

† 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@bflcs.org

Pastor Elise Scott

pastorelise@bflcs.org

Church Administrator: Cindy Jackson

office@bflcs.org

Caretaker: Matt Horton

Treasurer: Julie Millet

Minister of Music: Maddy Barnes

barnesmj97@gmail.com

Organist: David Lepse

Accompanist: Jim Fisher

BFL Childcare Center

206-784-1307

Director: Karen Hutchison

Executive Team

President: Karin Swanson

Vice President: Glen Hare

Secretary: Lisa Hegerberg

Administrative Leaders

Childcare: Laurie Torcaso,
Susan Weber

Facilities: Edna Peterson

Finance: David Austin

Personnel: Kathy Johnson

Gunbjorg Ladstein

BALLARD BLESSINGS

May/June 2022



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

May 17, 2022

Dear Friends in Christ,

I write you having just returned from Ballard's beloved Syttende Mai parade. And it was like Christmas and Easter and my birthday and the Fourth of July and, yes, Syttende Mai, all wrapped together in a glorious, hopeful package. And do you want to know what made it so special and wonderful? It was the sheer ordinariness of the thing. After these two extraordinarily difficult and isolating years, it was so restorative to discover that the Ballard High School Band would once again kick off the whole shebang. I couldn't help but smile at the familiar sight of (very serious) drill teams and (even more serious) drill instructors watching to make sure that no one step out of line. And another band. Familiar faces. New faces. Troll faces. Princesses of organizations of which I had never heard waving from convertibles (I waved back). Another band. The Norwegian Male Chorus. Children who, three years ago were not old enough to, but now were old enough to stand at the edge of the street so as to scramble for any candy that might be tossed in their direction. Another band. Nordic dancers. An army of elementary school aged unicyclists. Bunads on proud display. And yet another band.

I have neither enough time nor a memory sufficient to the task of describing all of the things that delighted me about the parade. But I can tell you what I loved most. Community. I used to think that the point of a parade was that there was no point to a parade. But I was wrong. The point of a parade is community. It took losing the parade for me to discover the purpose of a parade. Parades exist to celebrate community. And that is reason enough to hold a parade.

It is also the reason we have something called, "Church." The ancient Greek word for community is *koinonia*. It means, "fellowship." It means "shared experience." In the New Testament, the favored word for "church" is *ekklesia*. It literally means, "a called-out assembly or congregation." You can't have church without community. It's in our DNA. One of the main things we do together is "commune."

Speaking of Communion, we have decided to alter our practices slightly in order to accommodate as many people in our community as we are able. We continue to offer all of the pre-packaged containers of the elements on the West side of the nave with their contents clearly marked. But we also now offer the elements of bread and wine via the common cup on the East side of the nave and served directly by the pastors. Communicants will receive the bread and dip it into the common cup.

We make these changes in the recognition that different members of our community find themselves in different places and with different points of view. But we wish for everyone to feel welcome to commune. After years of covid and all of the losses people have experienced, this feels more important than ever.

As I consider the words, “communion,” and “community,” I cannot help but be aware that we in the church are part of a “communion of saints,” a community that is both eternal and global. It transcends time and place. That means we are a community that does not wish to leave anyone out or forgotten. We **remember**.

In that spirit, I ask a favor. Help us at Ballard First Lutheran remember. Help future members of Ballard First Lutheran learn from our experiences of pandemic. As we seek to assemble our congregation’s annual report, we wish to hear from each one of you. Please take some thoughtful moments to write a paragraph about your experiences during the pandemic years. And, we would also love to have a photo if you are able. You may do so on behalf of yourself or your household.

Here are some questions to consider as prompts:

- * What do you want our congregation to know about your time?
- * What got you through?
- * What has been challenging?
- * What was surprising?
- * What Bible message has been meaningful to you?

Please email your submission to office@bflcs.org or mail it to:

2006 NW 65th Street
Seattle, WA 98117

We would love to receive as many of these as we can and, if possible, by June 3rd.

It is such a gift to be in community with you (part of the band, so to speak).

Pastor Erik W2

Hello BFL Folks!

It has been a pleasure residing as the minister of music for Ballard First this year. I feel so lucky to be part of such a familial and warm community.

As summer creeps nearer, I will soon be heading up to the North Woods of Bemidji Minnesota to work at a Norwegian Language immersion camp. While I am so excited to get out there, it also leaves me absent from BFL for the summer, and the church music must go on! We need musicians to perform for Sunday special music slots. Come with voice or instrument, alone or with a friend! If you are interested, please reach out to me at: Barnesmj.97@gmail.com or 206-387-8886 (call/text)

If you like to sing and are looking to find a space, BFL Choir will start back up in the fall and we are always excited to have new members!

Thank you so much for a wonderful year!

Peace, Maddy Barnes

BERGSTROM SCHOLARSHIP

The Project Phoenix - LYONS (Lutheran Youth of North Seattle) Board of Directors announces the [Bergstrom Scholarship application](#) availability for the graduating high school class of 2022. This scholarship was created to honor Shawn and Dinah Bergstrom, who were instrumental in nourishing our cooperative youth ministry program. The scholarship provides

financial support for higher education to youth who have participated in the LYONS (Project Phoenix) organization associated with member congregations.

We encourage all graduating seniors (and last year's seniors who may have taken a gap year) to review and apply for the scholarship. While the individual scholarship amount varies year to year, last year the Board awarded a total of \$18,000 to six seniors. Best wishes and good luck to all students and their families as they prepare for graduation and new horizons. Godspeed to all.

The LYONS (Project Phoenix) Board of Directors Jeff Powers (president) & Chris Bloomquist - Ballard First Lutheran; Kirsten Erickson - Queen Anne Lutheran; Brian Rulifson & Brandon Hardenbrook - St John United Lutheran

Contact the office for information and the application form.

MAY MEETING NOTES

The BFL Council met Tuesday, May 10. Full minutes will be posted in Haavik Hall. Here's a summary of what went down:

Covid protocols - We're recommending that masks are "optional and encouraged" during church activities, that social distancing is optimal when possible, and that all groups using the church can serve food in accordance with health department regulations. Also look for updates to the service of Holy Communion as the pastors begin offering a choice of communion by intinction, or prepackaged individual communion servings.

Endowment Committee - The Endowment Committee met and decided to allocate \$25,473 for 2022. This amount includes tuition assistance of \$3,000 to a church member attending a Lutheran college; \$13,000 for facilities needs at BFL; \$3,000 to the Sunday dinners program; and \$4,473 to Lutheran World Relief.

Nominations - At recent meetings, Chris Bloomquist was appointed to serve on the LYONS/Project Phoenix board, and Sue Haugen was appointed to serve on the Childcare Board.

Finance Committee - Total income has been running slightly ahead of budget, at 103% through April. Our adopted budget predicted a deficit, and income does not yet cover the deficit.

The Our Life Together team has scheduled and signed up hosts for three coffee hours on May 22, and in June and July. The May coffee hour will be held in the Cross and Crown Room. On sunny Sundays, we hope to brew a pot or two and invite folks to stay to socialize in the courtyard.

So much coffee news! **The Facilities Committee** is looking into options for replacing the brewers in the lower level kitchen. Also, cheers to caretaker Matt for the nice finish work on the new baseboards in Haavik Hall.

The Church and Community team is seeking a cook/coordinator for the once-monthly BFL dinner offering. A detailed job description will be posted on Facebook. Non-BFL members are welcome to join or lead this important ministry.

The Childcare has been holding a silent auction during the month of May, with weekly theme categories. Come to the May 22 Coffee Hour to bid on items!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 14, at 6:30 p.m. in Haavik Hall. All are welcome to attend!

Peace and health, Karin Swanson, BFL Council President

For those with health concerns . . .

Charli Boreson
Liv Frolli
Terry Halbakken,.
Cory Johnson,
Mr. Kim,
John Lennartson
Ann Maki

Kevin Host,
Rob Howard
Ian McKee
Larry Orme
Sharon Raye

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

Joseph Colette,
Anna Olsoy
Minda Unseth
Kirsten Wenstone

For those who are suffering – the people of Ukraine . . .

Now that life has begun to get back to “normal,” we invite people to assist in worship by serving as lectors. Lectors read the lessons each Sunday. If you are interested or would like to recommit to serving in this way, please contact Beth Orme at baorme@me.com or 206-228-3115.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR BERNICE ELLISON

Saturday, June 25th at 11:00 a.m.

In person at Ballard First Lutheran

COFFEE HOUR



Have you been missing connecting with one another over a cup of coffee and treats? We will resume after worship coffee hours once a month, for the time being. We will gather in the Cross and Crown Room, downstairs to enjoy coffee, food and conversation.

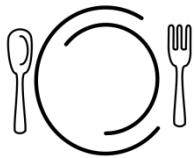
May 22 June 19 July 17.

We have hosts for these dates, thank you to Joan, Kim, Maris family, Jan, Tina and Elaine!

There are prepackaged goodies already purchased that can be used. You may also choose to turn in your receipts to the office for reimbursement. We welcome any and all participants!

If you are interested in hosting a coffee hour, feel free to contact Robyn Middleton, 206 782-0544.

BALLARD SUNDAY DINNER



SUNDAY DINNER VOLUNTEERS!

Our beloved Sunday dinner program is looking to add new people to our roster of volunteers! Although we provide the meal monthly on the 4th Sunday, you can choose how often you want to volunteer (monthly, quarterly, or even on an as needed basis! Volunteer shifts include:

2:30 to 5:30 pm - Meal Prep

4:15 to 6:30 pm - Set-up and Serving

5:00 to 6:00 pm - Trash Monitor

5:00 to 6:30 pm - Clean-up

Please contact the church office at office@bflcs.org if you would like to be added to the roster of volunteers so that this important meal ministry may continue to flourish!

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Many thanks to Ray Gooch for replacing the lights in Haavik Hall with LED bulbs. This gift of his expertise and time shines!

Also, Haavik Hall has new bright color on the walls – thanks to Matt Horton!

APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT

APRIL, 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT - GENERAL FUND

	April Actual	April Budget	Year To Date Actual	Year To Date Budget	Year To Date Variance
Envelope/Loose Giving	\$26,668.95	\$23,091.67	\$102,121.45	\$92,366.68	\$9,754.77
Other Income	\$7,733.09	\$9,445.24	\$25,208.58	\$31,030.96	(\$5,822.38)
Total Income	\$34,402.04	\$32,536.91	\$127,330.03	\$123,397.64	\$3,932.39
Expenses	\$35,450.73	\$42,040.37	\$150,656.89	\$176,064.59	(\$25,407.70)
Surplus / (Loss)	(\$1,048.69)	(\$9,503.46)	(\$23,326.86)	(\$52,666.95)	\$29,340.09
Cash Balance	\$51,402.34				
Savings Balance	\$ 265,720.61				

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.

I CARE FOR MAY – LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

I CARE SUNDAY will be May 22nd in support of Lutheran Campus Ministry. ELCA Campus Ministry is a Lutheran ministry for all students, faculty, staff, and others on more than 180 state and private colleges and universities - with cooperating congregations in campus ministry at an additional 400 campuses nationwide. The two on our Synod are the University of Washington and Western Washington University. You can also 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.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES



SAVE THE DATE! BFL ANNUAL S'MORES NIGHT to kick-off summer will be held on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 from 6 to 8 pm in the BFL courtyard! S'mores and all their fixings will be provided and the playground will be open for children! All ages are welcome for what is sure to be a fun-filled evening!

IN-PERSON, OUTDOOR SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR AGES 2 TO 6TH GRADE once a month during the summer! Join us on June 5th, July 10th, and August 7th for outdoor, in-person Sunday School in the BFL courtyard from 9:15 am to 9:45 am! On each of these Sundays, we will hear a Bible story and have an arts and crafts activity! We hope to see you on one or all of these Sundays!

BALLARD FIRST FRIDAY



By popular demand!

Join us for the first Ballard First Friday on June 3rd at SAZÓN KITCHEN at 7301 15th Ave NW. We will meet at 5 pm. Join us for a Dutch treat dinner and fun fellowship!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

IMMANUAL COMMUNITY IS HIRING!! Come join the ICS team and serve our neighbors experiencing hunger and homelessness in downtown Seattle. Immanuel Community Services (ICS) cares for the most vulnerable in our community through four programs: food bank, clean & sober homeless shelter for men in intensive outpatient treatment, meal program and hygiene/day center for the homeless. We have two open full-time positions:

- **Food Services Coordinator** to oversee the food bank, home deliveries and meal program
- **Development & Communications Coordinator** working on fundraising and communications for organization.

For more information, see the ICS website at <https://www.icsseattle.org/about/employment-opportunities/> or email Shawna McMahon at jobs@icsseattle.org

IN GRATITUDE – FROM LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Thank you for your generous emergency gift of \$3,000 to help the people of Ukraine, who are enduring unimageable hardship and suffering. Please continue to lift them up in your prayers.

Your gift is being put to use immediately to deliver emergency food, shelter, Personal Care Kits, Baby Care Kits, medicines and other critically needed items for children and their families who are trying to survive the horrifying fighting . . . or are being forced to flee their homeland with a few meager belongings.

Your willingness to share your blessings during a global crisis like this is a godsend to your neighbors in Ukraine who are hurting.

BFL is sending 15 quilts and over 80 personal care kits to Lutheran World Relief – Ukraine



Churches in the NW Washington Synod responded very generously to the need for quilts and care kits. The combination of a record number of boxes and the scarcity of shipping containers presented a logistical problem. There was an immediate need for a space to store hundreds of boxes until the container became available. So, with the help of hard-working volunteers, over 200 boxes wait in the Cross and Crown Room.

