

**+ BALLARD
FIRST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

2006 NW 65TH STREET
SEATTLE, WA 98117

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m. Education

10:00 a.m. Worship

Coffee Hour Fellowship following Worship

Upcoming Events in March

Ash Wednesday Service

March 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Soup Suppers & Worship

March 13th, March 20th, March 27th

Blood Drive – March 2nd

Blessing of the Fleet – March 17th

California Lutheran University Choir Concert –

March 28th

BALLARD BLESSINGS

March 2019

† 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 Elise Scott

pastorelise@bflcs.org

Church Administrator: Cindy Jackson

office@bflcs.org

Caretaker: Matt Horton

Treasurer: Julie Millet

Organist: Ed Egerdahl

Minister of Music:

Molly Barnes

barnesma@plu.edu

Accompanist: Jim Fisher

☞ BFL Childcare Center ☞

206-784-1307

Director: Karen Hutchison

☞ LYONS ☞

206-706-5997

www.roaringlyons.org

Director: Bryant Williams

Program Assistant: Megan Hundley

☞ Church Council ☞

President: Karrin Daniels

Vice President: David Austin

Secretary: Bruce Webster

☞ Ministry Coordinators ☞

Childcare: Karin Swanson

Facilities: Tina Aure

Finance: Kris Breton

Personnel: Susan Clauson

☞ Council At-Large Reps ☞

Chris Bloomquist

Kim Peterson

Dear Friends in Christ,

Recently, I had the opportunity to re-watch *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*. The movie, a sequel to *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, continues to explore the journey of British retirees who took a leap of faith and outsourced their retirement to India.

Watching the movie, I was struck by the themes of surrender and of how often new life arises unexpectedly throughout our lives --- even, and perhaps most often, during times of extreme hardship, extreme loss, and extreme change.

As we move into Lent, I believe these themes are important themes for us to carry with us.

Next week, during the Ash Wednesday worship service, we will be reminded of our mortality as we are marked with a cross of dust, remembering that we came from dust and that it is to dust that we shall return.

So often on our journey through life, we believe that we need a plan, that we need to control every last thing that happens to us --- often in an attempt to avoid the pain and suffering that too often accompany life.

But, the season of Lent reminds us that it is okay to surrender; that we don't have to control everything. The season of Lent reminds us that even when life causes us to experience pain and suffering, we do not suffer alone. The season of Lent reminds us that Christ came to earth, to experience all that earth had to offer --- community, joy, family, hardship, rejection, and even pain and suffering.

During the season of Lent, we accompany Jesus on his journey to the cross, just as he accompanies us throughout the seasons of our life.

The season of Lent reminds us that it is safe to surrender; that God is with us and knows us, no matter what we may be experiencing. And although we don't celebrate the seeds of new life until Easter when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we know throughout this journey that seeds of new life will always break through --- offering us hope, offering us love, and ultimately offering to transform us in ways we could never even imagine.

So this Lent, I invite you to rest in the knowledge that although we were dust and to dust we shall return, God's ever-loving hand accompanies us along the way, planting seeds of new life where there is death and transforming us to be the Body of Christ in this world.

In Christ's Peace, Pastor Elise

ASH WEDNESDAY



Wednesday, March 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.

PASTORAL ACTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Glen Ellison
February 23, 2019

Memorials
Pauline Lindwall
February 26, 2019

Committal
February 27, 2019

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS AND WORSHIP



Each week, we will gather between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. for a simple soup meal, followed by Lenten worship, under the theme of "Perfect Love Casts Out Fear."

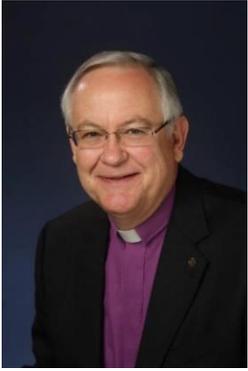
March 13th
March 20th
March 27th

April 3rd
April 10th

Share your favorite soup at one of the Lenten soup suppers. You can sign up in Haavik Hall.

STAYING CONNECTED

Follow BFL on Facebook or check the calendar on the website www.bflcs.org to keep up to date on events. If you would like to receive the weekly e-mail news, please contact the office at (206) 784-1306 or office@bflcs.org.



The Power of Dignity

The Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop, NWWA Synod
From the March 2019 edition of *The Spirit*

The most frequent question that I am being asked these days is, “What are you going to do next?” I announced in September that I would not be seeking reelection and immediately the question began. Strange as it may sound, I wasn’t prepared for it. In fact, I have given very little thought to what I might do next other than sleep, spend more time with Kim, and get out more on our boat, Gratitude.

I am now thinking more seriously about what I am going to do next - knowing that throughout my life God has always disrupted my plans.

One area I know I want to invest more heavily in is my work as a trustee of Renton Technical College. It has been one of the greatest experiences of my life’s journey to have a front row seat at the College. I have been tuned into the college for over thirty years. I was first attracted to the college knowing the population of students it serves - primarily those for whom traditional education is not fulfilling, those who cannot afford a 4-year college and more recently those who are new to our country whose primary language is not English.

The faculty at the college is likewise unique. They are people of great passion who believe that every person can learn and succeed. By and large, all of them can find much higher paying jobs in other areas of the economy. They are in it because they receive great joy in seeing students who have little or no confidence discover how smart and capable they are.

I recently returned from a gathering of trustees in Olympia where we hosted the Transforming Lives dinner. It was an opportunity to offer gratitude and praise to 34 students, each representing their school. Each of them arrived with incredible stories of moving from utter defeat to a pace of hope. Five of the 34 were invited on stage to tell their stories. There wasn’t a dry eye in the room. One woman returned to college at 46 after years of abuse nearly ending in her own death. She was a high school dropout and had four children for whom she was responsible. She said to her kids before she

entered college. “Don’t grow up to be like your mom.” It took only one counselor to see what potential she had. She went from wanting to drop out of college in the first week to getting her GED and will graduate this Spring with the intention to get her degree in psychology and use her life experiences to help others. At the end of her presentation she said to her four children in the audience, “Be like your mother - never give up.”

Another student had come out of an abusive home from which she ran. She ended up in the horrific world of sex trafficking. She once again ran from the violence, knowing her only hope was in getting an education. It was a hard story, but she said, “I do so because I want others to find the hope that I have found.”

Two other students had been living on the streets and in their cars without shelter. Each had been incarcerated for lengthy periods of time. One living with HIV and the other having been a child soldier in the war in Liberia. They spoke powerfully of the confidence and hope they have in their futures. Further education and a living wage awaits all of these students.

The final student came from a family of 24 siblings. They lived in incredible poverty. She never dreamed she would go to college. She found a dead-end job and knew that her only hope for a bright future was education. She is now a rising star in her college with a very promising future.

Each one of these students went from being unable to establish eye contact to finding their voices in less than two years’ time.

There wasn’t a dry eye in the room because we witnessed how resilient the human soul is when at least one other person knows you by name, sees you as fully their equal and believes in your ability to fulfill your dreams.

I don’t know all that I will be doing - but I will continue to be an advocate for fully funding our Community and Technical Colleges. +BKU



Dear Friends,

Thank you for supporting the work of Lutheran World Relief. Here is a story about how your support makes a real difference:

Maryeli lives in Nicaragua with her family. They farm coffee for a living. You may not know this, but most of the world's coffee farmers work small parcels of land and struggle to make ends meet. Because of this, many young people like Maryeli migrate away from their communities in hopes of better economic opportunities. Often, they struggle, and their home community struggles from their absence.

But your support does so much! With it, young people like Maryeli receive training to become "outreach promoters" who help farmers troubleshoot growing problems and learn better agricultural methods. Because of this training, Maryeli and other young people are staying in their communities, earning a living, and helping their neighbors do the same.

Daniel V. Speckhard
President and CEO



Dear Friends of LIRS,

Thank you for your loyal and generous support for Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS).

You've helped children like five-year-old Ana. Desperate to save her from the dangers of gang violence and trafficking, her family sent her to America, unaccompanied and praying for her safety.

Your support also helped Sofia, who arrived from El Salvador only to be separated from her father – her sole caregiver. She was tired, confused, and only six years old.

Because of your commitment to make the world a better place, LIRS was there to meet them, welcome them, and place with a loving and nurturing foster family.

There is something else you can do: Please say a prayer for all the unaccompanied children, like Sofia and Ana. They are at the very start of their journey in America and they have been welcomed with loving hearts and helping hands.

Kay Bellor, Vice President of Programs

SERVANT LEADERS FOR MARCH

Altar Care - Month of March: Cynthia Dugan, Michelle Martin,
Andrea Olsoy, Joan Peterson



Assisting Minister

March 3 Nancy Fisher
March 10 Karrin Daniels
March 17 Erin Schadt
March 24 Scott Ingham
March 31 Karin Swanson



Communion Assistants

March 3 Kathy Johnson, Monica Scott
March 10 Gunbjorg Ladstein, Edna Peterson
March 17 Lauren Jensen, Joan Peterson
March 24 Andrea Olsoy, Kristen Wilson Weiberg
March 31 Kathy Johnson, **TBD**

Counters

March 3 Tina Aure, Karen & Malcolm Unseth
March 10 Laurie & Terry McGibbon, Ellen & Geoff Wall
March 17 Kris Breton, Juliet Dickens, Ken Mingeaud
March 24 Sue Clauson, Kelly Fahlman
March 31 Jan Holm, Ramona Leer



Lectors

March 3 Gunbjorg Ladstein
March 10 Glenn Hare
March 17 Jerry Schierk
March 24 Karrin Daniels
March 31 Edna Peterson



Ushers

March 3 Sherry Lemmer, Kim Peterson, Sylvia Vikingstad
March 10 Laurie Fladhus, Eric Green, John & Jennifer Schwartz
March 17 Glenn Hare, Amelia Hare, Jenny Holm, Jeff Powers
March 24 David Austin, Laurie Austin, Farid Chouery, Kevin Severud
March 31 Gunbjorg Ladstein, Marcia Nelson, Jim Walker

Van Drivers

March 3 Ray Gooch
March 10 Tina Aure
March 17 **TBD**
March 24 **TBD**
March 31 **TBD**



FINANCIAL HISTORY REPORT

January Financial Report General Fund

	January Actual	January Budget	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance
Envelope/Loose Giving	\$28,646.61	\$36,590.13	\$28,646.61	\$36,590.13	(\$7,943.52)
Other Income	\$1,375.67	\$5,586.24	\$1,375.67	\$5,586.24	(\$4,210.57)
Total Income	\$30,022.28	\$42,176.37	\$30,022.28	\$42,176.37	(\$12,154.09)
Expenses	\$45,559.81	\$45,514.69	\$45,559.81	\$45,514.69	\$45.12
Surplus / (Loss)	(\$15,537.53)	(\$3,338.32)	(\$15,537.53)	(\$3,338.32)	(\$12,199.21)
Cash Balance	\$53,559.45				
Savings Balance	\$288,625.49				

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 January, 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, transported members to Sunday worship in our church van, held our annual meeting, mission sewing, provided space for NAMI, AA groups, LYONS, Renewal, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Ballard Little League, hosted weekly text study for area pastors, financially helped support Food for the Poor.

BUDGET CHALLENGE!

2019 Budget Challenge - Members of the church council promised to match the first \$7,600.00 from the congregation in the form of a special gift beyond their regular 2019 offerings.

Thank you all for your very generous response to this challenge. To date, we have received:

\$4,805 in one time gifts

\$4,400 in pledged gifts (over regular giving)

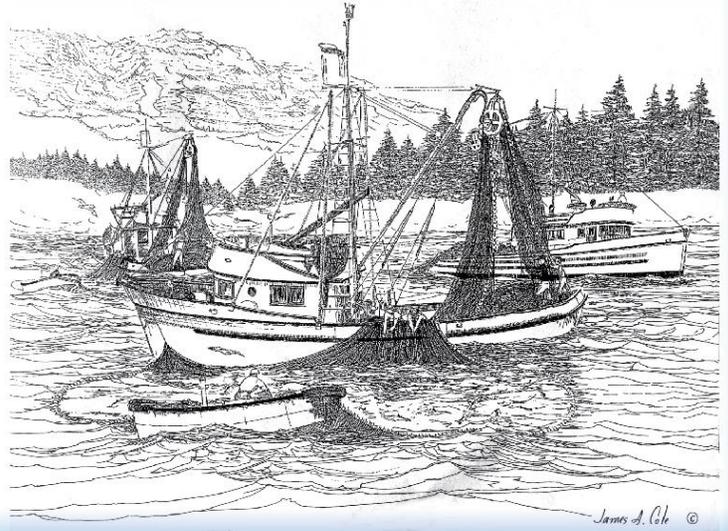
If you are still considering responding to this challenge – there is still time! You can find a form in this Sunday's bulletin or contact the church office at (206) 784-1306, office@bflcs.org.

I CARE FOR MARCH

I CARE SUNDAY IS March 24th AND THE RECIPIENT WILL BE THE LUTHERAN WORLD HUNGER APPEAL. ELCA World Hunger is a comprehensive and sustainable program that uses multiple strategies - relief, development, education, and advocacy - to address the root causes of hunger and poverty. ELCA World Hunger responds to neighbors around the corner and around the world. The international work of ELCA World Hunger is carried out with trusted partners, notably Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and the Lutheran World Federation (LWF). Because of these long-held connections to partners around the world, ELCA World Hunger efforts are efficient and effective.

91ST ANNUAL
BLESSING
OF THE **FLEET**

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019
2:00 pm
at FISHERMAN'S TERMINAL
MEMORIAL SITE



CALIFORNIA LUTHERAN CHOIR CONCERT

California Lutheran
UNIVERSITY

CLU CHOIR
2019 CONCERT TOUR

THURSDAY, MARCH 28
7 PM

Ballard First Lutheran Church
2006 NW 65th St.,
Seattle, WA

(206) 784-1306
bflcs.org

We are excited to be hosting the California Lutheran Choir and Orchestra as they embark on their Pacific Northwest tour this March. Our own Maddy Barnes and Veronica Redpath will be joining the choir and orchestra on this tour!

They will be performing at Ballard First Lutheran on Thursday March 28th at 7:00 and will need a place to stay after the concert and transportation back to the church the following morning.

We are in need of host families who might be willing to house 2 or more students overnight on Thursday March 28th.

If you would like to host, please contact Molly Barnes at barnesma@plu.edu or text or call at (206) 290-8354. Thanks in advance for your help.



HIGH SCHOOL THIRD SUNDAY ADVENTURE: We will be getting together to go see Captain Marvel in IMAX Sunday March 17, meeting 2:30 at Phinney Ridge Lutheran and returning around 6:50pm. Cost is \$25. Please sign up on the LYONS website or Facebook page so we have enough transportation.

DINNER THEATER PLANNING MEETING: Calling all high school youth who are interested in helping us with writing and planning dinner theater! We will get together Sunday March 10 from about 1:00-2:30pm at Phinney Ridge Lutheran. Lunch provided!

LYONS HAS MOVED OFFICES! Our offices are now at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church. If you're sending us mail, please use 7500 Greenwood Ave N Seattle 98103 or call our new number: (206) 783-2350 ext. 400

UPCOMING EVENT!



Easter Egg Hunt

Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 20th at 10:00 a.m.: Join Ballard First Lutheran Church for a Community Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 20th at 10 a.m. Kids ages 0 - 12 are invited to join in the fun anytime between 10 a.m. and noon to start their hunt. Crafts and other activities will also be available. All are welcome to attend – please invite your friends and neighbors!

Candy donations are needed! We have acquired a good number of plastic eggs over the last few years, so this year we are only requesting candy donations. If you are interested in contributing, please drop off individually wrapped candy at the church office. We are also looking for volunteers to assist with hiding Easter eggs and helping with other activities during the event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Pastor Elise.

BARTELL'S B CARING PROGRAM

Bartell's 'B' Caring Card, a fundraising tool can be used to support Ballard First Lutheran.

By simply shopping at a Bartell Drug, up to 4% of your purchase amount can be contributed. Participating customer cardholders may designate up to three schools/non-profit organizations to receive contributions. The 'B' Caring Card is not a gift card so no purchase is required up front.



Once registered, just have the cashier swipe your 'B' Caring Card at checkout or type in your 10 digit phone number, and a percentage of your total bill will be allocated to your designated non-profit organization. For more information, or to sign up to participate, ask any Bartell Drugs employee associate. You can also find additional information and register your card at www.secure.escrip.com/signup.



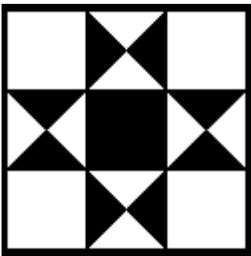
Blessing of Fleet Fellowship Opportunities, Sunday March 17th

After the Blessing of the Fleet, join us for an informal, Dutch-treat snack at the Highliner Public House in Fisherman's Terminal. We will gather there for a quick bite to eat after the service concludes (probably around 3:00 p.m.). The restaurant is located adjacent to where the service will take place. All are welcome!

Can't make it to Fisherman's Terminal for the boat blessing? We will have a special sea themed coffee hour following the 10:00 church service on March 17th. Hope to see you then!

Ballard First Fridays at Mr. Gyros - Friday, April 5th @ 5:00 p.m. - 5522 20th Ave NW

Join us for our monthly informal, Dutch-treat dinner. No need to RSVP, just show up, order at the counter, and look for the table with the BFL sign! Monica Scott - (803) 944-7008 or monicaskott@gmail.com. Let Monica know if you have any suggestions for future Ballard First Friday restaurants!



EVENING MISSION QUILTING - Evening Mission Quilters will be meeting on Monday, March 4th and again on Monday, April 1st from 7:00 - 8:30pm in the lower social hall. All are welcome to assist us in creating warm and lovingly made quilts that are sent all over the world. If you know how to tie a knot you will fit right in!! Questions? Call Sue Haugen at 206-334-8046.

BALLARD FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH CHILDCARE & PRESCHOOL is presently seeking a Full-Time Floater/Teacher's Assistant, to work Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm (includes a one hour unpaid lunch). The job is available to start immediately. The appropriate candidate should have previous work experience with children ages 1 thru 5 years of age, must be able to lift 35 lbs., have a great work and attendance record, the ability to relate creatively and joyfully to children, possess excellent communication and positive redirection skills with children, and maintain a well-groomed and conservative appearance.

Pay is dependent upon education and experience. If you want to be part of a wonderful, long term group of early childhood educators, please respond to bflccc@yahoo.com - attention Karen, to learn more, and have a job application sent your way!