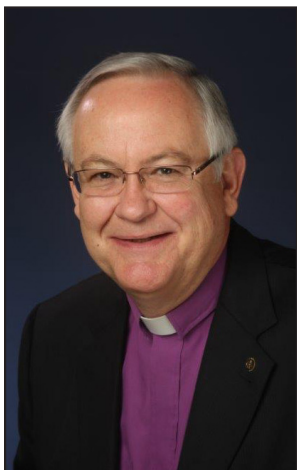


The Spirit

Volume 32, Number 8
August 2015

Penny Candy

by the Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop



One of the fond memories of my childhood was visiting the Unti grandparents in Anaconda, Montana. My grandfather was a machinist who worked in the Anaconda smelter and in the world's largest open mine in Butte. Right around the corner from their house was a mom & pop grocery store. We could hardly wait to get a hot quarter in our hand and make our way to Hunthausen's Grocery.

It was there that we would buy licorice pinwheels that wrapped themselves around a hard candy in the middle. We also could buy jaw breakers and fake cigarettes. We were cool.

What we didn't know then was that little grocery store would prove to be a life saver when my grandfather died and my grandmother's blindness made it more challenging for her to move about town. It was the Hunthausens that saw to it that my grandmother's groceries were delivered. It meant more than her daily bread - it meant there was another family keeping an eye out for her. Grandmother was a stubborn woman who fought hard to keep her dignity in tack. She refused to use a cane or a walker and instead when she went to town to pay her bills, she took a broom with her. It was more than a walking aid. It allowed her to sweep the sidewalks as she made her way. After all she didn't need any help.

It must have been difficult for her to accept the Hunthausen's gracious offer to deliver her groceries.

It is this same Hunthausen family that raised up a son named Raymond who would become the Archbishop of Seattle. A son who was formed in a faithful Roman Catholic family that taught him the value of caring for the community. It would have been one thing if my grandmother were a member of the Catholic Church. She wasn't. She was a Presbyterian. It didn't matter to the Hunthausens. She was a neighbor whom they could care for.

Archbishop Hunthausen went on to become one of the people I most admire because of the way he lived out his faith. He was an exceedingly humble man who could not help but act on his beliefs. Hunthausen fits to a tee a definition of power that I have been musing about. "Power is the capacity to act on one's deepest held convictions." You can also substitute the word "courage" and the definition works equally well. Archbishop Hunthausen was courageous in his willingness to stand up for non-violence, to speak out against nuclear proliferation, to support priests who married, to advocate for women in positions of authority and the rightful place of laity in the whole life of the church.

It was with great joy (and sadness) that I read a recently released book about his life. *A Still And Quiet Conscience: The Archbishop Who Challenged A Pope, A President and A Church* by John A McCoy. I commend it to your reading. I have wondered often since reading this book what would have happened had Hunthausen served under Pope Francis. Two peas from the same pod. Two leaders of conviction and action.

I pray that I might be a person of courage who has the capacity to act on my deepest held convictions. For now I am going to step outside and have a candy cigarette.

Stay in touch and in the know!

Synod Website Calendar - www.lutheransnw.org/calendar

Do you receive the Weekly Update eNews? www.lutheransnw.org/subscribe

The Flip Side

Campus Ministry

Rev Elizabeth Rawlings & Rev Joel Langholz

Lutheran Campus Ministry in the Northwest Washington Synod has, in the past couple of years, undergone great transformation. Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Washington saw their long time pastor, Scott Postlewait, take a call in parish ministry and has recently welcomed Rev. Elizabeth Rawlings as its new pastor at Covenant House. Western Washington University too is in transition. They sold their building, and said goodbye to longtime pastor Rev. Chris Berry, who is now serving in Interim Parish Ministry. LCM-WWU is now in a partnership with Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Bellingham and shares Rev. Joel Langholz. The ministry meets on campus and at OSLC.

We are each in the process of looking to the future for new visions of what Lutheran Campus Ministry can be on our campuses and in sustainable ways. We are talking to students, asking them how we might be supportive of their journey through college, and taking those conversations to create programs and opportunities that meet students where they are in faith and in life.

At WWU, this looks like making and eating pizza together, contextual Bible study in Red Square, and weekly worship on Sunday at Our Saviour's. At the UW, campus ministry is regularly present outside of the HUB giving away free coffee and cookies to students, engaging them in conversations about faith and life, studying scripture weekly, eating meals together on Wednesday sharing stories and creating community, and worshipping together on Sunday nights. We are hard at work figuring out how we can minister to students in the name of Jesus Christ, loving and supporting all students, regardless of faith background. We are active presences in our university communities as ministers of the ELCA and the Northwest Washington Synod.

Our ministries would not work without your support. We are so thankful for all who give of their time, talents and treasure, for everyone who sends us students or talks us up to family, friends and congregants. We could not do what we do without you.

For more information on what we are doing or what our future holds, visit us online at www.uwlutherans.com or [facebook/WWU Lutheran Campus Ministry](https://www.facebook.com/WWULutheranCampusMinistry), or send Pastor Elizabeth an email at uwlutherans@gmail.com or Pastor Joel at pastorJoel@oursavioursbham.org. We have an exciting future ahead – join us on the journey!

Kids & Race Workshop: Beyond Colorblindness

Sunday, August 23, 3:30pm-5:30pm
at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church, Seattle

Join scholar and activist Stacy Kitahata and children's therapist Donna Linn for this interactive workshop on how we can help kids understand race, privilege, and its impact on all our lives. For families of all races with preschool through early elementary children.

Childcare includes age-appropriate program for kids on appreciating difference and recognizing privilege.

Co-sponsored by Columbia City Church of Hope, The Well, and Krista Foundation for Global Citizenship. \$15 per family, or pay as you are able.

Register online at beyondcolorblindness.bpt.me. Questions? Contact Pastor Darla DeFrance at (206) 722-5651 or darla98118@gmail.com.

Treasurers Workshop

Saturday, October 24, 8:30am-12noon
at Prince of Peace, Shoreline

All Financial leaders of your congregation are invited to participate at a workshop presented by the Synod Finance Committee. Treasurers, Financial Secretaries, Bookkeepers, Finance Committee Members and Rostered Leaders are encouraged to attend.

The program will include presentations and discussions on financial policies, controls, audits, financial reporting, budgets, payroll and taxes as they relate to congregations.

To register, go to: www.lutheransnw.org/calendar

The Spirit, a publication of the NW Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is intended for synod congregations & organizations.

Northwest Washington Synod, ELCA

5519 Phinney Ave North
Seattle, WA 98103

Phone: 206-783-9292; Fax: 206-783-9833

Toll Free: 844-597-0452

Email: office@lutheransnw.org

Website: www.lutheransnw.org

Info for the August issue due to the Synod Office by Aug 5.