

# The Visitor

August 2019

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

## Sacrifice of Praise



*The Seven Deadliest Social Sins: Wealth without Work, Pleasure without conscience, Science without Humanity, Knowledge without Character, Politics without Principle, Commerce without Morality, Worship without Sacrifice.* Mahatma Gandhi

Over the summer we have been experimenting with worship. We have been gathering together at 9 a.m. as a large group. Singing a song, hearing scripture, and someone other than me (the pastor) has shared reflections. Then we gather in small groups to share our highs and lows, read the scripture, talk about the scripture, pray about the scripture, and bless each other before we gather again to celebrate communion.

I could write whole articles on each of the dyads in the Gandhi quote but I will focus worship and sacrifice in light of our summer worship.

We have had to really wrestle with the question, "What is worship?" Is it a form? It is a style? Is it something else? I think that something else is sacrifice.

Hebrews 15:13 invites us to "*continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.*" What exactly is a "sacrifice of praise?"

It is an attitude or orientation when we come before God. It is easy to praise God when things are going well — that is no sacrifice. The sacrifice comes when we praise when we don't feel like it. It might be when the person next to us finds an element of worship meaningful, we see no value in. At that moment, our sacrifice of praise is to praise God for getting through to our neighbor. It is praising God not just when our life is all together. It's praising God in the midst of our struggle and mourning.

When we gather together on Sunday morning, we seek to come together sacrificing our selfish ways to connect with each other in praise of God. Sometimes (often times?) it is messy and may not always be in our wheelhouse. Together, however we are able to sacrifice to praise our God as one body.

*Pastor Matt*

## 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering

The 2021 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held in Minneapolis, Tuesday, June 29 through Saturday, July 3, 2019. Minneapolis, the "City by Nature," will be a wonderful and unique host for the Gathering. It is a growing, diverse and Lutheran-dense city nestled on the banks of the Mississippi river in the heart of the Midwest. While in the city, Gathering participants will spend time at the Minneapolis Convention Center, US Bank Stadium, area hotels and local congregations in addition to the many restaurants,

parks and cultural centers the city has to offer. To dive deeper into what Minneapolis and the metro area has to offer go to <https://www.minneapolis.org>. The 2021 Gathering theme and additional information will be released the Fall of 2019.



While The Gathering is two years away, it is time now to start planning. If you want to know what a Youth

*(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**  
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360/748-4741  
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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:

- **9:00 a.m.**  
**Call to Worship**

## Youth Gathering . . .

(continued from page 2)

Gathering is like ask Jacob Moeckel, Nathan Suhrbier, Hans Meier, Lizzy, Angie or David March, Scott Moeckel, Pastor Matt, Rachel March, Taylor Lowery, Kristin Jendryka or Austin Michel. If

you would like to go and want to get in on the Information, contact Pastor Matt at pastor@stjohnschehalis.net. Youth entering 8th-12th grade in fall 2020 are eligible to go.

## What's in the Works . . .

St. John's Council did not meet in July. The following two committees did meet and here's what's happening.

### Social Ministry

- On September 8 we will be focusing our "God's Work, Our Hands" ministry on making homeless supply bags. Be on the look out for things you can donate to help make this project a success.

### Worship & Music

- Our summer format of Call to Worship at 9 a.m.

followed by Joy Groups and then Worship at 10:00 seems to be working well. We hope you will come and join us. There are lots of Joy groups happening each week. If you want to play music you can join the musicians on Praise Band weeks. If you like to walk, there is usually a walking group. If you enjoy Bible study, there is usually a Bible study happening. Each week there is something different. Come join a group, or start your own group!

### Financial Review:

Monthly income June: \$ 19,203.14  
Monthly expenses June : \$ 18,021.06

#### Actual

YTD income: \$ 110,388.10  
YTD expenses:\$ 113,129.91

### Worship Attendance:

#### 9:00 a.m.

June 30	86
July 7	74
July 14	62
July 21	69
July 28	78



## God's Work. Our Hands.

For *God's Work, Our Hands* community service project on September 8, Social Ministries Committee requests your donations of basic hygiene items for our area homeless people. Items would be collected throughout August and then assembled into kits at church on **September 8**. The kits will be distributed on Mobile Meals Saturdays at Gather Atrium in Centralia.

Though there are many items that would be nice, let's focus on basics that will fit in a quart or gallon Ziploc bag:

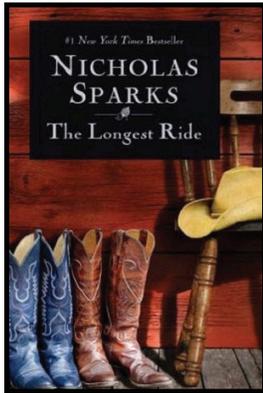
- Comb or small hairbrush (especially needed for those with thick hair);
- Pack of personal wet wipes or baby wipes (many have no access to water for washing up);
- Toothbrush and travel-size toothpaste;
- Disposable razor;

- Travel-size shampoo.

Dollar Store items are fine. Combs, toothbrushes, and razors in a multipack are a good bargain. Items may be placed in the big blue bin used for Mobile Meals donations and will be saved for September 8. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of many.



## Library/Book Guild



*The Longest Ride* by Nicholas Sparks is the August book and the first book in the 2019-2020 Book Guild year.

'Ira Levinson is in trouble. At ninety-one years old, in poor health and alone in the world, he finds himself stranded on an isolated embankment after a car crash. Suffering multiple injuries, he struggles to retain consciousness until a blurry image materializes and comes into

focus beside him: his beloved wife Ruth, who passed away nine years ago. Urging him to hang on, she forces him to remain alert by recounting the stories of their lifetime together.

A few miles away, at a local bull-riding event, a Wake Forest College senior's life is about to change. Recovering from a recent break-up, Sophia Danko meets a young cowboy named Luke, who bears little resemblance to the privileged frat boys she has encountered at school.

Ira and Ruth. Sophia and Luke. Two couples who have little in common, and who are separated by years and experience. Yet their lives will

converge with unexpected poignancy, reminding us all that even the most difficult decisions can yield extraordinary journeys: beyond despair, beyond death, to the farthest reaches of the human heart.'

Remember . . . once Book Guild has met and reviewed a book, a copy of that book for the month is put on the library shelf for you to check out.

By the way, have you checked out our retired library cart in the Narthex? Thanks to all of you who have checked it out and found something you wanted to purchase and read. Book donations for the library and book cart are still welcome.

## St. John's Bell Choir

You are encouraged to join the St. John's Bell Choir. The choir practices at 6:00 p.m. after the Wednesday's Together dinner when they resume in September. If you are in 5th grade or above, can read music and would enjoy

ringing bells to enhance the St. John's worship experience (the goal is to play once a month), please contact Marilyn Fenn, 360-245-3786.



## Bits and Pieces

**Thank you** to each and every person who donated food items, or came to assist in the kitchen or with any other area in preparation of or during this years STP!

St. John's hosted 90 riders (20 were repeat guests), though 103 paid. Apparently some did not ride and others opted to do the STP in one day. After fees to the Chamber of Commerce for the *Chronicle* ad and Lewis County for a food permit, plus the purchase of 20 air mattresses to replace failing ones, we netted \$5548.32 for the event. Your generous donations of food and time enabled our 16th successful year hosting riders.

Great work team!  
*Susan Russell and Sue Edwards*

**Reminder:** There are still many historical pictures of the life at St. John's available in the library. Please feel free to go through the pictures and take any you would like in your collection.

**Thank you, thank you, thank you!** To all who helped me celebrate my "milestone" 70th birthday. Your cards and gifts were very much appreciated. Again, Thank You!  
*Bernie Schreck (Just Bernie)*

**The family** of Tom and Carolyn Schoenborn would like to thank all those who were able to attend the 50th Wedding celebration as well as those who were there in thought and prayer! Your loving presence and well wishes made our day more special to remember for always.

*The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make His face shine upon you,  
And be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,  
And give you peace.*  
(Numbers 6:24-26)  
*Sincerely,  
The Schoenborn Family*

**New Address:**  
Tom and Carolyn Schoenborn  
40 Taylor Ct.,  
Ellerslie, GA 31807

Women's Book Guild will meet at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, August 27 at the Jahnsen's house on Lake Mayfield, 154 Baker Dr. The meeting will begin with a potluck dinner. Mindy Judd will lead the discussion on *The Longest Ride* by Nicholas Sparks. Anyone interested in joining our group, contact Joan Jahnsen at 360-388-5337



## August Celebrations

### Birthdays

2 Eva Munz  
4 Susan Jendryka  
6 Bill Hulse  
Vicki Graham  
7 William Grega  
Gail Van der Hoeff  
8 Louise Runyon  
9 Luke Amrine  
Laurie Callas  
10 Doug Ruth  
11 Barb Stanfield  
15 Ashleigh Cox  
19 Larry Unzelman  
20 Sue Austin  
Lexi Erwin  
Kasey (Wilson) Ramacher

21 Cael Justice  
Janie Mauel  
22 Michele Cox  
Austin Carlson  
26 Larry Dean

### Anniversaries

1 Donna and Larry Moir  
Pastor Matt and Rachel March  
4 Katrina and Greg Kirsch  
7 April and Rick Michal  
Christine and Trent Vlach  
9 Lauri and Bernhard Kreutz  
13 Colleen and Tim Touhey  
15 Judy and Bob Utter

18 Katie and Mike Giuliani  
20 Tim and Candice Tobin  
31 Marilyn and Greg Schmitt

### Baptism Anniversaries

3 Glen Unzelman  
5 Matthew Rotter  
Evan Unzelman  
14 Cori Jo Duncan  
23 Marilyn Schmitt

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).

# August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>“Summertime is always the best of what might be.” —Charles Bowden</p>				1	2 Pastor Matt’s Day Off  Office Closed	3
4 9:00 a.m. Call to Worship 10:00 a.m. Worship	5 6:00 p.m. Social Ministry 6:00 p.m. Youth and Family	6	7	8	9  Office Closed	10
11 9:00 a.m. Call to Worship 10:00 a.m. Worship	12	13 11:30 a.m. Women’s Lunch Bunch at Denny’s 6:00 p.m. Mutual Ministry 6:30 p.m. Church Council	14	15  September <i>Visitor</i> Deadline	16	17
18 9:00 a.m. Call to Worship 10:00 a.m. Worship	19	20	21	22	23  Pastor Matt’s Day Off  Office Closed	24 10:00 a.m. Mobile Meals at Gather in Centralia 4:30 p.m. Worship with Living Stones Prison Ministry
25 9:00 a.m. Call to Worship 10:00 a.m. Worship 2:00 p.m. ALYVE Board	26 6:00 p.m. Music & Worship	27 6:00 p.m. Book Guild at Jahnsen’s Lake House	28	29	30 12:00 p.m. Private Wedding Reception Prep	31 12:00 p.m. Private Wedding Reception
★For up to date calendar information, visit our website, <a href="http://www.stjohnschehalis.net">www.stjohnschehalis.net</a> and click on the “News” tab★						

**Please Note:** There is no Kids of the Kingdom, Adult Choir or ELCA Women’s Bible Study June-August. They will resume again in September.

## 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](http://www.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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