



## 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.*

June/July 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>

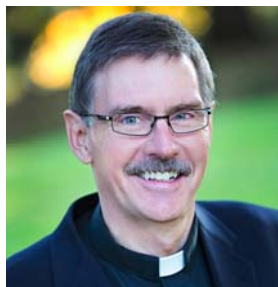
Websites  
[www.lutheranssw.org](http://www.lutheranssw.org)  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

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



***"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."  
 Hebrews 13:2***

We enjoyed a wonderful Synod Assembly in late May, reflecting on the theme of Hospitality and practicing hospitality with one another. Both our Assembly planning committee, chaired by Pastor Ron Kempe, and the entire congregation and staff of Trinity Lutheran Church, who hosted us, deserve our deep thanks for the constant hospitality they offered.

How do we practice hospitality in our life and ministry as congregations? Here's a brief summary of what we considered at the Assembly.

In the New Testament Gospels, we see two important types of hospitality being offered. When Martha and Mary welcome Jesus into their home in Bethany, they are giving a wonderful example of Home Hospitality. Home Hospitality is when we open our hearts, homes and congregations to all who enter, providing them a place to be welcomed and nourished by the Spirit of God through Word, Sacrament and Holy Community. Home Hospitality is essential to our work as the community of Christ's people.

Jesus also demonstrates another kind of hospitality, which can be called Road Hospitality. In his parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus describes three ways that we treat each other when we meet on the highways of life. We do Road Rage, like the robbers who beat up the man who was on his way to Jericho. We do Road Avoidance, like the priest and Levite who "passed by on the other side" in order to avoid getting involved with the wounded man lying on the ground.

Or, says Jesus, we can do Road Hospitality, like the Samaritan, who went to extraordinary lengths to care for the injured man.

*Bishop's message continued next page*

*Bishop's message continued from page 1*

Both Home Hospitality and Road Hospitality are necessary parts of our ministry as Lutheran congregations in the Southwestern Washington Synod. First, they are the natural outgrowth of God's grace and love stirring in our lives. We are all travelers through life and God continually meets us on the road, wherever we are, and heals us, welcomes us home, and nourishes us as dear and beloved children.

Second, Home and Road Hospitality are crucial for our future existence as a church. Not as many people are coming through our doors on Sunday morning as they used to. Therefore, we need to go out those doors to find people wherever they are hurting and minister to them in Christ's name. We would do that in any case because it's the Way that Jesus leads us. We also do Road Hospitality because it's a key way to meet new people and form trusting relationships. It will lead people to say, "Who are these Lutherans who seem to care so much about us, our cities, and creation itself? Maybe I might like being part of their community?"

God bless you as you gather each week in your church homes to be fed, filled and renewed by God. God bless you as you go out on the roads each week to bring God's love to your neighbors. Through that interwoven pattern of Home and Road Hospitality, the Holy Spirit keeps us alive.

## 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- June 2014**

<b>Call process</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Pastoral care</b>	
Agnus Dei, Gig Harbor	P	I	Valinda Morse	<b>Mobility position key</b>  <i>P – Pastor</i> <i>AP – Associate Pastor</i> <i>AIM – Associate in Ministry</i> <i>DM – Diaconal Minister</i> <i>DC- Deaconness</i>  <b>Mobility status key:</b>  <i>NV – New Vacancy</i> <i>TR – Transition</i> <i>I – Interviewing</i> <i>C – Calling</i>
Beautiful Savior, Vancouver	P	TR	Michelle Manicke	
Christ, Federal Way	P	TR	Heidi Calhoun	
Creator, Bonney Lake	P	I	Elaine Swigart	
First, Tacoma	P	I	Margaret O'Neal	
Good Shepherd, Olympia	P	TR	Chuck Harris	
Hope, Enumclaw	P	TR	Pulpit Supply	
Messiah, Auburn	P	TR	Ron Kempe	
Peace, Puyallup	P	TR	Linda Nou	
Resurrection, Tacoma	P	NV	Pulpit Supply	
Salishan Eastside Lutheran Mission	P	TR	Pulpit Supply	
Shepherd of the Hills, Stevenson	P	I	Frank Miller	
St. John's, Chehalis	P	I	Jeannine Daggett	

### **Ordination:**

**Melinda Stum**, was ordained at her home congregation at Holy Trinity, Chandler, Arizona June 6<sup>th</sup>. Melinda has been called by Gloria Dei Lutheran in Kelso, WA. She began the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June.

### **Installations:**

**Rev. Jerrett (JT) Burk** will be installed as Pastor at Mount Cross, University Place on Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> by Pastor Latterell. **Pastor Melinda Stum** will be installed at Gloria Dei, Kelso on July 20<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

**Retirement: Pastor Dan Wilson** is retiring June 29th from Hope, Enumclaw.

## Stories of Hospitality

# Your Stories of Hospitality

Compiled by Bob and Kathy Mattson, 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. These are the first two of many stories that we will share.

Throughout the Bible, God commands us over and over again to take notice and take care of those around us. Hospitality is a conscientious pursuit to welcome strangers and friends into our churches, homes and lives and to help them feel loved and accepted. In Jesus name we receive and serve them.

## Last Lutefisk

An old Norwegian's last meal!

My amazing wife cooked a meal of lutefisk and lefse for an old Norwegian who was soon to die. We delivered to his home at his request. His daughter later told us he died 3 days later, the lutefisk was his last meal.

*Submitted by Tom Heavey Peace Lutheran Tacoma Washington*

## Picture of Hospitality

We are starting a God's Garden to grow vegetables that we will share with the community and God's Kitchen (their free meal site ministry). People that attend God's Kitchen on Mondays are often homeless.

*Submitted by Tonia Bannon, Family of God Lutheran, Bremerton*

*Sigi Helgeson (revsig@foglc.org)*

## **ELCA Ministries**

### **Shout-out for Team ELCA**

A call to all for greater, deeper and unapologetic participation in this church

By ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton

We are in the middle of synod assembly season. All synods will meet, vote, discuss, worship and sing. I will be at five of these and can assure you that, though there are delightful regional flavors, they will be remarkably similar. If we were to take a voting member from the Pacifica Synod meeting in Hawaii this year and plunk her down in the hills of Pennsylvania at the Allegheny Synod Assembly, she would recognize what was going on.

Each year from April to June a remarkable thing happens across this church. We come together. Members of synods participate together in the work of the ELCA and like it! Congregations see the work we do together as the ELCA all across this country and around the world and have a sense that they are part of something greater than themselves and are proud of it. For a few shining days we believe and live the words of Paul: “So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another” (Romans 12:5).

And then we go home.

In the Dr. Seuss story *Horton Hears a Who!* there is an entire civilization existing on a speck of dust. The moral of this story is that, though it might not be part of our experience, we shouldn’t discount the experience of another. After all, “a person’s a person no matter how small.” But I think there is another less perky lesson to be drawn, and that is, until they got into trouble the citizens of Whoville were quite content to believe their speck of dust was the whole world.

We’re not so different. Congregations can, and often do, fall into the trap of believing that they are the church, the whole church, all by themselves. Coupled with some of the most frequently asked questions usually raised around budget time—“What do we get from the synod?” and “What does the synod do for us?”—this understanding of church becomes what I call “Transactional Whoville Ecclesiology.” Transactional because the motivation for participating in a relationship is what can be gotten out of it. Whoville because the individual or the congregation or the synod or the region or the churchwide organization believes it is entirely the church.

I’m not sure which part of Transactional Whoville Ecclesiology is most distressing. This ecclesiology arises from a transactional understanding of our relationship with God. If I go to church, if I keep the commandments, if I follow Jesus, then God will do something for me. The gift of resurrection itself becomes a transaction. It’s like someone saying to his or her spouse, “I love you honey, but I’m only in this marriage to get your pension when you die.” It’s the opposite of “We love because [God] first loved us” (1 John 4:19). It’s “we love so God *will* love us.” This is a grace-less ecclesiology.

The question should not be “What does the synod do for us?” or “What do we get from the synod?” Rather, transformed by the love of God in the death and resurrection of Christ, the question should be “What are we able to do together as synod?” or “What do we get to do as synod or as the ELCA?”

*Bishop Eaton’s message continued next page*

*Bishop Eaton's message continued from page 4*

Whoville ecclesiology is isolating. It's also really American. We celebrate the concept of the rugged individual. We value self-determination. Autonomy is prized. We are suspicious of claims on us by a greater whole. The concept of church as the body of Christ and that we are members one of another, then, is very countercultural.

But the baptized aren't just a collection of individuals in the church for what they can get out of it. We have been claimed by Christ. Paul reminds us, "You are not your own" (1 Corinthians 6:19). The Marine Corps has billboards that proclaim: "Serving something greater than themselves." How is it that they are better at articulating what it means to be church together than we are?

This isn't a plug for institutional survival or mindless loyalty. It's a call to each of us and all of us to greater, deeper and unapologetic participation in the part of the church known as the ELCA. We can have a little pride in who we are without irony. I believe I've established my theological heft so I am allowed a little hokeyness. Here it is: **We are Team ELCA.**

*This column originally appeared in the June 2014 issue of The Lutheran. Reprinted with permission.*

## **Young Adult Ministry**

<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Young-Adult-Ministry>

Are you between the ages of 18 and 30? If so, the Young Adult Ministry of the ELCA offers inspiration, opportunities and resources for young adults like you and for people who facilitate young adult ministry in their communities of faith. We are a church that belongs to Christ. There is a place for you here.

Today's young adults are a part of the Millennial Generation, those born between 1982 and 1995. In the most generous accounting of this generation, millennials are said to number about 80 million, which makes them the largest generation in American history. According to the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life and their 2010 report, "Millennials: A Portrait of a Generation," approximately one-third of those who are unaffiliated with a community of faith are under age 30.

The ELCA is expanding its vision of what it means to be church and what it means to engage a population of young adults who are seeking authentic community and opportunities to serve their neighbors. Young Adult Ministry works to support and connect young adults and those who work with them. We focus our ministry in addressing the following four questions as they relate to young adults:

### **Form Faith – Whose am I?**

Young Adult Ministry in the ELCA exists to help young adults come face-to-face with the one in whose image they have been formed and articulate faith in the triune God.

### **Uncover Identity – Who am I?**

Young Adult Ministry in the ELCA exists to help young adults claim who they are and discover their unique gifts and passions that have been endowed upon them by God.

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### **Discern Vocation – Why am I?**

Young Adult Ministry in the ELCA exists to help young adults live out their callings or vocations in ways that help our neighbors and share the love of Christ with them.

### **Develop leaders – How am I?**

Young Adult Ministry in the ELCA exists to help young adults grow as servant leaders who use the model of accompaniment as they engage in acts of service, justice and peace in the world.

Click [here](http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Young-Adult-Ministry/Ministries) to explore ministries with and for young adults. (<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Young-Adult-Ministry/Ministries>)

Twitter: [@ELCAYoungAdults](https://twitter.com/ELCAYoungAdults)

Facebook: [ELCA Young Adults](https://www.facebook.com/ELCAYoungAdults)

Instagram: [@ELCAYoungAdults](https://www.instagram.com/ELCAYoungAdults) –

From ELCA Website <http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Young-Adult->

## **Mission of the Month: Supporting Sunday Schools in Bolivia**

Kari Eller worked with a team to create a Spanish Sunday school book for students in many countries including Bolivia, where she served as an ELCA missionary along with her husband, the Rev. Justin Eller. The book is widely distributed both online and in print. Share this story with your congregation! For a colorful Word document you can print for your congregation's bulletin board or edit for use in your bulletin or PowerPoint presentation, visit [http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Bolivia\\_Kari\\_Eller\\_2014.docx](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Bolivia_Kari_Eller_2014.docx).

## **End of Formatta for Pastors in Transition**

The ELCA mobility database is ending use of Formatta Filler based forms. The new electronic forms will be .pdf based. In order to make the switch, the current Formatta-based RLPs (Rostered Leader Profile) and MSPs (Ministry Site Profile) will not be accepted after June 23rd. The expected launch of the .pdf-based forms is June 30th.



Between these two dates, RLPs and MSPs will NOT be accepted electronically. If you or your call committee are currently working on one of these forms, please keep these dates in mind. ALL current RLPs will be automatically transferred over to the new online forms. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Kim or Allison in the Synod Office. 253-535-8300.

## Save the date: Global Church Sunday, October 5th

On World Communion Sunday, Oct. 4, 2014, congregations are invited to celebrate our church's connection and common mission within Christ's global church by sponsoring a Global Church Sunday. Celebrate by taking a special offering for an ELCA missionary or global ministry, hosting a coffee hour with treats from around the world or including global songs in your worship service. A toolkit of these and other ideas for congregations will be released this August. For more information, contact [globalchurch@elca.org](mailto:globalchurch@elca.org).

## Women of the ELCA Annual Bible Study Event August 23 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Tacoma.

This event is the overview of the next Bible study in the ELCA women's magazine, *Gather*, with Bible Study author, Dr. Carol Schersten LaHurd. She'll speak on the new women's Bible study, "Transforming Life and Faith".



In this WELCA Bible study beginning in September 2014, we will consider how our lives and our faith journeys are transformed by the events we experience (new life partner, new child, new job, new home, etc.) For more information about the 2014-15 Bible study go to:

<http://www.womenoftheelca.org/gather-bible-studies-pages-55.php>

### ELCA World Hunger

## Taking Root Curriculum



A high quality low-cost VBS curriculum, Taking Root, is available from ELCA World Hunger at

<http://www.elca.org/Resources/ELCA-World-Hunger>. Taking

Root is also formatted for Sunday School, teen lock-ins and women's retreats. The youth programs are divided into grades K-2, 3-6, Jr High and Sr High. The leader's guide, participant workbook, books and small supply lists are all complete and ready for you to lead, or customize to your own needs.

## ELCA World Hunger Education Grants Available

In 2014, ELCA World Hunger is particularly interested in receiving education proposals that focus on increasing youth and young adult engagement; address racism, sexism and classism within domestic poverty; and increase awareness of the experience of domestic poverty. Please check out the information at: [www.elca.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAWorldHunger/615](http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAWorldHunger/615)

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## **Social Media**

### **4 Powerful words for Facebook**

By Tracey Warren, President Ready, Set, Grow Marketing, Seattle on Tuesday, May 27, 2014 in [Blog](#)

There are a number of what I call tactics that people use to "fake" engagement on Facebook. But there are 4 simple words that you can use that will be more effective in the long run.

"This week we helped."

Seems simple enough, right? But, more often than not, what we actually see is – Look what we can do for you! Aren't we great? Call today to schedule your appointment for that root canal! What is in common about all of those statements is they are PUSHY - or they may come off that way.

Social Media is about a pull, rather than a push and that is what can make "This week we helped" be your new best friend and way to pull clients and referrals to you and your business.

Let's look at a "Tale of Two Facebook Posts." For example purposes, we'll use an insurance company.

Post #1 – Do you have a new driver in the house? Call us today to update your auto insurance.

Post #2 – This week, we helped a family with a new teen driver. We updated their policy and talked to them about adding an umbrella policy as well.

The difference is subtle, but I hope you can see it.

In post #1, if your "fans" or followers do not have a new driver in the house, they will mentally answer no and move on. Post #2 may inspire a different response. As you read that post, is your brain shuffling through people who you might know with a new teen driver? I am guessing it does. Or, maybe it has you wondering about an umbrella policy and if that might be something you need.

Either way, it's pulling rather than pushing. And, who doesn't like people who help?

In addition, it helps tell the stories about your business (congregation) and the services you provide!

## **Training Opportunities**

### **Select Learning Courses Available**

Independence day is only a month away, making this an ideal time to consider our faith in relation to citizenship. Check out [Faithful Citizen](#) a 6-session course.

Select Learning provides access to quality theological learning experiences for personal, congregational and professional learning. Using outstanding seminary and college instructors and ministry practitioners, Select Learning combines high quality DVD-based video courses,

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customized study materials, proven textbooks, and online learning to create effective and flexible theological exploration opportunities. Select Learning is a lifelong learning partner of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

## **Asian Ministry Study Trip**

As a synod with significant opportunity to engage in neighbors of Asian descent, the Southwestern Washington Synod is invited to participate in the 8th Asian Lutheran International Conference (ALIC) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia January 29-February 3, 2015 with other members from across the ELCA and the Southwestern Washington Synod. "Understanding Jesus in Asia, Implications for Ministry" is the conference theme. In addition to the conference to Malaysia, additional travel opportunities will be offered to Korea and China as we learn about the culture of our synod's ethnic specific ministries. Interested lay and clergy members may learn more by contacting our Director for Evangelical Mission, Pastor Melanie Wallschlaeger at [melanie.wallschlaeger@elca.org](mailto:melanie.wallschlaeger@elca.org).  
<file:///C:/Users/Allison.SWWASYNOD/Downloads/Brochure.pdf>

## **Worship Matters: This is the Feast**

A DAY OF LEARNING, WORSHIP AND INSPIRATION

The Northwest Washington Synod, with a grant from the ELCA, is offering a training on Worship on Saturday, October 25, 2014 at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church 13047 Greenwood Ave. N in Seattle, WA from 9am-4pm.

### **WORD: The people in worship:**

Session 1 – Rev. Dr. Jana Childers - Who does this involve? Attention to how we prepare ourselves as participants in worship leadership (clergy and lay). Best practices for embodiment of graceful and grace-filled leadership. To include practical consideration of body language, use of personal space, and voice in the leadership of the assembly.

### **SACRAMENT: The things we do:**

Session 2 – Rev. Paul Hoffman - What does this mean? Attention to means of grace and how ritual liturgical action and practice offers connections and provides grounding for the assembly.

### **SPACE: The place we gather:**

Session 3– Dr. Stephen Marshall-Ward – Focus on worship and the relationship of people as they experience space and surroundings within the context of liturgy and proclamation - including but not limited to entry, engagement, meaning, and connection within architecture and furnishings.

Cost is \$30 first participant from congregation; \$15 each additional participant from same congregation; (Bring your entire team!) Call 206-783-9292 to register.

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

**St Mark's Lutheran Church by the Narrows, Tacoma** is hosting a Summer Arts Camp for Youth. They invite all youth entering grades 6-12 in the 2014-2015 school year to participate in a day camp focused on the arts. Each year they "travel" to a different part of the world to explore art and culture - this year's theme is South American Spirit, where youth delve into different cultural and artistic aspects of South American countries through visual, performance and written arts. Camp is Monday through Friday, August 11-15, 2014, 1:00-6:00 PM at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 6730 N 17th St., Tacoma, WA 98406. Cost is \$85 per camper - scholarships are available for those who qualify. Please visit [www.smlutheran.org](http://www.smlutheran.org) or call Danielle Lemieux, Camp Director, at [253-752-4966](tel:253-752-4966), extension 105 for more information.

**Gloria Dei, Olympia** is asking their members that are gardeners to plant an extra sauce tomato and/or dry bean bush for next year's Local Lent. They'll have a canning workshop and party at their church in late summer/early fall.

**All Saints, Auburn** had two teams walk in the Relay for Life in Auburn on May 16th & 17th. The 18 team members raised \$7,433 to help in the fight against cancer.

**Lutheran Church of Christ the King, Tacoma:** Beginning June 8<sup>th</sup>, Lutheran Church of Christ the King in Tacoma will begin a 28 weeks all church study of the Book of Acts. Pastor Peter Mohr says that, "Not only do I deeply desire to see you grow in your faith; but I also am deeply invested in further conversations about what God's purpose is for the church. BOTH of these desires can be met in a congregation-wide study of the Book of Acts. Acts is the record of the early church struggling to live out God's purpose for them and will be perfect for helping us discover God's purpose for us."

**The Rev. Jeff Gaustad of Trinity, Parkland** will lead a tour to Germany for 11 days "In the Footsteps of Martin Luther" September 22 – October 2, 2014 through Faith Journeys. The trip includes Berlin, Wittenberg, Erfurt, Rothenberg and Wurzburg with many optional day trips included. This tour includes a lecture on Katarina von Bora and the Luther family.



**The Rev. Dick Grinstad and Joy Lingerfelt, AIM of Holy Trinity, Port Angeles** are leading a tour to the Martin Luther areas of Germany July 7-17, 2015. They'll go to Berlin, Wittenberg, Leipzig, Eisleben, Wartburg and Esenach, and Worms. 10 day tour includes two lectures at Wittenburg and a presentation on Dietrich

Bonhoeffer.

**Mount Cross Lutheran, University Place** has approximately 60 LBW Hymnals that we would like to donate to any ELCA church that is in need of them. If you are interested, please call Sherrylee at 253-564-2200 or email her at [Office@mountcrosslutheran.org](mailto:Office@mountcrosslutheran.org) and then you can pick them up at your earliest convenience.

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Last weekend about 30 members from **The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Olympia** marched in the Pride Parade in Downtown Olympia. Last year this congregation became the second Reconciling in Christ congregation in our synod.

**St. Mark, Lacey** received a grant from Thrivent Financial for new (and noticeable!) sports team shirts. Their shirts sport the St. mark logo on the front and the Thrivent Financial logo on the left shoulder. St. Mark plays softball in the Lacey parks and Recreation Summer Church League.



### Calendar

The Synod Office will be closed on Fridays during the month of July.

August 23- Synod: WELCA Bible Study Event, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Tacoma

July 18-20, 2014: Lutheran Men's Gathering, Nashville.

July 27 1:30pm: Thrivent Day at the Tacoma Rainiers game.

January 25-28, 2015: Bishop's Convocation for Rostered Leaders, Seabeck Conf Center

May 15-16, 2015: Synod Assembly at the Hilton Hotel, Vancouver, WA /end