



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.

October 2014

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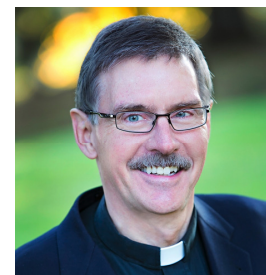
Evangelical Lutheran
 Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

Message from Bishop Jaech

Dear Friends,

I continue to enjoy my visits to congregations throughout our Southwestern Washington Synod. During the month of September I visited four congregations that truly are the most southwest corner of our Synod,

located along the Pacific coast just north of the mouth of the Columbia River.



Chinook Lutheran

The two-point parish of Chinook Lutheran and Naselle Lutheran, served by Pastor Nels Flesher, are located in the historic communities of Chinook and Naselle, which date back to the mid-1800's. With access to the Columbia and the Pacific Ocean, Chinook and Naselle prospered with a growing timber, fishing and cannery trade. Although these industries have struggled in recent years, the communities of Chinook and Naselle, and the two Lutheran churches that serve them, continue

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Bishop's visits continued**Naselle Lutheran**

to have a vibrant base. During a potluck dinner at Chinook Lutheran, I enjoyed hearing church members describe the many ways in which they care for and welcome their neighbors around them, working with community groups and schools.

**Ocean Park Lutheran**

Ocean Park Lutheran is located halfway up the Long Beach Peninsula that stretches north from the Columbia River for 28 miles. With easy access to Oregon across the Astoria Bridge, the Long Beach area is a major tourist zone, particularly in summer months. It also has an active cranberry and oyster industry since the peninsula forms the western edge of Willapa Bay. Ocean Park Lutheran, served by Pastor Adrienne Strehlow, creatively ministers to the many year-round residents of the peninsula, as well as guests passing through the area. They actively serve and welcome residents of a rehabilitation center, who regularly attend their church.

Bishop's visits continued

First Lutheran, South Bend

First Lutheran Church, served by Pastor Laurie Johnson, is located in the community of South Bend, WA, where the Willapa River curves and empties into the major harbor area of Willapa Bay. South Bend is another community founded in the 1800's by early settlers that prospered from an active fishing and timber industry. First Lutheran is now also home to St. John Episcopal Church and the two congregations worship

together on a weekly basis. Members of First Lutheran enjoyed describing their active ministry of worship, education, service and stewardship.

In each case it was a joy to visit a church that I had never visited before, located in communities that, I confess, I knew almost nothing about. Despite having lived most of my years in Western Washington, this is one corner of the state that is very unfamiliar to me. Therefore, I was all the more delighted to discover four historic congregations that are so active in ministering to their members and neighbors! They have great joy in their ministry and are constantly looking for new ways to serve.

To give you a hint about a future newsletter, I am now scheduling visits to another cluster of our Synod's congregations that are also right along the coast. We have four congregations surrounding the Grays Harbor/North Bay area along the mid-coast area, where the Chehalis River meets the ocean. I look forward to hearing about the important ministries they are doing.

The Holy Spirit is active in our midst, stirring our congregations to bring God's love and blessing to people in all their needs. I am thankful for all 87 congregations in our Synod and good ministry that you are doing.

Bishop Rick Jaech

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- October 2014

Call process	Position	Status	Pastoral care
Beautiful Savior, Vancouver	P	I	Michelle Manicke
Christ, Federal Way	P	I	Chelsea Globe
Elim, Port Orchard	P	NV	Pulpit Supply
Good Shepherd, Olympia	P	I	Jeannine Daggett/Randy Faro
Hope, Enumclaw	P	TR	Keith Marshall
Messiah, Auburn	P	TR	Ron Kempe
Peace, Puyallup	P	TR	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- Deaconness*

Mobility status key:

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

Calls Accepted

Pastor Steve Ray accepted a call to serve as Pastor at **First, Tacoma**.

Pastors Seth Novak and Stephanie McCarthy will share a 1 ½ time call to **Agnus Dei, GH**. Seth and Stephanie are a married clergy couple transferring from Southwestern Minnesota Synod.

Pastor Wm Bernard Ward-Crixell was called by the Synod Council to serve as a chaplain at **Jefferson Healthcare Hospice, Port Townsend**. Bernie is transferring from the Southwestern Texas Synod.

Presiding Bishop Eaton visits in November



On Saturday, November 1st, 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 Karen Hille Phillips Performing Arts Center 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.

First Synod Sabbatical Grant Awarded

Emanuel Lutheran Church in Yelm was awarded the first Synod Sabbatical Grant of \$3000 after submitting a plan for an every 5 year sabbatical for their pastor. This is the first sabbatical that Emanuel will give their pastor. Pastor Jerry Collell will begin his sabbatical next fall. The grant funds are made possible by funds from the synod’s wellness fund. These funds are from the monies that the synod receives from Portico Benefits when 65% or more of our Portico Health plan members complete their online wellness survey. Watch for the newest survey to come out in January 2015. The Sabbatical Grant application is posted on the synod website at <http://www.lutheranssw.org/sabbatical-program>.

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday Celebrated throughout our Synod

Sunday, September 7th was the ELCA service day, “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Here are some examples of the caring service that the congregations of the Southwestern Washington Synod participated in:



Agnus Dei, Gig Harbor, had some of their members stay at church and wrote letters of advocacy to members of congress for the “Clean Air for All of God’s Children” initiative and in support of the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act and The Older Americans Act. Other members reassembled at the local Veterans

Memorial Park for weed pulling and general grounds cleanup.



Our Saviour’s Lutheran, Bremerton picked up trash in our neighborhood as part of God’s Work, Our Hands.



Gods Work. Our Hands. Sunday continued pg 6

Gods Work. Our Hands. Sunday continued

Holy Trinity, Port Angeles had more than 60 volunteers participate in 3 different service projects: Repainting a map of the United States on the concrete at the Boys and Girls Club; Painting the outside of the rear wall at the Habitat for Humanity Store in Port Angeles;



and planting bulbs, and cleaning up flower beds at Volunteers in Medicine in the Olympics. By 1:00 PM all the projects were completed, and the volunteers joined in a meal of celebration at the church.

Resurrection, Tacoma held a food drive for two local food banks bringing in a truckload of food, weeded the community garden, assembled personal care kits for the homeless and made greeting cards for member and community members. Resurrection brought over 1000 lbs of food from their Community Garden of Peace to the New Jerusalem Food Bank in downtown Tacoma, along with over 800 lbs of food and personal care items.



Mission start congregation, **Peace Lutheran Fellowship**, in **Port Ludlow**, volunteered at their local Jefferson Co. Library. They helped them clean up from a book sale and washed hundreds of book covers in the elementary- picture book section. About 15 spent 3 hours cleaning. They had fun and felt good about helping our library.

Lutheran College Fair Details

Sunday, October 19 from 5:30-8:30pm at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, 10021 NE 124th Street, Kirkland, WA 98034. 15 Lutheran colleges and universities from across the US and Canada will be present. Link to [Participating colleges](#) ». Students attending receive four Application Fee Waivers. This event will include a financial aid seminar and hors d'oeuvre reception. No RSVP necessary. <http://lutherancolleges.org/>

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Click here for contact information on crisis teams across Washington and to find programs in your area that can help you. Click here for resources from the ELCA website for helping nurture families dealing with Domestic Violence. <http://elca.org/en/Resources/Justice-for-Women>

Need Discussion Resources?

Look to *The Lutheran* for your study needs. Not only does *The Lutheran* have interesting articles to use in discussions, like the ones in the October issue: "Sunday morning segregation" with columnist Peter Marty, who says reversing church color lines is the Jesus thing to do, or looking at going deeper into living generously and stewardship, or learning what Martin Luther had to say about income inequality, or discussing the situation in El Salvador by reading "As children flee, Lutheran families, churches speak out". Along with these articles, you will find study guides for some of the major articles like the one on El Salvador at www.thelutheran.org (then click on "study guides" on the left-hand side). The study guides are available to all print subscribers (1 yr \$19.95) or web subscribers (\$11.94/yr). The downloaded guides include several pages of exercises and discussion questions, plus a copy of the article from *The Lutheran*. What a great resource for adult forums or social ministries.

Ebola Outbreak: "The Church Has to Help"

From Lutheran Disaster Response Blog 9/18/2014 and 9/25/14

The 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa is the largest and longest-lasting Ebola outbreak in recorded history. To further understand the scale of this disease, the Ebola outbreak is actually the first Ebola epidemic the world has experienced, as the virus has spread to multiple countries, including Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea. More than 2,400 people have died from Ebola during this epidemic.

The spread of Ebola presents several more complications than just battling and containing the virus itself. People in infected areas have been quarantined to their homes as towns shut down to try to limit the disease from spreading further. As a result, people are not able to
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Ebola continued

work, harvest fields or purchase food. Other countries that ship food to the region are afraid to dock their ships to deliver food for fear of contracting the virus. The lack of food has been a growing concern as people are now dealing with food security issues that have been exacerbated by the spread of Ebola.

"We need food," says the Rev. D. Jensen Seyenkulo, Bishop of the Lutheran Church in Liberia. "Our workers from all across the country are being asked to take off work during the crisis. The quarantined communities and stranded travelers are crying for food and water. The treatment centers need food. There is a saying around now that goes like this: 'If we do not die of Ebola, we will die of starvation.'"

In August, Lutheran Disaster Response committed \$10,000 to assist Global Health Ministries in the [shipment of Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) to Liberia](#). Lutheran Disaster Response is now committing \$90,000 to assist with food distributions in Liberia and Sierra Leone and with Ebola sensitization and prevention in Liberia, the country that currently has experienced the highest number of Ebola cases.

Food Distributions in Liberia and Sierra Leone

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and its predecessor church have walked with the people of Liberia for more than 150 years. Our long-standing relationship with our companions in Liberia and Sierra Leone provides a strong foundation to respond holistically to the needs of those who are suffering and living with the threat of Ebola.

We will work with our companion church, the Lutheran Church in Liberia, to activate food distributions in six targeted areas of Liberia that will assist 999 households with a month's supply of oil, rice and fish.

In Sierra Leone, we will work with our companion church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sierra Leone, to provide food assistance also consisting of oil, rice and fish to 3,000 individuals.

"With no way to buy food, the church has to help," says the Rev. Thomas Barnett, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sierra Leone.

Ebola Sensitization and Prevention in Liberia

Liberia has seen the highest number of Ebola cases since the outbreak reached the country in March. Since the disease presents a 90 percent fatality rate, raising awareness about symptoms and prevention is vital. With our partner, ACT Alliance, we will work with Lutheran Development Services and the Lutheran Church in Liberia to provide Ebola sensitization and prevention training to 4,500 individuals in Lofa and Bong counties.

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Ebola continued

In addition to the training program, we will work with our companions and partners to construct an isolation unit at Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing. This unit will provide significant contributions toward the containment of the disease and the ability to provide life-saving care.

Please join us as we continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in Liberia, Sierra Leone and the rest of the West Africa region who are daily battling with the risks of Ebola and the many impacts that come with it.

If you would like to support Lutheran Disaster Response's work in the fight against Ebola, please visit the Lutheran Disaster Response – [Ebola Outbreak giving page](#).

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. 2 Corinthians 4:8-10

ELCA Youth Gathering registration to open Oct. 15

Is your youth group attending the July 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit? Registration for this event incorporating service, worship, study and fun begins **Oct. 15!** In preparation, Primary Adult Leaders may [begin entering group information](#) in the ELCA's database on Sept. 15. Also this fall, congregations are invited to support the ministry of the 2015 Gathering by visiting the Giving Opportunities page at elca.org/gathering. Early Bird registration ends January 15th.

The Gathering welcomes youth entering the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades in the fall of 2015, and 2015 high school graduates.

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.

Hospitality stories continued page 10

Hospitality stores continued

Stories from Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Puyallup

- Our congregation provides a “Weekend of Service” twice a year, in the fall and in the spring. Youth and adults join in projects to benefit others needs.

Submitted by *Duane Rhodes*



- Speaking of a story, for their mother’s 80th birthday, a family at our church invited 80 friends to send a postcard with a memory to share from their shared life with her over the year. , I was able to participate, which was fun and rewarding.

Submitted by *Pastor Steve Schumacher*

- Our church on the South Hill of Puyallup has opened its door to “Jobs for Life”. We were hugely blessed to host the Jobs for Life Program this past spring! Jobs for Life is a 16 week program that teaches biblical principles concerning work and the way those principles are applied in the marketplace. Through this training, men and women develop character and confidence and become connected to a community of support to help them obtain more than just a job. They experience a life filled with confidence, self-control, coaching, learning and faith. We were further blessed to be able to integrate the kids who had parents attending the classes into our Pilgrim Wednesday programs and our youth group. They do not help with the potluck dinner or dishes – it is a gift from us to them.

Submitted by *Nancy Haughee*

New Wave Lutheran Mission is our Synod's New Mission Start

New Wave Lutheran Mission, the newest mission congregation in the Southwestern Washington Synod, held their first worship service in September at All Saints Lutheran Church in Auburn. This new mission start is an ethnic-specific ministry reaching out to Korean Christians. Pastor Sibog Lee was appointed by the Synod Council as Mission Developer of this new mission congregation.



Above Photo: L to R: Pastor Sibog Lee- Mission Developer of New Wave Lutheran Mission, Pastor Dan Wilson- Pastor Lee's TEEM* mentor; Pastor Mary Sanders- Ou In Jang's TEEM* mentor and Ou In Jang, wife of Pastor Lee and TEEM* member.

*What is TEEM?

TEEM- Theological Education for Emerging Ministries- is one of the means for theological education in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) that responds to the missional needs of the church.

“Emerging ministries” are missional Word and Sacrament worshipping communities. Any of the following may qualify:

1. Ethnic-specific, multicultural, or recent immigrant ministries.
2. Small membership rural or urban congregations where the bishop has difficulty identifying a candidate for call.
3. New Mission starts authorized through normal ELCA processes.
4. Redevelopment ministries authorized through normal ELCA processes.
5. Deaf ministry settings.

The TEEM program is a combined program of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS) in Berkeley, CA and Luther Seminary in Minneapolis, MN. Students are enrolled in this program at the request of their synodical bishops and the ELCA Candidacy process in their home synod.



Here are some ways to get started:

- **Pick a day to observe Global Church Sunday 2014** and announce it in your congregation's bulletin and newsletter. You may want to consider a day in conjunction with World Communion Sunday (Oct. 5), or Lutheran World Federation Sunday (Oct. 26).
- **Plan a global church-inspired worship service.** The toolkit will have worship resources. Or you can find worship resources from Global Church Sunday 2013 at www.ELCA.org/resources/worship under the "General" tab.
- **Share inspiring stories from the global church** with your congregation by downloading one or more "Stories from the Global Church" posted at www.ELCA.org/resources/globalchurch.
- **Host a global church-themed coffee hour**, complete with themed placemats and other resources available online at http://resources.ELCA.org/Products-Global_Mission.html.
- **Invite a missionary or Young Adult in Global Mission** that you support to write a special note to the congregation, or arrange for a Skype visit or short video greeting.
- **Know former missionaries or Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers?** Invite them to tell their stories as part of the service or in a special event after the service.
- **Take a special offering** to support ELCA Missionaries, Young Adults in Global Mission, International Leaders or Global Ministries. You can give *where needed most* or choose any of the giving opportunities in the Our Global Church 2014 Annual Directory (get your free copy today by calling 800-638-3522 or contacting RIS@elca.org).

Send pictures and stories from your congregation's celebration to globalchurch@elca.org, and you may be featured on the ELCA's Facebook page or on LivingLutheran.com.

Health and Disability Contribution Rates Increase to Meet Community Needs

Portico Benefits, a ministry of the ELCA that provides health, flexible spending, retirement, disability and survivor plans to ELCA rostered leaders and lay employees, annually evaluates contribution rates for the ELCA's self-insured health and disability plan. Due to higher than expected claims in 2013 and 2014, and projected increases in future costs, rates will increase by about 11% for 2015. Sponsoring organizations can estimate their contributions online during open enrollment.

https://employerlink.porticobenefits.org/NewsEvents/News/2014_8_3_PorticoAdjustsRatesToMeetCommunityNeeds.aspx. Our Synod Council voted to approve the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) increase at 2.5% for 2015. The full Synod Compensation Guidelines, which follow these increases, will be out at the end of September.

Lutheran World Relief Quilts 2013 Quilt Campaign

The cutoff for the 2013 Quilt Campaign for Lutheran World Relief was May 2014. The final total for this national campaign was 485,931 quilts!

Lutheran World Relief has several videos online about how to pack the baby care, personal care and school kits so that everything lays flat and ships easily. See them at lwr.org. Quilts and Kits Ingathering is October 31st and November 1st. Through a bar code system, congregations can track where their quilts and kits go to overseas.

Training Opportunities

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 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 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 or contact Rev. David Ellingson at 425.249.4722 or david.ellingson@tlc.edu.

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

Christ Lutheran in Belfair is hosting “Deborah’s Daughters” – an adult education event for clergy and lay folks, from 9 – 11:30am on Saturday, November 15, 2014, featuring the Rev. Dr. Joy A. Schroeder, Professor of Church History at Trinity Lutheran Seminary and Capital University, Columbus, OH. You are all invite you to come! Contact Pastor Julie Kanarr for more information at clcpastor@wavecable.com

A Community Lutheran Reformation Celebration will be held with five Lutheran congregations in the Longview/Kelso area (Gloria Dei, Kelso and Bethany, Stella Chapel and Trinity, Longview –all ELCA congregations- and Grace in Longview, an LCMS congregation) with a joint worship service on Sunday, October 26th at 10:30am at Trinity Lutheran, Longview. Bishop Jaech will preach. It will be a festive event with pipe organ, community choir, and joyous music. Pastors will vest and process and participate in worship. The community choir, led by David Walworth, will sing an arrangement of “O God Our Help in Ages Past.” A joint potluck will follow.

Mountain View, Edgewood is celebrating their 110th anniversary as a congregation this November. November 1st, they are holding a dinner reception with Bishop Eaton speaking, and Sunday morning, November 2nd, she will join them for worship- preaching and playing her flute in their worship band.

Job Opportunities

Region 1 ELCA is seeking to fill the position of **Bookkeeper for the Region 1 Financial Services Office**. This .8 (Monday through Thursday) position at the Region 1 office in the University of Washington district of Seattle requires experience in bookkeeping, knowledge of the ELCA and its structure, and relational as well as technical skills. Compensation is based on knowledge and experience and includes major medical, dental, pension and continuing education. Send resumes to Rev. Mark Nelson, Coordinator for Missional Leadership, nelsonrevmark@msn.com.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Tacoma is currently seeking a part-time **Youth Leader** to interact with and inspire the young people of Trinity, to provide a variety of Christ-centered opportunities for personal growth in faith, fellowship, service, and involvement in the congregation and the larger Christian community. Compensation package includes an apartment at Trinity. For more information and to apply, send resumes to Pastor Jeffery Gaustad at prjlg@msn.com

Calendar

October Global Church Sunday and Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

October 19 Bread for the World Sunday

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

January 25-28, 2015: Bishop’s Convocation and Prayer Retreat for Rostered Leaders, Seabeck Conf Center (Prayer Retreat is Sunday evening – Tuesday morning and Bishop’s Convo is Tuesday morning – Wednesday afternoon)

May 15-16, 2015: Synod Assmbly at the Hilton Hotel, Vancouver, WA

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