



NORTHLIGHTS

AUGUST 2016

OUR MISSION
To share with all people the presence of God and the love of Christ.

Our Vision

To foster a caring congregational community that challenges its members to recognize and utilize their gifts and abilities so that it is a magnet, drawing a variety of people to Christ by providing diversity in worship, education, service and fellowship.



We are an ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) congregation, where people of faith celebrate, learn and connect with one another and others around the world through service and weekly worship. **All are welcome!**



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RE: REDEVELOPMENT 7/17/16

A special meeting of the Congregation was called to discuss and vote on, if necessary, the recommendations made by the Synod Redevelopment Review Team. About 27 members of Northlake were in attendance and enjoyed a nice lunch prior to the meeting. Rick Heinbaugh, who leads the Redevelopment Team, welcomed everyone. Other members of the Redevelopment Team, Ernie Coombs, Cindi Engelhardt, Bev Peterson, Rick Huling and Vicky Newland were present. The first two recommendations were discussed, D3: "The review team also recommends a smaller size to the congregation council," and D5: "the review team recommends an end to council members serving on (assigned to specific) committees or ministries." A concern was made that the committees would not know what the council is doing and vice versa. A suggestion was given for all to keep and share minutes.

The next recommendation was D6.3: "This new election would not include officers being selected by the congregation. It would be a general election to the council, with officers determined by the council itself."

The decision for D3, D5 and D6.3 was to reduce the size of the council by no longer having committee liaison positions and for the congregation to elect general council members, with the council to decide who would fill what position.

It was mentioned that that the general election method had been done that way in the past at Northlake. Although the decision was to try it for a year, there was a suggestion to possibly speak with a representative from First Lutheran in Bothell, or anyone else who may have experienced this other way of selecting officers, to speak with the congregation.

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NORTHLAKE
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Love. Grow. Serve.

IT TAKES A VILLAGE!

Your help is needed at Sunday worship.

Please sign up on the clipboard to greet, usher, help with Coffee Hour or run the worship slideshow.

Don't know how? Don't worry...someone will show you!



"Be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

[Romans 12:2]



From Pastor Anja

The other day, I was working in my office when a sudden feeling of gratitude overwhelmed me. It came out of nowhere, and set my mind on all of you... your openness, your commitment, your willingness to give changes a try. What a blessing it is to be here.

Perhaps where this openness is most evident is in the Redevelopment process. In the congregational meeting, we discussed and decided upon some recommended changes. These changes were the nuts-to-bolts kinds of changes. They were specifics... the how and what of our daily life here at Northlake. These were not easy decisions to make, and yet you chose to try them out, to test, so to speak, a new way, and see if maybe they are part of God's path for us.

There are also larger, more strategic changes that can be made. There is one in particular I have been considering lately: from a focus on membership to a focus on discipleship.

Churches often measure their own success by counting its members. Redevelopment challenges us to reconsider this approach; is the goal to recruit members? Or might it be to enable discipleship?

The Catechumenate process helps with this shift in how we think about our community. It is a disciple-building and faith-formation process with the goal of forming disciples, not members. What a great fit for where we are now! We began a series of Catechumenate gatherings on July 24th, and they will continue through mid-September. If you are interested, please join us soon! Once we are a month or so into the series, we will ask any new interested people to wait for the next series, which is yet to be scheduled.

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A note from Susan in the church office...



As always, things are busy in the church office! Right now, work is being done to install a new church software program called PowerChurch. PowerChurch will enable us to have complete, comprehensive records for all who attend church here or who are connected to Northlake in any way. Addresses, baptism dates, phone numbers, emails and more will all be in one secure location. John Helmon and his team of volunteers are working hard to ensure that all the information going in is accurate and up to date. Stay tuned for updates on our progress!

We are welcoming two new groups to share rooms in our church this month!

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Special Congregational Meeting re: Redevelopment 7/17/16 (Continued from page 1)

The next recommendation was D6.1: "A final recommendation...is for new elections to the council to take place by September of this year..." Many liked that it felt like a fresh start, moving on, actual redevelopment. The decision was to hold elections in October at the Annual Budget and Elections meeting and install the new council before the next council meeting.

The last discussion regarded the last recommendations, D6 and D6.2: "The review team recommends that all leaders learn about managing the two poles of pastoral functioning and congregational functioning..." and D6.2: "...and for the newly elected council to have leadership training from an outside source." Leadership Training may have to be approved depending on cost, but that won't be decided until the method of leadership training is decided.

A few items from the Redevelopment report and the meeting were not yet resolved. They include:

- √ Whether the October Congregational Meeting should be held before the October Council meeting;
- √ whether (and how) we want to reduce the number of committees we have;
- √ hearing from other churches why they prefer having Council elect their own offices;
- √ what budget, if any, might be needed to support the decisions made (such as budget for leadership training).

The Redevelopment Team is working on these items now, as well as beginning to plan a series of visioning workshops to assist our continued redevelopment efforts. Some of these next steps will be discussed further at our next Congregational Meeting in October. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to let a Redevelopment Team member know if you have input you'd like to be considered!



A note from Susan in the church office... (Continued from page 2)

~ Glen Gersmehl, national coordinator of Lutheran Peace Fellowship, will be using a classroom downstairs as office space for occasional meetings.

~ Yael Zahavy-Mittelman is a teacher who will be conducting a Summer Art School in the Youth Room downstairs weekdays from 9am to 4pm August 21 through September 2. The class is sponsored by the Northshore PTA.

Welcome to Glen and Yael!

You may have heard that I will be leaving Northlake Lutheran at the end of the August. My decision is not an easy one; I have loved being here. I'm not sure what paths I will take, but as always, I know that God is guiding me.

If you can, please stop by and say hello before August 31! I will miss you all so much!

Blessings!

Susan

God's Gift of Friendship

By the Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop
From *The Spirit* (August 2016)



His death is still settling in. I lost my best friend - John Mark Ericksen. We met at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. John had just returned from serving with the Peace Corp in Niger, West Africa. He had spent his tour teaching the local people how to build sustainable wells. Clean drinking water was life-giving water to the villages John accompanied.

It was service John loved. He loved the people. He loved their way of life. And he loved his horse that provided him both transportation and thrill.

John grew up in a family filled with pastors. His father, his older brother, and several uncles. He was the youngest of five brothers. My hunch is John was his mother's favorite. We would travel back and forth from PLTS together. John lived in Tacoma. I lived in Kenmore. His mother Evelyn would always say to me as we departed, "Now you take good care of John." It was a charge I took to heart. Friends take care of friends.

John was one of those people everyone liked. He was quiet and yet engaging. He was a great listener and had a very natural way of affirming others. His movements were slow, precise and ended with an exclamation. He even ate his meals this way. I would be finished and John would have barely started. He would carefully cut his food, and top it off with a slight flare of his knife before returning it to its proper place.

In many ways we were polar opposites and yet deeply bonded in our friendship. We could go for months without talking or seeing one another and then immediately take up the friendship where we had left off. Our friendship was seamless. There was never any guilt or shame with John.

It was a very sad day when I learned that John had been diagnosed with the early onset of dementia. It meant he would have to resign his call as pastor and go on long term disability. The decline would be gradual - but irreversible. Slowly, but surely, I was losing my friend. His ability to track the present was challenged, but his memory of the past was often better than my own. We would go out on the boat together and spend the bulk of the time talking about the good old days and the mischief we committed. We would stay up late and laugh into the night.

When I was elected bishop I wanted John to be a part of the service. I asked him to be the crucifer knowing he would need to be accompanied. Our four daughters flanked him on all sides and escorted him to the altar. It brought them great joy. They too loved John. Seeing John "lift high the cross" was the highlight of the installation service for me.

These last few years the rate of the decline had increased. Marita did everything under her power to protect John's dignity and provide for his care. The day before John died, she made it possible for me to talk to him on the phone. I said Johnny, "We are going to take a boat ride." His response was, "Wonderful!"

John was my wonderful friend. He became a well of living water for me. Even in his death he continues to bring me life. A true gift from God. Now God, you take good care of John Mark as we trust him to your care and the promise of the resurrection.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY?

FROM THE KENMORE HERITAGE SOCIETY!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH

A return of the fun one-day Kenmore photo contest is coming soon! Sponsored jointly by Kenmore Heritage Society and Kenmore Camera, this second annual fun event is for individuals and/or entire families. Lots of fun prizes, including the Best of Show prize of a flight for two provided by Kenmore Air! This is a unique contest, not about high quality photography, but rather about creative interpretation of a theme. Six themes, six opportunities to win! Themes will be announced at 10:00 a.m. on August 6th when participants sign up. At the end of the day, participants email their entries to the judges. An Awards program for all the prizes is scheduled for two weeks later at Kenmore Camera. So, mark your calendar and join us at Kenmore Camera on **August 6th at 10:00 am!**

KENMORE PLAY DAY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13TH

Kenmore Play day. On **Saturday, August 13**, Pastor Anja invites you to join her at Rhododendron Park from 10am to 2pm to volunteer at [Kenmore Play Day](#). Even if you're not able to get around as easily as you once did, there is an opportunity to help by sitting in a booth and answering questions. They're also looking for more mobile volunteers to help direct traffic and set up and tear down. This is a free community event offering kids of all ages an opportunity to discover the fun of play. For more information, click [HERE](#). To volunteer, call or [email Pastor Anja](#).

ROOTS OF TERRORISM CONFERENCE: EXPOSING THE EXCLUSIONIST IDEOLOGY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20TH

Kane Hall, 4069 Spokane Lane, Seattle, Washington

Attend this important conference to hear:

- √ Islamic scholars denouncing terrorism;
 - √ Muslims sharing how they have been victims of terrorism;
 - √ A Christian making the case that it is vital for Muslims and Christians to be good neighbors.
- Distinguished guest speakers include Tulsi Gabbard, US Congresswoman from Hawaii; Omar Kadri, distinguished Sunni scholar from the UK; Pastor Terry Kylo, founder of Neighbors in Faith.

The conference is free, however registration is required. To register, go to <http://ifut.net/event/the-roots-of-terrorism-conference/>

COMMUNITY SERVE DAY

SUNDAY AUGUST 21ST

Community Serve Day. Mark your calendars for Sunday August 21st, when local churches, businesses and other community organizations will mobilize to help our local schools get ready for the new school year. Between 9am and 1pm, Northlake Lutheran will help with classroom organization, painting, repair and grounds projects at Kenmore Elementary. We also need volunteers to hand out refreshments and act as cheerleaders. Our goal is to have as many participants as possible at Kenmore Elementary to put our community involvement into high gear. *(Please note: there will still be worship as usual at 10am here at Northlake.)* For any questions, or to register for our project, please contact [Rick Heinbaugh](#).



Pastor Anja's letter (Continued from page 2)

I also have plans to begin some visioning and identity-finding workshops with the congregation. These will be a wonderful opportunity for all people to get involved in helping form who we are as a community. We will do this by looking back at who Northlake has been in the past, looking at now, at who we are now, and looking forward at who we want to be. A kick-off of these workshops will happen within the next couple of months, with the plan to continue them no more than once a month.

All of the above is happening in concurrence with my joining the Kenmore Events Team, which means I help set up, tear down, and facilitate events such as the 4th of July fireworks, summer concert series at St. Edwards Park, etc. This is a great opportunity for me to be out in the larger community, getting to know all of our neighbors. Won't you join me? It has been impressed upon me over and over that being a community church means that more than just the pastor are involved in community events! Please let me know if you're interested. There are jobs for all people, regardless of mobility abilities.

I was told once that summer is when the church calendar settles down, and church leadership get a little downtime. So... when does summer start?



Congratulations to Justin, Randi and Lily Boyett!
On Saturday, July 23 at 9:06am, they welcomed Tristan Lemuel
Boyett to their family. Welcome, Tristan!



CHURCH COUNCIL AND MINISTRY UPDATES!

Publicity Approval

The church council decided that all external publicity is to be reviewed and approved by the Administrative Assistant and the Pastor. The concern is that the publicity be consistent and reflect our mission.

Procedural Changes

The Finance Committee has developed procedures for financial and internal controls so as to meet the requirements of the Synod. The council has establish the policy that no financial or internal control procedures will be changed without the review and approval of the Finance Committee. If you feel there is a problem with a procedure, please bring it to the Finance Committee. The church Treasurer is the contact for the Finance Committee. They will explain the importance of the procedure or review it for change.

Tidy Church

While we are each responsible for putting things away after we use them, this sometimes doesn't happen. If you notice things out of place, please help put them away.

(Continued on page 8)



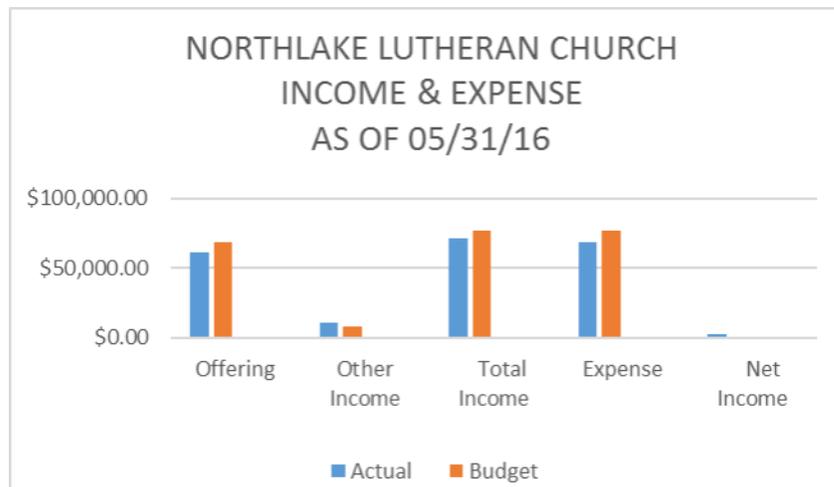
SNAPSHOT OF NORTHLAKE LUTHERAN'S MONTHLY OFFERINGS

Northlake Lutheran Church
Income & Expense
As of 05/31/16

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Offering	\$60,727.97	\$68,567.50
Other Income	<u>\$10,444.12</u>	<u>\$8,416.68</u>
Total Income	\$71,172.09	\$76,984.18
Expense	<u>\$68,671.08</u>	<u>\$76,984.18</u>
Net Income	\$2,501.01	\$0.00

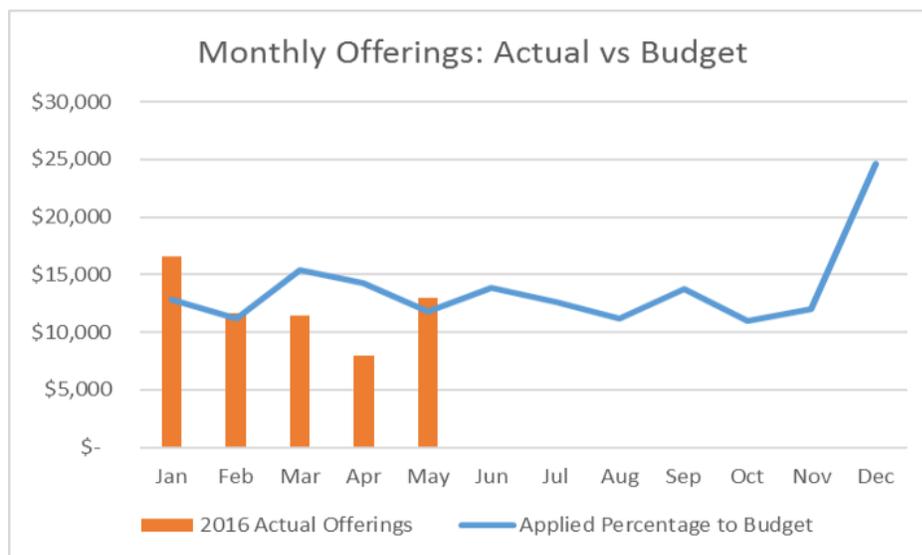
Financial Charts for Northlights:

Last month, we showed the graph below (*Graph 1*) indicating the church's financial information. This graph shows the income and expense year to date, May 31, 2016.



Graph 1

This month, we have added a financial graph (*Graph 2* below) that shows only the actual offering compared to the budget offering amount, year to date May 31, 2016. The budget by month is based on the actual received last year, instead of a flat amount per month.



Graph 2

As of end of May 2016:

2016 Budgeted Offerings:	\$65,523
2016 Actual offerings:	\$60,728

Please email Bev Peterson (madrinabev@hotmail.com) with which graph you would like to see ongoing in the *NorthLights*. Thank you!

Council and Committee Updates (Continued from page 6)

Social Ministry

When God’s children are in need, you be the one to help them out. Rom 12:13

School Supplies

We are looking forward to the opportunity to give school supplies to the kids at Northlake Grove. The signup sheet is available in the Narthex. The supplies must be back to the church by Sunday morning, August 21st so we will have time to load the backpacks for delivery on Monday August 22nd.



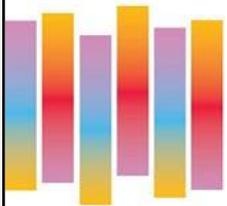
White Socks

Thank you to all who donated new white socks to Compass Center. We collected 158 pairs!

NORTHLAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Please send articles or calendar items by the **20th of each month** to:
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or drop them by the office.
Thank you!

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