

## What does becoming a sanctuary denomination mean for the ELCA?

*A message from ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton*

What does becoming a sanctuary denomination mean for the ELCA? In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith. The ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the highest legislative authority of the ELCA, declared that when we preach on Sunday that Jesus told us to welcome, we will use our hands and voices on Monday to make sure it happens.

- Being a sanctuary denomination does not call for any person, congregation or synod to engage in any illegal actions.
- We have a broken system regarding immigration, refugees and asylum-seekers. To declare ourselves a sanctuary church body is to say that we seek to provide concrete resources to assist the most vulnerable who are feeling the sharp edges of this broken system.
- Being a sanctuary denomination is about loving our neighbors. While we may have different ideas about how to fix this broken system and may have different ways of loving our neighbors, our call to love our neighbor is central to our faith. Being a sanctuary denomination will look different in different contexts. It may mean providing space for people to live; providing financial and legal support to those who are working through the immigration system; or supporting other congregations and service providers. We cannot mandate or direct our congregations and ministries to respond in specific ways. Each must work out what this means for them in their context.
- While we don't yet know the full scope of the work that this declaration will open for the church, we do know that our faith communities are already doing sanctuary work. Sanctuary for a congregation may mean hosting English as a second Language (ESL) classes; marching as people of faith against the detention of children and families; providing housing for a community member facing deportation; or, in some of our congregations, having thoughtful conversations about what our faith says about immigration. All of these are a step closer to sanctuary in our faith communities and sanctuary in our world for people who must leave their homes.
- Except for our members whose ancestors were here before European settlement or others who were forced to come to the U.S. against their will, the ELCA is an immigrant church. Our decades-long work with immigrants and refugees is how we practice our faith in the world. Lutherans started Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, one of the nine refugee resettlement agencies in the U.S.
- At our last churchwide assembly, we also committed to walking alongside Central American children and families fleeing their communities by passing the AMMPARO strategy (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities).
- Through the AMMPARO strategy, we are also working through our global partners in Central America to alleviate the conditions that cause people to migrate. We support organizations and faith communities that work with deported migrants in Central America and advocate for the humane treatment of immigrants in Mexico. In the U.S., we have a network of 151 welcoming and sanctuary congregations that are committed to working on migration issues and a welcome for immigrant communities. The church also has five sanctuary synods (our regional structures), all of which do work with immigrants, refugees and asylum-seekers.
- In baptism, we are brought into a covenantal relationship with Jesus Christ that commits us to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Following the example of Martin Luther, we believe that advocacy is a crucial expression of baptismal identity. As a church, we have advocated for stopping the detention of children and families for decades. We have spoken out against family separation, sought a pathway to citizenship for community members who have lived in the U.S. for many years, and have taken steps to address the root causes of migration in a way that honors the humanity in people who must flee.
- Being a sanctuary denomination means that we, as church together, want to be public and vocal about this work. At the same time, we will have conversations about what sanctuary means with many of our members and discern future action and direction. Welcoming people is not a political issue for us, it is a matter of faith. Work with immigrants and refugees is how we practice our faith in the world.

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, August 25

9:00 am..... Classic Service  
10:30 am..... Praise Service  
7:00 pm..... Women's Summer Bible Study

### Monday, August 26

7:00 pm..... Refugee Resettlement Committee Meeting

### Tuesday, August 27

9:00 am..... Inasmuch Quilters  
10:30 am..... Staff Meeting  
6:30 pm..... Cancer Support Group

### Wednesday, August 28

6:00 pm..... Praise Band

### Sunday, September 1

9:00 am..... Classic Service  
10:30 am..... Praise Service

*\*Monday, September 2 — Office Closed for Labor Day*

### This Week's Prayer List

This list of prayer requests is for you to use as you pray in your home during the week. Prayers are included for three consecutive weekly bulletins unless otherwise requested.

### (.....Hope in the Resurrection.....)

For the family of **Alon Levari** who died recently.  
For the family of **Bill Kratzke** who died August 9, 2019.  
For the family of **Aliisa Wirkkala** who died August 16, 2019.  
For the family of **June Richardson** who died August 17, 2019.

### (.....Health, Healing & Comfort.....)

Pray for **Judy Poulsen; Stephanie Stewart; Bill Gese; Scott Lindberg; Ken Guthrie; Haley Thorsen; May Schoening; Warren Van Binsbergen; Karna Town; Jim Shilt; Kenny Holmes; Christine Nelson.**

### (.....In Praise & Thanksgiving.....)

For the August 3, 2019 wedding of **Laura Pauline Adalbert** and **Minhphat Ngoc Nguyen.**

For the August 18, 2019 wedding of **Jens Clark** and **Ashlie Bissell.**

For the August 18, 2019 baptism of **Lily Groark**, child of Rachael and Kelly Groark.

For the August 24, 2019 wedding of **Kayla Henricks** and **Christopher Dime.**



## ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 2019

### Leading Worship Today

Pastor John Bjorge, Preacher/Presider  
Terry Baird, Faith Formation Director  
Liturgical Assistant: Alan Herr  
Musicians: Susan Bevington;  
Lisa Van Horne and the Praise Band  
Hospitality: Green Team

### Welcome to First Lutheran of Richmond Beach!

First Lutheran is a vibrant community of faith dedicated to:

- inviting all people to discover a confident faith in Jesus,
- equipping them with a faith that works in real life, and
- sending them out as ambassadors and servants of Christ in the world!

We believe that Jesus is life—the rest is just detail! We also believe that we're incomplete without you! Join us for worship! Join us as we grow in our faith! Join us as we share God's love through service to others! See what a difference Jesus can make in your life!

**Welcome Cards** - All new worshipers are encouraged to fill out a pew card with your name, contact info and date. This card may also be used to indicate a change of address. The back of the card offers space for comments or prayer requests. Please place your card in the offering plate during offertory.

**Large Print** - The ushers can provide large print bulletins and large print Bibles for your use during worship.

**Children are Welcome to Worship!** Children's bulletins and Busy Bags containing soft toys, crayons and paper are available for children in the Narthex.

**Nursery Care** - Nursery is available for children (age 3 months through 6 years) in the first floor education wing. An usher can provide directions.

Scripture Readings for **Sunday, September 1, 2019:**  
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14



**FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF RICHMOND BEACH**  
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206.546.4153  
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## LIVING

### Van Ministry Update

Our van ministry is “updating”, making changes to adjust to the current needs of our members. We have a few people in the “Edmonds” area, only 1 or 2 at Cristwood in Shoreline, and a few members who live in North Seattle. We are reaching out to new riders and new drivers at this time. Perhaps you are driving your car near these areas on your way to church, and could occasionally pick someone up? This is a wonderful way to minister to those individuals who are not able to get to church without support. Please pray to discern if this is a way you would be able to help out. Questions or wish to discuss possibilities? Please contact Cathy Thomas, RN, Parish Nurse (206-954-0078 or nurse@flrb.org) or Jacque Cutting (206-546-6185 or Jacqueline\_cutting@yahoo.com).

### 2019 FLRB Fellowship and Fitness Bike Rides

All are welcome. Meet at First Lutheran Church at 9:00 am to travel to starting point unless you make arrangements to meet at starting point. Bring bicycle, helmet, pump, tube patch kit, bike lock, and money for lunch. For more information contact Glenn Nelson.

- **September 21, 2019** - Gas Works Park to Golden Gardens via Fisherman’s Terminal and Government Locks. Approx 18 miles. Lunch at Byen Bakeri.

### Compass Housing Alliance Luncheon

Wednesday, **September 25 at 12:00 pm** at the Sheraton Grand, Seattle. Learn how Compass Housing Alliance is transforming our region’s response to housing and homelessness. The luncheon will feature inspirational speakers, outcomes and updates, and an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of individuals and families working hard for their futures. There is no cost to register for the luncheon. Your support will be welcomed at the event. Learn more & reserve your spot here: [www.compasshousingalliance.org/events-top/luncheon/](http://www.compasshousingalliance.org/events-top/luncheon/)

### Local ELCA World Hunger event

*Rick Steves Hunger and Hope: Lessons from Ethiopia and Guatemala*  
**Monday, October 7, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm** at Trinity, Lynnwood  
 Rick Steves, guidebook author and travel TV host, and the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the ELCA, will host the premiere screening of Steves’ new special “Hunger and Hope: Lessons from Ethiopia and Guatemala.” Following the screening, Steves, Eaton and Rev. Dan Rift, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal Director, will engage in conversation and take questions on issues surrounding world hunger. Attendees will be given the opportunity to learn more about ELCA World Hunger and how to support their efforts to address these issues. This event is free and open to the public - please register at: [hunger-and-hope.eventbrite.com](http://hunger-and-hope.eventbrite.com)

### Lutheran Community Services NW: N. Puget Sound Fundraising Luncheon

Save the date: Sunday, **October 13 at 12:30 pm**. The afternoon begins with a social hour at 12:30 pm, followed by lunch and a program at 1:30 pm at the Lynnwood Convention Center. There is no cost to host or attend the luncheon, but there is an opportunity to support our services in the North Puget Sound area that include: Adoption and Foster Care, Immigration Services, Refugees Northwest and Family Support Centers. More info coming soon at <https://lcsnw.org/office/north-puget-sound/>

## LOVING

### A day of worship, food, and service!


Kick of the program year on **September 8 at 10:30 am** with worship at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. *We will have a simple worship service at 8:00 am at the church for those who can’t make the 10:30 am service.*

Our worship service will be held at the picnic shelter near the north end of lower main parking lot. After the service there will be sack lunches provided so people can eat and head out for a time of service with ELCA’s program: *God’s Work. Our Hands.*



### God’s Work. Our Hands.

On **September 8** in thousands of congregations across the ELCA, folks will be wearing *God’s Work. Our Hands.* yellow shirts (optional) and volunteering to serve in a variety of ways in their communities. FLRB will be blessed to participate and bless others with the gift of service. That Sunday is our Worship at the Beach. Following the service we hope all members will participate in one of the following out-in-the-community opportunities: Beach Clean-Up, YMCA Spruce-Up, FLRB Member Household/Yard Chores, Compass Meal/Childcare and at church/indoor activities. Mark your calendars for *God’s Work. Our Hands.* on September 8, and invite a friend. A sack lunch will be provided. Ask questions and sign-up in the Narthex on Sundays. To be put in touch with the organizers, contact the church office: office@flrb.org or 206-546-4153.



Hospitality Teams • Small Groups • Task Forces  
 CYF Volunteers • Coordinators • Hosts • Organizers  
 Interest Groups • Committees

**Save the Date! September 7, 2019 at 10:00 am**

Do you lead a ministry? Organize a Bible Study? Coordinate fellowship events? Host meals? Head up a committee? The church staff will be hosting a training this fall for all leaders within the congregation. This training will go through the theme for the year, train leaders on important procedures and policies of the church, go through ways to reserve rooms and resources of the church as well as how to publicize events. Our goal is that all groups are able to focus on how we live, love, and serve as Jesus did. Please put this on your calendars and make it a priority to come. All leaders who are not able to come will have to find another time to meet with Terry or Pastor John in order to be trained on these matters. *Extended Training for Sunday School & Youth Leaders: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.*

## SERVING

### First Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten needs your help!

We are in search of one more lead teacher for our Doves (3 & 4 year old class) for the 2019-2020 school year. If you are interested in teaching or if you know someone who might be interested, please visit [flrb.org](http://flrb.org) and click on “Job Opportunities” or contact Laura Schleede, Director, at 206-546-0320 or [preschool@flrb.org](mailto:preschool@flrb.org).

### School Supply Drive

It’s that time of year again when we gather school supplies for the school kits we send to Lutheran World Relief. School supplies are on sale at stores right now—a perfect opportunity to buy and then donate!

#### Needed items:

- \*70 page notebooks
- \*30cm ruler (12 inches)
- \*pencil sharpeners
- \*blunt scissors
- \*box of 24 crayons
- \*2.5" eraser

Items not needed: pencils, ballpoint pens

We thank the congregation in advance for the generosity you always show the school kids that will receive these school kits. ~The Inasmuch Ministry

### Hopelink Food & Fund Drive – End Summer Hunger

These are the final days of the Food and Fund Drive to help feed children in our community during the summer when access to the school-based food program is not available. You are invited to bring nonperishable foods to the lobby on Sundays or drop them off during the week. You can also designate a monetary donation for “Hopelink” on your giving envelope.

### Offering Envelopes

Numbered offering envelopes will be ordered for those who would like them. If you picked up preprinted envelopes this past year, a new preprinted set will be ordered for you. If you have not picked up preprinted envelopes in the past, but would like a set for 2020, contact Karen Ewing, bookkeeper: parishadmin@flrb.org or 206-546-4153 x139.

**FLRB CHURCH STAFF DIRECTORY**  
 Church office: 206-546-4153 or visit [www.flrb.org](http://www.flrb.org)

*Staff:*

John Bjorge, Pastor	Ext. 106	<a href="mailto:pastorjohn@flrb.org">pastorjohn@flrb.org</a>
Joel Bevington, Director of Music Ministries	Ext. 201	<a href="mailto:music@flrb.org">music@flrb.org</a>
Terry Baird, Director of Faith Formation	Ext. 225	<a href="mailto:ffd@flrb.org">ffd@flrb.org</a>
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Christina Nichols, Office Manager	Ext. 136	<a href="mailto:office@flrb.org">office@flrb.org</a>
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Germai Berhe, Facilities Supervisor	Ext. 220	<a href="mailto:facilities@flrb.org">facilities@flrb.org</a>

**Income and Expense Summary**  
**July 2019 & Fiscal Year End \*Preliminary**

	<u>JULY</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Giving/Income	\$62,784.81	\$719,544.22
Expense	\$60,712.36	\$703,129.62
Net	\$2,072.45	\$16,414.60

Scan here to give online:

