

# The BEACHCOMBER

First Lutheran Church of Richmond Beach, Shoreline, Washington

Fall 2015

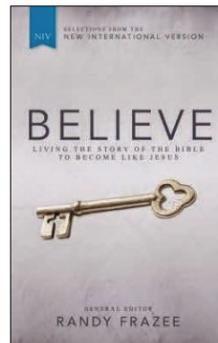
## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



I always love the kick-off to another program year. The air changes, kids get back to their normal school schedules, and life falls back into a more predictable pattern. This next year our staff and leadership teams are planning some exciting things. In these pages you'll read about many of them.

One I'd like to particularly lift up has to do with the entire congregation. For this next program year, our congregation will be united in our study and

reflection upon the book entitled, **"Believe."** Over the course of thirty weeks, the chapters of this book will guide our worship themes and sermons, our small group ministries, youth and confirmation ministries, Sunday School, and Preschool curriculums. The thirty weeks are broken into 3 ten-week sections that have as their themes: *What Do I Believe? What Should I Become? And Who Am I Becoming?*



What we believe in our hearts will begin to define who we become as individuals and as a congregation. Our mission at FLRB is to live, love and serve as Jesus did...so that all may know Him. To do that, we need to know who Jesus is and how it

is that we're to become like Him. The journey to becoming like Jesus and living, loving, and serving like Him is to begin by thinking like Him and knowing what we as Christians are called to hold true.

When we study Jesus' life, we're going to come to notice some distinct patterns. Jesus faithfully lived life with great purpose. He modeled a life for us to live...one that will be faithful to God, that will care for those things God most cares about, and that will bring us deep and abiding joy.

Jesus compared the Christian life to a vineyard. He is the vine, we are the branches. If we are connected to Him, over time we're going to begin to produce amazing nutritious fruit for others to taste and see. We start to become like Jesus in our character, in our heart, and desires.

The books are available to be picked up at the Hospitality Desk for \$15. We'll begin going through this book systematically beginning September 20th in worship with one chapter being our focus each week with the exception of Advent/Christmas, and Holy Week/Easter. I hope we find that this book unites our hearts, brings us together in helpful dialogue and conversation, and builds us into a church that is so heavenly minded that we're of incredible earthly good!

Your Brother in Christ,  
Pastor John Bjorge

## FALL KICK-OFF EVENTS



Join us on the evening of Saturday Sept 12 at 5:00 pm for a "BLOCK PARTY" to kick off the new church year. Invite your neighbors and friends. We'll have live music by "Easy Company", fun games, kids activities and a BBQ.



Then join us the following day on Sept 13th to help serve. We'll have a single service at 10:00 am. Then we'll grab our brown bag snacks and go serve our church and community from 11:30 to 1:30. There are plenty of opportunities to serve so please sign up and join us for this special day. T-Shirts are available for purchase to help us commemorate this day.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

### Sunday School

#### Returns September 20th at 9:45!

**Believe Kids**— Sunday Morning 9:45-10:45  
3years-6th grade. Experience God's love through games crafts and more.



**Believe Confirmation**— 9:45-10:45 This year the confirmation youth will also be going through Believe.

**Children's Church**- 2Second Sunday of every month we offer children's church during the 11:00 am service. This is a time for children to worship in their own way.

### Youth Events

#### September 16th– Youth Group Kick Off 6:30-8:30

Progressive dinner youth 7th-12th grade meet at church.  
Youth Parent meeting 6:30-8:30 at the Dessert house.  
Please contact Terry Baird if you are able to host.

#### Lutherwood Middle School Retreat

Grades: 7th – 8th  
Date: September 18-19, 2015 7 pm – 7 pm  
Cost: \$55 per camper See Terry for more details

#### SHHH... Surprise Event on October 4th 7th-12th grade

Parents contact Terry for more details.

### Wednesdays

#### J.A.M. (Jesus and Music!)

#### Begins September 16th

5:30-6:30: 2yr-6th Grade Kids will get a chance to grow in their faith and participate in Children's Choir. Please talk to Joel or Terry for more information.



**6:30-8:30 Youth Group**– 7th-12th Grade begins 9/16

### Volunteers

Volunteers Needed!!!! There are many ways and opportunities to volunteer with the children youth and family programs. Please contact Terry Baird if you are interested in serving the children and youth of our congregation!!

## FLRB PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

### First Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten: 43 years and counting!!!!

This September First Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten will begin its 43<sup>rd</sup> year of ministry and outreach to the local community.

This year please continue to support us by:

- Praying for the staff, board and families. This year our staff includes – Kathie Longé, Maria Hacker, Stephanie Harper, Randi Johnson, Valya Hart, Nancy Malek, Barbara Sloate, Kirsten Stevens, Terry Anderson, Hannah Roberts, Karen Herr, Carolina Leitner and Kären Beasley, Board- Kristie Timss, Sue McCormick, Terry Baird, Kristina Svenkerud, Kelly Oliver, Julie Anneberg & Laura Shleede.
- Collecting egg cartons, TP tubes and paper towel tubes & clean Styrofoam meat trays
- Collecting Campbell Soup Labels-we have a collection bin outside the school office.....they have changed from needing the front label – we now need the **UCP label** from the back of the can or box. Over the years we have been able to “purchase” supplies and equipment with the labels we bank!



The staff and families are looking forward to another great year with lots and lots of fun and exciting things happening. Please remember you are welcome to stop in and say “HI” anytime.

### Mary's Place

First Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten is excited to spread the news that we will be supporting Mary's Place again this year! Mary's Place is a day activity center in downtown Seattle, providing food, clothing, social services, resources, and a safe haven for homeless women and children. During the months of September and October we will be collecting new and gently used backpacks which can be filled with supplies for the women and children to take with them at the end of the day. We will also be collecting coloring books, crayons, markers, pens, small toys, and books (things to entertain a child in a sparse hotel room) to fill the backpacks. Look for the collection box near the education wing or you can leave any donations outside the school office.



## SPIRITUAL FORMATION

new community

Each Sunday, beginning September 20<sup>th</sup>, you are invited at 9:45 a.m. to the Upper Room for an hour of teaching that is meant to refresh your soul and be relevant to your daily life. Through a mix of humor and insight, Pastor Bjorge opens up God's Word and offers a 45-50 minute teaching that is meant to make your hearts come alive to God's presence in your life and the world. This year he will teach on subjects such as *What it Means to Build a Church that will Prevail, Belonging, and Christianity Illustrated*. Join us each and every week for this time of inspiration and this breath of fresh air! This year Pastor John will have other speakers take over, on occasion, while he teaches Confirmation. Generally he will teach four weeks and take two off to be with the Confirmands allowing others to share their passions.

### BETHEL SERIES

The Bethel Series is a pastor-led in-depth Bible Study which seeks to address the questions of faith with a unique overview approach of the Old and New

Testaments. Last year we studied the Old Testament. This program year, Pastor Bjorge will take the congregation, week-by-week, through the New Testament. Over the course of two years you will be able to not just know Bible stories, but know the whole story of the Bible and more clearly understand God's redemption of the world.

**When:** Begins September 9

**Meets:** Wednesday Evenings from 6:30-7:30 pm in Upper Room

**Taught by:** Pastor Bjorge

This year we will focus on the New Testament. If you have not registered, talk with Pastor John to get signed up.



### Word Of Life

Wednesday mornings, at 10 a.m., join Pastor John in the Library to discuss and study the Scripture passages that will be preached on the upcoming Sunday. This is a time for everyone to share their thoughts, ask their questions, and be guided into seeing what these Scripture readings mean for us and our congregation. This hour of study will help you hear the sermon each week differently and, at times, even allow you to shape it through offering your ideas as to what these Scriptures mean for you. Join the pastor each Wednesday beginning September 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Women's Bible Bunch

If you are looking for a women's group where you will discover refreshment in studying God's word, personal growth in faith and where prayer and fellowship, joy and laughter abide, then you will want to join us. We also have an exciting time planning Church luncheons and events. We invite all women of any age to come and join us on the 3rd Monday of each month, beginning September 21st. at 12:00. Meet in the church library, bring your Bible, paper, pen, sack lunch & an expectation for God's blessings. Beverage & dessert will be provided. We will have a continued study of the Gospel of John, Chapter 6:1-25 "TWO SIGNS" in the N.T. Wright series. Contact Person: Dorothy Clausen 425-776-2694, [daclus@comcast.net](mailto:daclus@comcast.net)

### Writers' Group

The Writers Group meets on the first and third Thursday of each month. Even if you don't write, you're welcome to attend and hear the writers read their work ... they guarantee it will be fun. At one recent meeting a church staff member came into the room to see what all the hilarity was. Arrival is between 11:30 a.m. and noon. Bring a sack lunch. Adjournment is typically about 2 p.m. The writers are a diverse group... some write children's stories, others write poems or memoirs, some writing is fiction, some non-fiction... it's always a surprise. The more the merrier. Questions? Contact Kim Kimmy Tomczak at 425-445-3355 or at [kimekimmy@gmail.com](mailto:kimekimmy@gmail.com). If you're interested in being a part of an evening or weekend writing group, the group is open to the idea.

### Mary-Martha Circle

Mary-Martha Circle will have the first meeting of the year on September 10th, 10 am, in the library. New members welcome.

### InAsMuch

InAsMuch will be back in full swing on September 8th. It would be nice if we could see some new faces this fall! We work from 9-12 with a break for prayer, coffee and goodies at 10. If you are a late sleeper, come and join us for coffee and then sew until 12. If you would like to pick up a kit to sew a quilt top at home, we have the kits available along with bags of sorted 4-5 1/2 inch squares to make into a 10 1/2 square (it takes 48 squares to make a top). We have lots of materials and just need willing hands to assist us. It's always great to get back in with our old friends and catch up on what has been going on in their lives the past couple of months and to meet new friends too. Looking forward to seeing you!

## OFFERING OPTIONS

### Ways you can give:

- Simply Giving: You can setup automatic payments by checking/savings or by debit/credit card. Forms are on the bulletin board behind the Hospitality Desk.
- Bill-pay from your bank: Do you already pay your cable and phone bills through your bank? Add us as a payee and they will send us a check when you want to contribute.
- Online donations: The link on our website will take you to an online donation page where you can make one-time contributions or setup a recurring payment.

If you have questions or if you are interested and ready to give it a try, phone the office (206-546-4153) or email [office@flrb.org](mailto:office@flrb.org) or [parishadmin@flrb.org](mailto:parishadmin@flrb.org).

## NEWS FROM THE PARISH NURSE

### Service of Prayer and Healing

A Service of Prayer and Healing is held the first Sunday of every month following the last service. This is a time that we can pray for people requesting prayer and healing; we can also pray in intercession for those people not in attendance.

### Palliative Care

#### What the Bible says about being sick and receiving care...

*"Hear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Guard my life, for I am devoted to you. You are my God; save your servant who trusts in you. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I call to you all day long. Bring joy to your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to you. Hear my prayer, O Lord; listen to my cry for mercy."* —Psalm 86

In the day of my trouble, I will call to you, for you will answer me. Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord; no deeds can compare with yours. All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God. Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name. I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths of the grave. The arrogant are attacking me, O God; a band of ruthless men seeks my life...men without regard for you. But you, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. Turn to me and have mercy on me; grant your strength to your servant and save the son of your maidservant. Give me a sign of your goodness, that my enemies may see it and be put to shame, for you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me." Thank God for these wonderful words of David's prayer; when we are sick and facing the uncertainties of health and life, these words can bring comfort and strength. These words can re-focus our hearts of faith and help us seek support and care. Let me introduce the concept of "palliative care".

Palliative Care: To palliate means to reduce or eliminate suffering, and so palliative care can be applied to any patient who is having symptoms that cause suffering or impact their daily functioning. This is not only for end of life situations! There are many areas in palliative care; certainly eliminating symptoms and pain become paramount, but also addressing other areas may reduce the stress caused by not addressing specific issues. After pain and symptom management, ethical issues (what does the church say – or where is GOD?) may need to be addressed. Cultural considerations (in our country we do things differently), communication (what am I saying, or how can I tell you what I want), loss (of health, body functions, life), grief (pre-grief) and bereavement and final hours (how will they be managed) are all concerns that weigh heavily on patients and family members and friends. All of these areas can be concerning, and yet when these issues are brought to the forefront, the concerns can be acknowledged and clarity will guide the steps moving forward. I will be teaching a class during the New Community Hour that will help guide the steps of people needing care and those of you providing care. This can bring difficult topics to light, with practical ways and conversation starters, and providing steps to follow. Watch for calendar updates for the specific dates. In the meantime, if you have current needs that need to be addressed, please come see me!

—Cathy Thomas, RN, Parish Nurse

## MUSIC MINISTRY

### Music Rehearsals

#### **Mondays:**

Bell Choir — 6:30-7:30 pm

#### **Wednesdays:**

J.A.M. (Jesus and Music!)  
2yr-6th grade kids — 5:30-6:30 pm

Praise Band — 6:30-7:30 pm

Adult Choir — 7:30-9 pm

Contact Joel Bevington for more information.  
[music@flrb.org](mailto:music@flrb.org) / 206-546-4153 Ext. 201

### Calling All Singers!

Whether you are a seasoned professional, admiring enthusiast or simply desire to try something new, come share your musical gifts by joining the FLRB Cantorei Choir! This Fall is the perfect time to try it out, come to a few rehearsals and sing with us. There are many upcoming musical events that you can be a part of, including:

#### **Faure's Requiem**

**Sunday, November 1st: All Saint's Day**

Both 8:30 am & 11 am worship services

*Violin: Cecilia Archuleta*

*Cello: Kevin Krentz*

*Harp: Catherine Barrett*

#### **Handel's Messiah (Christmas portion)**

**Sunday, December 13th**

Both 8:30 am & 11 am worship services

## NICARAGUA MISSION UPDATE

### Our purpose is:

*“to share the gospel with the people of Nicaragua through our service in the areas of faith, community development, and health care”*



**We're GOING BACK!** We will be sending our sixth team to Nicaragua in the past two years. We are going to help rebuild Pastor Eliazer's home which was damaged by the earthquake in 2014. Our Literacy team was there during the earthquake and provided God's love and care to the people in Motostepe. Our Youth team went down to help demolish the house, and now we have a Construction Team going down to REBUILD. It's amazing how the love and support of FLRB with the support of all of you is rebuilding their home and being God's hands!



The Medical team is also returning, a team of people who have been there before, so excited to care for and be God's hands to the congregation of Iglesia Roca Eterna!

Both the Construction and Medical teams are going together **November 7-14, 2015** and all will be staying at Villa Esperanza as we have before and sharing God's love with the girls and staff there! It is so exciting! If you are interested in going, please contact Cathy Thomas, Charlie Gaul or Pastor John!



**Hooray our Youth Team will be returning July 16-23, 2016!!**

Contact Terry Baird to sign up. This is for youth who are currently in 8th grade-12th grade and parents.

## LEADERSHIP

### Church Council

At the annual congregational meeting in June, new members were elected to Church Council. Your Church Council Leaders this year are: **Marin Brustuen**, Council President; **Bill Neumeister**, Immediate Past President; **Phil Turcotte**, Vice President; **Sue Fulkerson**, Treasurer; **Tamarah Lee**, Secretary; **Duane Hoffman**, **Dick Craig**, and **Jim Annenberg**, At-Large members, and **Pastor John Bjorge**. The Council usually meets the second Tuesday of each month.

## SARATOV MISSION UPDATE

Saratov recently reported that they installed the remaining 10 large windows for their church hall. A large donation of 4,500 euros enabled the completion of the installation, for a total 16 windows. Also, the church is pleased to have a deaconess now. Sister Maren arrived in February after serving 8 years in Moscow, and Saratov is very excited to have her. The "Report March 2014" newsletter, which contains more information and a picture of the windows, is on the bulletin board next to the work room.

—Joan Rice

# CALENDAR

## September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Cancer Support Group 5:00	2 6:30 Praise Band 7:30 Choir	3 12:00 Writers' Group	4	5
6 9:00 Classic Service 10:30 Praise Service 11:40 Prayer/Healing Srvc	7 <b>Labor Day Office/Preschool Closed</b>	8 09:00 InAsMuch	9 Bethel Series Begins - 6:30pm 6:30 Praise Band	10 10:00 Mary-Martha Circle	11	12 <b>Block Party 5-8pm</b>
13 10:00 Worship followed by <b>God's Work/Our Hands Event</b>	14 6:30 Bell Choir	15 09:00 InAsMuch	16 Word of Life JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 6:30 Praise Band 6:30 Bethel 7:30 Choir	17 12:00 Writers' Group	18 10:00 Knit-Wits	19
20 8:30 Classic Service 9:45 Sunday School, Youth/Confirmation and New Community 11:00 Praise Service 12:10 Prayers in Library	21 12:00 Women's Bible Bunch 6:30 Bell Choir	22 09:00 InAsMuch	23 Word of Life JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 6:30 Praise Band 6:30 Bethel 7:30 Choir	24	25	26
27 8:30 Classic Service 9:45 Sunday School, Youth/Confirmation and New Community 11:00 Praise Service 12:10 Prayers in Library	28 6:30 Bell Choir	29 09:00 InAsMuch	30 Word of Life JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 6:30 Praise Band 6:30 Bethel 7:30 Choir			

## October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12:00 Writer's Group	2	3
4 Blood Pressure Check 8:30 Classic Service 9:45 Sunday School, Youth/Confirmation and New Community 11:00 Praise Service 12:10 Prayer/Healing Srvc	5 6:30 Bell Choir	6 09:00 Flu Shots 09:00 InAsMuch Cancer Support Group 5:00	7 Word of Life JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 6:30 Praise Band 6:30 Bethel 7:30 Choir	8 10:00 Mary-Martha Circle	9	10
11 8:30 Classic Service 9:45 Sunday School, Youth/Confirmation and New Community 11:00 Praise Service 12:10 Prayers in Library	12 6:30 Bell Choir	13 09:00 InAsMuch Council Meeting	14 Word of Life JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 6:30 Praise Band 6:30 Bethel 7:30 Choir	15 12:00 Writer's Group	16 10:00 Knit-Wits	17
18 <b>Quilt Sunday</b> 8:30 Classic Service 9:45 Sunday School, Youth/Confirmation and New Community 11:00 Praise Service 12:10 Prayers in Library	19 12:00 Women's Bible Bunch 6:30 Bell Choir	20 09:00 InAsMuch	21 Word of Life JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 6:30 Praise Band 6:30 Bethel 7:30 Choir	22	23	24
25 <b>Reformation</b> 8:30 Classic Service 9:45 Sunday School, Youth/Confirmation and New Community 11:00 Praise Service 12:10 Prayers in Library	26 6:30 Bell Choir	27 09:00 InAsMuch 06:00 Lions Pumpkin Carving	28 Word of Life JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 6:30 Praise Band 6:30 Bethel 7:30 Choir	29	30 Teacher Conference, No Preschool	31

## EVENTS

### Summer Wrap Up



**Tillamook Mission trip July 2015.** 11 youth and 3 adults served with Habitat and other organizations for a week. God worked in, with and through these awesome youth!!

**EVBS August 2015**– First Lutheran hosted EVBS once again. We had 153 children and over 50 volunteers. It was a great week learning that God lives, moves and exists with us!!



### Harvest Carnival

**Sunday, October 25h, 5-7 pm**  
Carnival games, dinner. All are invited to join this community celebration!

Volunteers needed to help run this event. Please contact Terry Baird.



### Preparing For Christmas Luncheon

Please mark your calendars ahead of time to attend our special Preparing For Christmas Luncheon on Sunday, December 6th at 12:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall. You will not want to miss this luncheon! Look for more details later.

**Contact:** Dorothy Clausen 425.776.2694,  
Emma Pedersen 425.771.4651

### Lutheran Heritage Tour with Pastor Bjorge April 8-20, 2016

Mark your calendars now! Plan to travel with Pastor John on a trip of a lifetime. Upon the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, we will visit Krakow, Auschwitz, Prague, Erfurt, the Wartburg Castle, Wittenberg, Eisleben, and Berlin. Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic, all in 13 days!

Cost: \$4698 from Seattle.

Brochures with a detailed itinerary are available from Pastor Bjorge or at the Hospitality Desk.



## WANTED—SCHOOL SUPPLIES

One of the service opportunities during our “God’s Work/ Our Hands” event on Sunday, Sept. 13th will be packing school bags to be sent to Lutheran World Relief, who, in turn, will ship them to needy children around the world. The bags have already been sewn; we just need the supplies to fill them! Right now, many stores are having great sales on school supplies...could you pick up a few items the next time you're shopping? Below is a list of requested items. Please leave your donations in the marked box in the narthex or in the InAsMuch collection box in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you in advance for using your hands to do God's work.

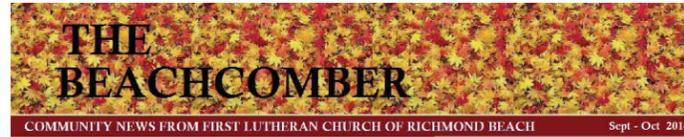
#### School items needed:

- Notebooks - 70 sheet 8x10 (wide or college-ruled)
- Rulers - 12 in. with both inches and centimeters
- Pencil sharpeners - small / Scissors - blunt
- Ballpoint pens - black/blue (no gel pens)
- Erasers - 2 1/2"
- Boxes of Crayons - 16 or 24 quantity

We will also preparing personal care kits.

#### Personal care items needed:

- Bath towels - dark colored, 27"x52"
- Bar soap – 4 or 5oz.
- Toothbrushes
- Combs
- Nail clippers



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Website: www.flrb.org

Front Office Hours  
M-Thurs. 9:00 am - 12:30 pm,  
                  2:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Fri. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



Return Service Requested



## WORSHIP TIMES

### Kick off Sunday, September 13th

10:00 am One Service  
God's Work/Our Hands event to follow

### Program Year Worship Schedule begins September 20th

8:30 am Classic Worship (Traditional)  
9:45 am Sunday School/Youth/Confirmation and  
New Community Worship begins  
11:00 am Praise Worship (Sounds of Grace)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

### Stay Connected

Follow us on Facebook or check out our website to keep up to date on events happening this summer (watch for our NEW website, which is coming soon). We will be posting photos, events and articles on our Facebook page. If you would like to receive the weekly e-mail newsletter or would like to receive our bi-monthly Beachcomber newsletter electronically, please contact the front office, 206.546.4153.

Like us on Facebook!



### September

#### God's Work, Our Hands!

The outreach proceeds for September will be going to offset expenses towards the "God's Work, Our Hands" outreach activities. This includes, the meal for compass veterans housing, school and health kits for Lutheran world relief, fleece for blankets for Lutheran world relief and children's hospital and more.

### October

**Nicaragua** - Offerings for October will go to the FLRB Nicaragua Fund for medical and construction mission supplies.

Nicaragua Medical/Construction Mission Trip on 11/7—11/14.

**InAsMuch Sunday** - Quilt displays & blessing 10/18