



BETHEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

17529 15th Ave NE
Shoreline, WA 98155

206.362.4334
BETHEL4ALL.ORG

Bethel Lutheran Church

September 2019



*"Don't be discouraged with trouble in your life;
[Jesus] will bear your burdens,
and move all the discord and strife.
Oh! can't turn around, we've come this far by faith.
We've come this far by faith." [ELW # 633—Albert A. Goodson]*

My siblings in Christ,

By the time you are reading this letter, I am more than 2,500 miles away from Bethel and the only thing that keeps us together is our shared faith in Jesus Christ.

Last month we spent so much time being with our community in Shoreline and from what I saw and heard we have so much room for improvements and I have talked to some of you to do more engagements with our neighborhood in the near future.

There is an upcoming opportunity for us to engage. Over the past two weeks we have been announcing the "God's Work Our Hand" event and next Sunday, September 8 will be dedicated for this event. Please join your siblings in Christ. Ask how you can be helpful for this event.

Speaking about engagement, our church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America engages the wider immigrant communities by declaring our denomination as a Sanctuary Denomination and I have heard both concern and excitement responses to the decision.

I was a voting member from our Synod, the Northwest Washington Synod to the Churchwide Assembly in 2009 and I remember being invited along with many other voting members to Trinity Lutheran College in Everett as panelists to answer questions, sharing stories, with the audience.

President Lynlee Ritchie and I will try to host such event at Bethel and in the meantime please direct all your questions to me via email, pastor@bethel4all.org.

While I'm away, The Rev. Jan Leistikow will be preside and preach on September 1, while The Rev. Paul Benz will lead on September 8.

Keep the faith and love our neighbors even more!

Pastor D

Bethel News

God's Work Our Hands is Sunday September 8! After worship we will work on putting together hygiene kits to distribute locally to help equip our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness. God's Work Our Hands is a project that sees participation from ELCA churches around the country. Our service will include a hymn written to celebrate God's Work Our Hands as well as prayers written for the day of service. This is great way for us to come together as members of Bethel and also as members of the ELCA to do some good.

Join us after worship to pack these kits, There will be cookies and coffee after the service as well so it's a great time to invite friends or neighbors to join us in a simple but important time to give back and support our community.

Hygiene items have been collected over the last several weeks . Check with Lynlee Ritchie about ways you can help or donations that are still needed.

We look forward to seeing you all to celebrate God's Work Our Hands.



Join us during the week for Bible Study or our community lunch.

Bible study is led by Pastor D and it's a great way to learn about the week's preaching text and to prepare yourself for worship on Sunday.

Our community lunch is free and open to everyone. Join us for a simple sandwich lunch and spend time with members of Bethel and sometimes members of the community.

Bible Study

11:00 am Wednesdays

Community Lunch

12:00 pm Thursdays

News from the 2019 Churchwide Assembly



2019 ELCA CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY

AUGUST 5-10, 2019 • MILWAUKEE

Our denomination, the ELCA, holds a churchwide assembly triennially - to worship, vote on matters of governance and policy, and be church together for the sake of the world. This past week's churchwide assembly was full of important votes and actions, including:

- Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was reelected for a second six-year term on the first ballot.
- A declaration of apology to our siblings of African descent, which was received by the African Descent Lutheran Association with thanks and a call for accountability and living into the words shared.
- Approved resolution declaring the ELCA is a “sanctuary church body,” encouraging participation in the ELCA AMMPARO initiative for migrant children, discernment of care for our immigrant neighbors in our context, and the promise of forthcoming resources for this work.
- Approved support for the World Council of Church's *Thursdays in Black, awareness movement for a world without rape and violence*.
- Voted to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance, in honor and remembrance of the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9.
- Approved a declaration for inter-religious commitment, reaffirming ecumenical and interfaith partnerships.
- Approved the recommendations from a strategic taskforce which has been studying how to work toward authentic diversity in our church.
- Approved memorials: affirming but not “endorsing” the Poor People's Campaign, care for immigrants and refugees, and other statements.
- Adopted a new social statement, “Faith, Sexism, and Justice: a Lutheran Call to Action,” and its implementing resolutions.
- Deacon Sue Rothmeyer was elected Churchwide Secretary, a full-time position which acts as executive administrator and leader on all constitutional matters and interpretation.
- Constitutional change for Deacons (rostered ministers of word and service) to be ordained, from the previous practice of consecration.
- Celebrated the milestones of 50 years of women's ordination, 40 years since the first woman of color was ordained, and 10 years since full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ clergy.

Update from Tom & Mary Holman

August 10, 2019

The one-volume publication of the first five books of the Old Testament in Anufo has been completed, and the team has taken delivery of the books! **Praise God. Thank you** for praying! We hope to have our own copy for you to see when we come to visit. **Pray** that the stories of God's chosen people and his dealings with them in these books will touch the hearts of the Anufo, including those who still follow their traditional religion and those who follow the other majority religion in the area.

Tom is helping the Anufo team with exegetical issues in 1 Samuel. Second Samuel is also ready for checking. He is also helping the L team in Nigeria make 1-2 Timothy and James ready for printing as well as making preparations to check the rest of Matthew with them in October.



The Waja team and I are making progress on 1 Corinthians because the internet connection has been good lately. **Pray** for good health and strength for them as they work on 1 Corinthians and other books in preparation for our visit there from October 3-26.

Warmly 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". 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

September 2019

From the Bishop The Spirit - September 2019



On August 3, as I prepared to fly to Milwaukee for the 2019 ELCA

Churchwide Assembly, I looked out the airplane window at Mt. Rainier and thought, “Wow! Is there anything more spectacular?” And, I admit, I also thought, “I have so much work to do right here in the synod, why do I have to leave for a week?”

On August 12, as I prepared to leave Milwaukee to return home, I looked out the airplane window at Lake Michigan and thought, “Wow! I am both so proud of our church and also so aware of how much further we have to go!”

I hope that you were able to follow the Assembly in real time by watching the livestream. But even if you weren't able to follow the assembly in real time, I encourage you to read about the people elected, the motions that were passed, experience the worship, and hopefully, enter into the joy that happens when we are *church together* (which was the theme for this year). It truly was a blessing to be with over 1000 Lutherans as we did good and hard work this past week.

In the coming months I will reflect more on some

of the motions and actions that happened at the Churchwide Assembly. But here are a few thoughts as I return home. We are connected to a deep and broad community throughout the United States. We are people of different ethnicities, cultures, colors, sexualities, and genders. We are young and old. We are from blue and red states. We are people who are Lutherans from birth and we are people who embraced the Lutheran lens of Christianity later in life.

We are a people who are listening to God's call to embrace all people, even when it is difficult or uncomfortable. We are a people who ask forgiveness when we mess up and we are a people of grace. We are a people who march against unjust laws and we are a people who sing of that promised day when all will be made right. We are a people who ask many questions and we are a people who reflect on words spoken. We are a people who try (as best we can) to follow Robert's Rules of Order and we are a people who laugh when no one can figure out the rabbit hole we have gone down as we attempt Robert's Rules of Order. We are a people who sing old and well-known hymns with gusto and we are a people who embrace new words and new melodies in this new day.

In short, we are people of God. We don't always get it right. We don't always agree. But God's Spirit was present and active in Milwaukee just as

Bishops Letter continued:

Bishops Letter continued:

God's Spirit is present and active in your congregation, in the Northwest Washington Synod, and in the wider ELCA. I am confident and excited about what is next for us and for the entire ELCA.

As we heard throughout the assembly, *Together we are Church.*

If you would like to know more about the actions taken by the 2019 Churchwide Assembly, you can follow this link: <https://elca.org/News-and-Events/8003>

Grace & Peace,
Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

Rev. Shelley Bryan Wee will be installed as Bishop of the Northwest Washington Synod on Saturday, November 2 at 2pm at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Seattle. Reception to follow. Interested in helping? Contact susan@lutheransnw.org.

Bethel News Continued

We had a busy summer here at Bethel and I think most of it culminated in August. We celebrated National Night Out, we hosted musicians for Jazz Walk, we had a table at the Ridgecrest Neighborhood Ice Cream Social, and last week Pastor D, Judy, Carol, and I took a field trip to Deception Falls. Thanks so much to everyone who helped out with these events your participation and/or support means everything! If you did something fun this summer that you'd like to share send it to our office email and I will include in next month's issue of the Bethel Beam!

-Siobhan



Those Who Serve - September 2019

	September 1	September 8	September 15	September 22	September 29
Altar Guild	Judy & Carol	Sue	Marlys Lillian	Judy & Carol	Sue
Worship Asst.	Judy Goulet				Chuck Vollbrecht
Communion					
Bread	Carol Hovick	Carol Hovick			
Wine	Dorothy Brown				
Glasses					

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



September

- 5—Don Brown
- 5—Lorna Neumann
- 9—Chuck Vollbrecht
- 10—Donna Sjoquist

Those Coping with Health Problems

- Don Brown
- Walt Himple
- Michael Klingensmith
- Tom Logen
- Kelly Moll
- Joan Martinell
- Shirley Pishaw
- Karen Schoeld
- Craig Fjarlie

- 8. Donna Johns
- 9. Yons Kim
- 10. Jung Kim
- 11. Kuwon Kim
- 12. Michael Klingensmith
- 13. Caryl Klingensmith
- 14. Theresa Linvog-wood
- 15. Delores Linvog
- 16. Gwen Loeffler
- 17. Sue Logen
- 18. Cary Magill
- 19. Phyllis Moll
- 20. Linda Mears
- 21. Evie Nanninga
- 22. Lorna Neumann
- 23. Nancy Phillips
- 24. Marlys Pickrell
- 25. Shirley Pishaw

- 26. Iglesia Evangelica
- 27. The Reborn Church
- 28. Ethiopian Evangelical
- 29. Aaron's Place
- 30. Co-Op preschool

Those in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

- Vera Anderson
- Dick Hinea
- Shirley Pishaw
- Dick Scansen
- Donna Sjoquist
- Lindy Bergen

Daily Prayer List

- 1. Workers and all those celebrating Labor Day
- 2. Teachers going back to school
- 3. Students going back to school
- 4. Joe Himple
- 5. Richard Hinea
- 6. Carol Hovick
- 7. John Johns

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship 9:30	2 Labor day	3 Retired Pastor Luncheon	4 11:00 am bible study	5	6	7
8 Worship 9:30 God's Work Our Hands	9	10	11 11:00 am bible study	12 Lunch 12pm Pastor D. Returns Council Meeting 7pm	13	14
15 Worship 9:30	16	17	18 11:00 am bible study	19 Lunch 12pm	20	21
22 Worship 9:30	23	24	25 11:00 am bible study	26 Lunch 12pm	27	28
29 Worship 9:30	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



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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.