

The Visitor

May 2019

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

Jesus: Foundation and Transition



In June, we will recognize the graduates from our congregation. It is a rite of passage for most people. We move from one level of education to another. That next level might be additional formal education or it could be the education of getting the first job on a career path.

But even changes can change. It wasn't so long ago that a person would graduate from high school or college, get a job, and retire from that company in 30 years or so. It wasn't uncommon for people to work their way up through the ranks to higher status within the company. It may have meant a geographical move now and again, but the company stayed the same.

Now, our kids start high school and college to train for jobs that might not even exist when they start their education. Many people won't work for one company and retire, they might not even work one career. Life is becoming more and more unpredictable and transitions are becoming the norm.

The Church finds itself at a crossroads in the midst of all this transition. On the one hand we

serve a God who is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. (*Hebrews 13:8*) On the other hand, we believe that God created this ever changing, unpredictable world. (*Genesis 1 & 2*)

Transitions are difficult under the best circumstances. Graduation is a celebration of accomplishment and moving on to the next level. But graduation is also when we leave familiar patterns and people behind for new schools, new jobs, and new communities.

Phyllis Tickle, in her book *The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why*, observes that every 500 years in the Christian Church there is an upheaval, a reformation if you will. Where the dominate institutional church is challenged to throw off those things that have become ossified and obscure the Gospel.

Her assertion is that we are in the midst of that cycle right now. We won't know for sure for a few more decades and who knows how this transition will shake out, but there seems to be a move away from a head knowledge (Do you know Jesus?) to a heart knowledge (How have you experienced Jesus?).

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Summer Worship Experience Begins June 16

9 a.m. Call to Worship

- Joy Groups
- Multi-age groups around common interest. Could be short or long-term. Examples: prayer shawl, crafting, music, bible study, exercise. Looking for ideas for small group topics

10 a.m.

- 1st/3rd Sunday Blended worship time
- 2nd/4th Sunday Traditional worship time
- 5th Sunday TBD

Questions contact Pastor Matt, Sara Shelton, Cori Jo Duncan, Lorna Johnson, Christine Larson, Katie Giuliani. Email: pastor@stjohnschehalis.net; text: 360-562-0844.

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
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www.stjohnschehalis.net

**Pastor Matthew March
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Coordinator:
Bernie Schreck:
748-6302
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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,
Adult Study
Confirmation**
- **11:00 a.m.
Worship**

Summer Worship Schedule:

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

Jesus . . .
(continued from page 1)

Transition is hard, even when it is good. It is good to move from just knowing about to really experiencing Jesus. But just like graduation, transition our way of knowing and experience Christ means we leave behind some of the familiar into encounters with the unfamiliar. It means new people and ideas challenge us and our deeply held beliefs about what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Through all the transition, through all the change, through all the chaos that those things bring, we are not alone. History has taught us that in every 500 year reformation, the Church of Jesus Christ emerges stronger and

more effective for the Gospel. That in the midst of our change and transition, Jesus Christ is at work in, with, and under all that is happening.

After the resurrection, Jesus gives the Great Commission to the disciples in Matthew 28. Talk about a transition. Jesus is saying to the disciples — Go! Do the work that I have prepared you for. You have graduated to become workers in the Kingdom of God. But Jesus leaves them with a promise that was good for them and is good for us as we transition to what Jesus has for us in our futures—“And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:16-20)

Pastor Matt

What's in the Works . . .

St. John's Council met on April 9. Thanks to all of our committees who meet monthly to keep our church running smoothly.

Altar Guild

- Holy Week was a busy week for Altar Guild. Getting the sanctuary ready for each of the services leading up to Easter and then preparing for Easter services takes planning and lots of extra work.

Church Growth:

- We have been talking about creating a more welcoming environment at St. John's. We are going to try making a few changes in the narthex during coffee hour to help with traffic flow.

Property

- We are finishing up a new fee schedule and use guide for our community center. The new rules will help us to keep our facility looking nice and help us to pay for the utilities used when groups rent our building.
- Our annual spring clean up date will be June 1 from 9:00 a.m. - noon

Social Ministry

- A note was in the bulletin each week highlighting the local food ministries that St. John's supports.

Worship & Music

- Planning for services, including music takes time each month. We are planning into late June when we will begin one service
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What's in the Works . . .
(continued from page 2)

Outreach Committee

- This is a new committee that will be focusing on reaching out to others. One thing they have been working on is beginning to contact members who haven't been to church in awhile. If there is someone you have noticed has been missing, reach out to

them or contact this committee to help you reach out. If you are interested in this committee please contact Bob Russell for more information.

Youth and Family

- We organized Easter breakfast and made gift bags for kids on Easter. We are working on Va-

cation Bible School and Family Camp. Watch for details.

- Mark your calendars for the following dates:
 - Family Camp 5/17-5/19 (Fri & Sat night)
 - VBS 6/24-28

Everyone is always welcome to our meetings on the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m.

Financial Review:

Monthly income March:	\$22,025.17
Monthly expenses March:	\$19,837.32
Actual	
YTD income:	\$55,061.66
YTD expenses:	\$58,941.65

Worship Attendance:

	8:30	11:00
April 7	59	31
April 14	84	41
April 21	103	68
April 28	52	31

Mobile Meals Ministry Update

When taking on a new community activity, you expect some novel experiences. While serving sack lunches on Saturday at Gather, I have had some personal firsts: (1) meeting 2 young women who would become murder victims here in Lewis County in the past 6 months, (2) comforting the grieving significant other of one of the victims, and (3) seeing frostbite as a familiar young man showed up in a wheelchair and unexpectedly unwrapped the gauze around his foot to share his blackened toes. He had slept outdoors on a recent freezing night because the carbon monoxide alarm went off in his mother's

trailer. He didn't explain where his mother had been. Our guests' problems just tear at my heart. We do not know where God will lead us or what lessons He has in store for us. I am glad that God is putting our MMM volunteers in a place where we can offer not only needed food and other supplies but unconditional love.

A family's donation of \$300 at Christmas has allowed gradual purchase of 15 cold-weather sleeping bags from Big 5 as 1-day sales greatly reduced the \$80 price. Another family purchased 5 sleeping bags on sale. We often encounter newly homeless

who have been evicted and have no outdoor gear. Used, laundered sleeping bags are welcome especially if they are rated below 30 degrees.

Another ongoing need is for the small single-use hotel toiletries (soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion) that can fit in a pocket or backpack.

Hygiene is always a challenge. Donations can be placed in the blue bin which is now located in the narthex near the door to the stairs. We can also always use individual packs of chips, cookies, fruit cups, and bottled water.

*Sue Edwards,
Sack Lunch Coordinator*

STP — July 13-14

STP will be here before we know it! Riders started contacting us before we even had our site updated for 2019. We already have 47 riders registered with 53 slots available. It is not too soon to

think about how you might participate in this fundraiser: donate food when the list is posted, prepare or serve either Saturday dinner or Sunday breakfast, fill air mattresses, or help with baggage pick up

at the Penny Playground. It is a fun event for volunteers and riders alike.

Sue Edwards, Registrar

Bits and Pieces

St. John's Family,
Happy Easter. We wish you
God's blessings at this most
sacred time and thanks to all
of you who have thought of
us throughout the year with
your cards, phone calls and
moments of sharing! We miss
sharing God's word with you
all!

Always in Christ,
*Sue Figueroa and Joyce
Gossard*

Thank you to all Thrivent mem-
bers who have directed Choice
Dollars to St Johns. Your contri-

butions for the past year totaled
over \$3,600. If you have Thrivent
insurance or investment prod-
ucts, please consider St Johns as

you decide where to direct your
Choice Dollars. Log in to your
Thrivent Account at thrivent.com
to learn more.



May Celebrations

Birthdays

- 1 Mary Olson
Bob Russell
- 2 Matthew Munz
- 3 Sue Edwards
Mary Lou Sterner
- 4 Louis Wagner
- 5 Lilly Tobin
- 7 Jason Humphrey
- 9 Sierra Gilliland
Ali Kirsch
- 11 Margarite Humphrey
- 12 Christina Jo Leith
- 15 Lillian Tobin
- 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

- 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
- 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 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<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 – All are welcome! 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice			1 6:30 a.m. Men's Morning Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Agate Hospital Auxiliary 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)	2	3 Pastor Matt's Day Off Office Closed	4
5 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Confirmation Class and Adult Study 11:00 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Webelos Scout Troop #373	6 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Social Ministry 7:00 p.m. Youth and Family	7 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship Leaders 7:00 p.m. Church Growth	8 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)	9 4:00 p.m. 4-H Cooking Class in SS Wing Kitchen	10 Pastor Matt's Day Off Office Closed	11
12 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Mother's Day Breakfast 11:00 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Webelos Scout Troop #373	13 1:00 p.m. Bible Study	14 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship Leaders 11:30 a.m. Women's Lunch Bunch at Denny's 6:00 p.m. Mutual Ministry 6:30 p.m. Church Council	15 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule) June Visitor Deadline	16 12:00 p.m. Young At Heart 7:00 p.m. Men's Evening Bible Study at Bruce Graham's	17 Pastor Matt's Day Off Office Closed	18 10:00 a.m. ELCA Women's Bible Study and Brunch 4:30 p.m. Worship with Living Stones
19 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Confirmation Class and Adult Study 11:00 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Webelos Scout Troop #373	20 1:00 p.m. Bible Study	21 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship Leaders 6:30 p.m. Lewis County Genealogical Society	22 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)	23 4:00 p.m. 4-H Cooking Class in SS Wing Kitchen	24 Pastor Matt's Day Off Office Closed	25 8:00 a.m. Private Party in Community Center 10:00 a.m. Mobile Meals at Gather in Centralia
26 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Confirmation Class and Adult Study 11:00 a.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Webelos Scout Troop #373	27 11:00 a.m. Altar Guild 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Worship and Music	28 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship Leaders 7:00 p.m. Book Guild at Dixie Roser's	29 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)	30	31 Pastor Matt's Day Off Office Closed	

★For up to date calendar information, visit our website, www.stjohnschehalis.net and click on the "News" tab★

WOMEN'S NEWS

Women's Brunch and Bible Study will meet in the conference room on Saturday, May 18 at 10:00 a.m. We have been enjoying the new study called *Mirror, Mirror*. The lessons in *Mirror, Mirror* focus on looking at ourselves as God, our Creator and Redeemer, sees us. The author has interesting insights into

Old Testament stories and she links them to New Testament readings and ties it into our everyday lives.

The Women's Book Guild will meet on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Dixie Roser. Joan Jahnsen will be leading the discussion on *The Year of the Fog* by Michelle Richmond.

Our annual Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, June 22 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. As you do your spring cleaning please save your good used items for our sale.



Family Camp . . .

Is scheduled at Millersylvania State Park, beginning the evening of May 17 through the morning of May 19, with the plan to return to St. John's for the 11:00 service. Youth and Family has reserved three non-hook up campsites for people to share, if there is enough interest we can reserve more. You are also welcome to reserve your own site either in the hook up or non-hook up areas.

We will have activities planned throughout the week-end including a short service Sunday morning. There will also be unstructured time so families can explore activities at the park.



Millersylvania State Park is located at 12245 Tilley Rd SW, Olympia, WA 98512.

Please contact Cori Jo Duncan at cori.duncan15@gmail.com or call/text (360) 388-5338 to let her know how many people you are planning to bring, if you can drive and if you have a tent.

We are hoping for a great turn out — everyone is welcome!

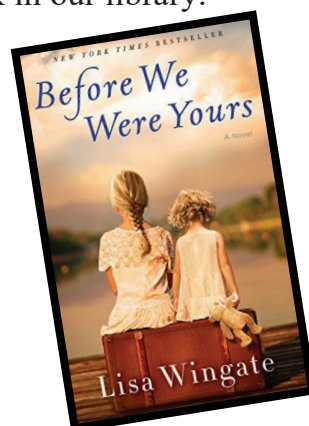
Library Blurb...

Before We Were Yours, by Lisa Wingate, is the heart-breaking tale of a family lost and found, based on a notorious true-life scandal.

Memphis, TN 1939: Twelve-year-old Rill and her younger siblings live aboard the family river boat. Their Mom is rushed to the hospital one night and Rill is left in charge. Strangers arrive and they are thrown into an orphanage, but assured they will soon be with their parents. Soon they know the dark truth.

Aiken, S. Carolina, present time: Avery Stafford has a successful career and a fiancé

but when she returns home to help her father through a health scare, a chance encounter leaves her with questions about the family's history. It is a path that will ultimately lead to devastation or to redemption. You can find this book in our library.



The Book Sale has been successful! One of our members has found a used library book cart for our use and it will be located in the Narthex. We are looking forward to having a permanent sale location. If you would like to support the Book Guild, we will be happy to accept your donations of books suitable for sale or placement in the library.

For more information about the Book Guild and would like to be a part of the discussions, contact Joan Jahnsen, 360-748-3901. You are most welcome to join us!

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:

By:

In Memory of:

Myrna Brossard..... Howard Brossard, Florence Brossard and Ed and Mabel Unzelman
Rochelle Stanford..... Alma Stanford
Stephen and Kristen Jendryka and Kaela Klotz..... Grandpa Jim Robinson
Chuck and Diane Rudorfer Mildred Oster and Doris Rudorfer
Jerry & Luanne Grill Loved Ones
Tom & Christine Larsen Charla Larsen & Dan Scroge
Larry & Gail Dean..... Our Parents and Anthony Leith
Grace Bauer Bert
Shari Blackwell..... Mom, Dad, Jack & Aunt Martha
Steve & Barbara Grega..... Our Parents and Brother
Mary Rogers..... Parents, Hjalmer & Curtisene, Husband John, Brother Steven
Nancy Lynch Pastor Jerry Lynch, Daughter Jill and Son Jay
Dolores Goedhard..... Alex Goedhard
Marilyn Schmitt My Parents
Bob & Judy Utter Our Parents: Monte & Bernie Utter and Dean & Elizabeth Smallwood
Shirley Dolman Robin & Sheryl
Marilyn & Dave Fenn..... Our Parents and Son
Katrina Boedecker..... Our Parents: Karl & Dorothy Boedecker and Walter & Majorie Kirsh
Mark & Kathy Hoffman..... Mom, Bonnie Unzelmann
Glen Unzelman..... Bonnie, Steven and our Parents
Michael & Julie Bailey Dad Jerry, Brother Jay, and Sister Jill
Bill & Joann Hulse Our Parents
Mary DuBois..... Husband Ray and Son Danny
Susan Donaldson Parents Ruth & John Schultz and Brother Tom Schultz
Rick & April Michal..... Elaine Ulry and Grandma Irene Harter
Jim & Joan Jahnsen Corinne & Larry Jahnsen and John Bollinger
Bob & Jan Cosser Our Parents
Phil Small Connie Small
Mazie Schlickeiser My Parents and Bill Schlickeiser
The Russell Family..... Our Parents and Grandarents

By:

In Honor of:

Eric & Billie Melin..... Our Children & families
Larry & Gail Dean..... Our Children & Grandchildren
Shari Blackwell Lori Hartfield
Bob & Judy Utter Our grandchildren: Kellen & Madison Utter and
Kendra, Ashley & Lauren Nies
Katrina Boedecker Our grandchildren: Ryan, Jonathon, Elizabeth & Hudson
Katrina Boedecker All Teachers
Michael & Julie Bailey Bailey family: Max, Maddie, Brynn, Ericka & famly
Jim & Joan Jahnsen Lincoln Duncan
Bob & Jan Cosser Our Family
The Russell Family Donna Russell and Ody Archer

To the Glory of God

Bill & Luanna Deming
Corrine & Paul Crowner
Terry & Renae Justice
Marilyn & Dave Fenn
Louis Wagner
The Moeckel Family
Eddie and Joan Surbur



Giving to Support St. John's

As a church we encourage those who are part of the St. John's family give 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

stjohnschehalis.net and click on the “donate” button.

- **Online Banking** – Arrange to give through bill-pay at your own bank's website.



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