

# The Visitor

February 2018

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

## "To Be"



One of the speakers at the ELCA Youth Ministry Extravaganza runs a non-profit that puts together mission trips for church groups in the Washington DC area. Well, mission trip might be a misnomer. This organization's trips don't look like what we think of as mission trips.

Often, as congregations, we want to send mission teams to a place to DO something. This group believes that groups need to BE in order to be in mission with the people whom they travel to meet.

Doing is easier than being. When we are doing, there is a definite beginning, middle, and end. There is stuff we can measure — people fed, clothes sorted, houses built, parks cleaned, etc. "To be" means that there are less concrete things to measure.

What does it mean to be when we send or participate in mission? It means that we practice radically hospitality and allow the other to minister while we come along side. Instead of going to a far off place to feed people at a homeless shelter, we go to sit at a table with the people who are serving there and listen to their story. It means we sit at a table with the ones being fed and listen to their story. It means

being present and letting go of our need to do and just be in the place where you are.

This is what it looked like for me: On the way from the airport to the hotel on the shuttle, I rode with a man from West Texas, a woman from Australia, and a woman from Houston who took an Uber to the wrong airport and was riding the shuttle from Hobby to George Bush. In the 20 minute ride I asked a lot of questions and did nothing. In 20 minutes, we went from strangers to companions on a journey. In 20 minutes, we learned what each was doing in Houston, what we did at home, and where we were headed. By the end of the journey, we were connected to one another.

As we enter into the final stages of planning for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering at the end of June, I am paying particular attention to how we can give the participants the chance "to be" and "not do." I want them to not serve strangers; I want them to journey with companions in Christ.

*Pastor Matt*

## St. John's Women's Ministries



Women's Brunch and Bible Study will meet in the conference room on Saturday, February 17 at 10:00 am. Women are asked to bring a brunch item to share as we continue using the study God is in the Laundry

Room. We will discuss Session 4 called Cleaning Out the Closets. This session was postponed from

our January meeting. Do you hang onto things that are in your closet? Do you have habits or attitudes you would like to get rid of? This session may give you some guidance from the Apostle Paul.

Women's Book Guild will meet on February 27 at the home of Mindy Judd. Gail Dean will lead the discussion on our postponed book from December *Me Before You* written by Jojo Moyes.

### 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  
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**Youth Minister:  
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**Secretary:  
Linda Lowery  
office@stjohnschehalis.net**

**Custodian/Facility  
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Bernie Schreck:  
748-6302  
Cell: 360-623-0418**

**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.**

## Youth Corner:

Hoping everyone had a great Holiday. Below is a current schedule of our events coming up in February?

- **February 2** — Family Fun Night. All are welcome we will have board games this month and dinner will be provided. We will have a Family Fun Night each month but will be doing something different each month. March will be Nerf Night. Listen for further announcements regarding that.
- **February 9-11** we have several youth attending the ALIVE Youth Retreat in Eatonville. Should be a wonderful experience for all. Terri the organizer told me there will be over 75 attending this event. We will have the youth report back to our congregation on how it went.
- **February 24** — Lock in for High School Students only.

Sunday school is going good. I feel really blessed to have a solid Sunday School Team. They are eager to teach our children the Word of God. Thank you CeCe, Laura, Arnie and Bruce. You Rock!!!!

We continue to help out with meals at the Gather Church. All youth are welcome to help out people that could use our help.

Easter is around the corner. For all Team 316 Partners we offer a free brunch. Thank you for all that have stepped up to be a partner. Our youth appreciate it.

\*\*\*\* Please note on three-day-holiday weekends there will be no Sunday school . . . we will do reminders when they come up.

Have an amazing February!  
God Bless,

*Pat Soderquist*  
Youth Director

## 2018 Council Members

Name	Phone	E-mail
Cheryl Amrine	360-748-7678	scamrine@comcast.net
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Arnie Suhrbier	295-3134	arnoldsuhrbier@centurytel.net
Tim Touhey	Home: 262-0686 Cell: 508-0934	ttouhey@comcast.net

# February Celebrations

## Birthdays

1 Ceci Birchard  
Taylor Lowery  
5 Austin Haworth  
Larry Moir  
7 Jim Jahnsen  
Braden Newman  
8 Linda Young  
9 Patty Olsen  
Michael Vance  
10 Jay Jahnsen  
11 Chuck Rudorfer  
13 Macey Elder  
Kathy Hoffman  
Kristine Newman  
15 Ann Bradshaw  
Alex Cox

16 Russ Lunders  
22 Bert Bauer  
Ryan Gage  
Kelsey Hoffman  
24 Bill Deming  
26 Jonathan Judd  
28 Evan Mitchell

## Anniversaries

5 Mary and Reid Olson  
11 Dolores and Alex Goedhard  
18 Barbara and Steve Grega  
20 Mary and Chuck Ziegert

## Baptism Anniversaries

1 Ceci Birchard  
Ava Humphrey  
Logan Lee  
5 Joe Buda

7 Arnie Suhrbier  
8 David Nelson  
Drew and Jennifer Willson  
13 Martina Munz  
16 Steve Grill  
17 Kevin Hoffman  
22 Bert Bauer  
24 Bill Deming  
25 Alexandra Dean  
26 Jon Judd

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

## Bits and Pieces

**2018 Lenten Devotions** are available in the Narthex. The theme for this year's devotions center on Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication (asking), Listening and Reflection.

### Dear Friends:

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$300 to the Forgotten Children's Fund. Your support is greatly appreciated by the volunteers and by the many children who have had a better Christmas because of this program.

This past year we were able to provide a brighter Christmas to thousands of children by providing gifts, books, bicycles, jackets and food which were all delivered by Santa and his many elves. This comes at the time of year when families are most in need of help and lets them know someone does care and that there is hope for a brighter future.

The Forgotten Children's Fund is an all-volunteer program, so it is with the support of people like you that make this program

possible. **THANK YOU**, you are the real Santas.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Fruling  
Secretary and Volunteer  
The Forgotten Children's Fund

### New Phone Number:

Nancy Lynch  
Home: 360-740-2486  
Cell: 503-709-9447

The Southwest Washington Dance Center needs your help collecting plastic water and soda bottles. There is a box in the Narthex for the bottles. Thank you. *Angie March*

## 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](http://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



# February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Wednesday's Together!</i>            4:15 p.m. Kids of the Kingdom            4:30 p.m. St. John's Knitting Ministry            5:30 p.m. Dinner is Served – <b>All are welcome!</b> (Soup suppers begin on February 14)            6:00 p.m. High School Bible Study (Will meet at 7 p.m. beginning February 14)            6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (Will meet at 7 p.m. beginning February 14)            6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice            6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service (Lenten Services for the remainder of Lent)            7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice</p>				<p><b>1</b>            3:30 p.m. Girls Basketball            5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center</p>	<p><b>2</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            Pastor Matt's Day Off            Office Closed</p>	<p><b>3</b>            1:00 p.m. Baby Shower in Community Center</p>
<p><b>4</b>            8:30 a.m. Worship            9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class            11:00 a.m. Worship</p>	<p><b>5</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship            11:00 a.m. Altar Guild            1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study            6:00 p.m. Music and Worship            6:00 p.m. Social Ministry            7:00 p.m. Youth and Family</p>	<p><b>6</b>            5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center            7:00 p.m. Church Growth</p>	<p><b>7</b>            6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study and Coffee            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship            1:00 p.m. Agate Children's Hospital Auxiliary            4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)</p>	<p><b>8</b>            8:30 a.m. Life-Line Screening in Community Center            3:30 p.m. Girls Basketball            5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center</p>	<p><b>9</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            Pastor Matt's Day Off            Office Closed</p>	<p><b>10</b>            4:30 p.m. Worship with Living Stones Prison Ministry</p>
<p><b>11</b>            8:30 a.m. Worship            9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class            11:00 a.m. Worship</p>	<p><b>12</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship            1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>13</b>            11:30 a.m. Women's Lunch Bunch at Denny's            5:30 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper            6:00 p.m. Mutual Ministry            6:30 p.m. Church Council</p>	<p><b>14</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship            1:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service            4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)</p>	<p><b>15</b>            12:00 p.m. Young At Heart            3:30 p.m. Girls Basketball            5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center            7:00 p.m. Men's Evening Bible Study</p>	<p><b>16</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            Pastor Matt's Day Off            Office Closed</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>
<p><b>18</b>            8:30 a.m. Worship            9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class            11:00 a.m. Worship</p>	<p><b>19</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship            1:00 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>20</b>            5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center</p>	<p><b>21</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship            1:00 p.m. Lenten Service            4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)</p>	<p><b>22</b>            3:30 p.m. Girls Basketball            5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center</p>	<p><b>23</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            Pastor Matt's Day Off            Office Closed</p>	<p><b>24</b>            10:00 a.m. Mobile Meals at Gather in Centralia</p>
<p><b>25</b>            8:30 a.m. Worship            9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class            11:00 a.m. Worship</p>	<p><b>26</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship            1:00 p.m. Bible Study</p>	<p><b>27</b>            5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center            7:00 p.m. Book Guild at Mindy Judd's</p>	<p><b>28</b>            7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group            9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship            1:00 p.m. Lenten Service            4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)</p>			

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





**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## *Investing* in the future of the ELCA

Nearly four years ago, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) launched its first comprehensive campaign, *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, with the goal of raising \$198 million in support of churchwide ministries across the United States and around the world.

Together, through the generosity of ELCA members and congregations, like yours, we have accomplished amazing things. We have developed new programs with international women, young adults and people living with disabilities, heightened our support of long-running programs like ELCA World Hunger and ELCA New Congregations, successfully completed the ELCA Malaria Campaign and much more. Thank you for your continued support of these ministries.

**Now, as we enter the final year of this five-year effort, we look to the future of this church by highlighting the campaign's Leadership priority, including ELCA Fund for Leaders and Youth and Young Adults.** Through these ministries, we are accompanying youth and young adults in their faith journeys and supporting talented, gifted seminarians as they prepare to begin a life of rostered ministry.

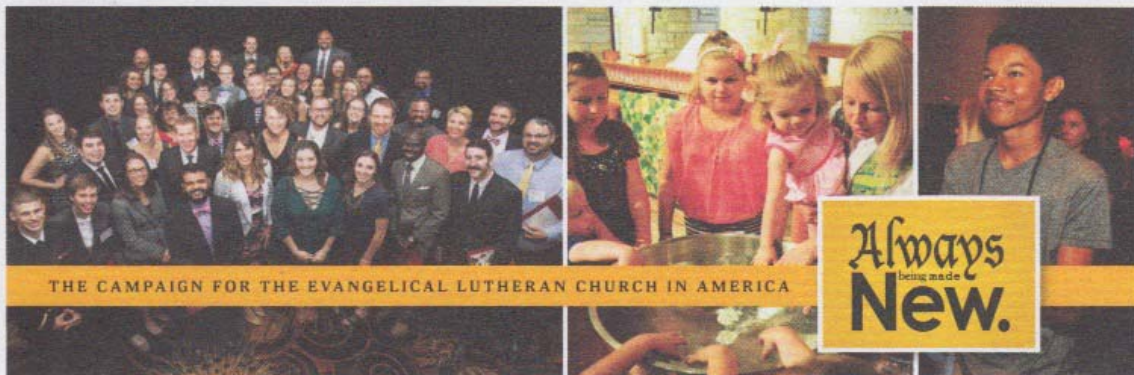
Please pray for our church's life-changing ministries and consider making a gift to the campaign. Together, we are investing in the future of the ELCA.

**Learn more at:**

**[ELCA.org/campaign](http://ELCA.org/campaign)**

Phone: 800-638-3522

Email: [campaignforELCA@elca.org](mailto:campaignforELCA@elca.org)



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# Spring Flowers and Easter Lilies to Enhance St. John's Altar 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 31**; or use the sign-up form below and give to any Altar Guild member along with \$8.00 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 \$8.00 check payable to St. John's Altar Guild. Deadline for ordering is **Wednesday, March 28**. 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, Gail Dean, Mary DuBois, Marilyn Fenn, Joann Hulse, Nancy Lynch, Patty Olsen, Mary Rogers, Diane Rudorfer and Linda Young.

-----  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to donate # \_\_\_\_\_ spring flowers at \$8.00 each. Total amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_
- Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_
- To the Glory of God
- I will provide flowers

(You may take your flowers home after the 11:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Service.)



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