

*Peace Lutheran Church*

## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

# Where Everybody is Somebody Because Jesus Christ is Lord!



**Ministers: The Congregation**  
**Pastor: Ian McMichael**  
**Church Secretary: Corrin McMichael**  
**Pianist: Kate Schneider**  
**Custodian: Ron Shirley**

309 N. Lake Street  
Colfax, WA 99111  
Phone: (509) 397-2121  
peacelutherancolfax@gmail.com  
<http://peacelutherancolfax.org>

# SEPTEMBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11:00am Worship		1:30pm Peace Stitchers				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		1:30pm Peace Stitchers 5:30pm Council Meeting				
11:00am Worship						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10:00am Sunday School Begins						
11:00am Worship		1:30pm Peace Stitchers				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10:00am "God's Work Our Hands" Joint Service in Endicott		1:30pm Peace Stitchers				
29	30					
10:00am Sunday School						
11:00am Worship						

*Luke 2:36-38*

*<sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.*

Anna is the only woman in the entire New Testament to be called a prophet. Of course, there are other women throughout the Bible who point us towards God. My thoughts immediately turn to Mary of Bethany, Mary the Mother of Jesus and Martha. Miriam and Deborah, for example, are called prophets and appear in the Old Testament. Yes, women have played a vital role in proclaiming God since the very beginnings of the church and even before the arrival of Christ on Earth. Women were, after all, the first people to proclaim the resurrected Christ!

Last month, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America met for their Churchwide Assembly. It was a chance to conduct the business of the church, elect leaders, pass memorials and amendments and be in community with others who call this church home and faithfully proclaim Christ through it. During the assembly a lot happened. However, one of the most important things was the reelection of Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton on the first ballot with over 80% of the ballots cast. This was a resounding vote of confidence in the leadership of Presiding Bishop Eaton and her abilities to lead this church into an uncertain and ever-changing future. It was a Spirit led moment in which the church acknowledged the capabilities and gifts of a talented leader.

It was also a moment that could not have happened over 50 years ago. It was in 1970 that the American Lutheran Church (a predecessor body to the ELCA, along the Lutheran Church of America) ordained Elizabeth Platz, the first woman to be ordained by any Lutheran body. Last month the ELCA churchwide assembly celebrated that decision to allow women to lead worship, proclaim the Gospel and administer the sacraments. They celebrated the Rev. Elizabeth Platz and her contribution to moving this church more fully towards God's Kingdom and they celebrated the women that came after her.

It has been my great pleasure to learn from extraordinarily intelligent seminary faculty, to learn with new leaders of the church excited and energized by the challenges that lie ahead and to serve with colleagues of this synod and around the ELCA who just happen to be women. We give thanks for their gifts. For their courage. For their willingness to follow the call of the Gospel to ordained ministry.

As you live your life this month, I encourage you to think of those women who have had an impact on your faith life. Whether that be a Sunday School teacher, a congregation member, your own mother or grandmother or a pastor. As you think of people, I would also encourage you to let them know your thoughts. Give them thanks. Tell them what their presence and actions did for you and for your life of faith.

We give thanks for the 50 years and look forward to many more, recognizing the unique gifts that each individual can bring to the life of the church. Thanks be to God!

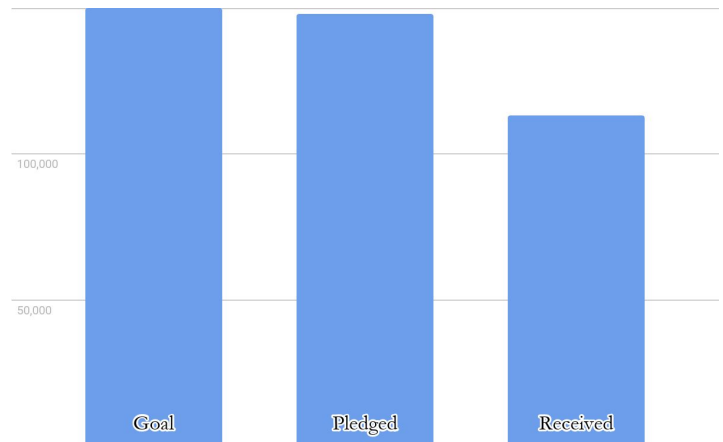
Peace,  
Pastor Ian

## Council's Corner

After a summertime hiatus, the church council will swing back into action on September 10th. Please share any agenda item ideas with any member of council: Jill Whelchel, Gail Webster, Brandy Wigen, Pete Wigen, Scott Cocking, Kathy Carr, Steve & Julie Teade, Rex Rutledge, or Diane Miller.

## Growing into God's Future *Campaign News*

With less than a year left of the capital campaign, we are inching closer to our goal of \$150,000. As of the end of August, we have raised \$113,188.80.



The John K Schierman Family Memorial Endowment Fund was established to reward students for their participation in the Peace Lutheran choir. Since 1981, 34 recipients have received a total of \$114,200. For the 2019/2020 school year, Chandra Maki and Tim Cornelius were issued their fourth and final scholarship payment of \$1000.00. Alexis Maki received her third payment and Kiah Miller was given her second payment. Congratulations to these students for their hard work and success with their education.

## Pastor Ian's Installation



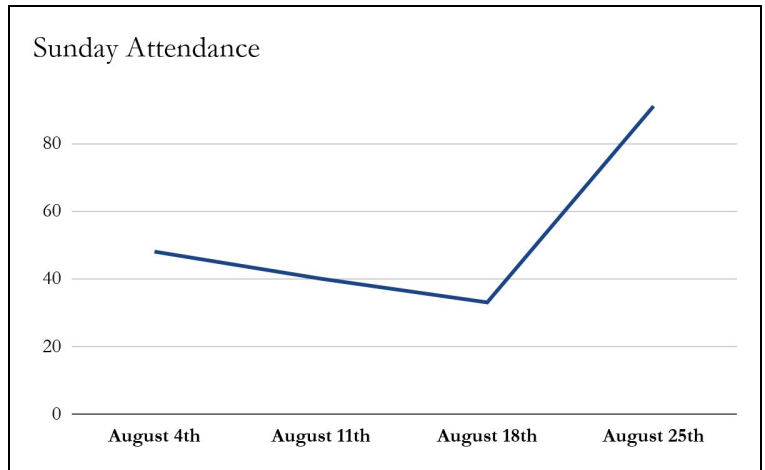
Pastor Ian was installed on August 25th during a joint service at Peace, followed by a reception at Trinity. We give thanks for Pastor Ian's ministry among us and look forward to what God has in store!

## Birthdays

**1st** - Jay Hart  
**6th** - Ashley Smith  
**10th** - Inez Kynoch  
**11th** - Logan Damery  
**14th** - DJ Hart  
**18th** - Joey Conklin  
Curtis McNeilly  
**19th** - Emily Hart  
Marc Larkin  
Stephanie McNeilly  
**21st** - Tom Schlueter  
**23rd** - Ryan Teade  
**25th** - Pastor Ian McMichael  
**28th** - Virgil Hatley  
**29th** - Heidi Jamison  
Alex Teade  
Julie Teade

## Anniversaries

1st - Rob & Liane Smith (1984)  
7th - Virgil & Arlene Hatley (1984)  
16th - Dennis & Julie Kincaid (1995)



*She*  
IS CLOTHED IN  
*strength*  
AND  
*dignity,*  
AND SHE  
*laughs*  
WITHOUT FEAR  
OF THE FUTURE.

PROVERBS 31:25

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## Monthly Prayers

PRAYERS FOR CLUSTER F- Each month of the year we are going to pray for a different cluster of our Northwest Intermountain Synod. During the month of September we are praying for Cluster F:

The South Central Cluster. It is composed of the following congregations: Immanuel Lutheran, Grandview, WA; Our Savior Lutheran, Sunnyside, WA; Faith Lutheran, Toppenish, WA; Christ the King Lutheran, Goldendale, WA; Grace Lutheran, Mattawa, WA; Central Lutheran, Yakima, WA; Christ Lutheran, Yakima, WA; Tree of Life Lutheran, Yakima, WA; First Lutheran, Ellensburg, WA.

Thank you for your prayers.

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# 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly

## Summary of Actions

CHICAGO — Gathering under the theme "We are church," voting members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) made a number of key decisions to further the mission and ministry of this church. The assembly, the chief legislative authority of the church, met Aug. 5-10 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee.

More than 900 voting members:

- Re-elected on the first ballot the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton to a six-year term as ELCA presiding bishop.
- Elected Deacon Sue Rothmeyer to a six-year term as ELCA secretary. Rothmeyer, currently serving as executive for administration with the Office of the Secretary, was installed during the assembly's closing worship on Aug. 10 and will begin her term Nov. 1.
- Approved the social statement "*Faith, Sexism and Justice: A Call to Action*" and its implementing resolutions. The social statement, in part, names patriarchy and sexism as sins and calls the church to action on a range of issues, including gender-based violence, workplace discrimination and economic inequality.
- Adopted "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment," which will serve as church policy for inter-religious relations. The policy statement was adopted with the witness of 39 ecumenical and inter-religious guests in attendance.
- Approved the triennium budget for 2020-2022, which includes a current fund spending authorization of \$68,378,325 for 2020, a current fund income proposal of \$68,442,034 for 2021 and \$68,507,018 for 2022; and an ELCA World Hunger spending authorization of \$21.5 million 2020, and an income proposal of \$21.5 million for 2021 and for 2022.
- Adopted the "Strategy Toward Authentic Diversity in the ELCA," which consists of a report and recommendations on how the ELCA exhibits authentic diversity and formulates goals for racial diversity and inclusion.
- Witnessed the presentation of the "Declaration of the ELCA to People of African Descent," which was accepted by the Rev. Lamont A. Wells, president of the African Descent Lutheran Association (ADLA), and members of ADLA.
- Adopted 26 memorials en bloc, ranging in topics from gun violence to engagement in the Holy Land and gender identity to seminary tuition.
- Adopted a memorial that affirms the ELCA's long-standing commitment to migrants and refugees and declares the ELCA a sanctuary church body.
- Adopted a memorial that calls for the development of a social statement and social message on the relationship of church and state.
- Adopted a memorial to encourage all synods and congregations to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ELCA's ordination of women in 2020, the 40th anniversary of the ordination of women of color in the Lutheran tradition and the 10th anniversary of the ELCA's decision to remove barriers to ordination for people in same-gender relationships.

- Adopted a memorial to support the vision and goals of the Poor People's Campaign that align with the ELCA's social teachings.
- Adopted a series of amendments to the "Constitutions, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America," including one that makes ordination the entrance rite for ministers of Word and Service, and an amendment to no longer count deacons as laypeople for representational principles.
- Adopted a resolution that committed the ELCA to support the World Council of Church's "Thursdays in Black" campaign toward a world without rape and violence.
- Adopted a resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance in the ELCA for the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9—the nine people who were shot and killed June 17, 2015, during a Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C.
- Adopted a resolution to condemn white supremacy, calling all ELCA congregations to engage in a "study of the structures and rhetoric that empower and fuel racism and white supremacy and to take to heart the teaching of Scriptures, so we may all be better equipped to speak boldly about the equal dignity of all persons in the eyes of God."
- Celebrated the end of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, which concluded June 30 with nearly \$250 million raised in cash, multiyear commitments and planned gift commitments. At the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, voting members approved the \$198 million campaign to help sustain and grow ministries of the church.
- Elected members to serve on the ELCA Church Council, churchwide committees and churchwide boards, including Portico Benefit Services, the Mission Investment Fund and 1517 Media.

Source: <https://elca.org/News-and-Events/8003>

\* If you would like more information on any of the points above, please come see Pastor Ian! He would be happy to hear from you!