

EDMONDS LUTHERAN CHURCH

23525 84th Avenue West – Office
Edmonds, WA 98026-8611



*We will be a sign in the community
that Jesus Christ is here....*

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
9:30 AM ADULT FORUM HOUR
10:30 AM CELEBRATION WORSHIP

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am—1pm
Email: office@edmondslutheran.org
Phone: 425-744-8090

Pastor:
Rev. Dr. Julie M. Josund pastorjulie@edmondslutheran.org

Pastor:
Tim Oleson pastortim@edmondslutheran.org

Administrative Assistant:
Donna Saltzberg office@edmondslutheran.org

Communications Coordinator:
Suzy Baroud suzybaroud@hotmail.com

Music Ministries:
Darren Hochstedler darren@edmondslutheran.org
Margo Lawrence, Nancy Furness Organists

Operations Manager:
Patrick Brady patrick@edmondslutheran.org

Learning Center: 425-776-2601
Amelia Nossum, Director
Mary Sheldahl, Program Supervisor

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News from Edmonds Lutheran Church

December 2015



Preparing Our Hearts for Christ's Birth

By Pastor Tim Oleson

What memory comes to your mind when you think of the Christmas season?

I vividly remember the empty manger that sat on the hutch in the living room of my family's house. It was a small wooden manger, about the size of a cereal bowl, that was designed to resemble a feeding trough, and next to it sat a plastic bag filled with straw pieces. Behind the manger sat a card that was propped up and read, "Baby Jesus is on his way, but there is no straw in the manger. Baby Jesus needs a soft bed to sleep in, and it is your job to prepare it. So every time you do a generous act of service, favor or good deed for someone you can put one piece of straw into the manger to prepare the manger for Baby Jesus."

My sister and I made it our mission to make sure the small manger was filled as soon as possible, because we couldn't have Jesus sleeping in a cold, damp, uncomfortable

wooden manger! No, that just wouldn't do. "That was no bed for a king" we thought! So, with every chance to vacuum, walk the dog, dust the house, or load the dishwasher, we were first in line so that as soon as we were done we could run to the hutch, grab a piece of straw, and place it in the empty manger. How exciting it was to watch that manger fill up, and how proud we were that we were making a more hospitable and comfortable bed for Jesus.

God who chooses to show solidarity with the weakest, most vulnerable parts of our humanity - the places where we feel there is "no room in the inn" for us.

Now, as an adult, I hear the Christmas story and think, "A manger! A manger! Straw or no straw, that was probably not comfortable, nor very hospitable." Yet, this is the God I know... A God that chooses to come to us, to be with us, not in glory on a throne or in a plush and prestigious down bed made of the finest fabrics. But a God who chooses to show solidarity with the weakest, most vulnerable parts of our humanity - the places where we feel there is "no room in the inn" for us. When we are down and out, when we are cold, hurting and in need of some sort of redemption, God comes to us.

continued on next page...



Christmas at ELC

Invite your friends
to join us for
Christmas Eve Worship

Services at 6:00 pm
and 10:00 pm

Worship News

(continued from front page)

Advent is the season of waiting and preparing. We are waiting and preparing for the coming of the King, the Messiah, the baby Jesus. It is that empty manger waiting to be filled with straw that helps us prepare for that coming. How is it that we prepare while we wait during this season of advent and the constant advent of our lives? It is, as that card behind the sack of straw on the hutch said, when we serve others. For it is in serving others, others that represent that family for whom there was no room in the inn, where we encounter this Christ, this Messiah, this King whose very act of starting in this world is in solidarity with those who have no home.

December Worship Schedule



Advent Evening Prayer

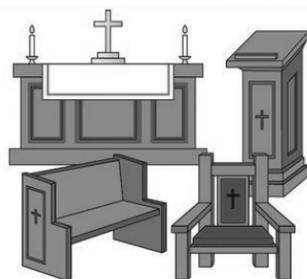
Edmonds Lutheran Church will host three special mid-week services of Advent

Each Wednesday evening (starting December 2nd) will begin at 7pm with Holden Evening Prayer. The service will consist of meditative and joyous singing of hymns and carols, faith stories, candlelight, silence and hearing the advent readings. Our prayer is that these quiet services will be a time to deepen the experience of Advent as we wait together for the coming of the Light of the World.



Dec 6	Second Sunday in Advent Worship at 8:30 and 10:30 am Thrivent Choice Dollars Forum
Dec 13	Third Sunday in Advent Worship at 8:30 and 10:30 am
Dec 20	Fourth Sunday in Advent Worship at 8:30 and 10:30 am
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Worship Two identical services at 6:00 pm and 10:00 pm
Dec 27	First Sunday in Christmas ONE SERVICE AT 9:30 am Christmas Lessons and Carols

Sanctuary News



Seasons Change! I was reminded of how quickly seasons change as we recently experienced our first taste of those powerful and familiar winter storms in the Northwest. Just like our earthly seasons change, so too do our liturgical seasons change. With each liturgical season you will always see and notice changes in our sanctuary and liturgies that mirror, help us celebrate and match our rhythm with these seasons. One of the changes that will stand out the most for our season after Epiphany will be the pew arrangement that will physically draw us to center ourselves within community. This arrangement will take us through Lent, up to the season of Easter when we will go back to a more conventional arrangement. We invite you to notice and learn from these intentional changes of pew arrangements and decoration and how they help support our liturgical rhythms of life.

- Pastor Tim

5 ~

Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship Worship (S)	4	5 10a NA Women's Group (SS) 12p Memorial service (S/SH/FS)
Worship Worship (S)	11	12 10a NA Women's Group (SS)
Worship Worship (S)	18 7p Pinochle (FH)	19 8a Women's Breakfast (Swedish Edmonds cafe) 10a Drum Circle (S) 10a NA Women's Group (SS) 11:30a Recorder Ensemble (S)
Worship Worship	25 Christmas ELC Office & Learning Center closed	26 10a NA Women's Group (SS)
Worship Worship (S)		

*Birthday Blessings to
our Friends at ELC!*

*"God danced on the
day you were born"*

- December 1- Jean Sanderson*
- December 3- Robert Martinson*
- December 8- Sue Phillips*
- December 13- Dorothy Bunstine*
- December 16- Nat Colombana*
- December 17- Aidan Colombana*
- December 18- Janet Hagen*
- December 18 - Karen Jurewicz*
- December 20- Nicole Makris*
- December 22- Bob Hacker*
- December 25- Maurene Barnes*
- December 27- Irene Franz*
- December 28- David Barnes*
- December 29- Chet Richardson*
- December 31- Melanie Hughey*

♥ *Anniversary Blessings to:*

- Nat and Amy Colombana- December 14*
- Wayne and Rosa Mulkey- December 18*
- Dick and Beth Baker- December 27*

*There is no more lovely, friendly or
charming relationship, communion or
company, than a good marriage."*
- Martin Luther

~ December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
		1 10:30a Staff Mtg (CR) 6p Book Club Christmas Party 7:30p NA (SS)	2 9a Men's Breakfast (Pancake Haus Edmonds) 10:30a Bible Study (FS) 11:30a Clergy Text Study (FS) 4p ACK Board Meeting (CR) 5p Annie's Kitchen (FH/K) 6p Art Reception (FH) 7p Advent service - Holden Evening Prayer	3 6:30p Choir rehe 7:30p Chimes R
6 8:30a Traditional Worship 10:30a Celebration Worship 6p NA (SS) 6:30p OA (FH)	7 6p Dance Group (SS) 7p NA (FH)	8 10a Rebecca Circle 10:30a Staff Mtg (CR) 12p Ladies Lunch (FS) 5p Dine Out (Anthonys in Edmonds) 6p Learning Ctr Bd Mtg (CR) 7p ELC Council Mtg (FS) 7:30p NA (SS)	9 10:30a Bible Study (FS) 11:30a Clergy Text Study (FS) 5p Annie's Kitchen (FH/K) 7p Advent service - Holden Evening Prayer	10 6:30p Choir rehe 7:30p Chimes R
13 8:30a Traditional Worship 10:30a Celebration Worship 3p Private Event 6p NA (SS) 6:30p OA (FH)	14 1p Prayer Shawl Ministry (FS) 6p Dance Group (SS) 7p NA (FH)	15 10a Lefse Festival (K/FH) 10a Quilters (FH) 10:30a Staff Mtg (CR) 5p Learning Center Christmas Party (FH/K/S) 7p Rachel's Circle 7:30p NA (SS)	16 9a Men's Breakfast (Pancake Haus Edmonds) 10:30a Bible Study (FS) 11:30a Clergy Text Study (FS) 5p Annie's Kitchen (FH/K) 6p Learning Center Bd Mtg (CR) 7p Advent service - Holden Evening Prayer	17 7:30p Chimes R
20 8:30a Traditional Worship 10:30a Celebration Worship 6p NA (SS) 6:30p OA (FH)	21 6p Dance Group (SS) 6p Learning Center Staff Mtg (Nossum's) 7p NA (FH)	22 10:30a Staff Mtg (CR) 7:30p NA (SS)	23 10:30a Bible Study (FS) 11:30a Clergy Text Study (FS) 5p Annie's Kitchen (FH/K)	24 6p Christmas Ev 10p Christmas E
27 9:30a Lessons & Carols 6p NA (SS) 6:30p OA (FH)	28 1p Prayer Shawl Ministry (FS) 5p Dine Out 6p Dance Group (SS) 7p NA (FH)	29 10:30a Staff Mtg (CR) 7:30p NA (SS)	30 10:30a Bible Study (FS) 11:30a Clergy Text Study (FS) 5p Annie's Kitchen (FH/K)	31 7:30p Chimes R

Church Life News

Embracing



By Jerry R. O'Neill, Spiritual Director

In her article *Embracing Wisdom*, Malka Drucker suggests four ways older people seem to be aging these days. The first is simply denial: "Who is aging? I am doing what I was doing forty years ago and plan to continue it until I cannot." The second views aging as vindication for earlier years that were disappointing and difficult. For these folks it's about having the fun they missed earlier. The third group knows very well what aging is, and they fear and loathe it. Doctors, plastic surgeons and orthopedists are especially fond of this group!

With the fourth way of aging, there are those who feel the tug of the "further journey," or as Franciscan Friar Richard Rohr calls "the second half of our own lives". People in this group seem to recognize the uniqueness of this developmental stage wherein a significant part of what we have known about ourselves gives way for the emergence of a

truer, greater self. We are living longer—a new reality for most that offers more years to harvest wisdom than ever before. That there are so many of us on this "further journey" is why I feel called to serve as a spiritual director and why in recent years I have come to realize how important it is to have my own spiritual director, a soul companion who will listen deeply to my larger questions of life.

I am not the only one feeling this "tug". When I invited people to sign up for a *Wisdom for Living* class this fall, limiting registration to ten, both my class at Trinity Lutheran on Mondays and the one I facilitate at Edmonds Lutheran on Tuesdays were filled. Using wisdom literature found in the Bible and elsewhere, we have read passages together using the sacred art of lectio divina. Together we have discovered universal life-giving wisdom, been stirred to new levels of spiritual awareness, and have opened ourselves to a fresh sense of God's calling.

Adding to these personal benefits are two other important reasons for embracing wisdom: The first is to become more clear and enlightened for the important task of mentoring others in soulful living. The second is to gain a greater appreciation and understanding for sacred wisdom found in other religious traditions. Worldwide violence often blamed on religious differences is on the rise. More than simply satisfying our curiosity or showing hospitality, taking a personal interest in learning the wisdom of other faith traditions is fast becoming a matter of survival!

I plan to offer *Wisdom for Living* classes again in 2016. Perhaps you'll feel the tug to "journey further" for both your benefit and others. For more information contact me at www.whidbeyspiritual.com or call me at 360.914.8197.

Church Life News



It is time once again to dust off that instrument and join our orchestra. If you have an instrument which has been neglected for years, or if you play on a regular basis, you are invited to join us and play to God's glory!

Sunday, Dec. 20 we will provide music for prelude, offertory, and postlude at the 10:30 service. All instrumentalists from 5th graders up to those 90 and older are invited to join our Orchestra in a one-time celebration during that service.

The music is familiar Christmas carols, all written for winds or strings at a beginning level. You may play all of them, or just the ones you choose. I will give you the music when you sign up.

We will have one rehearsal Saturday morning, Dec. 19 at 11:00 AM in the sanctuary.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, call me.

Diane McCallum
206-542-0406



COME AND HAVE YOUR PICTURE TAKEN WITH SANTA!

Annie's Kitchen will be hosting its annual "Pictures with Santa" on Wednesday, Dec. 16th. This is also the night of Santa's Workshop, where children at ACK can select presents for their parents, teachers, etc. Gifts from Santa's workshop and photos are all free.



Annie's Kitchen Giving Tree



Annie's Community Kitchen, QFC West Lynnwood and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans are sponsoring a Giving Tree again this holiday season.

The tree is located in the floral department of QFC in West Lynnwood, 7500 B 196th St. S.W., and is decked with wish lists of children and families in need in the community.

You are invited to visit the store and spread some holiday cheer by purchasing a gift for a neighbor who is struggling to get by this Christmas.

Sponsoring organizations will take charge of delivery.

If you are interested in learning more about the Giving Tree, contact Marilyn Dauer at 425-478-9261.

BOOK CLUB NEWS



Reminder that the Christmas Party is at Sandy's on December 1 at 6:00. Potluck appetizers for dinner, bring a wrapped book to exchange and \$10 each for our donation to the Library.

Announcements

Below is a list of regularly-scheduled opportunities outside of the Sunday worship services at Edmonds Lutheran Church.

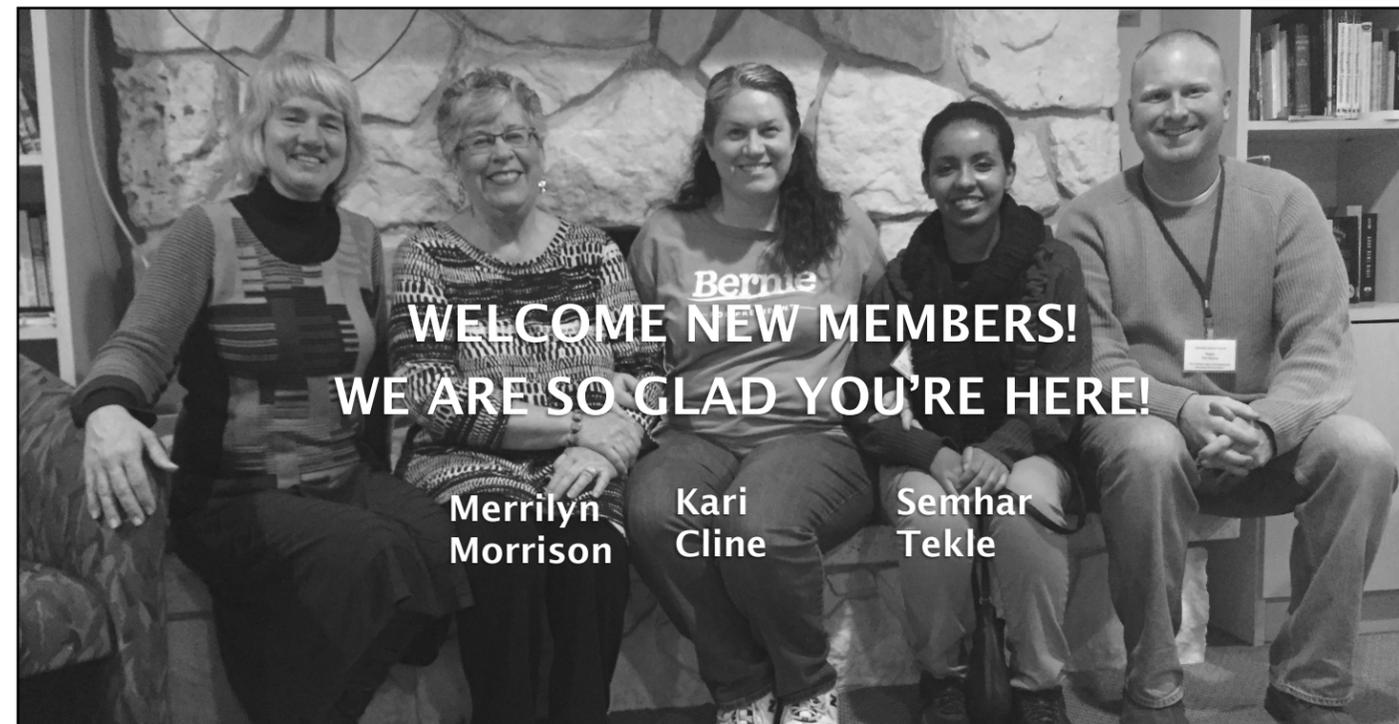
ACTIVITY/EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Staff Meeting	Tuesdays- 10:30 am	ELC (CR)
Chimes Rehearsal	Thursdays-7:30 pm	ELC (S)
Recorder Ensemble	3rd Saturdays- 11:00 am	ELC (S)
Prayer Shawl Knitters	2nd and 4th Monday-1:00 pm	ELC (FS)
"Dine Out"	4th Monday - 5:00 pm	local restaurants
Book Club	1st Tuesday - 7:30 pm	Held at members' homes
Quilters	3rd Tuesday - 10:00 am	ELC (FH)
Men's Breakfast	1st & 3rd Wednesdays - 9am	Edmonds Pancake Haus
Bible Study	Wednesdays - 10:30 am	ELC (FS)
Annie's Community Kitchen	Wednesdays - 5-6:30 pm	ELC (FH/K)
Clergy Text Study	Wednesdays at 10:30 am	ELC (FS)
Traditions Choir	Thursdays - 6:30 pm	ELC (FH)
Drum Circle	3rd Saturday-10:00 am	Fabric of Life in Edmonds
Pinochle Group	3rd Friday - 7:00 pm	ELC (FH)
Women's Breakfast	3rd Saturday - 8:00 am	Swedish Edmonds Cafeteria
Rachel's Circle	3rd Tuesdays-7:00 pm	held at members' homes
Rebecca's Circle	2nd Tuesdays- 10:00 am	held at members' homes
NA	Mondays at 7-8:30 pm	Fellowship Hall
NA	Tuesdays at 7:30 pm	SS
NA Women	Saturdays at 10:00 am	SS
NA	Sundays at 6:00 pm	SS
OA	Sundays at 6:30 pm	Fellowship Hall

MEETINGS

Council	2nd Tuesdays -7:00 pm	ELC (FS)
ACK Board Meeting	1st Wednesdays- 4:00 pm	ELC (FS)
Learning Center Board Mtg	2nd Wednesday- 6:00 pm	ELC (CR)
Learning Center Staff Mtg	3rd Wednesday-6:00 pm	ELC

2015 Council

President	Paul Witzel	(c) 206-953-2690
VP	Linda Bloom	(h) 425-876-9417 (c) 425-512-8011
Secretary	Sydney Isaac	206-542-3695
Treasurer	Malcolm McCallum	(c) 425-776-2409
Financial Secretary	Dorothy Bunstine	206-367-2692
Education	Stephanie Wick	425-248-5598
Outreach Stewardship	David Ruud	425-778-2251
	Bill Anderson	425-776-7389
Endowment		
Property and Grounds	Kevin Jewett	425-778-0158
Worship and Music	Don Furness	425-771-1764
Care and Compassion	Linda Bloom	(h) 425-876-9417 (c) 425-512-8011
Fellowship and Events	Betty Vandenberg	425-778-5657



Church Life News



PLANNING GOALS FOR 2016

opportunities for spiritual growth at a variety of times, days and locations.

2) Outreach / Expansion - "Out of the Box"
The church as we know it is changing. ELC needs to do "church" differently, and be willing to think and act OUTSIDE OF THE BOX. We can be bold to pilot new programs in a variety of formats. We would like to engage our status as a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

3) Properties- Transform the administration wing of the building to cater to the needs of the church and community. Continue to be as environmentally friendly as possible. Develop the East lot so that it can help serve and support the community.

4) Community Connections - Continue to develop and support Annie's Community Kitchen, Chase Lake Community School, ELC Learning Center, ELC Community Garden, along with other community connections yet to be discovered.

After a great deal of intentional listening and reflecting on the spirit and passions of the congregation and community of Edmonds Lutheran Church, the Strategic Planning Task Force offers the following recommendations of goals for ELC. It is our hope that through focusing on these goals we will continue to strive to be a sign in the community that Christ is here.

As a congregation we have discerned four ministry areas to focus on for 2016.

1) Spirituality, Worship, Bible Study, Education
We will continue to offer quality Celebration and Traditional styles of worship and provide opportunities for the entire congregation to worship together. We will offer additional adult education and

Estate Strategies for Women



Ladies! Do you have an estate strategy?

An estate strategy helps to ensure your personal and financial affairs will be carried out as you intended, when you die or become incapacitated in the future. It's a critical part of your financial security. Do you have one?

Join us here at Edmonds Lutheran Church on Tuesday, December 8, at 11:30 am for an Estate Strategies Luncheon Event. During this event you will learn:

Why you need an estate strategy - Strategies to help you prepare for the unexpected- How wills, trusts and life insurance can help - Tax basics

Hosted by Thrivent Financial representative, Merrilee Bradshaw and Pastor Julie.

You will have plenty of time to ask questions. Space is limited. To reserve your place, contact the church office at 425-744-8090.

Church Life News

Dine Out with the Christmas Ships



We will get together for our annual Christmas Dine-out on December 8 at Anthony's at the Edmonds Waterfront. This is on a Tuesday evening at 5:00pm so we will be able to see the Christmas Ships as they glide into the harbor. I will need reservations definitely for this occasion - Linnae McAnally @ 425 776 7363 or linnaemc@msn.com.

SOCIAL CLUB FOR WIDOWS and WIDOWERS

A new and informal group for those having lost a spouse is being formed at

Edmonds Lutheran Church

and will be meeting for the first time on **JANUARY 8, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.**

in the Fireside Room.

Everyone is welcome, regardless of the time since your loss!

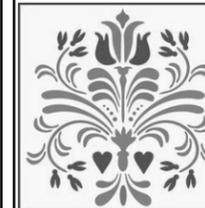
Questions? Call 425-744-8090



JOIN US FOR PICTURES WITH SANTA! - Saturday, Dec. 19th from 11am-1pm.

Annie's Kitchen volunteers will once again partner with the team at QFC West

Lynnwood to provide free pictures with Santa for the community. If you would like to help, call Bob at 425-772-0561. Photos are free. Please bring a canned food item to donate. THANKYOU!



Lefse Festival

Our annual lefse festival will be Tuesday, December 15th at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your supplies to make lefse and a lefse grill if you have one. Bring a sack lunch if you expect to work past lunch time.

Questions? Call Ilene Armintrout at 425-337-6157

Learning Center News



(Donna, Carol R., Patrick, Suzy), pastors (Julie, Tim); amazing board members (Kathy L., Katherine O., Doug W., Jim R., Barbara E., Laurie G., Stephanie W., Paul W.) and all of you who have been awesome to work for.

Our Christmas potluck party will be December 15th and please feel free to join us at 6pm. A special thank you to Robert Lee who will be our Santa again this year with the help of Mrs. Santa (Mimi). An ongoing thank you to the gleaners who even gave the children a cool riding toy last month. Thank you to Bill Shackelford for the pumpkins; Les for children's clothes; Jean Lystad for crayons and game; Karen Newsome for books, dvd, cups and garbage bags; and Elizabeth's mom for a case of cups and Keenex. As always, thanks for your continued donations of Kleenex, kitchen garbage bags, 5 ounce cups, large non-latex gloves and all sizes of batteries.

It has been an honor to serve the Lord as the Director of the Edmonds Lutheran Church Learning Center. I want to thank you for all your support through the years! May you continue spreading the Love of Jesus thru this outreach ministry to children and giving God all the glory!



I want to end with this reminder:

Philippians 4: 4-7 "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

God Bless you all and a very Merry CHRISTmas!

After attending a seminar on retirement in November, I went to bed doubting if I had made a wise decision to retire January 1st. God woke me up with the phrase: "Have no fear, Lean on Me". Then I turned to scripture and the New Living Translation of Proverbs 23:4 says: "Don't wear yourself out trying to get rich. Be wise enough to know when to quit." I know financially I should continue working but I am reminded how my brother died so suddenly at the age of 64. He had expressed regret financially retiring early but I know God wanted him to enjoy being a grandpa for a couple of years before he was called Home. (See *Jeremiah 29:11*). I will miss the children and their parents, my co-workers and many of you, but my trust is in the Lord who will be with me.

Psalms 48:14 "For this God is our God for ever and ever; He will be our guide even to the end."

So as I continue on life's journey, I will ask God to help my faith grow and that He will show me how to serve Him.

Twenty-four children are enrolled for December and for 2016 we have five babies already enrolled. When I look back on the 43 babies I will have cared for by the end of the year, I realize how much God has blessed this Learning Center. I especially want to thank all the wonderful people I have worked with (Carol, Mary, LaKendra, Julie, Tori, Allison, Isatou, Mimi); my faithful volunteers (Hilde G., Dorothy H., Diane M., Sue K., Lee S., Laurie G., Barbara E, Barbara S.); staff that have helped me

November Council News

Congregation Council Reports and Meeting Notes
Treasurer's Report – Offerings and other income for October were around \$1,100 less than expenses. When looking at what was budgeted, our deficit is around \$16,000. Your continued generosity will allow us to lower this amount.

Pastor Tim's Report

Learning Center-We have received several applications for the Director position. We will be doing interviews on the 21st of November.

Bishop's Convocation-I attended the fall Bishop's Convocation at First Lutheran in Bothell. The guest presenter was Barbara Lundblat. She shared about concepts of being open to where and how the spirit is calling us in this new time of ministry that the church is experiencing. A striking comment she shared was how this was a really good and exciting time to be a pastor and a church when people choose to come to church and not out of an obligation. She also shared about the importance of intergenerational connections and finding new avenues to have our young and share and learn from one another.

House Church Exploration-Attended my first house church experience. It was very fruitful and I could see how this could be a very powerful experience. It is rather easy to do. I am still discerning on what, where and how we might utilize this model.

Scriber Lake Writers- On Reformation Sunday we were very blessed to have these young authors come and share with our community. It was moving and inspiring to hear these stories and witness the courage in these young people. Their teacher shared that they were still talking about their experience with our community and how open, welcoming and accepted they felt. Some of the students will be turning their stories into short one-act plays and performing them in the area. *The Herald* wrote a wonderful story about this group sharing at our church. This was a great example of how we can connect with our community.

Chase Lake Partnership- Chase Lake has listed us as a community partner for their grant application to build a community garden on their property. They will find out in December I believe if they get the grant or not. If they receive the grant they would hope to build the garden in late February and would hope to have members from our congregation volunteer to help.

Pastor Julie's Report

Women and Giving- I was invited to participate in an interesting "Women and Giving" focus group on October 20. "In Faith", formerly "Lutheran Community Foundation" was the

sponsoring agency. "In Faith" works with Thrivent as well as other financial organizations. Millions of dollars are moving through the generations currently, with women having many of those dollars. Merrilee Bradshaw and I are planning a "Women and Giving" event for December 8.

Virginia Lee Gift-And speaking of women and money....10/21 Malcolm McCallum, Bill Anderson and I met with Corey Cox, one of Virginia Lee's Thrivent representatives, to discuss her estate gift to ELC. The value is now ~\$200,324.00. Malcolm, Treasurer, and Paul Witzel, President, are on the two accounts opened for Edmonds Lutheran to receive these funds. How to use these funds is now a Council action.

Strategic Planning Task Force has completed their work for 2015. Four Focus Areas were identified over the course of the 10 months. The congregation heard the report of the Task Force and had the opportunity to endorse the focus areas and goals by signing the documents. These documents will remain posted in the Fellowship Hall for a few weeks.

Confirmation Class -The class, along with ELC high school students, will be involved in a service project on November 21st. This was also approved as a Thrivent Action Team, called "Youth Helping Elders Move". We will be packing, sorting, hauling and cleaning at Travis and Barbara Wills' home of 49 years. The Wills' have moved to an assisted living facility and are preparing their home for sale.

Services-Planning and preparations are well underway for Thanksgiving services (11/25 7:00 p.m. and 11/26 at 10:00 a.m.), Advent (Wednesday evening Holden Prayer services 12/2, 12/9 and 12/16 at 7:00 p.m.) and Christmas Eve (6:00 and 10:00 p.m.).

Council Business

Solar Panel Campaign – The mini-campaign raised \$10,250. ELC will apply for a Hazel Miller grant of \$10,000 to help pay for the church's portion of the solar panel project.

Virginia Lee Gift – The Council moved to allocate up to \$16,000 of the gift towards the solar panel project.

Nominating Committee – The Council moved to appoint John Bumanglag and David Ruud as two additional members of the Nominating Committee.

Endowment Committee – The Council asked the Endowment Committee to add detail to requests for fund disbursements.

9th Avenue Property – The Council moved to hire Colliers International to explore the sale of the property and negotiate a new lease with Grace Lutheran