

## A WORD FROM PASTOR BJORGE



Today our office is placing the order for next year's copies of the 2011 Daily Texts. Many of you use those for your devotional times and many groups within our congregation start their meetings with these texts and the written prayer-starter. The practice of choosing two texts for each day started with the Moravians back

in 1731. The movement began on the farm that came to be known as "Herrnut," which means "under the watch of the Lord."

Nothing short of a revival happened among these people who intentionally spent time reflecting and praying on just a passage or two of God's Word each and every day. Their revival involved a continuous ministry of prayer where groups of two people prayed for an hour at a time for 24 hours a day for 100 years. This awakening led to thousands of people being brought to faith and led hundreds to go out in mission bringing Jesus to the world.

My prayer is that more and more of you would engage God's Word daily and would daily pray for a revival to happen among us. For any revival to start, it first needs to start with me and with each of us. Revival, that is growth and vitality within the church that blesses the world, happens when the Christians who are already a part of the church catch 'on fire.' It happens when our lives become

committed, when we joyfully and enthusiastically live out our faith by engaging practices of Christian living such as daily prayer, passion for God's Word, enthusiastic outreach, generous giving of our financial resources, faithful worship, and holy living that sets us apart from the world as it is. It happens when we make the shift from member to disciple; from attender to engaged participant; from spectator to devoted follower of Jesus.

Just as for the Herrnut community, the single most determining characteristic for us as to whether we're going to be a church that catches 'on fire' will be our capacity for prayer and our time spent engaging and applying God's Word to our lives. All else—our service, outreach, mission, stewardship, inspired worship, and growth (both numerical and spiritual) will stem from this. It's time spent with Jesus, in His Word, going to Him in prayer, that will grow this place, strengthen this place, and

allow God to use this place for His glory. It all comes down to how each of us are doing at cultivating a genuine relationship with Jesus Christ.

Like the Herrnut community, we are under the watch of the Lord. God has His eye on us, on you and on me, and through His Spirit is going to raise us to play a vital role in bringing

Christ to our community and world. May we join together in passionately praying: Marantha! Come Lord Jesus, Come!

Pastor John Bjorge

*God has His eye on us, on you and on me, and through His Spirit is going to raise us to play a vital role in bringing Christ to our community and world.*

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## MUSIC MINISTRY



*Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be the salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You've lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage. Here's another way to put it: you're here to be the light, bringing out the God colors to the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill...*

~ Matthew 5:13-14 as paraphrased on *The Message*

As I read these verses I couldn't help feeling excited and energized. Actually, this paraphrase of the Gospel of Matthew jolted me. This time of the year we are all busy trying to manage all of our errands and deadlines. October, for example, is the month when every church musician starts worrying about Christmas. I am not an exception. While I double and triple check my to-do lists and lead the congregation through all the events scheduled for the last couple of months of the calendar year, it is very important for me not to forget what it means to be a disciple in the world. Similarly, we all may become so busy with the daily race that our calling and Christian mission may slip from our minds. It is in times of frenetic activity and in times of personal challenge that the words of the psalmist may come to mind and brighten our outlook. We are reminded...

*"I lifted my eyes to the mountains; from where shall my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121).* We can always derive strength from these marvelous words. I cling to them for courage.

People of God: we need reminders. Our human condition is characterized by frailty and inconstancy. We are prone to fix our attention on the glass-half-empty and ignore how much we have. It is no small wonder we are admonished to procure divine counsel in the biblical witness: we easily waver and forget; we wander and stray; we, like sheep, are directionally challenged and hopelessly lost without help. We need God's compass to boost the pace of our daily faith-walk, to strengthen our pledge "to gospel" one another, to

bolster and mend our weak hearts and, finally, to simply remind us of why we are here.

And why are we here? In the middle of the hustle and bustle we must remember that through our kinship with Christ we have become divine agents. We are called to be His salt and His light in this world. We have heard it said: "God's work, our hands". We are here to be a blessing to those around us. Please, allow me to remind us all: we need to go public with this.

*As a church, we are committed to expanding our ministry and growing, and furthermore, we firmly believe that God has a plan for us.*

At the start of my second year of ministry at FLRB, I ask myself, "In what ways am I being a blessing to the people of this community of faith?" I also would like you to join me in asking, "in what ways are we, collectively, living as God's salt and light to the world?" As a church, we are committed to expanding our ministry and growing, and furthermore, we firmly believe that God has a plan for us.

Let us not become overwhelmed by the accelerated pace of life. Let us ask ourselves "If I know that I am blessed by being a blessing, why do I find myself making decisions, lurching between my personal insecurities and God's promise, between my brokenness and God's grace?" Allow me to share with you the following doxology, written by John Bell, as a reminder to us all:

*"Praise the maker, praise the maker's Son  
Praise the Spirit three yet ever one;  
Praise the God whose food and friends avow  
Heaven starts here! The kingdom beckons now"*

## CARING MINISTRIES

### BLUE CHRISTMAS

"A Service of Remembrance and Hope" will be Sunday, December 12th, at 2pm this year. Stephen Ministries presents this annually during the holiday season for all who have suffered the loss of a loved one, or any type of loss, which makes this holiday time of year difficult. This service is often referred to as a "Blue Christmas" service. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor John, or the Stephen Ministry leaders, Anita Riksheim and Cathy Thomas. If you are aware of someone who might be interested in attending, please let us know. We would love to send them a personal invitation.

### LET US PRAY

"Let Us Pray" – you will find some Stephen Ministers with their blue nametags on at church on Sundays. They are available to pray with individuals desiring prayer after church services. Stephen Ministers are trained in one on one caring, and all prayers are confidential.



### WHO IS MISSING?

Are you aware of anyone who hasn't been to church lately? Perhaps they are ill and in need of prayer, or might benefit from a meal from the Nourishment Ministry team. Please help us to reach out to those in need! We also have Eucharistic Ministers, who find it an honor to bring

communion into the home or hospital for someone unable to participate with us in worship. Please contact the church office, Pastor John or Cathy Thomas if you know of someone needing support.

## SENIOR MINISTRY

### ATTENTION SENIORS

YOU ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON.

*December 1st, 2010 at 11:30 a.m.  
In The Fellowship Hall*

First, you may want to attend the special 10:00 am Bible study, then attend the luncheon or just come to the luncheon.

But come with great expectations for good food, fellowship, singing Christmas Carols & much, much more!

Mark your calendar! You won't want to miss the Senior Christmas Luncheon!

Questions? Contact Person: Dorothy Clausen 425-776-2694 (back from vacation Nov. 15th.)

## ENDOWMENT FUNDS

### CURRENT ACTIONS WITH FURTHER IMPACT

All of us, individually and collectively, want to believe that we can make a difference. We look for ways to use our time, our talent and our money to make positive changes in our world. However, we often feel frustrated by the short-term duration of the work that we do. We work hard to gather pledges and budget wisely, every month and year after year. We organize successful worship festivals, art/craft events and spaghetti dinners, raising much-needed funds for special projects, but as soon as they are over, we start planning for the next one, because the need will return. Although we can't effectively organize more than one year's festival at a time we can take some other steps that will have a long-term positive impact on our congregation. The FLCRB Endowment Fund and Memorial Funds can be some of those steps.

The Endowment Fund is a repository for long-term gifts from many donors. Interest and in some circumstances principle are a resource for seeding mission plans and projects that may not be attainable with the resources in the congregation's annual budgets. Gifts can be made in a wide variety of ways through bequests in wills, appreciated securities, property, annuities and life insurance among many others. Many of these gifts allow donors to see their contributions at work in ministry during their lifetime.

Memorial Funds at First Lutheran are generally given in honor of a deceased member of the congregation. All of the memorial donations are spent on one or more designated furnishing, building or program projects within a relatively short period. Memorial Funds at FLCRB

have resulted in our stained glass windows, organ enhancement, Stephen Ministry and many other enhancements to our building and programs.

The First Lutheran Church of Richmond Beach Mission Endowment Fund can put you in touch with professional financial planners who can help you design a charitable gift that works for your situation. You can reach the Mission Endowment Fund through Carolee Grumm, Business Administrator, at the church office.



## FAITH FORMATION



### GERMAN SAUERKRAUT MEAL

NOVEMBER 14TH

After 11am service

This fundraiser supports confirmation and high school youth activities

### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

This year the Christmas Pageant will be held on a Wednesday night. Children and Youth 3yr-12th grade will be able to participate. We will be having practices both on Sunday's and Wednesdays. We will this year assign parts based on commitment level. Please look for more information and contracts to be coming out the early part of November.

#### Adult help needed with the following:

Costumes, Set, Rehearsals, Set up take down. For more information on how you can help please contact Terry Baird

### SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

Sunday school Offering goes to our Compassion Child Abraham Tassou who lives in Africa. Please send your child to Sunday school with a little bit of money to help support our Child. Sponsoring children in need is breaking the cycle of poverty Compassion International exists as a Christian child advocacy ministry that releases children from spiritual, economic, social and physical poverty and enables them to become responsible, fulfilled Christian adults.

## PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN

### SCHOOL NEWS

We are very excited to report the Preschool & Kindergarten has been recommended for a full 7 year accreditation through ELEA (Evangelical Lutheran Education Association). We will be receiving our final report this month and we will then look at the areas the visitation team is suggesting as areas of growth - either in policies and procedures or equipment for the school. Thank you for your support through this process and throughout the year! From our staff and board THANK YOU for the gift of this ministry to our community!

### FIRST LUTHERAN SCRIPS

Scraps is our on-going fundraiser. With the Holidays just around the corner don't forget to fill out an order form! The Preschool & Kindergarten ministry gets a percentage back on every dollar spent on Scraps (gift cards). What an easy way to support this ministry!!! Look for Snoopy and his friends - you can find order forms in the pocket on the board!

#### NOVEMBER & DECEMBER ORDER DATES

NOVEMBER 11 & 24

DECEMBER 3 & 10



# Thanksgiving

In Ephesians 5 Paul is telling new Christians how they should live. He says: "Give thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

The early church disciples and apostles were known to have rejoiced even when they were being afflicted and persecuted, and their fellowship continually grew until it reached the ends of the earth. They learned the necessity of giving thanks in all circumstances, giving thanks for everything, and giving thanks at all times.

That kind of thankfulness went beyond remembering God and thanking God for all the wealth that we enjoy in this our promised land. It went beyond remembering God and obeying his commands because he has given us fine houses and filled our bellies. It even went beyond thanking God, as

the leper thanked God, for healing him through Jesus of his disease. This is what we call "thanks-living."

Join us for our annual ecumenical Thanksgiving worship celebration Wednesday, November 24th at 7:00 p.m. at First Lutheran. May it be a time of true thanks-giving and a renewal of our call to thanks-living!

*Join us for our annual ecumenical Thanksgiving worship celebration Wednesday, November 24th at 7:00 p.m. at First Lutheran.*

## A WORD FROM INTERN PASTOR MOOTZ



This past month, I officially transitioned to a new city for the fifth time in ten years. As I unpacked my belongings, I have to admit, I was a little nervous. A new town, a new congregation, new friends, and a new climate were all awaiting me. I'd been through this process every two years over the last decade, and yet it still inspired trepidation. God has always been faithful throughout times of "unknown" in my past. And yet, once again, I found myself wondering if he would be with me this time as well. Deep in the back of my mind, I wondered if somehow this transition would be different. This is the same fear I've experienced with every move, and once again, it was back.

As we begin to move through the Old Testament with the confirmation class, I'm struck by all the transitions taking place for God's people. Of course, there are life transitions; people move from childhood to adulthood and into old age. They transition from fertility to infertility, and natural abundance to drought and famine. These are all natural transitions that are a normal part of life. However, there are other "unnatural" transitions also taking place. God calls people to leave their families, vocations, friends, and pasts behind to do his work.

Sometimes, his people trust faithfully, and other times they don't. As humans, we tend to view God's future for us, in spite of the promise attached to it, as unknown. We often fear this unknown and wonder whether God will be present among us in that space, regardless of his impeccable record in the past.

Transitions are a part of life; transitions are also a part of God's constant call on us. We change houses, careers and last names. We move from childhood to parenthood to old age. We transition from complete dependence to independence and back again. We transition from defensive relationships to vulnerable relationships. We move from bitterness to forgiveness, from hating our enemies to loving them, and from building up our treasures on earth to storing them in heaven. Our life is in a constant state of transitioning. The question is, do we believe that God is present in this process? God spoke powerful words to Jacob as he experienced one of life's difficult transitions: "Know that I am with you, and will keep you wherever you go (NRSV)." May these words give us comfort daily as we move forward into an unknown future with God at our side.

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## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

At the October Church Council meeting, members received ministry reports from Pastor Bjorge and Intern Mootz. They reported that the trip to Turkey and Greece was incredible, the Wednesday night program has been reformatted and is a work in process, our new staff members (Maret Syberg and Erik Steen) are doing exceptional work, the office wing fixes are nearly completed, the Haiti mission trip in January is continuing to be evaluated and a decision regarding that will be made soon, and the preaching series on the PAC 10 will conclude in November, at which time we will go back to using the lectionary for Advent. The council also received the Treasurer's Report from Mike Strand. Giving this fall has not matched expenses

but there is hope that with November's Stewardship appeal, Walk with Jesus, those numbers may come up as we proceed into the fall and winter. The council discussed the fall Strategic Planning goals and felt that, in light of our working through the Natural Church Development resources, we would wait to proceed with implementation of those goals realizing that new ideas and prioritizations may happen as we think about the eight qualities of an effective ministry as highlighted in the NCD survey and book. A constitution task force was discussed to update our existing constitution. Next meeting is scheduled for November 16.

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## STAFF DIRECTORY

**CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 206.546.4153**

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Justin Mootz, Intern Pastor	Ext. 240	jmootz001@luthersem.edu
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Omaldo Perez, Music Ministries	Ext. 229	music@flrb.org
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Erik Steen, Communications Coordinator	Ext. 222	comm@flrb.org
Maret Syberg, Office Coordinator	Ext. "0"	office@flrb.org
Girmai Berhe, Facilities	Ext. 226	office@flrb.org

## OUTREACH

### THANKSGIVING BASKETS

Help give a family a Thanksgiving Meal and support the Shoreline Food Bank!!

This year's goal: 50 Families

We have so much to be thankful for here at First Lutheran! This year we again want to share the bounty by collecting turkeys, non-perishable food items and cash donations for all perishable items. Last year we increased our support from 25 to 50 families, and due to the tremendous ongoing needs in our community, our goal is to continue to help the same number of families this year. We will be providing all the items necessary for a Thanksgiving meal AND additional non-perishable items that can be used for additional meals. We will be handing out grocery bags with suggested shopping lists after the services on October 31st, November 7th and 14th. There will be collection boxes in the narthex for your donations. In addition we will have a sign-up list to bring turkeys, and one for those of you who can help by making deliveries. All items will be needed on or before Sunday, November 21st, the day they will be distributed.

Food we collect that is more than we need for the baskets will be donated to the Shoreline Food Bank and other organizations serving the homeless. Look for your shopping bag on Sunday the 31st, 7th and 14th!

Thanks for your generosity!  
-The Outreach Team

### HOPE FOR HAITI

JANUARY 15-22, 2011

Haiti has been hit especially hard with poverty! While there is poverty in the U.S., the level of poverty in Haiti rises to destitution. You can make a difference. Join the team from FLRB planning a trip to Les Cayes Haiti this January 15-22. If you are interested, please plan to attend an informational meeting Sunday, October 31st, after worship at 12:15 in the library. For more information, please contact Pastor Bjorge.



## Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Reerose was 14 years old when she received her first Christmas present. The Filipino teenager was overjoyed to get a shoe box containing a variety of school supplies—exactly what she needed for her course work. “It is exciting to know that people like you from other parts of the world are concerned about our situation here,” said Reerose.

Twelve year old Jeric received something even more valuable than the gifts inside his box. After enrolling in a follow-up discipleship program, he learned about the real meaning of Christmas and became a follower of Jesus.

For millions of children, Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes are tangible expressions of God's love and constant

presence.

Whatever they may be facing—poverty, war, or disaster—these boys and girls are reassured that they have a heavenly Father who cares. And that's a gift that endures forever.

*Your shoe box will reach a child in a troubled country like Uganda or El Salvador with the Gospel message.*

This year once again, First Lutheran is providing you with the unique opportunity to share Christ with a needy child using a simple shoe box. Your shoe box will reach a child in a trou-

bled country like Uganda or El Salvador with the Gospel message.

We are taking part in Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse. Samaritan's Purse is a Christian ministry led by Franklin Graham, the son of Billy Graham. People across the country are filling shoe boxes with small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and other meaningful gifts. This Christmas season, a needy child overseas will receive your shoe box, along with Christian literature in his or her own language. What an opportunity to reach these children with a clear presentation of the Gospel!

For more details on what and how to pack your shoebox please pick up an Operation Christmas Child brochure in the church lobby. Be a part of this exciting opportunity to share God's love with a hurting child.

Don't forget to bring your shoe box gift to church on or before, November 18th. What a perfect gift to give in honor of Jesus' birthday!

Contact Elizabeth Bjorge with questions. E-mail: [jebjorge@msn.com](mailto:jebjorge@msn.com)

## NOVEMBER WORSHIP THEMES

In November we continue our Preaching Series entitled: The Pac 10 - Ten ideas that are "packed" full of life.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH** is **All Saints Sunday**. Our FLRB services will feature candle lighting at of both our Holy Communion liturgies. We will give thanks to God for the spiritual light we have received from those who have gone before us. Pastor John will share with us a word about Sanctification.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH** is **Commitment Sunday**...the culmination of our fall Stewardship emphasis "Walk with Jesus." On this day we will consider the very Lutheran idea of Stewardship.

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 21ST** is the great feast of **Christ the King**. On this Sunday we ponder what it means to live in a world where God has reconciled all things onto Himself.

**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 24TH** FLRB will be hosting an **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service** along with our sister churches UCC and Calvin Presbyterian. The service will feature the combined choirs of our community and american folk-flavored anthems and hymns.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH** marks our calendar as the beginning of the new liturgical cycle with the **First Sunday of Advent**, the season of joyful anticipation.

## WE PRAY FOR...

We ask for God's blessings and care for the following members and friends of First Lutheran who are ill or in need:

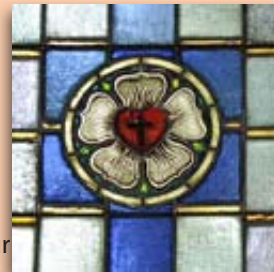
**Susan and Duane Hoffman's** daughter and son-in-law, **Emily and Ben Kropt**, **Valerie and Rick Speed's** daughter and son-in-law, **Stefanie and Brandon**, and their grandsons, **Kellan and Cameron**, the family of **Kermit Hanson**, **Sue McCormick's** grandson, **Jackson Dale**, **Nancy Dalan** and her parents, the family of **Lee Marchisio**, **Erika**, **Lisa Everitt**, the family of **Della Twite**, **Merrilee Schedin**, and, **Carol Beasley**



## REFORMATION SUNDAY

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31

FLRB will be celebrating the Reformation. We invite you to join us as we honor our Lutheran heritage with special music. Come and explore the concept of "justification" as one of the fundamental tenets of our tradition. The Evergreen Brass Quintet and the Cantorei choir will contribute to what will be a memorable Liturgy of the Word at 8:30 am, featuring music by Johan Walther, Johan Pachelbel, and Johann Sebastian Bach among others. The 11:00 o'clock liturgy will be a service of Holy Communion and we will be led by our house band Sounds of Grace.



## YOUNG ADULT GROUP

**What:** Social dinner and game night. Pizza will be provided.  
**When:** First meeting on Thursday, Nov. 4th at 7pm.  
**Where:** First Lutheran Church of Richmond Beach.  
**Who:** Anyone in their 20's and 30's. Invite your friends!

For more information, please contact Justin Mootz at [jmootz001@luthersem.edu](mailto:jmootz001@luthersem.edu) or by phone at 206-546-4153.

## THIS WEEK AT FLRB EMAIL LIST



**Are you on the email list to receive weekly info about what is happening at First Lutheran?**

If not, add yourself to the list by filling out the form on the First Lutheran web site ([www.flrb.org](http://www.flrb.org)).

All you need to do is type in your name and email address and click subscribe. Then you'll be in the loop on all the activities of the church.

# NOVEMBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1 6pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Women's Bible Study	2 9am - InAsMuch 12:30pm - Staff Lunch 1pm - Staff Meeting	3 10am - Word of Life Bible Study 5:15pm - Children's Choir 6:30pm - HS Youth 6:30pm - Carharts4Christ 7pm - Surrendered Life 7:30pm - Cantorei Choir	4 11:30am - Writers Grp 4pm - Social Skills 5:30pm - Sounds Grace 6:30pm - PS Dad's Night	5	6 9am - Praise Band Rehearsal
7 <b>All Saints Sunday</b> 8:30 - Classic Worship 9:45 - New Community 9:45 - Children's Ministry 11:00 - Praise Worship 12:00 - Confirmation	8 7pm - Stephen Ministry 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Webelowes Pk325 7pm - Women's Bible Study	9 9am - InAsMuch 1pm - Staff Mtg	10 10am - Mary/Martha Circ 10am - Word Life Bible St 5:15pm - Children's Choir 6:30pm - FLOW 6:30pm - HS Youth 6:30pm - MS Youth 6:30pm - Carharts4Christ 7pm - Surrendered Life 7:30pm - Cantorei Choir	11 <b>Office Closed</b> 10am - Mary/Martha Circ 4pm - Social Skills 5:30pm - Sounds Grace	12	13
14 <b>Commitment Sunday</b> <b>Sauerkraut Lunch</b> 8:30 - Classic Worship 9:45 - New Community 9:45 - Children's Ministry 11:00 - Praise Worship	15 12pm - Deborah Circle 5:30pm - Cub Scouts 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Women's Bible Study	16 9am - InAsMuch 1pm - Staff Mtg 6:30pm - Endowment Brd 7pm - Church Council	17 10am - Word Life Bible St 5:15pm - Children's Choir 6:30pm - HS Youth 6:30pm - MS Youth 6:30pm - Carharts4Christ 7pm - Surrendered Life 7:30pm - Cantorei Choir	18 11:30am - Writers Group 4pm - Social Skills 5:30pm - Sounds Grace	19 <b>Youth Quake (7-12th)</b>	20 <b>Youth Quake (7-12th)</b> 9am - Choir Rehearsal
21 <b>Christ the King Sunday</b> <b>YouthQuake (7-12th)</b> 8:30 - Classic Worship 9:45 - New Community 9:45 - Children's Ministry 11:00 - Praise Worship 12:00 - Confirmation	22 7pm - Stephen Ministry 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Girl Scouts 7pm - Women's Bible Study	23 9am - InAsMuch 1pm - Staff Mtg	24 10am - Word Life Bible St 10am - Lion's Thksgiving 5:15pm - Children's Choir 6:30pm - HS Youth 6:30pm - Carharts4Christ 7pm - Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service 7:30pm - Cantorei Choir	25 <b>Office Closed</b>	26 <b>Office Closed</b>	27
28 <b>Advent</b> 8:30 - Classic Worship 9:45 - New Community 9:45 - Children's Ministry 11:00 - Praise Worship 12:00 - Confirmation	29 7pm - Boy Scouts 7pm - Women's Bible Study	30 9am - InAsMuch 1pm - Staff Mtg	<b>DATES TO NOTE...</b>			

## THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

WED. NOVEMBER 24TH

*The service will feature the combined choirs of our community and American folk-flavored anthems and hymns.*

## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

SUN. NOVEMBER 7TH

*We will give thanks to God for the spiritual light we have received from those who have gone before us.*

## COMMITMENT SUNDAY

SUN. NOVEMBER 14TH

*This day also features the famous Sauerkraut Lunch.*

## YOUTH QUAKE

11/19 - 11/21

*Please pray for the youth from our congregation who are attending this event.*

# STEWARDSHIP



Help Lutheran organizations that are near and dear to you -- even our school.

Eligible benefit members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans can now help choose where Thrivent Financial distributes a portion of its charitable funds through Choice Dollars<sup>SM</sup>, part of the organization's new Thrivent Choice<sup>SM</sup> charitable grant program.

### Here's how Choice Dollars works:

- Eligible benefit members receive a letter about their designated Choice Dollars for 2010.
- Designated Choice Dollars are based on qualifying insurance premiums, qualifying contract values and Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership.
- Choice Dollars can be directed to thousands of Lutheran organizations nationwide, including our school, by visiting [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) or by calling 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and saying, "Thrivent Choice."

Potential amounts range from \$25 to \$500 for each eligible benefit member.

### Help support what matters to you most by directing your Choice Dollars

### A MESSAGE FROM YOUR TREASURER:

#### RESULTS OF FIRST LUTHERAN'S TWO-MONTH FINANCIAL CHECKUP FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR

As we are now over two months into the new fiscal year (FY), it seems appropriate to check and see how we are doing regarding support for the budget we passed at the last congregational meeting in June 2010. These are financially challenging times for many of us, and that is reflected in the current financial status of First Lutheran as well.

#### On the Income Side:

The results of First Lutheran's two-month financial checkup for the current fiscal year that began 1 August 2010 indicate a decrease of over \$10,000 in general offerings compared to the same period for a year ago (already low). Due to the kind donations of several members to a dedicated Intern Fund, we were able to make an \$11,200 transfer into the General Fund in September.

#### On the expense side:

First Lutheran's expenses for the first two months of FY 2011 are below budgeted expenses by over \$13,000. However, the two-month actual expenses are greater than the actual income by \$3,758.16 and, as a result, the church's checking account balance (cash on hand) has decreased by that amount.

## COMMITMENT SUNDAY

### COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 14TH.

As we walk with Jesus over the coming weeks, think about all God has entrusted to you. Think about your need to give as a part of your faith in Jesus. Ask yourself, "How generously does God call on me to respond?"



#### Looking forward:

It is important to realize the \$11,200 transfer was a "one-time" event that allowed us to weather the current "low giving months" without significant adverse consequences to date. However, we cannot continue to run a monthly deficit. As we move further into this FY 2011, may we all prayerfully consider the commitments we made in May regarding our support for the intern program and our commitments to the budget passed at the annual meeting of the congregation in June. I thank you for your support of First Lutheran in the past, and pray that God will provide all of us with the guidance we need as we proceed in the future.

Sincerely,

*Michael J. Strand*  
Treasurer

First Lutheran Church of Richmond Beach

## NEWS & NOTES

### CARHARTTS FOR CHRIST

Carhartts for Christ continues to meet Wednesday nights at Church from 6:30 to 7:30 in the Library to study the Gospel of John. Carhartts are working clothes. They're what you put on when you're out in the mud and the rain. They're tough enough for the job and can weather the storm. Our group is a place you wear your mud-spattered clothes – where you can come with what life has thrown at you. You don't have to get cleaned up first! Of course there's a second part to that name. We are for Christ. We come together to get to know Him better – to clothe ourselves with Him (Romans 13:14). And time and again we discover that He is for us. He forgives, renews, and refreshes like nothing else. This is always the way it has been: it took God to make a man out of mud at the beginning and it still does today. Come join us! Contact Alan Herr (alanjherr@gmail.com).

### CALLING ALL WWII VETS

November 11th is Veteran's day. Also known as Armistice Day, it marks the end of the First World War – the war that was to end all wars. Of course, in a mere two decades, battle lines were drawn in both Europe and the South Pacific in a second global, horrific struggle. It has been 65 years since World War II ended. Come honor the men and women who served in this conflict on Sunday November 14th, after second service. Lunch provided. Come hear their stories and say thank you. We have a number of these individuals who are a part of our congregation. We want to be sure that we don't miss anyone's story. However big or small your role was in the war or in the aftermath of the war; however involved or uninvolved you are at FLRB, we would love to honor you. Contact Alan Herr (alanjherr@gmail.com) or Tom Bennett (tom@tomben.net).



P.S. If you know of someone who is reticent to speak up, speak up for them!

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### LIVING PROOF LIVE WITH BETH MOORE

MARCH 11-12, 2011 AT THE TACOMA DOME

Who knew Bible study and worship could be so much fun? Beth Moore's life-transforming Bible study challenges and inspires women of every age, everywhere. Joining Beth at this weekend event is acclaimed worship leader Travis Cottrell and the Praise Team. Beth's focus will be on the Scripture that God lays on her heart for each individual Living Proof Live event — no two are the same. As she explores the Bible and how it applies

The Living Proof Live event is scheduled for Friday, 7:00 - 9:30 p.m., and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Tacoma Dome. All seats are general admission. Registration fee is \$65 and if you would like to stay in Tacoma for a mini-women's retreat, hotel rates are \$89-139 per room. We will coordinate lodging when we know how many are attending. Please complete a registration card found at the

Welcome Desk and include your registration fee of \$65 no later than Sunday, November 14th. Questions? Contact Elizabeth Borge at 206.801.7709, jeb-jorge@msn.com or D'Linda Highum at 206.542.2037, dlinda1@mac.com.

*Who knew Bible study  
and worship could be so  
much fun?*

to real life, you'll be amazed by her own experiences as a believer, and you'll be inspired to magnify and strengthen your own relationship with God. Beth's mission is to guide women everywhere into a richer, more fulfilling relationship with the Father. She is a woman of purpose, preparation, prayer and passion.



## SPIRITUAL FORMATION



### NEW COMMUNITY

#### SUNDAYS AT 9:45 A.M. IN THE UPPER ROOM

New Community is a class for adults held between worship services each Sunday, September through May. Since the very beginning, God has had it in His heart to extend the community He enjoys as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—God in community with God’s Self. You might say to create humans in the imago Dei (the image of God) that God created us so that we, like God, could experience community. It didn’t take long for that community to fracture such that our fear and shame and blame and sin kept us from being able to be in community with each other or with God. But God has tirelessly worked to heal our capacity to live in His image by healing our ability to be in community. This has been our sub-theme in this class—community has been what God has worked to create and re-create, something we’ve seen in our previous studies of the Old Testament, Acts (the early Christian community), Revelation (the vision of the future community), the Sermon on the Mount (Jesus’ quintessential teaching on life in community), and Paul’s letter to the Colossians (the ways in which community happens at the local level).

This year we look back at three Old Testament giants—Moses, David, and Daniel. We’ll see how they worked as God’s servants to build community amidst much opposition. Join us each Sunday as we look at God’s dream for community in our midst today!

### WORD OF LIFE

#### WEDNESDAYS - 10:00 A.M. IN THE LIBRARY

This class is a conversation based on the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday and is led by Pastor John and Intern Pastor Justin.

### CARHARTT’S FOR CHRIST - FOR MEN

#### WEDNESDAYS - 6:30 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY

Join Alan Herr Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Library

### MONDAY NIGHT WOMEN

#### MONDAYS - 7:00 P.M. IN ROOM 207

This class studies NT Wright’s book on Colossians.

### FLOW (FIRST LUTHERAN ON WEDNESDAYS)

New Wednesday night program for all ages the second Wednesday of each month.

**6:30pm** – Large group worship/ devotion all ages

**6:50pm** – Small group based on large group

**7:20pm** – Dessert

**7:30pm** – Regular Wednesday night programming.

### THE SURRENDERED LIFE

#### WEDNESDAYS - 7:00 P.M. IN THE UPPER ROOM

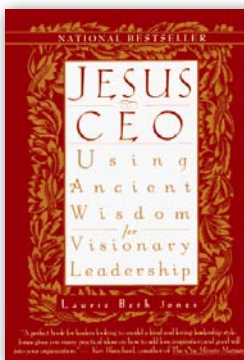
Luke 9: 23-24 says,

*“And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.”*

#### There is no greater joy than this!

True freedom is found in surrendering yourself to Christ so that His will and purpose for your life will be lived out. Please join us for a six-week Wednesday night class beginning Wed., October 13th, 7:00pm-9:00pm. We will learn how to gain freedom from strongholds or obstacles that are preventing you from living the surrendered life! Please register by contacting, Anita Riksheim at 206.361.2725, anitamariec@msn.com, or call Kathy Johnson at 206.542.5251.

### TO ALL MEN...



Are you looking for a way to apply Christ and his teachings in the workplace and your life? Come join us at the Richmond Beach Coffee House at 6:30am starting Friday, October 8th. Plan for a weekly interesting one hour discussion where we will talk about God, family, life and maybe solve one of the world’s problems. Jim Smith will lead off with some of his favorite passages from the book “Jesus, CEO” by Laura Beth Jones. No need to buy the book, just join us for coffee, fellowship and conversation.

The  
**BEACHCOMBER**

FIRST LUTHERAN OF RICHMOND BEACH

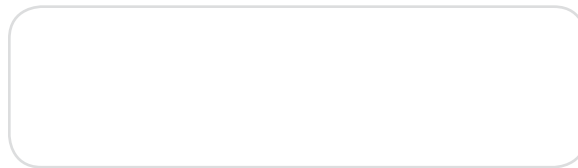
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## STEWARDSHIP

# Walk with *Jesus*

Dear member of First Lutheran Church of Richmond Beach,

Over the next three weeks we members of First Lutheran are going to be thinking about our walk with Jesus, and especially about how our use of the financial resources God has entrusted to us is an important part of this walk. Through letters, bulletin inserts, temple talks, and sermons, we will strive to grow closer to Jesus as we walk together.

The great poet Robert Frost once wrote, "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I - I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." On our walk with Jesus, it is important that we are on the correct road.

*Ask yourself, "How generously does God call on me to respond?"*

When it comes to financial stewardship, some people ask the question, "How much of my money does the church need?" This question will send us down the wrong road. It is a question that Jesus never encourages us to ask. It is a question that is based on several wrong assumptions.

Other people ask, "How generously does God call me to respond to all the blessings God has showered upon me?" This question will send us down the correct road. When you think about your use of the financial resources God has entrusted you, it is important to remember that the resources you have still belong to God and are placed in your care and management. It is also important to remember that when Jesus talks about giving, he never talks about the need of the church to receive, he always talks about the need of the giver to give as an expression of a sincere faith.

As we walk with Jesus over the next three weeks, be sure to be on the correct road. Think about all God has entrusted to you. Think about your need to give as a part of your faith in Jesus. Ask yourself, "How generously does God call on me to respond?"