



## Moments for Mission

Southwestern Washington Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
*Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ by empowering congregations and church leaders  
 to grow in worship, education, outreach, stewardship and other ministries.*

November 2014

Staff

**Bishop Richard  
E. Jaech**

**Rev. Kim Latterell**  
*bishop's associate*

**Rev. Melanie  
Wallschlaeger**  
*director for  
 evangelical mission  
 (ELCA staff)*

**Allison Ramsey**  
*office manager*

Phone  
 (253) 535-8300

Address  
 420 121<sup>st</sup> St. S  
 Tacoma, WA 98444

E-mail  
[swwsynod@plu.edu](mailto:swwsynod@plu.edu)

Blog  
<http://swwsynodelca.blogspot.com>

Websites  
[www.lutheranssw.org](http://www.lutheranssw.org)  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Southwestern-Washington-Synod/129047787133786>



Evangelical Lutheran  
 Church in America  
 God's work. Our hands.

## Message from Bishop Jaech

Dear Friends,

As we approach Reformation Day, I give thanks again for Martin Luther and the gifts that he rediscovered in Scripture and expressed in a powerful way to the Christian family. Luther brought us a variety of gifts, but I am thinking especially of the two “pillars” or foundational posts of Lutheran teaching, namely Gospel and vocation.

Without doubt the center of our faith is God's grace: the wellspring of healing, forgiveness and life that continuously washes and refreshes us. Like the river of life flowing from the throne of God in Revelation 22, God's grace and love fills and renews us and all creation each moment. Rather than constantly needing to establish our own importance and fill our deep hunger with successes, possessions and achievements, God embraces us as dear children and sets us free to live a joyful life of praise and service.

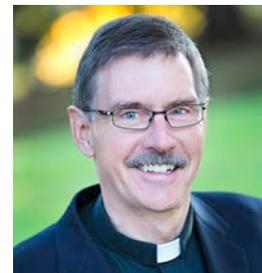
That brings us to Luther's second primary rediscovery, that of vocation. Luther broke through the hierarchical framework of the 1500's, where only the priests, kings and generals had worth, to proclaim that each one of us has a holy calling in the world. Each one of us is called to be a priest who communicates God's love and serves out God's goodness to all we encounter in our life, work and relationships.

Two pieces of news came in my email recently that gave wonderful examples of Lutheran young people hearing a call from God and pursuing their vocation. First, I received a message from our ELCA Global Mission Director, Rev. Rafael Padilla, telling me about three young women from our Synod who are serving around the world as part of the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM). This year, YAGM has placed 64 post-college, young adults on six continents for a year of service helping congregational ministry, human rights work, development projects, healthcare, education and youth work.

This year the three YAGM participants from the Southwestern Washington Synod are:

Emily Bishop, working in Rwanda. Emily has membership ties to the PLU Campus Congregation and also Trinity Lutheran, Parkland.

*Continued page 2*



*Bishop continued from page 1*

Ashlyn Dell'Osa, working in the United Kingdom. Ashlyn has ties to Trinity Lutheran, Enumclaw, and Good Shepherd, Olympia.

Caitlin Zimmerman, working in South Africa. Caitlin has ties to the PLU Campus Congregation and Trinity Lutheran, Parkland.

Secondly, I received a message from Emily Garofalo, the Tacoma Coordinator for Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC). LVC coordinates and supports young adults who wish to do at least a year of service in the United States in the same range of ministries as YAGM. During the coming twelve months, four LVC workers from around the United States will serve in the Tacoma area. Pictured below from left to right are Annie Lips, working at L'Arche Tahoma Hope (supporting those with disabilities); Anna Bahson, at L'Arche Farm and Garden; Elizabeth Moritz at Nativity House (for the homeless and unemployed); and Paige Uheling, at South Sound Outreach (a multi-service center).



These four women are postponing for a year their long-term vocations to carry out a year of service with LVC. Two of them are in the process of applying for medical school, one is applying for a Ph.D. program in Marine Biology and the fourth is pursuing full time work in youth ministry! I am delighted that the Holy Spirit has stirred up within the YAGM and LVC workers such a powerful sense of vocation that they are using their gifts in all these ways.

The Reformation is not a past event! The Gospel makes us new each day, setting us free to serve God and God's people. Blessings to each of you as you live out your vocation and live in the fullness of God's love for you.

Bishop Rick Jaech

## Presiding Bishop Eaton visits in November



This Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, the Southwestern Washington Synod is excited to sponsor a visit from the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, the Rev. Elizabeth Eaton. Bishop Eaton will speak for 90 minutes on the theme “Who is Leading us and Where are we going?” This time includes a question and answer period. The event will be held at the new Karen Hille Phillips Performing Arts Center in Red Square in the center of the PLU Campus from 10 – 11:30 a.m., with a coffee hour beginning at 9. Parking is limited around the PLU campus, but all lots are open. We suggest carpooling. The event is free and open to the public.

Bishop Eaton’s visit originated with her plans to celebrate the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mountain View Lutheran Church in Edgewood. She is speaking at both a Saturday November 1<sup>st</sup> evening banquet for Mountain View and preaching Sunday morning at their worship services. We are grateful that Mountain View Lutheran was instrumental in bringing her to our synod and look forward to our conversation with her on November 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am.

### Congregations in transition

*Lord, We pray for your wisdom and insight to the congregations in our synod who are now interviewing or extending a call to a new pastor:*

#### **Mobility- November 2014**

Call process	Position	Status	Pastoral care
Beautiful Savior, Vancouver	P	I	Michelle Manicke
Elim, Port Orchard	P	NV	Pulpit Supply
Hope, Enumclaw	P	I	Keith Marshall
Messiah, Auburn	P	TR	Eric Woodridge and Ron Kempe
Peace, Puyallup	P	I	Linda Nou
Resurrection, Tacoma	P	TR	Richard Hermstad
Salishan Eastside Lutheran Mission	P	TR	Pulpit Supply

#### **Mobility position key**

*P – Pastor  
AP – Associate Pastor  
AIM – Associate in Ministry  
DM – Diaconal Minister  
DC- Deaconess*

#### **Mobility status key:**

*NV – New Vacancy  
TR – Transition  
I – Interviewing  
C – Callina*

#### **Calls Accepted**

**Chelsea Globe** has accepted a call to serve as Pastor at **Christ, Federal Way**.

**Marjorie Olason** has been called to serve as Director for Visitation Ministries at **Peninsula, Gig Harbor**.

#### **Ordination/ Commissioning**

All rostered leaders are invited to ordinations, commissionings and installations to vest and process. The color of the day is red, unless otherwise noted.

**Chelsea Globe** will be ordained by Bishop Jaech at Hope, Enumclaw on Saturday, November 15 at 3pm. Her installation will be Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at Christ, Federal Way during their 10am service.

**Marjorie Olason** will be commissioned as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 3pm at Peninsula, Gig Harbor.

#### **Status Change**

**Rev. Chuck Harris**, The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd has gone on leave from call to focus on new opportunities for him and his family.

## Spruce up our spiritual house

*Disciplines help us glorify God while serving in ways that are abundant, clear*

By The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

“I’m spiritual, not religious.” How many times have we heard that, usually from people who consider their unchurched status a mark of honor? When I heard this as a parish pastor, I became frustrated, especially when folks waxed lyrical about a spiritual experience engendered from contemplating the beauty of a mountaintop. This was perplexing because I served in Ohio. There are no mountains. I was tempted to dismiss it as laziness. But now I think they are on to something.



This coincides with what I am thinking after a year in office. The four “emphases” or “strategic intents” or “things” I’ve identified—we are church, we are Lutheran, we are church together, we are church for the sake of the world—have resonance across the ELCA. It’s how I’m organizing my work.

A clear sense that worship is at the heart of what we do together and at the heart of our worship is the crucified and risen Christ—this is the essential foundation for our life and work together. Being clear about our confessional Lutheran identity facilitates our witness to the gospel and makes possible authentic ecumenical, interreligious and secular engagement. Being church together is a manifestation of the unity we have through baptism into the body of Christ. It is a source of strength. It is scriptural. Being church for the sake of the world is the natural extension of being church, Lutheran and church together. We get to participate in God’s renewing and reconciling work in the world God so loves.

I’m still developing these emphases, but the “we are church” is claiming my immediate attention.

We are *church*. We do many wonderful things as the church. We feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked and visit the sick. Why do we do these things and how are we able to do them? As I have written before, we are not the American Cancer Society or a nongovernmental organization. Peter instructed us that “like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood” (1 Peter 2:5). We are *ekklesia*—an assembly called out from the world and to God.

There is nothing wrong with employing the best practices of the business world, but before the strategic planning, goal-setting and program implementation we need to be about tending our individual and corporate spiritual life. As a church we need to engage in basic spiritual practices: prayer, silence, corporate worship, Scripture study, giving, service. These are ways God comes to us. These disciplines create a space in us, an openness, for God’s Spirit. They chip away at our willfulness. They make us aware of God’s presence in our lives.

These spiritual practices aren’t magic or a kumbaya fad. They have been part of the Christian tradition for millennia. They are part of the Lutheran tradition. Martin Luther’s morning and evening prayers are precious models of spiritual practice (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 1166). Unfortunately, we’ve lost this part of our tradition. We’ve become religious,  
*Continued page 5*

*Eaton continued*

not spiritual. There is strong evidence that tending the spiritual life is what millennials are longing for. I think the rest of us are too.

However, the intention must be there also. We are such active, useful people. We are “distracted by (our) many tasks” (Luke 10:40). We might mean to practice spiritual disciplines, but there is real work to do. Attending to God is our real work. Set aside the time. Mark it on the calendar. Then show up. Show up with our whole selves. Give God our complete attention. Practicing these disciplines is not about productivity—it’s about being fully and expectantly present to God. Spiritual life is not multitasking.

We might shy away from this whole business because it seems so inward focused and self-absorbed. It’s not. It’s the spiritual equivalent of putting our oxygen mask on first before assisting others. Practicing these disciplines is so *that* we can glorify God and serve in ways that are abundant and clear.

We have a rich tradition as Lutherans: theological rigor, liturgical worship, musical excellence. Engaging in spiritual practices doesn’t supplant any of this. It’s part of our life as church. We can be spiritual and religious.

*A monthly message from the presiding bishop of the ELCA. This column originally appeared in the November issue of The Lutheran. Reprinted with permission.*

## Congregation and Synod Hunger Contacts WebEx Meetings



Attention Hunger Advocates: Monthly ELCA World Hunger Network WebEx meetings are held every third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. CT. Each month will feature updates and timely topics to help support your efforts and teams. Congregational advocates are invited, too.

In October, they learned about Fundraising — Sharon Magnuson shared the latest information about fundraising efforts, including highlighting some examples of successful Synod Coordination for Hunger Teams; Fall Events — They looked at what has been happening so far with regional events, shared stories, and looked ahead to the opportunities still to come, plus questions and answers from network members.

If you are interested in participating, contact Allison in the Synod Office at [swwsynod@plu.edu](mailto:swwsynod@plu.edu) and she will email you the contact instructions for the November meeting.

## Commissioning Service for Lutheran Community Services NW President & CEO David Dua

Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 19030 8th Avenue South, SeaTac, Washington



## Global Mission

### **New Life for Children in Tanzania**

**Thanks to the support of generous members of the ELCA and the work of ELCA missionaries Dr. Stephen Friberg and his wife, Bethany Friberg, children in rural Tanzania (pictured here) are getting the medical care they need.**

Stephen, a mission doctor, helps rural patients find the care they need for such conditions as heart defects and cleft palates. "Most of our patients would not get to specialized care without our help making the connections," says Bethany.

Elizabeth, a seven-year-old Maasai girl, was one of those patients. When the Fribergs discovered that rheumatic heart disease had gradually destroyed Elizabeth's mitral valve, leading to heart failure, they helped connect her to a mission hospital in Kenya for surgery.



"Elizabeth had angels watching over her," Bethany says. "At the end of the surgery, her heart went into ventricular fibrillation for 45 minutes. Her surgical team was uncertain if she would survive. Very slowly, her heart came back to normal. She was walking in a few days and was discharged after six days. Now Elizabeth has normal heart function.

"Her surgeon calls her a miracle," says Bethany. "Mission doctors know it is God who does the healing and pray before every operation.

*Your gifts to ELCA Global Church Sponsorship directly fund missionaries like Dr. Stephen Friberg and Bethany Friberg as they work hand in hand with our neighbors around the world. If you or your congregation is interested in sponsoring a missionary, visit <https://community.ELCA.org/Tanzania>*

*Supporting ELCA missionaries is a priority of Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA. [www.ELCA.org/campaign](http://www.ELCA.org/campaign)*

## **Your Stories of Hospitality**

*Compiled by Bob and Kathy Mattson, members at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Tacoma*

***Worship participants at our 2014 Synod Assembly were invited to share their stories of hospitality. Bishop Jaech identified two kinds of hospitality: home hospitality and road hospitality. Home hospitality is how we prepare and welcome people into our homes and congregations; includes efforts to help people feel comfortable and appreciated. Road hospitality is how we welcome folks while we are living our vocation in the world. Road hospitality includes efforts to engage our neighbors, both planned and unplanned, as we welcome strangers as Christ in our midst. Hundreds of stories were shared- some will be included each month in this synod newsletter.***

We share hospitality by providing sandwiches to the homeless with our “Under the Bridge Ministry” delivering food to those who can’t or won’t go to the local Mission. Food for the homeless and hungry is delivered by parishioners and pastors listening to the stories and offering prayers together.

*Trish Safstrom-Smalley- Amazing Grace Lutheran, Aberdeen, WA*

Bethel started a Teen Center several years ago that gives a positive place for kids to go after school. Many members support this program and are involved in donations of money and time. Members work on special projects: like cooking and crafts or assist teens with school work. It is rewarding to hear these teens share how this program affects their lives.

*Jan Saylor, Bethel Lutheran Church, Brush Prairie, WA*



These men served the Annual Women’s Tea & Brunch that included women from four congregations. Everyone present received a door prize as reminder that we are all recipients of God’s gifts. These men and the women who planned the event relished their roles in serving others.

*Shelly Willem,*

*Bethany Lutheran Church*

*Longview, WA*

## Training Opportunities

### **Bishop's Convocation for Rostered Leaders**

Bishop Jaech invites all rostered leaders in the Southwestern Washington Synod to the 2015 Bishop's Convocation for rostered leaders. Theme: "A User's Guide to Power: How Pastors and AIMS can use their Power Well in a Church Setting" with Julie Diamond Ph.D.

The Prayer Retreat that precedes it will be "Resting in God: Exploring Meditation" with Satya Jaech, MA. Registration information will be emailed to rostered leaders this week. Both will be held at Seabeck Conference Center.

### **Byberg Preaching Workshop for Rostered Leaders**

January 12-15, 2015 at Cannon Beach, OR. The main speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Melinda Quivik who will speak on "Preaching in Times of Transition (i.e. all the time)" For more information and to register go to [bybergpreaching.org](http://bybergpreaching.org).

### **Practicing Discipleship Retreat**

Theme: "Framing Failure with Forgiveness and Faith Formation in a Missional Age"

A time of renewal and networking for those who serve in Congregational Children, Youth and Family Ministry. November 14-16th at Sursum Corda Retreat Center Copalis Beach, WA.

Registration is now open. Cost: \$80 for 2 nights, \$65 for 1 night. Contact Ingelaurie Lisher, AIM, at [ingelaurie@smlutheran.org](mailto:ingelaurie@smlutheran.org) with any questions. Sponsored by the SWWA Synod Youth Committee and the ELCA's Practicing Discipleship Initiative.

### **Children, Youth & Family Ministry Training at Trinity Lutheran College**

Trinity Lutheran College in Everett, WA, will offer a three-week Certificate Program in Children, Youth & Family Ministry, January 5-23, 2015. The training is designed to equip church staff, volunteers, and pastors for effective leadership in



Children, Youth & Family Center

congregational children, youth, and family ministry. Students learn in an interactive seminar format, including discussions, videos, presentations, role plays, and more. Topics include biblical and theological foundations, Bible study methods, human lifespan development, creative programming, counseling and relational skills, and program administration. Housing is available. For more information, visit [www.tlc.edu/cyfcenter](http://www.tlc.edu/cyfcenter) or contact Rev. David Ellingson at 425.249.4722 or [david.ellingson@tlc.edu](mailto:david.ellingson@tlc.edu).

## **Our Congregations** (news and neat ideas from our synod congregations)

### **International Friday Nights in Auburn**

Family of Grace, Auburn is located close to Green River Community College. They have built relationships with the school and the many international students that they have. International Friday Nights was started by students to help acculturate them and provides opportunities for them to practice English and come to know people from Family of Grace who care and have a vocation of hospitality. Pastor Mark Johnson of Family of Grace says, "there are almost limitless opportunities to engage with these international students."

Pastor Mark invites you to join this ministry, if you are interested in working with international students in a supportive, positive and fun role. The group meets on Fridays from 6-8:30pm. If you are interested in helping, please contact their church office at 253-833-8910 or [fog@familyofgrace.org](mailto:fog@familyofgrace.org). This is a wonderful opportunity to expand one's world view and give students an experience of people willing to help when they are in a strange land.

**Grace Lutheran, Port Townsend had a great "God's Work. Our Hands' Sunday.** Grace Lutheran Church, Port Townsend enjoyed a super turn out for their "God's Work-Our Hands" day helping the local Habitat for Humanity chapter build houses. Four walls were built, lots of weeds were pulled, and no thumbnails were hit with hammers.



**The Pierce County Hunger Walk** was held by Associated Ministries of Pierce County on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Many of our local churches walked to raise funds for hunger programs in the county, as well helping national ones like ELCA World Hunger. **Mountain View Lutheran in Edgewood** had ninety (90) walkers that helped to raise more than \$4,700 to help fight hunger in Pierce County.

Mountain View, Edgewood is celebrating their **110<sup>th</sup> anniversary** this weekend with a special banquet on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> and with Presiding Bishop preaching at worship on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*Continued page 10*

*Congregations continued*

**Holy Trinity in Port Angeles** has an actively growing library. Each time books are added to their library, they review them in their monthly newsletter posted online at <http://htlcpa.com/>. In September, they added 7 new books for adults and youth.

**Peace, Tacoma** will be hosting the Family Housing Network homes shelter for two weeks in November with meals and a warm place to stay.

**Peace Community Center, Tacoma** welcomes two new staff: Contina Kemp, the new College and Career Director and Kelsey Fischer as the High School Program Director to further the work that the center does for education and support of youth in the Hilltop area of Tacoma.

**Calendar**

**November 1-** ELCA Presiding Bishop speaks on "ELCA: Who is Leading Us and Where are We Going?" on PLU Campus 10-11:30am at Karen Hille Phillips Performing Arts Center.

**November 14-16-** Practicing Discipleship Retreat, Sursum Corda Retreat Center, Copalis Beach, WA.

**November 15-** 3pm- Chelsea Globe Ordination at Hope, Enumclaw.

**November 16-** 3pm- Commissioning and installation of Marj Olason, Peninsula, Gig Harbor

**November 23-**10am Chelsea Globe installation, Christ, Federal Way.

**January 25-28, 2015-** Bishop's Convocation and Prayer Retreat for Rostered Leaders, Seabeck.

Conference Center (Prayer Retreat is Sunday evening – Tuesday morning; Bishop's Convo is Tuesday morning – Wednesday afternoon).

**May 15-16, 2015-** Synod Assembly at the Hilton Hotel, Vancouver, WA.

*/end*