

**+ BALLARD
FIRST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

2006 NW 65TH STREET
SEATTLE, WA 98117

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE, WA
PERMIT 5736



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

Sunday Morning Schedule

10:00am Worship

**Coffee Hour Fellowship following Worship
in Lower Social Hall**

Special Events in August

Kids Camp Roundup

August 1st – 5th @ Ballard First Lutheran 9:00 – 12:00

**Celebration for Intern Kaitlin Winter-Eulberg
Sunday, August 7th**

BALLARD BLESSINGS

August 2016

† BALLARD FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

2006 NW 65th Street, Seattle, WA 98117 • 206.784.1306 • www.bflcs.org • A Reconciling in Christ Community

Following the example of our Lord Jesus Christ, we at Ballard First Lutheran affirm the dignity and worth of all people. We believe God calls us to be a community of grace, compassion, and justice. With St. Paul, we affirm that, in Christ, "There is no longer Jew or Gentile, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all are one in Christ Jesus." (Gal. 3:28) We believe that the Gospel, that is, the good news of Jesus Christ, is God's gift for all people. Furthermore, we believe that this gift is to be shared unconditionally, without regard to age, race, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic or family status, or physical or mental ability.

☞ Staff ☞

Pastor Erik R. Wilson Weiberg

pastorerik@bflcs.org

Pastor Laurie A. Jones

pastorlaurie@bflcs.org

Intern Kaitlin Winter-Eulberg

intern@bflcs.org

Church Administrator: Cindy Jackson

office@bflcs.org

Caretaker: Dale Pederson

Treasurer: Julie Millet

Organist: Ed Egerdahl

Minister of Music:

Molly Barnes

musicminister@bflcs.org

Renewal: Jessica Zimmerle

renewal@bflcs.org

Accompanist: Jim Fisher

☞ BFL Childcare Center ☞

206-784-1307

Director: Karen Hutchison

☞ LYONS ☞

206-706-5997

www.roaringlyons.org

Director: (vacant)

Program Assistant: Megan Hundley

☞ Church Council ☞

President: Susan Weber

Vice President: Jeff Powers

Secretary: Lisa Laxson

☞ Ministry Coordinators ☞

Childcare: Karin Swanson

Facilities: Steve Maris

Finance: (vacant)

Personnel: Susan Clauson

☞ Council At-Large Reps ☞

Lauren Jensen

Edna Peterson

"We return to each other in waves. This is how water loves."

—Nayyirah Waheed

As I soak in my last days here as the Ballard First Lutheran and Faith Action Network intern, I am reminded that we are all abiding in a community that is continually doused with the waters of baptism. Each of us is connected through the drops of water that were placed on our forehead, as words were spoken that God continues to say "YES!" to us and as we continue to say "YES!" to journeying with our neighbor.

I have become acquainted with the Pacific Northwest in waves of care and learning this year. I am grateful for this year of growth as we learned from each other as I stepped into this role of intern pastor at Ballard First Lutheran. I appreciate that you all have given me the opportunity to create Sacred space in a variety of ways: in worship and proclaiming the Word; one to one conversations; retreats with confirmation teens, Phoebe Circle and Renewal; prayers lifted up after tough conversations; developing a social media team; and facilitating bible study or adult forums. I leave here transformed by the ways that this people of faith honestly and prayerfully answer God's call to be hands of healing, generosity, and community.

I am immeasurably glad for my time working at Faith Action Network, the interfaith advocacy nonprofit that gave me tools to network with people from diverse perspectives and gain experience meeting with elected officials to advocate for a more sustainable Washington. As I head back to Berkeley, CA for a year-long residency as a chaplaincy student at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, I bring a developed sense of pastoral leadership and what it looks like to be a voice of prophetic justice.

I will be spending next year exploring the role of chaplaincy in a hospital and afterwards will be placed in the first call process; I'll make sure to update the Ballard First office about first call and ordination. My fiancée, Nick, and I are getting married during June 2017 and are excited to connect with a new community during my first call, where ever that may be.

INTERN REFLECTIONS cont.

Being an internship site means that, each year, this community gets to rally around a person with waves of welcome, developing, and good-byes. In this transition between interns, I find it pertinent to let you know that I will be stepping away from contact with this community, including social media, as is customary for past interns in order to leave space for people to focus on the current intern. This does not mean that I disappear; if you need to get in touch with me please contact the BFL office for my email or mailing addresses.

I am honored to have been immersed in Ballard with you all this year and know that I am holding you in my prayers as I venture out to new territories. May the waters of baptism continue to bind the connections that have blossomed during this year of growth. I look forward to hearing about the visions that spring up out of this community of strong traditions and a fierce sense of inclusivity. May God continue to help us return to who we are meant to be: loved and loving.

In serenity, Kaitlin Winter-Eulberg



CELEBRATION AND POTLUCK FOR KAITLIN! Intern Kaitlin Winter-Eulberg will be completing her internship on August 7th. We will be acknowledging her that day during worship and with a potluck luncheon following the service. Please come and celebrate Kaitlin's time with us and wish her farewell. Cards and monetary gifts would be appropriate if you wish to honor her in such a way.

PASTORAL ACTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

Committal Services

Ethel King
July 19, 2016

Boyd Ellison
July 23, 2016

Baptism

Rory Storasula Kotulka
July 17, 2016

PRAYER CONCERNS AND THANKSGIVINGS

As a community we gather in Christ's love to support one another in prayer:

Family and friends of Betty Barden, The Chance Family, Bernice and Glen Ellison, Joanne and Jerry Shierk, Tonya, Matthew Vann, Pastor Erik Wilson Weiberg

STAY IN TOUCH

IMPORTANT – when sending an email, please use pastorlaurie@bflcs.org and pastorerik@bflcs.org. Emails to ballardfirstlutheran.org are not received.

If you would like to receive the weekly email newsletter, please email the office at office@bflcs.org.



God's Gift of Friendship

By the Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop
From *The Spirit* (August 2016)

His death is still settling in. I lost my best friend - John Mark Ericksen. We met at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. John had just returned from serving with the Peace Corp in Niger, West Africa. He had spent his tour teaching the local people how to build sustainable wells. Clean drinking water was life-giving water to the villages John accompanied.

It was service John loved. He loved the people. He loved their way of life. And he loved his horse that provided him both transportation and thrill.

John grew up in a family filled with pastors. His father, his older brother, and several uncles. He was the youngest of five brothers. My hunch is John was his mother's favorite. We would travel back and forth from PLTS together. John lived in Tacoma. I lived in Kenmore. His mother Evelyn would always say to me as we departed, "Now you take good care of John." It was a charge I took to heart. Friends take care of friends.

John was one of those people everyone liked. He was quiet and yet engaging. He was a great listener and had a very natural way of affirming others. His movements were slow, precise and ended with an exclamation. He even ate his meals this way. I would be finished and John would have barely started. He would carefully cut his food, and top it off with a slight flare of his knife before returning it to its proper place.

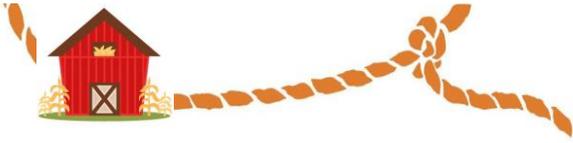
In many ways we were polar opposites and yet deeply bonded in our friendship. We could go for months without talking or seeing one another and then immediately take up the friendship where we had left off. Our friendship was seamless. There was never any guilt or shame with John.

It was a very sad day when I learned that John had been diagnosed with the early onset of dementia. It meant he would have to resign his call as pastor and go on long term disability. The decline would be gradual - but irreversible. Slowly, but surely, I was losing my friend. His ability to track the present was challenged, but his memory of the past was often better than my own. We would go out on the boat together and spend the bulk of the time talking about the good old days and the mischief we committed. We would stay up late and laugh into the night.

When I was elected bishop I wanted John to be a part of the service. I asked him to be the crucifer knowing he would need to be accompanied. Our four daughters flanked him on all sides and escorted him to the altar. It brought them great joy. They too loved John. Seeing John "lift high the cross" was the highlight of the installation service for me.

These last few years the rate of the decline had increased. Marita did everything under her power to protect John's dignity and provide for his care. The day before John died, she made it possible for me to talk to him on the phone. I said Johnny, "We are going to take a boat ride." His response was, "Wonderful!"

John was my wonderful friend. He became a well of living water for me. Even in his death he continues to bring me life. A true gift from God. Now God, you take good care of John Mark as we trust him to your care and the promise of the resurrection.



Kids Camp Roundup!

August 1st – 5th @ Ballard First Lutheran 9:00 – 12:00
Ages 3 – entering 5th grade

Join Ballard First Lutheran and Trinity United Methodist for summer fun at Kids Camp! Under the theme "Roundup" kids will learn Bible stories through daily games, storytelling, crafts, and snack.

All are welcome.

\$50/child, max \$100/family - Scholarships available
More information and registration at: www.tumseattle.org



***BALLARD FIRST LUTHERAN GOES TO
SAFECO FIELD for a Mariners game on
Friday, August 19th – Fireworks Night!***

Tickets are \$12.00. Not only will you see a game between the Mariners and the

Brewers, you will also see a great fireworks show.

Please contact Cindy at the church office to purchase your tickets! Call 206-784-1306 or email office@bflcs.org.

SERVANT LEADERS FOR AUGUST

Altar Care Month of August: Julie Edralin, Kari Fera, Lisa Laxson



Acolytes

August 7 TBD
August 14 TBD
August 21 TBD
August 28 TBD

Assisting Minister

August 7 Josh Jensen
August 14 Karrin Daniels
August 21 Erin Schadt
August 28 Mary Kay Hilmoe



Communion Assistants

August 7 Edna Peterson, Lauren Jensen
August 14 Leotagail Kramer, Susan Weber
August 21 Gunbjorg Ladstein, Lisa Laxson
August 28 Joan Peterson, Kim Peterson



Counters

August 7 Laurie & Terry McGibbon, Ellen & Geoff Wall
August 14 Juliet Dickens, Ken Mingeaud, Kris Breton
August 21 Ramona Leer, Jan Holm
August 28 Tina Aure, Karen & Malcolm Unseth

Lectors

August 7 Rick Barnes
August 14 Kris Breton
August 21 Susan Weber
August 28 Nick Host



Ushers

August 7 Kim Peterson, Sylvia Vikingstad, Sherry Lemmer
August 14 Jenny Holm, Nick Host
August 21 Laurie Fladhus & Eric Green, Jennifer and John Schwartz
August 28 Dave Hilmoe, Gunbjorg Ladstein, Marcia Nelson



Van Drivers

August 7 Dave Hilmoe
August 14 Kim Peterson
August 21 Ray Gooch
August 28 Tina Aure

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



ALTAR CARE – Teams rotate twice a year in preparing for worship, setting up and cleaning up for communion, changing altar paraments as seasons change.

USHERS – Every 4 or 5 weeks, team duties include welcoming worshipers, distributing worship bulletins, collecting offering.

COUNTERS – Every 5 weeks, a team counts and records the weekly offering.



Interested? Please contact the office at 206-784-1306 or office@bflcs.org

FROM THE CHILDCARE CENTER



This summer has surely gone by quickly! It seems like every time I turn around, another week has gone by. Coming up, we have one of our long time teachers retiring at the beginning of August, and we thank Ms. Mary Linda so much for her fifteen plus years of dedication, to BFLCC!

We will be moving some current teachers to different classrooms before the new school year begins. It's nice for the staff to have the opportunity to change their classroom age group, as that becomes available. We have such great longevity on the staff, that it doesn't happen too often - thank goodness :)

God's Blessings,
Ms. Karen & Staff

FROM PASTOR ERIK

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you so much for your many prayers and thoughtful expressions of love and encouragement during this time around my recent surgery. You have raised my spirits. Thanks also for your patience during this time of my recovery. I am feeling better with each new day and am looking forward to being fully back on my feet again soon. I am easing my way back to work and look forward to seeing you more and more as the days advance!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Erik W2

STEWARDSHIP CONNECTIONS



The days of midsummer. Lighter days, lighter workload at the jobs. Getting outside more, relaxing more, enjoying more. The lightness is encouraging the more. My work days have been shorter lately, giving me more of

the evenings to enjoy the lighter days. I've been relaxing on my deck, eating dinner, watching the clouds and traffic on 15th Avenue, reading and getting back into my artwork.

The lighter days on the weekend mean completing the household chores and still having enough daylight to have some fun. This summer that fun is getting out to the State Parks. I bought a Discover Pass, which takes care of the day fees at all the State Parks for a year. With friends, I'm exploring the ones

close by on Saturdays. My goal is to get to a State Park about every two to three weeks.

It is surprising how close to Ballard some of the State Parks are. St. Edwards State Park in Juanita is about a 45-minute drive away and Cama Beach is about an hour and a half, depending on traffic. Once I arrive, walking in nature, I forget about the stress of living in the city and that traffic. When I can take a couple of days, I'll explore the parks further away. Walking in nature restores my balance physically and spiritually and strengthens my friendships.

How are you taking advantage of the lighter days this summer?

In Peace, Ann Maki

FINANCIAL HISTORY REPORT

June's Financial Report General Fund

	June Actual	June Budget	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance
Envelope/Loose Giving	\$20,273.00	\$26,107.25	\$154,492.32	\$157,462.97	(\$2,970.65)
Other Income	\$54,666.07	\$55,275.00	\$167,607.68	\$99,650.00	\$67,957.68
Total Income	\$74,939.07	\$81,382.25	\$322,100.00	\$257,112.97	\$64,987.03
Expenses	\$42,528.61	\$45,436.03	\$272,477.96	\$291,199.31	(\$18,721.35)
Surplus / (Loss)	\$32,410.46	\$35,946.22	\$49,622.04	(\$34,086.34)	\$83,708.38

Cash Balance **\$88,954.96**

Each month this report will show income and expenses for both the current month and year to date. In addition, the last column shows the variance (actual - budget). We are also reporting our current General Fund balance. We hope this helps you to better understand our overall financial situation. If you have any questions of feedback please contact your Finance Committee members.

In June, these are some of the ways our financial support to the mission and ministry budget became Christ's hands and feet in the world: provided a nurturing place for the children of our Childcare Center, transported members to Sunday worship in our church van, hosted the Sunday Dinner program, provided space for AA groups, Girl Scouts, LYONS, Renewal, the Edvard Grieg concert, provided worship space for St. Paul's UCC, hosted weekly text study for area pastors, community rummage sale, participated in the annual Pride Parade, financially helped support Lutheran Counseling Network.

Capital Campaign Update June 2016

Total Loan Balance as of 1/1/2016 - \$63,326, remaining loan balance as of June - \$15,871.

We received \$36,138 to "Retire the Debt" as of 12/31/15. January payment was \$23,918 and the Council approved to keep the balance in the Capital Campaign Savings account to make the minimum monthly payment of the Mission Investment Loan for 2016. **Any additional gifts to retire the debt will be sent directly to MIF to further reduce the loan balance.**



Playing Possum

The purpose of this little ruse is nothing other than survival. Predators who like to eat possum prefer their food alive. It is a real advantage to look dead.

Humans play possum. Our lives are rarely in danger but sometimes it must seem like they are or we wouldn't use such a radical defense. In the face of threat, we shut down and answer questions like, "What's wrong?" with the response of "Nothing!"

Sometimes it feels safer to look and sound dead rather than expose tender emotions. The prospect of being criticized or shamed when we are vulnerable is terrifying beyond imagination. Calm and distant exteriors hide racing hearts and floods of adrenalin. It feels like life and death.

At times like this, it seems like God is either absent or if present, isn't much help. We are on our own. But if God is for us, who can be against us? Is it really as dangerous as it seems? Who are we relying on for sustaining our lives anyway?

For sure it takes courage to say things like, "I'm afraid I'm not important to you right now." and "I'm so afraid I've disappointed you." because we are anxious about the answers. But often the exposing of the vulnerability disarms the other. And if it is God who ultimately holds our hearts and soothes our fearful souls, will hearing the feared answer really be so deadly? Perhaps it would not.

So the next time that you are feeling threatened and the only option looks like it is to Play Possum, remember that pretending to be dead is a kind of death, and acting like we are alive just might be an invitation to life.

Lutheran Counseling Network

WWW.BFLCS.ORG

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE NEW BFL WEBSITE – www.bflcs.org! Online giving is available through the website, as well as an updated calendar that will keep you apprised of all activities.

THANK YOU TO Kari Fera and to Jim Koskinen for all their work, time and expertise in developing the new website and email system.

WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF BALLARD FIRST LUTHERAN

- **SIMPLY GIVING:** You can set up automatic payments by checking/savings or by debit/credit card. Forms are located in the office or can be emailed to you.
- **BILL-PAY FROM YOUR BANK:** Do you already pay your cable and phone bills through your bank? Add BFL as a payee and they will send us a check when you want to contribute.
- **ONLINE DONATIONS:** The new link on our website www.bflcs.org will take you to an online donation page where you can make one-time contributions or set up a recurring payment.

BALLARD FIRST LUTHERAN LAUNCHES A CLOSED FACEBOOK GROUP FOR MEMBERS!



Search "Ballard First Lutheran Church" to request to join! A private group makes it possible for all members to share pictures they take, lift up prayer requests they have, or to share information on events. This also is a great place to post pictures knowing exactly who will be able to view them (making it possible to have some privacy). Request to join now to get member access to this group!

From the Ballard Food Bank

5130 Leary Ave NW, Seattle 98107

Help us better serve our neighbors

We are in need of cans of soup!

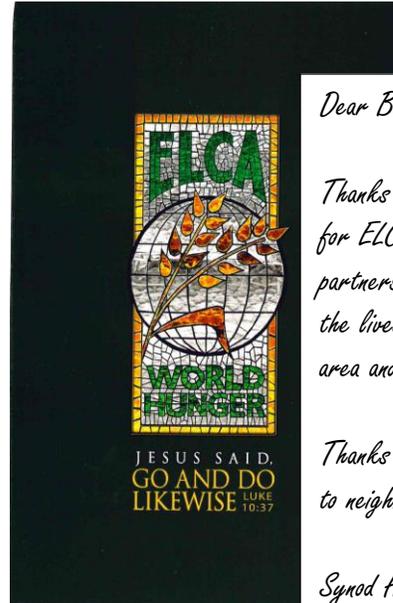


Donation hours:

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Fridays 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

♥ Thank you, Community! ♥



Dear Ballard First,

Thanks for your gift of \$1,206 for ELCA World Hunger. Your partnership makes a difference in the lives of neighbors in the local area and around the globe.

Thanks for your work in ministry to neighbors who hunger!

Synod Hunger Team

I CARE FOR AUGUST

AUGUST "I CARE" OFFERING IS FOR LUTHERAN COMMUNITY SERVICES NORTHWEST, a nonprofit human services agency serving communities throughout Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. Their mission is to partner with individuals, families, and communities for health, justice, and hope. The caring staff provides a wide variety of services to adults, adolescents, children, families, schools, businesses, congregations, neighborhoods and communities. Each year LCS Northwest serves more than 120,000 people of all ages, cultures and faiths. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this worthwhile ministry.

Save the Date
We Are LCS Lutheran Community Services Northwest
Annual Fundraising Luncheon

Keynote Speaker Rick Steves
Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016
Social Hour: 1 p.m. Program: 2 p.m.

Lynnwood Convention Center
 3711 196th Street SW, Lynnwood, Washington

Questions: contact Julie Kissick Malloy • jmalloy@lcsnw.org • (253) 298-9170

To reserve your spot, contact the church office at: office@bflcs.org