



Trendings

July 22, 2026

Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve All People

Prayer of the Week:

Creator God,
who set the stars in their places and directs the course of the planets;
who robed this earth with a thin garment of air,
making it a haven of beauty and life;
who breathed into each of us the breath of life:

We thank you for the gift of air.

Create in us such a sense of wonder and delight in this
and in all your gifts that we receive them with gratitude,
care for them with love, and generously share them
with all your creatures, to the honor and glory of your holy name.

Amen.

Source: All Creations Sings

July is Name Tag Month: Make our visiting pastors feel welcome by donning a name tag before worship service each Sunday in July. We want our visiting pastors to know who we are. Name tags and pens will be in the usual spot – the counter between the Narthex walkway and the donation bins.

Upcoming Greeters and Coffee Hosts:

July 26: Joe Baro and Amy Baro, Greeters; Linda Willenberg and Sherry Grindeland, Coffee Hosts
August 2: 5:00 PM WORSHIP!

Contact Sherry (sherry@salc.church) to be a Sunday greeter or to Host coffee hour. She's lining up August greeters/coffee hosts NOW!

Sign up to provide flowers on the Flower Chart in the Narthex.

Worship is at 10:00 am on Sundays, both in-person and via livestream.

Livestream: Visit salc.church/media to access the bulletin and livestream link on YouTube. If you have a Google account, we invite you to offer a greeting or comment in the chat window.

Sunday, July 26

10:00 AM Worship (Pastor Chris Ode)

11:00 AM Coffee and Conversation

Worship Texts for July 26

Isaiah 44:6-8 and Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Tuesday Morning Men: Every Tuesday at 8:30 AM, this group meets for discussion and prayer via ZOOM.



A large, stylized white sun with a semi-circular arc and several radiating lines is positioned in the upper left quadrant of the poster.

August 2nd evening worship

Sunday, August 2nd we
will WORSHIP at 5:00 PM!

There is NO 10:00 a.m. service!

Our 5:00 PM order of worship will include hymns,
liturgy, sermon, and Holy Communion.

All are welcome!



Health and Wholeness:

The Bloodmobile will be in our parking lot **TOMORROW!!** (it's got A/C, it's cozy and it gets the job done! AND, you get snacks when you're done) **Our goal is to have 20+ participants!! Great news!! We have 16 slots filled – 4 appointments available in the afternoon!!!**

How can YOU help? Sign up! [You can schedule HERE](#) or with the QR code. Share the QR Code/link with friends and family! Share our social media posts with this information. Every donation makes a difference.

Walk-in's are OK, as well! If you find an hour in your schedule tomorrow – come on over!



Community Worship in The Park

Remember: We will NOT have worship on site (in person or livestream), but we will be worshipping with other Eastside Lutheran Church Community congregations at Ebright Creek Park at 10 a.m. on August 16. Bring your chair!!

This fun event includes an outdoor worship service (with communion and Pastor Lara preaching), songs, fellowship and a fun potluck lunch. **St. Andrew's members are asked to bring salads, vegetables and fruit.** We need **two people** to help with the potluck – receiving dishes and setting up the food.

To volunteer, call or email Sherry Grindeland, Fellowship Coordinator at 425-746-2529 or sherry@sakc.church.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Mercer Island WILL have in-person worship at 9:00 AM on August 16. (8501 SE 40th Street, Mercer Island).

Corner of Blessing Collection for July

Hopelink has asked us to collect **cereal** for July. With kids out of school, their customers are looking for this and cereal is not often donated. When they purchase cereal, they don't get much variety. They really appreciate it when we collect cereal.

So, for July we will be collecting:

- Boxes of Cold cereal*
- Oatmeal regular (~18 ounce)
 - or instant (6 – 10 count)



*(Note: Costco packaging with two boxes taped/glued together that can be separated into two boxes are OK, but NOT the single box with two bags inside. They can't be separated in their market.)



Read Anything Good This Summer?

You may remember at the June semi-annual meeting that I made a suggestion for your summer reading list. Namely, the (soon-to-be-best-seller, I'm sure) *ELCA's Social Statement on Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All*. Your council and the JEDI group will be hosting forums each month, September-December, discovering a range of topics covered in the social statement—from being an informed voter to living in community and solidarity with our marginalized neighbors to the rise of Christian Nationalism—all from a Christian perspective, and we'd love it if you came to class ready to contribute to some fascinating and timely conversations. Hard copies of the statement can be found in the church office or you can download it at www.elca.org/socialstatements.

(Another good recommendation, after you've finished the social statement, is Ann Patchett's new novel *Whistler*. It's excellent.)

Outreach and Servant Ministries

Ministry of the Month for July

OBA (*Opportunity Builds Africa*) has been a ministry partner of Saint Andrew's for many years. It is the organization behind the MaaSAE Girls Lutheran Secondary School (MGLSS) that we support in a number of ways.



For more than 60 years, OBA has worked alongside African communities to expand access to education, create pathways to opportunity and support initiatives that help individuals and families build stronger futures. As of June 1st, OBA has changed their name from Operation Bootstrap Africa to Opportunity Builds Africa.

While their name has changed, the heart of their work has not. In many ways this new name better reflects who they have become over the years. They are deeply committed to expanding access to education and opportunity, especially for women, children and marginalized communities.

They continue investing in education, healthcare and leadership opportunities that create lasting impact for generations to come. Their mission is rooted in the belief that every person deserves the opportunity to build a better future for themselves, their family and their community.



You may recognize their old name and logo that they have had for more than 60 years. At the time that Lutheran missionary Rev. David Simonson founded OBA to finance the building of schools and clinics in northern Tanzania, the name made sense.

With the name change comes a change in their website: www.opportunitybuildsafrica.org and email addresses: xxxx@opportunitybuildsafrica.org.

Today, Opportunity Builds Africa works across Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, and Madagascar alongside schools, healthcare institutions, and community-based partners to invest in education, leadership development, healthcare access, and opportunity for people with disabilities and underserved communities.



The name, Opportunity Builds Africa, reflects an organization rooted in faith-inspired compassion, grounded in collaboration, and committed to building lasting change alongside local leaders. They believe sustainable transformation happens from the inside out – when communities have the resources, relationships, and opportunities to shape their own future. It is about what becomes possible when opportunity is placed in the hands of those closest to the challenge – and the solution.

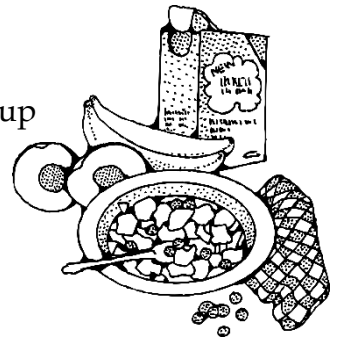
Volunteers needed for Porchlight Rotating Shelter in August.

We will be hosting Porchlight Rotating Men's Shelter from Friday, July 31, to Tuesday, Sept. 1 at Saint Andrew's. We will have between 20 and 25 men here from 6:00 pm to 7:30 am using the Fellowship Hall, kitchen, restrooms, and parking lot. They are unhoused, but they are also clean and sober, have background checks, and have agreed to rules and a code of conduct.

The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints will be providing lunches and dinners from July 31 to August 24. Saint Andrew's will provide breakfast food, paper plates, paper towels, etc. We might have some help from other churches for meals for the last week in August.

We need HOSTS! Come and meet the men and be a host from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Welcome the meal providers and help them find service utensils and supplies. Many of the men have jobs and some will be coming in later, but they do appreciate being greeted and knowing they are welcome. Homeless men and women feel ignored by the general public or even looked down on. Let them know we are different! Contact Cheryl Jurrus to pick some dates (cheryljurrus74@gmail.com).

We need SHOPPERS! Sign up to bring in breakfast items like milk, juice, bagels, cereal, fruit, and maybe some strawberry jam? Shoppers can sign up to deliver the items on a Monday or Thursday, and leave them in the kitchen when the church is open. You will get a text message or phone call (which one do you want?) the evening prior so that you will know what is needed. You can get reimbursed if you submit your receipts. Contact Nancy Davis to pick some dates (davisnancyr@comcast.net).



How should we organize the kitchen and the supplies? Come and help on **Friday, July 31 from 9 to 11 am.** They will be bringing supplies with them from Saint Thomas Episcopal Church in Medina and we will be putting them away and organizing. Bring in some containers for leftovers they can take with them for lunch. Contact Cheryl Jurrus to volunteer. The more the merrier!

We have been presented with this opportunity to serve and share God's love. What's not to like about that?

Cheryl Jurrus



Christmas in July

Final Week!! Through July 26th you can grab a tag and make some summer wishes come true for children here and abroad! KidVantage supplies families with toys and games year round for birthdays and celebrations! Our friends at Lantern Hill are constructing a new building plus we can provide student support. So, get those elf hats on!!

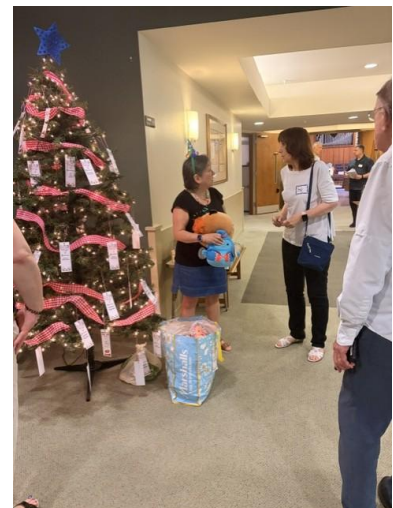
Kid Vantage

- Duplo or mega blocks
- Board books
- Children's books (early readers or chapter books)
- Baby dolls for toddlers
- Board games that don't require batteries
- Princess dolls/18" dolls, with clothes if possible
- Beanie Babies
- Action Figures
- Squashmallows
- AAA and AA batteries



Lantern Hill

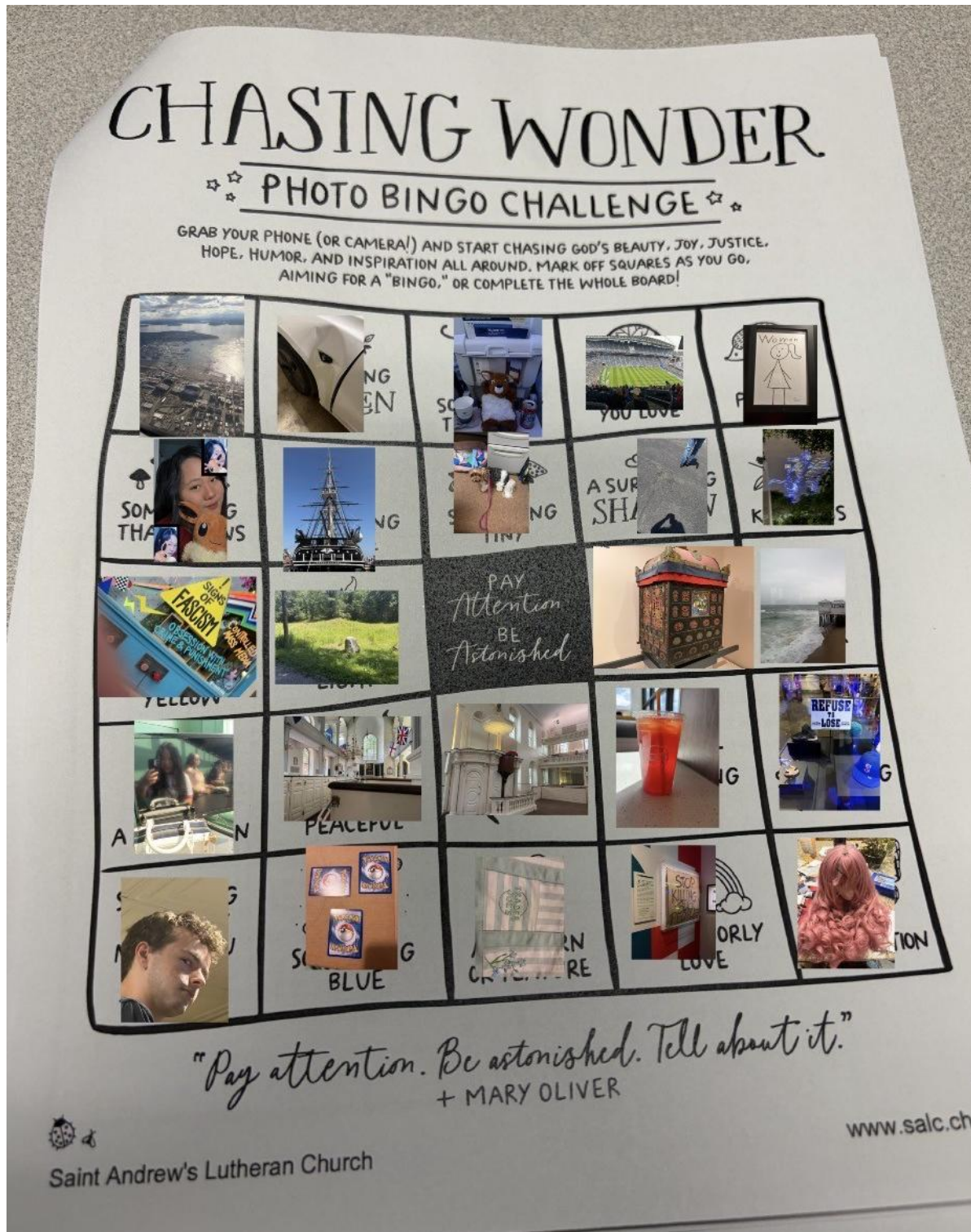
- \$10 - 10 meals for students
- \$15 - 1 bus pass for 1 week
- \$25 - 1 student uniform
- \$25 - 225 gallons fresh drinking water
- \$50 - 130 concrete blocks
- \$75 - 200 square feet of standard ceramic tile
- \$100 - 14 bags cement
- \$100 - 3 weeks of electricity
- \$125 - 10-15 bags of stucco for exterior of building
- \$150 - 225 meters of electrical conduit
- \$200 - 1 teacher salary per week
- \$250 - 12 bars of 12-foot rebar



There is a box by the Christmas Tree marked 'Lantern Hill' to place your checks or cash. You can also donate online ([Give | Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church](#)) be sure to mark "Lantern Hill" in the memo box.

Chasing Wonder Summer Photo Bingo

"Pay Attention. Be Astonished. Tell about it" Mary Oliver



Are you doing the “Chasing Wonder” Bingo? Great job, Abby!!



From the Bishop:

July / August 2026

On July 18, 1976 Pastor Nancy Winder was ordained into Word and Sacrament ministry. She was the first woman ordained in what was then the North Pacific District and the fourteenth woman ordained in the American Lutheran Church.

But Nancy and those thirteen women were not the first. We remember all the women who came before them. In scripture we remember Mary, the mother of Jesus, Elizabeth, Mary and Martha, Mary Magdalene, Phoebe, Priscilla, Junea, Lydia, and all the unnamed women including the Samaritan woman at the well who ran to proclaim what she had seen and heard, becoming the first to declare Jesus as Lord.

Along with these women in scripture, we also remember the countless women in these last 2000 years – Hildegard, Katie Luther, Argula von Grumbach, Maria Stewart, Phoebe Palmer, Catherine Booth, Margaret Wold, and so many others who were called by the Holy Spirit to preach, teach, proclaim, lead, and serve. We give thanks for the myriad of gifts that God has poured out through women for the sake of the church and the life of the world.

I am so thankful for the many women in our lives who passed on their faith to us. The women who taught Sunday School, prepared the altar, made meals, visited those who were sick, and marched against injustice. The women theologians, mystics, and writers. The women who, in countless ways, proclaimed through word and deed the good news of Jesus.

Thank you to our sisters in Christ. Thank you for the ways you have lived out your faith in every vocation. Thank you to the women who have gone before us, to the women serving today, and to the women who continue to say yes to God's call – including those called into ordained ministry.

I wonder, do you remember the first time you heard a woman preach? The first time you heard an alto or soprano voice chanting the liturgy or saying the words of institution? I remember. I was twenty years old. Seeing and hearing someone who looked like me, who had a body like mine, made the gospel come alive in a way I hadn't experienced before. Truly, it changed my life.

This is why I grieve what is happening to some of our sisters in other denominations. In recent weeks, the Southern Baptist Convention voted at its annual assembly to further restrict women from teaching, preaching, and pastoral leadership. This means women ordained ten or twenty or fifty years ago may now find their callings denied by the very churches they have faithfully served. So many women – chosen, loved, called, sent – women with fire in their bellies to preach the gospel may no longer do so. Not by God, but by their denomination. Their silencing is not only a tragedy for them; it is a tragedy for the whole Church.

So today there is an urgency to remember, celebrate, and publicly proclaim, that women are called by God. Just as the Spirit came to Mary, who sang of the mighty brought down from their thrones, just as the Spirit sent Mary Magdalene to proclaim resurrection to the apostles, just as Lydia helped birth a community of believers, the Spirit has called and continues to call women in every age.

So, in joy, thankfulness, and celebration, let us give thanks for the women of the past, present, and future who continue to proclaim, teach, lead, and serve. For, as we read in Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, *"Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart ... For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord."*

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee | bishop@lutheransnw.org



Hosted by St. Luke's Lutheran / slukes.org

SATURDAY
15
AUGUST

06PM
TO
09PM

JAZZ MUSIC

Swingtime Express

quartet with special guest vocalist
Danette West

FREE EVENT!

All ages show.
No registration required.
Light bites and beverages
for purchase.
Donations welcome.

The Swingtime Express

Our summer *Jazz-on-the-Patio* is back after a several-year hiatus. We are pleased that St. Luke's is once again hosting the **Swingtime Express Jazz Quartet** along with special guest singer Janette West!

This event is free, all-ages, and just a great evening of smooth jazz. Light bites and wine/beer available for purchase - no registration required.

6:00-9:00 PM at St. Luke's Lutheran
3030 Bellevue Way, Bellevue, WA
98004

ELCC (Eastside Lutheran Church Community) churches, the Synod and the ELCA:



The Eastside Lutheran Church Community (ELCC) are the ELCA churches on the eastside. WE have opportunity to share worship, resources, and events – separately and collectively. While we often share and collaborative service activities and worship opportunities. Be sure to check out the website [HERE](#).

An ELCC newsletter is in the works! Sign up to receive the links!

Newsletter opt-in instructions:

1. Go to the [ELCC website](#) and scroll to the bottom of the HOME page
2. View the Newsletter Signup section - add your email and press the SUBSCRIBE link
3. Now go to your email inbox and find the Tithe.ly email asking you to verify your email address, and then you are done!

Singers Needed for ELCC Choir Summer Worship-in-the-Park, Aug 16th, 10 AM

Rehearsal: Sat. Aug 15th, 10-11 am
at St Luke's (3030 Bellevue Way)

On August 16th we will be doing our annual ELCC (Eastside Lutheran Church Community) Service in the Park at 10 am, and we are coordinating & leading music. We will be doing an one-time choir with Tommie Burton as lead soloist and inviting singers from all 5 participating ELCC churches.

We will rehearse Saturday 8/15 10-11 am at St Luke's. Zero prep required - super easy! (Spirit of God is Upon Me by Rickie Byars - funky Gospel groove). Willingness to learn & feel the music is all that's needed. All ages are welcome. [Contact Cheri](#) for more information.

A colorful poster for the ELCC Choir. The background is light orange with decorative wavy borders in red, blue, and yellow. At the top left is a logo with a flame and a cross. At the top right is the Eastside Lutheran Church Community logo. The text "ELCC Choir" is in large blue letters. Below it, "Tommie Burton" is written in blue. Then, "Performing as part of ELCC Annual Ebright Park Service 8/16/26 10:00 am." is written in red. Below that, "Choir singers need to be at the park ready to rehearse song at 9:15 am sharp." is written in blue. There are four musical notes (red, yellow, red, yellow) and a treble clef. Below the notes, "Required Choir Rehearsal:" is written in blue, followed by "Saturday 8/15/26 10:00-11:00 am" in red, and "at St Luke's Lutheran" in blue. At the bottom, "No pre-learning required. Easy & fun! All ages welcome. Children under 12 require an accompanying adult." is written in blue. Finally, "Contact Cheri Neill at 206.851.1035" is written in blue.



Saint Andrew's will NOT be onsite on August 16th. We WILL be participating in the Worship in the Park!

See page 5 for additional details.

If you prefer to attend an in-person worship closer, Holy Trinity Lutheran, Mercer Island* will have their regular 9:00 AM worship service that day.

*(Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 8501 SE 40th Street, Mercer Island)



Calendar

Wednesday, July 22

10:00 AM Sophia Way Lunch Delivery
7:00 PM JEDI Committee Meeting, Online

Thursday, July 23

9:00 AM Blood Drive
10:00 AM Grace Book Group

Friday, July 24

Saturday, July 25

Sunday, July 26

Pastor Chris Ode

10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Coffee and Conversation

Monday, July 27

1:00 PM Staff Meeting
7:00 PM Outreach committee, Online

Tuesday, July 28

8:30 AM Tuesday Morning Men, Online

Wednesday, July 29

Thursday, July 30

Friday, July 31

Porchlight Rotating Men's Shelter Move-In

Saturday, August 1

Sunday, August 2

5:00 PM Summer Evening WORSHIP

Monday, August 3

1:00 PM Staff Meeting
6:00 PM Finance Committee, Online
7:00 PM Executive Committee, Online

Tuesday, August 4

8:30 AM Tuesday Morning Men
9:30 AM Dorcas Circle

Wednesday, August 5

You can access our
weekly online calendar
HERE.

The Reverend Lara Forbes, Lead Pastor
pastor@SALC.church

The Reverend Timothy T. Weber,
Shared-Time Pastor
timweber@t@yahoo.com

Dr. Will Simpson,
Director of Music Ministries
will@SALC.church

Doug Johnson,
Director of Youth and Family Ministries
doug@SALC.church

Sherry Grindeland, Fellowship Coordinator
sherry@SALC.church

Kurt Lutterman, Facilities Manager
kurt@SALC.church

Kathy Fisher, Communications Director
kathy@SALC.church

Vanessa Wilkie, Handbell Choir Director

Elaine Koga, Choir Accompanist

Abby Kasper, Facilities Set-up

April Daniel, Records Administrator

Ann Thorpe, Sunday Church School Coordinator

Joan Tweten, Kitchen Team

SALC Family Social Media Accounts:



Find us on:

