



# NORTHLIGHTS

**JULY 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 REDEVELOPMENT MEETING AHEAD

The congregational meeting with the ministry review team went well with a large attendance of about 26 people. The meeting had the purpose of focusing everyone on redevelopment, raising the energy level significantly, and engaging the congregation in the process in a way that hasn't happened before.

The next stage in this journey will be a special congregational meeting, called by Pastor Anja, to discuss the review team recommendations for the way ahead. This will occur right after the service on **Sunday, July 17.**

Some of the team recommendations involved the restructuring of the church council, its size, election of officers, term limits and the like. Other, more general recommendations were designed to help us work toward a sense of purpose shaped by God's mission.

Some of the recommendations need feedback from the congregation and others will be put to a vote to find out specifically what the congregation would like to see happen as we chart new directions.

Please read or reread the ministry review report available in the narthex and your e-mail. While we are not bound by the recommendations in the review, the document offers a constructive context for discussion and action as we discern what God is calling us to do.

Rick Heinbaugh, Chair, Redevelopment  
Rick Huling, Chair, Living Local



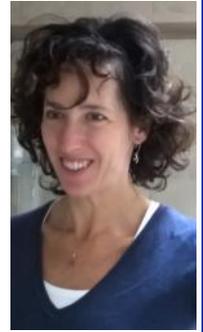
**NORTHLAKE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Have a Happy  
and Safe  
July 4 Holiday!*



Isaiah 66:10-14

<sup>10</sup>Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her— <sup>11</sup>that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious bosom. <sup>12</sup>For thus says the LORD: I will extend prosperity to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees. <sup>13</sup>As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.



From Pastor Anja

What an interesting message Isaiah brings. He speaks to a people who are seeing their lives turned upside down. To a people who are losing their home, their Jerusalem, their refuge. To a people who are, most of all, losing control over their dreams for this place.

And what does he tell them? All you who mourn, rejoice!

For Isaiah knows what we all often struggle to understand; God is in control. While it may be true that we are witnessing the death of what we dreamt for the future of our spiritual home, we must remember that this is not the death of what God dreams for us, or for our spiritual home. For what God dreams will be. What God dreams will always have life and be born. The question is... will we be part of what God is dreaming?

We ARE invited. We know this because God promised. Jesus promised. And the Holy Spirit continues to promise. They promise new life for us. They promise to dwell within us, around us, and among us. The Holy Spirit even promises to guide us out, out into the world, into community, if only we can hear her spirit calling. For she does call.

*(Continued on page 6)*

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### INTRODUCING....NEW MEMBERS JIM AND LUANN (STOKKE) POLAND!

Jim and LuAnn (Stokke) Poland moved to Lake Forest Park in 2014, and are grateful to have finally found a new church home, at Northlake. They “upsized” after downsizing a bit too much when all 5 kids left home, and they moved from Federal Way to Ballard. “Condo life” and no parking in Ballard was too much, and not conducive for visiting grandkids (2), family and friends!

They both work at UW, Jim in computer security, and LuAnn in Facilities. They met in the late 1990s, at “new managers class,” when they both worked at NASA. Jim is originally from Maryland, and LuAnn is a Seattle native, who spent 20+ years in the DC area. Both are thrilled with life in the Kenmore/LFP/Bothell area.



Their most recent church home was St. Luke’s Lutheran, in Federal Way—a larger congregation, but one with a similar welcoming and engaging church family. LuAnn is helping on the Worship & Music committee, and Jim is using his computer know-how to help on some upgrades and projects.

*Welcome to Northlake Lutheran, Jim and LuAnn!*



### THE CATECHUMENATE IS BACK!

Remember all those announcements about that weird sounding catty thing?

Yes, it is a faith formation process that includes community building through fellowship and bible exploration. We will enter into this process again beginning on July 24<sup>th</sup>, and you are invited! This time around, the process will begin at 5pm for about two hours every Sunday from July 24<sup>th</sup> through September 18<sup>th</sup> (we will skip Labor Day weekend). During this time, we will eat dinner together, ask faith and spiritual questions (all questions qualify!), and then join in small group bible fellowship. The entire time will take no more than 2 hours each Sunday.



There is just one catch. Well, maybe two.

First, while the process does not require anyone to participate every single Sunday, it is helpful to the group if participants commit to sticking with the group until the end of the time (September 18<sup>th</sup>). This is because we are intentionally spending time building community, and so some consistency is needed. This does NOT mean you have to be there every Sunday! Vacations happen, life happens... we all have things come up (even I won't be there every Sunday). So, even as you may come and go on certain Sundays, please know the expectation is that you will remain a part of the group until 9/18.

Second, I ask you to please sign up! In order to plan appropriately for the meal and the small groups, I need to know how many people to expect! A sign up sheet will be added to the clipboards; whether you were part of the trial we did last fall, or this whole catechumen-thing is new to you, I hope you will consider participating. And the bonus...this group will pick a name for this process so we don't have to keep saying catechumen-what?!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to bring them to me.

In peace,

*Pastor Arj Helmer*

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#### 2016 GATHERING OF THE NORTH AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CATECHUMENATE

"*Sing a New Song: Unpacking the Mystery of Faith*" - featuring Marty Haugen is the theme of the gathering taking place **June 28-30** at the Bosque Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Haugen will serve as the principle musician for the gathering and, along with Dan Benedict and Lizette Larson-Miller, a keynote presenter. Worship leaders, lay leaders, pastors, seminarians, musicians and teachers will benefit from rediscovering this ancient process of forming disciples and nurturing a community of faith centered in baptismal living.

For more information and registration, contact the NAAC website at [www.catechumenate.org](http://www.catechumenate.org), registrar Devra Betts at [devrabetts@gmail.com](mailto:devrabetts@gmail.com), or Pastor Bryon Hansen, Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church at [pastor@prlc.org](mailto:pastor@prlc.org).

~ ~ ~ **NEWS AND INFORMATION** ~ ~ ~

**Pastor LeRoy Anenson**

**It's with great sadness that we announce the passing of beloved Pastor LeRoy Anenson**, who died June 30 at 7:30pm after an injury from a fall earlier in June.

Pastor Anenson served for 18 years at Northlake Lutheran before being elected bishop of the Northwestern Washington Synod.

After retiring, Pastor Anenson served as chaplain at Evergreen Hospital, where, in 2002, he received Evergreen's Community Service award. In 2010, an article in the Kenmore Reporter stated that Pastor Anenson had visited more than 20,000 patients at Evergreen Hospital! [Link to complete article: <http://www.kirklandreporter.com/community/83403992.html>.]

When there is more information about Pastor Anenson's service, we will forward that on.



**ABRAHAMIC BRETHREN:  
AN INTERFAITH RAMADAN EVENING**  
by Justin Boyett

It is perhaps not frequently enough that we as a community and as members of the Body of Christ have the opportunity to share our faith, especially with other traditions descendent of Abram.

Accepting such an invitation from Bothell Islamic Center was a pleasant reminder of this point. While we certainly disagree on points of various importance, there is no denying the beauty and affection which transcends our theological barriers.

Entering the Mosque was a reminder of the cultural divisions which separate our tribes, but the warmth held within the hearts of the faithful shone clear and strong. The devotion and commitment with which the community of the Bothell Islamic Center worships is as deep as our own, and the sense of being a part of something greater than the individual is a thing rarely matched. Perhaps it was the communal meal which closed a shared fast, or perhaps a need to find familiarity in a society somewhat hostile. Whatever the reason or reasons, this community of faith is a community in the truest sense of the word. It is a connection so palpable that one might reach a hand into the air and find it resting upon the substance of faith.

**TO ALL THE WORLD**

**October 15 at 5pm** at Phinney Ridge, Seattle

The Church of Steadfast Love's annual fundraiser! Delicious food, wonderful raffle, awesome music featuring the Uncle Pens and more! The suggested donation is \$25.

Please RSVP by **September 25** to Pastor Kristy  
([pastorkristy@compasshousingalliance.org](mailto:pastorkristy@compasshousingalliance.org))

[www.compasshousingalliance.org/who-we-are-top/church-of-steadfast-love/](http://www.compasshousingalliance.org/who-we-are-top/church-of-steadfast-love/)



**The Listening Post***Kirby Unti, Bishop**Northwest Washington Synod**Article from The Spirit, July 2016*

*The Lord said, 'I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey... Exodus 3:7-8*

I want to offer to you my reflections on an experiment that we launched at this year's Synod Assembly. It in part was inspired by what we learned a year ago when we gathered under the theme: Can We Talk? What we quickly discovered is that talking has never been the problem. The real challenge is listening. Listening may be considered by some a lost art form. It is different than talking and it's more than having a conversation. Listening is trying to hear your neighbor so that you are able to express in your own words that which they were speaking and feeling. Think about a person you know who holds a very different position than you on a political or social issue. How well have you listened to them? Could you present their position or point of view in a way in which they would feel it fully represents them?

The Listening Post was at the top of the steps as voting members entered the Assembly. It was staffed throughout the Assembly by each of the Synod Staff members. Folks were invited to share their responses (stories) to several questions that I posed from the podium. Here is some of what we heard:

People experience hope when they sense that life is happening around them. It might be the birth of a new child or the launch of a new initiative in the life of the congregation. It was also noted how life-giving it is to experience the wonder of the creation here in the Northwest. Creativity is a form of life and it brings hope to people when they see imagination at work. It might be children learning to play their instruments in the band together or the effort put into making the Assembly come to life through art, music and language.

A second theme that emerged in our listening was the degree of isolation that many feel in our world and the hope that is given when people begin to sense they have a place of belonging in the community. We heard the power that comes into a person's life when they are seen and acknowledged by name. This gift is experienced when a young person risks their voice in expressing their perspective and has it acknowledged by another. A number of Assembly goers made comment on how life-giving it is when they see a genuine sense of hope in their leaders. Leaders who continue to believe in their communities and who express their love for the church are deeply appreciated. Often such leaders become beacons of hope for the larger community. It should come as no surprise that these mutual acts of caring for our neighbors continue to inspire people and invite faith communities to discover the joy that comes when we begin to know the stranger as neighbor and friend.

In a time that is challenging for many churches, we noted how many people were able to express where they are discovering God's gifts of life and hope and how appreciative they were to have the Synod invite them into a time of listening. Our God is a God who hears God's people and responds by coming down to be with us. Listening and responding is how community is deeply formed. Let us be about this kind of listening.



Letter from Pastor Anja *(Continued from page 2)*

And so, we who mourn the death of these dreams, we are encouraged, no, commanded, to rejoice! Rejoice with our community, rejoice with our spiritual home, rejoice in the knowledge that we may also be satisfied from the new birth that is coming; that we also may drink deeply with delight.

For it is in that rejoicing, in that recognition of God abiding within us, of Jesus standing among us, and of the Holy Spirit stirring the waters within which we play, that we may be comforted. For, once again, God makes that promise... 'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'



### COMMUNITY SERVE DAY

*Mark your calendars for Sunday August 21<sup>st</sup>*

On that day, local churches, businesses and other community organizations will mobilize to help our local schools get ready for the new school year. Northlake Lutheran will help with classroom organization, painting, repair and grounds projects at Kenmore Elementary. The work will be done between 9AM and 1PM. For that one Sunday, we will be skipping church to walk the walk that we talk about being a part of our community. If you don't feel great about volunteering for any kind of physical labor, we would still appreciate your presence handing out refreshments and acting as a cheerleader.

Our goal is to have as many participants as possible come to Kenmore Elementary to skip church and put our community involvement into high gear. This is a concrete opportunity to act out the attitude and commitment to reach out and help those who live closest to us

For any questions, and to register for our project, please contact Rick Heinbaugh.



### IT TAKES A VILLAGE!

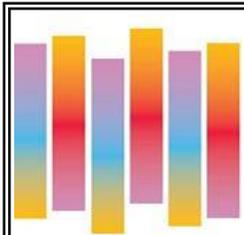
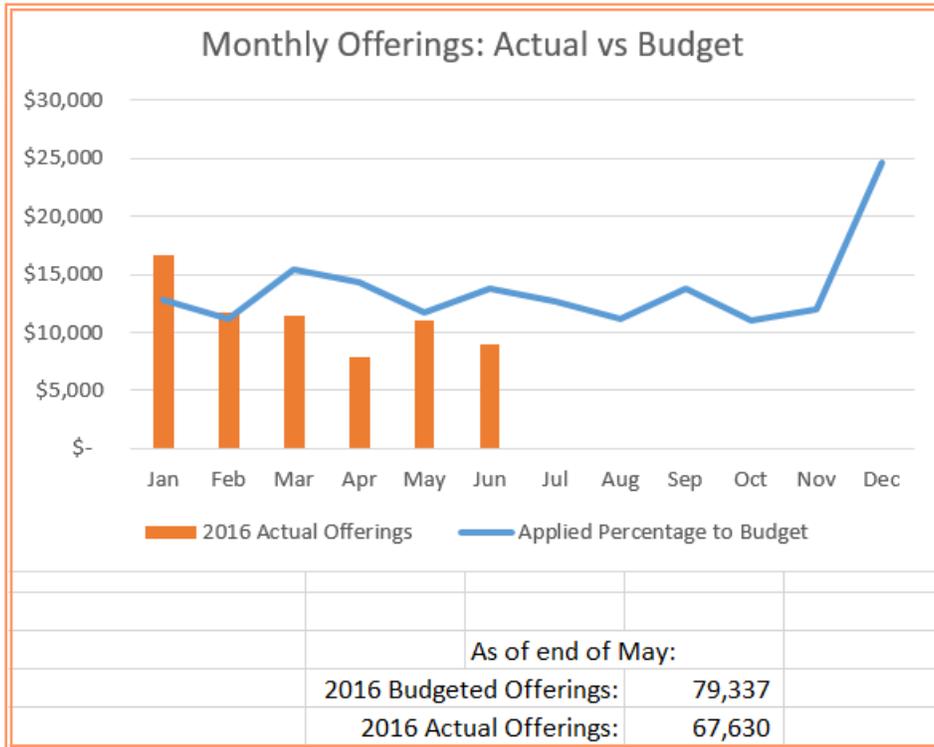
*Your help is needed at Sunday worship.* Please sign up on the clipboard to greet, usher, help with Coffee Hour or run the worship slideshow.  
*Don't know how? Don't worry...someone will show you!*

## NORTHLAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH JULY 2016 CALENDAR

Key: FH = Fellowship Hall    Conf = Conference Room    LL = Lower Level    SDA – Seventh Day Adventist Church

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sunday</b>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Happy July Birthdays!</i> 4 ~ Cindi Engelhardt 25 ~ Stephen Dahlberg</p>	<p>4 INDEPENDENCE DAY! </p>	<p>5 Susan on vacation 2pm ~ Bible Study (Library) 7pm ~ SDA Prayer Group (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>6 Susan on vacation ★ Office Closed ★</p>	<p>7 Susan on vacation</p>	<p>1 P Anja's Sabbath</p>	<p>2 8am-2pm ~ SDA Worship &amp; Sanctuary School (Sanctuary/classrooms) 4-6pm ~ SDA Adventurers (FH) 6-10pm ~ Youth Group (FH)</p>
<p>3 10-11am ~ Worship 11am ~ Coffee Hour 7pm ~ SDA Worship (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>4 6:30pm ~ Parish Education mtg (Conf) 7pm ~ Knitters (Library)</p>	<p>12 10am ~ Finance Committee mtg (Conf) 2pm ~ Bible Study (Library) 4:30-6:30pm ~ Food Bank (FH) 7pm ~ SDA Prayer Group (Sanctuary) 7pm ~ Property Comm-Conf</p>	<p>13 10am ~ Executive Review Committee (Conf)</p>	<p>14 6:00pm ~ Daisy Troop (Youth Room)</p>	<p>8 P Anja's Sabbath Susan on vacation ★ Office Closed ★</p>	<p>9 8am-2pm ~ SDA Worship &amp; Sanctuary School (Sanctuary/classrooms) 10am ~ Worship &amp; Music Comm mtg (Conf) 1pm ~ SDA Potluck (FH) 4-6pm ~ SDA Adventurers-FH 6-10pm ~ Youth Group (FH)</p>
<p>10 10-11am ~ Worship 11am ~ Coffee Hour 11:30am ~ Nominating Committee (Library) 1pm ~ Social Ministry team (Library)</p>	<p>18 7pm ~ Knitters (Library)</p>	<p>19 2pm ~ Bible Study (Library) 7pm ~ Church Council mtg (Conf) 7pm ~ SDA Prayer Group (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 P Anja's Sabbath</p>	<p>23 8am-2pm ~ SDA Worship &amp; Sanctuary School (Sanctuary/classrooms) 1pm ~ SDA Potluck (FH) 4-8pm ~ SDA Pathfinders (FH)</p>
<p>17 10-11am ~ Worship 11am ~ Coffee Hour 11:30am ~ CONGREGATIONAL MTG (FH)</p>	<p>25 7pm ~ Knitters (Library)</p>	<p>26 2pm ~ Bible Study (Library) 4:30-6:30pm ~ Food Bank (FH) 7pm ~ SDA Prayer Group (S)</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 P Anja's Sabbath JG Murphy use of parking lot</p>	<p>30 JG Murphy use of parking lot 8am-2pm ~ SDA Worship &amp; Sanctuary School (Sanctuary/classrooms) 4-6pm ~ SDA Pathfinders (FH) 6-10pm ~ Youth Group (FH)</p>
<p>24 10-11am ~ Worship 11am ~ Coffee Hour 11:30-RIC mtg (Library) 4:30pm~Catechumenate Mtg (FH)</p>	<p>31 10-11am ~ Worship 11am ~ Coffee Hour 4:30 ~Catechumenate Mtg (FH)</p>					

Snapshot of Northlake Lutheran’s Monthly Offerings



**NORTHLAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Mailing address: PO Box 82603  
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 Kenmore, Washington 98028  
[www.northlakelutheran.org](http://www.northlakelutheran.org)

Pastor ..... Anja Helmon  
 Office Administrator ..... Susan Frederick  
 Organist ..... Wendy DeLong  
 Security ..... Keith Hood

*NorthLights* editor is Susan Frederick.  
 Please send articles or calendar items by the **20<sup>th</sup>** of each month to:  
[office@northlakelutheran.org](mailto:office@northlakelutheran.org)  
 or drop them by the office.  
*Thank you!*

**Church office hours:** Tuesday through Friday, 9am-2pm  
**Phone:** 425-486-6977 | **Email:** [office@northlakelutheran.org](mailto:office@northlakelutheran.org)  
**Pastor Anja’s Sabbath:** Friday  
**Pastor Anja’s Email:** [pastoranja@northlakelutheran.org](mailto:pastoranja@northlakelutheran.org)

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