faith. We give thanks to the adult leaders who opened their homes to a bible study, and to those who led bible studies during the week at Family of Christ.

This is the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives. They were called and gifted to teach and reach out to others.



Sunday School

Preschool-2nd Grades: Jim & Karen Rossiter
3rd-4th grades: Teare Caton & Mathew Hastings
5th & 6th grades: Ian Caton

Confirmation: Pam Ausman, Pastor Kit

THANK YOU TO OUR High School: Tim Nelson
**SUNDAY SCHOOL
TEACHERS**

Teaching Adult Bible Studies were: Pastor Kit, Jerre & Sharon Crisp, Donna Lucky, Edie Dietzen, & Linda Marousek.

Each and every one of them is to be commended, for they truly are gifted to teach and are willing to reach out and share the faith. Thank you!



Our 2014-15 Sunday School year comes to an end on June 7th. We hope you'll join us from 10:00-10:45 as we play our annual Bible Jeopardy competing with the adults during the Christian Education Hour! An ice cream social will also take place along with a Teacher Appreciation moment!

For our mission project this past year, the children's Sunday school offerings went to Heifer International. Throughout the year, the kids have learned what this non-profit organization is all about and they've contributed over \$200!! They will present a check to be sent to Heifer International on June 7th during our year-end Celebration Day.

If you get the opportunity, please look at our Sunday school bulletin board and hallway areas where you'll see pictures,

Thank you to our Outgoing Officers and Council Members

President, Lana Hobson
Secretary, Kristy Cameron
Treasurer, Becky Lowery
Greg Shaw, Financial Secretary
Outreach, Andrew Ness

Congratulations 2015 Graduates

Abi Corlett, from Columbia River High School

Alex Ferdig from Evergreen High School

Alex plans to continue his studies at Clark College in Diesel Mechanics Training.

Ben Ferdig, General Studies, Clark College

Maggie Ferdig, Medical Assistant, Charter College

Maggie graduated in March and is now working in a medical office.

Malena Goerl, Pacific Lutheran University,

Area of study: English major, publishing and Greek minors

Zack Johnson, Skyview High school

Zach plans to attend college.

Zoe Liston, Columbia River High School

Zoe will go on to attend Clark College.



read stories, and learn about how this organization helps millions of families all over the world move toward greater self-reliance through the gift of livestock and training, and passing on the gift of their animal's offspring.

The ELCA is one of many denominations that Heifer International works with, and we are proud of the contributions our Sunday School students have given!



As we close this season and begin a period of rest, we look forward to next season with some new and exciting adventures! On behalf of our awesome Sunday school teaching staff, we wish you and your families a safe and enjoyable summer!

~Cheri Herzog,

Sunday School Coordinator



2015 Vacation Bible School



Weird Animals-Where Jesus Love is One of a Kind

9:00 am to 12 noon

July 27th-31st

Here at Family of Christ
Lutheran Church



For Children Ages 4 to entering 4th Grade

Registration Deadline: July 20th Register early as space is limited.

Cost \$20 per child (Limited scholarships available) Please write checks to "Family of Christ".

Find registration forms on our website or at the church.

CHILDREN'S PARADE!



Annual Felida Children's Parade

July 4, 2015

10:45 Line up in Felida Park

11:15-11:45 am Parade

Followed by lunch, games, exhibits, community band, fun for the whole Family!

We will again be giving away water bottles at the Felida 4th of July Parade. Last year we had 500 & could have given more! Please start buying cases of water to donate to the cause, but please keep them at your home for now; they will be labeled at church with invitations to our neighbors the week prior to the parade.

Volunteers will be welcome to hand out bottles at the parade. Watch for times to be posted closer to the date. This is a real community gift!

Questions? Contact Kim Koon @ (360) 721- 8500.

Why Consider Simply Giving?

Simply Giving makes *first fruits giving* easy! By automatically transferring the amount you specify from your account to Family your planned giving stays current whether you are in worship on Sunday or on the road. Consider the benefits! Budgeting is made easy with Simply Giving, for your family and Family of Christ! Your giving remains confidential.

It's Easy to Get Started with Simply Giving--Simply:

- Designate the amounts: General Fund, Mortgage Fund, Million Meals, Furnace, Mission Partner, Building Fund.
- Choose the frequency of your gift: monthly, semi-monthly, weekly.
- Decide which account you want to use.
- Enroll online & change at any time

Remember, you can change the amount or stop at anytime. *There is no fee for you to enroll.*

Ready to get started? Log onto our website and click the blue button "Online Giving" to create a profile and set your amount (s). Questions? Speak with Greg Shaw or contact him at

FinSecretary@foclutheranchurch.org.

When signing up online for Simply Giving through Vanco, please make sure you put **your church envelope number as your member ID**. This helps us match your funds given through online Vanco to our church contribution tracking software.

Note About Sunday Offerings

To ensure that you are credited the correct donation amounts, **please write your name and amount you are donating on the outside of the offering envelope**. This saves a lot of time and helps the counters process your giving more efficiently.

Kids In Church

**A little boy was overheard praying:
'Lord, if you can't make me a better
boy, don't worry about it.
I'm having a real good time like I am.'**



~Transforming our world...

Ring of Joy Handbell Choir Intergenerational Ringers

C. Sue Lincoln, Ring Leader

Growing our young ones in faith and life is the most important thing we can do. Great relationships with adults that care, fun, and music all work together and everyone is blessed. In our Ring of Joy Handbell Choir we are doubly blessed.

A big thank you to adults Evelyn Kinder, Debbie Broers, Jeff Wuethrich, Gail Sieckman who gave wonderful support to our young bell ringers, Valerie & Jayden Patterson, Emma Hoffman, Josh & Tanner Wuethrich. The youth did an excellent job and advanced a good distance this year. The adults were right there to help them ring and count! Thank you to our young ringers for bringing so much joy to worship at Family of Christ.

Exultation Handbell Ensemble

Bell music is like no other in the way it lifts our spirits. A big thank you to Debbie Broers, Sandie Beems, Jeanne Downing, Gail Sieckman, Lorraine Gonzales, Evelyn Kinder, and Joyce Pedersen. This group has been together for the past five years and I am expecting great things from them next fall.

A big thank you to Harold Broers who is our "make whatever we need for the bell choir" man. He is one of God's carpenters and we have put his talents to use several times. He is an unofficial bell choir member.



**Celebrating ALL Fathers
Sunday June 21, 2-4 pm
Silent Auction, raffle, bake
sale, benefiting Living
Stones Ministry Reentry
Programs. Jazz piano with
David Deacon-Joyner.**

Living Stones ministry is an ELCA congregation in the Washington Correction Center, Shelton, WA. Pastor Norm Arnold ministers among men behind bars bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to their hungry hearts and lives are changed. Worship, Bible Studies, Art Programs, music ministry and Quilting help incarcerated men build healthy community, hope and purpose, so that one day they can re-enter society, whole. You can support Living Stones in prayer or financial support. Learn how they serve those who are incarcerated and the importance of reentry and how you can help. Join supporters by attending the All Fathers Silent Auction on June 21st at:

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
1601 North Street SE, Olympia WA 98501
253-740-9007 www.livingstonesprisoncongregation.com

Rummage Sale a Big Success

Judy Enders, Social Justice Concerns liaison

Our May day sale was a big success with many people attending and buying lots of great items donated by Family of Christ members. The new table configuration didn't seem to bother anyone and we actually got some compliments about how nice everything looked.

We want to thank everyone for their items donated, all the people who worked all week pricing, cleaning, and setting out items. We want to thank the cashiers and those who worked the sale, and especially the folks who stayed after to help box up items, clean up the Family Room for coffee the next day, and drive loads away to recycle at a local charity somewhere. We never really need a sign-up sheet of people who will help because you all just show up to clean up. You are really great friends.

The proceeds are still coming in from the beautiful wooden bowls Don Martin and his son made so the total should be available next newsletter, but we are around \$2500 and have a donation coming from Thrivent sometime soon. All the proceeds will go to local and global charities. Thank you again for your generosity.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to all those who share their time and talents to help make our shared ministry strong! You know who you are...you're the ones that spend the early mornings, evenings & nights staffing The WHO, weeding the grounds, feeding the hungry in our community. You make sure there is hot coffee and treats on Sunday morning, you fix things that are broken, clean and dust, or supply things that are needed. You greet our visitors with a warm handshake and make the altar ready for worship. You mail the card to the ones that need cheering. You bake cookies for college kids. You are the ones that keep the sanctuary beautiful. You're the folks that teach & love our children or share your wisdom with folks of all ages. You give out water on the 4th of July. You visit the homebound, hospitalized, and lonely. You work the May Day sale to raise money so we can give it away. You volunteer in the community. You sing, ring, read, pray, and cant to make worship inspiring! You drive kids here and there. You help in the office or lead on the council. You greet folks with a smile....

YOU ARE THE HANDS, FEET AND FACE OF JESUS!

A special thank you goes to Dee Berberick for the reminder calls she has made faithfully every week over the years.