

† 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

☞ **Staff** ☞

Pastor Erik R. Wilson Weiberg

pastorerik@bfcls.org

Pastor Elise Scott

pastorelise@bfcls.org

Church Administrator: Cindy Jackson

office@bfcls.org

Caretaker: Matt Horton

Treasurer: Julie Millet

Organist: David Lepse

Minister of Music:

Molly Barnes

barnesma@plu.edu

Accompanist: Jim Fisher

☞ **BFL Childcare Center** ☞

206-784-1307

Director: Karen Hutchison

☞ **Executive Team** ☞

President: Karrin Daniels

Vice President: Steve Redpath

Secretary: Sue Haugen

☞ **Administrative Leaders** ☞

Childcare: Robin Kotulka

Facilities: Tina Aure

Finance: David Austin

Personnel: Kathy Johnson

Gunbjorg Ladstein

BALLARD BLESSINGS

June 2020



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

Dear Friends in Christ,

We hope this special issue of Ballard Blessings finds you healthy and whole. We miss seeing you in person. If we have learned nothing else during this pandemic, we have certainly come to know not to take the gift of community for granted. We look forward to the day we can be together in person again.

Unfortunately, it will be some time yet before we are able to open our doors for public worship. We write you on the day immediately following our June church council meeting (via the wonder of Zoom technology, naturally). We spent a good part of our meeting discussing a seven-page checklist outlining the work that would need to be done and the accommodations that would need to be made before we can come together. The checklist consists of recommendations from a document produced by Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee of the North Pacific Synod of the ELCA as well as a document produced by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for the entire church. Both parties strongly urge caution.

In the meantime, we strongly encourage you to stay in touch. Continue to tune in to our online worship as you are able. Contact either of us for pastoral care as needed; we are still striving to provide pastoral ministry and want to be supportive of you during these challenging days. Let us know if you have prayer requests, too, as we continue to hold you in prayer during this time of separation. Contact one another and simply ask, “How are you doing?” or “What does life look like for you during these days?” Numerous people have told us how much it means to them when they hear from fellow church members.

While we have sheltered in place, we have been deeply mindful of the death of George Floyd and the great movement of social change that is emerging. We pray for the transformation of our society, that we may be a less racist, more just, and thus a more peaceful people. We pray that we would find the courage to open our hearts—and our ears... and our minds—to one another. We simply cannot make the changes that are so desperately needed in our land without listening. Pray for that. And be well.

In Christ’s Abiding Love,

Pastor Mary Elise Scott

Pastor Erik R. Wilson Weiberg

WE CONTINUE TO WORSHIP

We can gather for Sunday worship every week by “tuning in” to the virtual service found **online on the website www.bflcs.org** or on our **YouTube Channel: Ballard First Lutheran Church – Seattle**. https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=ballard+first+lutheran+church+-+seattle.

Many thanks to all who participate in this special form of worship - the call to worship, music, prayers, sermons, liturgy. The creative and respectful editing has made each service beautiful, creating a sense of continuing congregational community. Folks from all over the country have viewed the services online – in Montana, Minnesota, South Carolina!

We invite you to be involved in upcoming services – reading lessons, offering prayers, musical offerings, dramatizations. Please let the office know at office@bflcs.org or call 206-784-1306.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY

For those with health issues . . .

Rebecca Berrier
Ed Egerdahl
Elaine Erickson
Marilyn Fuller
Wes Halbakken
Laura Hanson
Matt Horton
Cindy Jackson
Louise Johnson
Lois, Masum, and Joshua Khan
Stephen Leer

Mack Oberg
Emily Olsoy
Monica Porter
Dave Rieger
Christoph Schmidt
Carole Underhill
Angie Villegas
Jim Wiger
Suzanne Wood
Kristi

For those who have died and for their families . . . :

Russell Fletcher
Mother of Hayden Hall
Petra Karr
Marilu Johnson
Dr. Michael Lippmann

Jack Markle
Helen Molina
Marla Parisi
Giacomo Torcaso
Lois Unseth

For new life . . . :

Emma Rose Adele, newborn daughter of Jenn and Josh Belcourt, sister to Gwendolyn and Josephine.

Heidi Louise, newborn daughter of Alex and Abby Nafziger-Peterson, joining brother, Hans Vincent. Granddaughter of Joan and Kim Peterson.

Chloe Rochelle , newborn daughter of Alyson & Brian Weiss, sister of Mackenzie.

Lily Christa, newborn daughter of Robert & Kaleen Staite.

We rejoice with Joshua (our former intern) and Maddy who are expecting a baby in October.

WE CONTINUE TO VALUE COMMUNITY

Good News as Local Businesses Reopen

This past week has seen the gradual reopening of Ballard businesses as Seattle and King County move to the next phase of COVID recovery. It's great to see things starting to pick up, a nice reminder that there is indeed light at the end of the tunnel! Keep your eyes peeled for fellow BFL members as we all start to enjoy being out and about in our community, continuing to support our local businesses that are so eager to reopen.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

The Church in Community Committee is looking for a few volunteers to help plan and implement recurring community activities, such as Faith Action Network Advocacy Day, God's Work, Our Hands, The Blessing of the Fleet, and others. The committee is also seeking ideas for new outreach projects that go beyond existing events in the areas of advocacy, environmental sustainability, evangelism, and service to Great Ballard and the city. Interested church members should contact Glenn Hare (hare10grancola@gmail.com) or Pastor Erik (pastorerik@bflcs.org) THANK YOU.

WE CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE



Troubled by unrest in America? Troubled by inequality, injustice and violence in America? Faith Action Network exists to help us find faith-based information and actions to tackle these problems. Go to <https://fanwa.org/> for more info, or call BFL member Joan Peterson at 206 789 7447 to find out more.

FAN will hold a second Puget Sound Spring Summit to reach more of our advocates in Western WA. **Join via Zoom on Tuesday, June 23 at 6:30 PM** as we review legislative successes from last session, current Congressional and local issues, COVID-19, and Census 2020. We will split into small groups by issue topic in the second half of the event. Please register at <https://fanwa.org> in order to receive the Zoom link. The link will be sent out the week before the event.

WE CONTINUE TO NEED YOUR SUPPORT

May Financial Report General Fund

	May Actual	May Budget	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance
Envelope/Loose Giving	\$17,389.80	\$19,996.74	\$115,833.19	\$140,228.95	(\$24,395.76)
Other Income	\$5,263.93	\$7,611.66	\$33,829.30	\$37,248.30	(\$3,419.00)
Total Income	\$22,653.73	\$27,608.40	\$149,662.49	\$177,477.25	(\$27,814.76)
Expenses	\$43,301.20	\$48,555.14	\$211,205.19	\$231,243.69	(\$20,038.50)
Surplus / (Loss)	(\$20,647.47)	(\$20,946.74)	(\$61,542.70)	(\$53,766.44)	(\$7,776.26)
Cash Balance	\$8,287.83				
Savings Balance	\$ 282,669.35				

The work of the church has continued and will continue by God's grace and with your help.

How to give:

- Online: www.bflcs.org/give.html
- By check: made out to Ballard First Lutheran Church and mailed to 2006 NW 65th St Seattle, WA 98117

BUT, WE ARE NOT CONTINUING TO . . .

Ballard First Loo Has Now Closed

The Ballard First Loo shut down operations on May 31. The city's sweep of people living in tents that took place in Ballard earlier that month resulted in the relocation of many of the same people from the population we had hoped to serve. The need for clean safe bathrooms and water continues in our city. It has just been moved further from our church.

We are grateful for the strong leadership of Veronica Redpath and Karin Swanson who coordinated and organized the operation, recruiting and working with a list of approximately twenty-five volunteers, many of them people who are not members of our faith community. We are deeply thankful for the generosity of spirit that characterized this ministry, however temporarily.

WE CONTINUE TO HAVE OPPORTUNITIES

Employment

The 2020 Census Bureau is looking for people to help with the 2020 Census by becoming a Census Taker. Census takers will visit households that have not responded to the 2020 Census. They will help complete Census forms and make sure all households are counted. Pay is \$23.00 an hour. You can apply online at www.2020census.gov/jobs or call 1-855-562-2020

Recreation

Dear Lutherwood Friends,



We are excited to announce that our local officials have ok'ed us opening the campground with phase two in Whatcom Country. Currently our campground is open 7 days a week but we have many people who have made reservations. Please call for availability. Social distancing rules still apply. We have 20 spots available with water and electricity, for \$35 a night. 5 people a site. This also includes access to our swim at your own risk waterfront, hiking trails, and basketball court.

Sincerely,

Robert Gillespie
www.camplutherwood.org/campground
360-734-7652

WE CONTINUE TO NEED EACH OTHER

Dear BFLC Family,

Thank you so much for your prayers, calls, and cards in our bereavement for our grandson, Giacomo. We appreciate your words of comfort and love sent to us. We also thank you for your many generous contributions to Giacomo's Little Wishes Memorial fund at Treehouse for Kids (foster kids).

We look forward to seeing you in person.

Peace be with you, Don and Laurie Torcaso

WE CONTINUE TO CARE

Remember I CARE Sundays? The walk up to the basket on the fourth Sunday of month to make a special donation to a philanthropic organization? Ah, those were the days.

But now, we're going even bigger: I CARE Month! Join us to support Columbia Lutheran Home all MONTH long! Send a check with I CARE designated in the memo line, or go to www.bflcs.org/give.html to give online - just make sure to put the amount on the I CARE line.

Columbia Lutheran Home is celebrating their 100th year and continues the tradition of integrated, compassionate care for 116 residents in a contemporary facility. They provide services based on need and to serve anyone regardless of religion, orientation, or ability to pay.

WE CONTINUE TO OFFER HOSPITALITY

We are pleased to announce that Ubuntu House is occupied again! In cooperation with Refugees Northwest, we have recently welcomed Edgar and Carlos to the neighborhood. They are pictured above.



Edgar, left, is from Guatemala and is working to receive his high school diploma while also working for a local business delivering food during the pandemic. Carlos, right, is from Honduras and works as an auto mechanic.

From time to time, people ask, "Why do they call it Ubuntu House? What's Ubuntu?" The former archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa, Desmond Tutu offers this explanation: "Ubuntu is very difficult to render into a Western language. It speaks of the very essence of being human. When we want to give high praise to someone we say, 'Yu, u nobuntu'; 'Hey, so-and-so has ubuntu.' Then you are generous, you are hospitable, you are friendly and caring and compassionate. You share what you have. It is to say, 'My humanity is caught up, is inextricably bound up, in yours.' We belong in a bundle of life. We say, 'A person is a person through other persons.'"

WE CONTINUE TO BE A PART OF THIS WORLD

It is difficult to know where to start in responding to the dawning public recognition of the tragic and terrible consequences of racism. In response to this challenge, Molly Barnes has prepared a list of resources intended to contribute to better understanding. This is a sampling of the many resources out there for you to explore. It may seem like a lot, but don't be intimidated. Any single choice to increase understanding is better than no choice. And, to paraphrase a well-known Chinese proverb, "A thousand-mile journey begins with a single step...."

Books:

1. "So You Want to Talk About Race" by Ijeoma Oluo
2. "White Fragility" by Robin Diangelo
3. "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates
4. "The Fire Next Time" by James Baldwin
5. "How to be an Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi
6. "Me and White Supremacy" by Layla Saad
7. "Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race" by Reni Eddo-Lodge
8. "Just Mercy" by Bryan Stevenson
9. "Sister Outsider" by Audre Lorde
10. "We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy" by Ta-Nehisi Coates
11. "The Source of Self-Regard" by Toni Morrison
12. "Citizen: An American Lyric" by Claudia Rankine
13. "The New Jim Crow" by Michelle Alexander
14. "The Color of Law" by Richard Rothstein
15. "I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness" by Austin Channing Brown
16. "An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States" by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz
17. "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee" by Dee Brown
18. "The Making of Asian America: A History" by Erika Lee
19. "An African American and Latinx History of the United States" by Paul Ortiz
20. "The Other Slavery: An Uncovered Story of Indian Enslavement in America" by Andrés Reséndez

Movies/ TV Shows:

1. 13th (Netflix)
2. When They See Us (Netflix)
3. BlackkKlansman (Amazon or Rent)
4. If Beal Street Could Talk (Hulu)
5. 12 Years a Slave (Amazon or Rent)
6. The Hate U Give (Amazon or Rent)
7. Dear White People (Netflix)
8. Little Fires Everywhere (Hulu)
9. I Am Not Your Negro (Amazon or Rent)
10. Loving (Hulu, Amazon, or Rent)
11. Get Out (Amazon or Rent)
12. Selma (Amazon or Rent)
13. Just Mercy (rent)
14. Moonlight (Netflix)
15. Rest In Power: The Trayvon Martin Story (rent)
16. Teach Us All (Netflix)
17. When They See Us (Netflix)
18. Self Made: Inspired By the Life of Madam C.J. Walker (Netflix)
19. Malcom X (Netflix)
20. Orange is the New Black (Netflix)

Support restaurants owned by Black Americans in the Seattle community (Here are 15 but there are many more great restaurants to be found online):

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1. King Philly Cheesesteaks
7820 Rainier Ave S. unit a
Seattle, 98118
(206) 722-2434 | 6. Jones Barbeque
4417 Fauntleroy Way SW
Seattle, 98126
(206) 739-6169 | 11. Momona Café & Restaurant
6754 Martin Luther King Jr Way S
Seattle 98118
(206) 766-0607 |
| 2. Seattle Chicken Express
3621 33 rd Ave S
Seattle, 98144
(206) 708-7417 | 7. Jebena Café
1510 NE 117 th St
Seattle 98125
(206) 365-0757 | 12. Angel City Deli
12621 Renton Ave S
Seattle, 98178
(206) 772-2223 |
| 3. Baked from the Hart
2801 S Hanford St
Seattle, 98144
(206) 650-9191 | 8. Salare - (206) 556-2192
2404 NE 65 th St
Seattle 98115 | 13. The Comfort Zone
5016 Rainier Ave S
Seattle, WA 98118
(206) 246-2800 |
| 4. Café Ibox
3219 Martin Luther King Jr Way
Seattle, 98144
(206) 721-7537 | 9. Footprint Wine Tap
1222 E Madison St
Seattle, 98122
(206) 485-7175 | 14. Amy's Merkato
5710 Rainier Ave S
Seattle, 98118
(206) 324-2527 |
| 5. Café Soleil
1400 34 th Ave
Seattle, 98122
(206) 325-1126 | 10. Zagol Ethiopian Restaurant
2722 E Cherry St
Seattle, 98122
(206) 322-1019 | 15. Café Campagne
1600 Post Alley
Seattle 98101
(206) 728-2233 |

Donate to organizations fighting for the support, safety, and empowerment of Black and Indigenous People of Color:

1. <http://minnesotafreedomfund.org>
2. <https://blacklivesseattle.org/donate/>
3. <https://www.blackfeministfuture.org/our-vision>
4. <https://standwithnativestudents.org/>
5. <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/>
6. <https://www.realrentduwamish.org/>
7. <https://www.aclu.org/>
8. <https://www.splcenter.org/>
9. <https://fairfight.com/>
10. <https://www.knowyourrightscamp.com/>

Order books from Bookstores owned by Black Americans (instead of ordering from Amazon, order here-- there are many more to be found online). Please note that due to an outpouring of interest in anti-racist books, many books are backordered around the country. Proceed to your online ordering with grace and patience:

1. Semicolon Bookstore & Gallery
(312) 877-5170
Email: info@semicolonchi.com
Website: <http://www.semicolonchi.com>
2. Harambee Books & Artworks
(703) 299-2591
Email: info@harambeebooks.org
Website: www.harambeebooks.org
3. Turning Page Bookshop
(843) 501-7223
Email: info@turningpagebookshop.com
Website: <https://turningpagebookshop.com>
4. Elizabeth's Bookshop & Writing Center (online orders only)
Email: info@bookshop.org
Website: <https://bookshop.org/shop/Elizabeths>
5. Café Con Libros
(347) 460-2838
Email: info@cafeconlibrosbk.com
6. The Lit Bar
Email: the bronxreads@thelitbar.com
Website: <http://www.thelitbar.com/>
7. Ashay By The Bay
(707) 557-3585
Email: ashaybythebayceo@gmail.com
Website: <https://ashaybythebay.com/>
8. Malik Books, Gifts & Calendars
(323) 389-8040
Website: www.malikbooks.com
9. African Bookstore (online only)
(954) 316-8164
Email: sales@africanbookstore.net
Website: <https://www.africanbookstore.net/>
10. Mahogany Books
(202) 844-2062
Email: customerservice@mahoganybooks.com
Website: <https://www.mahoganybooks.com/>

Online articles and resources:

1. "Talking About Race" by the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture:
<https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/talking-about-race>
2. "158 Resources to Understand Racism in America" Smithsonian Magazine:
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/158-resources-understanding-systemic-racism-america-180975029/?fbclid=IwAR0J_Mrw5Do640oP7f42Q37kCRqrXqA6ZKqxQ6tJAOeK4NAFHOU_xP2aTxI
3. Read about updates to current initiatives and direct action in King-County:
<https://blacklivesseattle.org/updates-on-current-direct-action/>
4. Anti-Racist Resource Guide:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1a-lzdtxOIWuzYNGqwlYwxMWADtZ6vJGCpKhtJHHrS54/edit?usp=sharing>

**The above guide (#4- Anti-Racist Resource Guide), was created by Victoria Alexander as a guide for those wishing to be anti-racist allies. If you use the guide, please consider compensating the author, Victoria Alexander, for all the intellectual and emotional labor it took to create this guide. You can compensate her using venmo or cashapp to: victoriaalxndr. If Venmo or Cashapp is not an option for you, contact the church and we can assist you in compensating Victoria Alexander for her work.*

5. A list of books and resources to talk about race and anti-racism you're your kids:
<https://www.embracerace.org/resources/childrens-books>
6. NPR segment "Talking Race with Young Children": (20-minute listen):
<https://www.npr.org/2019/04/24/716700866/talking-race-with-young-children?fbclid=IwAR262i36JkNreR2IYg0pPPHDPL9u6iyHSVkmV2vrR3Ehdl-1oG-0ZlXKMrY>

Contact your local government: Visit The website "Black Lives Matter Seattle-King County" and click on "Demands". Here there are demands and helpful links you can click to email your local government and demand change:
<https://blacklivesseattle.org/our-demands/?fbclid=IwAR3JxM0FCJh-qXTz40IUnnGVHutr0bbKcsXWTznRa4-UIxBEILWHFZK0j18>