



BETHEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

17529 15th Ave NE
Shoreline, WA 98155

206.362.4334
BETHEL4ALL.ORG

Bethel Lutheran Church

December 2018

We are excited to officially announce that:

Diakonda Gurning will be serving as Bethel's new Pastor.

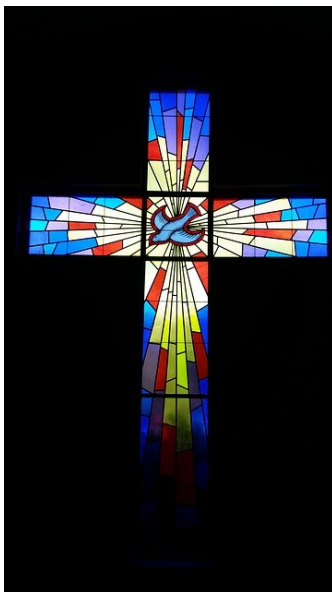
His ordination to become an ELCA Pastor will be held January 25th
at 5pm at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church,

7500 Greenwood Ave N, Seattle

His installation at Bethel will be Sunday January 27th.



The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in
From this time forth, and even forevermore. Psalm 121:8



From the NW Washington Synod:

It is with bittersweet hearts that we announce the death of Pastor James Schoeld Wednesday, November 28, 2018.

Jim was a blessing to many in our synod. He served at congregations in North Dakota, Minnesota, and Montana prior to his time at Bethel Lutheran Church of Shoreline from 1988-2001. During his retirement, he was a popular pulpit supply preacher. He was a light of hope and grace to many.

Please hold his wife Rachel and extended family in your prayers.

Plans for services are pending.

Dear friends at Bethel Lutheran Church, After many years of working in very structured environments, I asked God to give me an internship that would help me develop leadership skills, learn to adapt to change and model peace and calm in the midst of chaos. I'm pretty sure *that* prayer was answered. In addition to that gift, I've received several others. I would like to thank you for providing me with—

1. a welcoming, supportive atmosphere
2. a courageous congregation that is willing to experiment
3. a forgiving congregation that let me make my mistakes
4. a self-aware, wise congregation that said yes to some things and no to others
5. an open congregation that shared their individual and collective stories so that I might understand their hopes and dreams for the Bethel Family

I would like to publically thank my Internship Committee for their time, patience, guidance and just generally walking alongside me during this year. They are: Bethel members Kathy Carrow and Craig Fjarlie, Pastor Yonsu Kim, and UCC Pastor Rosemary Raynaud (our on-site LCN therapist).

I would also like to thank Pastor Chris Ode for welcoming and guiding me the first half of the year and Pastor Tor Berg of First Lutheran Church of Bothell for shepherding me during the second half. I've learned a great deal about courage and integrity from both.

In addition, I am deeply grateful to the kindred who also worship at the Bethel Site: Pastor Rodolfo Soto and the Iglesia Evangelica ; Elder Mamo Wiscribet and the Ethiopian Evangelical Church of Seattle; and Pastor Yonsu Kim and the Reborn Church. We are one in the Spirit!

And now, back to work!

Deacon Intern December To-Do List:

Write final sermon

Write Approval Essay (a set of questions developed by the ELCA)

Choose one of my sermons to include as part of the Approval packet

Complete Intern portion of 12-month evaluation

Wrap up work with Intern Supervisor and Internship Committee

Honor Advent!!! Prepare for Christmas!!!

Grace and Peace,
Sister Le

*Thank
you*

Community News



Merry Christmas from Mr. and Mrs. Darcy of Pemberley Estate!

In this witty sequel to *Pride and Prejudice*, bookish middle-sister Mary pounds her pianoforte alone until a curious visitor drops hints of being her intellectual match. Seizing the opportunity to be the heroine of her own story, Mary pursues her equal. This funny, smart and romantic comedy makes for a most stylish holiday outing.

Alzheimer's Association notice:

Caring for someone with memory loss? Alzheimer's Association caregiver support groups provide a consistent and caring place for people to learn, share and gain emotional support from others who are also on a unique journey of providing care to a person with memory loss. **A free information and support group for LGBTQ caregivers is held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, from 6:30pm-8:00pm at the HomeSteet Bank Community Room 7307 Greenwood Ave N. For more information, contact Mandi Gundersen at (206) 529-3871**

Christmas Concerts

The Pacific Lutheran Christmas concerts are December 1, 2, 7 and 8 at PLU; December 3 at Benaroya Hall. A beloved holiday tradition in the Pacific Northwest with a mix of traditional carols and seasonal favorites. Tickets on sale now.





North King County Winter Shelter

Sheltering 30 vulnerable adults every night this winter

Volunteer and Donate

- Sign up to bring meals to Seattle Mennonite in December
- Help us raise \$10,000 for 2018 shelter costs

Shelter, feed, and connect people to housing

Dear friends,

The North King County Winter Shelter operates from November 2018 through March 2019, Thirty guests are welcomed nightly to a different hosting congregation every month.

Trained staff at the shelter encourage guests to consider next steps toward housing. The Winter Shelter provides housing case management, hot meals, bus tickets to access facilities and services at God’s Li’l Acre day center in Lake City.

King County and the Cities of Seattle, Shoreline, Bothell, Kenmore, as well as private foundations and donors, all contribute funding to this effort. Over 600 community volunteers help make this program a success.

Special Thanks to: Northlake Lutheran, Kenmore; Seattle Mennonite, Lake City; Faith Lutheran, Maple Leaf; Prince of Peace Lutheran, Shoreline; Kenmore Bothell Interfaith Group; Lake City Taskforce on Homelessness; and Lake City Partners Ending Homelessness. **Get involved:** We depend on volunteers for all our meals at the winter shelter and are happy to have people

assist in the shelter with other skills, such as driving and accompanying guests to appointments and assisting with filling out housing applications. **During shelter season, we are frequently in need of travel-size hygiene supplies, new socks and underwear in a variety of sizes.**

Phone: (206) 361-4630,

Email: melanie@lakecitypartners.org

Our neighborhood 501(c)3 was established in 2015 to

- Champion projects arising out of the Lake City Taskforce on Homelessness
- Shelter, feed, and connect people experiencing homelessness to housing
- Provide transitional care in a healing environment
- Establish opportunities for re-entering the workforce

Donations are tax-deductible and can be made to **Lake City Partners Ending Homelessness**

3120 NE 125th St., Seattle WA 98125



Get to Know Bethel Members: Linda Mears

I was born Linda Marie Johnson to parents of Norwegian and Swedish extraction in then Scandinavian Ballard, where I attended Whittier Elementary, James Monroe Jr. High, and Ballard High School. I attended, was baptized, and confirmed at Our Redeemer's Lutheran. In 1957, I married my husband, Jeff Brady, and got my first job, in the accounting department of PEMCO Insurance. Jeff and I had four children, Michal in 1958, Mark in 1960, Kathy in 1961, and Kim in 1965. The doctor that delivered me also delivered my children. Our children were confirmed at Prince of Peace Lutheran. I was a stay-at-home mom until my children were in junior high school. I then started working part-time at a small computer software company where my husband also worked. After several years we went to work at different companies but always in data processing. In 1978 my husband and a co-worker started their own software company. We bought out the co-worker after a few years and Jeff and I worked together for nearly 30 years at our company. I was the office manager and bookkeeper. Our sons both worked for us until Michael contracted leukemia and passed in 1998. Mark now runs the company. Jeff and I were married just four months short of fifty years when he passed in 2007.

We were "church shopping" when Michael was diagnosed. At the invitation of a friend of our daughter and the kindness of the pastor, we began attending Wooden Cross Lutheran in Woodinville. We were very active there. I served on several regular committees, served two separate, three year terms on Council, was on two different call committees, and accompanied the youth on

Habitat for Humanity projects in Yakima for ten summers. Until I left Wooden Cross last year I was the recorder, recording all pledges and contributions and sending out semi-annual statements to members.

Jeff and I traveled extensively after our children left home and, when I remarried in 2008, to Ray Mears, (who was the first person I ever dated) we continued to travel until Ray was diagnosed with Lewy Body Dementia, which took his life in March, 2017. I have traveled to 83 countries, on six continents, been on safari twice and seen countless amazing places.

I have lived in Lake Forest Park for the past 50 years. I now have three children, seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. In addition to family and church, I have many other interests and pastimes. I am a philatelist (stamp collector), and an avid reader (mostly mysteries). I love playing Trivia and word and card games, crosswords puzzles, knitting, bowling, gardening, entertaining, decorating and socializing. I enjoy live theatre, particularly Broadway musicals and the symphony Pops Concerts, but travel is still my favorite thing to do. I also enjoy spending quiet time at my vacation home at Lake Whatcom.

I consider myself exceedingly blessed. While I have not been spared grief, my joys have far exceeded my sorrows. I pray for wisdom to discern what is right and courage to do what is right, and I thank God every day for all of my blessings. I have felt welcomed and at home at Bethel and hope to be here for many years.

Update from Tom & Mary Holman

November 13, 2018

At last everything came together for our trip to Nigeria. We arrived on Saturday, November 10, in Jos, the city where we're working, and we will be leaving on December 2. The teams arrived in time for us to begin work on Monday. Thank you so much for your prayers!

Yes, we'll miss Thanksgiving, but we're grateful for this opportunity to make the Living Word of God available to two of the 500+ languages of Nigeria. Please pray that our time together with the teams would be profitable, that all of us and the families we left behind would be healthy, and that our computers would work well!

We pray that you would be filled with joy as you worship Jesus, the Incarnate Word, this Advent and Christmas season.

Yours in Christ,

Mary

Mary and Tom Holman



Mailing Address: 7611 36th Ave. North #215, New Hope, MN 55427

Phones: Mary: 262-497-4085 Tom: 651-726-4581

E-mail addresses: Tom.Holman@sil.org Mary.Holman@sil.org

*Members of **Wycliffe Bible Translators, Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862-8200** Website:

www.wycliffe.org

Associate Members of **Lutheran Bible Translators, PO Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020, 1-800-532-4253**, Website: www.lbt.org

Wycliffe accepts tax-deductible contributions by mail or at <https://www.wycliffe.org/partner/898518>. If by mail, please include a separate note indicating, "Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Tom and Mary Holman, Account # 213988".

World AIDS Day: December 1, 2018

On December 1st, the ELCA has the opportunity to join with our neighbors around the world in commemorating World AIDS Day. On this day, we remember all who have been and continue to be affected by HIV and AIDS. We also take this day to raise awareness and recommit to a faithful and dedicated response. For information on service and advocacy, visit:

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/HIV-AIDS-Ministry>



The Spirit

December 2018



God knows how to disarm the world

Bishop Kirby Unti

NW WA Synod / ELCA

Friends, we are living in some disturbing times where violence, bullying, threats and hostility abound. The world can be downright mean. No one is

spared - not even mothers and children.

How is one to respond in times like these? Do you just duck and seek cover? Do you remain silent? Do confront those who are the source?

What many have chosen to do is to up their security systems. It is one of America's fastest growing industries. Others choose to literally arm themselves. While still others practice what is called situational awareness. It is about being alert to your surroundings and trying to take the necessary precautions.

On a recent trip to Chicago I heard a wonderful story from one of our Lutheran Bishops about Munib Younan, Bishop Emeritus of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. (He served as bishop from January 1998 to January 2018.)

My colleague was traveling with Munib when they crossed through a Check Point between Palestine and Israel. They were met by a security guard armed with an assault rifle who was anything but kind to Munib requiring him to get out of the car before he could proceed.

What Munib did is unimaginable to me. During the interrogation Munib said to the guard, "I don't think you like your job." Obviously, this comment took the guard by surprise. It didn't stop Munib. He asked the guard about his family

and discovered he had a girlfriend. Munib increased the level of empathy for the guard's difficult position. Before long the guard put down his assault rifle and wanted to know who this man was.

Munib Younan is one of the most disarming people you will ever meet. He feels so deeply that he has been freed in Christ that he experiences very little fear in what for many is a very frightening place in the world. Everywhere he travels, Munib engages people with this same disarming charm - confronting hostility by revealing the fear that lies behind it.

When I grow up I want to be like him.

We are entering the Advent Season and Christmas. It is a time when we prepare ourselves to worship the Prince of Peace who was born in the same land as Munib. How brilliant of God to enter the world as a baby.

I know of no power greater than that of newborn. A newborn can quickly take over an entire household. They have the power to make macho men break into tears. They attract admiring looks wherever they go, unleashing a power of endearment that is hard to resist.

Yes, our God knows how to disarm the world. This God baby grew up teaching others to turn the other cheek. This baby who became an adult stood up to the likes of Herod and Pilate without batting an eye.

Yes, this Jesus, the Prince of Peace, has come into the world to disarm it. To disarm the hostility and meanness. To create a world where the stranger is welcomed, and all are accepted. This Jesus has come to face the fear of the world and replace it with peace.

Might this Season indeed be a season where each day we pray more fervently: Come Lord Jesus!

Bishop Election

Dear members of the NW Washington Synod:

On behalf of the Bishop Nomination and Election Task Force, I send greetings and invite you into the process by which the Northwest Washington Synod will nominate and elect a new bishop in 2019. Accompanying this email is a copy of the [Process for Nominating and Electing a Bishop](#). (This document is also available on the synod's website at this link: www.lutheransnw.org/bishopselection Paper copies are also available from the Synod Office upon request [and in our office at Bethel].) Please help us distribute this document widely by publicizing it in congregational bulletins and newsletters.

Before providing you with a brief overview of the process and key deadlines, let me emphasize the most important point! Nominating and electing a synod bishop are not only legal processes, they are a call process! At every step, we will call upon the Holy Spirit to accompany us on this journey and infuse and bless our work together to identify a leader for the Northwest Washington Synod for the next six years. And, it is important to remember that the nomination and election processes necessarily involve all the congregations and members of our synod!

As the [Process for Nominating and Electing a Bishop](#) describes, the *Constitution and Bylaws of the Northwest Washington Synod* and the actions of the Synod Council provide for a nomination period, followed by a period of reflection and discernment, and then the election at the Synod Assembly, which will take place at the Lynnwood Convention Center on May 17-19, 2019.

The nomination period will be from January 1, 2019 until February 16, 2019. Any member of a congregation in this synod may nominate one

person, and anyone on the roster of ministers of Word and Sacrament in the ELCA is eligible to be nominated. (Nomination forms will be available at the link above, and paper copies will be available in the synod office beginning in mid-December.) All nominations will be submitted electronically or in writing to the Chairperson of the Bishop Nomination and Election Task Force, at the address contained in the enclosed document.

Nominees who do not desire to continue in the process will have an opportunity to withdraw prior to the end of February. In mid-March, the list of nominees and biographical and other information will be made available. Between that time and the assembly, forums will be held, and information will be made available. We also anticipate that brief video presentations will be made of each nominee. At the Synod Assembly itself, there will be presentations by nominees before the second ballot and a question-and-answer period thereafter.

In anticipation of the nomination and election of a new bishop, the synod, with the assistance of the ELCA Planning, Research and Evaluation team-- part of the Office of the Presiding Bishop -- is conducting a synod-specific survey. All rostered ministers and congregational members are invited and encouraged to respond. The survey is available at this link: <https://www.research.net/r/NWWashingtonSBE>. Please participate and provide the invitation to participate to every member of every congregation in our synod.

Please see the enclosed document for additional important information regarding the nomination and election processes. **Here is a brief summary of key dates:**

- November 15: Process for Nominating and Electing a Bishop distributed; survey available
 - January 1, 2019: Nomination period for bishop opens
 - February 16: Nomination period closes/survey period ends
 - February 28: Deadline for nominees to withdraw
- continued on page 9**

Continued:

March 15: Nominees disclosed; information regarding nominees and survey results distributed; period of prayerful discernment begins

TBD: Nominee forums held

May 17-19: Synod Assembly; bishop election conducted

As we journey together in the nomination and election processes, let us always seek God’s guidance in discerning the future of the Northwest Washington Synod.

David Swartling, Chairperson
Bishop Nomination and Election Task Force
DavidSwartling@comcast.net | (206) 947-1721

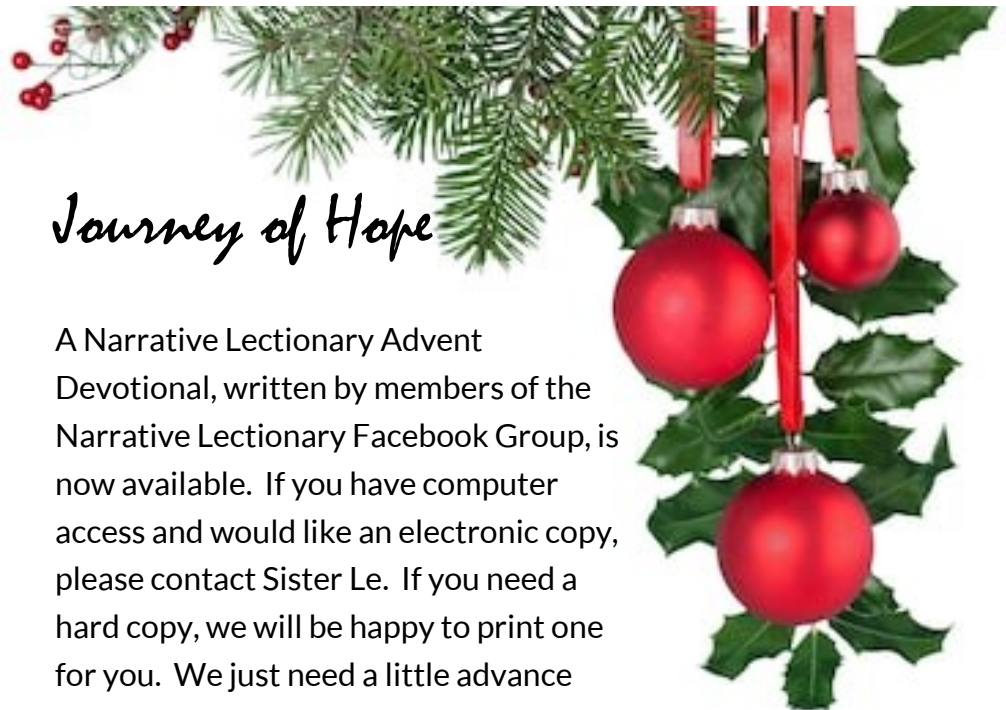
A Printed copy of the Synod document “Process for Nominating and Electing a Bishop in the NW Washington Synod” is available in the office.



Holly Berry Luncheon

The annual Holly Berry Luncheon will be **Saturday, December 8, at 11:00am** here at Bethel.

This year’s entertainment will be music provided by Bronn Journey, an acclaimed classical harpist.



Journey of Hope

A Narrative Lectionary Advent Devotional, written by members of the Narrative Lectionary Facebook Group, is now available. If you have computer access and would like an electronic copy, please contact Sister Le. If you need a hard copy, we will be happy to print one for you. We just need a little advance notice!

If you have any news, dates, anniversaries or other information for the newsletter please feel free to email them to bethelshoreline@gmail.com, call the office at (206) 362–4334 or swing by the office and chat with Siobhan or Sister Le or leave us a note! Thanks!

Those Who Serve - December 2018

	December 2	December 9	December 16	December 23	December 30
Altar Guild	Sue & Joanne	Marlys & Lillian	Judy & Carol	Sue & Joanne	
Worship Asst.	Don Brown				
Preacher	Dianne Johnson	Elizabeth Rawlings	Sr. Le		
Communion					
Bread	Bruce Smith			Carol or Judy	
Wine	Dorothy Brown	Siobhan		Bruce Smith	Dorothy Brown
Glasses	Siobhan				

If you are interested in helping serve there are sign up sheets on the Bethel bulletin board located in the gathering space. You can also inquire about other ways to get involved by emailing info@bethel4all.org or by calling our office at (206) 362-4334.

Remember in Prayer



December Birthdays

- 3—Nancy Phillips
- 5—Diana Holeman
- 20—Dorothy Brown
- 25—Richard Hinea

Those in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

- Vera Anderson
- Donna Mae Gfeller
- Dick Hinea
- Irene Olsen
- Shirley Pishaw
- Dick Scansen
- Donna Sjoquist

Those Coping with Health Problems

- Don Brown
- Heather Carter
- John Johns
- Michael Klingensmith
- Olive Kohanik
- Tom Logen
- Kelly Moll
- Joan Martinell
- Shirley Pishaw
- Karen Schoeld
- Elia Smith
- Chris Tracy
- Dick Schwerdtfeger

Daily Prayer List

- 1) Carla Salmon
- 2) David Salmon
- 3) Richard Scansen
- 4) Karen Schoeld
- 5) Kristi Schwerdtfeger
- 6) Kristi Schwerdtfeger
- 7) Anna Sjong
- 8) Donna Sjoquist
- 9) Bruce Smith
- 10) Elia Smith

- 11) Carolyn Starrett
- 12) Liz Terrery
- 13) Charles Vollbrecht
- 14) Ruth Vollbrecht
- 15) John Vollbrecht
- 16) Kathy Carrow
- 17) Linda Mears
- 18) Gwen Loeffler
- 19) Bethel Lutheran Church
- 20) Those who volunteer at Bethel
- 21) The Northwest Washington Synod
- 22) Our Country
- 23) Those who are experiencing homelessness in our community
- 24) Those who are working through the holiday season
- 25) Refugees and displaced people
- 26) Aaron's Place
- 27) The Lutheran Counseling Network
- 28) Recovery meetings who share our space at Bethel
- 29) The Reborn Church
- 30) Iglesia Evangelica
- 31) Ethiopian Evangelical Church

We pray especially for the family of Pr. Jim Schoeld who passed away on November 28, 2018

December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5 -After school drop in 1-5pm -Quilters	6 -Lunch & Devotional @11:30	7	8 -Holly Berry Luncheon 11:00
9 -Worship at 9:30am	10	11 -Staff meeting 9:30am	12 -After school drop in 1-5pm	13 -Lunch & Devotional @11:30 -Council Meeting @ 7:00pm	14	15
16 -Worship 9:30am -breakfast	17	18 -Staff meeting 9:30am	19 -After school drop in 1-5pm	20 -Lunch & Devotional @11:30	21	22
23 -Worship 9:30am	24 -Christmas Eve Service	25 -Christmas Office closed	26		28	29
30 -Worship 9:30am	31					

Dec 8: Holly Berry Luncheon

Dec 25: Last day for 2018 donations and tithes

Jan 27: Installation of Pastor Diakonda Gurning

Check the bulletin and the Bethel facebook account for updates regarding Christmas services at Bethel.

For other events and updates be sure to follow the Bethel Lutheran Church facebook page at [Facebook.com/BethelShoreline/](https://www.facebook.com/BethelShoreline/) or visit our website at Bethel4all.org



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17529 15th Ave NE -Shoreline, WA 98155

Website: bethel4all.org

Facebook: facebook.com/bethelshoreline

Bethel Lutheran Church

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Shoreline, WA 98155

Phone: 206-362-4334

Email: info@bethel4all.org

Facebook: facebook.com/bethelshoreline

Worship Service

Sunday

9:30 AM

Lunch & Devotional

Thursday 11:30AM

Pastor

supply

Communion

Every Sunday

Office Hours

Tuesday-Thursday

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Friday

9:00 AM to Noon

Congregation of the



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.