

# First Lutheran Church of Richmond Beach

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## Harvest Party—October 28th, 6:00-7:30 PM



The Harvest Party is our annual fall community event. Come be part of the magic of the night. With great food, games, crafts, a costume parade, and of course, Trunk-or-treating!!

Everyone is invited to join in this celebration. Costumes are optional—fun is required!



Trunk-or-Treating 2008!

Non-Profit Org.  
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Seattle, WA  
Permit No. 410



First Lutheran Church  
of Richmond Beach

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October 2009

# The Beachcomber

## Aloha Sunday a SUCCESS!

Aloha Sunday, September 13th, was a wonderful day as nearly 400 of us celebrated our new church year with a united worship followed by a great Aloha meal (a roasted pig, Hawaiian rice, etc., etc.), shared in the sunshine and accompanied by musical performances by several groups and individuals.



### Inside this issue:

A Word from Pastor Bjorge	2
October Calendar	4
Prayer Requests	5
Preschool News	6
Faith Formation	7

### Special points of interest:

- Coming soon—*The Harvest Party!!* - See back page
- Flu Shots Available - see page 3

### A Word from Pastor Bjorge

This summer I spent a week sitting at the feet of one of the finest Lutheran church historians teaching today, Dr. Walter Sundburg. Walt has just finished a book on the history of Lutheran worship. Based on his examination of the history of Lutheran worship practice, he has written one of the best definitions of worship I've seen. He writes:

The purpose of liturgical worship is to call Christians to self-examination; to warn them to be under no illusion as to what they are and how far they fall short when they stand before God and holy things; to teach them to worship God in humility; to feed them the Bread of Life and to make them ready to give testimony to Christ in word and deed.

**True worship seeks the heart; its purpose is to change us!** That's why we read of the necessity for self-examination in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29 where, in the context of giving us what we call the Words of Institution that we use at the time of communion, Paul instructs us to carefully examine ourselves before participating in communion lest we eat and drink unworthily. We, of course, don't make ourselves worthy to receive the gifts God gives us in the Lord's Supper. But we can make ourselves unworthy if we come with a sense of entitlement and think such gifts are ours without first taking stock of our sin, our brokenness, and of just how "far short we fall when we stand before God and holy things."

Luther wrote in his Exhortation to Communicants (LW 51:104) that **communion's goal is to change you and me** and that no one can come to the Lord's Table without confession.

All of this brings to mind for me the bigger point that **if nothing is required of faith, why practice faith at all?** If the church is simply a reflection of our society and simply affirms our cultural mores, how important really then is the church? This is what has happened in Western Europe and we see how deadly it has been to the church there—once life-giving communities of faith reduced to mere museums!

I think too often, in our desire to be missional and to reach out, we pare back the requirements of the faith (ethically, theologically, and spiritually). We think that worship should baptize our agendas without changing us and bringing us under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and his agenda... Jesus who died on the cross so that he could take the sin we bring to him and wipe it away, banish it from us once and for all, and then, through his Spirit, heal us of its devastating effects so that we might be his agents of change in the world—his salt in a tasteless rotting world; his light in a world entrenched in utter darkness!

**"We Lutherans have gathered like eagles around the carcass of cheap grace, and there we have drunk of the poison that has killed the life of following Christ."**  
—Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*, p. 53.

But for this healing to begin, we first need to examine our hearts. We need to let God's law convict us and judge us. **Oh, how we hate to be judged!** Why are we so afraid of letting God's Word judge us? Do we not know his heart? He only judges us in love—it's for our betterment, not our demise. The thing is that unless we allow ourselves to be judged and see a glimpse of the wrath of God, the transforming grace of God in Christ will forever elude us.

The Lutheran pastor, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, said it well when he claimed that **we Lutherans have gathered like eagles around the carcass of cheap grace, and there we have drunk of the poison that has killed the life of following Christ.** We've given away the Word and sacraments wholesale; we baptized, confirmed, and absolved a whole nation without insisting on lives dedicated to faithful service and holy living. We've poured forth unending streams of grace, but the call to follow Jesus was rarely heard. His words now sound strangely prophetic.

Let us here in Richmond Beach never shrink from examining our hearts before God's holy throne so that we can receive all God has in his heart for us. This will allow worship to be truly transforming and allow us to follow Jesus into the world in dynamic ways.



### Reformation Event Sunday October 25th

Sunday School on Reformation will be a fun intergenerational event looking at the life of Martin Luther and what he brought to our Faith. This event will have games, crafts and activities!! More information to come!!



### Octoberfest Meal October 25th

After the 11am service join us for our 3rd annual Octoberfest meal featuring Jim Shilt's wonderful Sauerkraut. This is a great family-friendly event and a fundraiser for all the middle school and high school youth. Meal is a free will donation. Sauerkraut sales will start end of November beginning of December.

### Cabbage cutting for Sauerkraut October 31 Time TBA

Calling all middle school and high school students and their parents. It is time to cut cabbage for the annual sauerkraut sale. Mark your calendars, more information to come.



### Youth Quake November 20-22, 2009

### 7th-12th Graders

Once again, time for Youth Quake!! This a fun youth gathering in a hotel with Christian Bands, speakers, service projects, and lots of other youth. We go as a church and stay together as a church.

graders and is strongly encouraged for those in confirmation. Registration Information.

Permission forms can be found on the bulletin board.

If you have not yet registered please contact Terry ASAP.

This event is open to all 7th-12th



He has shown you what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to DO justly, To LOVE mercy,

# PRESCHOOL NEWS

## Family Faith Walks—October Fields Are Ripe

“Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His Harvest field’” Matthew 9:37-38

### Faith Walk:

Walk through a field, an orchard, a vegetable garden, or a neighborhood with gardens. Note how the fruits and vegetables are ripe and ready to be picked.

### Faith Talk:

- What happens at harvest time?
- The harvest is plentiful. There are many people who need to hear the good news of salvation in Christ and be brought to God so he might work faith in their hearts.
- Who are some of the workers in God’s kingdom? Who spreads the Good News of salvation to others? Pastors? Missionaries? Teachers? Parents? You?
- How could God work through your family to lift up your pastor and others you know who spread the Good News?

### Faith Activities:

- Enjoy a family-day-out, picking fruit at an orchard.
- Visit a farmer’s market or specialty grocery store and look for unfamiliar produce. Bring home a new fruit or vegetable to try.
- Write a thank-you note to your pastor for all he does in God’s kingdom. Pray for him and pray that there will be more and more pastors to preach God’s Word near and far.

Dear Heavenly Father, Lord of the Harvest,

The fields are ripe and the laborers are few. Please, O Lord, send more workers into the field. Stir hearts to become pastors and missionaries and teachers, open mouths to speak Your words, and give power to the faithful, including us, to bring more people to You. For Jesus’ sake. Amen

From:”Family Faith Walks”

By Kelly J Haack, Concordia Publishing House

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for donating to the Preschool Tuition Assistance Program during August. We collected just over \$900 and we will be able to help several more families this year!

Thank you again for your ongoing prayers and support!

In Christ’s Service

Kären Beasley, Director, Board and Staff of First Lutheran Preschool

# First Lutheran Preschool SCRIPS

First Lutheran Preschool SCRIPS is our on-going Fundraiser that has you purchasing “scrips” (or more commonly known as gift cards) for your everyday purchases –not just for gifts—and the companies donate back to us a percentage of the card amount. You can purchase card for businesses like Albertson’s, AMC Theaters, Applebee’s, California Pizza Kitchen, Cheesecake Factory, Denny’s, Crate & Barrel, Exxon, Starbucks and hundreds of others. The preschool will receive donations ranging from 1% to 17% of the total cost and you don’t have to do a thing! If you buy a card for \$25 you get a card for \$25—but the preschool will receive a donation from the company! It’s a GREAT way to support the preschool—look for the “SCRIPS” table in the Narthex or outside the preschool office!

Follow the advice from the “Peanuts Gang”

Get your SCRIPS today for all your everyday purchases and for gift giving!!!



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Saratov, on the 10th of September 2009

Dear brothers and sisters from First Lutheran of Richmond Beach,

Thank you very much for your donation at a rate of \$1000 for the building of the church in Saratov.

The church of Jesus Christ in Russia has to face a big challenge and fights daily to survive.

We are very glad that the work in Russia lives on your heart.

Your support is a special encouragement for us. Without your praers and financial support a lot of blessing would not have arised.

Lord bless you!

We wish you strength and God’s blessing.

But you, O LORD, are a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of my head.  
 (Ps. 3:3)

*A. Scheiermann*  
 Pastor Alexander Scheiermann



**Annual Flu Shot Clinic**  
**Tuesday Oct. 20**  
**11:30—12:30 PM**

Swedish Visiting Nurse Services will be here to administer flu shots to any adult. Flu shots are \$30/Pneumonia Shots \$40. They accept Medicare Part B and many other insurance carriers—just bring your card with you.

Please contact Kären Beasley at 206-546-0320 or [preschool@flrb.org](mailto:preschool@flrb.org) to sign up or if you need more information!

Sponsored by First Lutheran Preschool

# ▶ October 2009

Schedule of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>This calendar reflects only activities sponsored by FLRB—please check with the office to set any meeting.</i></p>						
				1	2	3
				11:30 Writers' Class 5:45 Sounds of Grace 6:30 PS Back to School Nt.		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30 Classic Worship 9:45 Education 11:00 Praise Worship 4:30 Confirmation	6:30 Financial Peace U 6:30 PS Teachers 7:00 Womens' Bible Study	9:00 InAsMuch 12:00 Staff Mtg 6:00 Finance Team 7:00 Holy Land Bible Study	10:00 Word of Life 5:15 New Song & Alleluia Choirs 6:00 Village Nt Supper 6:30 Education 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:00 PRISM 7:30 Cantorei	10:00 Mary Martha Circle 5:45 Sounds of Grace		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30 Classic Worship 9:45 Education 11:00 Praise Worship 4:30 Confirmation	6:30 Financial Peace U 7:00 Stephen Ministry 7:00 Womens' Bible Study	9:00 InAsMuch 1:30 Staff Mtg 7:00 Council	10:00 Word of Life 11:30 Seniors' Luncheon Potluck 6:00 VN Opening 6:30 Education 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:00 PRISM 7:30 Cantorei Choir	11:30 Writers' Class 5:45 Sounds of Grace		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 Classic Worship 9:45 Education 11:00 Praise Worship 4:30 Confirmation	6:30 Financial Peace U 7:00 Womens' Bible Study	9:00 InAsMuch 11:30 Flu Shot Clinic 1:30 Staff Mtg <i>Israel Trip Begins</i>	5:15 New Song & Alleluia Choirs 6:00 VN Dinner 6:30 Study for All 6:60 MS Youth Grp 6:30 HS Youth Grp 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:00 PRISM 7:30 Cantorei Choir	5:45 Sounds of Grace		
25- Reformation Sunday	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:30 Classic Worship 9:45 Education 11:00 Praise Worship 12 N Octoberfest Meal 4:30 Confirmation	6:30 Financial Peace U 7:00 Stephen Ministry 7:00 Womens' Bible Study	9:00 InAsMuch 1:30 Staff Mtg 6:30 PS Lions Pumpkin Carving	10:00 Word of Life 6:00 <b>Harvest Party</b> 6:30 Handbell Choir 7:00 PRISM 7:30 Cantorei Choir <i>FLRB Serves Dinner @ Compass Center</i>	5:45 Sounds of Grace		

- 14th—Seniors' Luncheon—Potluck
- 20th— Trip to Israel begins—*Godspeed!*
- 28th—FLRB serves dinner to the folks at the Compass Center
- 28th—Harvest Party—EVERYONE can join in the fun!

*Special Note:* Pastor Kristy Daniels of the Compass Center will be preaching on Reformation Sunday, October 25th.

## OCTOBER OUTREACH – THE COMPASS CENTER

Our Outreach emphasis for October is the Compass Center. For those who remember the Compass Center as an old building in Pioneer Square, things have changed. Over the past 12 years they have expanded their programs greatly, to include long-term, low income housing, additional shelters, the Veteran's Center here in Shoreline, and in 2007 started a new ELCA congregation, the Church of Steadfast Love, at the Pioneer Square location.

The Compass Center is currently ready to start construction in Renton of a new Veterans' Center for transitional housing for homeless veterans,

and is also planning a new building for transitional housing in Ballard.

The big news for this year is that the Compass Center and LATCH (Lutheran Alliance To Create Housing) are in the process of merging these two Lutheran organizations.

We have already begun to collect socks and hygiene items in the narthex, and our financial support, through your October Outreach offerings, goes to help fund the ongoing ministries to the homeless, including overnight shelters and their hygiene center in Pioneer Square. First Lutheran will also provide dinner for the Pioneer

Square residents on Wednesday, October 28th.

As part of our emphasis this year, Pastor Kristy Daniels from the new congregation, will be preaching at both services on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> and will be here for the 9:45 Education Hour to tell us more about the Compass Center's programs and the new congregation. Compass Center board members Jim Borrow and Phil Turcotte from our congregation will also be on hand to discuss the upcoming merger and other new programs. You are all encouraged to attend to learn more about the ministries this dynamic organization.

## Our Prayer for Friends and Community

*We pray for God's blessings and care for the following members and friends who are ill or in need:*  
For Nancy Teesdale, sister of Joan Rice; for David Kinner; Solveig Schweiss; Audrey Steendahl; Anne Schmidt, Glenn's mother; Bill VanHoosier, brother of Jerry; Kermit and Jane Hanson; Lisa Everitt, sister of Tina King; Eric Pedersen;

*We pray for peace and God's*

*comfort for those who have lost loved ones:* Esther Peterson, Rev Jan Nesse's mother; cousin of Rob McCuiston; Fred Marchaland, son of Marjorie; Allen Wyttenback, brother-in-law of Vala Hallgrimson and uncle to Tamarah and Eric Lee; Jon Hallet, husband of Lisa and father of three, friends of Bente Klatt, killed in military duty in Afganistan; sister-in-law of Elva Rodley;

*We ask God to bless the new marriage and future lives of Peder Larson and Suzy Fong,* wed September 6th.

*We give thanks for the healthy birth of Lucy Anne to parents Karim and Alice, granddaughter of Fran and Jay Uchida; Regan Beasley to Erik and Erika on August 24, grandson of Scott and Kären.*



*We pray ...*