



September 23, 2026

Growing Together in Christ to Love and Serve All People

Prayer of the Week:

Gracious and loving Lord,
Thank you for the seasons we can count on, find routine in,
and that will never cease while the earth remains.
As we enter into autumn, when the cooler winds drift in
and the days grow shorter, draw us closer to you.
Let us feel your warm and loving presence.
May we imagine ourselves in your arms, close to your heart,
surrounded by your light, and find comfort in your consistency
when the world around us seems to be constantly changing.
Thank you for your lovingkindness that engulfs us
and your light that drives the darkness away.
We praise you for being a God who loves us and takes care of us.
We are grateful you are with us in all circumstances and seasons.
Amen.

Source: Pamela Palmer

Scammers are once again impersonating Pastor Lara via email - asking for meetings, gift cards, etc. **They are not from her!** Do not respond to them or click on anything in them. Please delete them and block the sender. If you are not sure whether they're from her, please send an email to her church email address, or call her on her cell phone.

Upcoming Greeters and Coffee Hosts:

September 27: Lois and Curt Eckley, Greeters; Mark Davis, Coffee Host

October 4: Joe Banuelos, Greeter; Jean Wahlstrom and Marvin Kananen, Coffee Hosts

Contact Sherry (sherry@salc.church) to be a Sunday greeter or to Host coffee hour.

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

Worship is at 10:00 AM this Sunday, 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, September 27

9:00 AM Adult Education; Lantern Hill Mission Report

10:00 AM Worship

11:00 AM Taco Bar Brunch

Readings for September 27

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 and Matthew 21: 23-32

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

Pastor's Bible Study has resumed in a hybrid format on Tuesday mornings.

Meet in the Library at 10:00 AM, or via Zoom. **Contact Pastor Lara by email**

(pastor@salc.church) if you would like the Zoom link.

Education Forum Recording Help Needed:

We are in need of additional volunteers to record Sunday morning Education Forums. This is a valuable service to the congregation and allows those who miss a Forum to watch it online at their convenience. We use a camcorder that is easy to operate - only three buttons to learn. The time commitment is 8:45 am - 10:00 am, about one Sunday every 4-5 weeks. If you are interested in helping or are just curious and have questions, please contact Susan Hegedus, susanhegedus@outlook.com

Adult Education
Sunday, September 27
9:00 AM

Come to see, hear and taste the
Lantern Hill Mission experience
from our Mission Team!



Stay after worship for the
Taco Bar Brunch!!

Brunch Time

Plan now for the Taco Bar Brunch on Sept. 27.

Saint Andrew's is providing the food – but we need volunteers to help with a variety of tasks!

Check below and see where YOU can lend a hand:

Jobs include:

- set-up
- shopping for food
- food prep
- serving
- clean-up

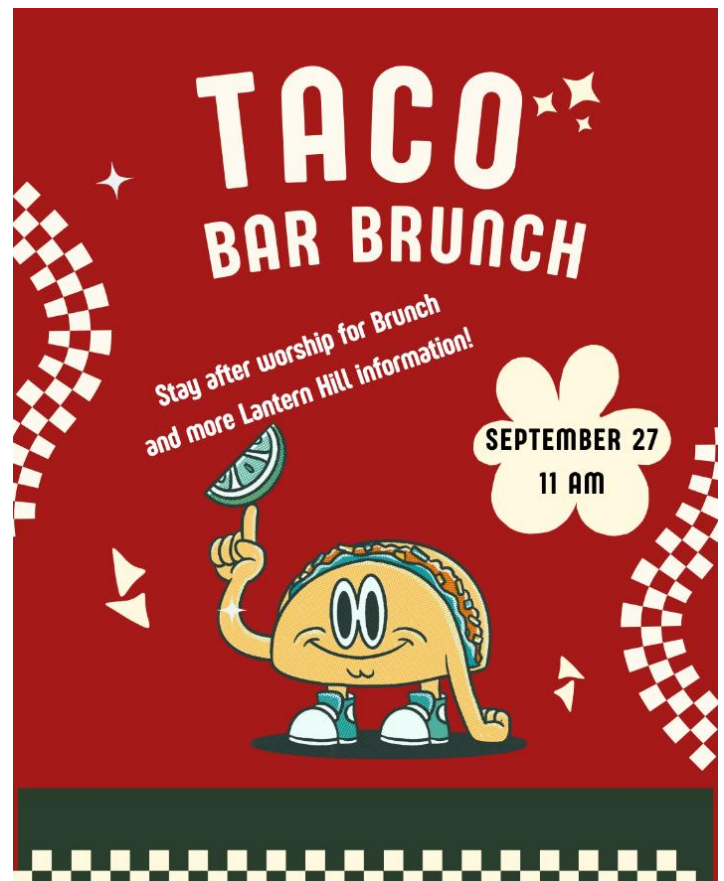
To volunteer reach out to Fellowship Coordinator
Sherry Grindeland at 425-746-2529
or sherry@salc.church.

Mission Team Report

Learn about the great work Saint Andrew's volunteers and others from the Eastside Lutheran Church Community did at Lantern Hill this summer.

The team will share photos and stories during Adult Education Hour on September 27.

Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 8:45 for coffee and treats, program begins promptly at 9 a.m. We will celebrate the team's accomplishments with a Taco Bar Brunch after worship.





Blood Drive – Tomorrow!!

To date – there are 13 slots filled for 9/24. Room for 30 more!!

There are a LOT of appointment times late morning and lunchtime ... walk-ins are ok!

Please use the QR Code and get your slot!!

Share with friends and neighbors – every drop matters.



Come and get your hands dirty!
Saturday, September 26
9:00 AM – 12 Noon.

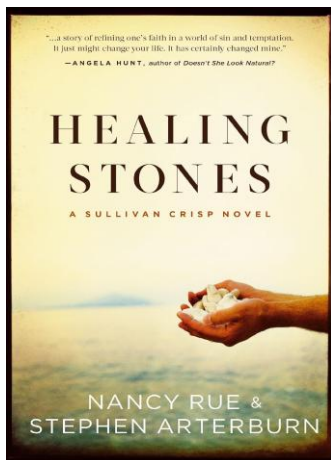
Kurt has jobs for all ages and skill levels. Let him know you're coming! (kurt@salc.church)

We have 400 daffodil and tulip bulbs to plant!!

I believe donuts are going to be available 😊



Women's Book Group



Our book selection for Fall Women's Book Group will be *Healing Stones* by Nancy Rue and Stephen Arterburn. **We will meet on Wednesday mornings promptly at 10:00 am from October 7 to November 18.** Our meetings are on Zoom, as well as in-person in our Library.

This is the first book in a series featuring a Christian psychologist, Sullivan Crisp. Enter Dimitria after a terrible incident and everyone turned against her, including herself. "Reluctantly, the two of them begin an uplifting, uneven journey filled with healing and grace. By turns funny and touching, this story explores the ways humans hurt each other and deceive themselves. And it shows the endlessly creative means God uses to turn stones of accusation and shame into works of beauty that lead us onto the path of healing. A candid yet tender series about pain, healing, and God's invitation for second chances." (Amazon)

Contact Cheryl Jurrus (cheryljurrus74@gmail.com) for more information, a schedule, and the Zoom invitation.



Youth and Family News



Hurray!! Sunday School is starting! Bring the kids on Sunday, **October 4 at 9:00 AM** to meet our great teachers and begin the Sunday school year!!




Saint Andrew's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

2650 148th Ave SE, Bellevue
Parking lot Courtyard

**To celebrate the Feast of St Francis,
the patron saint of animals,
Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church is:**

Blessing the Pets!
Saturday, October 3rd
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM
All Are Welcome!

*Please have
your pet on a
leash or crated
for safety!*



Music Notes:

There is nothing quite like making music together—and now is the perfect time to join us!

Handbell rehearsals are Tuesdays at 7:00 PM. Whether you are an experienced ringer or have always wondered what it would be like to stand behind a table of bells and create something beautiful with a team, we would love to have you. Handbells offer a wonderful combination of music, fellowship, concentration, and fun, and every person truly matters to the ensemble. Handbells will meet in the sanctuary.

Thursday nights, at 7:00 PM, the **Chancel Choir** rehearses for Sunday worship. Come lend your voice and be part of the music that helps bring worship to life each week. You do not need to be a professional singer—just bring your love of music, your willingness to learn, and your desire to be part of a welcoming musical community. Chancel Choir will meet in the choir room.

For questions on either ensemble please contact Will Simpson, Director of Music at will@salc.church

Kurt is getting close to getting rid of the church's surplus furniture and office supplies. Please let him know if you want any of the below items. The list is at:
<https://trashnothing.com/user/4934990/posts>

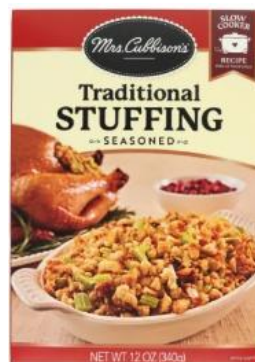
Corner of Blessing Food of the Month – September

The Hopelink Food Bank tries hard to provide the items needed and desired by the 1700 households they support. As we partner with them, they have come to ask us for items that they don't usually get donated. As we come into the holiday season, the families they support would like to prepare for the holidays and be able to do some baking, but these items are not typically donated. (it is coming up on that time – Hopelink won't get this collection until October.)

So, for September we will be collecting **"Holiday Staples"**. These items include baking supplies, instant mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, etc. To support as many households as possible, they ask for specific size packages.

The "foods" for September are:

- Sugar (white in 4-pound bags, brown in 1 or 2-pound packages or coconut in 1-pound packages)
- Flour (wheat or white in 5-pound bags or gluten free options – almond, coconut, all-purpose gluten free)
- Baking soda (1-pound box)
- Baking Powder (about 8 ounce)
- Salt (about 26 ounce)
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Stuffing
- Gravy or gravy mix



COLLECTION OF CLOTHING AND HYGIENE ITEMS FOR COMPASS HOUSING ALLIANCE

Dorcas Circle will be collecting clothing and hygiene items for Compass Housing Alliance through February 2027.

All clothing must be new, in original packaging and not washed.

The only exception is that they appreciate handmade warm hats and scarves.

Clothing is needed for both men and women.

The most needed sizes are size Large through 2XL.

- Underwear
- T-shirts
- Long sleeve cotton shirts
- Sweat pants
- Sweatshirts
- Jackets
- Sweaters
- Warm hats
- Warm scarves
- Mittens and gloves

At this time they do not need socks.



Hygiene items

All hygiene items must be new and unopened.

- Shampoo and hair conditioner
- Hairbrushes and combs
- Bars of soap
- Liquid hand soap
- Small packages of tissues
- Tooth brushes
- Tooth paste
- Dental floss
- Mouthwash
- Deodorant
- Nail Clippers
- Tweezers
- Hand lotion



Donations can be placed in the bins in the church narthex or placed in the church office.

If you have any questions please contact Linda Willenberg at [**willenberglinda@gmail.com**](mailto:willenberglinda@gmail.com).



We travel to the northern tip of our synod and the other side of the globe for Volume 1, issue 2 of The Lay of the Land. This is the story of two ordinary women with an extraordinary idea.

Dawn-Marie Hanrahan, attended Zion Lutheran Church in Ferndale for the first time with her 6- and 8-year-old children 36 years ago. After Sunday school that first Sunday, her 6-year-old pleaded, “Mommy, Mommy, can we please stay?” They did.

In 2013, Shilla Adyero, a Ugandan woman studying at the Fairhaven School at Western Washington University, arrived at Zion Lutheran Church for Easter morning worship service.

A Custer, Washington, couple who had visited Uganda previously, had heard Shilla speaking about sustainable development opportunities and were so impressed they invited her to continue her studies in the United States, at their expense. She was living with them and attending Fairhaven School. Homesick and missing her village community, Shilla wanted to connect with a Christian congregation.

Shilla and Dawn-Marie met that Easter morning and became instant friends. Zion felt “like home” to Shilla, so she continued to attend services and welcomed the invitation to join our congregation officially. Soon after they were working together to support the Slum Doctor Programme, a non-profit that focuses on health care, public health, food supplies, education, and aid for communities affected by HIV/Aids in Kenya and Uganda.

When Shilla’s term with her host family was complete, she was suddenly in need of new housing. Dawn-Marie was aware of an alternative housing possibility with another Zion family. Robin and Bob Ogmundson had lost their 27-year-old daughter, Amy, to juvenile cancer just a few months earlier. After prayerful consideration, Dawn-Marie approached the Ogmundsons with Shilla’s housing need and they, in turn, generously agreed to host Shilla as their contribution to her philanthropic work and studies. Both the Ogmundsons and Shilla found great solace and healing in giving of themselves and their resources.

One afternoon, while sitting together in Shilla’s new home, Shilla shared with Dawn-Marie that because the Ogmundsons had taken her in as their own daughter, she wanted to do something special for them, in Amy’s honor. Shilla wanted to bring books to her home village in Gulu; she wanted to build the first public library. When Dawn-Marie asked, “So where do we start?”, the seed for Lutino Adunu was planted. Lutino Adunu means “children loved” in Shilla’s native Acholi language and is now a registered Ugandan children’s educational non-profit. It is the only organization in the region that serves the needs of children and has grown to become so much more serving the greater communities.

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Dawn-Marie stated that realizing the dream and expansion of Lutino Adunu has been a long and winding journey, full of twists and unexpected challenges. But then, aren't a lot of the journeys God takes us on that way?

Dawn-Marie recalled story after story of how the Holy Spirit has worked in and through them along this journey.

A \$20,000 P.E.O. International Scholarship award given to Shilla to continue her graduate studies in sustainable development at the School for International Training, in Brattleboro, VT.

Ogmundson family connections additionally provided Shilla's housing while a student at S.I.T. Many fundraisers, donations and grants that, much like the Bible story of the 5 loaves and 3 fish, continued to sustain Lutino Adunu.

- The airline agent who so kindly waived the overweight costs of Shilla's suitcases returning to Gulu, because Shilla had filled her suitcases with the first library books rather than return home with her personal clothing and belongings.
- The generosity of the Catholic dioceses to allow use of an outbuilding as the temporary community library.
- The challenges overcome when the temporary library was immediately closed due to termite infestation causing damage to the structure, furniture, books and administration documents.
- The life-saving assistance Lutino Adunu offered during the Covid-19 shutdown: masks for law enforcement and medical personnel, hospital and clinic supplies, emergency transportation, providing infant formula for orphaned babies, which saved their lives, and so much more.
- The MicroLoan Program was established to assist start-up businesses.
- The Atek Pad Project, training sewers in making reuseable feminine hygiene kits. Adequate hygiene supplies for young girls and women significantly reduce school drop-out rates. To date, Lutino Adunu has trained 57 schools and multiple communities throughout the region.
- Development of the Community Demonstration Farm on Lutino Adunu land in partnership with the Pangora Demonstration Farm. Includes hands-on youth-group training for sustainable agriculture, education, and community empowerment; Crop and Seedling Production; and School Feeding and Gardening Projects. More information can be made found at: [Global Opportunity Fund \(GO Fund\)](#).
- Initiated a cooperative relationship with the local prison to begin a prisoner reading program and women's empowerment groups

October 2023, Dawn-Marie coordinated a local "Fun-raiser" Dinner and Live Auction in Ferndale in support of building the permanent library. The single event raised or \$47,000 and the cost to host the event was generously supplemented by several Lutheran member's Thrivent Action Team Grants.

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And the list goes on with too many to include here! Of course, there are countless stories of challenges along the way, too.

- Lack of adequate funding
- Unreliable internet connection for corresponding
- Lack of adequate devices: phone, laptop, computers
- Political unrest within Uganda
- Lack of transportation
- Covid pandemic
- Critical medical and survival needs of the community utilizing Lutino Adunu resources
- Government lockdown
- Supply shortages
- Misunderstandings due to cultural differences
- Funding withdrawals
- Rising costs of building materials
- Inclement weather conditions

With Shilla living in and operating Lutino Adunu in Uganda and Dawn-Marie living in and assisting from the Pacific Northwest, the distance alone has been sometimes overwhelming. But anytime another challenge arises, Dawn-Marie and Shilla turn to prayer for guidance and discernment. Their dream of building a public library in Shilla's home village has expanded into a resource center with Administration Offices, public Conference Room and so many more programs and projects now serving the wider community. These ordinary women with an extraordinary idea have never lost sight of the facility's completion. Grace happens. And God completes good works begun.

The new Lutino Adunu Community Library and Resource Center is nearing completion. Additional funding is still very much needed. If you would like to find out more information about Lutino Adunu, you can Follow them on their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/lutino.org/> They also have a GoFundMe online donation site, if you wish to help them finish the building and fill the library with books. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-build-lutino-adunuresource-center>.

Joyfully,
Cindy Shultz, NW WA Synod Vice President | veep@lutheransnw.org



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!



Come and see what the ELCC is up to this quarter!

All are invited to attend, hear more about the ELCC and the different shared projects and events being planned.

Saturday, October 10, 2026

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

St. Luke's Lutheran

3030 Bellevue Way, Bellevue, WA

98004

Community game nights are full of new games and classics games people love to play together. **The next game night is Sunday, October 18th from 5:00-7:00pm** at St. Luke's. Join other folks from the ELCC for food, fun and fellowship. Dinner is provided, bring a snack to share. If you have a favorite game to play or maybe a new game you would like to learn with new friends, bring it with you. Otherwise, we will have games to play on hand. Everyone is welcome to join the fun. If you would like to help, let Melinda know (melinda@slukes.org). See you then!



Calendar

Wednesday, September 23

2:00 PM The Weatherly Worship

Thursday, September 24

9:00 AM BLOOD DRIVE!
10:00 AM Grace Book Group
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday, September 25

Saturday, September 26

9:00 AM Church Work Day

Sunday, September 27

9:00 AM Adult Education, Mission Report
10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Taco Bar Brunch

Monday, September 28

1:00 PM Staff Meeting
7:00 PM Outreach Committee, online

Tuesday, September 29

8:30 AM Tuesday Morning Men
10:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study
7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, September 30

2:00 PM Forest Edge Tour

Thursday, October 1

2:00 PM Timber Ridge Worship
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 2

Saturday, October 3

12:30 PM Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 4

New Members' Sunday

9:00 AM Adult Education, Bible Study
Sunday school begins!
10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Coffee and Conversation

Monday, October 5

10:00 AM Health & Wholeness Committee
1:00 PM Staff
6:00 PM Finance Committee, online
7:00 PM Executive Committee., online

Tuesday, October 6

8:30 AM Tuesday Morning Men, online
9:30 AM Dorcas Circle
10:00 AM Pastor's Bible Study
7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 7

10:00 AM Women's Book Group

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 Rykaczewski, Handbell Choir Director

Elaine Koga, Choir Accompanist

Andrew Camrud, 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:

