



The Messenger



Pumpkin Carving Contest

We will be having our Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest. We are currently working on the details and will be sending out further information soon!

Our Saviour's Childcare is looking to hire a lead teacher. M-F, full time position. Experience preferred but willing to train. Qualifications: At least 18 yrs. of age, high school diploma or GED, current DCYF background check, initial 30 hrs. STARS training, First Aid/CPR, Food Handlers Card, negative TB test, (or willing to obtain, initial trainings will be paid for by the Center). We offer 50% off childcare tuition for employees. If interested in applying, please email us your resume to childcare@arlingtonwachurch.org, along with a phone number to contact you.

Our Values

- Welcoming
- Compassion
- Serving
- Respect

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BENEFIT RAFFLE! The Living Stones Prison Congregation, which is a joint congregation of our synod and the SW WA synod, is hosting a fundraising raffle. The grand prize is \$2021 cash, and there are other prizes that will be handcrafted items, such as paintings, drawings, quilted items and crocheted projects, by the men of Living Stones. Tickets are \$5 each, or 6 for \$25. They can be purchased at the church office, and after Sunday service. Raffle tickets can be purchased until Oct. 31. The winning tickets will be drawn on Nov 8th by the bishops of both synods. Consider supporting this vital ministry!





From the Pastor

I went to seminary and lived in Vancouver, BC, for seven years. While there I developed a deep appreciation for **Canadian Thanksgiving**, which happens on the second Monday every October. Monday is the “official” day of recognition, but Canadians are really flexible about when they have their celebratory meal. As a result, on some years I was lucky enough to participate in three Thanksgiving meals in one weekend! If you’d like to begin celebrating Canadian Thanksgiving, too, just prepare what you normally would for American Thanksgiving, give thanks, and tuck in.

What has become increasingly important for me to recognize on the second Monday of October, however, is **Indigenous Peoples Day**. This has replaced the observance of Columbus Day, which, if you look into the history of Christopher Columbus, is a reasonable action. According to Wikipedia,

Indigenous Peoples Day is “*a holiday that celebrates and honors Native American peoples and commemorates their histories and cultures.*”

I think it’s particularly important for churches to recognize and honor Indigenous Peoples day. Why? Because Christians constructed the theological justification for what would become mass murder and forced relocation of millions of Indigenous People in North America. Although the estimated pre-colonization population numbers very for Indigenous persons in North America, most believe that about 90% were wiped out. By any definition, that is genocide.

The Church was instrumental in these efforts by contributing the heinous, influential **Doctrine of Discovery**. Originally brought into existence by official statements from Catholic Popes in the 15th century, it was subsequently adopted by Protestants. These statements gave spiritual authority to conquerors/colonizers to enslave all pagans and take their land. In 1792 Thomas Jefferson declared that the Doctrine of Discovery was international law, and in 1823 the US Supreme Court did indeed make it law in this country. As recently as 2005 the Doctrine of Discovery has been cited by the US Supreme Court to justify the taking of Indigenous lands.

This was all started by the church through the theological premise that European settlers (and conquerors) had the right to claim Indigenous lands and resources *on behalf of Christendom*, and to enslave native peoples around the world. In other words, God wanted it so (or so they rationalized their greed and thirst for power). Since the Church had authority in all European nations, this doctrine conveniently allowed Western armies to pillage and enslave anyone or any group that did not follow Christ.

On my reading list is the new title, [The Land is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery](#), by Sarah Augustine. It was asserted that lands on which there were no Christians were “empty,” and therefore free to take because “heathens, pagans and infidels” who live there didn’t have legitimate rights to the land of their ancestors.

In the northwest we have evidence of people living here for millennia, possibly even as much as twelve thousand years! Consider that the faith of our forebears didn’t see the Coast Salish peoples having any right to live here under their own sovereignty. The faith that developed the Doctrine of Discovery engineered political railroading of treaties that were disastrous for Indigenous peoples. It also fueled the drive to “kill the Indian and save the man” that propped up the boarding school enterprise, which resulted in cultural genocide.

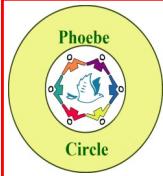
Sarah Augustine suggests consideration of three questions for anyone who lives in North America and is not Indigenous: 1) Who used to live on this land? 2) When and how did they lose it? 3) Where are they now?

This is partly why I choose to include a brief land acknowledgement at the beginning of each service. It is a reminder that ancient peoples who survived violent incursions by settlers were forcibly displaced where we live, work, recreate, and worship. A gross misunderstanding of faith in Christ caused death, displacement, and egregious theft of resources that were not ours to take. Christians have and do commit awful atrocities in the name of their faith, led by interpretations of Scripture that seek to benefit the self at the expense of others. (This is partly why I spend a lot of time writing sermons.)

Indigenous Peoples Day is an opportunity to acknowledge that those who lived in these lands before White settlers; to honor their resilience, their spiritual connections with the land and its inhabitants, to recognize the gift of their culture and presence. It is also an opportunity to commit to do better, to advocate for Indigenous rights, and to root out aspects of our faith that perpetuate oppression.

Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God and love others. I’m pretty convinced that we love God *by* loving others. For both October and November, the months of Thanksgivings, may we consider this in relation to the history that is behind us and is largely overlooked, and the future ahead of us, the future of which we have some oversight.

In peace and grace,
Pastor Charis



Phoebe Circle is a bible study group for women. This month's study will be from Gather Magazine September/October issue. We will continue with The gift of the Spirit: A divine wild goose chase, Session two: Breath of God: Reviver and reformer. Everyone is welcome. We can share a copy of Gather magazine if you don't have a copy. We currently are meeting online via Zoom. Please contact the church office for more information.



Mission Circle is meeting Monday, Oct. 5th and 12th at 9 a.m. Come join us in the modular building. We also wish to express our gratitude for all the donations for school kits, baby items, fabric and your \$\$. Many thanks for our congregation's generosity.

The Women's Mission Circle originated in 1950. Their correspondence and contributions were directed to those abroad and the local communities. In 1975 we began making quilts, layettes, health and school kits. Our focus today continues on making quilts, baby-care kits and school kits which are shipped twice a year, world-wide through Lutheran World Relief, to help those living in poverty. We also continue to send financial contributions to local missionaries. Our Shipment dates in Seattle are Friday and Saturday, November 5th & 6th. This fall 25 quilts, 55 school kits and 120 Baby Care kits will be shipped.



Save the Date! Lutherwood's Auction - Saturday, November 13th.

This years auction is TBD whether the event is in person or virtual. Check the website for updates!

Please help us collect donations! We are looking for Quilts, Items, Cabin rentals, trips, dinners, baskets, and outings, etc. Please email adventure@camplutherwood.org or call our office at (360) 734-7652 to arrange pick up or drop off!

Monthly gift to Camp Lutherwood ministry. As part of our concern for others in the Arlington community, and the larger world, Our Saviour's congregation approved in our annual budget the giving of \$150.00/month to support Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center. "*Lutherwood is in partnership with Western Washington Lutheran congregations. Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center is a year-round outdoor ministry renewing all in the Holy Spirit through education, adventure, service and prayer.*" Lutherwood is located near Bellingham on Lake Samish. For more information, please see the Lutherwood website at: www.camplutherwood.org.





Help Needed for Historical Church

Trinity Community Lutheran Church congregation was established in 1913 by Icelandic pioneers of Point Roberts. Point Roberts is located 30 miles south of Vancouver British Columbia. In 1920 a group of volunteers completed the sanctuary that has stood these 100 years, a symbol of Icelandic love of church and community. Now this iconic church, the sole church in Point Roberts, is in danger of collapsing.

The restoration to stabilize the church and retrofit a foundation is underway – but additional funds are urgently needed to meet the costs. This historic building is more than a church. It is the oldest landmark in Point Roberts and has developed an ecumenical membership that has flourished for over 100 years. It is the only concert hall, the emergency shelter for the Red Cross, a partner with both the Food Bank and Point Roberts Emergency Preparedness.

As you are able, please help us save this historic landmark. Learn how to make a donation here: <http://www.harmonywebdesigns.com/pointrobertschurch/index.htm>



October Scripture Readings



3	10	17	24	31
<p><u>Genesis 2:18-24</u> Created for relationship</p> <p><u>Psalm 8</u> You crown us with glory and honor. (<i>Ps. 8:5</i>)</p> <p><u>Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12</u> God has spoken by a Son</p> <p><u>Mark 10:2-16</u> Teaching on marriage</p>	<p><u>Amos 5:6-7, 10-15</u> <i>Turn from injustice to the poor, that you may live</i></p> <p><u>Psalm 90:12-17</u> So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (<i>Ps. 90:12</i>)</p> <p><u>Hebrews 4:12-16</u> <i>Approach the throne of grace with boldness</i></p> <p><u>Mark 10:17-31</u> <i>Teaching on wealth and reward</i></p>	<p><u>Isaiah 53:4-12</u> <i>The suffering servant</i></p> <p><u>Psalm 91:9-16</u> You have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation. (<i>Ps. 91:9</i>)</p> <p><u>Hebrews 5:1-10</u> <i>Through suffering Christ becomes the source of salvation</i></p> <p><u>Mark 10:35-45</u> <i>Warnings to ambitious disciples</i></p>	<p><u>Jeremiah 31:7-9</u> <i>The LORD gathers the remnant of Israel</i></p> <p><u>Psalm 126</u> Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy. (<i>Ps. 126:5</i>)</p> <p><u>Hebrews 7:23-28</u> <i>Christ the merciful high priest</i></p> <p><u>Mark 10:46-52</u> <i>Christ healing the blind man Bartimaeus</i></p>	<p><u>Jeremiah 31:31-34</u> <i>I will write my law in their hearts, says the LORD</i></p> <p><u>Psalm 46</u> The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (<i>Ps. 46:7</i>)</p> <p><u>Romans 3:19-28</u> <i>Justified by God's grace as a gift</i></p> <p><u>John 8:31-36</u> <i>Jesus says, Continue in my word and you will know the truth</i></p>

CHILDCARE NEWS
by Melissa Hackworth, Program Supervisor

The Childcare Center has had some challenging times lately. Due to covid, we have been dealing with closures as well as difficulty hiring new employees. We are continuing to stay positive and to keep providing a safe and loving environment for the children. We are very thankful to our dedicated employees for all their hard work during these stressful times as well as the support from Our Saviour's Learning Center Board and members of Our Saviour's Church, it means the world to us!



PRESCHOOL NEWS
by Jennifer Ess, Director/Teacher

Where did September go? It feels like just yesterday we were starting preschool! We, and the preschool families, are so thankful to be open again after our year long closure. We are back and ready to learn and grow! The re-opening of the preschool was unique for both classes - normally there are old friends from the year before. This year everyone is a new friend! We spent the month meeting new friends, learning about the classroom, and what it is like to be at school with other children. The 3 day class has focused on learning about God's love for us, His wonderful creations, and all the ways He made us special! The 2 day class is also learning about God's love, as well as learning more about what it means to be in a classroom with other children! We are excited to see the growth and changes that will happen this year. We have been using the covered play area more during the day - to give the children more room to space out, as well as running all around our back play space.

We welcomed families to the preschool with several orientation days to help them become more familiar with the classroom. These days allow the teachers some one on one time with the parents and can answer any questions they may have. For children, it is a shorten preschool day, which helps ease the fears that come with starting preschool. On the first day of preschool parents were handed a note with chocolate to help ease their fears of the first day.

Mrs. L, Miss Trish, and I are so thankful for the support and prayers from the members of Our Saviour's, as well as the preschool families. We are looking forward to a preschool year filled with fun, excitement, learning, growing, and sharing God's love!



From the October Edition of The Spirit | lutheransnw.org/publications

From the Bishop:

At first glance, it does not seem as though Teresa of Avila, noted Spanish Roman Catholic saint from the sixteenth century, would have much to say about today's world. You see, she is well known for her mysticism, her ecstatic prayers, several quotes that she might or might not have said, and her reforms in the church. All of these things are interesting – but what do they have to do with the 21st century and what is happening in the world today? In the last few days, though, I have been thinking about what she writes at the beginning of her work, *The Interior Castle*.

At the beginning of this book Teresa admits that she is tired. On the first page she writes, "I'm writing this book under obedience and I'm already finding it hard. God hasn't given me any desire for this work, and my head is so full of noise I can barely compose a letter about the most ordinary business, much less a book about prayer."

I am so thankful for Teresa stating it bluntly. Teresa is unsure if she'll succeed, she is not sure she has it in her to do what she is being asked to do, she is nervous and distracted. In other words, St. Teresa sounds a lot like all of us – especially when we are being asked to do something that is different or hard or difficult.

Truthfully, it can be daunting as we continue to navigate this pandemic, as we continue to navigate the changes of the world and the changing church, as we strive to live into what God is calling us to do. It is difficult, as Teresa fully expresses, to push past our fear or our unease or our malaise to do what God is calling us to do. It is pretty impossible to do a new thing without God's help and guidance.

And so, as I reflect on Teresa's difficulties, our difficulties, I am also drawn to scripture – specifically Isaiah 43. In the first part of Isaiah 43 we read:

But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

The prophet writes that God created us, God formed us. We have no need for fear because God knows each of our names. God calls each of us. We are God's. No matter the circumstance, no matter the trial, no matter the fire. This is what Teresa understood and it is what we cling to when we struggle and when we wonder if we can go on. I invite you to hold Isaiah 43:1-3 closely as we hear these words from Isaiah 43:18-19.

Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

As we hold close the promise that God creates us, forms us, names us, calls us, and holds us, only then can we hear the promise in these words that a new thing, a new day is coming. That God will make a way. May we hold close the words of St. Teresa and the prophet Isaiah. May you feel God's love surrounding you when all seems overwhelming. And may you rise in the strength of the Lord knowing that God's love surrounds you and fills you – and a way is being made as we all go forward together in Christ.

Month	Actual Giving	Budget Goal	Difference	Actual Expenses
August	\$16,851.00	\$17,838.25	-\$987.25	\$19,426.76
Y.T.D. (July-Aug)	\$33,621.25	\$35,676.50	-\$2,055.25	\$38,428.33

The budget year runs from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Thank you for giving to Our Saviour's!

Worship Attendance for September 2021

	<i>In person</i>	<i>Online</i>
5 th :	40	70
12 th :	35	39
19 th :	43	86
26 th :	42	89

- Minutes of the monthly Church Council meeting and the Financial Report Summary are posted on the office bulletin board for all to read.
- You can also request a copy be sent to you by email or mail. Contact the church office at (360) 435-8921 or office@arlingtonwachurch.org



October Worship Servers

	3	10	17	24	31
Communion Assistants	Howard & Sharon Knoepfle	Ron & Kathy Thordarson	Greg & Beth Husted		Gay & Dianne Engelsen
Lectors	Kathy Stuehrenberg	Lyle & Laura Kellogg	Ellyn Erickson	Tammy DeWard	
Ushers/Hosts	John Billdt Jeff Parris	Steve & Liz Moore	Lilgreen Family	Karen Crone Family	Allen & Darcy Larson
Flowers	Laurie Breon	Robin Barker	Ruth Gonzales	Lyle & Laura Kellogg	Jim & Nancy Yonker
Teller/s	Sharron Knutson	Bob (Max) Maxwell	Sharon Knoepfle	Karen Crone	Dianne Engelsen
Audio/Video Booth Techs	Kathy Thordarson	Bob (Max) Maxwell Emmie & Colbie Livingston	Kaitlyn Reyes		
Lock Up	Wayne Erickson	Kathy Thordarson	Karen Crone	Ruth Gonzales	Bob (Max) Maxwell

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 10:30am Worship In Person and via Live-Stream on Facebook & YouTube	4	5 9am Mission Circle	6	7	8	9
10 10:30am Worship In Person and via Live-Stream on Facebook & YouTube	11	12 9am Mission Circle	13	14	15	16
17 10:30am Worship In Person and via Live-Stream on Facebook & YouTube	18	19 6:30 Church Council Mtg	20	21 10:00am Phoebe Circle via Zoom 7:00pm Learning Board Mtg	22	23
24 10:30am Worship In Person and via Live-Stream on Facebook & YouTube	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 <i>Reformation Day</i> 10:30am Worship In Person and via Live-Stream on Facebook & YouTube						

"Happy Birthday to you ..."

- 2 Sammi Lilgreen
- 2 Sally Shinstrom
- 4 Alec Villa
- 5 Ray McClure
- 9 Joyce Magelssen
- 9 Kathy Thordarson
- 10 Debra Kunzman
- 12 Jamie Morgan
- 14 Elijah Morgan
- 14 Laurie Breon
- 17 Lowell Stuehrenberg
- 18 Ellie Erken
- 18 Paula Knight
- 21 Byron Scott
- 26 Donna Larson
- 29 Susan Maxwell

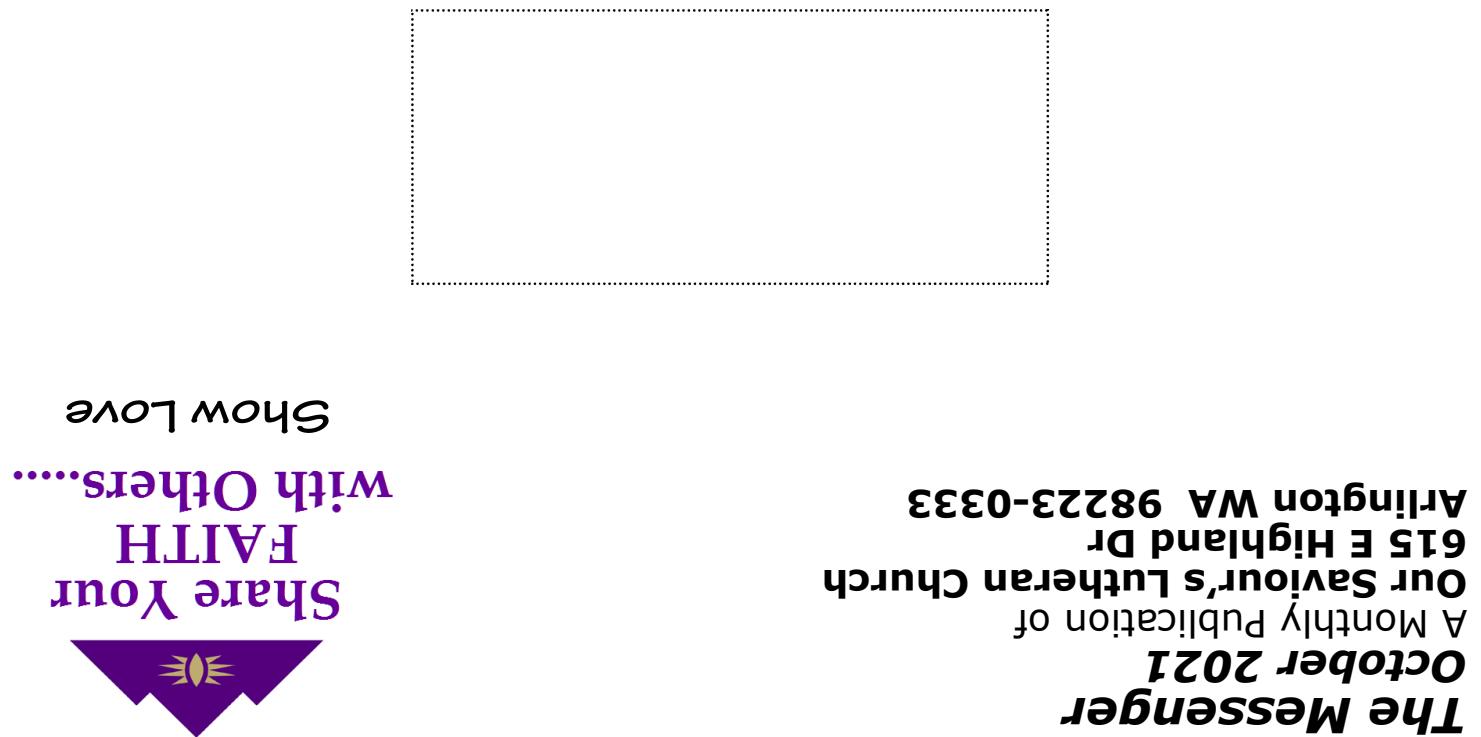


Happy Anniversary!

- 15 Keith & Kari Reyes



Did we forget you? If your special date is not listed here, first, forgive us! Then, call the office so that we can update our database. Thanks!



Our Purpose: *Celebrate, cultivate and share God's love.*
Our Values: *Welcoming, Compassion, Serving, Respect.*