

The Visitor

June 2016

St. John's Lutheran Church ELCA • 2190 Jackson Hwy Chehalis, WA 98532
360/748-4741 • office@stjohnschehalis.net

Holy Spirit — Pot Stirrer



1 Corinthians 12:7 *To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

God-watcher — where have you seen the manifestations of the Spirit in our midst? Where have you seen the Holy Spirit stirring the pot?

Here is where I've seen the Spirit stirring the pot: In June and July we will host Poverty Coaches training here at St. John's toward our goal of becoming an Opportunity Community and make a difference for people living in poverty in Lewis County. I never would have dreamed a year ago that we would be making the waves we are making today. It is the Holy Spirit at work taking the work of dedicated human beings, using their God-given gifts to organize and encourage action among community leaders. When 20 people show up for a conference call when we only expected six or so —that's the Holy Spirit. *The Holy Spirit stirring the pot.*

Bridging the Gap Between "Us" and "Them"

The next step in "bridging the gap" is Poverty Coach training. Professionals and non-professionals alike are encouraged to attend the training to obtain the tools needed to be a Poverty Coach and onsite expert for individual organizations. The intensive 15 hours of poverty training will: 1) provide a grounded understanding of poverty; and 2) teach "us" how to work more effectively *together* to break the shackles of poverty in Lewis County. The 15-hour training experience is spread out over three sessions.

Most Frequently Asked Questions:

As word gets around about the poverty coach training and the work we are doing towards an

In July, eight high school youth and three adults will go on a Summer Mission Trip for the first time in five years. Young people are finding God in the midst of the ministry of St. John's Lutheran Church. Youth are serving as worship leaders, lectors, musicians, vocalists, and more. The Holy Spirit is stirring the pot of young people.

In the past six months, Habitat for Humanity opened an office in our building. They have been having board meetings here for a while but now they have a home to help other people build theirs. This is a place where they can meet with potential home owners and have a place to expand their ministry to those looking to own their own home.

These are just three examples of the Holy Spirit stirring the pot. I'm sure you have many examples of how the Holy Spirit is stirring in you. So God-watcher, *where do you see the Holy Spirit stirring the pot?*

Pastor Matt

Opportunity Community, questions begin to surface. We share them here for your information.

1. What is all this activity about?

As precisely as possible, we are involved in a movement to unify, coordinate, and advance the work everyone throughout the county is already doing to address poverty.

It started with a number of us in the faith community who got involved with Dr. Beegle's *Communication Across Boundaries* approach to poverty. Fortunately, it was also about the same time the County Health

(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 as an invitation to all,
- **GROW** in discipleship as we follow in Jesus' steps, and
- **SERVE** others as instruments of God's Holy Spirit.

St. John's
Lutheran Church, ELCA
2190 Jackson Hwy
360/748-4741
office@stjohnschehalis.net
www.stjohnschehalis.net

Pastor Matthew March
pastor@stjohnschehalis.net
Follow Pastor Matt @revlurch
on Twitter/Facebook/
Instagram

Youth Minister:
Pat Soderquist
Cell: 219-7162

Minister of Music:
Joan Jahnsen
748-3901
jahnsen71@msn.com

Secretary:
Linda Lowery
office@stjohnschehalis.net

Custodian:
Bernie Schreck:
748-6302

Facilities Coordinator:
Chuck Ziegert
748-3420
zookpr36@comcast.net

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Editor:
Linda Lowery

Worship Schedule:

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Class
- 11:00 a.m. Worship

Summer Worship Schedule:

- Beginning June 19:
One Worship Service
at 9:45 a.m.

Bridging the Gap . . .

(continued from page 1)

Improvement Project (C.H.I.P.) was in full process. We realized that this was an amazing opportunity for “Us” to work together with “Them.” We then got United Way involved and things took off!

What makes this activity unique, though, is that we are involving not only the professionals, but the non-professionals as well. We are involving the paid staff and volunteers. We are including the major groups of justice, education, health, social services, and the business community; but we're also involving those in poverty by giving them opportunities to realize their strengths and reach their potential for moving forward! Together we can compound our effectiveness!

2. What is an “Opportunity Community?” At its core, the OC model:

- a. Serves people from generational, working class, situational and immigrant poverty.
- b. Provides structure for a better-connected community network resulting in a more effective and efficient poverty-fighting system.
- c. Provides community-wide education to increase awareness and understanding about the real causes of poverty — Educating people living in poverty

(Neighbors) and volunteers (Navigators and Specialty Navigators) — then connecting Navigators and Neighbors in strong relationships.

- d. Trains community professionals to serve as Specialty Navigators and support the efforts of Navigators who are working to access resources and opportunities for their neighbors.
- e. Increases engagement of sectors of the community not previously involved in fighting poverty.
- f. Builds capacity of helping professionals who serve people in poverty.

3. Why spend so much time on education? Isn't that a waste of time – especially for us who work in the field of social services?

You can't be a good surgeon without first being educated! You can't understand and address a complex, systemic issue like poverty without some common knowledge. At the core, the (OC) model addresses seven key issues that prevent us from reducing poverty:

- a. No clear definition of poverty.
- b. Varying views of the causes of poverty.
- c. Education about poverty and its impacts on people provided by the media which promote stereotypes.
- d. Resolutions, actions, programs, funding allocations and policies are created without the voices of

(continued on page 3)

Bridging the Gap . . .

(continued from page 2)

people from generational, working class, immigrant and situational poverty.

e. Efforts to eradicate poverty are isolated and focused on (at best) assisting people to cope with current poverty conditions.

f. The “Deficit” model is the primary framework for addressing poverty.

g. Economic development is misaligned with the human capital available.

Before we can effectively work together, we have to have some common understanding about these issues.

4. What exactly is a poverty coach?

Poverty coaches are meant to be your organization’s onsite experts for educating colleagues, providing leadership for eliminating barriers and developing system-wide approaches for improving outcomes for families and individuals in poverty.

5. When and Where will the training take place?

a. Training will be stationed at St. John’s Lutheran Church, 2190 Jackson Highway, Chehalis, with various experiences in other county locations.

b. The 15-hour training experience is spread out over the following dates and times: June 20th, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.; June 29 and 30 from 9:30 a.m. to noon; and July 6 and 7 from 9:30 to noon.

6. Who is leading the training?

Instructors are Michaelle Sorlie, Housing Coordinator for Lewis County Health & Social Services; and Meja Handlen, Contracts Coordinator for Lewis County Health & Social Services.

Michaelle and Meja are certified Poverty Coaches by Dr. Beegle’s Communication Across Barriers with a combined 40 plus years of working with persons in poverty and crisis.

7. Can we earn Continuing Education Credits?

Yes! Two (2) CEU’s will be available. At the end of the training we will distribute forms that you will need to complete and mail to Centralia Community College. The cost will be an additional \$18 for processing.

8. Must attendees commit to all five days?

Participants do have to complete the entire series of gatherings to receive CEU’s or diplomas of completion.

However, we realize that these are very busy months for everyone, so we’re tentatively looking at the possibility of holding a second training series in the fall. This will allow people to make up any sessions they miss in June or July.

We do ask that participants do their very best to attend the entire series.

9. What is the cost?

\$50.00. This will include lunch on June 20th.

10. How do we register?

a. You can register online through the United Way of Lewis County web site between May 16 through June 16; or

b. Send a check to United Way of Lewis County at 450 NW Pacific Ave., Chehalis, WA. 98532. Please make checks payable to United Way of Lewis County and designate on memo line “Bridging the Gap.” Please include your name, mailing address, phone, email, and company/organization.

11. How will any supplemental materials we might want to purchase be covered?

Participants or the organizations to which they belong must pay for any additional materials.

We are also attempting to establish a loan library that consists of several copies of the more expensive items.

12. Some of the people we have identified may not be the best “trainers.” They have influence, but we don’t recommend them (for a variety of reasons) to be the trainers for our organization. What should we do?

We recommend you recruit people who will do the best job. However, we encourage people in leadership roles and with the

(continued on page 4)

Bridging the Gap . . .

(continued from page 3)

greatest influence to publicly support and promote the training within their own organizations. For example, when the CEO of Morton Hospital personally approached the people she wanted to be the coaches for the hospital and its two clinics, their energy and enthusiasm took a huge leap forward. It is now an honor to participate and they know they have actual support for doing the task.

13. What's the long range plan?

- a. Right now we're recruiting poverty coaches and want them trained by the first week in July.
- b. From July to the end of the year the poverty coaches will be helping us train the rest of the county so together we become a poverty informed community. (Our goal is to educate a critical mass of at least 10% of the county.)
- c. In January 2017 we want to begin recruiting Navigators (the 1:1 partners) and Neighbors (people in crises).

- d. Between May through the Fall of 2017, we want to train the Navigators and Neighbors, get them paired, and have them start working together.
- e. By January of 2018 we want to begin organizing a formal Opportunity Community approach to our county-wide planning to systemically address causes of poverty in a co-ordinated and cooperative manner.

Have more questions? Feel free to contact Carolyn, 360-983-3170, or St. John's Lutheran Church, 360-748-4741.

The Urge to Worship

The urge to worship is an inherent inclination to show reverence and respect. Sometimes it has nothing to do with anything biblical, like God. Since man has existed he has worshipped something – his ancestors, plants, the moon, stars, sun, trees, fire and even himself.

When men turned from God, Paul said they “exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed for ever” (Rom. 1:25). The creation of images and idols is known as idolatry – condemned severely in scripture (1 John 5:21).

Christians worship God alone (Matt. 4:10; John 4:23-24). Because the Bible has the only true information about God, the way Christians worship must be dictated by the truth of God's word. That worship is not the result of inward impulse, but conformity to what God himself has allowed in his word.

But still there is an inward urge to worship. When trouble strikes, the urge to turn to God is natural. It is wrong to limit to troublesome times. Jeremiah rebuked the idolatrous Jews as those who, “say to a stock, Thou art my father; and to a stone, Thou hast brought me forth: they have turned their back unto me, and not their face; but in the time of their trouble they will say, Arise, and save us” (Jer. 2:27).

Whether it be idolatry or infidelity, it satisfies only in tranquil and prosperous times. No sooner does trouble come, than the deep conviction of the existence of a God, which is the witness for Him in our heart, resumes its authority, and man prays.

Christians also have an impulse to worship when their hearts are filled with joy. The Psalmist expressed it thus: “Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy . . .” (Ps 43:4).

Let us assemble to offer to God the praise of worship so justly due to him. Whether it is from the burden of hurt we feel or the joy experienced, let us benefit from the greatest privilege ever offered to a rational being – an opportunity to worship and praise our God. (Reprinted with permission from “Bulletin Fodder.”)

Dollars and Sense

Operating Income and Expenses:	
May 1-26, 2016	
Income	\$16,780.64
Expenses:	(14,519.02)
Total:	\$2,261.62
Year to Date as of May 24, 2016	
Income	\$100,367.02
Expenses	(102,841.55)
Total	\$(2,474.53)

June 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Wednesday's Together!</i>			1	2	3	4
4:15 p.m. Kids of the Kingdom 4:30 p.m. St. John's Knitting Ministry 5:00 p.m. Children's Chime Choir 5:30 p.m. Dinner is Served – All are welcome! 6:00 p.m. High School Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice			6:30 a.m. Men's Morning Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Genealogical Society Bd. 1:00 p.m. Agate Hospital Auxiliary Wednesday's Together (see schedule)		Pastor Matt's Day Off	9:00 a.m. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church Meeting 1:00 p.m. Baby Shower for Mindy Judd 4:30 p.m. Worship with Living Stones Prison Ministry
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study 11:00 a.m. Worship Honor Our Graduates	11:00 a.m. Altar Guild 5:30 p.m. Property 6:00 p.m. Social Ministry 7:00 p.m. Youth and Family	5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 6:30 p.m. Stacey Cummings in Conference Room 7:00 p.m. Church Growth	Wednesday's Together (see schedule)		Pastor Matt's Day Off	11:00 a.m. Youth Help with Mobile Mission Meals
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study 11:00 a.m. Worship		11:30 a.m. Women's Lunch Bunch at Denny's 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 6:00 p.m. Mutual Ministry 6:30 p.m. Church Council	Wednesday's Together BBQ Last get together until September (see schedule) July/August Visitor Deadline	7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study 5:30 p.m. Staff Meeting Potluck at Pat Soderquist's	Pastor Matt's Day Off	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:45 a.m. Worship Father's Day	9 a.m. Poverty Coach Training	5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 7:00 p.m. Lewis County Genealogical Society 6:00 p.m. Book Guild at Joan Jahnsen's			Pastor Matt's Day Off	9 a.m. ELCW Garage Sale
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
9:45 a.m. Worship	6:00 p.m. Music & Worship 7:00 p.m. Habitat for Humanity	5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center	9:30 a.m. Poverty Coach Training	9:30 a.m. Poverty Coach Training		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> VBS Exodus Experience – 9 a.m.–12 p.m. </div>						

June Celebrations

Birthdays

- 1 Ericka Suhrbier
- 3 Glen Unzelman
- 5 Dee Blair
Connor Haworth
- 10 Scott Amrine
Stuart Cavness
Steve Grega
Anthony Grill
Deane Johnson
Bette White
- 13 Lindsey Pollock
- 17 Stacey Cummings
Luanne Grill
Gayle Isaacson
- 18 Lucas Jordan
Anna Russell
- 19 Steve Dean
Ava Humphrey
- 21 Nancy Lynch
Jennifer Fisher
- 22 Rachel Barber
- 23 Shirley Dolman
Veronica Haworth
Randy Sullivan
Dorothy Willson

- 24 Eric Melin
Durelle Sullivan
- 25 Carson Newman
Hudson Newman
- 28 Drew Schmitt
- 30 Russ Cox
Pennelope Tobin

Anniversaries

- 3 Bonnie and Glen Unzelman
- 7 Nancy and Ray Allbritton
- 9 Ken and Kim Wright
- 10 Louise and Clarence
Runyon
- 12 Clara and Jim Gilliland
- 14 Sue and Mike Austin
Denise and Larry Unzelman
- 15 Diane and Chuck Rudorfer
- 17 Michelle and Doug Lee
- 20 Lori and Don Schmitt
- 22 Marilyn and David Fenn
Lindsey and Scott Pollock
- 23 Rana and Andrew Justice
Hedy and Craig Mitchell
- 24 Susan and Brian Jendryka
- 25 Luanne and Jerry Grill
Ericka and Ben Suhrbier

- 27 Cathy and Jamie Scott
- 30 Kathy and Mark Hoffman
Janie and Denny Mauel

Baptism Anniversaries

- 2 Ben & Molly Russell
- 3 Anna Kreutz
- 9 Cheryl Amrine
Bill Blair
- 10 Austin & Veronica
Haworth
Reid Olson
- 18 Margarite Humphrey
- 23 Katie Jahnsen
Kristin Jendryka
- 24 Randy Faro
Braden, Carson and Hudson
Newman
- 26 Callum Heck
- 27 Sean and Brandan Touhey
- 28 Mindy Blair

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, let us know! Call the church office at 748-4741 or e-mail: office@stjohnschehalis.net.

Bits and Pieces

Thank You . . .

Dear St. John's Family,
Our family would like to thank all of you for your prayers, love, cards, e-mails and messages during my moms 11-month battle with pancreatic cancer.

We were blessed to have this love and support around us.

We know she is now at peace and reunited with her family that has passed.

God bless you and thank you again for your support during one of life's true struggles.

April, Rick, Andrew and Austin Michal

New Address:

Al and Pat Soderquist
289 SE Winchester Hill Dr.
Chehalis, WA 98532

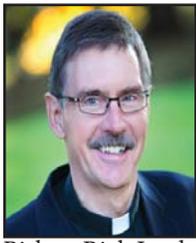
Sandi Gaffney
1823 West Northridge Ct., #34
Spokane, WA 99208
Hm: 509-315-8982
Cell: 360-269-1287

Mike and Sue Austin
620 SW 16th Street
Chehalis, WA 98532

Congratulations to our high school and college graduates: Nate Birchard, Colt Conzatti, Hannah Cummings, Justin Green, Ethan Lund, Matt Meagher, Emmelyn Affeldt, Jennifer Willson, , Mia Suhrbier, Kaylynn Mitchell and Matt Stanfield.

You're invited to a Baby Shower	
Author: Mindy Judd	
Title: "It's a Girl"	
Date	Issued To:
May 27	Women of St. John's
Feb-26	
JUN 4	Community Center
I:00 p.m.	St. John's Lutheran Church
<p>One small request that won't be too hard Please bring a book instead of a card Whether Cat in the Hat or Winnie the Pooh You can sign the inside cover with a note from you</p>	
<p>cori.duncan15@gmail.com or (360)388-5338</p>	
Registered at Target & Babies R US	

Namibia Bishop Visits



Bishop Rick Jaech

by Bishop Rick Jaech
Dear Friends in Christ,

During the last weekend of April, our Synod was blessed by a visit from

Bishop Ernst Gamxamub of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia, together with the Synod's financial secretary, Leonard de Vries. In a variety of settings, hundreds of people listened to and learned from Bishop Ernst and Leonard. Their faith, wisdom, commitment to mission and joyful friendliness were constantly apparent.

There are three Lutheran church bodies in Namibia, where over 50% of the population is Lutheran. In the north is the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia, founded by Finnish missionaries. In the south is the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia, founded by German missionaries. Also in the south is the German-speaking Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia, made up primarily of the white population of German descent. Bishop Ernst asked us to pray for the three denominations as they actively discuss becoming a single Lutheran Church.

As a Companion Synod, the Southwestern Washington Synod has sent eight visitation teams over the past 25 years to Namibia, most recently last year. In addition, Pacific Lutheran University has played an active role with Lutherans in Namibia, both through sponsoring the enrollment of Namibian students at PLU and

also by establishing educational programs in Namibia.

Throughout their visit, our Synod Namibia Task Force showed Bishop Ernst and Leonard a variety of our ministries and also the beauty of our region.

- On Friday, the first full day, my wife, Satya, and I took our visitors on a car tour of Puget Sound, heading up the Olympic Peninsula to Poulsbo with a lunch stop at Bethany Lutheran on Bainbridge Island (a Northwest Washington Synod congregation which has been actively engaged with Namibia). Then we embarked on a ferryboat ride to downtown Seattle, took them to the top of the Space Needle and visited Pike Place Market. In the evening, we hosted them for dinner at PLU with the synod Executive Council and our former Synod Bishops, David Wold and Rob Hofstad, both of whom have made two visits to Namibia with their wives, Elizabeth and Linda.
- On Saturday, our visitors were the headliners for the Synod's Global Mission Stories event at The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Olympia.
- On Sunday, they were guests at Amazing Grace Lutheran, Aberdeen, where Pastor Ernst preached and spoke at the coffee hour. Congregational members hosted them in their homes for lunch and then took them on a tour of the Olympic rain forest at Quinalt.
- Day four, Monday, included a trip to Pilgrim Lutheran, Puyallup, then up to Mount Rainier and the Little White Church at Elbe. In the

evening, PLU and Trinity Lutheran, Parkland, hosted a public forum where Bishop Ernst spoke to a large crowd.

Bishop Ernst and Leonard are now on their way to visit their three other companion synods in the United States: the New Jersey Synod, the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, and the NE Iowa Synod.

If you would like to see a video about the Lutheran church in Namibia, click on this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ulr70p-JpphQ This will bring you to a YouTube video made by the New Jersey Synod in 1998. It is a bit dated (Bishop Ernst was not yet elected) but gives you a good visual sense of the vibrant Lutheran church in Namibia.

I want to thank our Synod's Namibia Task Force, chaired by Rachel Pritchett, that did a wonderful job of planning all the details of this visit, helping to pay for expenses and organizing driving teams that took our guests everywhere. The Namibia Task Force is now discussing the possibility of organizing a visit to Namibia in 2017. If you would be interested in exploring that with them, please contact our Synod Office.

In Christ,
Bishop Rick Jaech



ELCW Annual Garage Sale . . .

is scheduled for **Saturday, June 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** We are accepting donations of household items that are clean and in good condition. As you do your spring cleaning please save items for us. You may place your donated items for sorting and pricing against the far wall of the community center. Volunteers will be needed to help sort and price items beginning Wednesday, June 22. We will also need workers to help the day of the sale. A sign-up sheet for helpers is available in the narthex. Contact Joan Jahnsen, 748-3901, for more information.



St. John's Lutheran Church
2190 Jackson Highway
Chehalis, WA 98532
360/748-4741