

The Visitor

March 2024

St. John's Lutheran Church ELCA · 2190 Jackson Hwy Chehalis, WA 98532
www.stjohnlutheranchehalis.net · 360.748.4741 · office@stjohnschehalis.net

Grace to You and Peace, Friends!

Pastor Brenda Satrum

This March, I'll begin half-time interim ministry at St. John's for the duration of 2024 or until the arrival of your next called pastor. I was honored to be invited by your council and am glad to be among you again (I helped with preaching back in 2021).

The council has asked me to prioritize joyful and relevant worship, intentional healing and reconciliation, and a prayerful, thoughtful time of transition, all of which I am glad to take on. Here are some things you may want to know as we begin:

- Reach me at 406.381.1919 (call or text), bsatrum@gmail.com, or through your church office.
- I live in Shelton with my husband, Rev. Dr. Doug Peterson, and I also work part-time at Faith Lutheran, where he is lead pastor. I'll commute at least twice a week to Chehalis to spend one weekday (probably Tuesday) and all but one Sunday a month (usually the 2nd) with you. I'm also available for crises and other occasional needs.
- Doug and I have worked both together and apart since our ordinations in 1993, and we still love what we do. We have two kids in their late 20's whom we also love: Ben works at a credit union in Missoula, MT, and Hannah is a student at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC).

Continued on page 2

St. John's Lutheran Church Statement of Mission

Rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ we exist to

- **PROCLAIM** God's unconditional love we exist to
- **GROW** in discipleship as we follow in Jesus' steps and
- **SERVE** others as instruments of God's Holy Spirit

- I love and trust the God who loves us first in Jesus and enjoy the sweet presence of the Holy Spirit. I'm a spiritual seeker, thoughtful question asker, and a good listener—trained as a spiritual director by the Friends at Portland Seminary. I'm a lover of dogs (you may meet Xena, our Australian Shepherd), mountains, making music with friends, oat-milk lattes, good books, dark chocolate, food of all sorts, and long walks. Friday is my sabbath.

I'm looking forward to getting to know you and to enjoying a season together on the Way of Jesus. Please take time to say hello. *Yours in Christ, Pastor Brenda*

Spiritual Growth Opportunities with Pastor Brenda...

Call or text 406.381.1919 or email bsatrum@gmail.com to inquire or sign up for either of these opportunities.

Weekly Bible Study

In-person at SJL and online, time/s TBD

Get to know Pastor Brenda, each other and God's Word more deeply as we "Dwell in the Word," spending time in study, reflection, and prayer over one of the passages to be preached in the upcoming Sunday's service.

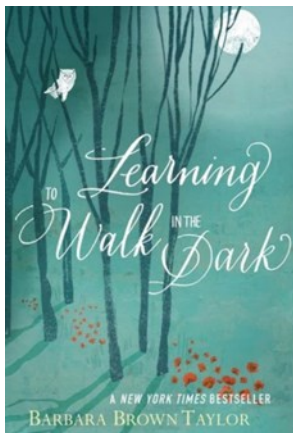
After Easter, participants may choose to move into a "Book of Faith" study of the book of Mark (our Gospel this year), 1 John (April's epistle readings), Ephesians (PB's personal favorite), or others.

Please contact Pastor Brenda ASAP if you're interested to help discern the best times to offer these sessions!

Monthly Love Well Book Club:

Time TBD at SJL

Second Saturdays 10-11:30a on Zoom



Enjoy some of the best fiction and non-fiction reading for growing, stretching, and even *resting* your spiritual muscles in a monthly book club facilitated by Pastor Brenda. On Sundays we may take turns providing soup or salad and bread to make this a lunch meeting.

April 7 (Sun.) & 13 (Sat.): *Learning to Walk in the Dark*, by Barbara Brown Taylor, a winsome exploration of spirituality that grows and even thrives in times when answers are hard to find. In the months ahead: *The Road Back to You*, by Suzanne Stabile (personality styles), *Let Your Life Speak*, by Parker Palmer, and other awesome suggestions from partici-

There Is A Reason For It All

From Chuck Rudorfer

Laid out a large check last week and received a set of keys. Reality of this juncture in our lives has set—in after my “Come to Jesus Moment” the other week.

Three days of dishes in the sink and working off laundry pile of towels came this simple question: What’s going to change in my life after being a caretaker to not only Diane but, also my folks over the past 14 years? Answer: Nothing

Whether staying in our existing home or sell and relocate to another house, dishes still pile up, laundry and repairs will always be there along with going to visit Diane.

Hard enough if you’ve got one’s health, but my progressive disease taking a turn makes everything more difficult for myself, Diane and the kids.

This was a hard, difficult decision to make in selling off everything we own but, the only correct decision. This left me thinking of the parable in Luke about storing up wealth and possession here on earth. This is when I placed it all in God’s hand knowing by faith he will provide.

Sometimes in life you have to make a choice where there is no solution but, you need to choose”.

This led me to a song by Allison Krause: “There is a reason for it all”.

Thank you for all prayers, cards, letters and support you have given. Both Diane and I are grateful for the years of fellowship we had at St. Johns Luther.

Thank You!

**St. John's
Lutheran Church, ELCA
2190 Jackson Hwy
360/748-4741**

**office@stjohnschehalis.net
www.stjohnschehalis.net**

**Pastor
Brenda Satrum
bsatrum@gmail.com
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**Minister of Music:
Joan Jahnsen
748-3901
jahnsen71@msn.com**

**Parish Administrator:
Michelle Turner
office@stjohnschehalis.net**

**Streaming:
Ethan Fick:
Stream-
ing@stjohnschehalis.net**

**Office Hours:
9 a.m to 2:30 p.m Monday
thru Thursday**

**Worship
Schedule:**

- **8:00am Bible Study**
- **9:30 a.m.
Worship**

Pastoral care or concerns and Care Team contact info

For nonemergency care (card of encouragement, visit at home or health care facility, or to receive communion), **please call the church office** to put your (or your loved one's) name on the Care list, updated weekly. If Michelle does not answer please leave a message that you would like to be contacted by the Care Team. A member will follow up with you within the week.

Church phone and voicemail number: **(360)748-4741 extension 2**

For emergency pastoral care (immediate or grave health or personal crisis) **contact Pastor Brenda Satrum or Paul Brassey**, if Pastor Brenda is not available.

Pastor Brenda Satrum: **(406) 381-1919**
Paul Brassey: **(360) 324-7808**

Women's News:

Women's Monthly Bible Study
By Joan Jahnsen

We will continue our Bible study that explores how biblical stories of the natural world help us grow our love for and commitment to God, other people and our beloved earth. We will meet at **10:00 am on Sat. March 16th** for *Session Two - Creatures: Our siblings in praise and trust*. We'll look at biblical animals (some adorable, some terrifying) from ravens and lions to a big fish, paired creatures on the ark and that sneaky serpent in Eden. Stories of human and animal interactions in Scripture help to reorient our relationships with the non-human world, while pulling us into deeper trust in God.

Young At Heart

by Sue Edwards

On February 20, thirteen people enjoyed a presentation by Chip Duncan, director of the Veterans Memorial Museum since 2011. Chip shared how founder Lee Grimes had a 1994 dream visit from the Holy Spirit instructing him to preserve the stories of veterans. Lee then videotaped the personal stories of hundreds of Lewis County veterans while maintaining a fulltime job. When doing both became overwhelming, Lee and his wife Barb prayed for guidance. Lee opted to quit his cabinetry job and move forward in faith. Amazingly Barb was promoted at her work with a new salary which equaled what Lee had been earning. (God works in mysterious ways!) They chartered a museum in December 1995 which opened in a Centralia storefront Veterans Day 1997. That space soon became too small for the demand. The current Chehalis building at a cost of \$1.5 million was paid off by opening day July 2005. Veterans Day 2023 was the 26th anniversary of the museum's founding.

Chip told the stories of several veterans and volunteers. W.F. West High School history teacher Rob Sande assigns his students to interview a veteran. Once a teenage girl stopped on a Saturday when no veterans were hanging out in the USO. A veteran guest in the gallery agreed to help her. Much to everyone's surprise, he began telling of his service in the German army circa WWII. YAH attendees Christel Nixon and Brigitte Pagel each volunteered that was also the story of her husband. Though the museum's mission has always been to "honor and heal" veterans, only in the last year or so has the "healing" part been addressed. Chip outlined the addition of the Veterans Journey Forward program with Jesse Lloyd, a trained counselor, and Veterans Service Officer Brianna Smith who helps veterans obtain funds and services due to them. Both programs are free of charge. Jesse and Brianna have offices at the museum but also travel to towns in East Lewis County once a week. Some of their brochures were placed on the table in the narthex and on the hallway bulletin board. Chip explained that all monetary donations to the museum are used locally. Attendees were welcomed to visit the museum.

The March meeting must also be changed to a Tuesday so as not to interfere with the Wednesday afternoon Lenten service. **The March meeting will be 1:30 Tuesday March 19 in the Conference Room.** The program will be keeping with the theme of Veterans. The speaker will be Jesse Lloyd the Director of Veterans Journey Forward program at the Veterans Memorial Museum.



“A little spit shine and elbow grease”
By Lori Gasca www.lorigasca.info

Have you ever seen a foggy headlight on a vehicle? Did you know, in most cases, the light still works as good as ever but the cover has gotten all smudged up. With a little “spit” and some elbow grease, you can clean that cover up and the light shines bright as new.

“The Lord is my LIGHT and my salvation whom shall I fear?” Psalm 27:1

“For it is you who LIGHTS my lamp; the Lord my God lightens my darkness” Psalm 18:28

I do not have to DO anything to be a light except accept Him as my Lord and Savior. Then, HE IS MY LIGHT. It is not because of what I AM but because of what HE IS. However, just like a dirty headlight, what I do to keep my light “cover” clean determines how brightly HIS LIGHT can shine through me.

“For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me” Psalm 38:4 “My heart throbs, my strength fails me and the LIGHT of my eyes - it also has gone from me” Psalm 38:10

When my iniquities (sin, misdemeanor, wrong doing) cover my life so deeply that it has gone over my head and I become burdened down with the weight of it, not only does it hurt my heart but it removes the LIGHT from my eyes and His light no longer shines brightly through me. The light inside me never loses its brightness, I have just dirtied up the cover so it doesn't shine like it can. I lose that luster and brilliance that is present when I keep my face turned toward Jesus and reflect his radiance. It's never a problem or issue with the light source. I just have to keep the headlight cover clean so the full brightness of HIS LIGHT can shine.

How do I keep my “cover clean?”

*Daily time in the word of God. Nothing replaces reading His word. Bible studies, devotional readings, journaling, praise music...all of those things are wonderful but they do not and should not replace reading the word of God and hiding it in my heart so I might not sin against Him. (Psalm 119:10)

*Be quick to forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. (Colossians 3:13) Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. (Ephesians 4:32) The longer we hold onto unforgiveness, the dirtier our cover becomes.

*Confess your sins when you know you have done wrong. In big and little offenses, make them right quickly. Create in me a **clean** heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me (Psalm 51:10) so your light can shine brightly through me.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16

Submitted by Shari Blackwell



Who: Children up thru grade 5
What: Songs, Story, Games & Snack
When: **Wednesdays 4:15-5:00pm**
Where: Conference Room
Leader: Joan Jahnsen & helpers
Questions? call 360-388-5337

“My spirit abides among you, do not fear:

Haggai 2:4

We look forward with hope in the new year, for God is with us. The power of the Holy Spirit is working through us during this time of transition. May we be patient and focused on Him. We rely on God as we move forward in our ministry here at St. John's. God promises us “His spirit abides among us.” May God bless us as we work to bring the good news of Jesus to others

Marilyn Schmitt

Library/BookGuild

The Book Guild will meet on **Tues. Mar. 26th at 7:00 pm** in the conference room. We will be discussing The Other Einstein by Marie Benedict. This novel offers us a window into a brilliant, fascinating woman whose light was lost in Einstein's enormous shadow. It is the story of Einstein's wife, a brilliant physicist in her own right, whose contribution to the special theory of relativity is hotly debated and may have been inspired by her own profound and very personal insight



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Our midweek Lenten services continue on Wednesdays in March. We are using a series called "Words That Last Forever". We invite you to join us at 2:00 pm or come for Soup at 6:00 pm and stay for the 7:00 pm service. The evening service will also be streamed for those of you who wish to watch from home.

Mar. 6 - #3: Behold

Mar. 13 - #4: Forsaken

Mar. 20 - #5: Thirst

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Holy week begins on **Palm Sunday, March 24th**. We will have a procession with palm crosses at our 9:30 worship service. The Kids of the Kingdom will join with the adult choir to share an anthem called "Hosanna, Hosanna We Sing". Pastor Brenda will lead our **Maundy Thursday service on March 28th at 7:00pm**. We will celebrate Holy Communion as we commemorate Jesus' last supper with his disciples. The altar will be stripped to represent the desolation, abandonment and darkness of the Passion and death of our Lord. This will lead us to the **Good Friday service at 7:00 pm on March 29th** which will focus on Christ's final words from the cross, "It is Finished". The evening services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will be streamed for those of you who wish to watch from home. Holy Week will conclude with our festive **Easter service at 9:30 am Sunday March 31st** followed by a brunch hosted by the Youth & Family committee.

Supply Pastor Schedule:

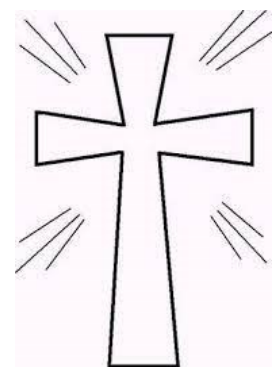
March 3 Pastor Brenda Satrum

March 10 Pastor Randy Faro

March 17 Bishop Jaech

March 24 Pastor Brenda Satrum

March 31 Pastor Brenda Satrum





Did you see that butterfly, the one that's just flown by?
Yes, well that was me just trying to say Hi.
The robin in the garden, yes of course that was me too,
I just wanted you to notice that I'm still right here with you.
The feather that you found, the white one on the floor,
Yes that was me just giving you the sign I know you've been looking for.
Because I'll never ever leave you even though Heaven seems quite far.
No matter where you go in life I'll always be wherever you are.
Our song that comes on the radio, a feather, a bird, a butterfly,
Remember that is a sign from me whenever you question why.
Whenever you feel alone, know you're not as I am here,
You carry our love within every single tear.
So please know that I am with you, I wish I could take away your pain,
But the love we shared is always around and it will always remain.

Author Unknown

Books to be added to the church library in March

1. The Summer's End, Mary Alice Monroe (3rd in the series)

The final summer at Sea Breeze on Sullivan's Island in the South Carolina low country

2. The first phone call from heaven, Mitch Albom

Outsiders flock to Coldwater, Michigan as the phones start ringing with recognized voices, from heaven

3. The Return, Nicholas Sparks

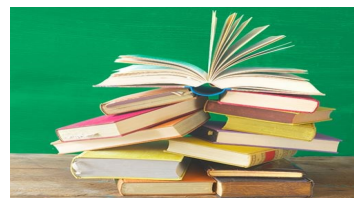
Returning with devastating injuries from Afghanistan, Trevor rebuilds his life in his grandfather's dilapidated cabin

4. Firefly Lane, Kristen Hannah

Coming of age story of two best friends in the 1980's that lasts a lifetime

5. Unbroken, Laura Hillenbrand

A world war II story of survival, resilience and redemption



Food for our Future:

Packing weekend food for food insufficient students K-8 Chehalis school district. We are currently serving 60+ students a week. We are in need of clean plastic shopping bags Please bring them to the church Please leave in the Narthex on the table if you have any questions call Cathy Cavness

Thank you!

Cathy Cavness and Lorna Johnson



Coffee hour Help needed!

Sign up sheets in the Narthex.

We need people to provide treats, juice and to make coffee.



Financial Review:

Monthly income February

Offering	\$ 20,824.95
Other income	\$ 3,410.00
Total	\$ 25,100.06

Monthly income budget \$ 17,200.00

Monthly expenses February \$ 19,229.22

Noisy Sunday \$ 2,377.84

2024 Year to date Totals

YTD income: \$41,011.52

YTD expenses: \$40,478.28

Net Income: \$533.24

We Thank You for your Generous Gifts

**Giving to Support St. John's**

As a church we encourage those who are part of the St. John's family to be giving to the work of our congregation. We believe you should not feel burdened by the issue of giving but in fact, find it a joy! We are pleased to provide e-giving options as an alternative to giving cash and checks in the offering plate (your cash and checks are always welcome!).

Mobile Phone: Scan the QR code provided here to access our mobile giving site and follow the prompts.

Our Website – on your computer, go to www.stjohnschehalis.net and click on the “donate” button

Online Banking – Arrange to give through bill-pay at your own bank's website. You will be asked for the following information:

St. John's Lutheran Church

2190 Jackson Hwy, Chehalis, WA 98532

360-748-4741



Questions? Contact the Office

Gentle Reminder

If you are aged 70 1/2+ and have investments that now require you to make monthly withdrawals, you can have any amount of that monthly money sent as offering to St, Johns TAX FREE. The contribution must come directly from your Financial institution, not directly from you. Contact you financial planner to set it up, and let whomever does your taxes know so you get the tax relief. Its easy to do, and will save you some tax dollars.

Council thanks you



Birthdays

2	Brian Gilliland Nate Meagher
3	Sean Touhey
4	Zack Wright
6	Brittany Grill
9	Jake Heck
13	Austin Michal
15	Tyler Wright
16	Barbara Grega
17	Emma Rotter
18	Rick Michal Denise Unzel- man
19	Adam Moir
20	Jonathan Riley
22	Ben Russell
27	Gail Dean
28	Cathy Scott
30	Tiffany Ziegert
31	Cheryl Amrine



Anniversaries

17	Meg and David Nelson
18	Carol and Steve Kostanich
26	Sara and Russ Lunders
27	Susan and Bob Russell
31	Shawn and Brad Meagher



Baptism Anniversaries

4	Tyler Wright
9	Jake Heck
10	David Barber Rachel Barber Charlotte Barber Ethan Barber Samantha Barber Zoe Thomas Emma Thomas
11	Allyn Tobey
12	Patty Wilson
14	Keith Birchard
21	Cason Justice Heather Heck
26	Nathaniel Birchard Mary DuBois
27	Lisa Conzatti
28	Luanne Grill Sam Teitzel
30	Taylor Lowery
31	Jared Edwards Jay Jahnsen

Birthdays

2	Greg Moir Ken Wright
4	Joann Hulse Christine Vlach Clara Giuliani
5	Samantha Barber
6	Brad Meagher
8	Caroline Carter Hannah Meier
9	Jerry Grill
10	Dolores Goedhard
16	Bernhard Kreutz Judy Utter
17	Evan Unzelman
18	Bob Cosser Michelle Lee
26	Christine Larsen Timothy Munz
27	Stephen Jendryka
28	Tim Touhey



April

Anniversaries

25	Vicki and Bruce Graham
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Baptism Anniversaries

1	Matt Edwards
3	Jim Carey
5	Rick Michal
6	Lexi Erwin Janie Mauel
10	Lynette Gage Dolores Goedhard
11	Cole Fisher Riley Fisher Lucas Lee
12	April Michal Michael Vance
14	Shirley Dolman Andrew Michal
15	Brynne Bailey Colt Conzatti
17	Angela March
18	Janet Christin
19	Sierra Gilliland
22	Cason Justice
29	Ezra Birchard



March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7 a.m. Group Exercise class	2
3 8:00 am Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship	4 7 a.m. Group Exercise class 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool 10 am Altar Guild meeting	5 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool	6 8 a.m Group exercise class Lent Service 2& 7pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm	7 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool 1:15 p.m. Fiber arts	8 7 a.m. Group Exercise class	9
10 8:00 am Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship	11 7 a.m. Group Exercise class 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool	12 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool 6:30 pm Council meeting	13 8 a.m Group exercise class Lent Service 2& 7pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm	14 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool 1:15 p.m. Fiber arts	15 7 a.m. Group Exercise class 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool	16 10 am Wom- en Bible study
17 8:00 am Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship Bishop Jaech Part 2 of Life Lesson's: Com- municationa dn han- dling conflict Noisy Sunday	18 7 a.m. Group Exercise class 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool 6:00 p.m. Worship and Music meet- ing	19 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool 1:30 pm Young at Heart	20 8 a.m Group exercise class 4:15 Kids of the Kingdom Lent Service 2& 7pm Soup Supper 6:00 pm	21 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool 1:15 p.m. Fiber arts	22 7 a.m. Group Exercise class 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool	23 Mobile Meals 7:30 am –12
24 8:00 am Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship Palm Sun- 8:00 am- Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship	25 7 a.m. Group Exercise class 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool	26 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool 7 pm Book Guild	27 8 a.m Group exercise class 4:15 Kids of the Kingdom	28 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool 1:15 p.m. Fiber arts Maundy Thurs- day 7 pm	29 7 a.m. Group Exercise class 9 a.m. to 12 pm One Little Tree Preschool Good Friday 7 pm	30
31						

Upcoming Events

March 12 Council meeting 6:30pm

March 13 Lenten service 2 pm and 7 pm Soup Supper 6 pm

Adult Choir practice 7:30 pm

March 16 Women's Bible Study 10 am

Car pool to Rudorfers for work party 11:30am

March 17 Regular Sunday Service 9:30am Noisy Sunday Following worship, Bishop Jaech leads **Part 2 of Life Lessons: Communication and handling conflict** in the conference room. Join the conversation.

March 20 Lenten service 2 pm and 7 pm Soup Supper 6 pm

March 28 Maundy Thursday 7 pm

March 29 Good Friday

March 31 Easter Sunday 9:30am

St. John's QR Codes They are simple to use just open up your Camera on your smart phone, tap your finger on the QR code and it will take you right to the Facebook page, Website and Worship link.

Facebook page



Website



Worship link



St. John's Calendar Our church calendar has moved! You will find the new Calendar in the hallway leading to the Conference room. If you are interested in when the community center is rented that calendar is in the copy room. We also have an online Calendar on our website. If there is something you would like to add feel free to do so, let Michelle know so it can be added online if you would like.

Spring Flowers and Easter Lilies to enhance St. John's on Easter Sunday

If you would like to help adorn the altar for Easter, please bring your flowers to the church by **10:00 am on Saturday, March 30**; or use the sign-up form below and give to any Altar Guild member along with \$10.00 and we will purchase flowers for you. You may also mail the sign-up form to the church office (2190 Jackson Highway, Chehalis, WA 98532) along with an \$10.00 check payable to St. John's Altar Guild. Deadline for ordering is **Sunday, March 24**. Flowers may be given in honor or in memory of a loved one, or to the Glory of God.

Altar Guild members are Jan Cosser, Marilyn Fenn, Nancy Lynch, Patty Olsen, Corrine Crowner, Linda Mettler and Sue Edwards.

Flowers may be given in honor or in memory of a loved one, or to the Glory of God.

Name _____

I wish to donate # _____ Spring Flowers x \$10.00 = \$ _____

◇ In **Honor** of: _____

◇ In **Memory** of: _____

◇ **To the Glory of God** _____

◇ I will provide flowers

(You are encouraged to take your flowers home after the 9:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Service.)