



# BETHEL

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

17529 15th Ave NE  
Shoreline, WA 98155

206.362.4334  
BETHEL4ALL.ORG

Bethel Lutheran Church

May 2020



Christ is Risen!

Dear Siblings in Christ,

It was in Ankeny, Iowa when I learned how to play basketball in a team. It was hard for me, especially when I don't have the skill to match my height. I was the shortest kid in our high school team.

Before I came to the United States, I played soccer in Indonesia. I have played a lot of soccer, I played after school, in the weekend and often during family gathering. There's always soccer ball around us.

Unlike in basketball where scoring happens almost every minute, in soccer scoring happens once during, perhaps never. Soccer game could end with 0 - 0! Also, there is no timeout in soccer, the players are constantly kicking the ball.

I noticed there is a similarity between the two. There are games of collaboration and this is where we are today. We are collaborating with each other in creating a safer place for everyone. I say this because there are so many actions around the country where some people are refusing to collaborate, to stay home for the sake of the world.

Yes, it is hard to wait for anything and gets harder when we don't know how long we are going to wait. Perhaps, we need to look at our situation differently. Perhaps this is the time for us to change our routine, to change the way we look at ourselves, to change the way we look at our neighbors, to change the way we look at our world.

God is here, with us and with our neighbors and doing our part to slow down the spread of COVID-19 by staying home is an invitation to remember our neighbors and to pray for them.

I remember someone shouted at us right before our game started, "May the best team win!" My siblings in Christ, we're in this together, we're in the same team and God is our coach reminding us - every second - that our worst enemy is our ego.

Blessings to you.

# Bethel News

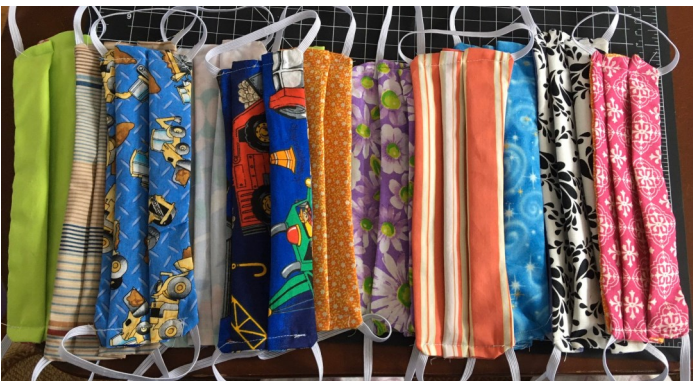
While we hope we will soon be able to gather together and worship at Bethel with one another, we are still unsure of when we will be able to do so. In the meantime we will continue with our remote worship services which can be found on our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/BethelShoreline/>

**Morning Common Prayer Tuesday–Friday at 10:00 am**

**Afternoon Common Prayer Tuesday–Thursday at 3:00 pm**

**Sunday Worship service–Sundays at 9:30 am**

There will also be a committal service for Richard (Dick) Scansen on Tuesday May 5, 2020 which will likely occur via Facebook live around 2:00 pm check Facebook for more updates regarding exact time.



Do you need a facemask to keep yourself and others healthy? Wearing a facemask is recommended when you go out and in some places it is even required.

Judy Goulet has been making reusable fabric facemasks and has generously offered to provide facemasks to those who need them.

Give her a call to arrange pick up! (206) 334–8397

Thanks Judy!

## Bethel in Quarantine!

What have you been up to during these last several weeks of Quarantine? We want to know!

In next month's Bethel Beam, I'd love for us to share about our different experiences while staying home. Did you accomplish a project? Try something new? Feel free to send in pictures, stories, prayers, etc and they will be featured in next months Beam.

I'd also love to know:

Where have you seen God working?

and

What has given you hope?

Feel free to call the office or shoot me an email with your response. (Siobhan@bethel4all.org)

-Siobhan

# Update from Tom & Mary Holman

April 21, 2020

For some time now, I have been using Skype over the internet to work with the Waja translation team in the time between our visits to Nigeria. The quality of that connection together with intermittent electricity on their end presents challenges to our communication. Unfortunately, the team has now fallen behind in meeting its goals, so I have resorted to scheduling more work sessions via Skype to help them get caught up.



Today they informed me that the first cases of COVID-19 have been found in the Waja area in Nigeria. People have been told to stay home and practice social distancing (which goes against the norms of social interaction). In the past, when the two Waja translators and I would check their translation by Skype, they would come together in their office, located in the district church building.

Both Pastor Habila and Pastor Danladi have computers with Skype and modems for a phone network connection. However, Pastor Danladi cannot remember his Skype password! Pray for wisdom about the best way to work together, and for the internet and phone network connections to be good.

Also, please **pray** for the people of Nigeria and Ghana in particular, and Africa in general. The coronavirus could have a devastating effect there.

Thank you for your prayers! We pray that you also are safe and well, and that you're keeping connected with your brothers and sisters in Christ, family, and friends.

*Mary*

Mary and Tom Holman

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\*Members of Wycliffe Bible Translators, Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862, 1-800-Wycliffe. Visit our Wycliffe Page: [Wycliffe.org/partner/Holmans](http://Wycliffe.org/partner/Holmans)

Associate Members of Lutheran Bible Translators, PO Box 789, Concordia, MO 64020, 1-800-532-4253. Visit our LBT Page: <http://us.lbt.org/project/tom-mary-holman>

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To give by check, please include a separate note stating: "Preference for the Wycliffe/LBT ministry of Tom and Mary Holman"

# The Spirit

May 2020

## **The Bishop's Article from the May 2020 edition of *The Spirit***

Last night I had a dream. It was a strange dream. I dreamed that an older man was crying because his wife had died. Out of concern and love, I hugged him. And then I stepped back appalled that I had touched him. And then suddenly I was in a text study group with several other pastors (you know how dreams go...) and they were angry with me for touching this man and getting too close to them ... and then I woke up. And, as is often the case, it was 3 AM and I lay in bed thinking about this strange world we are in where hugging is a nightmare and waking up and finding oneself alone is a relief.

First, let me say to you all, I hope you are doing ok. And if you are not, please reach out to your pastor, your deacon, your family, your friends, your congregation, this synod. We are Church Together – even, especially, in this time. Please know that even as we continue physical distancing, we are still in community. We are still Holy Community. We are still the Body of Christ in this world.

One way that the synod would like to demonstrate how we are Church Together is offering some relief to congregations for salaries. With this in mind, the synod has begun the NWWA Synod COVID-19 Relief Fund for congregations and ministry sites. The monies



for this fund come from an anonymous supporter with matching funds from the synod. At the moment, we have approximately \$41,000 in this account. Our hope is that this fund will work in two ways:

1. To distribute funds to those who need financial help towards salaries (particularly our most vulnerable ministries.)
2. Provide opportunity for those who are seeking a way to support others (financially stable congregations and individuals could make a donation to this fund to help support others who are in need). You can do this by donating online here: [www.lutheransnw.org/donate](http://www.lutheransnw.org/donate). Please specify "Leader Support." You may also send check made out to the NWWA Synod with "NWWA Synod Leader Support" in memo line and mail it to the Region One Office: Region 1 ELCA, PO Box 94432, Seattle, WA 98124-6732

If you would like more information the NWWA Synod COVID-19 Relief Fund, find the letter and application on our synod website here: [www.lutheransnw.org/covid-relief-fund](http://www.lutheransnw.org/covid-relief-fund).

In this last month, I have been amazed and in awe of the many ways congregations in this synod have continued community with one another and in the world. As I have participated in worship services, call committee meetings, Bible studies, informational meetings, book studies, and more, I am so thankful for each one of you. Yes, this is hard. Yes, we don't know the end. And yet, through Christ, we are in this together. We are Holy Community. We are Church Together.

(Continued on next page)



# Bishops Letter continued:

While I cannot be present with you bodily for now, know that you are in my daily prayers, my heart, my thoughts. And even in these times when we are unable to exchange the peace of Christ by shaking hands or even hugging, know that the peace of Christ is with you. Today and always. In Resurrection Hope and Joy,

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

## Radical Hospitality

There's a small town in France called Le Chambon-sur-Lignon. For hundreds of years this town was a refuge for Protestants who were escaping Catholic persecution. Because the people residing in this small French town were no strangers to oppression, they decided they would open their doors to those who needed it most. It was probably not an easy choice to make, but they decided to commit themselves to their practice of radical hospitality.

Their commitment to hospitality created something beautiful and throughout the course of WWII they were able to save over 3000 Jewish people. *Babette's Feast* tells a similar story about the incredible transformation people and communities can experience by embracing strangers and loving our differences.

Berlevaag, the community of *Babette's Feast*, is located off the Fjord and its inhabitants are described as a pious people who renounced the pleasures of the world. Although good in many ways, the townspeople grow more querulous as time passes. That is until they welcome Babette, a French refugee with a different language, different faith, and some different recipes, into their community. Because of Babette they learn more about themselves and the people around them.



“<sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly;”  
-Isaiah 58:7-8

Martine and Phillipa, Babette's hosts, choose to look past differences and receive Babette into their lives. Babette returns their hospitality and friendship, provides them with fine French cuisine, and ultimately gives them a gift as great as the one they gave her.

*Babette's Feast* has been postponed until Taproot is able to re-open. As soon as more information is available new dates will be announced!

# Remember in Prayer



## May

- 5—Mary Himple
- 18—Shirley Pishaw
- 19—Lee Maxwell
- 24—Craig Fjarlie
- 29—Sue Logen
- 31—Alice Maxwell

### Those Coping with Health Problems

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

### Daily Prayer List

1. Richard Schwerdtfeger
2. Kristi Schwerdtfeger
3. Donna Sjoquist
4. Elia Smith
5. Carolyn Starrett
6. Liz Terrey
7. Chris Tracy
8. Jayne Tracy
9. Chuck Vollbrecht
10. Ruth Vollbrecht
11. Vera Anderson
12. Ed Anshell

### Those in Assisted Living or Nursing Homes

- Vera Anderson
- Lila Geisler
- Shirley Pishaw
- Donna Sjoquist

13. Karen Anshell
14. Rebecca Antoncich
15. Elleeana Antoncich
16. Douglas Bauer
17. Karen Bauer
18. Joanne Brock
19. Donald Brown
20. Dorothy Brown
21. Those who are, have been, or will become ill with COVID-19
- 22.
23. First Responders
24. Healthcare workers
25. Workers at essential businesses
26. Researchers attempting to create vaccines for COVID-19
27. Those who are lonely
28. Those who are unemployed
29. Bethel Lutheran Church
30. Shoreline’s North City Neighborhood
31. King county and WA state

We also keep the family and friends of Dick Scansen and Delores Linvog in our prayers at the time of their passing.



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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

### Community Lunch

Thursday 12:00– 1:00 PM

### Communion

Every Sunday

Congregation of the



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.