Vicar's Voice – May 2022 - By Vicar Sena Norton

Over the past many months that I have been serving you here the Spirit has sprinkled into my head the concept of Christian communities and their responsibilities not only to the neighbors "out there" but also to each other, as brothers and sisters "in here". I have picked up books such as Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Life Together, Bennett Sims Servanthood, The Radical Imperative by John C. Bennett and even St. Augustine's City of God, just to ground myself in something other than my own thoughts. Most importantly I have prayerfully read and explored the theme through Scripture, the Word of God sitting right there in front of all of us. In a sense there are some concepts that run parallel through all these resources, and I wanted to take the time to share them with you, providing the potential that our collective contemplation of Christian communities and their responsibilities could engage and invigorate our collective discernment, action, and decisions. I cannot put the content from all the books here, but I will include some Scriptural passages for your own prayerful reading and meditation. And of course, reading the Gospels themselves goes without saying as being the foundation of any consideration of community life together.

<u>Responsibilities OF and FOR a Christian Community</u>

- Attend regularly (Heb. 10:24-25 & Acts 2:42)
- Pray consistently (1 Thess. 5:17, Col 4:2, Rom. 12:12)
- Live communally (Rom. 12:4-5 & Col. 3:13-14)
- Submit humbly (Heb 13:17)
- Preserve unity (John 13:35, Col 3:12-14, Proverbs 19:11)
- Give generously (1 Cor. 16:2 & 2 Cor. 9:7)
- Pursue Holiness (Rom. 12:2)
- Serve faithfully (Rom. 12:1, Eph. 4:11-13)

I will close with a quote from Darrell Guder, who works with churches to find patterns that promote missional communities, he finds a common theme within Western churches. He writes, "The church is basically inwardly oriented, focused on itself and its members and on their savedness."As the foundation of Christendom erodes, our congregations begin to fight to save what once was at the cost of opening space to what can emerge.

At our core we are a Lutheran congregation who regularly uses the means of grace through Word and Sacrament. We live in Christian community sharing our Christian lives with each other and our neighbors guided by the Word of God, the teachings of the Lutheran Church, and support all of this through our gifts of time, abilities, and financial support to this specific congregation. As Bonhoeffer states, "a Christian needs other Christians to speak God's Word to them and to encounter one another" as living examples of such. I say to you we need all of these, especially in times of challenge, disillusionment, and yearning. Can we sustain each other in our wonderings and wanderings – I know we can, and I ask God to help us.

Praise be to God for each of us in this community and the companion we have in the Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. May you be blessed and joyfully unafraid on this day and in all the days to come.

~~ Vicar Sena Norton

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One of the churches of the Oregon Synod Evangelical Lutheran Churches of America

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www.christthegoodshep.org
Find us on Facebook:@christthegoodshep

Worship with us on Zoom.
Sundays at 10 AM
Zoom meeting ID: 837 6115 9516
Dial in: (253) 215-8782

Treasurer's Report by Virginia Mohr

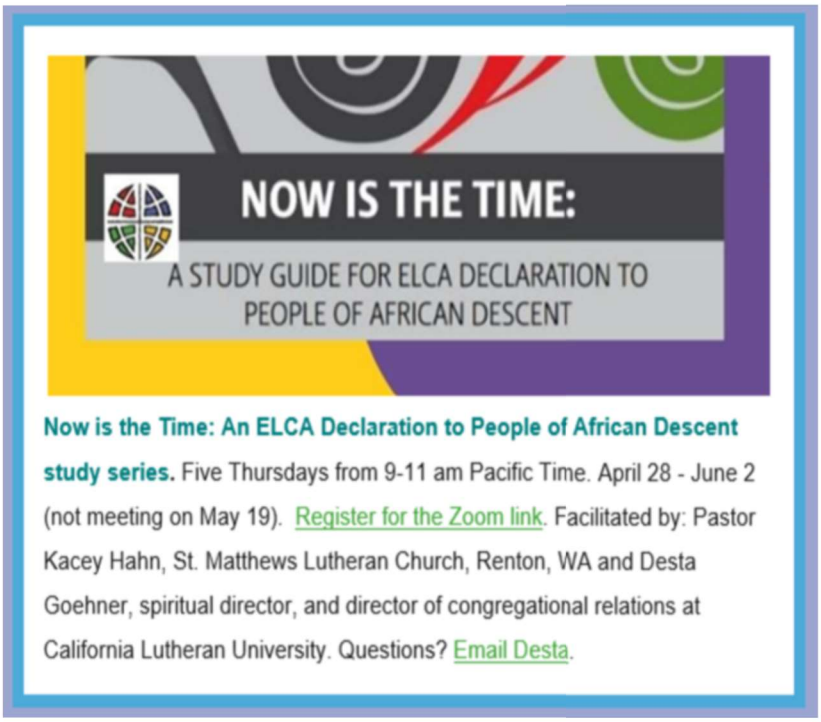
Budgeted General Offering thru March	$37,500
Actual General Offering March YTD	$35,585
	($ 1,915)

DID YOU KNOW…
It requires a large amount of income to operate the church.
Did you know that through March we had insurance and van repairs of $2801.87 and that insurance comes due every quarter for the church building at $2,239.75?

Not only does your giving support the work of ministry but also supports church operations.

We are thankful to all who give generously in spirit of gratitude to God!!

Virginia Mohr, Treasurer



Now is the Time: An ELCA Declaration to People of African Descent study series. Five Thursdays from 9-11 am Pacific Time. April 28 - June 2 (not meeting on May 19). Register for the Zoom link. Facilitated by: Pastor Kacey Hahn, St. Matthews Lutheran Church, Renton, WA and Desta Goehner, spiritual director, and director of congregational relations at California Lutheran University. Questions? Email Desta.

Bible Study has resumed!

Each Sunday after service!
11:15 in the Gathering Room

5/8	Week 2: Prophets Refuse to Be Silenced	Amos 7:13
5/22	Week 3: Silence Kills	Psalm 32:3, 5
6/12	Week 4: Jesus Rudely Interrupted	Mark 7:28
6/19	Week 5: Casting Out Silence	Mark 9: 17 – 18
6/27	Week 6: The Crowd as Silencer	Mark 10:47 – 48
7/10	Week 7: Truth Speaks to Power	Luke 18:2 – 3
7/17	Week 8: The Church as a Silencing Institution	Cor 14:33 – 35

Our **Outreach** focus through the end of May is creating RESTART KITS for refugees being resettled to Salem. The current needs are below. You are welcome to bring items on any Sunday (or when Tuesday crew is working). If you bring them on the first Sunday they go to the front of the church to be blessed along with our other offerings. Funds are also welcome! Please designate your giving to **Outreach: Refugees.**

Thank you in advance!

RESTART KITS:
Electric tea kettle and black tea, monthly calendar, map of Salem area, blanket, "Welcome" doormat, notebook and pens/pencils, umbrella, scissors, small sewing kit, flashlight and batteries, wall clock with numbers, alarm clock, and light bulbs (4, CFL or LED).

BEDDING KITS: TWIN SIZE!!!

Comforter, blanket, sheets, and pillow cases, waterproof mattress cover, and 1 Pillow.

2021-2022 Council
President - Gwen Carr
Vice President - Heidi Dupuis
Secretary - Chuck Palmquist
Treasurer - Virginia Mohr
Financial Secretary - Laura Drager

Council Members
Ron Mohr
Dean Hatzenbihler
Inez Ambrosek
Wendy Smith
Marc Clemens

<<< Vicar Sena giving a message for the children.

The ladies of CGSLC showing off their easter finery! >>>

HAPPY EASTER CGSLC

<<< Prays'N preparing special music.

The altar prepared for Good Friday >>>

We occasionally publish photos of our events and services on our website and social media. If you would prefer to be excluded, contact the office.

The office will be closed May 30 for Memorial day.

Vicar Sena will be out of the office
May 13-May 15 for Synod Assembly and
May 29-June 7th for Graduation.

Shepherd's Sluggers Softball!

Shepherd's Sluggers Softball is on the field! We need more cheerleaders so we'd love to see you come on out to root for the home team!
(SS is also in need of more women players. Contact Kate Anderson for questions.)

May 6th 7:20 PM @ South Salem Friends (1140 Baxter Rd. SE)
May 13th 7:20 @ Bethany Baptist (1150 Hilfiker Lane SE)
May 20th 7:20 PM @ Bethany Baptist
May 27th 6:10 PM @ Bethany Baptist
June 3rd 7:20 @ Bethany Baptist
June 10th 7:20 @ South Salem Friends
June 17th 6:10 PM @ Bethany Baptist
June 24th 6:10 PM @ Bethany Baptist

Shepherd's Sluggers
Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran
In Christ You Matter

Electronic Prayer Chain

Please contact the church office, Heidi Pramuk, or Inez Ambrosek if you would like to be included as a recipient of prayer requests on the church email prayer chain. We need to know your first and last name and the email address you prefer to use. Please note that if you do not choose to be on the recipient list you will not receive prayer requests via email.

Prayer Shawls

Fellowship is the third Thursday of each month, at 12:30 at Christ House. **Next gathering: May 19th.**

Zoom Outreach Meeting
May 7 - 10 AM
Zoom ID: 823 2680 4809
Passcode: 164756

Camp Lutherwood News!

Register

- **Family Camp T**wo-night or four-night! Learn more at lutherwoodoregon.org/camp.
- **Women's Retreat** features Kathleen Kerr from Eugene for a wonderful weekend of rest, relaxation and learning together.
- **Youth and teen overnight programs** run June 26 to August 11, kids from 3rd to 12th grade. Visit lutherwoodoregon.org/camp! Camperships and tiered pricing are still available.

Give

- **Friends make camp go 'round!** Be a friend and support the installation of a 16-foot yurt that will house campers and guests year-round. Perfect for gathering space or overnight accommodations, this circular tent costs about $18,000 and comes with a wood burning stove, an outdoor deck and all the comforts of a cabin! Give today at Give today at https://secure.givelively.org/donate/camp-lutherwood-association/spring-appeal-2022-yurts or Text LWYURTS to 44-321
- **Adopt-a-Staffer** Just $60 provides a welcome bag, mid-summer encouragement and a 'thank you' gift card at the end of the season. Sponsoring congregations receive a photo and information about their staffer, and are encouraged to include the staffer in prayer throughout the summer. Contact the camp office at office@lutherwoodoregon.org to sign up!

Volunteer

- **Spring Work Days are May 7 and June 4!** Work Days run from 10am to 3pm, and lunch is provided. Contact the camp office at 541-998-6444 or office@lutherwoodoregon.org to RSVP!
- **Start your sleeping bags!** Many campers from low-income households need supplies like sleeping bags, backpacks or hiking shoes. Those interested in organizing a supply drive or sponsoring a camper should contact the camp office at 541-998-6444 or office@lutherwoodoregon.org.

Council Positions Open - Elections in June

This year, Christ the Good Shepherd will be electing new council slots for the office of President, Treasurer, and two regular Council positions. In the coming months, we will be highlighting these positions in the Lifewire, describing their duties and responsiblities. We ask all of our congregants to prayerfully consider your ability to serve this congregation, and to step forward if you feel led to be nominated for these roles. For those who cannot serve, please keep this matter in your prayers, and consider those you might nominate. Elections will take place in June at the annual congregational meeting.

Habitat for Humanity Faith Build Day

Join other Salem area churches on **Saturday, May 7** for a Faith Build Day.

When: **May 7, 8AM to noon**

Where: **5734 Samaritan Ln SE Salem, OR 97306**

Please register so preparations can be made to accommodate volunteers.

Register at **SalemHabitat.org/volunteer/**

There are two homes under construction so there is a lot to do!! Come out and make a difference for these two Habitat families.

~Ron and Virginia Mohr

I have welcomed a new family member to my house this month. Meet Sadie, my new puppy! My final two elder dogs passed away last summer, and it was a long time coming to find a new canine companion. Sadie is bringing much joy and light to my home, though I'm not sure the cats and chickens agree.

Here in the office, things are returning to a more normal pace after Easter. It's nice to have time to be able to focus on other priorities and to catch up on some things that have been neglected with the Easter activities.

One of those things has been completing the Spring 2022 directory. Copies are available in the Narthex, and electronic copies can be had by contacting the office. If you happen to see any kind of error or needed additions or revisions, I invite you to let me know so that we can correct it for future printings.

The next upcoming project will be the annual report for the Annual Congregational Meeting, taking place in June. I am looking for cover photos if you have taken any during church activities. You may also be hearing from me for a request of a report from you about our ministries and programs.

May we all be blessed with as much sunshine as we have had rain! ~~Rose - Parish Administrator

Helpful Resources for May 2022

May means gardening time! Whether your gardening plans are small or large, there is plenty of information to help you get started.

OSU Plant Sale: The Marion County Master Gardening Association is returning to the fairgrounds with their annual plant sale Friday May 6th 10am-7pm and Saturday May 7th 9am-4pm at the state fairgrounds Columbia Hall-Red Gate. Over 10,000 plants! Annuals, perennials, beneficials, natives, vegetables, herbs, shrubs, trees. Find out more about the event on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/events/427996869086688/

Indoor Gardening: Not everyone has space for an outdoor garden, but that doesn't mean you can't enjoy fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs indoors! There are many ways to brighten your space and have fresh, delicious food by being creative and creating innovative solutions. Check out the resources here: https://indoorgardening.com/

Sustainable/Organic Gardening: Being kind to the earth is a priority for most Oregonians. It is possible to have a green, healthy, and productive garden in safe, sustainable ways. Mother Earth news has long been a great resource for green gardening. Take a look at this page for organic and sustainable tips for every garden: https://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/

(To have a helpful group or organization featured in a future article or to suggest a topic, please contact the office.)

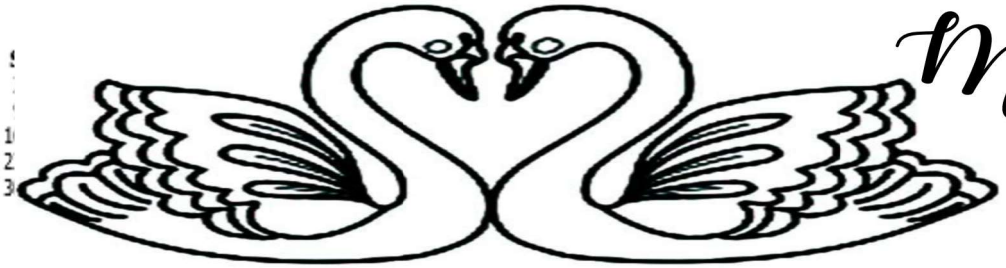
Michael & Heidi DuPuis	May 20,1990

Our Lil' Free Library is popular! Please donate new and gently used children's books, Bibles, and Spanish language items, especially Bibles! Other gently used books are welcome. Contact the office or a member of council about drop off or pick up.

Gerry Chaburn	May 2	Kay Harris	May 15
Joan Mathias	May 3	Christal Shafer	May 20
Karen Hafner	May 5	Peke Kramyer	May 22
George Kafka	May 11	Bentley Sauer	May 27
Joel Mathias	May 11	Paula Davis	May 29
Michelle Shepherd	May 29		

April 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	
3	4	5	6	7	8	
10	11	12	13	14	15	1
17	18	19	20	21	22	2
24	25	26	27	28	29	3



May 2022

June 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **10:00 AM** Worship 3rd Sunday of Easter – Lay Led **1:00 PM** Manantial Worship	**2**	**3** **9:00 AM** Tuesday Crew (Gathering Room)	**4**	**5**	**6** **7:00 PM** Manantial Bible Study (Basement)	**7** **10:00 AM** Outreach Group (Zoom)
8 **Mother's Day** **9:30 AM** Backpack Buddies Packing **10:00 AM** Worship 4th Sunday of Easter **1:00 PM** Manantial Worship	**9**	**10** **9:00 AM** Tuesday Crew (Gathering Room) **6:00 PM** Executive Council (Gathering Room)	**11**	**12**	**13** **7:00 PM** Manantial Bible Study (Basement) **Synod Assembly - Vicar Away**	**14** **1:00 PM** Private Event
15 **10:00 AM** Worship 5th Sunday of Easter Lay Led **1:00 PM** Manantial Worship **Synod Assembly**	**16**	**17** **9:00 AM** Tuesday Crew (Gathering Room) **6:00 PM** Council Meeting (Christ House)	**18**	**19** **12:30 PM** Prayer Shawls (Christ House)	**20** **7:00 PM** Manantial Bible Study (Basement)	**21**
22 **9:30 AM** Backpack Buddies Packing **10:00 AM** Worship 6th Sunday of Easter **1:00 PM** Manantial Worship	**23**	**24** **9:00 AM** Tuesday Crew (Gathering Room) **7:00 PM** U-Matters	**25**	**26**	**27** **7:00 PM** Manantial Bible Study (Basement)	**28**
29 **10:00 AM** Worship 7th Sunday of Easter **1:00 PM** Manantial Worship	**30** **Memorial Day**	**31** **9:00 AM** Tuesday Crew (Gathering Room)	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**

Vicar Sena Away at Graduation