

A WORD FROM PASTOR JOHN



We're entering into the "giving" season. Thanks-giving is a time for us to pause and to take stock of all that God has blessed us with...food, family, work, homes, church, freedom. For these things we give... we give thanks!

Next month will come another opportunity for giving. This time giving will happen amidst decorations, wrapping paper, stockings, cards, and, once again, food. We give at Christmas as a way to celebrate and to make merry, giving thanks to our loved ones for all they mean to us.

If I were to sum up the Christian life and what the church is all about, at its very core, it would have to do with giving. As we find the first Christians gathered together after Pentecost, we're told that they "gave." *"They gave themselves...devoted themselves...to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread [notice the food J] and the prayers."* Acts 2:42-47 We read they had all things in common, that they met together often, were filled with glad and generous hearts and, as a result, they found favor with their surrounding communities.

The key is they gave of themselves! The church is about radical unselfishness and when the church has been at its best, when it has been about selfless giving, it has changed the world. Not many know this but prior to the Church, the idea of reconciling with a brother or sister who'd badly hurt you was unheard of. Forgiving countless times was not the practice of the Greco-Roman world. Rather vengeance and retribution was the name of the game. The Church changed everything. It started our modern day understanding of hospitals and hospices. The Church

started many of the great centers of learning around the world. The Church started and still maintains many of the great social welfare programs around the world. This is all because the Church was a group of people committed to giving, to living unselfishly!

But why? That brings us back to this time of year. We, the Church, give because God first gave to us. With all people we celebrate what God has given us in the beauty and bounty of the earth, in what God has given us in the way of family and loved ones, as well as our being able to live in free and just society...the very things we celebrate at Thanksgiving.

But even more than that, we, the Church, give because of what God gave to us on Christmas. God gave himself! He emptied himself and took on the form of a lowly human. He did this to show his love and to redeem us.

In God's giving, we, the Church, our given our calling...our reason for existence. We give because, as the body of Christ, that's our DNA; it's in our blood. We are made to give, and when we, as the Church, live together unselfishly for the sake of the world, as we were made to do, we reflect God's own heart. It's when we do that with passion, as did the early church, that our community will stand up and take notice. It's then that we will begin to have their favor. It's then that God will "add to our number daily those who are being saved."

Give yourselves wholeheartedly—devote yourselves to solid teaching, to being together in fellowship, to worship, and prayer, and stewardship. For when you do, you are never more God-like!

Blessings to you during these seasons of giving!

—Pastor John

Financial Budget Update

Thankfully, we ended the fiscal year with a net income of \$4,546. Thanks to your support, we have been able to repay much to our reserved funds, and have only \$9,775 more to go. Looking ahead, while there is growing excitement for the upcoming building projects, we need to keep our general fund healthy through your regular donations. Please make sure we can keep the old coffee pot brewing until we get the new one! Finally, as we come into the Christmas season, we know there are many worthy tugs on your pocket books. We need you to keep us on your list so we can continue to do our mission work now and in the rest of the year.

Karen Ewing—Bookkeeper

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

December 20th Christmas Pageant and Celebration

*8:30 am Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am Christmas Coffee, Crafts and Celebration
11:00 am Christmas Pageant*

Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior as told through the youth and children of our congregation. This will take the place of our 11:00am Worship service. Come before the pageant for Christmas Coffee and Crafts fun for all.

All youth and children who would like to participate in the Christmas pageant this year please contact Terry Baird ASAP.
ffd@flrb.org
Dress Rehearsal will be Saturday December 19th

Upcoming Youth Group Events

November 11th 1:00pm– There is no school so we are going to go do something fun. Activity TBD.
November 15th 3:00pm– Agape and Rachel Kurtz concert at Trinity Lutheran College. Youth 7th-12th welcome to come.
November 18th– Service project help collect and sort food for Thanksgiving boxes
December 19th– Dress Rehearsal Christmas Pageant
December 20th– Christmas Pageant

Youth Nicaragua Mission Trip

July 16-23 Youth and parents from our congregation will be heading to Nicaragua to serve for a week. The youth will be fundraising through out the year.

November 29th– Cookie Lee Jewelry and Sauerkraut sales
December 6th–Cooke Lee Jewelry and Sauerkraut sales



Our youth playing with the our partner church's children.
Summer 2014

NEWS FROM THE PARISH NURSE

Service of Prayer and Healing

A Service of Prayer and Healing will be held the first Sunday of every month following the last service, at 12:10. This will be a time that we can pray for people requesting prayer and healing; we can also pray in intercession for those people not in attendance. We are hopeful this will be just the beginning of something wonderful happening in the prayer life of our church family and those we care for and with.

As always, if you have any health or emotional concerns, would like a visit in the hospital or at your home, want prayer for yourself or a family member, or would simply like someone to talk with, please feel free to reach out to the Parish Nurse, Cathy Thomas. She is available Tuesdays and Wednesdays at church or at other times by appointment.

WEDNESDAYS

Every Wednesday Night!

Watch the Navigator and church website for upcoming news on planned events for Wednesday nights!

JaM– Jesus and Music	5:30-6:30
Bethel Series	6:30-7:30
Youth Group	6:30-8:30
Cantorei Choir	7:30-9:00

Music Rehearsals

Jubilate Bells -- Mondays, 6:30 pm
Cantorei Choir -- Wednesdays, 7:30 pm
Sounds of Grace -- Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

new community

Each Sunday, 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. New Community will be taking a break over the Christmas holidays but will resume in January.

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.

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.



Lutheran Heritage Tour with Pastor Bjorge

April 8-20, 2016

This is still a few months off, but with such a push by so many groups to take this tour, it was imperative that Pastor Bjorge book early. 2016 is the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Join us as we travel to 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 are available at the Hospitality Desk.



Writers' Group

The Writers Group meets the first and third Thursday of each month in the church library from 11:30 to 2. One need not be a church member...nor even a writer... to enjoy the fun in this group. As one member said, "I love all the things we do in this church, but I have to say the writers group is my favorite. I'm just sorry it took me so long to discover this group." Questions: Contact Kim Kimmy Tomczak at kimekimmy@gmail.com or 425-445-3355.

Word Of Life

Wednesday mornings, at 10 a.m., join Pastor John in the Library. 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 as we study this year the "Believe" book..

Carharts For Christ— Men's Ministry

Our men's group meets on Wednesday nights in the library at 6:30 pm. For more info, contact Alan Herr at alanjherr@gmail.com.

Women's Bible Bunch

Attention Ladies!

If you are looking for a special women's group, you will want to attend our Women's Bible Bunch which meets at noon on the third Monday of the month, in the Library. Please join us for a new beginning with a pot luck lunch. But if you are new, be our guest and enjoy the fellowship. Bring your Bible, pen, paper and expectations for a blessing! Contact Person: Dorothy Clausen 425-776-2694.

Mary-Martha Circle

Mary-Martha Circle meets the Second Thursday of the month at 10am, in the library. New members welcome.

InAsMuch

We work from 9-12, each Tuesday, 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!

2016 Daily Texts will be here soon!

The practice of our Faith is the way to grow closer to Jesus in our lives. Making our spiritual life a part of our daily routine helps to remind us that all things come from God. To keep us closer to God we share our Daily Texts from the Bible. Daily Texts is a devotional book with an Old Testament verse, a New Testament verse, and a prayer for each day of the year. Inside you will find instructions for our T.R.I.P. prayer method which helps to guide you through your daily reflection. **Pick up yours for \$8 at the Hospitality Desk. They make great Christmas gifts!**



FLRB PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

First Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten

We have had some very busy months here at First Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten. The Pre-Kindergarten Lions had Pumpkin Carving, the Kindergarteners had a Pumpkin Math Night, the Kangaroos, Lambs and Doves had all kinds of fun at their annual Dads night— Super Heroes!!!



look for the rolling board with our display on it!

Outreach: We will be assisting Calving Presbyterian's "Backpack Kids" this year. They provide 6 meals & 2 snacks for the weekend for needy children in Shoreline. We are collecting high protein foods that packed with vitamin C and easy to "cook". Some of the items they collect are beef ravioli, fruit cups, Mac & cheese, pork & beans etc. If you would like to help out—

We are also hosting a **Giving Tree for Mary's Place**. In the next couple of weeks, look for the Christmas tree under the Noah's Ark picture near the elevator. There will be tags for shoes, toys and gifts the kids can give their parents.



Christmas Programs: If you need a little something to get you into the "Christmas Spirit" First Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten has just the ticket for you!!!

Join us on either Tuesday or Wednesday December 15 or 16 at 10:30 AM for the Doves and Lambs Christmas programs. On Thursday December 17 the Pre-K Lions & Kindergarteners will present "A Night of Great Surprises" written by

Elizabeth Jordan at 11:00 AM. Please join us for one or all of these events. Refreshments will be served in the Upper Room following each performance!

January Registration: January will be here before you know it and with it brings In-House and Congregational Registration for First Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten for the fall of 2016. If you are interested in more information or would like a tour—please call Kären in the school office after the first of the year. We will again have classes for 2 1/2 year olds through Kindergarten. Join us for our 44th year.....Please tell your friends and neighbors as well!



Photos from Lion's Pumpkin Carving 2015



THANK YOU GARDEN CARETAKERS

This past season our church family and surrounding neighborhoods have been blessed and refreshed once again by the loving stewardship of our church landscaping crew. Over a dozen dedicated volunteers scheduled time over the summer months to maintain a particular garden bed (our "Apostolic Beds"), removing weeds, spent flowers, and trash. The Preschool and office staff and janitor helped with summer watering. Such care has rewarded us with a beautiful, welcoming presence to our facility—our church home. We also deeply appreciate the generous donations from those who contributed to our lawn service fund. These contributions are essential in keeping our grass lawns neat and tidy over the spring and summer months.

So, if you see **Russ and Dana Davies, Karen Neumeister, Bernice Hodgen, Gary Ottman, Jim and Pat Shilt, Margret Voetmann, Walter Miller, Glenn and Dorothy Nelson, or Phillip and Marian Thom**, please give them a (green) "thumbs up" for their dedication and efforts.

NICARAGUA MISSION UPDATE

FLRB's purpose is to:

"share the gospel with the people of Nicaragua through our service in the areas of faith, community development, and health care"

FLRB is sending Medical and Construction teams down to Nicaragua Nov 7th through 14th. In addition we will be sending our Youth down in summer of 2016. The November team is: Cathy Thomas, Donna Olsen, Lauren Olsen, Sue McCormick, Barb Matlock, Bev Klein, Pat Shilt, John Redford, Duane Clocksin, Bill Forney, Pastor John Bjorge.

Motastepe Partnership Update:

Below is an update from Forward Edge regarding Pastor Eliezer's home construction project that we have been supporting since the earthquakes of 2014.

In August we sent \$5,000 from the funds we had raised specifically for this ministry. Here is an update from Forward Edge on those funds:

- The majority of Eliezer's property has been "site prepped" for rebuilding. This has involved removing areas of dirt and adding additional "material" and it's been "graded."
- Nearly all the walls were removed.
- By now, a bodega (storage shed/room) has been built to be able to store materials safely as rebuilding starts.

We are also sent \$5,000.00 at the end of October for the construction team that joined the medical team. These funds were only used for construction. Team fees/travel costs were not included. Forward Edge was budgeting these funds for:

- Foundation and wall(s) will start and see how far those funds will go.
- In addition future funding is needed for:
- Continuation of walls
 - Metal roofing structure
 - Concrete floor

Please prayerfully consider making a donation towards supporting our partnership with Forward Edge and the people of Motastepe. If you would like to help you can make a donation through First Lutheran of Richmond Beach, mark your checks or offering envelopes Nicaragua Fund. If you have any questions please contact Bente Klatt or Cathy Thomas.



Summer 2014 FLRB team deconstructing Pastor Eliezer's home.

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.

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 or parishadmin@flrb.org.

CALENDAR

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saints' Sunday Daylight Savings Time Ends	2 6:30 Bell Choir	3 InAsMuch Quilting - 9am Cancer Support Group - 5pm	4 Word of Life - 10 JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 6:30 Bethel 7:30 Choir	5 Writers' Group - 11:30am	6	7
8 8:30/9:45/11am	9 6:30 Bell Choir	10 InAsMuch Quilting - 9am Church Council 7pm	11 Veteran's Day Office/School Closed	12 10:00 Mary-Martha Circle Preschool Dad's night - 6:30pm	13	14
15 8:30/9:45/11am	16 Women's Bible Bunch - 12:00 6:30 Bell Choir	17 InAsMuch Quilting - 9am	18 Word of Life - 10 JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 6:30 Bethel 7:30 Choir	19 Writers' Group - 11:30am	20	21
22 8:30/9:45/11am Christ The King Sun.	23 6:30 Bell Choir	24 InAsMuch Quilting - 9am	25 Word of Life - 10 Ecumenical Service at Calvin - 7pm	26 Thanksgiving Office/School Closed	27 Thanksgiving Office/School Closed	28
29 8:30/9:45/11am Advent 1	30 6:30 Bell Choir					

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 InAsMuch Quilting - 9am Cancer Support Group - 5pm	2 Word of Life - 10 JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 7:30 Choir	3 Writer's Group 11:30am SCC Chorale Concert, 7:30pm	4	5
6 8:30/9:45/11am Advent 2	7 6:30 Bell Choir	8 InAsMuch Quilting - 9am	9 Word of Life - 10 JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 7:30 Choir	10 Mary-Martha Circle - 10am	11	12
13 8:30/9:45/11am Advent 3	14 6:30 Bell Choir	15 InAsMuch Quilting - 9am Church Council 7pm	16 Word of Life - 10 JaM: 5:30-6:30 Y/G 6:30-8:30 7:30 Choir	17 Writers' Group - 11:30am	18	19
20 8:30/9:45/11am Advent 4	21 6:30 Bell Choir School Break	22 InAsMuch Quilting - 9am School Break	23 School Break	24 5pm /9pm/11pm Christmas Services School Break	25 Christmas Office/School Closed	26
27 8:30/9:45/11am	28 School Break	29 School Break	30 School Break	31 School Break		

EVENTS

Blue Christmas

The holidays are joyous and festive occasions for many of us. However, for some people this time of year can be quite painful and distressing. For those who have suffered the loss of a loved one, a job, or who are separated from family, friends and the familiar, loneliness is often more acute at Christmas. While others are singing carols and feasting at parties and family reunions, these folks feel cut off and isolated.



We know our Savior as Emmanuel, which means God with us. Jesus comes to all, especially the downcast and brokenhearted. He reaches out to bring comfort and solace to those who are grieving.

First Lutheran will offer a special worship service on Sunday, December 6th, at 3:00 P.M., for all who may be feeling alone or down this year. The service is called "Blue Christmas, a Service of Remembrance and Hope" and will follow the Christmas luncheon. Blue Christmas worship is quiet and meditative, with candles and soft music, and speaks of hope, comfort, and light in the midst of darkness. It will be followed by a time for light refreshments, fellowship and suggestions on how to make it through the holidays.

No need to RSVP, our doors will be open to all who come, so please feel free to invite others to come with you, as your support or if you know that they too are finding that Christmas hurts. This service is especially designed for our neighbors who may not have a church home. Do you know anyone who is lonely or hurting? Please invite him or her to come to the Blue Christmas worship. Offer to pick up and sit beside your friend through the service. (The present that is most appreciated by others is often the gift of our presence!)

Our Lord Jesus comes among us to heal, restore and save, and invites us to join Him in ministry to our neighbors. Sponsored by Care Ministries of FLRB

Thanksgiving Boxes

Each year FLRB provides boxes of Thanksgiving food for families. We will be collecting food through out the month of November. The Youth Group will be organizing the food on Wednesday November 18th. Delivery is November 22nd. Please sign up to bring a Turkey or deliver boxes.

Guest Preachers in November

November 8th Dan Voetmann will be preaching and Dave Ellingson will be leading an all Church Sunday School.

November 29th Kristy Daniels from Church of Steadfast Love will be preaching.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service

An Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held at the Calvin Presbyterian Church, located on the corner of 185th and 3rd Ave. Service of Thanksgiving will begin at 7:00 p.m. with a choir rehearsal at 6:00.

Operation Christmas Shoebox

FLRB will not be coordinating the Christmas Shoebox collection this year. However, if you'd still like to donate to this cause, boxes are being collected at the Hobby Lobby in James Village in Lynnwood (located at the corner of Aurora Ave and 196th St.). You can find information on the [Samaritan's Purse website](#).

Preparing For Christmas Luncheon

As we prepare for one of the greatest celebrations, we invite you to an ALL CHURCH luncheon. To reserve your place, sign up sheets will be posted in the Narthex beginning Nov. 8th.; please sign up to bring a food item.

WHEN: DECEMBER 6TH. following the last service at 12:15 pm.

WHERE: The Fellowship Hall

WHAT: A delicious pot luck luncheon, Wonderful Fellowship, Singing Christmas Carols, and hear an inspiring speaker, Helo Matzelle share God's incredible miracle in her life.

Helo (pronounced Halo) Matzelle, follower of God's affection, cherished wife, blessed mom, brain tumor survivor, award winning author and speaker will share her inspiring testimony and story of salvaging her life with a broken body. "Wherever you are and whatever you are going through, God is right there. He can replace fear with courage and discouragement with determination, if you let Him. I did — and that's how I found hope."



Come and expect God's Blessings! QUESTIONS: Dorothy Clausen 425-776-2694 or Emma Pedersen 425-771-4651.

Christmas Eve Services

Join our Community Celebration on Christmas Eve. Services will be at 5:00, 9:00, and 11:00 p.m. The earlier service will be a family-oriented service and the later two will be traditional Candlelight services.

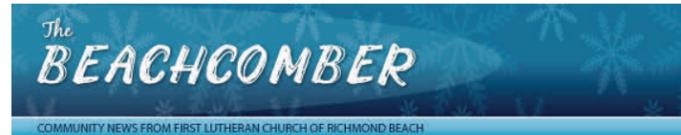
Christmas Pageant and Celebration

Sunday December 21st

8:30 am Traditional Worship Service

9:45 am Christmas Coffee, Crafts and Celebration

11:00 am Dream of Change Christmas Pageant



18354 8th Avenue NW
Shoreline, WA 98177

Phone: 206.546.4153
E-Mail: office@flrb.org
Website: www.flrb.org

Front Office Hours
M-Thurs. 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Fri. 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



WORSHIP TIMES

Program Year Worship Schedule

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

Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

5:00 pm Family Christmas Worship
9:00 pm Candlelight Worship
11:00 pm Candlelight Worship



Staff/Office Holidays

11/11 - are "office/school closed" Veteran's Day
11/26 - 11/27 are "office/school closed" Thanksgiving
12/25 - 12/26 & 1/1 are "office/school closed" holidays

SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay Connected

Follow us on Facebook or check out our website to keep up to date on events happening. 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 bimonthly Beachcomber newsletter electronically, please contact the front office, 206.546.4153.

Like us on Facebook!



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December

Give Gifts of Hope This Christmas Season

Visit the Heifer International booth in the narthex every Sunday of Advent and learn how simple gifts of livestock and training are lifting families worldwide out of poverty and hunger. Honor loved ones with gifts of cows, chickens, honeybees, llamas (and much more). See how passing on the gift helps entire communities flourish.

Mary's Place

This year our December outreach will be collecting diapers and pajama's for Mary Place. Did you know that most kids coming into a shelter at night sleep in the same clothes they were wearing all day on the streets? We would love to be able to give new Pajamas to help them feel warm and loved. So when you start your holiday shopping, keep this outreach in mind. We need all sizes and for both girls and boys. Diapers are always needed. No explanation needed there.

We are going to deliver these items in time for the Mary's Place Christmas Party. So we would like all donations by December 18th. There will be a box in the fellowship hall for any donations. After Thanksgiving the donation box will be in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Olson 206 542 6563 , or email at mellolson@comcast.net