

The Beachcomber

First Lutheran Church of Richmond Beach, Shoreline, Washington

Spring 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR



We hear a lot about the way immigrants are treated at our southern border. While all of us would deplore mistreatment of anyone, we as Christians also realize that we have a particular call to help those who are the most vulnerable. We remember that when our Lord Jesus was a child, he and his family had to flee their home country for fear of violence and became refugees in Egypt for several years. The

Bible calls us to care for the vulnerable, especially the widows, orphans, and foreigners. Our own Lutheran history in America has been one with deep immigrant roots and a courageous commitment to welcoming strangers.

Until recently the United States has had an exceptional history of welcoming refugees and has been the top resettlement country in the world. Since 1975 the U.S. government has welcomed over 3 million refugees for resettlement from all over the world and these refugees have built new lives and homes in all 50 states.

Yet, even as we Americans have sought to do our part, there are still over 21 million refugees in the world today. A refugee is defined as a person forced to flee their home country to escape persecution, war, or violence.

For these reasons, FLRB and St. Luke Catholic Parish have joined together in a partnership to welcome one new refugee family to our community. We are working with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services and Lutheran Community Services in Seattle to offer to this family what these agencies call a Circle of Welcome. Together we've made a financial commitment to help with their

resettlement as well as a commitment to walk alongside and support a new immigrant family for one year. For some time now we've been gathering items for their home—everything from furniture, to pots and pans, bedding, and clothes. Our goal is to help them become fully integrated within our community. Volunteers from both congregations have been working on this effort for the past several months and will continue to come alongside this refugee family for at least a year after their arrival.

Here's the exciting news: the beginning of February we were overjoyed to learn that we were matched with a refugee family! They arrived from Afghanistan on February 13th whereupon they were met by our loving volunteers and a carpool delivering them to their new home where they were able to enjoy an authentic Afghani meal!

As our Volunteer Team Leaders write: *"The family members speak Pashto, one of two main dialects in Afghanistan. They are Muslims who have taken a huge leap of faith in entrusting their future to a Christian resettlement team. We are so blessed! There are 11 family members: a mother, a father, and 9 children ranging in age from 18 to 2 years old. The family will arrive with Special Immigration Visas, indicating that a family member, probably the dad, helped our military during the war in Afghanistan and now needs to escape for safety."*

In the year to come we will offer them care that we hope is beneficial for our family's comfort and increasing independence. Please keep this family and other refugees in your prayers. God is indeed using us to be a blessing to others!

Pastor John

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS DURING LENT

Soup Supper & Worship (3/4-4/1)

Wednesdays during Lent, FLRB will have a soup supper (5:45 pm) followed by a worship service (6:30 pm).

Sign up to Bring Soup on Wednesdays

Please sign up on the list in the Narthex (or contact Terry Baird, ffd@flrb.org) to provide a soup for one (or more) of the Wednesday evening soup suppers. Please label your soup with what is in it. Soup suppers will start the Wednesday after Ash Wednesday.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

Wednesday Evenings

JaM - 5:00-5:45 pm

Soup Dinner - 5:45-6:30 pm

Worship - 6:30-7:00 pm

Wednesday Night Youth Group:

6:30-8:30 pm after service. 7th-12th Grade

GOOD FRIDAY

Family Service

April 10, 6:00 pm in the Upper Room. This service is family friendly and covers the importance of Good Friday in an interactive, age appropriate way for all. This will be a great way for your family to experience Good Friday together.

*Volunteers needed to help with this service.
Please talk to Terry Baird*

CHILDREN

JaM (Jesus and Music!)

K-6th grade kids will get a chance to grow in their faith and participate in Children's Choir and other music.

The JaM kids are currently working on the FLRB Hero Project. This is an opportunity for children to learn more about themselves and how God made them. The goal of this project is for each child to find a service project that they can find ownership and value in.

Sunday School

Volunteers Needed!! Do you have a hobby? A Special Talent? A passion for something? Then we need you! Each week the children are exploring the Bible story in unique ways. They have gardened, cooked, built, sung, created, served and more. If you are willing to share your talents and interests please contact Terry Baird: ffd@flrb.org



Alan Herr teaching the children about gardening and connecting it to the parable of the sower.



Max Fenwick serving during coffee hour after learning about how Abraham and Sarah showed hospitality.



This year the children are working on memorizing a variety of core bible and faith concepts.

Tillamook July 19-26
Youth entering 7th
grade to leaving 12th
grade. Contact Terry
Baird for more
information.



COMMUNION CLASS

Class for Children and their Parents

At First Lutheran we encourage kids to take communion whenever their parents feel like they are ready. We hope that kids who are taking communion understand what communion is and have faith in Jesus. We offer a communion class once a year to help assist in teaching your child about communion. Children and parents may attend more than once. As they grow and their faith grows their ability to understand changes and grows. This class will be held February 26 from 5:30-6:15 pm. Questions? Contact Terry Baird (ffd@flrb.org).

YOUTH FUNDRAISERS

Easter Breakfast

Easter breakfast is our big youth fundraiser each year. All youth wanting to go on any of our mission trips or retreats can work this fundraiser to earn money for their trips. Breakfast is a free-will donation and 100% of what you donate goes towards the kids you see working. You are not paying for eggs, you are giving youth an opportunity to grow in their faith and serve others.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Hello from the music program at FLRB! As the long season of rain subsides and the sun makes a more frequent appearance, I'm reminded how truly thankful I am for the changing seasons here in the Pacific Northwest. It's not Winter for too long before our landscape comes to life again. Just like Winter moving into Spring, our music and liturgy at FLRB will progress through Lent, Holy Week, and finally to Easter. Musically, we have much to look forward to this season:

Ash Wednesday: February 26th @ 6:30 pm: Each year, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent by focusing our hearts on repentance and prayer. Our adult choir will lead the music for this special evening service.

Wednesday Night Lenten Services: Beginning at 5:45 pm with a potluck-style soup dinner served in the Fellowship Hall, then processing to our Sanctuary for a short service at 6:30 pm, come and hear members of our music ensembles sing and help lead these beautiful times of meditation. This year, our JaM kids will help lead our worship with handbells.

Holy Week: Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, April 9th & 10th @ 7:00 pm: These contemplative services at First Lutheran focus on Christ's journey to the cross and help us to pause and meditate on how he suffered. Our music will reflect this journey, leading up to a special service of musical reflections on the Passion of Christ for our Good Friday service.



Sunday, April 12th: Easter Sunday! We will be celebrating at three services: 8:00 am, 9:30 am & 11:00 am with special music provided by all of our music ensembles here at First Lutheran. A truly festive morning! *If you are interested in participating with our choir, band and/or instrumental ensemble, please contact our Director of Music, Joel Bevington.*

Sunday, May 17th: Music Sunday! Both services will be led by our music ensembles at FLRB: JaM Choir, Praise Band, Bell Choir, and Choir! This will be a service that celebrates music and the musicians in our congregation! Come prepared to be artistically inspired.

Wednesday, May 20th: FLRB Talent Show @ 6:30 pm! Sign up by talking with Joel Bevington or Terry Baird. This evening will not disappoint! Don't be shy! This is your time to step into the limelight in front of a warm and wonderful crowd!

We hope to see you at any or all of these services and events! If you have interest in joining (or checking out!) any of these ensembles, need information about how to get your kids involved, or know of anyone who might like to get involved with the music at FLRB, let me know! I would love to talk with you. *Or just show up!*

All God's creatures "got" a place in the choir... All God's creatures "got" a place in the band...

Calling all Musicians! Are you interested in helping to provide musical leadership in our Easter services?

Have you wanted to participate but can't make a full-time commitment?

Have you simply wanted to try out your musical gifts among other caring musicians at FLRB?

We'll look no further! This year, Easter services will be led by our musicians here at First Lutheran—including some great instrumental arrangements of hymns and worship music.

Rehearsals will begin in March and our performances will be on Easter Sunday (April 12th) at the 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:00 am services.

(No worries if you can't play for all services, we can work that schedule out based upon availability and interest.)

Music Rehearsals

Mondays: Bell Choir - 6:00 pm-7:30 pm

Wednesdays: JaM (Jesus and Music!) K-6th grade kids: 5:00-5:45 pm; Praise Band: 6:00-7:20 pm; Adult Choir: 7:30-9:00 pm

CARE MINISTRY & PARISH NURSE

FLRB's Parish Nurse

This congregation does such a wonderful job of loving other people, both in wellness and in illness. Watching you all care for each other, as Jesus does, fills my heart. There are so many opportunities to care, and sometimes we are not aware of people's needs. Please let us know if there are people who haven't been at church so we can support them. Hearing people's stories and journeys is a wonderful way we learn and care. During Lent, we will hear some members in our congregation share their stories. We continue to have organized Care Teams to support those individuals so no one has to do too much. This is an important part of caring and taking care of ourselves too! Another way to care for ourselves AND share stories is connecting our congregation as we WALK to JERUSALEM (see below). Join us in wellness and caring!

Cathy Thomas, RN, Parish Nurse

Walk to Jerusalem

FLRB is going on a virtual 8,000 mile journey representing the distance between Shoreline and Jerusalem.

- The walk has started, but people can join in any time.
- Log your weekly miles on the progress chart in the Narthex.
- All physical activities count, whether you are working out in a gym, kayaking, running, walking, yoga (even chair yoga), etc. If you aren't able to measure your miles, 20 minutes of exercise equals one mile.
- Each week the miles will be tallied and marked on a map to show you how far "we" have walked!
- Consider walking with someone, and sharing life and stories. Prayer cards are available if you are interested in praying as you walk.

Questions? Cathy Thomas, RN, Parish Nurse (nurse@flrb.org or 206-546-4153).



Prayer Teams

We have a wonderful team of prayer warriors! The Prayer Chain is available 24/7 for the prayers of the congregation, family and friends. Prayers are placed in the Navigator when requested so others can support the prayer needs. We have a Prayer Cord which is for highly confidential concerns.

Monthly Cancer Support Group

You are welcome to join our cancer support group. We meet at church on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm to share our stories and lift each other up. We share bumps in our care and offer support and uplifting suggestions. It is good to be able to share our concerns and thoughts in a confidential group. Members are cancer patients, cancer survivors, and family caregivers. Sherry Shellman, cancer survivor leads the group with medical support from our Parish Nurse, Cathy Thomas, retired oncology certified nurse. Upcoming dates: Feb 25, March 24, April 28

Card Ministry

The card ministry sends seasonal cards to folks as a reminder that their church family cares for them and is holding them in prayer.

KnitWitz/Prayer Shawls

The KnitWitz knit prayer shawls to be given to anyone who may need a tangible sign of God's comforting love and care.

Van Ministry

Our church van picks up members at the Crista Communities, and some nearby neighbors and brings them to and from church.

Time of Prayer and Healing

Following the last service on the first Sunday of the month, a prayer team will meet with individuals for intercessory prayer and confidential prayer.

Eucharistic Ministry

Eucharistic Ministers bring communion to those unable to attend worship.

Inasmuch

The quilts made by our quilting group, Inasmuch, are sent to people around the world through Lutheran World Relief. The group meets on Tuesdays at 9:00 am.

FLRB PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

School News

Registration for the 2020-21 School Year:

Registration is now open for the 2020-21 School Year! We have class options for children ages 2 through Kindergarten. You are invited to come in for a tour and to observe any of our classes. For more information, please contact Laura Schleede at 206-546-0320 or preschool@flrb.org. We are so honored to be part of your child's early school experience!

2020 Basket Raffle:

Our 2020 Art Walk, Basket Raffle and Silent Auction will be on Friday, March 27 from 6:00-8:00 pm. This is our school's main fundraiser each year and we are so grateful to everyone who helps make it possible! This year we are raising funds to create an outdoor classroom space to be used by all our classes and to make improvements to our playground. There are lots of ways you can help!

- Donate towards the basket raffle or silent auction! This could be an item to put in the baskets, a cash donation to help the school purchase a bigger item for the raffle, a donation request to a business that you frequent or even a donation of something that you have to share, such as tickets to a sporting event or admission to a class that you teach.
- Purchase raffle tickets! Tickets will go on sale in March and are \$5 per ticket. You can purchase tickets from any preschool/kindergarten family or through the preschool office. You do not need to be present to win.
- Join us on Friday, March 27 to see the artwork created by each class and to enjoy the community of this ministry!

We are looking to grow our School Board:

If you would like to support the school in a deeper way, please consider serving on the school board. This group of dedicated individuals provides guidance and support to the school in so many invaluable ways. Contact Laura Schleede at 206-546-0320 or preschool@flrb.org if you are interested.



NEW MEMBERS

Introduction of New Members

On February 2, we welcomed a group of new members to our congregation:

Jon Kamrath & Lexi Harlow - children: Alina & Luke
Mike & Carol Korpi
Kelley Malay - husband: Ben; children: Wyatt & Juliet
John Massman
Dannica & Mark Totten - daughter: Emiliana

LEADERSHIP

Church Council 2018-2019

The Church Council is your elected leadership at FLRB. Please contact council members with your questions, concerns or suggestions. Council Meetings are usually on the second Tuesday of each month.

President - Chris Verschuyl	At-Large - Bev Klein
Vice Pres. - Fran Uchida	At-Large - Matt Schleede
Secretary - Laura Marchisio	At-Large - Stephanie Bertges
Treasurer - Mike Laslavic	At-Large - Steve Ellersick
	Lead Pastor - John Borge

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Navigator

Announcements due **Tuesday** for the following Sunday.

Beachcomber

Article submissions due **May 1, 2019**.

The focus for this issue will be on the end of the school year through summer.



SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Word Of Life

Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am, join Pastor John in the Library to discuss and study the Scripture passages that will be preached on during 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.

Women's Bible Bunch

If you are looking for a fun women's group where you will discover refreshment in studying God's Word (currently studying in the book of Isaiah), share fellowship, prayer, joy, tears, laughter, and enjoy planning luncheons and events, then you will want to join us!

Please bring: A sack lunch, your Bible, paper, and pen, and an expectation for God's blessings. Beverage and dessert will be provided.

When: 12:00 pm on the 3rd Monday of each month.
Any date changes will be noted in the Sunday Navigator.

Where: The church library

Our annual schedule:

January through May (then a summertime break)
September through November (then a Christmas break).

Contact Person: Dorothy Clausen 425-776-2694 or
daclaus@comcast.net

Mary-Martha Circle (A Women's Bible Study)

Mary-Martha Circle meets the second Thursday of the month at 10:00 am in the library. New members welcome.

Adult Education

Adult Education meets Sundays at 9:45 am in the Upper Room:

- Mar 1 - Talk by Joel Bevington, FLRB Music Director
- Mar 8 - "What it Means to be a Lutheran," by Pastor John Borge
- Mar 15 - "What it Means to be a Lutheran," part 2
- Mar 22 - "What it Means to be a Lutheran," part 3
- Mar 29 - "What it Means to be a Lutheran," part 4
- Apr 5 - Palm Sunday, no Adult Education
- Apr 12 - Easter, no Adult Education



What it Means to be a Lutheran series:

Do you come from another religious tradition? Did you grow up Lutheran but Confirmation seems like a century ago and you probably have to admit you weren't paying that much attention? Were you raised in the Lutheran church but still have questions about what Lutherans think and believe? Here is your chance to find out more about the Lutheran heritage. During four Sundays in March between worship services Pastor John will lead a lively discussion on what it means to be Lutheran.

FELLOWSHIP

Art Gathering

The second Thursday of the month is the scene of lots of laughter here at church. It's called *The Art Gathering*. A group of artists get together. We all bring things to work on—knitting, painting, crafting, drawing, collage—you name it. We all learn new things every time we get together. And we talk and we laugh. Come and join us—second Thursdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Questions? Call Shirley (206-546-3964) or Song (206-542-3565).

Norwegian Heritage Sunday

Remember to mark your calendars for this special event!

When: Sunday, May 3, 9:45 am

Where: The Upper Room

What: Special treats and fellowship celebrating the Norwegian Heritage shared by many at FLRB.

Questions? Contact Dorothy Clausen at 425-776-2694 or
daclaus@comcast.net

BEHIND THE SCENES

Volunteers Needed

We have an urgent need for a team to prepare the candles and communion elements for Sunday worship. This weekly need is a great way to serve behind the scenes. For more information, contact Christina at office@flrb.org or 206-546-4153 ext 0.

The Beachcomber

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

Office Hours

M-Th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
F 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

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WORSHIP TIMES

Worship Schedule

8:30 am - Classic Worship; 11:00 am - Praise Worship
9:45 am - Education Hour

Ash Wednesday

February 26

Communion Class: 5:30 pm
Worship Service: 6:30 pm

Wednesdays During Lent (3/4-4/1)

Soup Supper: 5:45 pm - 6:30 pm
Worship Service: 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Holy Week

Palm Sunday - April 5: 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Maundy Thursday - April 9: 7:00 pm
Good Friday - April 10: 6:00 pm Family Service
7:00 pm Traditional Service

Easter Sunday - Sunday, April 12

8:00 am; 9:30 am; 11:00 am
Easter breakfast from 9:00 am-11:15 am

Sunday, May 24 - Summer Worship Hours Begin

9:00 am - Classic Worship; 10:30 am - Praise Worship

STAYING CONNECTED

Social Media, Emails, Seasonal Newsletter

Follow us on Facebook or check out our website to keep up to date on events happening this fall. 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 seasonal Beachcomber newsletter electronically, please contact the front office, 206-546-4153 or office@flrb.org

Church Staff

John Bjorge, Pastor	pastorjohn@flrb.org
Joel Bevington, Director of Music Ministries	music@flrb.org
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Laura Schleede, Preschool Director	preschool@flrb.org
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Cathy Thomas, RN, Parish Nurse	nurse@flrb.org
Girmai Berhe, Facilities Supervisor	

ONLINE GIVING

Download the GIVE+ App Today!



Give+ Mobile

The GIVE+ app shows the same giving options as our website. You can make regular offerings and youth trip fees payments here. If you need more help, or if you have questions, please contact Karen Ewing. Direct links to app stores: bit.ly/androidGive bit.ly/appleGive