

The Quill

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 2



Queen Anne

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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 at 206-284-1960. Likewise, if you receive The Quill in the mail and would prefer **not** to, just contact the office.

Weekly, we are also mailing bulletins and sermon transcripts to households that are unable to attend church. If you would like to receive such a mailing, please let us know. And if you do **not** need to get the bulletin by mail, give us a call as well!

Please Note: All mail to the church must be sent to this address:

Queen Anne Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 17029
Seattle, WA 98127-0729



Strengthened by the Word through Song

One of my favorite discoveries in studying the life of Martin Luther as a seminary student was learning the possible genesis of his most famous hymn, “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.”

In 1527, Luther tended to victims of a plague that swept through his native Germany and overtook the little town of Wittenberg in which he lived. Somehow Luther survived, perhaps by following the common-sense measures he outlines in a treatise written that same year, “Whether One May Flee from a Deadly Plague.” Out of the experience, some scholars suggest, emerged “A Mighty Fortress” as a testament Luther wrote to faith in the midst of dire, overwhelming, and uncertain circumstances.

“Lord Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word,” as Cantor Kyle points out in this issue of *The Quill*, was born out of similarly scary and uncertain context.

Today, we find ourselves in a situation not entirely unlike Luther’s: the pandemic continues as people of faith in some cases “put God to the test” by turning their noses up at vaccines or leaving their noses uncovered when it comes to wearing masks. Luther speaks of people who did the same thing in the midst of the plague. “They say that . . . if [God] wants to protect them he can do so without medicines or our carefulness,” he writes. “This is not trusting God but tempting him. God has created medicines and provided us with intelligence to guard and take good care of the body so that we can live in good health.”

Beyond the pandemic, our country remains bitterly divided along partisan lines. Conspiracy theories and hateful rhetoric abound. Halfway across the world, Russia amasses its troops on the border of Ukraine. It feels overwhelming, and many of us feel powerless to do anything.

In times like these the faith of our tradition, carried across the ages through word and song, can give us strength. Whether you listen to our services online or worship with us in person, pay special attention to the text of our hymns. Kyle and I choose them deliberately so that they complement our readings, especially the Gospel. Through them, the Spirit speaks by encouraging us, consoling us, and raising us, so that we—with Luther—can stand firm in the face of adversity and proclaim the loving strength of our God.

May the Word strengthen you and bring you peace,

Pastor Dan

FROM THE CANTOR

As I write this, I'm preparing for the Sunday, January 23 worship service. Our Hymn of the Day is "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" (ELW 517), one of Luther's Reformation-era hymns. It's a favorite hymn of many:

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word;
curb those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from your Son
and bring to naught all he has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make known,
for you are Lord of lords alone;
defend your holy church, that we
may sing your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
send peace and unity on earth;
support us in our final strife
and lead us out of death to life.

Here's some backstory about the hymn:

In 1541, Sultan Suleiman's Ottoman army was advancing across Europe. Budapest had fallen, and it looked like Vienna could be next—with German territories not far behind. Meanwhile, there were reports that the pope was interested in a pact with Suleiman. The theological and political threats to the Reformation movement seemed to be gaining momentum. "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" was one of Luther's responses.

Luther's original version of the first stanza specifically names the pope and the advancing Ottoman Turks as threats. Even so, hymnologist Paul Westermeyer notes in *Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship* that the polemical Luther was milder here than "much of the poetic propaganda around him" at the time. At some point, Luther's first stanza was altered so that the hymn transcends its narrow, original context. Westermeyer sums up the implications of the change: "Here is an instance where the church's instincts corrected Luther. The plea to keep us steadfast and protect us has taken over the whole hymn, and the original version of the first stanza has largely disappeared." The result? The hymn became one of Luther's most well-known hymns—perhaps tying with "A Mighty Fortress."

Sometimes what a hymn *does* is as important as what it *says*. Westermeyer cites musicologist Rebecca Wagner Oettinger, who asserts that "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" was a hymn that "gave the neonate Protestant population a sense of themselves as a community." From the days of the psalmists, to the time of Luther, to our own day, the songs and hymns we sing help form our community as God's people. Is there a hymn that particularly draws you into a sense of community? I'm always interested in hearing from you—catch me after worship, or send me an email!



Kyle Haugen, Cantor
cantor@queenannelutheran.org

PS: Lent and Easter are just around the corner. It's a great time of year to join the choir! Let me know if you have any questions about that, or simply come join us at 7 PM on Thursdays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



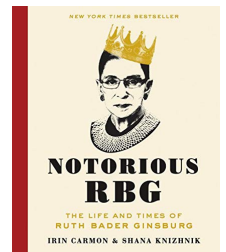
Lenten Worship 2022

March 2 is Ash Wednesday, and we will be offering a 7:30 PM worship service that evening in the sanctuary including the imposition of ashes.
(A service at 11 AM that day in the sanctuary may also be available—TBD)

Every Wednesday in Lent (from March 9 through April 6), we will offer a Zoom service at 7:30 PM in the evening. Our Wednesday services will include prayer, a hymn provided by Cantor Kyle, and a reading followed by a brief homily from Pastor Dan. All are invited! Look for the Zoom link in your Friday email after Lent begins.

Queen Anne Book Group to Meet Monday, February 28

The Queen Anne Book Group will meet in the narthex on Monday, February 28 at 7 PM to discuss *The Notorious RBG* by Irin Carmon and Shana Knizhnik. Cathi Unseth will lead the discussion. All are welcome!



Ridwell Updates: One-Time Styrofoam Collection

On Sunday, February 13, we will be doing a one-time collection of both block Styrofoam and bagged foam peanuts. Please do not bring donations until that Sunday. Contact Lisa Kjaer (lkjaer79@gmail.com) if you have questions.

Reconciling in Christ Discernment Survey

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts about how QALC can more explicitly welcome our LGBTQIA+ and BIPOC siblings into our church community as a designated Reconciling in Christ congregation. Your answers to the five questions are anonymous. Please find hard copies of the survey in the narthex on the Welcome Table. Survey Link: <https://jsrvhz617kd.typeform.com/to/GALX6YJl>

Lutheran World Relief Spring 2022 Ingathering

Container-loaders, traffic-directors, quilters, and kit-makers— **Please mark your calendars for May 13/14, 2022** at Our Redeemers' Lutheran Church. This date places the Ingathering the week after Mother's Day. Please see QALC Annual Report for details of the 2021 Ingatherings.

Serving Those in Need of a Meal in the New Year



The calendar of opportunities for Queen Anne Lutheran Church to provide and serve meals in 2022 is taking shape. First, we will be assisting in the preparation and serving of lunches for Community Lunch on Capitol Hill on **Fridays in November: November 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th.**

Second, we will be preparing dinners for delivery to New Horizons Ministries on the **5th Fridays of each month: April 29th, July 29th, September 30th, and December 30th.** We may add additional dates as the year progresses. Regarding New Horizons, it is likely that we will

have the option to either deliver, or prepare and serve dinners on site, depending on covid developments. Stay tuned. For those who prepare off site, arrangements can be made to pick up your dish at your home or office location, where needed. Please contact Jim Margard (jrm952@gmail.com) to volunteer or if you would like more information about serving.

Interested in Going to Holden Village This Summer?

Holden Village registration is open for guests this summer, in cohorts of 3, 5, or 7 days arriving on Mondays. More information can be found on their website, at

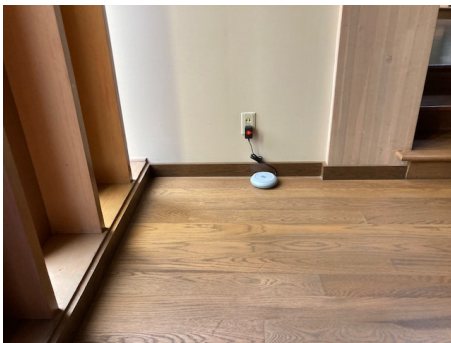
<http://www.holdenvillage.org/visit/guest-rates/> for rates and registration, and

<http://www.holdenvillage.org/visit/faq/s2022/> for more info about summer, Covid restrictions, etc.

Are you interested in going? Have you already signed up for a week and cohort? Please contact Lisa Ondrejcek at londrejcek@gmail.com. Lisa and her family are planning for a week in early August, but may flex depending on when other households are attending.

What Are Those Little—Turtles? Mice? Kitchen Timers? — in the Fellowship Hall?

No, they are not uninvited like the rodent in the *Annual Report*. This time we have small electronic sensors hiding in corners in the Fellowship Hall. These sensors were sent to us by our insurance company, Church Mutual. They can detect water on the floor, or the room air temperature below 40 degrees F or above 120 degrees. We in Seattle don't worry much about the furnace failing in winter, pipes freezing, or the air-conditioning failing in summer and the organ being damaged. However, detection of water intrusion into our Fellowship Hall is useful.



Church Mutual sent a free detector kit to each of their insured churches last fall. There is a master control unit – left photo – that can control eight of the detectors. However, there are some physical limitations. The detectors – right photo – must be within “150 feet of the control unit.” The control unit plugs into AC, and transmits signals back and forth

to the detectors. It also sends signals to an Internet application, and to any phones designated to monitor the control unit.

How do the sensors work? It took a few tries to find suitable positions so that the “150 feet” was not blocked by our concrete floors, and maybe other issues. Currently the control unit is in the northeast corner of the sanctuary. The two control units sent in the initial kit are in the northwest corner of the Fellowship Hall, on the floor, on the carpet, near the double doors. They are essentially underneath the control unit, which must be on the ground floor for wifi.

Do the sensors work? Yes. Twice this winter the outside drain by the Fellowship Hall was not totally clear of soggy leaves and maple seeds. And twice a small amount of water seeped inside, and set off an alarm on Rich's phone.

We have bought two more detectors for the Fellowship Hall kitchen. If you see them, please leave them in place (they are not misplaced kitchen utensils). You can buy these for your home if you have occasional water issues.

We Welcome a New Building Use Group: AARP Tax-Aide

Our church will now be a site for the volunteers from AARP Tax-Aide, who help seniors and other community members file their taxes. The volunteers will operate one day a week (TBD) throughout the tax season, February 8–April 14. Their clients will arrive at the chapel by appointment to drop off their paperwork for the volunteers, who will work out of the Conference Room. Clients may wait in the chapel for a time to in case the volunteers have questions; they will then come back to pick up their forms. Covid protocols are in place for safety. We are very happy to be able to support this community service!

FORUM CALENDAR—FEBRUARY AND MARCH



Bold Women of the Bible:

February 6: Old Testament

Prof. Beatrice Lawrence, Seattle University

February 13: New Testament

Dr. Lynn Hofstad, Seattle University

This brief series, one held in conjunction with WELCA's study in February on the same topic, features two of our favorite guest speakers at Queen Anne Lutheran. Dr. Beatrice Lawrence will lead us in a discussion of bold women in the Old Testament, and Dr. Lynn Hofstad will present on bold women in the New.

Beatrice Lawrence is Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible at Seattle University, where she also teaches courses in Jewish Studies. Though her research interests are diverse (many centered on the history of Jewish biblical interpretation), she particularly enjoys teaching about the diverse and complicated world of Judaism.

Dr. Lynn Hofstad holds a Ph.D. in Systematic and Philosophical Theology from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA. She currently is an instructor at Seattle University. Her scholarly interests focus on feminist theology, eco-theology, the doctrine of the atonement, and Lutheran theology.

March 6, 13, 20 & 27:

Crucifixion:

Theater of the Absurd

Dr. Matthew Whitlock, Seattle University

Resurrection is easy, but the cross is scandalous and foolish to the world, as Paul writes. This Lent, Professor Matt Whitlock of Seattle University returns to examine the cross as an absurdity with which the authors of the New Testament struggle to make sense out of Jesus' suffering. How can we learn from their struggle as we face the senselessness of suffering in our own lives?

Matthew G. Whitlock is Associate Professor in the Theology and Religious Studies Department at Seattle University. He received his Ph.D. from The Catholic University of America, focusing on the intersections of the Gospels and Paul. His research currently focuses on the intersections between modern philosophy, science fiction, and the New Testament.



First Wednesday Bible Study, Noon on February 2

Meet via Zoom with Bob Turner and Pastor Dan at noon each month. On February 2 we will be discussing 2 Peter, which is short (just three chapters). All are welcome to this group. Find the link online or in your email inbox. Everyone is welcome to attend.

2nd Annual Lenten Zoom “Brunch”

For All Women (& Friends) of QALC
Guest Speaker - Pastor Kristi Daniels
Church of Steadfast Love

3/5/2022



The quilt assembled by Pastor Kristi Daniels from donated “orphan” blocks now hangs in our hallway by the office. Pastor Daniels and her husband Essau Cueves are part of our Monday evening PDQ group.

So how do you do brunch over Zoom?

1. Watch for more details in the church announcements; the Zoom link will be available in your Friday email March 4.
2. Pick up your communicable from church on a Sunday morning, or have your own communion wine and bread ready.
3. Saturday, March 5 at 9:30 AM—Brunch-makings is up to you! You assemble your brunch and/or beverage at home and join us via Zoom! We'll eat and chat in small groups, contemplate finding “*Thankfulness in the Time of Pandemic*,” led by Rev. Kristi Daniels, pastor of Church of Steadfast Love, and celebrate communion together. You may send your offering to QALC Women, P.O. Box 17029, Seattle, WA 98127-0729 or via PayPal on the QALC website (mark it “QALCW/Lenten Brunch”) We hope you can join us! Any questions? Call Candy Mathes at (206) 919-7330.

I believe that the circles of
women around us
weave invisible nets of LOVE
that carry us when we're weak
and sing with us when we are
strong. Let's lean back and let
the arms of women's friendship
carry us and help us know
ourselves better,
and live our lives together.

WILD WOMAN SISTERHOOD

February 15 at 7 PM: Circle Bible Study, which meets on 3rd Tuesdays, is a hybrid meeting (we meet both in person and via Zoom), but if you plan to be at church, you need to let Candy know. This month we will be meeting in the library, where we hope the Internet is more reliable. If no one plans to be at church (other than Candy) we will all meet via Zoom. Join us for prayer and Bible discussion (Based on the Bible Study in *Gather Magazine*). Candy Mathes is leading the discussion. Contact Candy or Barb Bach if you would like to be added to the Circle's email invite list.

“The prophet Isaiah said, “How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of one who announces, ‘Your God reigns!’” In the winter Bible study, “*The Kingdom of God*,” we'll explore what “God's reign” meant in the words and stories of God's own son—and what it means for us now. ([Linked here.](#))

And thanks to this study's author, Mark Allan Powell, for creating video sessions to accompany the series. You can find the February sessions [on Gather's website](#) now; the second video to supplement *Gather's* Bible study is now available there.”

Northern Lights Circle meets February 21, the third Monday, via Zoom at 7 PM. Contact Dolly Smith.

Sewing and Service meets every Wednesday from 10 AM to 12:30. Coffee time's negotiable, often around 11. Our PDQ group meets at 5 PM on second Mondays to work on quilts and kits for Lutheran World Relief. Anyone who is willing to press fabric, tie a knot or sew a seam is welcome in either group. We would like to thank Joel Matter for donating his mother's sewing machine and serger. Those sewing were having problems sewing through the thickness of the quilts, especially the corners. Debra Rieger says the machine sews beautifully.

Your Women's Committee,
Pat Sobeck, Sallie Wilson, Candy Mathes and Barb Bach



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP & FAITH

You, Too, Can Be an Advocate for the Environment

According to the independent research group, Rhodium, U.S. greenhouse gas emissions grew 6.2 percent last year, after more than 10 years of downward trends. (In comparison, between 2005 and 2019, U.S. emissions fell nearly 1 percent annually, on average, according to the Environmental Protection Agency). The growth was primarily due to a 17% increase in coal-fired power generation (caused by rising costs in natural gas), and a significant increase in road transportation.

With the increase in climate-related disasters, this growth is especially bad news. The *good news* is coming in the form of Washington state legislative efforts to correct these trends! The 2022 legislative session is now underway, and there are many opportunities to provide virtual input and support for climate legislation. Every committee meeting now has the opportunity for virtual testimony and attendance, and one can easily attend from home—at least one positive change brought on by Covid.

HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED: You may participate in hearings with the online process. **You need not testify in order to have an impact.** Sign-ins are effective in showing interest and support for these issues. Sign-ins are accepted until one hour before the committee hearing begins. The link is app.leg.wa.gov/csi but it may be more helpful to begin at Earth Ministry's website, at earthministry.org/advocacy/wa-state-legislative-advocacy-tools/. Earth Ministry's page tells you how to sign up for a bill remotely, has helpful links from the Washington legislature's website, and a place to sign up to get emails from Earth Ministry on times for hearings on the bills they are advocating.

Below is a (partial) list of climate-related legislation, summarized from the League of Women Voters white paper on the subject. Remember that you don't have to testify; simply registering to participate is a good indicator to the legislature that there is interest in this topic.

HB 1619 - Appliance efficiency standards. Energy saved through increasing efficiency of our appliances is equivalent to green energy generated, and saves money. Because we cannot depend on federal policy to take action, the states must act and work to align regulation with other states.

HB 1623 – Risk assessment of power supply inadequacy events.

HB 1663 - Reducing methane emissions from landfills. Methane releases are an increasing concern due to their 25 times greater GHG effect than CO2. The most significant sources is leakage from drilling and transport, so the most effective way to reduce releases is to phase out using methane. A smaller source is from biomaterial decay in landfills. This bill requires monitoring landfill leakage and encouraging elimination through capture and redirection or even flame-off because the carbon dioxide created is less harmful than the methane. (Recall Ridwell presentation indicated that biomaterial

composted instead of thrown away in the garbage is handled differently and methane is captured rather than released into the environment.)

HB 1799 – Organic materials management to reduce methane. Requires waste management systems to direct more organic matter toward composting facilities, reduces legal liability in the donation of edible food, encourages development of more applications for compost products, improve standards for the labeling and color coding of compostable food-ware products, and applies additional requirements on non-compostable items.

HB 1814 – Community solar projects. Enables residents, whose housing is not easily or efficiently retrofitted for solar panels, to join a community solar project installation and enjoy the benefits.

SB 5543 – A zero-emission landscaping equipment transition incentive program. Fuel-powered landscaping equipment is a source of GHG release, air pollutants, and community noise. This bill proposes rebates for new, electrical-powered equipment when the fuel-powered equipment is traded in and disposed

SB 5697 – Renewing Washington’s recycling system and reducing waste – RENEW Act. Our waste stream affects climate and the accumulation of refuse. This bill covers product stewardship for packaging and printed paper, including recycling and reuse targets, accurate labeling provisions and requirements for post-consumer recycled content in plastic tubs, thermoform containers (e.g., clamshells), and single-use cups. It implements the top recommendations in the Department of Ecology’s Plastics Study (October 2020) which was required by SB 5397 in 2019 to address our recycling crisis and the increasing amount of plastic pollution.

SB 5722 - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in buildings. Greenhouse gas release from buildings, primarily in heating systems, is second only to transportation in Washington. This bill is a step toward adjusting building codes to design more new buildings, including multifamily housing, to incorporate more carbon-free energy sources.

SB 5744 / HB 1988– Tax deferrals for green investment projects including clean technology manufacturing, clean alternative fuels production, and renewable energy storage.

STAYING HEALTHY AT CHURCH

A Review of Safety Concerns, Updated in Light of Omicron

This is an update of our September *Quill* article, which addressed concerns that had surfaced in the responses to our congregational survey last summer. It seemed pertinent to repeat this information, and to address the questions again in light of the Covid variant Omicron. New comments are in ***bold italics***.

1. Is the ventilation inside the sanctuary was “adequate” to remove Covid19?

- a. Some of us are more familiar with new buildings, which are sealed very well, insulated well, and recirculate air continuously to keep heating and cooling costs less. Covid19 particles might circulate for a long time in such a building, unless their system actually filters out Covid19 particles.
- b. Our 60-year-old QALC building has very different air circulation. Our building is *not* sealed tightly, nor is it insulated, and our air is not simply recirculated. Our HVAC system (“heating, ventilating and air conditioning”) is heating and ventilating only – we do not have air conditioning. Our furnace relies on outside air coming in through a 27-square-foot vent located in the window well by the elevator. That is a 6,000 cubic feet per minute intake. When the furnace is heating (until the room control gets to temperature) you will feel hot / warm air coming up through the floor ducts. After the room comes to temperature, outside air flows into the system. In a space like the sanctuary, the outside, cooler air mixes with the already warmed air. That is why some have felt cold in the sanctuary in the winter, depending on how long the cooler return air is flowing into the

sanctuary, and if that cooler air is blowing directly on you. The sanctuary air exits through cold-air return ducts back down to the furnace. If the air returning to the furnace is warm, some percentage of it goes up and out the chimney vents. Then, more air comes in from outside to replace the exited air. Some also escapes through gaps in our outside doors and unsealed areas.

So: Our sanctuary airflow, for Covid19 purposes, is far more effective if left alone, than by opening the windows. Opening the sanctuary windows is counterproductive, as the designed airflows, which provide a lot of outside air to dilute any Covid19 virus, as well as expel it, are circumvented; much *less* outside air would be moved through the Sanctuary if we opened the windows.

When heat is not being used—late spring to early fall—then the system brings in only the outside air to the sanctuary, without being heated. Even in winter—when the heat is not generated after the room is at temperature—fresh, outside air is brought in. We currently have the outside air on continuously. As I walk through the sanctuary each week, the airflow with the outside air “on” is noticeable—it feels like fans at floor level. We do have a dial in the furnace room that allows us to change the outside airflow pumped in. We lower the outside fresh air intake in winter a bit when outside air is much cooler.

- c. At this time, we will not attempt any changes to our HVAC system, because our sanctuary airflow is very much “outside air.”
- d. ***Omicron should also be flushed through all the rooms (not just the sanctuary) with the outside air on continuously, as Delta has been.***

2. What about sanitization or disinfecting?

- a. We are still learning about Covid19 spread, but now it seems very unlikely that Covid19 has ever been transmitted from surfaces to people, based upon what professionals in various capacities have published. Most caveat their conclusions/statements with “we still do not know for sure.” But conversely, we do not know of any cases of validated transmission from surfaces to people. ***The few articles relating to Omicron surface transmission only mention that it “is possible,” similar to comments written during the Delta wave. There are no known Omicron transmissions from surfaces to humans.***
- b. Non-professional disinfecting can be detrimental to wood surfaces—pews, wooden door handles—as well as to the fabric and padding of our chairs. Our custodian, Almaz, does disinfect bathroom hard surfaces such as the paper towel dispensers, metal door push plates, and other high-touch surfaces. That happens two days a week. Her disinfecting also includes the traditional bacterial disinfecting. Note that on Sundays we do not clean the sanctuary between our two services. Most hard metal or plastic surfaces do not allow the Covid19 virus to escape after, at most, a couple of days. Paper, fabric, and wood are fine after one day or maybe much less time. ***Omicron, however, has been recently shown to remain viable on plastic surfaces for 8 days. So far, there has not been any documented Covid19 transmission (i.e. infection relating to touching surfaces).***
- c. ***For those with concerns, note that 15 seconds of exposure to alcohol-based sanitizers completely inactivate all Covid19 variants on your skin, including Omicron.*** We do provide hand sanitizer at various places in the chapel and narthex. Frequent handwashing or use of hand sanitizers remains the most effective “cleaning procedure” for the Covid19 virus.

3. ***If you have personal concerns, please buy and use N95 masks. You can clean them by simply leaving them in your house to dry out for three to four days without wearing them, allowing any contaminants to die off.***

Thank you for your questions and comments. Please contact me if you have additional concerns. I am not an expert in this field; everyone has been learning quickly over the past 18 months.

—Rich Mathes, Property Committee



I don't usually write about personal things for this monthly column, but I have a birthday this month (it is not a significant birthday— it doesn't end in a zero or a five) but a birthday is a birthday. And a birthday is always a blessing— it is a marker that we are still given time on earth to be with loved ones, work to make this world more livable and loveable for others, learn and grow, listen and speak, play and dance in God's Spirit of love.

I remember a significant birthday ten years ago that I celebrated. It was very low-key birthday. My parents and my family were there. We had some sort of food that I don't remember and a cake that was probably chocolate. That was it. But I was so thankful to be celebrating it. You see, in the summer of 2011 I was diagnosed with an aggressive form of breast cancer. I underwent chemotherapy, a bilateral mastectomy, and radiation. In February of 2012 I had finished chemo and surgery and was just beginning radiation. (I am perfectly healthy now.)

This is what I wrote on my blog on www.mylifeline.org exactly ten years ago:

The other day I was complaining to some friends that it is hard for me to get motivated. I said, "I am not a depressed person, but it is so hard to do things right now." My friend Laura said to me, "Maybe it's because you are battling cancer and have had months of toxic drugs, major surgery, forced work leave, a little too much mortality staring you in the face and no hair or eyelashes. Personally I think that's enough reason to feel what you are feeling." ...

Today I re-read what my friend Laura said and her words hold true for me and for so many of us right now. For many it is hard to be motivated and do things right now. We have had months— years! — of a pandemic, political divide, anxiety, forced separation, and, for some, physical and emotional difficulties as well. It makes sense that we are weary. And we can give ourselves and others compassion during this time.

And ... at the same time ... we also know that this is not the end.

We place our trust in God that this is only a season in our lives and in our world. A season that eventually we will look back on, be amazed how we survived and thrived, and be thankful for the place we are called to next.

Here is how I ended my reflection from ten years ago:

As I close this blog post, I am reminded of the passing of seasons and the amazing presence of God. When I began treatment, summer was in full bloom. We have gone through the falling of leaves, the dormancy of winter, and are now on the cusp of spring. This is where I feel my body is, too. I am ready to live a new life of health and wholeness, hope and gratitude. Psalm 30:11-12 says it so well: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

May we rest and may we breathe.

May we live and move and dance in the Spirit.

May we trust that through all things God is present with us— above us, beneath us, before us, and behind us.

May this year bring us resiliency and hope.

May we— *together*— be filled with Christ's love and compassion for one another and for ourselves.

✠ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee
bishop@lutheransnw.org

FEBRUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		7:00pm Executive Committee (Zoom)	10:00am Sewing & Service (Fireside) 12:00pm First Wednesdays Bible Study (Zoom) 8:00pm AA Counterbalance (FH)	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal		10:30am Alanon Women (upstairs) 7:00pm Shanty Trudgers (upstairs)
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8:00am Worship 9:00am Forum 10:30am Worship		7:00pm Church Council (Zoom)	10:00am Sewing & Service (Fireside) 8:00pm AA Counterbalance (FH)	5:30pm Worship and Music Committee 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal		10:30am Alanon Women (upstairs) 7:00pm Shanty Trudgers (upstairs)
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8:00am Worship 9:00am Forum 10:30am Worship	5:30pm PDQ Quilting (Fireside)	7:00pm QALCW Circle (Library/ Zoom)	10:00am Sewing & Service (Fireside) 8:00pm AA Counterbalance (FH)	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal		10:30am Alanon Women (upstairs) 7:00pm Shanty Trudgers (upstairs)
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:00am Worship 10:30am Worship	7:00pm Northern Lights Circle (Zoom)		10:00am Sewing & Service (Fireside) 8:00pm AA Counterbalance (FH)	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal		10:30am Alanon Women (upstairs) 7:00pm Shanty Trudgers (upstairs)
27	28					
8:00am Worship 10:30am Worship	7:00pm Queen Anne Book Group (Narthex)					

Queen Anne Lutheran Office Hours

Our church office is open four days a week, from 9 AM to 5:30 PM Tuesdays through Fridays.

During the week, please enter the building through the chapel door so you can sign our contact-tracing sheet.

Please wear a mask inside the building.

Because staffing is minimal, please call before you come by, in case we are away at lunch or on an errand.

Our Mailing Address: Queen Anne Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 17029, Seattle, WA 98127-0729

CONTACTS for QALC STAFF:

Pastor Daniel Peterson

Office Phone 206/284-1960

pastor@queenannelutheran.org

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

Cantor Kyle Haugen

cantor@queenannelutheran.org

Parish Administrator Barbara Bash

admin@queenannelutheran.org

Sexton John Bryant

sexton@queenannelutheran.org