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Mount Si Lutheran Church

To Serve
To Reach Out
To Grow In Grace

GOODNEWSletter

SEPTEMBER 2026

Pastor's Note...

Following our outdoor worship here at Mt Si on the 6th and God's Work Our Hands Sunday on the 13th we will begin a fall liturgy that many long-time Lutherans will recognize. We will use setting IV out of the Red ELW hymnal - it was setting II in the Green, LBW. The setting was originally written in the 70's by composer Ronald A. Nelson.

As we use this setting we will take time each week to explore the why of each part of the liturgy and its corresponding Biblical roots. As we near Reformation Sunday on October 25th, we will take time to remember that a significant part of the reformation was changed how we worship together. The reformation not only brought a change to the language spoken in worship by leaders (from Latin to local dialects such as English and German) it also shifted the participation of the congregation in worship, the use of music and the use of creativity in the prayers and readings.

I pray this setting is a comfort to those who know it well - I know I can say the entire liturgy practically by heart - and I pray it can be understood and appreciated by those who are unfamiliar with it. It is one of many ways to worship.

I am grateful that this community of faith is open to the movement of the Spirit to worship in many ways all while maintaining our core purpose of worship - to honor God, hear the promises of Jesus, recieve the sacrament of Holy Communion, hear the Word of God, confess together and pray together as God's people.

Following worship we will engage in conversation about worship, its history and our connection to it.

May our worship bring glory to God and strengthen our faith.

Peace,
Pastor Krista

Outdoor Worship & Hymn Sing!

Sunday, September 6

9:30am

@ Mt Si Lutheran

Followed by Special Coffee Hour

In this newsletter you will find:

Special Events In Septmber

Serving our Neighbors

Our Mission

Youth Events

Sunday Readings & Weekday Education Opportunities

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Spirit & Lay of the Land in the PNW

Special Events in September

Book Study begins Thurs., Sept. 10 @ Our Savior, Issaquah

"Tending the Wild Garden" by Eugenia Anne Gamble, Anderson Hall, Our Savior Lutheran Church, 745 Front St. S., Issaquah,
A study of Galations 5:22-23a. Thursdays, 12:15-1:45 PM, Sept. 10-Dec. 10.
RSVP to Pr. Kristin-Luana: 360-912-1245

Gods Work. Our Hands. Sunday, Sept. 13

Get ready for a fun filled worship centered on service with service projects following worship.
Please bring a dish to share for our potluck meal!
Service project sign-ups are in the Fellowship Hall.

LWA
Love With Actions

Sunday, Sept. 13, 4pm @ Samm. Hills Special Speaker

This will be an opportunity to both learn more about LOVE WITH ACTIONS and discuss the mission trip to Rwanda SHLC is planning for 2028. If you are interested in going on this trip, please plan to attend this event!

Red Cross Blood Drive Tues. Sept. 15

10am-3pm in the Fellowship Hall.

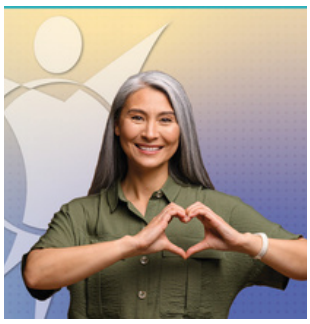
Learn more and set your appointment here:

Gather. Grow. Give: SVFB Fundraiser, Sept. 20

12:00–2:30 PM (doors open at 11:15 AM) to support the Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank.

Location:
The Club at Snoqualmie Ridge (36005 SE Ridge St, Snoqualmie, WA 98065)

Learn more and register here



Life Line Screening, Tues., Sept. 22

9am-5pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Learn more and set your appointment here:

Our mission: to serve, reach out & grow in grace...

Back-to-School Essentials

This year's Back-to-School Essentials drive was a remarkable success! Thanks to everyone's generosity and hard work, nearly 600 backpacks and supplies were given out here at Mt. Si on August 18 & 19. (Stay tuned for more details!)

Thank you to our amazing partners in this annual event: SVA Church, Cascade Covenant Church, St. Clare's Episcopal Church, Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank, Unstoppable Kindness, King County Library System, Feed Kiddos, Trail Youth, and Gesa Credit Union, along with countless individual donors, and those who have helped gather and pack supplies. **THANK YOU!!!**

Council & Finance Updates

Council met on August 23 to discuss ministry reports, finance reports and vote on several items. From finance we heard about the liability on continuing to do payroll by hand. A payroll company that supports non-profits, called Gusto, was brought to council as a good option moving forward. The fees to use this company are reasonable at $61/mo. The council voted to approve moving our payroll to this company on a trial basis. We can cancel the contract at any time.

Also from the finance team, we heard about the new process for accounting our designated funds. Council will see a draft budget in early October for 2027 in preparation for the Congregational Meeting on November 22nd.

The financial health of the congregation is good and we had a generous July for offerings. Thank you all for your continued support. We will share more financial data in next month's newsletter.

The council also heard about a special gift just over $2000 from Bethany Lutheran Church in Elmira, NY. This is Pastor's previous church. They sent this gift to Mt Si as part of their 130th anniversary celebrations. They asked our council to give this gift away to a ministry in our community. Council chose to send $1500 to the Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank's Capital Campaign. We would appreciate the congregation's input on where to send the remaining funds. Please bring your ideas to the Congregational Meeting on November 22nd.

Council also heard about an opportunity for a large $100,000 grant for North Bend historic buildings. Mt Si was invited to consider becoming an historic site and apply for the grant which could be used to repair the sanctuary windows. More research needs to be done to see this if this worth the process as it could mean difficulties making changes to the building in the future. We'll bring what we learn to the congregation in November.

Since we are talking about **November 22nd** - guess what!? We have a special day planned for the 22nd. We are calling it **Flannel Fest!** Wear your favorite flannel to church on the 22nd (we'll take a big group photo) - also - after the meeting we'll enjoy a **chili cook-off** and **pie** back in the Fellowship Hall. Get ready to bring chili and/or pie, wear flannel and have fun!

Questions about what council is talking about and working on? Please reach out to Jennifer Andersen-Markee or Lisa Sampson or any council member.

Supporting one another in faith.....

Sunday Readings & Weekday Education Opportunities

SEPTEMBER SUNDAY LESSONS

September 6 - Outdoor Worship!
Here at Mt Si Lutheran
Hymn Sing - Many Lessons

September 13
First Lesson: Romans 14:1-12
Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:21-35

September 20
First Lesson: Exodus 16:2-15
Gospel Lesson: Matthew 20:1-16

September 27
First Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4; 25-32
Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:23-32

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES IN SEPTEMBER

Men's Bible Study - Saturdays, 9am @ Little Si Restaurant.

Women's Bible Study - resumes Monday, September 8th, 12:30pm.

Wednesday Bible Study - watch for info as we prepare to launch a new Wednesday night study this fall.

Declan Haycox 2nd
Alisha Blakely 3rd
Kelsey Harding 6th
Stefan Van Handel 8th
Heidi Dukich 12th
Jane Benson 14th
Kim Buckmaster 25th
Lesia Tiongson 27th

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please reach out to the office so we can make the correction.

Christopher & Lisa Sampson 2nd
Marge Bliss 7th
Paul & Heidi Dukich 8th
Charles & Jenny Lynch 22nd
John & Erica Haycox 25th

Flower Chart Sign-ups

Please consider signing up to bring flowers for our altar on Sunday morning.

This can be in honor or memory of a loved one or event in your life or just because you enjoy flowers!

The flower chart is in the Fellowship Hall hallway.
Thank you for your offering!

During the Bishop's Sabbatical we are lifting up guest writers from the synod staff.
Thank you to Rev. Dr. David Hahn, our featured writer for September 2026

Called to Be Human: Introducing the LiVE Project's 2026-2027

What does it mean to be human?

Adrienne Marie Brown's Emergent Strategy names a principle that's been on my mind: "There is a conversation in the room that only these people at this moment can have. Find it." What is the conversation the church, at this moment, needs to be having? This year's LiVE Project theme is our answer: Called to Be Human. What kind of people does our world need us to show up as, in light of our life in Jesus?

Amid our challenges, disagreements, and anxieties, the Spirit is calling the church to wrestle with this question in ways that honor the dignity of being human — even as so much of our world, its economics, politics, and digital cultures, works to divide our attention and our intentions to live with and for one another.

Across four retreats and two online courses, we'll explore what it means to live fully into our humanity in light of our Christian faith, our motivations and presuppositions, our affections and desires, our freedom, our consciousness, our conscience.

A passage from Inviting the Mystic, Supporting the Prophet, by Katherine Dyckman and Patrick Carroll, has been sitting with us as we've built this year's programming:

It is as if each human person constitutes a committee constantly sitting to decide life's questions and the behavior desired in a given situation. This committee has many members within, each voicing a particular slant—our fears, feelings, dreams, and hopes, our history and relationships, our member, our various subpersonalities, and our reason. Hopefully, the chairperson of that committee is reason, deeply influenced and guided by affectivity. All the voices need to be heard and listened to. Ultimately, at their best, people make choices that chart the direct and, over time, develop the person.

That's the heart of "Called to Be Human." Not a call to have it all figured out, or to quiet the noisy parts of ourselves, but a call to the ongoing, sacred work of listening to every voice at the table, so that, choice by choice, we become more integrated, more whole, more truly ourselves in Christ.

This year's retreats and courses put in conversation various members of that inner committee: our desires, our freedom, our conscience, our imagination, our history. We'll ask what it looks like for God to be present in these, in our community conversations, and with curiosity rather than judgment. None of us chairs that committee alone; we do it in relationship, with God, with each other, and with the communities we're called to serve.

We can't wait to gather alongside you this year, to wonder together about this timely and necessary question: Who is God calling us, and not challenging us, to be?

Peace,
Pastor David
Director of Formation and Learning | Northwest Washington Synod | david@lutheransnw.org

Hello!

I thought I would introduce myself properly in this, my first monthly communication as your Vice President of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. So here goes!

I am a lifelong Lutheran and lay person, born and raised (mostly) in the PNW. My dad became a Lutheran pastor when I was nine years old after he graduated from Wartburg Seminary in Iowa. High school was in Port Orchard, WA. I graduated from Pacific Lutheran University where I met my husband, Chris, son of a Lutheran pastor and Missionary to Madagascar. We moved to Los Angeles where I taught high school English and Drama, then English to non-native speakers and eventually became the Yearbook and Newspaper Advisor as well. Moving to LA also meant for the first time, finding a church home that wasn't led by a family member. We landed at a small church in Pasadena that got smaller as we journeyed through a series of church splits. We also spent a year in Madagascar, teaching English to interested Malagasy as volunteers. After starting a family, we returned to the PNW in the Tacoma area and found a church home/community at Mount Cross Lutheran Church in University Place. In 2010, we moved to Holden Village where Chris oversaw the infrastructure projects the Village undertook during Mine Remediation and I served as Program Coordinator. Our daughter, Kasey, and our son, Corey, both graduated from Holden High School. Go Goats! A seven month around the country road trip served as our transition/sabbatical and we loved visiting churches around the country – many, but not all of them, Lutheran. We landed back in the PNW in 2016 and became part of Emmaus Table, one of the synod's new and emerging ministries in the Green Lake neighborhood of Seattle. We also regularly attended Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church while the worshiping community at Emmaus Table formed. I was elected to Synod Council in 2021.

That's my personal journey. I also want you to know some of my core beliefs that will inform my work as Vice President. I believe the world is in desperate need of the Lutheran understanding of grace – that God's love is freely given to all and there is nothing we can do to earn it, or deserve it, or to be excluded from it. In order to continue to have the privilege of sharing this good news, we need to learn new ways of being church, which I believe includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Within our churches
  - More cooperation and collaboration between congregations
  - Listening to and learning from each other
  - Discerning what it is we do well and doing that – not trying to do/be everything
  - Learning what other congregations do well so we can get folks into the place that best fits their needs
  - Nurturing relationships/loving our people
- Within our wider communities
  - Working more outside of the walls of the church than inside
  - Listening to people's stories, learning their hopes and dreams, struggles and challenges
  - Nurturing relationships/loving our people

Another core belief I have is that the church has lay leaders who are as dedicated to God's work as rostered leaders. I want to use my platform as Vice President to lift up the voices of other lay folk in the synod. This monthly missive will be one of the ways I do that. This space will be:

(“Lay of the Land in the PNW” – cont’d)

- A place to share the “living word” – where God is working now in the world
- A place to share good news
- A place to be honest about struggles
- A place to learn
- A place to hear about things, big and small, that make a difference
- A place of joy

So, what have you got? If you have a lay folk story to tell, I want to hear it – both to inform the work of the council, and to share your story so others can be inspired by your work. Email me at veep@lutheransnw.org. Let’s talk. Really. I want to hear from you. I need a story for October’s Lay of the Land in the PNW. Please reach out.

Joyfully,

Cindy Shultz
NW WA Synod Vice President

But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God’s instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night and day difference he made for you–from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.

Peter 2:9-10. *The Message*

Women of the ELCA

2026 Fall Retreat – Seek Inspiration
NWWA Synodical Women’s Organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Saturday – October 3rd / 9 am ~ 4 pm
(Doors open @ 8:30 am for registration)
Our Saviors Lutheran Church
215 W Mukilteo Blvd, Everett, WA 98203

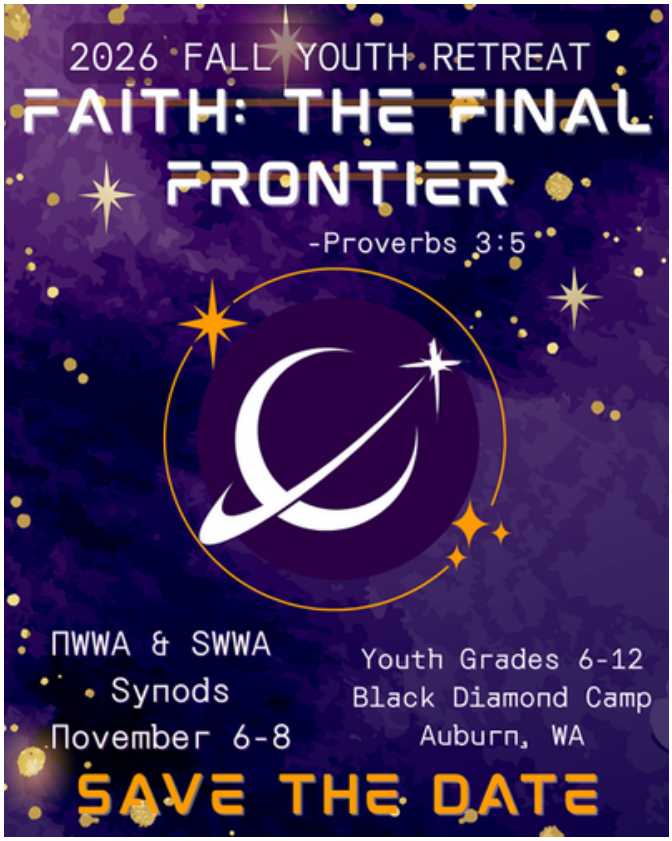
Please join with women from our Synod as we learn & grow as Women of the ELCA.

Our speaker will be Pastor Kacey Hahn of St Matthew’s Lutheran in Renton

Lunch & Snacks will be provided.
We will have time to visit and meet new friends and to catch up with other WELCA friends.
We’ll have inspirational activities and end our time together with worship and much more!

Registration form available at:
https://lutheransnw.org/ministries/womens-ministry

This November: Youth Retreat!



November Dates You Don't Want to Miss

Saturday, November 14

Time: TBD

Details on when, what and how to donate coming soon!

Monies raised will support youth going to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis this summer.

FLANNEL FEST

SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 22

Wear your flannel to worship on Nov. 22.
We'll take a group photo to show off our flannel.
AND - Bring a can of soup or chili for the SVFB.
Following the Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary Head over to the Fellowship Hall to enjoy our Chili Cook-Off and Pie!