

# The Visitor

May 2017

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

## Not a "Just a"



Ministry is a team sport. It has been from the very beginning. Paul talked about the Body of Christ and how individually we are members of it (1 Corinthians 12.11-21). Each person is gifted in one way or another to do the work God calls us to do.

When I was a probationary firefighter (a rookie) I was working on inventory for our backup engine. At some point the correct inventory sheet had been lost and we were just using the sheet from the frontline engine. The two apparatus were similar but did not carry all the same equipment in the same way so we just marked that everything was there.

We had a new firefighter join our department who had 20 years experience as a career firefighter. He was assigned to help me with the inventory. When he saw what was going on he asked me why I didn't fix it. I said, "I'm just a probie." He looked right at me and said, "There are no just a's in the fire service."

And there are no just a's in the Body of Christ either. "If the foot would say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body." (1 Corinthians 12.15) You are important to Christ because of the gifts you have been given.

*Pastor Matt*

## My St. John's Story

I grew up in a small farming community in Wisconsin where I attended a Wisconsin Synod Lutheran Church with my family. The Wisconsin Synod is the most conservative of the Lutheran churches. The Pastor conducted the worship service without assistance. He (always a man) did the New and Old Testament readings; served the Communion wafer and wine; and sermon by himself. The music was always (and only) provided by an organ. As part of the final year of Catechism, two boys would assist the ushers for a month at a time by lighting and extinguishing the altar candles and assisting with the offering collection. Mary and I were married in this Church and all three of our daughters were baptized there. The church building has since been replaced but the altar was saved and incorporated into the new facility.

When I joined the Army, they asked for a religious affiliation. The choices were simple: Catholic,

Protestant, Jewish and none. By Protestant they meant everything that didn't fit into the other categories. The Protestant service was very generic and could be led by any denomination. In Basic Training everyone went to service on Sunday if for no other reason than to get away from the drill sergeants. I would say this old saying is true, "Everyone becomes closer to God when you are standing in a foxhole." I think my fellow veteran brothers and sisters would agree. It wasn't always easy attending services in the military but we did when we could.

I knew religion was important and we did what we could to give our girls an understanding of God and the many blessings He provided for us. In the early 1990's I was stationed at Fort Belvoir Virginia. I was pleasantly surprised to find the Protestant service there led by a Lutheran Pastor.

*(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  
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**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:**

- One Worship Service at 9:45 a.m.

## **My Story . . .**

*(continued from page 1)*

In 2004 the Army brought us to the great Pacific Northwest. 2005 brought us to Wallace Road in Chehalis. I was pleasantly surprised to find that one of the big brown Churches down at the corner was St John's, a Lutheran Church. After meeting Pastor Randy and Betsy Faro we knew we had found a new Church home. I was soon presented with the opportunity(?) to become the Facility Coordinator (door and light police) since I lived so close. Side note: *We really have to do a better job of turning off lights and locking up the place when we leave!* We also somehow made it on the Lector and Usher list. I was deeply moved and honored when Pastor Randy asked me to be on the Church Council and then serve as Chairman for two years. That is not a position I ever expected to see myself in. The Lord does move in mysterious ways!

About this time I found a hymn titled, *O God, My Faithful God* written by Johann Heerman. This is one of the verses that I draw strength from:

## **Lutheran Men in Mission<sup>I</sup>**



**May 19 - 21  
Camp Huston  
Gold Bar, WA**

Men of all ages yearn for real friendships and a closer relationship with Christ.

Join us and be...

- Adventurous and courageous
- Genuine and spiritual

*Give me strength to do, with  
ready heart and willing*

*Whatever you command, my  
calling here fulfilling*

*To do it when I ought, with  
all my might and bless*

*Whatever I have wrought.  
For You must give success.*

As I mentioned earlier, growing up in a Wisconsin Synod Lutheran Church, women were not afforded the opportunity of leadership roles. St John's is truly blessed to have the outstanding dedication of numerous strong women who use their time, talents, and energy to make St John's what it is today.

2016/2017 brought more changes for us. We moved up to the big city (Lacey). Moving has been an adventure with numerous new challenges to face. And the St John's family, under Pastor Matt's spiritual leadership, and Linda's outstanding service, will continue to have a special place in our hearts and lives. Whatever the future brings, we know that the Lord has a plan for us.

*Chuck Ziegert*

Look forward to...

- Banding together and being challenged
- Examining your life and making decisions

Be prepared for a spiritual boot camp. This 45-hour experience is not for the faint of heart!

Registration brochures are available in the church office. Visit [lutheranmeninmission.org](http://lutheranmeninmission.org) or talk to Brad Meagher, 740-7787.

# Thank You . . .

To everyone that donated money or plants to adorn the altar for Easter and to the Altar Guild for their hard work and dedication in preparing the sanctuary and building for the Lenten and Easter season. The altar was breathtaking!

## Easter Altar Flowers Were Donated:

<i>By:</i>	<i>In Memory of:</i>
Janie Mael.....	My parents Jean & Norm Wirta
Paul and Corrine Crowner .....	Our parents
Susan Donaldson.....	John and Ruth Schultz
Jerry and Luanne Grill.....	Loved Ones
Shirley Dolman .....	Nancy Allbritton and my sister Lyla
Luanna and Bill Deming.....	Our parents
Katrina & Greg Kirsch.....	Our parents: Karl & Dorothy Boedecker and Walt & Marjorie Kirsch
Bob and Jan Cossar.....	Our parents and Jan's sister & brother
Mary Rogers.....	Parents Hjalmer & Curtisine Erickson, Brother Steven & husband John
Marilyn Schmitt.....	My parents: Lloyd & Eileen Olson
Nancy Lynch.....	Pastor Jerry Lynch, daughter Jill and Nancy Allbritton
Nancy Tyson and Patty Wilson.....	Our Parents: Lyn and Eula Hansen
Larry and Gail Dean.....	Our parents and Grandson Anthony Leith
Linda Lowery.....	My parents: Doug and Hazel Schreck
Mazie Schlickeiser .....	Bill Schlickeiser and my parents
Gramma Kate.....	Papa Harvey and Brian Cox
Shari Blackwell.....	Mom & Dad, Jack, Aunt Ogs, Aunt Martha and Verna
Mary DeBois.....	Ray and Danny
Bill and Joann Hulse.....	Our parents
Steve and Carol Kostanich .....	Our parents, Steve & Astriid Kostanich and Milton & Mabel Blood
Rick and April Michal .....	My Mom, Elaine Ulry
Bill and Dee Blair.....	John & Maxine Boman and Edyth & George Blair
Scott and Michelle Moeckel .....	Wilma Moeckel, Rosemary Luken & Carol Hudson
Jim and Joan Jahnsen.....	Corinne & Larry Jahnsen, John S Bollinger and John W Bollinger
Tom and Christine Larsen.....	Charla Larsen and Dan Scroggie
Bob and Susan Russell .....	Lillian Rosen, Frank Russell and Oz & Carol Archer
David and Marilyn Fenn.....	Loved ones who have gone before us
The Fisher Family.....	Connie Small
Chuck and Diane Rudorfer .....	Mildred Oster and Doris Rudorfer
Eric and Billie Melin .....	Our parents and Shelly Eglund Meier
Reid and Mary Olson .....	Our son Justin Olson

<i>By:</i>	<i>In Honor of:</i>
Katrina and Greg Kirsch .....	Our daughter Ali Kirschs' marriage to Ryan Huefer
Bob and Jan Cossar.....	Our family
Larry and Gail Dean.....	Our children, grandchildren & great grandson
Mitchell Family .....	Our Family
Steve and Barbara Grega .....	Our first grandchild's arrival
Mary DuBois .....	My Grandchildren, Rachel and Jonathan
Bob and Susan Russell .....	Donna Russell and Orene Archer

*To the Glory of God*  
Grace and Bert Bauer

## Bits and Pieces

To all who contributed money and/or plants to adorn the altar for Easter: **Thank you!** St. John's altar once again reflected the beauty and glory of our Lord.

**Please note:** There was some miscommunication regarding taking plants home after the 11 o'clock Easter service. Anyone donating money to purchase plants are welcome to take home a plant or plants (based on the number of plants that were purchased for you, i.e., if you donated money for one plant, choose one plant; if you donated for two plants, choose two plants, etc.). If you were not able to take home a plant

because there were none available, please contact an Altar Guild member and your money will be refunded if you wish. Altar Guild members are: Jan Cosser, Gail Dean, Mary DuBois, Marilyn Fenn, Joann Hulse, Nancy Lynch, Janie Mauel, Mary Rogers, Patty Olsen, Diane Rudorfer and Linda Young.

Thank you for the beautiful handmade throws. That is very thoughtful and very much appreciated.

### *Osborn Cancer Care*

(Prayer shawls and lap blankets were donated to Osborn Cancer

Care by the St. John's Knitting Ministry via Lorna Johnson.)

### **Looking Ahead:**

Confirmation will be held on **June 4** for Jackson Humphrey, Jacob Moeckel and Camden Ryan. Remembrance gift bags will be available in the narthex.

On May 30 we will be blessed to host the Imani Milele Children's Choir from Uganda as they tour the United States. There will be a potluck with the choir at 5:30 p.m. and as a "thank you" for opening our facility to them for the night, they will bless us with a concert at 7 p.m.

## May Celebrations

### **Birthdays**

- 1 Mary Olson  
Bob Russell
- 2 Matthew Munz
- 3 Sue Edwards  
Mary Lou Sterner
- 4 Louis Wagner
- 7 Jason Humphrey
- 9 Sierra Gilliland  
Ali Kirsch
- 11 Margarite Humphrey
- 12 Christina Jo Leith
- 13 Jim Carey
- 17 April Michal
- 18 Zach Stanfield
- 19 Katie Jahnsen  
Reid Olson  
Linda Schultz
- 20 Alexandra Dean
- 21 Kristin Jendryka  
Mia Suhrbier
- 22 Ethan Barber  
Bobbi Haworth  
Colleen Touhey
- 23 Aaron Buda  
Ryan Buda
- 24 Oliver Heck

- 25 Doris Carey
- 26 Sandi Gaffney  
Amber Gilliland  
Cori Jo Jahnsen  
Martina Munz  
Susan Russell
- 27 Mindy Judd
- 28 Randy Faro  
Brandon Touhey
- 31 Chris Coles  
Riley Fisher

### **Anniversaries**

- 12 Myra Lee and Curt Volland
- 18 Jan and Bob Cosser
- 21 Keith and Ceci Birchard
- 23 Sandy and Brian Gilliland
- 24 Katie and Jason Humphrey
- 27 Helen and Joe Buda

### **Baptism Anniversaries**

- 3 Sue Edwards  
Serene Johnson
- 5 Jerry Grill
- 6 Nancy Lynch
- 8 Courtney Cox  
Kelsey Hoffman
- 9 Cole Swanson
- 10 Adam Moir

- 11 Jill Carlson  
Ali Kirsch  
Krystal Sawyer
- 12 Alex Cox  
Greg Moir
- 13 Jeff Brown
- 17 Katrin Kreutz  
Mary Olson
- 18 Larry & Gail Dean  
Kathy Leith
- 20 Anne Gray
- 22 Christina Jo Leith  
Hannah Meier
- 23 Katie Humphrey  
Stephen Jendryka
- 24 Bob Russell
- 25 Evan Mitchell
- 27 Eric & Billie Melin  
Ericka Suhrbier  
Bonnie Unzelman
- 28 Cathy Scott

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

# May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 11:00 a.m. Altar Guild 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Youth and Family	<b>2</b> 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 6:00 p.m. Social Ministry 7:00 p.m. Church Growth	<b>3</b> 6:30 a.m. Men's Morning Bible Study 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 1:00 p.m. Agate Hospital Auxiliary 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's            Together</i> (see schedule) 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop #301	<b>4</b> 9:00 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center	<b>5</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 5:30 p.m. Volleyball  Pastor Matt's Day Off  Office Closed	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class 11:00 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Family Poverty Event — <i>The Game            of Life</i>	<b>8</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>9</b> 10:00 a.m. Genealogical Bd. 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	<b>10</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's            Together</i> (see schedule) 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop #301	<b>11</b> 9:00 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 5:30 p.m. Staff Meeting at Country Cousin's	<b>12</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 5:30 p.m. Volleyball  Pastor Matt's Day Off  Office Closed	<b>13</b> 9:00 a.m. Church Clean-Up Day
<b>14</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class 11:00 a.m. Worship  <b>Mother's Day</b>	<b>15</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study  <b>Visitor            Deadline</b>	<b>16</b> 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 7:00 p.m. Genealogical Society	<b>17</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's            Together</i> (see schedule) 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop #301	<b>18</b> 9:00 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 12:00 p.m. Young at Heart Luncheon and Program 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo	<b>19</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 5:30 p.m. Volleyball  Pastor Matt's Day Off  Office Closed	<b>20</b>  Erickson/Foss Wedding  10:00 a.m. ELCW Brunch and Bible Study at <b>Joan Jahnsen's            Home</b>
<b>21</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class 11:00 a.m. Worship	<b>22</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Worship and Music 7:00 p.m. Habitat for Humanity	<b>23</b> 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 7:00 p.m. Book Guild at Dixie Roser's home	<b>24</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's            Together</i> (see schedule) 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop #301	<b>25</b> 9:00 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center	<b>26</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 5:30 p.m. Volleyball  Pastor Matt's Day Off  Office Closed	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class 11:00 a.m. Worship	<b>29</b>  <b>Memorial Day</b>  Office Closed	<b>30</b> 5:30 p.m. Potluck with Uganda Children's Choir 7:00 p.m. Uganda Children's Choir Concert	<b>31</b> 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's            Together</i> (see schedule) 6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop #301	<b>Wednesday's Together!</b> 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 – <b>All are welcome!</b> 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		

★For up to date calendar information, visit our website, [www.stjohnschehalis.net](http://www.stjohnschehalis.net) and click on the “News” tab★

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

On May 30 we will be blessed to host the Imani Milele Children's Choir from Uganda as they tour the United States. There will be a potluck with the choir at 5:30 p.m. and, as

a "thank you" for opening our facility to them for the night, they will bless us with a concert at 7 p.m. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex.



**Poverty is not a  
lack of character.  
It is a lack of money.  
A lack of opportunity.  
A lack of investment.  
It is when society  
turns its back and  
makes you invisible.**

**MAY 7, 2017,**

**5:00-8:00 PM!**

*The Game of Life!*

Whether you are single, married, retired, have kids at home ... this event is for you!

St. John's poverty ministries, *RISE Lewis County*, is excited to present this fun and highly interactive poverty event. Upstairs, younger children will participate in age appropriate poverty activities. Downstairs we'll divide everyone else into "family" teams, give each team certain resources, and let you work your way through life utilizing typical life scenarios. The evening will include a meal and, upon request, child care for children below the third grade. (Please sign up in the narthex so we know how many meals to prepare.)



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