

The light shines in the darkness... John 1:5



HARBOR BEACON

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OAK HARBOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
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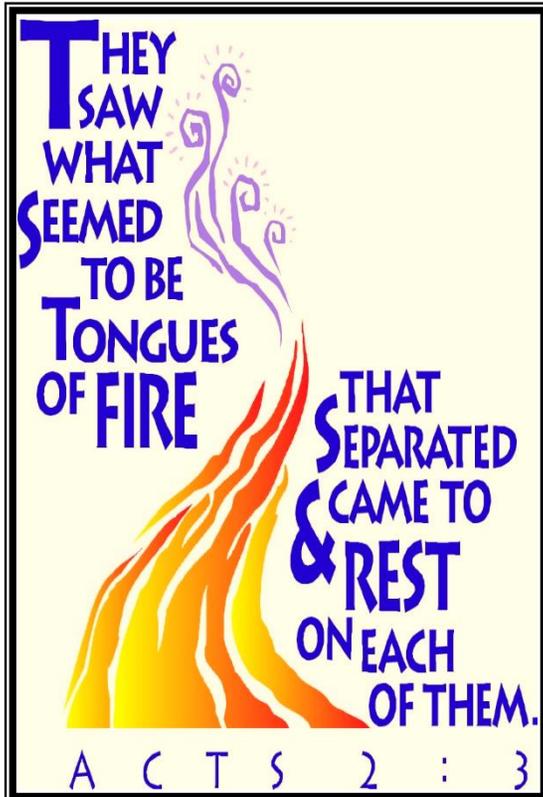
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**Click on these links
for the June newsletter inserts:**

The ELCA's monthly *Prayer Ventures*:
<http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/Prayer-Ventures>

The Northwest Washington Synod's insert, *The Spirit*:
<https://dq5pwpq1q8ru0.cloudfront.net/2022/05/13/14/41/31/41cb328a-1299-49e0-b681-a59f77d32e2a/JUNE%202022%20Spirit.pdf>

OHLC's website:
www.oakharborlutheran.org

Pastor's Page: Our Father in Heaven

[Jesus said:] “Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.” *John 17:25-26*



In the prayer quoted above, Jesus laments that people do not know God as the “Righteous Father.” This prayer is as poignantly relevant today as it was when Jesus originally prayed it. Not only do many people not know God, but they have a hard time seeing God as a Righteous Father. The word “father” itself can be a stumbling block for some, and it isn’t hard to understand why. According to the U. S. Census Bureau, here in the United States one in four children live without a father in the home. The social ramifications of this are a well-documented disaster, but there are spiritual consequences as well. Many people associate the word “father” with an aching absence in their lives, making it difficult to hear this Biblical language in the way it is intended.

Others bristle at using the word “father” in association with God because of negative experiences or assumptions about patriarchy, or out of concerns about sexism. These concerns shouldn’t be dismissed too quickly. There is often real pain or real injustice lurking behind those objections. Further, critics are right to point out that both men and women are created in the image of God, and that the masculine language for God in the Bible does not mean that God is more male than female, or that men inherently possess more divine authority than women.

However, even with all the baggage father language can bring, this language is unavoidable and irreplaceable for Biblical Christians. Jesus uses father language for God over and over again, from teaching us to pray to “our Father in heaven,” to telling Mary Magdalene that his Father is her Father too, to commanding us to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In the Farewell Discourses in the gospel of John (chapters 14 through 17), Jesus talks at length about the intimate relationship he shares with the Father. Jesus and the Father are one, Jesus says, and his followers share that same intimate relationship with God. If you are going to talk about the God of the Bible, the God revealed by Jesus Christ, you cannot avoid talking about God as Father.

Father language for God is not merely a metaphor that can be changed at will or balanced out by introducing feminine language and pronouns. The Bible is not merely “a collection of thoughts about God by some Bronze Age goat herders” (an actual quote by someone derisively dismissing the Bible as an authoritative text). The Bible is the Word of God. Yes, it has human fingerprints on it, and yes, it does include metaphor and poetry, but the father language Jesus employs goes far beyond metaphor. It is nothing less than a revelation of God’s name, God’s character, God’s relationship to Jesus, and God’s relationship to us.

The key to sharing the revelation that God is our heavenly Father with others, particularly with those for whom the word “father” has a negative connotation, is to connect it with the specific Father Jesus is talking about, the Righteous Father, the Father whose character is revealed in and by Jesus Christ. Philip pleaded with Jesus, “Lord, show us the Father and we will be satisfied,” to which Jesus responded, “If you have seen me, you have seen the Father” (John 14:8-9). Jesus makes God’s name known to us, and with it, God’s character, and thus, ultimately, God’s love. Apart from Jesus, “father” is an understandably vague title, open to unfortunate associations. But when it is connected to Jesus and his Word, we come to know God as a Father who begets us, protects us, provides for us, eagerly listens to us, and dearly loves us. We come to know God as a Father who has blessed us, chosen us, adopted us, redeemed us, forgiven us, lavished upon us the riches of his grace, and bequeathed to us an eternal inheritance (Ephesians 1:3-11).



I want people to know this heavenly Father whom Jesus is always going on and on about, and so I use the language and the pronouns Jesus himself used in reference to God. I especially want those who have negative associations with father language to know this Righteous Father who transcends all earthly fathers, so that they can have the kind of relationship with their heavenly Father that Jesus himself had. That’s what Jesus wants for all of us.

We who desire to hew closely to scripture in the ways we talk about God have our work cut out for us. This Father’s Day, one-fourth of American children will have to go somewhere other than their primary

Continued from the previous page

home to see their dads, if they see them at all. For many, fathers are associated with an aching absence, or worse. We need to be clear, then, that the God we are speaking of is a Righteous Father who loves us and cares for us and is so very close to us.

I am grateful for the many dads here at OHLC who display godly character as fathers, reflecting the grace and love of our heavenly Father to their children. All of us, men or women, parents or not, have a calling from Christ to make this Righteous Father known to all people, so they can call on God as their heavenly Father, enjoying the same relationship with the Father that Jesus did, so that his love would be in them, and that aching absence would be filled at last.



Pastor Jeffrey R. Spencer

Donuts & bacon on Father's Day!

After worship on Sunday, June 19 (remember, one service at 9:30!), we will celebrate all the dads of OHLC, past and present, with a special fellowship time featuring DONUTS AND BACON! All are welcome as we keep the other half of the fourth commandment this month by honoring fathers.



Boomerang those baby bottles!

For those who took home a baby bottle for the Pregnancy Care Center fundraiser, please remember to return them to the church office on or by Father's Day, Sunday, June 19. Thank you!

Gone astray: A deviled egg plate (white china with a gold rim, and little depressions to hold the eggs) seems to have vanished following one of May's memorial service receptions. If you come across it, it may be returned to the church office. Thank you!

June at OHLC

Confirmation Sunday to be celebrated on Pentecost, June 5



On Pentecost Sunday (June 5) we will celebrate with **Maddox Ackerman, Emma Norman, John Totten, and Kale Totten**, who have completed their confirmation studies and are ready to affirm their baptism through the Rite of Confirmation. Maddox and Emma will be confirmed at the 8:00 AM service, and John and Kale will be confirmed at the 10:30 service. Receptions with cake will be held after each service. God bless our confirmands!

Graduate Recognition Sunday set for June 12

On Sunday, June 12 we will honor OHLC's class of 2022 Oak Harbor High School graduates. We look forward to celebrating with **Sadie Harbaugh, Kerrick Norman, and Yusuke Zakimi**. We also received word that **Alissa Blevins** graduated from Nile C. Kinnick High School, Yokusuka, Japan. God bless our graduates!

Semi-annual Congregational Meeting set for June 12

Our semi-annual meeting will be held between services on Sunday, June 12, at 9:15 AM in the sanctuary. We will be electing new council members and taking care of other important business. All voting members are strongly encouraged to attend.



Summer schedule for Sunday worship begins on June 19



Please note that we will move to our summer worship schedule of ONE SERVICE at 9:30 AM, beginning Sunday, June 19. We look forward to having our congregation worshipping together as one for a few weeks!

Growing & Learning

Youth & Family activities, coming this summer



Flat Jesus is inspired by a national school project called *Flat Stanley*, based on a book written by Jeff Brown. Just as Flat Stanley has helped children with literacy and geography, Flat Jesus helps us stay plugged into the biblical message, giving families a unique opportunity to continually engage in their faith development all summer long.



This summer, bring Flat Jesus with you on your adventures—to the park, your camping trip, and even the pool! Where will your journeys take you and your Flat Jesus? Take pictures and include Jesus!

Send photos to Beth Stephens at bethasteph@gmail.com or post and tag on Facebook: Oak Harbor Lutheran Church.

Flat Jesus cutouts are available in the narthex starting June 12.



Coming Soon (Mark your calendar!):



Sunday, June 5, 6:00 PM, Youth and Family Bonfire Night

Join us in celebrating Pentecost with a bonfire and roast Peeps.

Sunday, July 3, 6:00 PM, All Ages Fun Run! *My Lifeguard Walks On Water*, Walk or Run 1 mile or 5k . **Everyone is welcome!**

Friday, August 5, 9:00 PM, Drive-in Movie Night: *Overcomer* (2019).

Life changes overnight for Coach John Harrison when his high school basketball team and state championship dreams are crushed under the weight of unexpected news. When the largest manufacturing plant shuts down and hundreds of families leave their town, John questions how he and his family will face an uncertain future. After John reluctantly agrees to coach cross-country, he and his wife Amy meet an aspiring athlete who's pushing her limits on a journey toward discovery. Inspired by the words and prayers of a new friend, John becomes the least-likely coach helping the least-likely runner attempt the impossible in the biggest race of the year.

Sunday School completes a great year



Thank you, Sunday School teachers! Our last day of Sunday School for the program year will be June 12. We want to thank all the teachers who have put in so much time and effort to teach God's Word to our children and youth this past year:

Director: Beth Stephens

Pre-K-K: Sara Hogarth

1st – 3rd grade: Peg Fosnaugh & Kendall Gibbons

4th – 6th grade: Fran Leukhardt

Middle & High School: Martha Ellis & Beth Stephens

Substitutes: Amy Spencer & Mary Brock

Thanks for a great year of learning together!

In appreciation

Dear OH Lutheran faith community,

Thank you for all your care and prayers during this time of loss. And thank you to everyone who helped with the memorial service.

Your appreciation and love for Gene/our Dad is a special blessing to us.

In Christ,
the Verburg family

I'm at a loss how to put into just a few words to express my gratitude for the hugs, the cards, and the words of encouragement and comfort I received following Lee's death. How can anyone go through such a loss without God and a "village" of friends like I have?

I have been so blessed.

Thank you, everyone, and God bless you.

Anabelle Mitchell

Congregation news

Welcome to our new members!

On Sunday, May 8, we welcomed 7 new members to OHLC: **Dan & Suzanne Dummer, Leslie Improta, Andrew Klinkowski, Karl Kruger & Kärin Ulvin, and Karen Swanson.** Introduce yourselves to these new friends and give them a warm OHLC welcome!

Please note that updated OHLC directories are printed on an as-needed basis and available in the rack in the narthex near the white board. If there are none there, contact Rekann in the church office.

A fond farewell to the Seeley family

After just over 2 years of membership and the recent birth of their son, Michael & Mandy Seeley are being transferred to Virginia by the Navy. Their last Sunday with us at worship was May 22. We give thanks for the time they were able to spend at OHLC, including Michael's gifts of worship music and hymn accompaniment with his euphonium (a great combination with Tom Piper's trumpet!). Our prayers go with Michael, Mandy, and Robin as they begin this new adventure.

In sympathy

Bill Heideger died on May 3, following a long illness. He was 89. Burial was in Coupeville's Sunnyside Cemetery on May 13; **his memorial service will be held at OHLC at 1:00 PM on Saturday, June 25.**

Bill and Jan joined our congregation in late 2001. Over the years, they both participated in our Kazan Committee activities, supporting OHLC's companion synod relationship with St. Katharina's Lutheran Church in Kazan, Russia. Bill served as a 10:30 AM usher, and continued to attend the Brotherhood of St. Bernard men's group study and fellowship gatherings as long as his health permitted.

Please keep Jan and the rest of the Heideger family in your prayers.



Welcome, Ella!

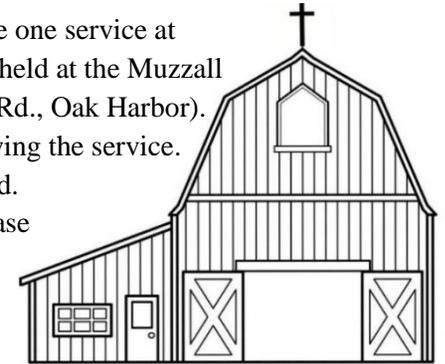
Tyler and Jessica (Muzzall) Hart welcomed a baby girl on May 19. Her name is Ella Jean Hart, and she came into the world at 8 lbs., 13oz, and 20.5 inches long. Congrats Jessica and Tyler, and welcome, Ella!

August 28: Worship & picnic on the farm!



Save the date! We will have one service at **11:00 AM on August 28**, held at the Muzzall farm (938 Scenic Heights Rd., Oak Harbor).

There will be a church picnic following the service. BBQ and beverages will be provided. (Donations will be welcomed.) Please bring a side dish and/or a dessert to share. Bring a friend, too!



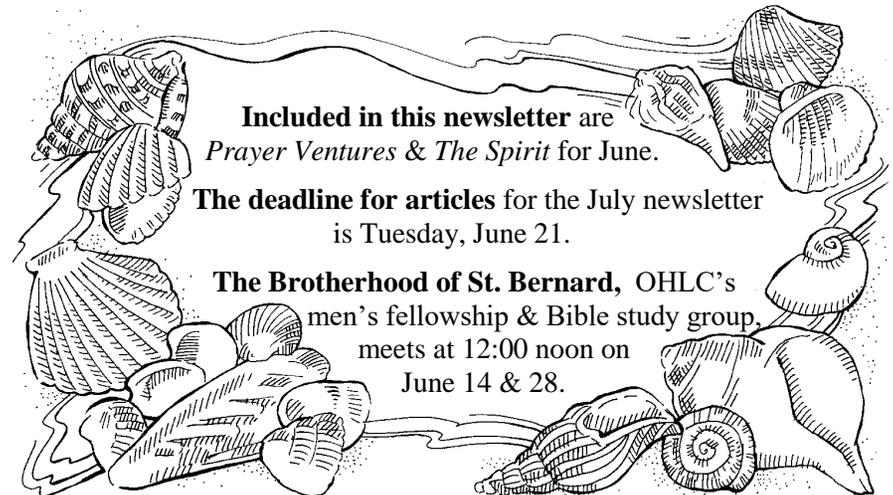
New address:

Tom Piper has joined the growing population of OHLC members at Regency. He's moved to one of the cottages, just down the way from the Deckers and Carole Lafond. Please note his new address: 994 SW Kimball Dr., A-203, Oak Harbor.

Included in this newsletter are *Prayer Ventures & The Spirit* for June.

The deadline for articles for the July newsletter is Tuesday, June 21.

The Brotherhood of St. Bernard, OHLC's men's fellowship & Bible study group, meets at 12:00 noon on June 14 & 28.



His Kids Preschool

A ministry of Oak Harbor Lutheran Church



May is always full of activity, in *and* out of the classroom. We finished up our **Special Students** focus by honoring **Julianna, Cecily, Leslie, Kamila** and **Lona** (*AM class*), and **Aurora** and **Olivia** (*PM class*).

Our month started out with our **Preschool Sunday Celebration!** We were so happy to see so many of our families join us for worship at 10:30 and stay for the preschool-hosted fellowship hour. We had past pictures of the classes on display, as well as scrapbooks that had been created over the years. It was so fun to see families point out children who were in the program and have now grown. Thank you to Peg Fosnaugh, Beth Stephens, Gaye Rodriguey, Anna and Elizabeth Richards, Sadie Harbaugh, Debbie Reetz, Elva McArthur, and Michelle Harper for helping out before, during and after. Your assistance was appreciated!

May's field trip brought us to the **3 Sisters Family Farm**, owned and operated over several generations by the Muzzall family! We had a great time seeing chickens, ducks, a peahen, cows, pigs and sheep, and we were blessed to have great weather. Thank you to Shelly, Jennifer and Roshel for welcoming us in this busy season of farming.

Our Pre-K Readiness class, taught by Ms. Michelle and Ms. Gaye, was able to **walk to Hillcrest Elementary** and visit a kindergarten class, taught by Ms. Christina Hwang. It was a windy walk, but the rain held off until we were back in our own classroom. We were so happy to visit her class again, and the children got to see what their own future kindergarten classroom might look like!

We had our end of the year **all-school family bowling party** at Oak Bowl and Mario Pizza, with 17 preschoolers and 34 family members participating. We kept our fingers crossed that there were enough shoes for all those little feet!

Our **final chapel of the year** with Pastor Jeff was on the 25th, and we invited our families to come see their children receive their certificates of class completion. It's always an emotional day for all of us, as we've watched the children grow and learn in such a short time!

We ended with a **celebration at Ft. Nugent Park**, and invited the families to join us where the children could play and have a picnic with their classmates. This was our last hurrah, saying goodbye to our preschoolers and their families before the summer started.

Here's how our students completed the sentence, **"I love my mom because..."**

AM class

Lila: she lets me watch TV.

Natalee: she helps me clean my room.

Chelsie: she kisses me good night.

Lona: she plays with me.

Leslie: she gives me kisses.

Kinsley: she plays with me.

Julianna: she takes me places to get toys.

Victoria: she cleans the house and I help her.

Alice G: she gives me hugs and kisses before I go to bed.

Kamila: she makes my favorite food like macaroni and cheese.

Poppy: she gives me hugs.

Alice D: she takes me places.

Violet: she gives me hugs.

Cecily: she sings.

Claire: we play together.

James: she gives me hugs.

PM class

Olivia: she helps me build blocks.

Katarina: she gives me surprises.

Sophia: we clean my room up together.

Laramie: she does baths with me.

Nate: she gives me dessert after dinner.

Dean: she sometimes lets us play outside with our neighbors if it's not raining.

Savannah: she's nice and lets me watch shows on my Nintendo and she lets me eat foods I like.

Leah: she lets me play on my tablet and she makes me cookies and she loves me and makes me Valentine's cards.

Aurora: she lets me play in the sandbox with Logan sometimes.

Roslyn: she loves to dance with me.

Jenna: she cooks me food.

Eddie: she plays with me.

Wyatt: she gives me balloons.

Camilla: she kisses me.

Keyara: she always cuddles me.

It's hard to think about how quickly this year has flown by! With both preschool classes being at full capacity, and the pre-k class being very close to, this is the best the numbers have been in our program since before the restrictions that COVID brought to our schools. We are so thankful for the continuation of how the preschool is remaining strong in growth, with the support of OHLC and the community of families who enter our doors every year. **We're open for registration for 2022-23!** If you have a child or know of a child of preschool age, please share with them about our preschool. Word of mouth is the best form of compliment.



God's Peace!

Ms. Elva, Ms. Michelle, Ms. Gaye and Ms. Sara

OHLC Women

Opportunities for fellowship, study, and service

Blanket Workshop



Blanket Workshop meets Tuesday & Wednesday, June 7 & 8, beginning in the fellowship hall at 9:30 AM to work on tied quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Materials are supplied and no experience is necessary. New volunteers are always welcome!

Circles in June



Deborah Circle will meet each Thursday in June at 1:00 PM in the church library. **All are welcome!**

- 6/ 2: *Act Boldly For Mission*, by Kelly Fryer, Session 3, “In the Power of the Holy Spirit,” pgs. 38-40
- 6/ 9: Session 3, pgs. 40-42
- 6/16: May/June 2022 *Gather* magazine, “Across the Generations,” pgs. 22-25
- 6/23: May/June 2022 *Gather* magazine, pgs. 25-57
- 6/30: May/June 2022 *Gather* magazine, *Crafted in Christ*, Session 1, “A summer of rest and renewal,” pgs. 36-39



Lydia Circle meets at 6:00 PM in the education wing on Mondays, June 6 & 20. New members are always welcome! Bible study continues in the book *The Resurrection*. For more information, contact Peg Fosnaugh, 360-675-2821, or Mary Brock, 360-672-8966, mkb1998@comcast.net.

Keep the church library in mind if you're looking for reading material this summer! The Library Team (Kathy Holroyd, Karen Pasewark & Colleen Pedlar) have been updating our shelves and developed a new check-out procedure; step-by-step details are displayed on the desk.

If you didn't get the chance to respond to May's bulletin insert library survey, a few copies are still available in the church office.



Go Missions International

Nick & Shannon Kraft, Peru

Nick & Shannon sent us a Kraft Family news brief on May 11.

Middle son **Moisés** graduated from George Fox University in Oregon. He had an art exhibit at the



T.J., Maddy, Moisés, Tucker
(a couple of years ago)

university and was chosen to exhibit in a gallery in Portland this summer. Shannon writes, “I remember Moisés asking me, ‘Mami, when will God tell me what my job is?’ and now he’s off. An artist with a message, Moisés will take an internship at Stanton Studios in Waco, Texas.”

Their daughter, **Maddy Joy**, a massage therapist, is now working in human resources. She’s hoping to work in a not-for-profit or something helping missionary kids.

Eldest son **T.J.** is still in Okinawa, Japan, with the U.S. Marines. He loves his job and is up for promotion, but is also recuperating following surgery following breaking his foot while skateboarding. “It’s a long process,” Shannon writes, “for a boy who could never sit still.”

Youngest son **Tucker** has finished his first year in the Cinema & Media Arts department of Biola University and is home with the family in Peru for the summer.

Shannon concludes:

As proud as we are of each one of them, we are a little sad to see them go. It’s all the natural process, but painful. This Mother’s Day I really felt it. It’s a new time.

Pray for Nick and me. The best members of our team have always been our kids. You know – they were the ones that *got it*.

Pray as we grow as a ministry at Go Missions International and as we manage all the happenings at *Casa Del Alfarero*, the Potter’s House.



Shannon & Nick
with some of Moisés' art

Love, Shannon & Nicolas

Compassion Ministry

Help wanted for Adopt-a Highway clean-up, June 11

Volunteers are needed for the next roadside clean-up along OHLC's 2-mile stretch of State Highway 20, just south of the Dugualla Bay area. Meet at church at 8:30 AM on Saturday, June 11, to collect your hard hat and reflective vest and carpool to the site.



The minimum age is 15; participation can count towards graduation volunteer credit requirements.

If you plan to participate, make a note on a Connection Card in your Sunday bulletin, or contact Jeff Margraf, 719-258-0055 or e-mail: jeffamargraf@aol.com.

Fundraiser update: Bead for Life/Street Business School

A big thank you to my beloved community of OHLC for supporting the women of Uganda through your recent purchases of beaded jewelry and your monetary gifts and donations.

With the \$400.00 we are sending to Street Business School, more women will increase their income and eventually own their business, therefore lifting themselves and their children out of poverty.

Ubuntu*,
Gaye Rodriguey

*(invoking the essential human virtues of compassion and dignity for all)

Lenten appeal nets a big-hearted response

Thank you Oak Harbor Lutheran for your generous support of the ELCA Hunger Appeal during Lent. Your kindness resulted in \$4285.00 being sent to ELCA World Hunger. You rock!!!

Carol Wall



Ministry of the Month supports immigrants and refugees

During the month of June, immigrants and refugees will be the Ministry of the Month. While there are numerous Lutheran affiliate groups who support immigrants and refugees, the Compassion Team has chosen Lutheran Community Services Northwest (LCSNW). This organization directly serves refugee families from Afghanistan, Ukraine, Myanmar, El Salvador etc., that are finding new homes in Bellingham, Lynnwood, and the Seattle area by providing support for daily and long-term needs.

From the Lutheran Community Services Northwest website:

“We believe in the American dream. That’s why we help people who’ve endured the unimaginable to pursue it. We work with thousands of refugees and immigrants each year... We equip refugees and



LUTHERAN
**Community
Services**
NORTHWEST

immigrants with the skills, resources and support they need to live fulfilling lives. We offer mental health counseling in different languages, help them learn English, find a place to live and work, gain citizenship, and become productive members in their Northwest communities. Our multicultural staff speaks many different languages. Many are refugees and immigrants themselves.”

Our weekly worship bulletins during June will have updated announcements, and there will be more information on the narthex bulletin board. One Sunday in June, the Compassion Team will host a coffee time with Jeff Groton, an Oak Harbor native who recently returned from the Ukraine. Plan to attend.

Your contributions towards the ministry of Lutheran Community Services Northwest, given above and beyond your usual gifts to OHLC, will be used to support refugees. Please make your check payable to OHLC with LCSNW in the check’s memo line.

Bob & Sandee Allen

Frequently asked questions about Stephen Ministry

Why the name Stephen?

In Acts 6:1-6, Stephen was among those chosen to provide caring ministry to those in need. Since Jesus' time, caring ministry has been a hallmark of the Christian faith.



What does the Stephen Ministry logo mean?

The logo represents a care receiver's journey from brokenness toward wholeness through the cross of Jesus. In this way, it illustrates "Christ caring for people through people."

Who are Stephen Ministers?

Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained to provide one-to-one Christ-centered care. They have a compassionate heart for those who are hurting, and they're equipped with caring ministry skills by the congregation's Stephen Leaders. A Stephen Ministry typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week to listen, care, pray, encourage, and offer emotional and spiritual support.

In what types of situations do Stephen Ministers provide care?

Stephen Ministers provide care to individuals facing difficult times in life – grief, cancer, divorce, financial difficulties, hospitalization, chronic illness, job loss, disability, a spiritual crisis, or other life struggles.

How does Stephen Ministry benefit pastors?

Stephen Ministry supports congregational pastors by deepening, expanding, and extending the caring capacity of the church. A team of Stephen Ministers, along with a pastor, provides ongoing care for more people than the pastor could provide alone. This also frees the pastor to invest more time in other important ministry areas.

Do Stephen Ministers care for people outside the congregation?

Yes, Stephen Ministers often provide care for people in the broader community, enhancing and expanding outreach in a powerful way.

Who are Stephen Leaders?

Stephen Leaders are the lay leaders, church staff members, and pastors who are equipped to oversee Stephen Ministry in the congregation. Stephen Leaders have gifts and skills in areas such as leadership, teaching, and organizing people, along with a heart for caring ministry. **OHLC's Stephen Leaders are Gaye Rodriguey and Gail Dobbyn**, who are concluding their 2-month leadership training program. **Our Stephen Ministers meet together on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 4 PM, currently via Zoom.**

If you are interested in being trained to become a Stephen Minister or if it would help you to receive this confidential, one-to-one listening care, contact the church office, Gaye Rodriguey, or Pastor Spencer.

Kits to be assembled for Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran World Relief Kits are specifically designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict, and more. Whether a kit helps someone to maintain good hygiene, care well for a newborn baby, keep education going during a crisis or learn a new vocation, LWR Kits provide dignity and hope in the direst situations.



From June 26 through July 24, we will collect items for **Personal Care Kits**. Some of the required items have already been purchased in bulk by OHLC. We will need donations of:

- Bath towels**, lightweight preferred, dark colors are best
- Bath-sized bars of soap**
- Adult-sized toothbrushes** in original packaging

These items may be placed in the marked bin in the narthex.

School Kit items will be collected starting in August. As back-to-school sales begin to show up, keep your eyes open for:

- Spiral notebooks** (70-sheet)
- Pencil sharpeners**
- Crayons** (boxes of 16 or 24)
- Rulers** (30 cm/12")
- Ballpoint pens** (blue or black)
- Blunt scissors**

Loving Our Neighbors

Juneteenth is a holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It recalls how the states of Louisiana and Texas heard the news that President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Slavery had continued in those two states for more than two years after the proclamation was signed because the word had yet to travel there. Texas and Louisiana finally got the news on June 19, 1865. Former slaves broke out in spontaneous celebration. These were dangerous times. Even in the face of resistance and threat, the formerly enslaved Africans found ways to give voice to the wide range of thoughts and emotions at the announcement of the end of legalized slavery in the United States.

One way to celebrate this momentous occasion is with food (always my first thought when there's an occasion to celebrate!). *Sweet Home Cafe Cookbook, A Celebration of African American Cooking*, suggests the following Juneteenth menu:

Texas Caviar
Barbecued Beef Brisket Sandwich
Potato Salad
Stewed Tomatoes & Okra
High Mesa Peach & Blackberry Cobbler
Sweet Cherry Lemonade

If you are interested in preparing any of these dishes, please contact me at gaye@tobysuds.com and I will be more than happy to share the recipe with you.

Be encouraged by these words, taking ahold of our history in such way that it becomes nourishment and guidance for journeying into our future:

"Always remember, you have strength within you, the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world. Now I've been free, I know what a dreadful condition slavery is. I have seen hundreds of escaped slaves, but I never saw one who was willing to go back and be a slave."

~ Harriet Tubman

Juneteenth

"Liberty is meaningless where the right to utter one's thoughts and opinions has ceased to exist. That, of all the rights, is the dread of tyrants. It is the right which they first of all strike down. They know its power. Thrones, dominions, principalities, and powers, founded in injustice and wrong are sure to tremble, if men are allowed to reason..."

Equally clear is the right to hear. To suppress free speech is a double wrong. It violates the rights of the hearer as well as those of the speaker."
~ Frederick Douglass

Holy and righteous God, you created us in your image. Grant us grace to contend fearlessly against evil and to make no peace with oppression. Help us, like those of generations before who resisted the evil of slavery and human bondage in any form and any manner of oppression. Help us to use our freedom to bring justice among people and nations everywhere, to the glory of your Holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Shalom, Gaye

**Adapted from ELCA 2019 Juneteenth Worship Resource

The Day of Pentecost

On Pentecost, we celebrate that we have been given an Advocate to accompany us. Poured out in wind and fire, water, wine, and bread, the Holy Spirit abides in and among us. We give thanks that God speaks to each of us, no matter our origins, language, or life path.

Filled with the Spirit of truth, we go out from worship to proclaim the saving power of Christ's love and the freedom of God's grace with all the world.



Pentecost

Sundays & Seasons, Year C, 2022, Augsburg Fortress, 2021.

| Worship assistants | | |
|--|---|---|
| June 5 | | |
| 8:00 AM | Assisting Minister: Usher: Dave Fosnaugh | Computer: Connor Norman Organ/Piano: Jan Ernst |
| 10:30 AM | Assisting Minister: Kathy Holroyd | Computer: Ted Smith Organ/Piano: Jan Ernst |
| June 12 | | |
| 8:00 AM | Assisting Minister: Peg Fosnaugh Usher: Jeff Margraf | Computer: Donna Aspery Organ/Piano: Verna Morgan |
| 10:30 AM | Assisting Minister: Jan Heideger | Computer: John Totten Organ/Piano: Verna Morgan |
| January 19 <i>Summer worship schedule begins!</i> | | |
| 9:30 AM | Assisting Minister: Jeff Margraf | Computer: Lisa Margraf Organ/Piano: Sue Stroud |
| January 26 | | |
| 9:30 AM | Assisting Minister: Carol Fitzgerald Ushers: | Computer: Sam Richards Organ/Piano: Jan Ernst |

Little Lutheran bags in June: Donna Aspery

This month's featured font is **Windz;**

drop caps are **S H I N N Y D A Y S**.

Financial Report

April

| | <i>April</i> | <i>Year to date</i> |
|--------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Income | \$ 42,931 | \$ 160,087 |
| Outgo | <u>39,060</u> | <u>158,357</u> |
| | \$ <u>2,872</u> | \$ <u>1,730</u> |

Worship Attendance

May

| Date | 8:00 AM | 10:30 AM |
|------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| May 1 | 58 | 148 (<i>Preschool Sunday!</i>) |
| May 8 | 62 | 68 |
| May 15 | 62 | 68 |
| May 22 | 57 | 81 |
| Avg. Att. | 60 | 91 |

May 29 will be included in next month's statistics.

Average Sunday attendance: 151 | 12

Lesser Festivals & Commemorations

June

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Justin, martyr at Rome, c.165 | 21 Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, 1931 |
| 3 The Martyrs of Uganda, 1886; John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, 1963 | 24 The Nativity of John the Baptist |
| 5 Boniface, Archbishop of Mainz, missionary to Germany, martyr, 754 | 25 Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530; Philipp Melanchthon, renewer of the Church, 1560 |
| 7 Seattle, chief of the Duwamish Confederacy, 1866 | 27 Cyril, bishop of Alexandria, theologian, 444 |
| 9 Columba, 597; Aidan, 651, Bede, 735, renewers of the church | 28 Iraneus, Bishop of Lyons, c.202 |
| 11 Barnabas, Apostle | 29 Peter & Paul, Apostles |
| 14 Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, 379; Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, c. 385; Gregory of Nanzianus, Bishop of Constantinople, c. 389; Macrina, teacher, c. 379 | |

A kindled fire

"I can worship outside among nature just as well as I can inside a church building." That claim is especially common during the summer, when church attendance tends to decline.

Certainly it's possible to worship and talk to God among his creation. In fact, George Washington Carver called nature "an unlimited broadcasting station, through which God speaks to us every hour, if we will only tune in." And Martin Luther said, "God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars."

Yet corporate, or church, worship is still vital. Luther also noted: "At home, in my own house, there is no warmth or vigor in me, but in the church when the multitude is gathered together, a fire is kindled in my heart and it breaks its way through." When we're away from God's house, we miss blessings and opportunities including communion, fellowship and support. So this summer, spend time in nature but don't neglect "to meet together" (see Hebrews 10:25)!



The Newsletter Newsletter, June 2020

JUNE



| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| | | | 1 11:30 OHLC Staff 6:00 Jubilate Choir | 2 <i>Carpet cleaning: sanctuary/library/hallway /fellowship hall</i> 1:00 Deborah Circle 7:00 Council 7:00 NA, fellowship hall | 3 | 4 NW WA Synod Assembly, Trinity Lutheran, Lynnwood |
| 5 Pentecost Confirmation Sunday Worship 8:00 Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 <i>Livestreamed on Facebook</i> Piano recital 1:30 Youth & Family Night Pentecost bonfire 6:00 CA/library 7:30 | 6 5:00 Brass rehearsal 6:00 Lydia Circle 7:00 Concert: Penn Cove Brass/Harbor Brass 7:00 North Whidbey NA/library | 7 9:30 Blanket Workshop 5:30 Al Anon 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boy Scouts | 8 9:30 Blanket Workshop 11:30 OHLC Staff | 9 1:00 Deborah Circle 4:00 Stephen Ministry 5:00 Solo recitals (brass), to 8:00 7:00 NA, fellowship hall | 10 12:00 Navy Respite Care training | 11 8:30 Adopt-a-Highway roadside clean-up; <i>meet at OHLC to carpool</i> |
| 12 Graduates Recognition Worship 8:00 Semi-annual 9:15 Congregational Meeting Sunday School 9:15 Worship 10:30 <i>Livestreamed on Facebook</i> CA/library 7:30 | 13 6:00 Brass audition recording, to 8:00 7:00 North Whidbey NA/library | 14 10:00 Church Mice Stampers 12:00 Brotherhood of St. Bernard 5:30 Al Anon 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boy Scouts | 15 11:30 OHLC Staff | 16 1:00 Deborah Circle 7:00 NA, fellowship hall | 17 | 18 |
| 19 <i>Summer worship schedule begins!</i> Worship 9:30 <i>Livestreamed on Facebook</i> Fathers' Day fellowship Donuts & Bacon! 10:30 CA/library 7:30 | 20 6:00 Lydia Circle 7:00 North Whidbey NA/library | 21 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 5:30 Al Anon 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boy Scouts | 22 11:30 OHLC Staff | 23 1:00 Deborah Circle 7:00 NA, fellowship hall | 24 | 25 1:00 Memorial service, Bill Heideger |
| 26 Worship 9:30 <i>Livestreamed on Facebook</i> CA/library 7:30 | 27 6:00 North Whidbey NA/fellowship hall | 28 10:00 Church Mice Stampers 12:00 Brotherhood of St. Bernard 5:30 Al Anon 6:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Boy Scouts | 29 11:30 OHLC Staff | 30 1:00 Deborah Circle 7:00 NA, fellowship hall | HIS KIDS PRESCHOOL <i>SUMMER BREAK!</i> Registration for His Kids Preschool 2022-23 is now open to the community. Space is available in all classes! Contact the church office, 360-679-1561. | |