



# BETHEL

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

17529 15th Ave NE  
Shoreline, WA 98155

206.362.4334  
BETHEL4ALL.ORG

**Bethel Lutheran Church**

**November 2019**



Grace to you and peace from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Beloved family, I thank you for organizing and hosting our Homecoming Sunday. It was a delightful experience to meet some of Bethel's daughters.

I give thanks to God for the strong women in our midst, proclaiming God's love for the whole world by standing of the side of justice, especially for women by faithfully participating in the "Thursday in Black" movement that shines light on the violence against women in the world.

We'll begin our month with the All Saints Day. Today, the first day of November to remember all the saints who have walked on this earth and shown God's love to all people, including those who have loved us and who we love, even to this day.

On the 10<sup>th</sup>, we'll check in with each other on our partnership in this ministry. This December we'll mark our one-year partnership in God's mission and hopefully there are plenty of things that we have learned from each other. I have learned a great deal from this partnership. I have learned how the fight of cancer brought so many people together in hope and prayers. I have learned how hydroplane exists through communal relationships between the families of racers. I have walked with you through the pain and sufferings, and through joy and thanksgiving of life.

So, I thank you for taking me along in your life journey.

There'll be more conversations for our next chapter and I look forward to hearing more from you on how God's Good News can be shared to our wider communities.

Blessings.

## Congregational Meetings in November

We have two congregational meetings scheduled in November. The first is **November 10** after worship. Members will be asked to vote on offering Pastor Diakonda either a permanent call, a one year redevelopment call, or vote to find a new pastor.

The following Sunday will be another congregational meeting, **November 17**. At this meeting members will vote to approve the budget as presented by the council.

We appreciate your attendance and your attention to these decisions.

## Christmas Giving Tree

Every year Bethel partners with the Co-op Preschool that operates in the downstairs of our building to help a few families have an amazing Christmas.

The Christmas Giving Tree will be out November 24 and December 1. To participate pick up a tag and purchase a gift.

All gifts must be returned no later than December 8th.

If you have questions come by the office or connect with Carol Hovick.



# Update from Tom & Mary Holman

October 16, 2019

Thank you for your prayers! We're halfway through our time in Nigeria, and the work is going well. The Waja team is on track to complete 1 Corinthians and the L team is making good progress with the detailed work of checking the parallel passages in Matthew with those in Mark and Luke. Angela, the young woman who came with us, is learning a lot and even making some good contributions.

I have a prayer request for the Waja team. Keeping their computers charged is a big challenge because of the lack of electricity in their area. Because of this, they have not met their goals for this first year of their three-year project. Please pray that they would find a satisfactory solution so that they can complete their work in good time.



Blessings in Christ,

*Mary*

Mary and Tom Holman

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\*Members of **Wycliffe Bible Translators, Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862-8200** Website: [www.wycliffe.org](http://www.wycliffe.org)

Associate Members of **Lutheran Bible Translators, PO Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020, 1-800-532-4253**, Website: [www.lbt.org](http://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". Lutheran Bible Translators accepts tax-deductible contributions by mail or at <http://us.lbt.org/project/tom-mary-holman/>. If by mail, please include a separate note indicating, "Preference for the Ministry of Tom and Mary Holman".

# The Spirit

November 2019

## We turn to serve and love our neighbor

I share two stories that I heard in the last two weeks.

The first story I heard was from Pastor Ron Glusenkamp from a trip he took to Senegal with other ELCA folks:



We landed in Dakar, Senegal where the people are 95% Muslim and the other 5% are Christian or something else. Our group traveled to a small village to visit a Lutheran health center that is funded by ELCA World Hunger. When we arrived, we met ten guests who were living there. They all were HIV positive and all had been banned from their homes and so lived together with about a hundred others at this Lutheran health center.

When we asked the group how they were doing, one of the women spoke. She spoke in her own dialect that was translated to English. She spoke eloquently and simply. She said, "If it wasn't for this Lutheran clinic, I would be dead."

The second story I heard while attending the Conference of Bishops in Chicago. There we heard of Lutheran owned and operated Augusta Victoria Hospital in East Jerusalem. The United States government had voted to continue funding this important medical center but for some reason they are not releasing the money. This is putting people at risk. Chemotherapy is not able to be administered. Surgeries are unable to be performed. Children, especially, are dying.

While this is a complex issue, the stories we heard compelled Presiding Bishop Eaton to write a letter to the administration. She and all 65 bishops signed this letter requesting the United States government to restore the millions of dollars in funding promised to Augusta Victoria Hospital in East Jerusalem that primarily serves Palestinian Christians. This hospital, owned and operated by the Lutheran World Federation and is supported by the ELCA, is vital as it is the only medical center there. (Read the letter here: [www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8009](http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8009))

In the first story above, I don't know what happened to this woman or the other people gathered that day in Senegal. I hope all of them are still living and still receiving care. In the second instance, I do know that many of the people treated at AVH are Christian Palestinians whose only access to healthcare is through AVH. And I do know this: As people of God, we hold all people sacred. As people who believe in the priesthood of all believers, we know that the staff and volunteers at these health centers are doing holy work. As people who believe in Jesus, we know that Jesus is in the midst of those that others have rejected. As people of the cross, we know that in the midst of suffering, Jesus is there.

You see, as Lutherans, we take seriously what justification by grace alone means: Salvation is not the process or goal of life but rather its foundation. Because we are claimed by God through no merit of our own, we are free to live and love and serve our neighbor – whether it is the neighbor next door or the neighbor in Senegal or Jerusalem.

Way back in the sixteenth century, Martin Luther wrote about establishing a common chest for the sake of the poor in the city of Leisnig, "Those

## Bishops Letter continued:

individuals in our parish ... who are impoverished ... shall receive each week on Sunday ... support from our common chest ... This is to be done out of Christian love, to the honor and praise of God, so that their lives and health may be preserved.” (LW, 45:189)

I read Martin Luther’s words and they remind me that we are called out into the world – not because we have to but because of what God has claimed for us. I am so thankful that as we remember the Reformation on October 31 we continue in the footsteps of Martin Luther and the other reformers: Trusting in God’s grace through Jesus, we turn to serve and love our neighbor – whoever or wherever that neighbor is.

Thank you for the love and care you are showing to your neighbors – both near and far – as we see the face of Jesus in all.

In God’s Peace and Joy,

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

## Bishop Installation



Yesterday, November 2, The Reverend Shelley M. Bryan Wee was installed as the fifth bishop of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The service took place at St. Marks Episcopal Cathedral in Seattle.

Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, The Reverend Elizabeth Eaton presided, and Pastors, Deacons, leaders, and congregants from around the synod attended the service.

The service was beautiful and included several languages, songs, and thanks for all the people who made it possible. Our new Bishop and synod staff are officially installed.

Save the Date!

## **Holly Berry Luncheon**

Saturday, December 7, 2019  
11:00 a.m.

Bethel Lutheran Church  
(17529 15th AVE NE Shoreline, WA)

Entertainment: Karin Kajita

Tickets will be available for purchase in the office soon.



# Those Who Serve - November 2019

	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Judy & Carol	Sue	Maryls & Lillian	Judy & Carol
<b>Worship Asst.</b>	Judy Gouet	Craig Fjarlie		Chuck Vollbrecht
<b>Communion</b>				
<b>Bread</b>	Carol Hovick		Carol Hovick	Carol Hovick
<b>Wine</b>	Dorothy Brown		Dorothy Brown	Judy Goulet
<b>Glasses</b>	Elia			

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](mailto:info@bethel4all.org) or by calling our office at (206) 362-4334.

# Remember in Prayer



## Novemebr

9—Lynlee Ritchie

9—Siobhan Flanagan

21— Cary Magill

26—Lillian Routledge

### Those Coping with Health Problems

Don Brown

Walt Himple

Michael Klingensmith

Tom Logen

Kelly Moll

Joan Martinell

Shirley Pishaw

Karen Schoeld

Elia Smith

11. Scott DeLap

12. Craig Fjarlie

13. Lila Geiszler

14. Judy Goulet

15. Norma Grigby

16. Darlene Hilling

17. Roger Hiling

18. Walt Himple

19. Mary Himple

20. Joe Himple

21. Recovery meetings at Bethel

22. Aaron's Place

23. Co-op preschool

24. Lutheran Counseling Network

25. PNW Shell club

26. Leaders in our community

27. The Northwest Washington Synod

28. Those who are lonely

29. Those who are experiencing homelessness

30. Those who serve their community.

### Those in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

Vera Anderson

Dick Hinea

Shirley Pishaw

Dick Scansen

Donna Sjoquist

Lindy Bergen

### Daily Prayer List

1. Vera Anderson

2. Ed Anshell

3. Karen Anshell

4. Rebecca Antoncich

5. Doug Bauer

6. Karen Bauer

7. Joanne Brock

8. Don Brown

9. Dorothy Brown

10. Starla DeLap



# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship 9:30					1	2 Bishop Installation
3 Worship 9:30	4	5 Retired Pastor Luncheon	6 11:00 am bible study	7 Lunch 12pm	8	9
10 Worship 9:30  Bethel Breakfast  Congregation Meeting	11	12	13 11:00 am bible study	14 Lunch 12pm  Council Meeting 7pm	15	16
17 Worship 9:30  Congregation Meeting	18	19	20 11:00 am bible study	21 Lunch 12pm	22	23
24 Worship 9:30	25	26	27 11:00 am bible study	28 Thanksgiving  Office closed	29 Office closed	30

\*Council Meetings are the second Thursday of the month and they are open meetings meaning anyone can attend. If you cannot attend you can always read the minutes on the Bethel bulletin board in the gathering space.

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](http://Bethel4all.org)



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Facebook: [facebook.com/bethelshoreline](https://facebook.com/bethelshoreline)

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Pastor

Diakonda Gurning

Office Hours

Tuesday-Thursday

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Friday

9:00 AM to Noon

Worship Service

Sunday

9:30 AM

Bible Study

Wednesday 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM

Community Lunch

Thursday 12:00– 1:00 PM

Communion

Every Sunday

Congregation of the



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.