

SERVANTS' SONG

A PUBLICATION OF CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 2009

2010 C.T.S. WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Women's Retreat will be held next April 23-25, 2010, at Camp Huston in Gold Bar, WA. Camp Huston is an Episcopal-owned camp 70 miles away off Highway 2. The camp is nestled in the foothills of the mountain pass. There are several hiking trails around the property. The vaulted dining room has a beautiful view of Mt. Index. It is a beautiful and serene setting for a retreat.

Meals are homemade and served family-style. The staff are very courteous and are willing to try to accommodate special dietary needs.

The two adjacent lodges each have 8 rooms with 2 twin beds to a room. There is also a meeting room with a refrigerator, microwave oven, and fireplace in each lodge for social activities and snacks. There is space for a total of 36 women, but the final 4 would be assigned a roll-away bed. The cost will be \$150 (2 nights, 5 meals and program expenses). A deposit of \$75 will hold your reservation. Scholarships will be available.

We are getting this basic information to you early so you can mark your calendar and make plans to attend. If you like, visit the web site for Camp Huston to check out the facilities for yourself (www.huston.org). If you have any questions, please contact Karen Stuen, Jan Rystrom, Renee Szenasi, or Lynda Clemons.



VBS IS ALMOST HERE!

It's not too late to put on those boots and gather up your backpacks and head on out to "Discovery Canyon" Join us for VBS August 3-7 from 9 am to noon. Enrollment is now being taken for PK—5th grade. Registration forms may be picked up in the Narthex or downloaded from our website.



Big kids, you can travel down the canyon too! VBS can't happen without a great group of dedicated big kids, aka "volunteers". We need adults and older youth to help out in a variety of ways. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Meagan Dooley at #650-0926 or e-mail at meag_atron91@hotmail.com.

50 Days of Prayer

ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson has asked members to pray and study Scripture -- focusing on this church and the 2009 Churchwide Assembly -- for the 50 days prior to the assembly. "50 Days of Prayer" begins June 28. Members are asked to pray daily, meet in groups each week and use the assembly's daily



lectionary for reflection. Congregations are invited to use suggested petitions for prayers during Sunday worship. Find resources and instructions at www.elca.org/50days.

The Servant Song is distributed by the fourth week of the month. Deadline for article submissions is the third Wednesday of the month. Submissions may be made via email to office@ctslutheran.org.

Like to help fold and address newsletters. Contact the church office for details!!!!

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church — Mission Statement

***Called by God to share the Good News, we are the hands of Christ:
lifted in worship, joined in learning, extended in service, supporting in love and reaching for justice.***

Our Parking Lot Overfloweth

.....and that's a good thing. However, here are ways we can help ease the crunch.

--Please do not park in the area directly in front of the sanctuary or the education wing, except in the designated spots. This area is supposed to be kept open for emergency vehicles, and it also allows "drop off" access for those who need that service. This is true at all times, not just Sunday morning, so if you are part of a group that meets here on another day, please help spread the word.

--If you are able, park in the upper lot and walk down, saving the closer spaces for those with mobility impairments.

--Bike, walk, carpool, or bus to church. These options are even more do-able during the summer months.

Ministry of Visitation Greeting Cards!

Last fall nine members of CTS pondered together over a five-week period things like confidentiality, praying with others, and listening. These servants have since been bringing Holy Communion to people who are homebound or hospitalized and lending an ear to those requesting one. You have seen these nine carrying the consecrated bread and wine following our own sharing as a gathered community.

This group of visitation ministers has continued to come together once a month for further skill building and mutual support. Often there is brainstorming about ways to best serve. Last month it was suggested that we have greeting cards available in the narthex. Sometimes the congregation learns on Sunday morning of a hospitalization or other need. Often it would be

See Cards pg 5.

New Children's Worship Activity

John Grebe will lead an optional* children's activity for children ages six through fifth grade during the sermon time. This program will initially be offered during the summer months when there is no Sunday School. Children who are too old for the nursery but are having difficulty sitting through an entire worship service will join the congregation for the opening prayer and music, then leave with after the Children's Chat. The children would then return to worship during the Peace and/or Offering time so that they can be involved with Communion and closing music.

Many options have been discussed that are still to be worked out, such as involving children in group problem-solving or service projects that would encourage a deeper understanding of the lessons of the day and/or deeper relationships with God and each other across grade levels that would encourage community-building among the younger youth of the church. The activity will begin this Sunday, June 21st, and go the entire summer. Any interested parents are welcome to volunteer to help with this activity; please contact John Grebe.

(*Optional: children would also be encouraged to remain in the service if they wished, especially those children who love the Praise service, or wish to remain to hear special music or see special dramatic presentations, etc.



Nurses Corner...

Feeling under pressure? Have your blood pressure checked by our parish nurses. The next blood pressure clinic will be held on Sunday, July 19





HUH?

Do you know that...

- One out of ten people in the United States has hearing loss?
- At age 65, one out of three people has a hearing loss?
- Hearing loss ranks with arthritis, high blood pressure, and heart disease as one of the most common physical conditions?
- There are 43 million Americans with disabilities – of those, 35 million have hearing loss?
- It is estimated that 30 school children per thousand may have hearing loss?
- Many people with hearing loss are in denial about their inability to hear?
- Hearing loss causes low self-esteem, withdrawal, depression, and family strife?

Do you or someone you know have hearing loss? Do you know that help and support is right here at CTS?

Yes, one of our outreach missions is the Hearing Loss Association of Whatcom County whose mission is education, advocacy, and support for people with hearing loss, their families and friends.

We meet every third Saturday from 9:30 to 11:30 in the Community Room, except July and December when the meetings start later and are devoted to fun, food, and special programs - a summer potluck/picnic in July and Christmas Party in December. We usually have 35 to 45 at our regular meetings and 65 or more at the July and December functions.

All are welcome! We urge you come to our festivities this month, get to know our participants, and find out about the superb ten interactive programs we have each year.

Join us on July 18th in the Community Room from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for our **Annual Summer Pot Luck and Picnic!** Scrumptious Hawaiian style pulled pork (Kalua Pig) will be provided as well as coffee and tea. Everyone brings a salad, dessert, or other complimentary dish. The bonus this year will be CTS's own talented Marian Yunghans who will lead our serenade of "Oldies but Goodies." (This is for the young and the young at heart!)

For more information about the Hearing Loss Association and/or to make a reservation for July 18th, please contact Bert Lederer, bertlederer@msn.com or call 360.319.4540.

Support in these Days of Economic Challenge?

A few members of CTS have shared about their personal challenges in these days of economic challenge, and have sought support from an individual member of the staff. John Grebe, Pastor Miley and Deaconess Boyden can each say, "Yes, I've had someone ask me for prayer and support." Are there more of you than we know? Would it be helpful to you to have a group gather together? Would a guest speaker be helpful?--maybe on networking or some such?

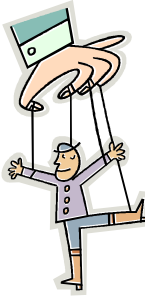
If you have ideas about a way this congregation could best be of support, please contact Deaconess Boyden to brainstorm. If you would like a listening ear, as always, feel free to contact any member of the staff. May God provide through human systems meaningful labor, and fair wages for all. deacboyden@earthlink.net or 922-0897



Faith and Everyday Life

Playing God

This is such an interesting turn of phrase, because God doesn't play God, humans do. We say "He/she is playing God" when we believe someone is making decisions for someone else and taking their freedom of choice from them. That's not how God operates!



God is not a divine puppeteer. God let's us make our own choices and then let's us live with the consequences. God accompanies us through what we have created for ourselves, to be sure, but it is we who did the creating.

So let's get real about what it means to play human. Even if our intentions are good, sometimes we seek to "protect" others by not giving them information about what is happening around them, or even in their own bodies.

A man was told once, "Don't tell your aunt that she is very sick. It will upset her." When the man visited his aunt, she said, "Well, I have my affairs in order, I'm ready to die." One wonders who it was that needed protecting.

When we don't let children experience at least some of the consequences of their actions, they grow up to believe that their actions have no consequences. You have met these people and you can tell right away that their parents did them no favors.

So maybe we should trust God to be God. May we should be honest, forthright, and lovingly firm with our children. Maybe God is really as present as God claims to be when we face the realities of our lives.

Maybe we should just have... Faith...in Everyday Life.

Lutheran Counseling Network

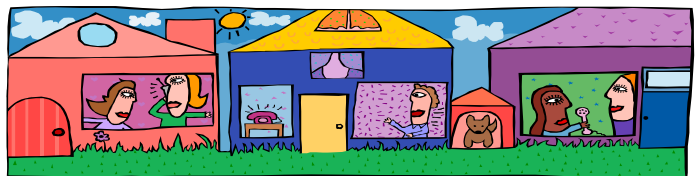
Community Meals

Summer's here and life stays busy for everyone so I wanted to get BCMP on your calendars early. The Filipino Americans will be cooking for both the [June 28](#) and [July 26th](#) Community meals. Thanks to Johnny Dumatol and Company for cooking and serving the meals! CTS is down to help from 1-3:15 both those days and we're in need of volunteers.

Belen Saturay has agreed to help get volunteers for the July meal. I'll be off to Ontario for that meal so please email Belen BelenMS@aol.com if you can work July 26th and you decide that after the first week in July. For all you early birds who would like to get on my calendar right away (I'll double your pay!!!) email me back with dates you'd like to work and I can get you on the calendar right now this week. Really, if you can let me know this week that would be marvelous! Even if you don't know now though, you can always email Belen in July.

Thanks Servants!

Kasey Potzler



Sandwich Generation

Those of you who are caring for aging parents while "sandwiched" with other of life's demands are invited for a simple brunch on Sunday, July 12 at about 11am following the 9:30 worship service. This is an informal gathering offering support to and from others who are in the same "boat". Come laugh, cry, vent, pray, and be in good company. Questions? Deaconess Boyden at deacboyden@earthlink.net or 922-0897

Churchwide Assembly Listening Sessions

There are three more listening sessions with our synod's voting members prior to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly. This is an opportunity for congregational members to express their opinions regarding the various resolutions and other decisions that will be made at this year's churchwide assembly.

1. Saturday, June 13: 10 a.m. to noon at St. Luke's Lutheran, 3030 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue; 425-822-7907
2. Thursday, June 18: 7 to 9 p.m. at Salem Lutheran, 2529 Laventure Road, Mount Vernon; 360-336-3600
3. Saturday, June 20: 10 a.m. to noon, University Lutheran, 1604 NE 50th St, Seattle; 206-525-7074

4.
The 2009 Churchwide Assembly will begin with worship on Monday, Aug. 17, and conclude Sunday, Aug. 23, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Host synods are: Minneapolis Area Synod and Saint Paul Area Synod.

For more information about the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly please visit www.elca.org/assembly

Open Door Ministries Ninth Annual Autumn Gala Dinner and Auction



Open Door Ministries will be holding its Ninth Annual Autumn Diner and Auction on Saturday, November 7, 2009, 5:00-9:30 p.m. in the Brockey Canter at South Seattle Community College. All proceeds from this auction will support the ongoing ministries Open Door provides.

Please consider donating an item, service or certificate to the auction. Providing services, or experiences, such as boat rides, catered meals, yard work, home baked goods for a number of months, groceries, condo in Hawaii, certificates, etc., are very big items that draw great bidding responses. Please contact Sylvia Maier, 206-367-4316, maiersyl@yahoo.com for procurement forms or for questions answered about possible items. The deadline for donations is September 30th.

Thank you for your ongoing support to Open Door Ministries.



Cards cont.

nice if many people could sign together a card to let someone know "we are praying for you".

A small supply of cards is now available in the narthex labeled "Visitation Ministry Greeting Cards". Here's how it works:

- o You identify someone in need of encouragement.
- o Before worship select a card and label the card and envelope with the person's name. (do not add too many particulars in order to respect privacy. If you have permission from the person you may include something general like "surgery" or "at the death of ...").
- o Leave card on the table with the "please sign this card" tent to encourage others to sign.
- o After worship and some fellowship time retrieve the card and kindly mail it to the recipient.

Care packages for those Serving Overseas

We hold in prayer those serving in the military and in peace and health operations. Let's let them know more directly by sending care packages. Please gather useful and sweet items, prayer books and such, and have children make pictures and write notes or poems. Things like socks, packaged cupcakes, small stuffed animals (to give to local children) are sometimes suggested items. A box will be available in the narthex.

If you have someone to whom you would like a package sent, please supply Deaconess Boyden with an appropriate mailing address. Deadline for contact information is Wednesday, July 15 so that a sufficient supply of goods can be assured. Even as we continue to pray for God to guide us in the ways of peace.... deacboyden@earthlink.net or 922-0897

Interfaith Coalition seeks part-time program assistant

Interfaith Coalition is seeking a part-time program assistant for its Friendly Visitors program, which provides outreach to isolated seniors through weekly visits from compassionate volunteers. The program supports these matches and provides participants with ongoing training and connection to community resources.

The program assistant serves as office manager for Friendly Visitors and assists the program coordinator in enrollments and matches. The successful candidate will have experience working with volunteers and the elderly, a desire to put your faith in action serving the community, and exceptional computer and administrative skills. The position is 8 to 10 hours per week.

For a complete job description, please email friendlyvisitors@interfaith-coalition.org

Service Teams
Sign up in the Narthex or online at www.ctslutheran.org



- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Leith & Shelly Swenson | Mike & Mary Hess |
| Cole & Joan Biasini | Dan & Holly Whittle |
| Pete & Linda Chorney | Mike & Tammy Bramlett |
| Connie Clement | Jerry & Lynda Clemons |
| Richard & Janet Cole | John & Betty Eagon |
| Leslie Dann | Carol Ebergson |
| Greg Dutton & Susan Horst | Marion Ebergson |
| Steven & Christy Emory | Ron & Carole Evans |
| David & Patti Ennen | Ruth Glaser |
| Ilene Green | Jeff How |
| Jeff & Sarah Heathers | Bob & Jennifer Johnson |
| Bryan & Melinda Jones | Christie & Brian Kruhlak |
| Bob & Cindy Klein | Jim & Sue Logghe |
| Sophie Mueller | Rick & Wilma Lysen |
| Bob & Laura Norton | Barbara Oliver |
| Joanne & Don Pearson | Chris Owings |
| Bob & Bonnie Stewart | Daniel Pinner |
| Doug & Charlene Sutton | Renee & John Szenasi |
| Del & Willy VandeKerk | Dave Rystrom |
| Jeff & Susie Wight | Jennifer Sadouk |
| Marian Yunghans | Myra & Clete Smith |
| | Melanie Springer |
| | Martin Waidelich & Carolyn Casey |
| | Betty White |
| | Don & Kathy Wines |

July 2009

Christ The Servant Lutheran Church

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Interim Pastor: Jim Miley
 Email: PastorJim@ctslutheran.org
 Minister of Visitation: April Boyden
 visit@ctslutheran.org

Family Thursdays (School Year)

5:45—6:30—Family Dinner
 6:15—7:45—Confirmation 7/8 grade

Choirs - Thursdays (Sept-May)

5:00 - 5:45 - Joyful Sound

5:00 - 6:00 - Treble Choir

6:15 - 7:15 - ASAP

7:30 - 9:00 - Servant Singers

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--------------------------------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | 7:00 pm—B'ham Festival of Music Rehearsal | 11:00 am—Adaptive Yoga | |
| 5 9:30 —Worship | 6 7:00 pm—B'ham Festival of Music Rehearsal | 7 10:00 am—Adaptive Yoga | 8 7:00 pm—B'ham Festival of Music Rehearsal | 9 6:00 pm Finance Mtg. | 10 11:00 am—Adaptive Yoga | 11 9:00 am—Work Party |
| 12 9:30 am —Worship | 13 7:00 pm—Worship Meeting | 14 7:30 am—Executive Comm. 10:00 am—Adaptive Yoga | 15 Newsletter Deadline 9:15 am—Moms Club | 16 Council Reports Due | 17 11:00 am—Adaptive Yoga | 18 2:30 pm—HLA Meeting |
| 19 9:30 am —Worship | 20 7:00 pm—Community Ministries Meeting | 21 10:00 am—Adaptive Yoga 6:30 pm—Council Mtg. | 22 10:00 am Newsletter Folding National Youth Gathering | 23 National Youth Gathering | 24 11:00 am—Adaptive Yoga National Youth Gathering | 25 National Youth Gathering |
| 26 9:30 am —Worship National Youth Gathering | 27 6:00 pm—T.R.I.P. | 28 10:00 am—Adaptive Yoga | 29 | 30 | 31 11:00 am—Adaptive Yoga | |

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church ELCA, 2600 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham, WA 98229
DEADLINE is 12 Noon on 3rd Wednesday of month prior to publication
CHURCH PHONE: 360 733-1277 FAX: 360 734-7246
OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. weekdays
e-mail: office@ctslutheran.org
visit our website at <http://www.ctslutheran.org>

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

The World Church & Parish

For **Kate Keyes and Allison Sutton** as they begin and end their mission work.

That peace may replace our global cycle of violence and government leaders might work on behalf of all people regardless of ethnicity or religious orientation. And for those in the military, for their safety and safe return home.

Hope and healing in the lives of survivors of family violence, and a change of heart for the perpetrators of such violence. And for those around the world who are persecuted for their Christian beliefs, especially the tribal people in Vietnam and Laos.

Bishops Chris Boerger and Mark Hanson for your guided leadership.

Interfaith Coalition as we use our resources together to do mission.

July and August service teams and coordinators.

Health, Healing, Peace, and Hope

Edna Fisher, friend of Ruth Glaser, thanksgiving for the prayers offered by the congregation as they were very much appreciated and she knows they helped with her healing.

Family and friends of **Scott Berry**, brother of Rev. Chris Berry, as they mourn his passing.

Verlyn Horst, mother of Susan Horst, for healing and strength.

Sue Wittman, mother of Pr. Lydia Wittman-Grebe, for healing and strength.

Sarah Heathers for health and strength as she is expecting a child.

David Lee, nephew of Jim & Avis Miley, as he faces a new cancer diagnosis.

Les Ezrre, brother of Andy Ezrre, for strength and comfort as he mourns the death of his wife.

Margie Griffith, sister of Barb Anderson, for recovery and healing from brain surgery.

Carson Naylor born six weeks early, for strength.

Bob Anderson as he recovers from knee surgery.

Ernie Segren for peace and strength and he begins chemotherapy for malignant brain tumor.

Phyllis Segren for strength and thanksgiving for her relief from pain which she has received and for her continued relief.

Janet Boyden as she recovers from a broken leg.

Marge, Willow Rose's mother, as she struggles with a diagnosis of colon cancer.

Jennifer Loi, sister of MaryAnne Merrill, battling breast cancer

Patty Green, Jeff How's cousin, battling cancer

Helen Chionis, sister-in-law of Mary Hess, for recovery and healing as she battles cancer

Marilyn Uilleland, Aunt of Karolyn Labes as she battles ovarian cancer