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*A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

2006 NW 65TH STREET  
SEATTLE, WA 98117



## Sunday Morning Schedule

**9:00am Education (beginning Sept. 10th)**

**10:00am Worship**

**Coffee Hour Fellowship following Worship**

### *Special Events in September*

**Sept. 3rd Installation of Vicar Sarah Derrick**

**Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> – God's Work, Our Hands at Food Lifeline**

**Sept. 10th Rally Day – Blessing of the Backpacks with BBQ after worship**

**Sept. 24h Care More/Car Less Sunday – Blessing of the Bikes**

**Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> National Lutheran Choir Concert**

# BALLARD BLESSINGS

## September 2017

### † BALLARD FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

2006 NW 65th Street, Seattle, WA 98117 • 206.784.1306 • [www.bflcs.org](http://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](mailto:pastorerik@bflcs.org)

Pastor Elise Scott  
[pastorelise@bflcs.org](mailto:pastorelise@bflcs.org)

Vicar Sarah Derrick  
[intern@bflcs.org](mailto:intern@bflcs.org)

Church Administrator: Cindy Jackson  
[office@bflcs.org](mailto:office@bflcs.org)

Treasurer: Julie Millet

Organist: Ed Egerdahl

Minister of Music:

Molly Barnes  
[musicminister@bflcs.org](mailto:musicminister@bflcs.org)

Renewal: Jessica Zimmerle  
[renewal@bflcs.org](mailto:renewal@bflcs.org)

Accompanist: Jim Fisher

Sunday Nursery: Emily LaFave

#### ❖ BFL Childcare Center ❖

206-784-1307

Director: Karen Hutchison

#### ❖ LYONS ❖

206-706-5997

[www.roaringlylons.org](http://www.roaringlylons.org)

Director: Bryant Williams

Program Assistant: Megan Hundley

#### ❖ Church Council ❖

President: Tom Tocher

Vice President: Karrin Daniels

Secretary: Emily Olson

#### ❖ Ministry Coordinators ❖

Childcare: Karin Swanson

Facilities: Tina Aure

Finance: Kris Breton

Personnel: Susan Clauson

#### ❖ Council At-Large Reps ❖

Lauren Jensen

Edna Peterson

September 1, 2017

Dear Friends in Christ,

This writing coincides with a report of yet more rain pouring down on Houston and expanding throughout and even beyond the Gulf Coast. Nadia Ellis, a former teacher in our childcare center who relocated to her hometown of Houston a couple of years ago, writes that the management of the flood has been critical as city engineers have tried to perform what sounds like a delicate balancing act: Release waters from the levees so that they don't burst, while trying to minimize the amount of water flooding creeks and bayous. Those who have suggested that this is a flood "of biblical proportions" will probably get little argument from Nadia. Pondering what it would be like if the levees were to burst, she writes, "It would be like Noah!" But, so far, Nadia and her family are still able to live in their home which has remained dry and as of this writing continues to have electricity, cause for thanksgiving.

Nadia is one of several people with whom our congregation is connected in the Houston Area. Long before it was known that the hurricane was coming, BFL member Cynthia Dugan made plans to travel on one of her twice-a-year trips to assist in the care of her aged parents living in Rockport, Texas, the site where the hurricane first reached landfall. Cynthia and her daughter arrived on the Monday before the storm hit and managed to evacuate her parents in the nick of time, temporarily re-locating her parents to Arlington, Texas for the time being. Though it was a harrowing trip, they are doing all right for now. Cynthia has extended her plans to remain in the area.

As Houston is the fourth-largest city in the U.S. and, as rains continue to fall, expanding the scope of the flood, there are doubtless many other connections that we have with people in that part of the country. You should know that Lutheran Disaster Response arrived in the area even before the hurricane did. In a very real sense, Lutheran Disaster Response is an important connection for us. They are on the ground in the Houston area and they are there on our behalf. The LDR website reports that, "Lutheran Disaster Response's affiliate is actively present, collaborating with community leaders and officials to initiate the proper responses, particularly the long-term recovery efforts. Together, we have a strong history of working with disasters in the Gulf

## **FROM THE PASTOR *continued***

Coast area. The road to recovery will be long, and Lutheran Disaster Response will be there to accompany those affected through every phase of this disaster."

In this issue of Ballard Blessings you can find an article with information about how to send financial support to those stricken by this historic catastrophe. Opportunities for giving will also be made available in worship in the weeks to come. One of the wonderful aspects of giving through our Lutheran relief agencies is that they are supported by congregational giving. That means that, when disaster hits, they are not encumbered by overhead costs in the way that many agencies are. The upshot of this is that Lutheran Disaster Relief promises that, "Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for 'Hurricane Response – United States' will be used entirely (100 percent) for this disaster until the response is complete."

Of course, I invite your prayers. Pray for those you know in the area. Pray for Nadia and her family. Pray for Cynthia and her parents, Darrell and Edith Morehouse. But prayer is free! So pray also for the multitude you don't know who have lost loved ones or homes or means of making a living or even their sense of hope or sanity in the face of this deluge. May your prayers be a conduit to God and a conduit to your hearts, so that you may be inspired to generosity.

In Christ's Abiding Love, Erik

## **VICAR SARAH**

### **Ten Helpful Hints as Vicar Sarah Joins Us at BFL**

1. Remember that she will be meeting *a lot* of new people and it will take a while to learn all the names. Please tell her your name (before being asked) each time you meet her for at least the first few months. On the other hand, don't be embarrassed if Vicar Sarah corrects you, should you forget and call her Kaitlin. (Or, worse yet, Joshua!)
2. Remember that she will only be with us for one year, so don't delay in making an effort to get acquainted.
3. Remember that Vicar Sarah only spends half her time here at BFL. (The other half she works at Faith Action Network.) Therefore, it's unrealistic to expect that she will be involved in absolutely everything that goes on at BFL. Invitations for her involvement are always appropriate but it's unfair to expect her to do everything one might suggest.
4. Respect her individuality and uniqueness. Each intern is different from any and all others. Do not assume Vicar Sarah will do the same things in the same ways as the pastor or former interns have done.
5. Remember that Vicar Sarah is a student who comes to us a learner/server. Though she'll do pastoral functions, she has not yet been ordained to the pastoral office. Therefore the titles of Intern or Vicar are the only ones appropriate for her role and position.
6. Encourage her freedom. Freedom to grow, freedom to feel, freedom to try new things and freedom to fail.
7. Support the lay internship committee but don't forget that *you* are also called upon to support Vicar Sarah's learning and growth. Work with her and the internship committee in whatever ways they request or you deem appropriate.
8. Remember that the internship year is very demanding and, on top of that, she's far from her home and family. You might want to invite her to your house for a meal, to a sporting event, a concert, a walk around your neighborhood, a cup of coffee or who knows what. Ask her!
9. Note that Sarah will not be with us every Sunday. Her responsibilities include representing FAN at area congregations on some Sundays.
10. Keep her in your prayers!

## **Being Willing to Try and Fail ... and Try Again**

By the Rev. B. Kirby Unti, NWWA Synod Bishop / From *The Spirit*, September 2017



We are living in a time when change takes place so quickly that even the best laid plans can fail. One of my classic experiences of this reality took place when we did a \$1 million expansion at the church I was serving. The expansion included a new nursery - complete with sink and running water, separate play areas for infants and toddlers, as well as a crib and nursing rooms.

We were filled with pride and delight the day we opened the new nursery hoping it would send a clear message to families with young children that they were valued by the faith community. The truth was we were attracting young families and our Sunday school was bursting at the seams.

So, what went wrong? Two new trends were gaining traction. The first was an invention. The all-in-one baby carrier. You know, the bucket-like object that parents carry their babies in? The kind that also serves as a car seat and stroller seat. This allows a parent to remove their child from the car and carry them right into the church. Before long the worship space was filled with small children rocking in their bucket seats while the nursery was barely in use.

The second trend that was unfolding was a growing comfort about nursing in public. Combine the two trends and the need for our state of the art nursery was greatly lessened. Should we have seen it coming? Could we have seen it coming? Perhaps, if we were really tuned in.

What we were tuned into was all the information about how important a state of the art nursery was to young families. The problem was by the time we completed our nursery based on the best current information the world around us had changed.

The truth is this is happening all over the world. Talk to Kodak about film, Blockbusters about video, Swiss watch makers, brick and mortar stores, and Ma & Pa Grocery Stores. All once successful enterprises, they have gone the way of the dinosaurs.

The Living Local Movement that our synod is engaged in takes adapting to change seriously. We believe that God is always up to something new. What we are trying to do by dwelling in God's word is to develop the eyes and ears to see how God is working in our day and time. "Behold I am doing something new. Do you not see it?"

Because we are never 100% sure what God is up to we must probe new ideas, new expressions of what it means to be church, new ways to share the gospel. It isn't that gospel that changes. What changes is how we engage it.

Back to the nursery, the lesson we were learning was in order to engage young families we needed to make worship "kid friendly." Welcoming the occasional cry of a baby is to embrace life. Young families often want a more hands-on experience in worship where they are able to worship God through mediums like music, art and dance. Children find joy in being involved in all aspects of the church. Soft toys and coloring pages representing images of the Bible Story can be a big hit.

And that "state of the art" nursery? What did we do with it? It continued to be modified and used by those for whom it was still of value. Today it is being remodeled one more time to respond to the growing needs of a population of children with special needs. It will once again be sacred space set aside to respond with love and support to the cry of God's children.

I want to encourage all our congregations to be more willing to TRY, FAIL and TRY AGAIN.

## FINANCIAL HISTORY REPORT

### July Financial Report General Fund

	July Actual	July Budget	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance
Envelope/Loose Giving	\$26,795.04	\$22,945.19	\$175,667.22	\$179,499.08	(\$3,831.86)
Other Income	\$12,439.14	\$9,524.99	\$159,113.84	\$113,674.97	\$45,438.87
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$39,234.18</b>	<b>\$32,470.18</b>	<b>\$334,781.06</b>	<b>\$293,174.05</b>	<b>\$41,607.01</b>
Expenses	\$38,838.34	\$39,563.62	\$293,490.76	\$301,334.28	(\$7,843.52)
<b>Surplus / (Loss)</b>	<b>\$395.84</b>	<b>(\$7,093.44)</b>	<b>\$41,290.30</b>	<b>(\$8,160.23)</b>	<b>\$49,450.53</b>

**Cash Balance      \$68,147.66**

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 or feedback please contact your Finance Committee members.

In July, 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, provided space for AA groups, Ballard Little League, Renewal, provided space and hosted Sunday Dinner, held a blood drive, hosted weekly text study for area pastors, held Kids Camp, financially helped support Read a Rama.

## STEWARSHIP NEWS

I will come to you in the silence  
I will lift you from all your fear  
You will hear My voice  
I claim you as My choice  
Be still, and know I am near

I am hope for all who are hopeless  
I am eyes for all who long to see  
In the shadows of the night,  
I will be your light  
Come and rest in Me

I am the Word that leads all to freedom  
I am the peace the world cannot give  
I will call your name, embracing all your pain  
Stand up, now, walk, and live

Do not be afraid, I am with you  
I have called you each by name  
Come and follow Me  
I will bring you home  
I love you and you are mine



A few months ago, when we sang "You are Mine," I marked the bulletin to remind myself to make a copy of it for side of my refrigerator so that I can look at it when I'm working at my kitchen sink. The lyrics by David Haas comforted me that day. I wasn't so good at following through. When I found that bulletin with its note again, I looked up the hymn and found some solace in the lyrics for a second time.

Things in our world have not changed that much since I first made the note. New worries arrive even before the old ones have even begun to be put to rest. I have to make a conscious effort to quell my fears and to stay calm. I am no longer feeling called to action but to hunker down and stop paying attention. The lyrics of the hymn help pull me up and so does our joining together at church on Sunday mornings. The strength to act will return, but for now, there is comfort in hearing and seeing that I am not alone. See you on Sunday!

In Peace, Ann Maki

# **SERVANT LEADERS FOR SEPTEMBER**

Altar Care Month of September: Margo Bjornsson, Cynthia Dugan, Andrea Olsoy, Joan Peterson



## Acolytes

- September 3** TBD  
**September 10** TBD  
**September 17** TBD  
**September 24** TBD



## Assisting Minister

- September 3** Erin Schadt  
**September 10** Chris Bloomquist  
**September 17** TBD  
**September 24** Josh Jensen



## Counters

- September 3** Sue Clauson, Kelly Fahlman  
**September 10** Kris Breton, Juliet Dickens, Ken Mingeaud  
**September 17** Tina Aure, Karen & Malcolm Unseth  
**September 24** Laurie & Terry McGibbon, Ellen & Geoff Wall



## Lectors

- September 3** Jerry Shierk  
**September 10** Edna Peterson  
**September 17** Keita Horn  
**September 24** Gunbjorg Ladstein

## Ushers

- September 3** Nick Host, Jenny Holm  
**September 10** Sherry Lemmer, Sylvia Vikingstad  
**September 17** Laurie Fladhus & Eric Green, Jennifer & John Schwartz  
**September 24** Dave Hilmoe, Gunbjorg Ladstein, Marcia Nelson



## Van Drivers

- September 3** Dave Hilmoe  
**September 10** Ray Gooch  
**September 17** Tina Aure  
**September 24** Kim Peterson

## I CARE FOR SEPTEMBER



### I CARE FOR SEPTEMBER IS IN SUPPORT OF LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE AND HURRICANE HARVEY

Please stand by our neighbors as we begin the long road to recovering from Hurricane Harvey, one of the most catastrophic storms to hit the country in more than a decade.

We invite you to stand by our neighbors on the Gulf Coast during this time. Your gifts ensure that our church will be able to provide help and hope for those left homeless or otherwise affected by this disaster for years to come. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support.

*Make checks payable to Hurricane Response - United States and send to:*

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

**P.O. Box 1809**

**Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**

Call **800-638-3522** to make a donation with a credit card. Operators are ready to assist you Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Central Time.

<http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>

## DISCERNMENT

### BALLARD FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH: 2017-18 DISCERNMENT PERIOD

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

**Background:** Ballard First Lutheran Church is going through a two-year period of review (Jan 2017 to Jan 2019) of its ministry and mission in the Ballard Community “At this place; in this time.” Much is changing in the church, in our Ballard community and in the world. The first phase of this review is listening and getting input from BFL members and friends of the congregation and organizations in the Ballard community.

If you haven’t had a chance to answer the questions in the survey, please take a few minutes over the next few weeks to answer the questions in the enclosed survey. Then either drop off the survey at the church office or mail it in to BFL.

Thanks in advance for your time and your input.

Questions? Talk to, call (206 713 0690) or email ([watervet@q.com](mailto:watervet@q.com)) Dave Hilmoe.

## GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

**God's work.  
Our hands.**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> PLEASE REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>  
From 9 to 11:30 a.m., we will participate in a Sort & Pack session at [Food Lifeline](#). This event is open to anyone age 6 and up. (Kids should be accompanied by a parent).

Register on the Food Lifeline site [ballardfirstlutheranchurch.foodlifeline.volunteerhub.com/](http://ballardfirstlutheranchurch.foodlifeline.volunteerhub.com/) or let Karrin Daniels know [karrindaniels@msn.com](mailto:karrindaniels@msn.com) and she will send specific directions.

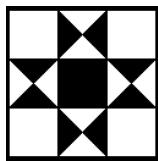


It's a Rock and Roll Rally Day  
with Blessing of the Backpacks and lots of  
fun games & activities for all ages

September 10<sup>th</sup>,  
beginning at 9am.



Plan to stay after worship for a BBQ of Hamburgers and Hotdogs  
with all the fixings in the Courtyard & Haavik Hall.



#### OUR EVENING MISSION QUILTING GROUP

**WILL RESUME OUR ACTIVITIES ON SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00PM.**

*"There is, indeed, a transforming moment when a Quilt passes from our hands into another's, and they embrace it."*

– Kirk Betts, Former Chairman of the LWR Board of Directors, upon distributing LWR Quilts in Niger

If you are curious about what we do – come on down! We meet in the Lower Social Hall the first Monday of most months at 7pm and assemble quilts until 8:30p. What skills are needed you ask? If you are able to tie a knot, you can help us! If you sew, you can take fabric home and sew a quilt top. If you like to sort fabrics to create packets for someone else to take home and sew quilt tops—well, you can do that too!

This mission not only creates quilts which are shipped all over the world, but it is a time of fellowship with each other. We would love to have you join us!

If you have questions, feel free to contact Sue Haugen, [206-334-8046](tel:206-334-8046) or email [haugsm1@gmail.com](mailto:haugsm1@gmail.com). Check out the following website for more information too! <https://lwr.org/get-involved/quilts>

**LYONS**

**FALL KICK OFF** will be September 10 from 6:00-8:00pm at St. John United. Please join us to hear about exciting upcoming events as well as some time to come together as the LYONS community. All LYONS youth, friends, family, etc. are welcome. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, we'll provide the rest. You can now support LYONS with Amazon Smile! This works with your Amazon Prime account, and gives a small percentage back to LYONS every time you shop.

**FROM THE CHILDCARE CENTER!**

It's been a great school year, with a nice summer to round it off! A bit warm for some of us at times, but we made it through :) We even had one of our alumni come in and do volunteer work throughout the summer!

And now, we are ready to begin our 42nd year of caring for the young children in our community! The children move up to their new classes on September 1st, to meet new friends and teachers, and start another great year of learning, love & laughter :) Blessings, Ms. Karen & Staff

### **KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL IS STARTING UP SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>!**

#### **SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS!**

If you are interested in teaching (pre-k and/or k-5) please contact Sunday School coordinator Shela Meneses at [meneses\\_sheal@hotmail.com](mailto:meneses_sheal@hotmail.com) - We have a user-friendly curriculum (you can infuse with your own creative ideas) and lots of eager kiddos!

9:00-9:15 - Songs in Sanctuary

9:15-9:45 - Lesson and Activity

9:45-10:00 - Play time on playground

### **ADULT SUNDAY EDUCATION RESUMES ON SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>!**

Adult classes will resume at 9:00 a.m. in Haavik Hall on Sunday, September 17. Over the course of the 2017-2018 Sunday school year, classes will be led by Pastors Erik and Elise, Vicar Sarah, church members, and some guest speakers as well.

Topics will include: "Dusting off Luther" (in light of the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation in the aftermath of Martin Luther's posting of the 95 Theses on the Wittenberg Church door on October 31, 1517), "Season of Creation: Luther, Pope Francis, and the Care of the Earth" (led by BFL Member and Earth Ministry Program and Outreach Director Jessica Zimmerle), Spiritual Discernment, Theology and Philanthropy (and how the Gates foundation used theological concepts to shape its philanthropic work), "White Trash" (a study of the American underclass led by Tom Tocher), and more. **Sunday school: It's not just for children!**

**DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY** - Wednesday weekly Bible study will resume in Haavik Hall at noon on September 13th. Come for lively conversation and thoughtful reflection as we explore the unique gospel of John.



**CHOIR NEWS** BFL Choir meets every Thursday at 7:00pm in Haavik Hall  
Our "kick-off" rehearsal is Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**CARE MORE, CAR LESS** We will observe "Care More, Care Less" Sunday on **September 24th**. That day, you are invited to bicycle (with a helmet!), commute, ride the bus, skateboard (with a helmet!), rollerblade (with a helmet and knee and elbow pads!), jog, or walk to church. Watch September bulletins for news of special activities for all ages during the Sunday school hour and our annual "Blessing of the Bicycles" in worship!



**THANK YOU!**



**SPECIAL MUSIC** Thank you to our Minister of Music, Molly Barnes, for coordinating special music for our summer worship. We are grateful to those who shared their gifts with us each Sunday:

Olivia & Chris Bloomquist (clarinet & sax) Farid Chouery (guitar), Karrin Daniels (cello), Claire Fisher (piano), Jim Fisher (piano), Nancy Fisher (vocal), Richard Harmon (voice), Michelle Martin (violin), Ken Mingeaud (vocal), David Parisi (vocal), Dale Pederson (vocal), Carlton Redpath (French horn and vocal), Veronica Redpath (vocal), Maddy Robertson (vocal), Erin Schadt (vocal).

## Read-a-Rama

Thank you SO much for your donations of \$3,000 to Read-a-Rama from the Church Board before camp and for the donations of \$358 that was collected for I-Care in July. These contributions supported overall camp programming since we used these funds to buy materials for camp and learning activities. Camp Read-a-Rama served 31 children who collectively read 175 books (over 250 books if we're counting repeat reads!) . . . Thank you for believing in the program. I'm looking forward to building its future as we help kids learn to "live books" and as we make the U.S. more literate, one child and one book at a time.

- Michelle H. Martin, Board Chair

### *From Joshua and Maddy*

*Dear BFL,*

*Maddy and I want to thank you all for your support and donations toward our move and my final year of preparation! Your generosity has made a huge difference in our transition from west coast to east coast. We are settling into Philadelphia quite well and think of you often.*

*Best wishes, Joshua and Maddy*

**MUSIC MUSIC MUSIC!**

### **Jesus Christ: Yesterday, Today and Forever with the National Lutheran Choir**

The National Lutheran Choir leads a community-wide evening of singing in commemoration of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. This unique program will celebrate the rich treasury of music – from early hymns to new works – expressing the journey of the Church. Under the direction of [Dr. David Cherwien](#), the 64-voice National Lutheran Choir seeks to strengthen, renew and preserve the heritage of sacred choral music.

More information at [NLCA.com](#), [www.saintmarks.org](#), and [www.lutheransnw.org](#).

## THE NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR

**Friday, September 29, 2017 – 7:30pm**

St. Mark's Cathedral

1245 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102

Info at: [www.saintmarks.org](#)

Free and open to the public. An offering will be received the night of the concert to support Compass Housing Alliance and Imagine Housing. AND . . . fellow Lutheran and travel guru, Rick Steves, has agreed to match the offering at this event up to \$20K. Wow!