



ANCHOR NEWS

Springfield Lutheran Church, ELCA, Newsletter

July 2017

Post Scripts

"Jesus is Coming: Look Busy" (or was it "Look Busy: Jesus is Coming?") So said a bumper sticker some years ago that still "sticks" with me. As corny as it is, it does bring up a valid point about faith and discipleship. Simply put: we have things to do in Christ's name.

It has been that way for the Church, both before and since the "Great Commission" passage in Matthew 28, a lesson we heard at worship a few weeks ago: "Go therefore into all nations..." with teaching and baptizing being foremost among the "busy" things that actually are good things to be about as Our Lord's followers.

I made an appeal last month to "tell the Story, pray, and worship", and that we would be learning to practice these things over the summer months. Even with the comings and goings that summer can bring for many of us, I repeat that appeal again to pay attention to those three things. I have also asked us to consider an "elevator speech," that is, a summary of the Christian faith, that we can all have ready that summarizes what it means to follow Jesus.

The quote of the month by Dr. Polkinghorne, for example, is one of the ways that he, as a scientist and as an Anglican priest, summarizes some quite complex ideas. He is regarded being both a world-renowned scientist (he has worked with Stephen Hawking, an atheist), and is a well-respected person of faith (his many books attest to that). He is *not* a "fast read" by any stretch, but I get a kick from how he approaches his everyday world and navigates it with his life of prayer and worship. I have heard him speak, in person, about these things; a summary of his faith/"elevator speech" would be one covering dozens of floors in a high-rise building! (He would include the word "verisimilitudiness" in there too—look it up!)

During July and August, after I get back from my own time away, our Sundays will include time to at least contemplate and certainly begin to practice our summaries of faith together. Don't worry, it'll be engaging, thoughtful, and even *fun*, because one of things I have learned about faith, and sharing it, over the years, is to be serious about the "serious stuff", and also to be "playful" too, as our Lord Jesus came that "our joy may be made complete" in Him.

No pointless "doing busy work for Jesus" for me! Or for us all. As a former pastor at Springfield Lutheran used to say: "share the joy." Indeed.

Peace, in Christ, Pastor Erik

Quote of the Month

"Modern science, properly understood, in no way condemns God, at best, to the Deistic Absentee Landlord, but it allows us to conceive of the Creator's continuing providential activity and costly loving care for creation."

Sir John Polkinghorne, "Belief in God in an Age of Science" (Yale University Press, 1998, p. 75.)

In This Issue

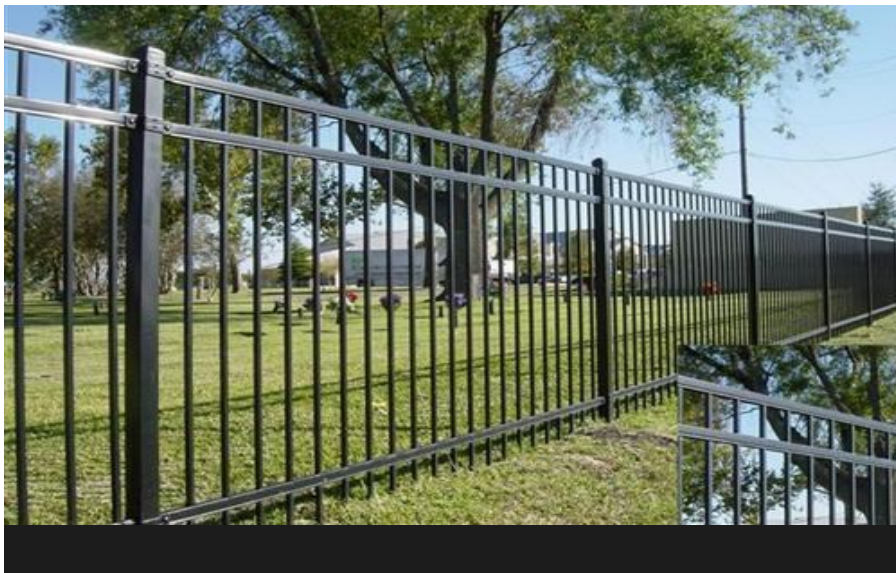
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On Ordinary Time...Source: Pastor Andy Ballentine, St. Stephen Lutheran Church/ELCA, Williamsburg, Virginia

...In the counter-culture (!) of the church, we observe the "liturgical year." Among the six seasons of the liturgical year, there are two distinct movements. The first part of the year is Advent-Christmas-Epiphany-Lent-Easter. This part of the year is full of festivals and commemorations, Sundays and seasons of special significance.

...Now we have entered the second part of the liturgical year, which is called, "Ordinary Time." Why is this half of the year called that? One possibility is that this half of the year is ordinary and routine, as compared with Advent through Easter... another explanation: that "Ordinary" is used because the word comes from the same root as "ordinal." The Sundays following Pentecost are numbered!

Whichever explanation you prefer, I urge you to consider the importance of Ordinary Time. As we practice the faith during this season of Pentecost, during this half of the liturgical year, we're reminded by the Spirit to pay attention to the everyday events of our lives (during days that are routine and even boring!), responding to the Spirit's efforts to draw us more deeply in love with God our Creator and Savior.



Meet & Greet Our New Fence

By Michelle Guillory—This summer we will be getting a new fence around the entrance to our building. The main reasons why we need this are to promote the security of our facility and to reduce the abuse of our entryway.

What's the cost? Well, for the fence and three gates, about \$13,000. If you would like to join others in helping to offset this amount, please either contact Linda Loomis or designate on your check or offering envelope that it's for the "Fencing Fund"...and THANK YOU!

How do you get in? Well, there will be three locked gates and some people will have a key and those who don't will have to come during church office hours and Sunday worship and other events or call someone who does have a key. If you are a member of a group that meets here, but not part of the congregation, don't worry because your leader will have access.

In the end, the only thing this new fencing will really do is tighten up our security and look nice while doing so.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Heads Up! There is only one service on Sundays (10:00 am). There is NO Monday Bible Study or Midweek Worship for the duration of the summer. This also includes NO Fringe Benefits. The normal schedule resumes after Labor Day.

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SLC Quilting Schedule:

The Springfield Lutheran Sewing Sisters (SLSS) meet on all Mondays from 9:00 to 11:00 am. Michelle Marroquin and Miriam Jones are your contacts for the SLSS.

The SLCW LWR Quilters meet Tuesdays, from 9:00 to 10:30 am. We follow the LWR guidelines and make quilts for those in areas of crisis throughout the world. Miriam Jones & Carol McAllister are your contacts for the LWR Quilters.

Come, join one group or both! Help those in need and learn new quilting techniques along the way.

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Book Group

The next book to be reading is The Land of Silence by Joyce Tessa Afshar. The book discussion meeting is **July 28** at 11:30 am. The location is Willie's on International Way. Darlene Wood is your contact.

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Reunion

Former youth pastor, Brian Classen will be in town this summer. A reunion potluck will be held at the Jones home on **08/19** and a church barbecue will be held on **08/20**. More details will be coming as we get closer to the event. It will be a great couple of days.

Your Council Members for 2017:

President:
Linda Loomis

Vice President/
Stewardship:
Open

Secretary:
Rita Grimes

Treasurer:
Gail Rogers

Financial Secretary
Open

Property/Maintenance:
Ray Miller

Worship Committee:
Kae Ellingsen

Social Concerns/
Outreach:
Susan Squire



President's Corner

Church Executive Council met on the 28th of June. Pastor Erik opened with a prayer.

We met our summer musician, Zaira Castillo, who will be playing for us while Alessandro, Fanarelia, and Jorge are out of the country until September. Zaira, who hails from Hood River, will be a fourth-year student at the University of Oregon School of Music this autumn, and we are very glad to have her with us! A smooth transition and continuation for our music ministry is a blessing.

Gail Rogers, Treasurer, reported that we are up to date on our bills, but having to use some of our savings still to help cover things; we are still about \$5,000 behind our budget for 2017. We continue to ask for the equivalent of 50+ congregation members and friends to each give an extra \$5.00 per week so we can meet all of our ministry goals.

Pastor Erik reported that he had a great Fathers' Day weekend with Sam in San Diego, and is grateful to Kenny Eilers and Sharon Walton for leading worship June 18. He also reported on the Oregon Synod plans for an every congregation visit happening this autumn, and for pursuing an additional/frequent guitar player to help lead worship. (Alessandro will be glad to lead singers/choir, too).

Our new wrought iron fencing, which will enclose and help secure the courtyard area on the south side of the church (near the office area and by the main sanctuary doors) is scheduled to begin installed in late June or early July! Please help with contributions (about \$13,000) if you can.

Social concerns and helpful church members hosted a well-attended community breakfast June 24. Next one will be September 9 as part of the national ELCA "God's Work, Our Hands" day of church-wide community service.

I am progressing with my "inreach" ministry towards our fellow parishioners and visitors to keep them connected with Springfield Lutheran's ministry. Big fun, really! If you want to help with phone calls, cards, or visits, let me know.

Happy Fourth of July to all!

Linda Loomis
President

As a heads up—

We will be returning to our normal newsletter presentation in August...this is just the "vacation" edition. Have a great summer.

Michelle

Every Week

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:30 am Fellowship 10:00 am Worship with Communion	Office Closed 9:00 SLSS Quilting 12 noon AA 6:30 Al-Anon	9:00 LWR Quilting 12 noon AA 5:30 NA	12 noon AA 12:30 Nar Anon 2:00 Sr. Mat Yoga 3:30 Sr. Chair Yoga 5:30 AA	12 noon AA	12 noon AA 12:30 Nar-Anon	10:00 Women's AA 12:00 noon AA

JULY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Pentecost 4	3	4 FOURTH OF JULY Office Closed	5	6 1st worship service For Springfield Lutheran Church, in 1946!	7 Office Closed	8
9 Pentecost 5	10 NO Women's Circle	11	12	13	14 Office Closed	15
16 Pentecost 6	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30 Pentecost 7/8	24/31	25	26	27	28 11:30 Book Group Camp Lutherwood Women's Retreat thru 07/30	29 Camp Lutherwood Women's Retreat thru 07/30

Bulletin Board

In the main hall by the church office, is a bulletin board that is for everyone. It's been titled Our Church—Our Community—Our World.

It is for news and events happening around our church, around Springfield, around Lane County, and around Oregon, and around the US, and around the World.

Not everything is applicable, but most things are. The grandson doing well in sports (our church), another church bazaar (our community), various volunteer opportunities (our community/our world), the latest newsletters from a variety of organizations (our community/our world).

Our goal is to share happenings, not to indoctrinate or recruit for something that is unrelated to the church. The big 'no' is secular politics and activism. There can be news of a meeting, but no views or opinions. We understand that politics and activism impact our church, our community, and our world; but this board is too small a forum for such a task.

Should you like something to go up, contact the church office and we will put it up if applicable.



Our Church—Our Community —Our World—

- **Council**—The next meeting is after church on **July 16**.
- **Book Group**—The next book discussion meeting is **July 28** at 11:30 am over at Willie's on International Way. See page 2 for more details.
- **Women's Retreat**—Camp Lutherwood—**July 28-30**. See page 7 for details.
- **Women's Circle**—The standing date is the second Monday of each month at 1:00 pm. There is NO meeting for July. The next meeting is the retreat out at the Richardson home.
- **Reunion**—see page 6 for details, but Pastor **Brian Classen** will be here **August 19 & 20**.
- **Camp Lutherwood Harvest Festival**—Sunday, **October 1**. Mark your calendar for an afternoon of fellowship, fun, food, and fundraising, all in support of Camp Lutherwood Oregon! More details to come.
- **CropWalk Eugene**—Sunday, **October 1**. The event will be held at Alton Baker Park once again. Registration is open online at www.crophungerwalk.org/eugeneor
- **Newsletters**—Don't forget to check our bulletin board near the Church Office for a wide variety of newsletters with more information than our little newsletter can handle and still stay little.

Women's Retreat

- * By Michelle Guillory—**SLCW and Camp Lutherwood's Women's Retreat**—This year, our SLCW is wanting to go to the Women's Retreat together. As promised, here are the updated details: **July 28-30** and \$100 and all meals are included. Registration is now available online at lutherwoodoregon.org or by calling 541.998.6444. The speaker is Rev. Lucille Antoinette Mills. She will lead us in games, nature walks (as you are able), Bible study, worship, and contemplative conversations. It sounds like a good time.

Food Collection Drives

By Michelle Guillory—Please note there are restrictions on what we can and cannot give. Here are two important things to remember:

- * we cannot give foods that are in previously opened packages (or simply food without packaging)
- * we cannot give items with expired "best by" or "sell by" dates.

Please make sure that you give what you would be willing to eat. And lastly, please remember that we are often times giving to poor people without can openers, so if it's an affordable option, please give easy open cans with "pull tabs" or "pop tops". For all you do, thank you.

The Narthex Table

By Michelle Guillory—For July, here's the current list of what's on the Narthex Table:

- **Christ In Our Homes**—These are quarterly devotionals that cost \$5 for an annual subscription. The money goes to the SLCW who pays the bill.
- This **newsletter** (including the monthly calendar) can be found there, as well. We provide printed copies for folks who do not have internet access. If you do have access to the internet, please feel free to peruse, but leave the paper copies for those who don't. Thank you.
- On the easel near the entry to the Narthex, you'll find **signup sheets** for bringing flowers on Sundays and for reading the Scriptures during the services...you can pick which service to read during. This bulletin board also has the selected readings so those who choose to read may have time to practice.

Periodically check there to see if there's something new with your name on it in the basket on the table with the alphabetical tabs...it won't necessarily be another giving statement, but perhaps something that needed to be passed on to you. Thank you.

Contact Us

If you need the church, the Pastor, the Secretary, prayer, comfort, or guidance; please contact us at:

**Springfield Lutheran Church,
ELCA**
1542 I Street
Springfield, OR 97477
(541) 746-2403

Office Hours: Closed Mondays & National Holidays.
Open Tuesday-Friday, from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

SLCAncor@gmail.com

Visit us on the web at
www.springfieldlutheran.org

