



PASTOR'S NOTE

Blessings Dear Siblings in Christ,

**Discernment Process Update**

All are invited to give feedback regarding the mission and ministry goals proposed by Pastor and the Executive Team. Initial feedback was shared by those attending adult study on Oct. 2nd and by council.

I encourage everyone to take the time to read through these goals and provide your wisdom and insight. Where can you find them? They are in a letter attached to the weekly news or can be found as a hard copy in the Narthex. You can also ask Pastor and she will send them to you. There are **three** proposed goals and **three** questions for you to respond to.

Please turn in all feedback by Sunday, Nov. 6th.

You can email responses to Pastor or put your hand written notes in the box provided in the Narthex by **November 6th**



Your comments will be taken into account for a final edit of the goals before they come before the congregation on November 13th at our annual meeting. We will seek congregational affirmation of these goals at this meeting.

When the goals are approved (with or without edits from the Nov. 13th annual meeting), we will begin a process of determining concrete steps for moving toward these new mission and ministry goals.

Your participation in this process is invaluable. I am deeply grateful for your prayerful attention to these goals and this process. Thank you for your participation.

A blessed Thanksgiving to each of you and a joyful start to Advent!

Grace and peace to you from God, our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Peace, Pastor Krista



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Bishop's Letter on last page—*great read!*
- Council Report pg. 3
- Upcoming Events for Families pgs. 4 & 5

# November Annual Meeting November 13

following the service

**At this meeting we  
will approve the  
2023 Budget  
and Elect new  
Council Members.**

## Mt Si Financial Summary

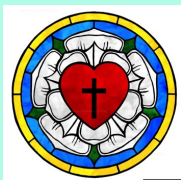
Jan-Sept. Budget =  
**\$149,377**

Jan-Sept. Giving =  
**\$127,391**

Jan-Sept Exp. =  
**\$133,516**

YTD income/loss =  
**-\$6,125**

\*since we print the newsletter prior to the end of the current month, the newsletter reporting will always be one month behind.



## SUNDY ADULT EDUCATION

Nov. 6th we will have a special intergenerational education time prior to the Everything Apples Event led by John Grebe

Nov. 13th, we will not have education—instead all are invited to stay for our annual meeting

Nov. 20th we will look at our Narrative Lesson for the day as an extended Bible Study

Nov. 27th is our Advent Festival, please plan to stay and participate in this event.

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

All ladies are welcome to participate. The Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall each Monday at 12:30pm. They are studying the book of Joshua. If you have any questions, please reach out to Vivian Waid.

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Each Saturday @ 9am the men gather 9:00am 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.

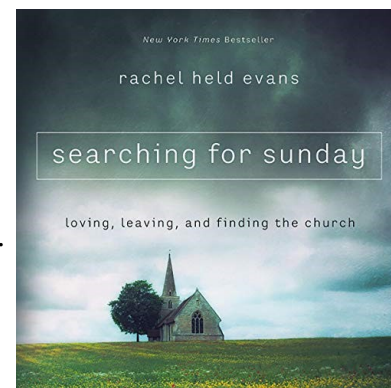
## MID-WEEK DESSERT & STUDY

This is an adult study group that will meet to discuss both books on certain topics and books of the Bible. Each study will be 4-5 weeks in length with breaks in-between. The first stud will begin on Wednesday, Oct. 26th and go to Wednesday Nov. 16th. We will meet from 6-7:30pm. We'll share in dessert and then begin our study together.

Gathering in the FH: Wednesdays from Oct. 26th-Nov. 16th

Topic of conversation: Searching for Sunday by Rachel Hold Evans

Please sign-up with Pastor Krista so she can order enough books. If you wish to reimburse the cost of the book, it will be \$13.



## CONFIRMATION & FAMILY DINNER

Confirmation is beginning again!

This year we will focus on Luther's Small Catechism using the curriculum "Chosen Together" by Pr. Natalie Hall. Our confirmands will meet each Thursday evening in Luther's Lounge beginning on Oct. 20th. We will share in dinner together from 5:30-6pm and then enter our study from 6-7pm.

The first Thursday of each month we will share in brief family worship from 6:30-7pm using Holden Evening Prayer as our guide.

Please hold our confirmands in prayer. Participating in confirmation are: Austin Hall, Toren Rhyne and Kaelynn Sampson.

## COUNCIL REPORT

Greetings from your council.

We have a busy fall ahead of us leading up to advent. We have our harvest carnival and our “everything apples” event. Our mid-week adult bible study is starting up. Our faith formation team will continue to hold a monthly FAMS event and confirmation classes are beginning. We will hold our advent festival on November 27 and the following week we will participate in the North Bend Holly Days event. For more information on how to get involved check our website.

At our upcoming congregational meeting on November 13 we will be approving the 2023 budget and electing new council members. Rick Rodriguez and I (Jack Boller) have each completed a three term and are both eligible for a second three year term. Dave Spurling is completing a one year term and is eligible for a three year term. All three of us have opted to stay on for the second three year term. This will have to be approved by the congregation. We have one council member resigning with one year left on their term. We will be filling that one year term. If you would like to be involved in setting goals and guiding our church into the future please consider serving on council. We meet the second Tuesday of the month. If you are interested let me or Pastor Krista know.

As I mentioned last month, the churches of the East King County Cluster of our synod will be meeting November 5 at St. Andrews in Bellevue. We will continue discussing ways we might collaborate to maximize the use of our resources. We will be looking at a variety of areas including use of our facilities, youth programs, music programs, and finances. If you have any ideas about activities we could partner with other churches on let a council member know.

For concerns or questions about facilities and programs please contact a council member.

Jack Boller

## Ways to Give



### **If you purchase from Amazon:**

1. Set up Amazon Smile
2. Select Mount Si Lutheran as a beneficiary.

We will receive a percentage as a donation from Amazon to Mt Si. *See our website for links and more info.*

### **Make a gift online through our website:**

[www.mtsilutheran.org/onlinegiving](http://www.mtsilutheran.org/onlinegiving)

Thank you for your continued generosity.

-Treasurer

*“You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy”  
Ps. 16*

## FAITH FORMATION

### God We Come to You

As we gather here in this place  
do we think of it as a place of  
healing?

As we gather here in this place  
do we look for cleansing?

As come to God in worship  
what is it we are looking for?

Health and wellbeing, rich  
blessings or love?

God of wisdom, God of  
healing, God of heavenly  
riches, We come to you in  
worship and praise seeking  
healing and cleansing for our  
souls, richness in our lives and  
peace for our world.

God we come to you.

- Spill the Beans, iss. 13

### GIRL SCOUTS

The Girl Scouts Leaders  
meet at the church on  
the third Thursday of  
each month from 6:30-  
8:30pm

### AA

AA meets every  
Thursday evening from  
7:00pm to 9:00pm

## Confirmation Collaboration

Mt. Si's newest group of Confirmands met with Pastor Krista and John beginning Thursday, October 20th. 3 students attended, and met to discuss the overview of the year, took home a binder with home assignments and plans for connecting with congregation members (YOU!) throughout the school year, and got their feet wet (figuratively) with learning more about Lutheranism and Christianity. This group will continue to meet weekly on Thursdays, with a family dinner beforehand from 5:30-6, and Confirmation and (sometimes) family church service from 6:30-7pm. A great start to a great program!

## Fun at F.A.M.S.

October FAMS coincided with the first night of Confirmation, with 5 kiddos grades K-5 attending. Fun was had exploring ways that God's action can be mysterious or like a puzzle we

need to try and solve. We used our critical thinking and observation to solve some puzzles and we had a craft of a cross to take home. Time spent in everyone's favorite space - Luther's Lounge - provided a good energy release on the first rainy day of the fall! We look forward to seeing those, and others, next time, on Thursday, November 17th!



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH EDUCATION

**Sunday School**  
**1st Sunday of each month**  
following the Fellowship Hour

Someone will be available to meet with children and youth on the other Sundays as needed.

## OUTREACH & FAITH FORMATION

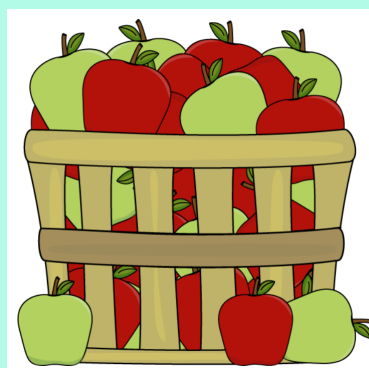
### Harvest Carnival Wrap-Up

Thank you to all the amazing Mt. Si volunteers who helped make this year's Harvest Carnival another huge success! We had over 50(?) community members come join our own members to partake in the evenings festivities. From crafts to games to the costume parade, cupcake walk, chili cookoff (Congrats to Terry Adams!) and Trunk or Treat... there was much fun, merriment, hot dogs, caramel apples, popcorn, ghosts, goblins and ghouls for all to enjoy! It was a true success, and another wonderful example of Mt. Si's awesome programming that we share in our community!



### EVERYTHING APPLES!

Join us on Sunday, Nov. 6 from 10:45-Noon for an annual favorite - Everything Apples! Order your own box of apples (and maybe pears!) from John by Nov.1 for \$25, or just come and help for a suggested donation of \$5. We'll be pressing cider, making applesauce, and making pie-filling.



#### Upcoming Dates:

##### Everything Apples

Sunday 11/6

##### Advent Festival

Sunday, 11/27

##### Holly Days

Saturday 12/3

*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 John Grebe know.*

**NOVEMBER  
BIRTHDAYS**



- Terry Adams 7th
- Joanne Chase 7th
- Sheila Rodriguez 11th
- Tom Lee 13th
- Jace Lee 15th
- Charles Lynch 17th
- Judah Tiongson 21st
- Lindsey Cassidy 23rd
- Margaret Mantz 23rd

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

Send content for our weekly News from the Pews to Kathleen at:  
mtsi.assistant@gmail.com

**OUTREACH NEWS**



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4  
5 - 8 PM**

Tree lighting ❄️ Streetside smores ❄️ Live performances  
Santa ❄️ Crafting for kids ❄️ Holiday dining & shopping

**Mt Si Lutheran Booth at Holly Days**

Mt Si will again have a booth with free crafts, hot coco and more at this year's North Bend Holly Days. We need help setting up, supervising crafts, handing out church info and cleaning up. See sign-ups in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall for more details or talk to Pastor Krista.



## WORSHIP NEWS



### All Saints Sunday

November 6th

We will honor those who have gone before us and now dance with the Saints in light.

### Reformation Sunday

October 30th

You are invited to wear Red in honor of this festival Sunday!



## NOVEMBER SUNDAY LESSONS

### November 6<sup>th</sup>

First Lesson: Ephesians 1:11-23

Narrative Text:

2 Kings 5:1-15

### November 20<sup>th</sup>

First Lesson: Matthew 5:1-16

Narrative Text:

Is. 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7

### November 13<sup>th</sup>

First Lesson: Matthew 9:9-13

Narrative Text:

Micah 1:3; 5:2-5a; 6:6-8

### November 27<sup>th</sup>

First Lesson: Matthew 26:36-38

Narrative Text Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1

-4; 3:3b-6, 17-19



### The Sunday flower chart is in the Narthex

(area outside  
sanctuary)

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



# Advent Festival

## Sunday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>—following worship

An event for all ages! Stay after worship for our annual advent festival. Yummy treats, great conversation, holiday crafts and materials to make your own advent yule log to take home!

Have questions? Please talk to Pastor Krista.  
We look forward to celebrating with you!



First Sunday *of* Advent

November 27<sup>th</sup>

## BISHOP'S LETTER

November 2022



I just spoke with one of my friends who attended seminary with me. She is a pastor in the Midwest. And she is a great pastor. She is warm. She is funny. She loves Jesus. She loves the Church. She loves Church so much that she used to attend three different Lutheran churches in a weekend (not counting the church she serves). She feels called by God to be a pastor. But today I had a phone call from her. She was crying. And she said to me (as a friend – not as a bishop), “The thing is I don’t get that much enjoyment out of pastoring for the work involved except God probably wants me to do it. Knowing that is some consolation.”

Recently I heard Pastor Dan White speak about pastor burn-out on a podcast:

“I mean, I’m seeing pastors every week who would never have considered rethinking their call as a pastor, who are doing that every week. And it’s just because things are so broken and hurting and exhausting, and they’re faced with that question now. And they never had to face it before. So I think it’s just kind of flipping over the apple cart, and everything is kind of being questioned.” The New York Times Podcast First Person, July 21, 2022

According to Barna Group\*, two out of five pastors have thought about leaving ministry in the last year. This is remarkably higher from previous years. What is the difference? According to Barna, the top reasons include stress, loneliness, and political division. While these three reasons are not new, we know that Covid compounded some of the tensions that already existed. We know that the last two and half years have frayed relationships in ways we did not expect. As Bishop, I know that pastors are leaving congregations at a faster pace than I have ever experienced and the three reasons above are often the reason.

Oof! This makes me sad and anxious. This isn’t how pastoring is supposed to be. As I tell people in premarital counseling, “Sometimes life is hard. Sometimes a relationship is hard. But neither life nor marriage should be hard all the time. Most of the time your relationship should make life better.” And the same holds true for being a pastor. Sometimes pastoring is hard. But it shouldn’t be hard all the time.

So how can we help pastors, and other leaders, who are experiencing stress, loneliness, and political division in the congregation?

If we continue to look at Barna research, it appears that pastors who continue to feel called to ministry responded that even though they might be experiencing stress, loneliness, and political division, they also have support through family, community, and other strong relationships.

How can this happen? How can we build mutually caring and loving relationships with one another? How can we rebuild what Covid frayed? How do we best support and encourage our pastors, deacons, and lay ministry professionals? How can we, together, be the body of Christ for one another?

I’d love to hear your suggestions. What are your thoughts? You are welcome to email me at [bishop@lutheransnw.org](mailto:bishop@lutheransnw.org).

May we mutually uphold and support one another as siblings in Christ.

+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee