

The Quill

M A R C H 2 0 2 1



Queen Anne

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Inside this issue

Pastor's Word.....	2
From the Cantor	3
From Terry For KIDS	4
Worship during Lent & Holy Week.....	5
Announcements	6
Christian Education	7
Social Action Committee & Advocacy	8
QALC Women.....	11
Environmental Stewardship & Faith	12
Bishop Bryan Wee's Message	14
Giving Notes; Staying Safe & Connected.....	15
March Calendar	16

The Quill can be viewed in full color online at queenannelutheran.org. If you would prefer to have a copy **mailed to you** each month, just contact the church office! Likewise, if you receive The Quill in the mail and would prefer **not** to, just contact the office.



As I First Loved You

This Lent we are focusing on the threefold theme of **reflecting**, seeking **renewal**, and **preparing** for the journey ahead. As Christ courageously turns his gaze toward Jerusalem so we turn ours. At our Ash Wednesday service, we prayed accordingly: "Strengthen us to face our mortality. Help us prepare for the inevitable in Christ's life, in our lives, and in the lives of those we love, trusting that we are not alone in the process."

It's somber and sobering at the same time. But think about it. Where else in our culture are we invited to reflect on our life and the lives of those around us in this way? Where else are we invited to contemplate mortality, not as an exercise in morbidity but as an accurate acknowledgement of life's brevity as well as to cultivate a sense of gratitude for this all-too-fleeting gift?

As I reflect this Lent on the gift of life I have, I invariably come back to God's grace. Creation by God is fundamentally an act of love. It's the Christian answer, as the German theologian Wolfhart Pannenberg observes, to the question of why *anything* exists at all. But with God, love doesn't end "in the beginning." The gift of salvation, also born of love, comes to us from God too, freely and without merit. God reveals this love for us through Christ by forgiving us, embracing us, and initiating the process of freeing us from *sin* (i.e., excessive self-interest without regard or concern for others).

Nobody in my view understood the nature of grace in modern terms better than the theologian Paul Tillich who wrote profoundly of self-acceptance as a consequence of being loved first by God in *Love, Power, and Justice: Ontological Analyses and Ethical Applications*. Self-acceptance, he says, is "the affirmation of oneself in the way in which one is affirmed by God" (p. 34). Imagine that. What would your life be like if even for a moment you saw yourself the way God sees you through Christ, not as a judge who amplifies even the tiniest of your faults (we all have them), but as the love that brought the universe (and you) into being and sustains you now—a love that Christians believe somehow continues to sustain you, those you love, and all those in Christ even beyond the grave?

I don't know about you, but my whole life I've striven to be accepted by others. When I don't receive that acceptance, I internalize it. I become my own worst critic based on the perceptions of others. At the opposite end of the spectrum, I turn my criticism outward, rejecting those (sometimes with hostility) who have not accepted me. How incredible, if only fleetingly, to see myself as God sees me! How even more incredible to experience that through others who have themselves been touched by grace!

This Lent, as you **reflect**, **prepare**, and seek **renewal**, may God's grace find you, captivating you, healing you, and freeing you to love yourself and others as God first loved you.

Pastor Dan

From the Cantor

Lenten greetings!

I wrote a brief note for the Sunday, February 28 bulletin about the postlude, an organ piece by J.S. Bach based on the Lutheran chorale O MENSCH, BEWEIN DEIN SÜNDE GROß. Here's a closer look at how Bach used his source material for this organ composition.

Bach had unrivaled skill at employing both the tune and the text of a chorale—even when composing instrumental music *without* sung words. This chorale's German text was written by musician, poet, and theologian Sebald Heyden in 1530, roughly 200 years before Bach. Here's a literal (i.e., non-poetic) translation, based on Internet sources:

O humankind, bewail your great sins,
for which Christ left his Father's bosom
and came to earth;
from a virgin pure and tender
he was born here for us;
he wanted to become our mediator.
To the dead he gave life,
laying every sickness aside,
until the time came
that he would be offered for us,
bearing the heavy burden of our sins,
indeed, long upon the cross.

There's a lot of interrelated scripture behind that stanza! Two passages in particular come to my mind. The first is I Timothy 2:5-6, "For there is one God; there is also *one mediator* between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, *who gave himself* a ransom for all." Another is Philippians 2:5-8, "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, *but emptied himself*, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, *he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death*—even death on a cross" (all emphases mine).

But how do we know Bach really had the chorale's text in mind when he wrote this organ solo? The biggest clue is at the end. When the piece reaches the point that corresponds to the words, "indeed, long upon the cross," Bach does two things that are extraordinary. First, he writes a sudden, uncharacteristic instruction, *adagissimo* ("very, very slow"). Second, he chooses a stunning chord with a harmony so far away from the established sounds of the piece that it takes the listener "into another dimension" (to quote a blogger*). It's as if Bach says, "Look at Christ, who is 'long upon the cross' for you!" Put differently, Bach asks us to "reflect, renew, and prepare" for Passiontide and Easter.

The same day as this postlude, Pastor Dan preached the good news that Jesus willingly went forward in mission and ministry to his death (and resurrection). With the same message that day, the music of J.S. Bach showed us that the pipe organ can be a pulpit, too.

Peace be with you this Lenten season,



Kyle Haugen, Cantor

cantor@queenannelutheran.org

*For more about this piece, see this blog: <https://tinyurl.com/4sdbeh6t>.

From Terry @ForKIDS

WHAT IF?

A positive thing Bill and I found to do during the pandemic is to go through and better organize our hundreds of loosely organized photos, and a reward for doing so is that we also revisit memories of people and places. “We should go back so the grandkids can see where Mom/ Dad grew up and went to school.” “Amanda and Tim were so little the last time, let’s do this again.” Some of these memories lead us to hopeful planning, and also looking forward to the possibility of following up with action.

Looking back on the life of Christ during Lent we have a role model of reaching out to people. Jesus cured, shared food, comforted, braved storms, lived simply, was hospitable, prayed, traveled and walked, reached out to people, taught, loved those unloved by others and finally gave His life. Because of Easter, we joyfully accept His grace, forgiveness, and attempt to live in His example.

WHAT IF during Lent we made a connection between Christ the role model and our doing something for the needs of homeless young people not feeling loved or hopeful?

WHAT IF on the remaining Lent Wednesday we shared or thought back a happy memory in our life, thanked God, and acted on feeling blessed?

WHAT IF on each remaining Lent Wednesday we donated to New Horizons and their outreach to homeless young people in need of hope and comfort?

WHAT IF young people receiving help build a memory of feeling cared for and find hope. Imagine the potential!

We’re commissioned as “a royal priesthood” to pass on God’s love and care to those in need. Even starting out with a small group of twelve followers, look at the things for good that happened as a result!

Margaret Mead said: **Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.**

WHAT IF on each Lenten Wednesday this happened:

- I felt blessed going over a happy memory or two.
- I imagined a homeless young person coming to New Horizons as a last resort.
- I followed up to help someone build a memory of love and care.

One way to action is to join in ordering wish list items from the New Horizon website at <https://nhmin.org/current-needs/>, or by donating specific need items to the table in the chapel at church.

Items of great need are: chap-sticks, personal tissue packs, sports bras that stretch, undershirts, boxers, tampons and pads, shave gel. A grocery store or pharmacy might donate items, or if an employer might match a gift.

During Lent we remember and worship with our thoughts, words, and actions.

—Terry from For**KIDS**@HOME

Worship during Lent and Holy Week

Lenten Midweek Worship

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

For the first time during the pandemic, we are “gathering virtually” for worship via Zoom. We hope you will join us for worship at 7:30 PM each week through March 24, online or by phone.

Those joining online may follow along with a service of prayer on the screen and sing a hymn together. Pastor Dan will give a homily. Stay a bit after worship to “pass the peace” with those who are gathered.

To worship on Zoom, visit this

link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81298114885>

By phone (for audio only), dial (253) 215-8782 and, when prompted, enter the following meeting ID number: **812 9811 4885 #**

Maundy Thursday, April 1

We will not have worship on this day at QALC. Watch your weekly emails for other options for worship on this day.

Good Friday, April 2

7:30 PM on YouTube

A pre-recorded video service will be available [on our YouTube channel](#) at 7:30 PM

Our Good Friday worship will be an at-home Tenebrae service; see sidebar at right.

Easter Sunday, April 4

12:00 AM on YouTube

Easter worship will also be a pre-recorded video service, available [on our YouTube channel](#) any time after midnight, Easter Sunday morning. Our Floral Cross will be available for decorating outside the church on that day. Bring a flower to contribute to the cross, and enjoy a chalked butterfly on the sidewalk, too.

Our Synod's Virtual Choir Invite

We are delighted to invite YOU to join our virtual choir. We will be singing **Jesus Never Fails**, arr. by Bradley Knight, to be part of a synod-wide, pre-recorded service for April 11. Please note: your completed video must be uploaded by March 15. [Go here](#) to find out all the details on how to participate.

Photo courtesy of Pixabay, via umc.org

Tenebrae



2021 Good Friday Video Service: Tenebrae

Our Holy Week service this year is Good Friday, April 2, and will be based on *Tenebrae*, a Passiontide observance that dates to the 9th century. Lutherans and other Christians have adapted the service from its medieval roots, and this year we'll modify it for the needs of at-home video worship.

The word “Tenebrae” comes from the Latin for “darkness.” Across the centuries, the central feature of Tenebrae is the gradual diminishing of light to symbolize the suffering and death of Jesus. In modern Good Friday services of Tenebrae, candles are extinguished one by one after scripture readings. The final candle, representing Christ, is usually not extinguished but may remain or may be hidden before returning in view, to symbolize the time in the tomb.

The video service will include images of seven candles, and you will be invited to light seven candles at home and extinguish them concurrently during the service, if you wish. Tea lights, votives, or tapers would be appropriate. Bags of seven small candles will also be available at the QALC office.

Like all of our audio and video services, a downloadable order of worship will be available, which will be sent by postal mail to those who have already been receiving bulletins for at-home worship.

Announcements

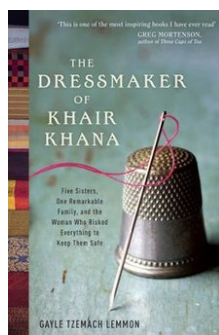
New Members Class Begins March 10

Roughly a year ago, we had just begun a new members class with the intent of formally welcoming in new members on Easter Sunday. The pandemic, like so much else, changed that. Now, however, our new members class is back, only this time online:

Join Pastor Dan for a brief, three-part series on the fundamentals of Lutheran Christianity, taught in a way you have never encountered before! We will meet Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00 PM on 3/10, 3/17, and 3/24 with an optional class on 3/31 to make sure we've covered all YOUR questions! **Curious current members are also welcome to attend.** We hope to see you there!

[Zoom link here](#)

Or dial by phone **1 253 215 8782** Meeting ID: **832 9396 4628** Passcode: **279358**



March Book Group — *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana*

The Queen Anne Book Group (open to all) will meet on Monday, March 29 at 7 PM to discuss *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana* by Gayle Tzemach. Published in 2011, it documents the story of Kamila Sidiqi, a young female entrepreneur working during the years of Taliban rule in Afghanistan, a time when the rights of women were severely restricted.

April's book selection will be decided at this March session. Suggestions include *The Pilgrimage to Eternity* by Timothy Egan, and *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien. April's meeting will be held Monday, April 26.

Christ in Our Home

Our daily devotional booklets for April–June from Augsburg Publishing have arrived, both large print and pocket versions. If you would like one for use at home, please contact the church office.

100-Mile Food Bank Challenge

Still some time during the month of March, so join those walking or running for a good cause! You can [sign up here](#) on the QALC website.

Walk and Talk

We all miss interaction with people, and outdoors is a safe place to interact. There's a senior, new to Queen Anne Hill, with both vaccine doses and slight early-onset dementia, who walks on his own but welcomes a walking partner. If you'd enjoy company walking one day a week, contact Terry or the church office to get more information and to connect to the family.

College Care

Do you have a college student in your household who would love a care package? Or would you like to help put care packages together? Contact Lisa Kjaer at lkjaer79@gmail.com.

Grace Grants - Accepting Applications NOW!

The NW WA Synod is delighted to offer another round of Grace Grants from \$2,000 to \$20,000; proposals for new ministry initiatives are due May 1. Bold ideas encouraged! Contact Barb at the church office if you have ideas for proposals, and she'll connect you with more info and/or others in our congregation. The focus areas this time are:

- Equity & Justice for Marginalized Communities
- Community and Inclusion
- Post-COVID Ministry Innovation
- Youth & Young Adult Ministries

[Learn more here.](#) Find a list of last year's awarded grants, grant application forms and deadlines.

Christian Education

UPCOMING FORUMS:

Sunday Forums begin at 10 AM. [Link here](#) to join on Sunday morning:

or call in by phone at: +1 253 215 8782 with Meeting ID: 891 7301 7795 and Passcode: 063447

Demons, Darkness, and the Devil

2/28/21 & 3/07/21: **Beatrice Lawrence**, Jewish Perspectives

3/14/21: **William Watson, SJ**, Catholic Perspectives

3/21/21: **Pastor Dan**, Lutheran Perspectives

Are evil spirits real? Does Satan exist? This series, our most widely-requested, considers the topic from four fascinating angles: Old Testament perspectives with

Dr. Beatrice Lawrence, Catholic perspectives, featuring Father William Watson, SJ,



and New

Testament/Lutheran perspectives with Pastor Dan. **Be there...if you dare.**

Beatrice Lawrence is Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible at Seattle University, where she also teaches courses in Jewish Studies.

Fr. William Watson, S.J. has spent over thirty years developing Ignatian programs and retreats used by Georgetown University, Seattle University, Santa Clara University, Gonzaga University and Loyola College in Baltimore. In 2011 he launched The Sacred Story Institute.

First Wednesdays Bible Study in March and April

All are invited to our online “First Wednesdays” Bible study with Pastor Dan at noon. In March and April, the First Wednesdays group is discussing Martin Luther’s “On the Freedom of the Christian” at noon on Zoom. You can find this treatise online [at this link](#). On March 4 we discuss the first part (pp. 10-22), wherein Luther talks about the “inner person” before God, along with the three benefits of faith. Catch up with the group on April 7 as we discuss the second half of the document, pp. 22-36. I hope you can join us.

—Pastor Dan.

[Link here](#) to join at noon on Wednesdays, or call in by phone at 1 253 215 8782 with Meeting ID: 840 7482 4857 and Passcode: 622720

Adapting To a New Reality: *Living into a Fresh Vision for God's Church*

The “Ignite the Church” series of webinars, which happen on the third Thursday of each month and run from 11 AM to 12:30 PM Pacific time, feature well-known scholars and church leaders, and explore ways that churches can live into the changed landscape of our times. The third session in March may give us all insight into possible ways to move forward as the world emerges from the pandemic.

January 21 – Encouragement Beyond Fatigue

February 18 – Justice and the Common Good

March 18 – Hybrid Community: Virtual & In-Person

April 15 – The Future is Now: Creative Expressions of Church

Here’s the link to find out more and to register: ignitethechurch.net Attendance is free. Let us know if you will be attending so we can carry on conversation about them afterwards. If you’re unable to view the webinar in real time, those registered can also view the recorded sessions once they are over.

Social Action Committee



Towels Galore Donated by Our Congregation & Our Local Community

It began at a Forum on January 24 and a Cry For Help! Rob Stewart, Executive Director for New Horizons Ministry, that shelters, feeds, and supports Transitions for Youth Experiencing Homelessness led the Forum. Rob described the challenges that they have been facing since the Pandemic began and one of their current needs are towels.

In response, 418 towels, washcloths, and hand towels were donated on Sunday, February 21. They were donated by our generous church congregation and by members of our local community.

Queen Anne Elementary School collected towels on site and Coe Elementary also publicized the drive. The children from the schools also sent along handmade cards including one that said "Love From Annie."

Thanks to Terry who organized the creative signage and Photo Op at the donation site outside our church. Liz posted on Next Door which brought a tremendous response and Terry, Susan, Meg, Johnny, Dan, and Liz and I took shifts on a cold, windy day. One thoughtful donor collected towels in her building and brought a trunk full.

We are hoping to organize more events that benefit others and connect us with our community in the future. If you would like more information about New Horizons Ministry here is their website: <https://nhmin.org/>.

Bath Towels 10 per bag	Hand Towels 20 per group	Wash cloths 50 per group
21 bags + 2 bags + 1 bag + 1 bag <hr/> 250 - 1 bag of 8 <hr/> 258 + 9 <hr/> 267	3 boxes <hr/> 60 total + 11 <hr/> 71	1 bag = 50 1 bag = 30 <hr/> 80

—Nancy Fulwiler

...And More Was Given...

In addition to the February towel drive to benefit New Horizons Ministries for youth, we delivered the makings of 100 sack lunches to NHM, and will prepare a dinner for residents in the first week of March. We expect to deliver another meal likely later in the month or in April. If you would like to participate, contact Jim Margard, or Dolly Smith. (Dolly will help coordinate the next meal.)

—Jim Margard

...And More to Give during Lent

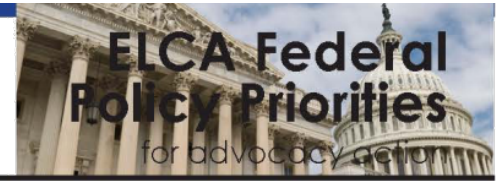
Have you thought some more about **giving** for Lent instead of **giving something up** for Lent?

The New Horizon's Wish List can be found online at nhmin.org/current-needs/ for suggestions to help homeless youth with some essentials. (There you can also find a link to an Amazon Wish List for convenient online ordering; ship items directly to NH.) Any donations brought to the chapel during March will be delivered to New Horizons by Easter. The chapel is open Thursdays between 2 and 5:30, and Fridays between 10 and 4.

Advocacy—The Social Action Committee wants you to know about the ELCA's legislative priorities for 2021. [Go online here](#) for more information about how you can work with the church and your community to advocate for change through legislation at the national level.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



2021 ELCA FEDERAL POLICY PRIORITIES

In the ELCA we believe that, through baptism, God is calling us into the world to serve together. Shaped by the ELCA's social teaching documents and the experiences of its congregations, ministries and partners, we advocate to end world hunger and stand up for policies that create opportunities to overcome poverty, promote peace and dignity, preserve God's creation and promote racial and gender justice.

You will find ELCA faith-based advocates building relationships with policy makers, taking joint action with values-sharing issue partners, writing letters, making public comments, talking with neighbors, asking questions in town hall meetings — listening, learning, educating and visibly and skillfully asserting policy considerations guided by faith foundations.

In addition to faith-based advocacy organized by local congregations and synods, by Lutheran state public policy offices and by Lutheran Office for World Community representation to the United Nations (UN), the ELCA is active in Washington, D.C. Following are policy priorities on the federal horizon for 2021.

DOMESTIC POLICY

Hunger and poverty – Urge nutrition investments in COVID-19 legislation and address racial and ethnic disparities in food insecurity nationwide. Restore, protect and adequately fund child nutrition programs, ensure access to paid family and sick leave, and advocate to expand the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit for low-income families. Urge increasing the federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour so that working families can meet basic and fundamental needs.

Criminal justice reform – Address racial bias in criminal legal and carceral systems by promoting fairer sentencing; and support restorative reentry programs in our communities through federal and state funding and reforms. End mass incarceration, address racial bias in criminal legal and carceral systems, promote fairer sentencing and support restorative reentry programs in our communities through federal and state funding and reforms.

Civil and human rights – Safeguard and promote protections for communities who face barriers, unjust treatment, violence or inequalities on the basis of race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation or class. Support action to address historic injustices, including a Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans and a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy.

Healthcare – Expand healthcare access to poor- and low-income families and remove race-based barriers to healthcare for communities of color to improve health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs. Monitor and engage with policy response to opioid addiction and COVID-19 public health crises, including equitable access to vaccines that doesn't replicate systemic racism and other cultural inequity.



DOMESTIC POLICY: HOUSING

Budget concerns – Increase shelter, housing and development budget resources with a special focus on rural development, HIV/AIDS housing assistance, and affordable housing for seniors.

Infrastructure – Advocate in anticipated infrastructure overhaul planning inclusion of low-income household considerations and housing development.

Fair housing and civil rights – Reverse implementation of harmful regulation policies that enable racial and gender discrimination and promote policies that further address disparities in access to safe housing.

Disaster response – Improve federal programs that manage community rebuilding after natural disasters and uplift recommendations of impacted churches and ELCA ministries in public policy consideration.



ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Creation care - Advance policies geared toward bridging ideological divides while addressing the impacts of environmental degradation. Advocate for comprehensive energy, greenhouse gas emissions mitigation and adaptation legislation for reaching carbon neutrality.

Climate and environmental justice – Promote policies addressing the interconnectivity of environmental, economic and social issues that advance strategies for remedying historic and eliminating future systemic biases and injustices impacting vulnerable communities.

Sustainability – Advance policies and legislation calling for a better quality of life today without shortchanging future generations. Incorporate build back better principles associated with environmentally caused disasters. Promote best practices in rural and urban communities and agriculture sustainability. Advocate for climate finance and migration policies, infrastructure upgrades and development choices providing thriving energy choices and smart technologies.



INTERNATIONAL POLICY

Foreign assistance – Include budget funds and appropriations for international development, humanitarian and health programs, including international COVID-19 relief and vaccine access, and encourage efficient and effective program implementation of U.S. aid for our global siblings. Expand debt relief and encourage investment in human needs.

Conflict prevention/peacebuilding – Promote critical investment in civilian conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities, and support prohibition of U.S. arms sales and oppose proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Gender justice and human rights protections – Advocate for policies that promote gender justice and rights-based implementation of international programs to meet the needs of women, girls, and other marginalized populations.



MIGRATION POLICY

Rights of migrants and refugees – Advocate for an immigration system that prioritizes human rights, justice, family unity and reunification. Promote access to domestic programs, as well as universal COVID-19 relief and vaccines. Strengthen Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and temporary protected status (TPS), in addition to pathways for gaining permanent legal status and citizenship.

Enforcement and detention – Advocate for immigration detention and enforcement reforms and support community-based alternatives to detention. Denounce the militarization of the border and externalization of policies that exacerbate the risks and discrimination faced by migrants.

Asylum and refugee systems – Reverse regulations that prevent those fleeing violence and persecution access to protection. Strengthen protections for migrants at high risk of violence and trafficking. Advocate for restoring and rebuilding the United States' historic leadership in refugee resettlement.

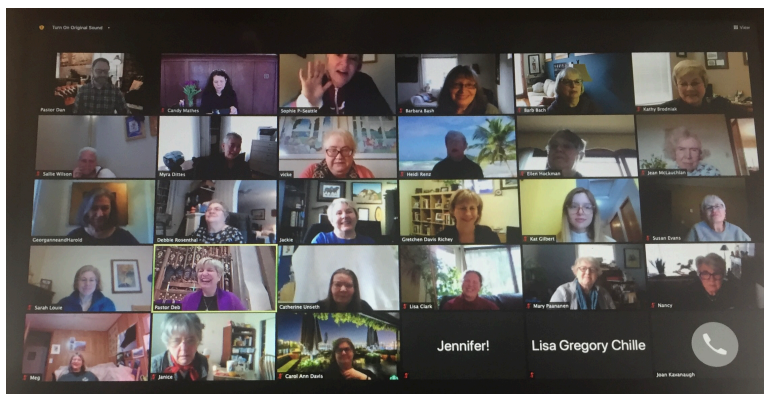
Foreign policy and climate threats – Insist that trade, development and disaster-recovery projects proceed with meaningful consultation with affected communities. Coordinate with local stakeholders on climate resiliency strategies to address climate migration.



How can you get involved?

Become part of the ELCA Advocacy network at [ELCA.org/advocacy/signup](https://elca.org/advocacy/signup)! You will receive monthly updates on policy activity and be invited to take action at moments when your voice and experience will have an impact. Middle East policy information and networking is available from [ELCA.org/peacenotwalls](https://elca.org/peacenotwalls).

Find resources for your advocacy efforts at [ELCA.org/resources/advocacy](https://elca.org/resources/advocacy) and a community with which to engage on social media at [@ELCAadvocacy](https://twitter.com/ELCAadvocacy). Together we endeavor to live into our baptismal covenant to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.



It was really great seeing 35 people at the Lenten Brunch—many faces we have missed seeing this year. For all those who say “they can’t”—too old to learn new skills, haven’t had a haircut/color/perm... It was great to know, “yes we can.” If you haven’t remembered to send in your offering for the Lenten Brunch, the treasurer says there is still time!

QALCW Circle Bible Study is Tuesday, March 23 at 7 PM, or Northern Lights meets Monday,

March 15 at 7 PM. The *Gather* magazine study series “Journeys with Angels,”—how we are protected, comforted and cared for by Angels—will continue. Do you know a one-year subscription to *Gather* Magazine is only \$19.95?

Please join us for the next “Informal Discussion with a Glass of Wine” on Wednesday, April 14 at 7 PM on Zoom. All are welcome, as we try to stay connected virtually in our isolation. The discussion will be “What Happens after Easter,” and we can share favorite poems.

After a lively Informal Group discussion in February, Nancy Fulwiler offered to contribute to this month’s Women’s *Quill* article:

LENT 2021: Giving Back Instead of Giving Up



“We had a lively discussion about how we can bring meaning to Lent 2021 during our Informal Group session in February. The group was formed to connect people during this time of isolation since the pandemic began, and we meet monthly on Zoom.

Our discussion began with a bit of uneasy laughter after asking “What should we each give up for Lent this Year?”—After all, haven’t we already given up so much? Hasn’t Covid-19 deprived us of hugs and handshakes, our church gatherings, our traditions of getting together with families and friends, even going to see a play, movie or ball game?

This season of Lent: Why not think of what we can *give back* and not just *give up*? We can reach out to others who are alone with calls and cards. We can support our extended families from home. We can find ways to be kind to the Earth in our everyday lives.

Susan talked about the climate initiatives that the QALC Environmental Stewardship and Faith Committee had developed before the pandemic hit. Liz wondered how we can strengthen and care for ourselves during this time to better serve others in the future. Jean thought we should share poems.

Perhaps we can still participate in a more traditional Lenten fast by reducing time spent on some of our newly-developed habits such as cellphone use, TV, and watching nonstop news. We could all take more breaks from our negative emotions of frustration, anger, and judgment.”

Thanks Nancy; the Women’s Committee really appreciates your contribution.

The Women’s Committee,
Barb Bach, Sallie Wilson, Pat Sobeck and Candy Mathes

Environmental Stewardship and Faith

Fracked Gas is Not Faithful

Leviticus 19:17: "Do not nurse hatred in your heart for any of your fellow countryman. Confront people directly so you will not be held guilty for their sin."

The Bible verse above reminds us to speak up when we are aware of wrongdoing, or we are also guilty. Recently, several of us participated in the week-long **Big Bold Jewish Climate Fest**, which included a number of zoom programs presented by Earth Ministry/Interfaith Power & Light. What an enlightening week! Programs ranged from Interfaith Advocacy Success Stories to Treaty Rights vs Fossil Fuels.

One program I particularly enjoyed was on the vital relationship between Native American treaty rights and climate justice. We learned about treaty rights and environmental protection from Seattle City Assistant Attorney Jeremy Wood, and effective and ongoing efforts to halt fossil fuel plants in the Pacific Northwest from Earth Ministry, such as their successful support of the Lummi nation in opposing the largest coal port in the PNW at Cherry Point. (Not only would these fossil fuels be burned in countries with significantly more lenient pollution standards, but they are dirty and dangerous along the way.)

We heard about the "thin green line" of Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, whose native peoples, with support from Earth Ministry and others, have been instrumental in stopping shipments from the Tar Sands (oil), Bakken oil fields, and River Basin coal which would cross native lands (and come through Seattle) on their way to Asia. Tribes have a special right to sue and set standards that affect their water quality, even off the reservation. They have had numerous successes so far but efforts to mine and transport these fossil fuels continue, despite the proven environmental and safety risks.

Currently, Earth Ministry is working to halt the Tacoma site for Puget Sound Energy's fracked gas (LNG) plant under construction on the tide flats of the Puyallup Tribe's reservation on the Salish Sea (Puget Sound). This 8 million gallon plant would store and distribute highly volatile fracked gas on an existing Superfund site. In addition to the Puyallup Reservation, the blast zone would include the NW Immigrant Detention Center (which currently holds as many as 1,575 immigrants) and residential neighborhoods with schools and daycares. An accident at the LNG plant (as happened on the Columbia River in a low population location) would have a devastating impact both on human lives and on the tidal basin. Organizers spoke about the moral responsibility to defend the treaty rights of local indigenous peoples, the state of the struggle around Tacoma LNG, and what we can do to support the Puyallup Tribe's treaty rights against encroachment and pollution by the fossil fuel industry.

The Puyallup Tribe and its environmental partners have both filed appeals challenging the project's climate impact. As currently scheduled by the court, the appeal will be heard April 12, 2021.



So, how can we help? One easy thing we can do is participate in the photo petition opposing the plant. Just print the poster you see us holding in the photos [at this link](#) and post a picture of yourself with the poster, opposing the building of a Natural Gas plant in Tacoma (Tacoma LNG). Send a copy of the picture to Maddie@earthministry.org, and mention that you are a member of Queen Anne Lutheran Church. If you are on social media sites (Facebook, TikTok, etc) post it there with the hashtag #FrackedGasIsNotFaithful.

For more information on this project see <https://earthministry.org/tacoma-lng/>



You can watch recordings of the programs here:

Earth Ministry/WAIPL hosted two events during the Festival:

- [Interfaith Advocacy Success Stories: Stopping Fossil Fuel Projects](#)
[Click here to view a recording of this session](#)
- [Faithful Advocacy 101](#)
[Click here to view a recording of this session](#)

Earth Ministry/WAIPL staff and board were also present at these events led by local Jewish partners:

- [Shmita 5782: How the Upcoming “Year of Release” Can Heal Climate and Community](#), Ahavat v’Avodat HaAdamah
[Click here to view a recording of this session](#)
- [Healing Washington through the HEAL Act](#), Temple De Hirsch Sinai
[Click here to view a recording of this session](#)
- [Treaty Rights vs. Fossil Fuels](#), Hillel UW

For other Zoom sessions offered over the course of the week, you can see recordings [at this link](#).

—Lisa Kjaer



Dear Beloveds,

This is a picture of a calendar I have on my desk. The date on it is, "March 10, 2020. Yes, I am not making a mistake, the year on this calendar is 2020.



Last year, when I turned the page on this calendar, I had no idea that this date would mark the last time I had a "normal" day in my office – with my staff and I talking, sitting at our desks, crowded together, laughing, doing business – not thinking at all of masks or physically distancing or washing hands (well, hopefully we were washing our hands!).

I have kept this calendar on March 10, 2020 as a snapshot of when life changed to a new reality. Like many of you, I never dreamed that one year later we would all be planning our second Easter of COVID or having second birthdays under these strange circumstances or still not knowing for sure when we might gather together safely.

I did not anticipate the suffering so many people have undergone. The hundreds of thousands of people who have died. So many who are still suffering from the ravages of COVID. The impact of this virus has been brutal for millions of people.

While I consider myself a patient person, truth be told, I am becoming impatient. I am ready to be done with this pandemic. I am ready for the pain and anxiety of this disease to be over. I am ready for the loss of life and health of so many to stop. I am ready for this underlying feeling of anxiety and fear to end.

And you? My guess is you are feeling some of the same things.

But, as we hear in many of the psalms, we don't stop at despair. As people who believe in resurrection, we don't stop at death. In this Lenten season as we move towards Easter, we proclaim that we are a people of hope, too. As I read in my devotions this morning from Psalm 147: "The Lord heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds." Through community with one another, through helping those who are marginalized, through coming together in prayer and song and worship, we are healing the brokenhearted and binding up wounds.

So, let me ask you, even as we wait, what are you looking forward to? Truly, what is bringing you hope right now? What are some things that you have learned and discovered during this pandemic that you want to take forward? We know that God works through all things – how do you see God working in your life and in the life of this nation and world?

I would love to hear from you where you see God's Holy Spirit – in your congregation, in your home, in your workplace, in the world. Where are you finding hope? Where are you finding resurrection joy? You are welcome to email me at bishop@lutheransnw.org. I would love to hear from you.

In this Lenten season (a season that sometimes feels like it began last March and is still happening) we trust that we are walking the way of the Lord. God's hand is guiding us. God's love is surrounding us. And God brings us hope.

May you feel God's grace through Jesus in these days. And may we soon gather in-person again.

Stay safe. Wear a mask. Wash your hands. Get a vaccine when you are eligible. And know that we are church together, even when we are physically separated.

In God's Spirit of Hope,
Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee



Important Giving Note

Your offerings in this new year are still very much needed and welcome. Even as we aren't able to meet "live," staff is working hard to provide you with worship and music, ways for children and adults to grow in faith, connections and support within our faith community, and avenues to reach out in love to the wider world. Your regular support of our ministries, our staff, and our property expenses is what sustains us. Please mail your offerings to our P.O. Box. To learn more about giving online, go [here](#).

Please Use Our P.O. Box Mailing Address

Note that because we are not staffing our building regularly, we have opened a Post Office Box. Mail to our street address does not reach us, so please use the PO Box address for all your mail, including offerings: **Queen Anne Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 17029, Seattle, WA 98127-0729**

Offering Envelopes

To facilitate mailing in your offerings, you may stop by the church to pick up your offering envelopes for 2021, now on a table in the chapel. The new packets have our P.O. Box address printed on them. Our chapel door is open Thursdays from 2 PM–5:30 PM, and Fridays from 10 AM–4:00 PM.

Staying Safe

When you enter the building through the chapel door, there is a small table with a form to sign in (and out). This form is for contact tracing, to protect our visitors should anyone report a Covid-19 exposure or infection. Please wear a mask, and make use of the hand sanitizer on the table.

Staying Connected

Every week, we post an audio or video worship service on our website, and we hope you worship with us there. Each Friday, we also email our announcements, including links to all the online forums, meetings, and resources. If you want to be on our email list, contact Barb in the church office.

If connecting with worship on a computer is difficult for you, did you know you can receive the bulletin each week in the mail, including a written transcript of the sermon, and printed announcements? Just contact the church office and we'll add you to our mailing list. Call and leave a voice mail if you don't have email access.

Contacting Queen Anne Lutheran Staff

Our entire church staff is now working from home. Barb Bash is however, generally in the office on Thursday afternoons from 2:00-5:30 and Fridays 10-4. When she is in the office, the chapel door is open for picking up items (such as offering envelope packets) or dropping off donations. It's best to contact the office before you stop by. Messages left on the church office phone will be picked up on Fridays; emailing is best to contact any staff member. You may still send mail to the church's P.O. Box. Offerings and other items sent by mail will be picked up each Friday.

CONTACTS for QALC STAFF:

Office Phone 206/284-1960

Voice mails left at the office number will be picked up on Fridays.

Pastor Daniel Peterson

pastor@queenannelutheran.org

For emergency pastoral care needs, please text Pastor Dan at 253-230-9695

Cantor Kyle Haugen

cantor@queenannelutheran.org

Children's Ministry Coordinator Terry Anderson

forkids@queenannelutheran.org

Parish Administrator Barbara Bash

admin@queenannelutheran.org

Sexton John Bryant

sexton@queenannelutheran.org

MARCH 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Executive Committee (Zoom) 6:00 pm	First Wednesday Bible Study (Zoom) 12:00 pm	ForKIDS Advisory Group 6:00 pm	Word Out!	Confirmation 3:00 pm
			Lenten Worship (Zoom) 7:30 pm			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
FAMILY SUNDAY VIDEO WORSHIP Forum (Zoom) 10:00 am		Church Council (Zoom) 6:30 pm	Lenten Worship (Zoom) 7:30 pm		Word Out!	Confirmation 10:00 am
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
AUDIO WORSHIP Forum (Zoom) 10:00 am	Northern Lights Circle (Zoom) 7:00 pm		Lenten Worship (Zoom) 7:30 pm		Word Out!	Confirmation 10:00 am
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
AUDIO WORSHIP Forum (Zoom) 10:00 am		QALCW Circle Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00 pm	Lenten Worship (Zoom) 7:30 pm		Word Out!	Confirmation 10:00 am
28	29	30	31			
AUDIO WORSHIP Palm Sunday	QA Book Group (Zoom) 7:00 pm					