



Grace and peace to you,

There is a lot of activity around the church these days as we enjoy mid-week soup suppers and worship each Wednesday from 6:30-7:30pm in the fellowship hall plus various groups meeting on site to share in bible study, prayer, quilting, prep for the 75th Anniversary and so much more. We have several groups who use our space on a regular basis, adding to the hustle and bustle. There is also considerable time and effort going into preparing for my Sabbatical, which will begin after the Belize Trip in mid-April. I am so thankful for all the leaders who have stepped up to take on various roles while I am away. There is a report from the Sabbatical Team in the newsletter this month. I encourage you to read what they've been working on and ask any questions you might have. Lisa Sampson, Dave Spurling and Jack Boller comprise the Sabbatical Team.

Along with all of this is prep for Holy Week and our Easter celebrations. This Easter, our confirmands, who have completed their confirmation classes, will come forward and share their faith with you all. They will share, in their own words, who they understand God to be, what promises God makes and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. It has been a joy to be with these students weekly over the last two years. A big thank you to their parents who have taken the time to bring them to class. This time to ask questions and wrestle with faith is so important. I ask the congregation to pray for each of our students as they consider if coming forward to confirm their faith is the right next step for them in their discipleship. Those discerning their confirmation are Kaelynn Sampson, Judah Tiongson and Austin Hall. We have two students, Kelsey Harding and Nellie Sampson who are completing their first year and will continue with their confirmation classes next year.

As our new confirmands step forward to affirm their faith I invite each of us to take a moment to reflect on faith at this point in your life. What do you believe about God? What promises do you know God has made to you? What does Jesus ask of us as his disciples? Perhaps consider writing these thoughts down and sharing them with a family member or friend. In turn, invite them to share how they would answer the same questions and listen to their responses. This is one way we can encourage one another in the faith.

In this season of Lent, as we approach Holy Week and the joy of Easter, I pray that the Spirit surrounds you with abiding peace in knowing that the God of all creation call you by name and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Please know I continue to hold each of you in prayer.

Peace



75th Anniversary - pg. 4

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Special points of interest

- Bishop's Letter on last page—*great read!*
- Council Report pg. 3



**MOUNTAIN VALLEY
PRESCHOOL**



Mountain Valley
Preschool
Where a Love for Learning is Created

Updates to events are communicated through Constant Contact and an email list of families and friends, if you are not on this list but would like to be included please let Pastor Krista know.

AA
Will meet Thursdays and Sundays in Luther's Lounge weekly at 7 pm
Ogle Street entrance

GIRL SCOUTS
The Girl Scouts Leaders meet the 3rd Thursday of each month

THIRSTY FOR THEOLOGY

March 7, 7pm @ the parsonage

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

All ladies are welcome to join each Monday from 12:30-2pm.
If you have any questions, please reach out to Vivian Waid.



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Each Saturday @ 9am the men gather at Little Si Restaurant in North Bend for breakfast and Bible Study. The Study focuses on the readings for the upcoming Sunday worship. Reach out to Dave Spurling or Ed Benson for details.

Intergenerational Sunday Education



In February and March come learn all about a central prayer, the Shema, from Deuteronomy 6. Key words of the prayer will be explored each week: Love; Heart; Soul; & Strength.



Lent Mid-Week Soup Supper and Study
our annual Lent Soup Supper and Worship
beginning on Wed. February 21 through Wed. March 20



All are welcome to participate. Come hear scripture, sing together and listen to various trees of the Bible tell their story as we "Behold the Tree." Our supper and worship will be blended together in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 6:30pm with prayer and song and then moving into our meal. After our meal we will continue our worship together.

COUNCIL REPORT

February Council Report

Greetings from your council!

Our income in January was \$16,239 with expenses of \$13,159 for a net gain of \$3,080. Our checking balance at end of month was \$57,331.

Pursuing our mission statement, Council continues to serve our community, and are discussing space sharing agreements with the Food Bank, to help keep up with increased food storage needs, and with the preschool, to offer more learning experiences.

We are reaching out to our community, and are currently preparing for another summer of Farmer's Market craft offerings for all children. And we are growing in grace as we discuss ministry team plans for Bible Studies, Faith Formation activities, and Worship formats through this Lenten season.

We value the contributions each of you make in doing the work of the ministries, and engaging with Council to keep our work relevant to the community we serve.

Serving in God's grace, Dave Spurling

MARCH SUNDAY LESSONS

March 3rd

First Lesson:
Psalm 19
Narrative Text:
Mark 12:1-12

March 10th

First Lesson:
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Narrative Text:
Mark 12:28-44

March 17th

First Lesson:
Psalm 119:9-16
Narrative Text:
Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

March 24th

First Lesson:
Psalm 31:9-16
Narrative Text:
Mark 11:1-11, 14:3-9

Maunday Thursday

First Lesson:
1 Cor. 11:23-26 (?)
Narrative Text:
Mark 14:22-42

Good Friday

Narrative Lesson:
Mark 15:16-39

Easter Sunday

Narrative Text:
Mark 16:1-8

Mt Si Lutheran Church invites you to
Holy Week Worship Services

Palm Sunday

March 24
9:30am

Palm
Procession!



Maundy Thursday

March 28
6:00pm

Meal +
Worship



Good Friday

March 29
7:00pm

Tenebrae
Worship



Easter Sunday

March 31
9:30am

Meal after
Worship



411 NE 8th St. North Bend, WA + www.mtsilutheran.org

Please sign-up for the meal on Maundy Thursday



Quilters Group

Quilters meet on Monday mornings in the quilting room.



The Sunday flower chart is in the Fellowship Hall outside of the library.

You are welcome to sign-up for a Sunday to provide one vase of flowers for the altar.

Did you take photos of an event with Mt Si that you would be willing to have used in our newsletters or other promotional purposes? Short videos are also appreciated. Please send to Kathleen at:

mtsi.assistant@gmail.com

Mount Si Lutheran Church will celebrate 75 years of Serving, Reaching Out, Growing in Grace September 14 & 15, 2024

On Sun., Sept. 15, there will be a special Worship Service and we are blessed that Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee will be able to join the celebration.

*Some highlights of Mt. Si Lutheran Church has a rich history
Oct. 4, 1953 - April 15, 1979 :*

October 4, 1953 - The organ, pews and carpeting are dedicated. Before the pews were installed, members sat on folding chairs. These chairs were packed back & forth each Sunday between the sanctuary for worship service and the basement for Sunday School. The men and boys who packed the chairs were very relieved to give up this duty when the pews arrived.

December 24, 1957 - Rev. Paul R. Gerlach leaves Mount Si Lutheran.

February 2, 1958 - Rev. Armin Reitz installed at Mount Si Lutheran.

February 8, 1959 - Two lots east of the church are purchased for \$2000 for parking and future expansion.

June 14, 1959 - 10th Anniversary observed.

November 11, 1962 - The congregation votes to purchase a new pipe organ.

November 18, 1962 - The stained glass window above the altar is dedicated. It is paid for by Memorial funds at a cost of \$460. The window is installed with the help of a Puget Power Lift Truck.

December 8, 1963 - the new seven rank pipe organ is dedicated. The total Cost is \$6350.

June 1965 - The stained glass window in the entryway is installed for \$140.

September 12, 1965 - Rev. Armin Reitz leaves Mount Si Lutheran.

November 21, 1965 - Rev. Wesley L. Sackmann installed at Mount Si Lutheran.

March 1966 - Congregation votes to purchase additional five lots for \$5500 for future expansion.

January 1967 - Building committee is established to plan for Education & Fellowship Building.

April 15, 1973 - Ground breaking for the new building held on Palm Sunday. Funding came from member donations and a bank loan.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

If you would like an article to appear in an upcoming newsletter please send all information to Kathleen, mtsi.assistant@gmail.com by the following dates:

For April Newsletter – all articles in no later than March 17th

For May Newsletter – all articles in no later than April 17th

For June Newsletter – all articles in no later than May 17th

For July Newsletter – all articles in no later than June 17th

NEWS FOR THE PEWS AND/OR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

If you would like an announcement to be in an upcoming NFTP and/or bulletin insert, please send all information to Kathleen no later than Monday if you wish it to be included that week. Items received after Monday may not appear until the following week. Please indicate if you wish the announcement to appear in NFTP, the Bulletin or both.

February Family Game Night



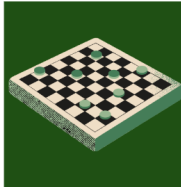
Another great turn out for Family Game Nights! Great food, fellowship, and fun for all ages!

With Mt. Si, St. Andrew's, and St. Luke's Lutheran Churches .



Bring a game and a snack to share!

Cluster FAMILY GAME NIGHT



MAR 17 5-7PM

Please bring an appetizer to share. You are invited to wear something green for St. Patrick's Day if you wish. For the first part we will all play Bunco together with options for some other games for those who would prefer. If you don't know how to play, that's ok! It is easy to pick up and learn. All ages are invited to attend.

[Click here to sign up for the march Family Game night](#)

Or use the web address:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoD44A9AB2EABF8C70-47387595-family>

THANK YOU! We raised over \$8,000 towards in-country projects we will complete. Please pray for all those going on the trip from both churches. From Mt Si we have: Rick and Sheila R., Ed Benson, Dave and Debbie S., Bud P. & Leslie H., Dave V. & Peggy H., & Pastor Krista. The group leaves April 3 and will return April 16.



Belize Mission Trip Project

While in Belize some of our group will be working with High School youth on crochet, knitting and embroidery skills. We are looking for the following items if you have them and wish to donate. Thank you for considering!

Crochet Hooks of all sizes	Yarn	Needles
Sewing Needles		Embroidery Hoops
Embroidery Thread		Crochet or Knitting Patterns
Stamped Embroidery Cloth (pillowcases, tea towels, aprons, etc.)		

If you have any of these items to donate, **please bring them to Mt Si by March 12.**

There will be a basket in the fellowship hall to accept donations.

Thank you!



Red Cross Blood Drive



Upcoming Blood Drives:
Tuesday, May 14th
Tuesday, September 17th
And Tuesday, December 10th

Blood Drive registration is live for signups at www.redcrossblood.org Donate Blood, Platelets or Plasma. Give Life

The drive is open to the public and a spot can be reserved using the code:

MtSiLutheran

If you are interested in helping with this blood drive please reach out to Rick Ro-



Confirmation Celebration

during worship
on Easter Sunday



MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Suzu Cassidy 1st
 Hannah Kathleen Miller 8th
 Mark Imsland 9th
 Gretchen Chase 13th
 Cassandra Koukol 14th
 Austin Hall 18th
 Anja Yocom 19th
 David Van Handel 20th
 Anne Keiser 24th
 Jeffrey King 31st

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES



Rick & Sheila Rodriguez 22nd

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please reach out to the office so we can make the correction.



Thank you to all who supported or are supporting our Belize Mission Trip. What a fabulous turn out!



We raised over \$8,000 towards in-country projects we will complete. Please pray for all those going on the trip from both churches.

From Mt Si we have: Rick and Sheila R., Ed Benson, Dave and Debbie S., Bud P. & Leslie H., Dave V. & Peggy H., & Pastor Krista. The group leaves April 3 and will return April 16 .



Hey Church Family,

We all love the fellowship time every Sunday after the worship service. As we know, this is a great opportunity to connect with other members of our church, share our joys and concerns, and enjoy some delicious food and drinks.

To make this fellowship hour possible and defray church costs, we need your help in providing some food items for the table. You can bring anything you like, such as cookies, breads, fruit etc., but we are also in the need for pre-sliced cheese and regular/ decaffeinated ground coffee.



We would love to return to the days when families sponsored the coffee hour for special days providing the food and goodies. If this is something you would like to do see the sign-up sheet in FH.

*please note coffee should be Starbucks brand if possible as our coffee maker is powerful and finely ground coffees don't work well in it.
 Any questions? See Courtney A.

Thank you,
 The Hospitality Committee



Spring Clean-up Day at the church
Saturday March 23
9am - 12pm

This is a day to work on our garden beds and spruce up the grounds before Easter. All ages welcome. The more the merrier!

Sabbatical Team Update

by Lisa Sampson

Time "march"es on! As we get closer and closer to Pastor Krista's Sabbatical beginning in mid-April, we are getting more and more ducks in rows, t's crossed, and i's dotted. Thank you to everyone who has signed up to help out with the variety of responsibilities needed to keep our church and its wonderful ministries up and running!



For Pastoral leadership in April, May, June and part of July, we'll be having a wonderful rotation of cluster Pastors coming through to lead worship each Sunday. Many familiar faces (Pastors Mark Griffith and Larry Thomas) and some that may be familiar or new-to-you (Pastors Lara Forbes, Dave Schoeld, Nyla Schoeld, and Dave Thomas). The full list will be posted outside Pastor Krista's office on the bulletin board.

For Points of Contact around the church for all the things, another list will be posted in the same spot (bulletin board next to Pastor Krista's office), for whom you can reach out to for any needs. There are still a few blanks - many for backup support - and we would love to get YOU plugged in if there is anything you may be able to provide the Gift of Time to help support. We'll leave a pen there in case the Spirit moves you!

The month of March will be spent training for the various responsibilities, so the sooner we have the names finalized, the sooner we can get training complete and questions answered. Again, thank you everyone who is able to help keep our wonderful church up and running. It takes a village, and what an amazing village we have! On behalf of the Sabbatical Planning Team (Pastor Krista, Jack, Dave S., and myself), we appreciate you!



Please

Make a gift online through our website:
www.mtsilutheran.org/onlinegiving

Thank you for your continued generosity.

- Treasurer

Mt Si Women's Gathering



Women's Gathering
Sat. March 23
10-12pm
Simply Still

Come and gather in prayer, scripture reflection, song and fellowship. Please bring a brunch item to share.

THE LAMB OF GOD, TAKES AWAY THE SINS OF THE WORLD.

BISHOP'S LETTER

March 2024



From the Bishop:

During the cold snap in January, I realized that the hummingbird food had frozen again. I went outside to replace it and noticed a hummingbird just sitting, seemingly frozen, perched on one of the little prongs of the feeder. Now, usually the hummingbirds I feed are fierce. They swirl around my head demanding new syrup and for me to move out of their way. They exert a force that, if bigger, would be scary. But this one did nothing as I moved closer.

I stood there. Not sure what to do. Do I shoo it away? Do I simply hope it moves when I reach out? Do I come back later hoping this bird is still alive?

As in most things we do these days, I decided to research online. According to the website Science, hummingbirds may appear “frozen” on a feeder, but they're using torpor to conserve energy. This article urges one to not disturb them as this is a natural behavior and allows them to save their energy.

With this, I decided to wait until the hummingbird flew off before replacing the feeder with fresh syrup (which happened about a half hour later).

So why tell you this small story of hummingbirds and me? I think there is some overlap between energy and torpor and what this all might mean for us as church together.

While not a perfect analogy, sometimes we can act like hummingbirds swirling and swooping, using lots of energy to do things. Sometimes we think that if we aren't doing activities, or if other people aren't doing activities, then we are failing as a church. It reminds me of a pastor saying to me at an event for Rostered Ministers, “Bishop, I feel that I have to attend everything that is planned. But, may I ask, is everything planned necessary?”

Perhaps we use energy up when it is not necessary.

Perhaps, like the hummingbird, we also need a time of torpor. Perhaps we need a “time out” time or a reflection time or a meditative time or just a time to inhale and exhale without worrying about the next event or program or activity. As theologian Richard Rohr puts it when describing centering prayer, “Prayer is simply sitting in silence, open to God's love and your love for God. This prayer is beyond thoughts, emotions, or sensations.”

Dear Beloveds in Christ, Lent is here. As we plan and attend the meaningful worship and fellowship that we all love during the season of Lent, I pray that in worship and in other ways you can find the space and openness to embrace the wonder of the Spirit.

For we can learn from hummingbirds – not that we are to eat one and a half to three times our body weight every day like a hummingbird – but instead, we are called to have a flow between busyness and stillness, action and reflection, hustling and torpor, acts and prayer.

I pray that as we follow Jesus, as we live in Jesus' love, as we contemplate his words and actions, we may do the same.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. Mark 1:35

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee