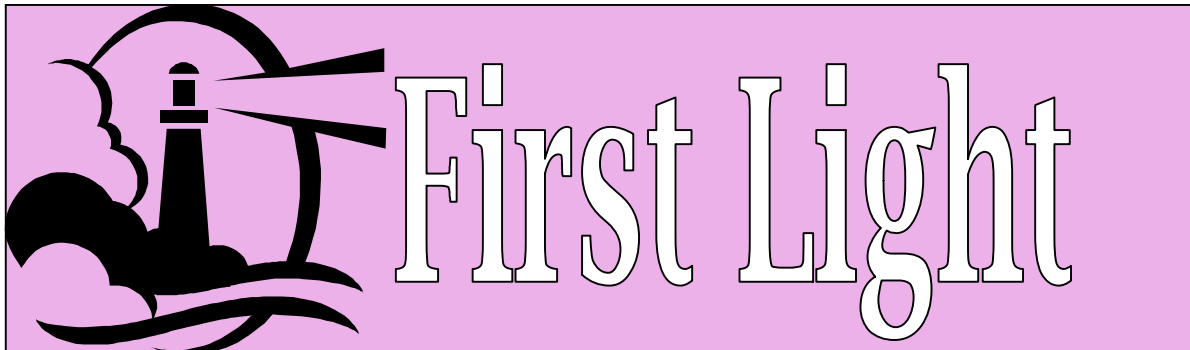


May 2011



a publication of First Lutheran
Community Church

Mark your calendars for the
**SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**

Sunday May 22nd following the 9:30 service

We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy lunch prepared by the youth as a fundraiser. The meeting will follow lunch. We will be voting to elect new council members. There will be no 11:00 worship service this day.



Pastor Doug Nemitz

Pastor Orville Jacobson

Virgil Wood, Pastor Emeritus

“Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God.” — Philippians 1:3

Dear Family of Faith,

I can't begin to tell you how thankful, how grateful to God I am for all of you. What I witnessed of you during Holy Week was nothing short of amazing. I was truly humbled by the many hands and many hours given in devotion to serving the community through all of the activities and worship services we offered.

The enormity of the sheer volume of work required throughout the week is staggering. All of the preparation, setup, cleanup, cooking, washing, decorating, singing, greeting, and much more that is required to make our Holy Week a special offering to the community is astounding.

Through the Seder Meal, Maundy Thursday Worship, the Crosswalk, Good Friday Worship, the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, Easter Breakfast, and Easter Worship Services many people were touched by the Gospel because of your labor of love to them. Yes, I truly give thanks to God for you!

If I were to begin to name all of the people involved in all of the many ways of service, I would inadvertently miss someone and I wouldn't want to do that. So I truly thank God for all of you. You know who you are and I am grateful for each one of you. Know that the service you have given is a tremendous gift to me and to the community.

Gratitude, thankfulness wells-up within me for many reasons. During Holy Week you were the many reasons that filled my well to overflowing. I cannot help but thank God for all that you are and for all that you do. I am truly blessed to serve with you in Port Orchard and the world.

Blessings,

Pastor Doug

DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO BECOME A MEMBER OF FIRST LUTHERAN???

1. By Baptism: This is God's gift for anyone of any age. If you or your children have not been baptized, feel free to talk to Pastor Doug about this blessing.
2. By Transfer: This is the route you take if you are currently an active member of another congregation. For example, you have just moved to the Port Orchard area but your church membership is still at a congregation in a different part of the state.
3. Reaffirmation of Faith: Some of us, actually many of us, see to take a vacation from God at some point in our life. Maybe after high school, when you went to college or the military or out on your own with a first job. Or maybe it was following a painful experience at another church. Just know, God hasn't taken a vacation. He's still with you and realizing that you want to get back into His family.

We are having an Exploring Membership class May 1st at 12:00pm. You are invited to attend and find out more about First Lutheran Community Church and be welcomed into our membership.

General Budget Update March 2011

Expenses YTD-	\$ 116,364
Giving YTD-	\$ 95,256
Shortage	\$-21,108
Pledge rec'd %	91%



Thank you for your tithes and offerings. First Lutheran is solely supported by your gifts. If you have questions about your giving statement please contact Sonja in the office.

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



A huge thank you goes out to each and everyone of you who volunteered your time and more to help make Holy Week and Easter so special. We truly could not do it all without the volunteers who make it all happen.

A special thank you to Bill and Karen Stratton and Cindy Mitchell for the wonderful and amazing job they did on the Seder Meal. The amount of time and work that goes into that is incredible.

Another special thank you to Cindy Mitchell who made the Easter Breakfast happen for 100's of us!

And our Youth! Did you know they worked three huge events in one week. They did the serving and clean up for the Seder Meal, ran the games and help prep for the Easter Egg Hunt AND help with clean up and keeping places set during the Easter Breakfast. Find a junior or senior higher on Sunday and tell them how awesome they are.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

Occasional Computer Help Needed

Can you push a button? Ever used a computer? Then we want you! We are looking for a few people who can fill in just a few Sundays a year running the Sanctuary computer during services. If you would be able to help fill in please contact the office and let us know. You can call 360-876-3901 or e-mail Kelly at kellyflc@hotmail.com. Thank you!

Cub Scout Rep Needed

Did you know First Lutheran hosts a huge pack of Cub Scouts?? We are looking for someone for the very simple job of communicating information between the scouts and the church. Please let Kelly or Dave in the office know if you could help out with this. Thanks.

ADVENTURES IN GOD'S KINGDOM SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thanks to everyone that helped with our Easter egg hunt! We had lots of candy donated and several volunteers help stuff about 1,500 plastic eggs. The kids had a great time finding all the hidden eggs and playing games run by the youth group. We even had the Easter bunny pay us a visit, lots of fun had by all.

Our Adventure Kids did a great job on Palm Sunday with the palm processional as well as their song for the congregation. We are currently working on another song "He Reigns" which we will perform sometime in June. A special thanks to Kacie Ciarelli, Gillian Ciarelli, Jordan Hassebrock, and Mackenzie Powell for singing/playing piano for Pastor Doug's inauguration ceremony.

Congratulations to our Communion Class of 2011:

Kacie Ciarelli	Jullianna Miller	Michael Keppert
Jordan Hassebrock	Jared Speake	

Parent's Night In Movie Night and VBS: PANDAMANIA Kick Off Event

FRIDAY MAY 20th

6:30 – 8:30



Come join us for an evening of family fun while we do some fundraising for youth! **The adults get to take a break over at the Ministry Center with appetizers and a movie while the Youth supervise the kids and watch the first Kung Fu Panda movie on the big screen.** All donations collected will go to help the youth group pay for their VBS Training Retreat in July. We will also give people a chance to pre-register for VBS, which will be Aug. 1 – 5. In addition, you will have an opportunity to hear and purchase the latest VBS music CD.

YOUTH NEWS

Spring Youth Group starts May 4th!

Meet at the Ministry Center at 6:30 for snacks

And *"Chronicles of Narnia:
Voyage of the Dawn Treader"*

Feel free to bring all your friends.



Wednesday Night Youth Group

plans on meeting from 7 - 8:30

at the Ministry Center on:

May 11, May 18, May 25,

June 1, June 8, June 15

Youth Fund Raisers

We have two on the calendar so far and more in the works:

May 20 from 6:30 - 8:30 Parents' Night In at the Movies- Kids can watch *Kung Fu Panda* in the sanctuary with youth/adult supervision while Parents get their own movie night at the Ministry Center with beverages and appetizers (provided by Youth Group families).

We need adults and youth at both buildings to set up/clean up serve snacks and supervise.

May 22 Semi-Annual Meeting Lunch in the Fellowship Hall

We have been asked by council to do lunch for the meeting as a fundraiser for our Youth Group. The menu will be: meatball subs, salad, pretzels, and dessert.

We will need people to prep, serve, and clean up.

PS - Thank you Council for donating \$120 in "soup money"

to the Youth Group! From that we are writing a check to the general fund for \$12 to show that the Youth Group can tithe too!

**Check out the Facebook pages for Junior and Senior High group info:

"First Lutheran Confirmation Port Orchard WA"

"Senior High Youth Group Port Orchard WA"

YOUTH NEWS (cont' d)

Youth Retreat July 12-15 at Ramblewood Sequim Bay, WA

There is still room to join us for a fun week of camp!

Cost: \$50

See office for registration forms

Also, there is room for Senior High who would like to help at the retreat (in scouts we call them PA's) You help the adults run activities for junior high. Plus there will be time for fun activities of your own: canoeing, hiking, campfire, etc.

Sign up now...cost is not an obstacle, we are fundraising to help cover expenses and "camperships" are available.

Thanks to all of you for your help during Holy Week!

If volunteering was a sport we would give out Easter MVP awards to: Connor A, Kyle E, Berkley H, John M, Lucas P, Mason P, Reed T, & Antonio S. They all helped at 2 or more events, plus participated in lent services. Great Job to the parents that got you there too!



We will continue to meet every Sunday morning at 9:30 at the Ministry Center for Junior High Confirmation and Senior High Sunday School through June 19th.

NOAH'S ARK DAYCARE



What we are learning at Noah's Ark Daycare....

The Bunnies (13 months to 20 months) have been learning the story of Noah's Ark and about how months can come in like a lion and out like a lamb. They learned about spring flowers and St. Patrick's Day. In April, they have been learning about Easter and God's love.

In the Bears class (20 months to 30 months), they have been learning the colors of the rainbow, animals and the sounds they make. They dyed eggs for Easter and made Easter baskets.

The Turtles (30 months to 36 months) are learning how to sign the alphabet. They also celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday in March, drank green milk for St. Patrick's Day and they are now learning the Easter story.

During the month of March, the Monkeys (3 years old) talked about Dr. Seuss, brushing our teeth, St. Patrick's Day and spring. They have been learning the colors of the rainbow in Spanish. In April, they have been talking about animals as well as the Easter story. They have been working hard to learn the sign language for "Jesus loves me".

The Penguins (4 years old) are learning how to write letters of the alphabet. In March, they pretended to take a trip to Ireland and learned where it was located on the globe. They are also learning the Golden Rule and that each of us are God's treasure. They are currently learning about Easter and reading a book called "Favorite Things about Easter".

The Orcas (5 years old) have been busy! They made weather mobiles and have been learning how seasons change. They have been working with addition and subtraction flash cards and they have been learning how to sign the alphabet. They also had a lesson on what it means to be respectful and made paper mache flowers. They did a Family Tree project and talked about what everyone's special talents are.

The Pandas (1st grade and up) did a fun project of creating volcanoes out of soda cans and, with a little baking soda and vinegar, watched them erupt on an uncommonly sunny afternoon. They made drawings and created sand using sandstone. They have been learning about the Creation Story as well as the Easter story and what parables are. They have been working on creative writing stories titled "If I..."

Upcoming Events at Noah's Ark Daycare

May 17th: *Spring Program: The Story of Noah's Ark* at 6:30PM in FLCC Sanctuary

May 30th: Memorial Day CLOSED

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING

Ladies you are invited..
FLCCW Spring Brunch
"Step Into Spring!"
Saturday May 14th at 10:00am



Mothers, Grandmothers, Daughters, Granddaughters, Aunts and Girl-friends are invited to **wear your favorite shoes** and celebrate spring with us. There will be a yummy selection of casseroles, fruits and goodies. We will be entertained by the smooth sounds of the South Kitsap High School Jazz Band.

Our love bowl offering will go the SKHS Marching Band to support their trip to Honolulu in December to march in the Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade for the 70th Anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

You will also have the opportunity to join our Secret Prayer Partner program if you would like. Forms will be available to fill out, we will be collecting them until May 22nd. Partners will be exchanged and your partner's name and information will be given to you after May 29th.

Please contact Karen Spellman if you have questions or would like more information.



**O.W.L.S. (OLDER WISER LUTHERAN SENIORS)
BY PASTOR ORV
MONTHLY MEETINGS, SECOND TUESDAY, NOON**

**TUESDAY MAY 10TH AT 12:00 NOON.
BRING A POTLUCK DISH TO SHARE, YOUR
PLACSETTING, A SMILE AND FRIEND FOR
A FUN LUNCH AND PROGRAM.**

DID YOU KNOW?

By Richard Courteau*

For centuries, in Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant countries, Easter Monday and "Bright Sunday" (the Sunday after Easter) were observed by the faithful as "days of joy and laughter" with parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

Parishioners and pastors played practical jokes on each other, drenched each other with water, sang, and danced. It was a time for clergy and people to tell jokes and to have fun.

The custom of Easter Monday and Bright Sunday celebrations were rooted in the musings of early church theologians (like Augustine, Gregory of Nyssa, and John Chrysostom) that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. Easter was "God's supreme joke played on death."

"Risus paschalis -- the Easter laugh," the early theologians called it.

In 1988, observing that the celebration of Jesus' resurrection has been sorely neglected by 20th-century Christianity, the Fellowship of Merry Christians began encouraging member churches and prayer groups to resurrect the old Christian custom of Easter Monday or "Bright Sunday" celebrations, as the early Greek Christians called it.

At a time when Jesus' resurrection has been subjected to an onslaught of ridicule and disbelief, the Fellowship sought to shore up belief through ongoing resurrection celebrations.

Many churches from different traditions have responded enthusiastically. In a revival of a very old Christian custom, many churches all over the country are extending the celebration of Jesus' resurrection to "Bright Sunday" and calling it "Holy Humor Sunday."

*Courtesy of "Sacred Origins of Profound Things" by Charles Panati

PLEASE COME!!

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Spring Packing Day - we will be packing the evening of **Tuesday, May 3rd at 6:00 PM**. Volunteers are very welcome. The entire process takes less than two hours and is really something to experience. We are looking for cardboard boxes to pack the quilts. The packed boxes cannot weigh more than 50 lbs., so they can't be excessively large.

Items still needed to complete the kits are:

- Bath Size Bar Soap – gentle for layettes
- Any Bath Size Bar Soap for health kits
- Wide Tooth Combs
- School scissors – blunt tipped (rounded)
- Fingernail clippers (no files please)

Thank you very much for your continued support of LWR.

The First Friday Readers will meet at the Senior Vista Apartments on May 6th at 9:30 a.m. The book review in May will be "Walking Across Egypt" by Clyde Edgerton. It is a warm and humorous novel of an elderly widow who befriends a juvenile delinquent. The book selection for June is "Lost German Slave Girl" by John Bailey. It is a true story of a young orphaned German girl who is sold into slavery in the South. New readers always welcome!



First Friday Readers

GLOBAL WARMERS: 9:00 Wed. the 18th in the Fellowship Hall .

MARY CIRCLE: 7:00 Mon. the 9th @ the Ministry Center

ELIZABETH CIRCLE: Tue. the 10th at 9:30AM at church. Childcare available.

SHALOM CIRCLE: Tuesday the 10th at 7:00 PM at Patty Lester's house.

STAMPING AND SCRAPPING on Saturday the 14th!
from Noon to 5pm at the Ministry Center.



First Life

and



PARISH NURSING

Parish Nurses are registered nurses who can assist with health related concerns or questions and can help with seeking and utilizing community resources. Please contact the church office at 876-3901 or Karen Schneider, RN at 876-2304 or Tina Soete, RN at 871-1322 or Kathleen Nenninger, RN at 253-853-4663, or Kristi Johnson, RN at 360-874-2740.

NO APPOINTMENT, NO WAITING ROOM, NO PAPERWORK

Do you know that the ELCA offers a NurseLine at 1-877-856-8145? Experienced nurses can help you recognize symptoms and choose appropriate care, identify possible medication side effects, talk through a medical diagnosis and understand your health assessment results. Why wait and worry if you have a health concern or question. Call center is available 24/7.

BLOOD PRESSURE/DIABETES SCREENING

How is your blood pressure? You can have your blood pressure checked on the last Sunday of every month in the Fellowship Hall in the Ruth Room #3 before and after the 9:30 a.m. services. There will be no blood pressure clinic in December.



FIRST DRIVERS

Transportation can be provided during the day for those who need assistance to keep medical, dental, or therapy appointments. You must be able to get in and out of a car with minimal assistance. You can call the church office at 876-3901 or Karen Schneider at 876-2304.



CASSEROLE CONNECTION

Meals are offered on a short term basis for those who may be experiencing post hospitalization, illness, trauma, or families with a newborn. Please call Kathy Posey at 871-5692 or the church office at 876-3901.



FIRST CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

The Caregivers Support Group will meet on May 25 at 11 a.m. If you are taking care of a loved one and would like to meet with others who are caregivers in a caring support group, please join us. The group meets on the last Wednesday of every month in the old church library. For more information, call Dixie Douthit at 876-5270 or Linda Helmer at 253-858-5703.

May Birthdays

05/01 Paul Zimmer
05/03 Alexis Watkins, Lynn O'Brien
05/04 Tracy Powell
05/05 Sonny Wilson, Christian Orcutt
05/06 Mike Hasbrook, Jamie Lamphere
05/07 Jordan Hassebrock, Kevin Christensen, Allison Kopp, Nikolas Cruz
05/08 John Anchick, Ryan Lowe
05/09 Rosemary Randall, Susan Oldman, Betty Valley,
Wanda Hasbrook, Jes Chase, Jaeden Allen
05/10 Ron Turner, Francis Spellman
05/11 Linda Earles, Carmon Blank
05/12 Kelli Brady, Sydnie Dischert
05/13 Selma Diggerness, Madison Rader
05/14 Dick Weatherford, Brandi Buettgenbach
05/15 Nancy Norman, Carrie Breeding, Amy Frese, Jamie Cox,
Grayson Hayter
05/16 Nita Lopez, Lesley Niemi, Benjamin Barnard
05/17 Tamalyn Thomas, Jonathan Nelson
05/18 Sandy Pfann, Howard Grayson, Kari Drew, Ed Pierson,
Michael Covey, Quincy Lyman
05/19 Jan Nabors, Terry Nicholson, Nicole Anthony
05/20 Jeff Robinson, Jeri Mundle, Peter Ewen, Nino Balazs
05/21 Marie Stege, Adele Fisher, Bill Pierce, Megan Kettwig, Blaine Pervinich
05/22 Diane DeMulling, Carl Eid, Taylor Lyman
05/23 Sharon McIntyre, Lloyd Holloway, John-Tyler Kopp
05/24 Orv Jacobson, Rich Niemi, Holley Hassebrock, Valerie Stevanus
05/25 Norma Walker, Marcia Wentzel, Natalie Peerson
05/28 Sherrie Fitch, Brady Hammrich, Calvin Christensen
05/29 Norman Boe, Sarah Oldman, Darren Posey
05/30 Sergio Salazar



**(If you find a missing or incorrect birthday
please call Kelly @ the office, we love getting
new information for our family!)**



WORSHIP SERVICES:

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00

Nursery available at 9:30 & 11:00am

Contacts

Ministry Center: 876-3901

Church Building: 876-2613

Church office e-mail

flchurch@wavecable.com

Doug Nemitz

doug@clergy.net

Orv Jacobson

pastororv@wavecable.com

Sonja Miller

Sonja@wavecable.com

Bruce Ewen

Musicbeme9@aol.com

Tracy Powell

Adventures@wavecable.com

Business Administrator:

David Lester

flcba@wavecable.com

Newsletter Editor:

Kelly Hassebrock

Kellyflc@hotmail.com

Noah's Ark Preschool

895-1947 noahsarkpreschool@wavecable.com

Noah's Ark Childcare Center

895-4195 nadaycare.flcc@gmail.com

www.noahsarkdaycareflcc.com

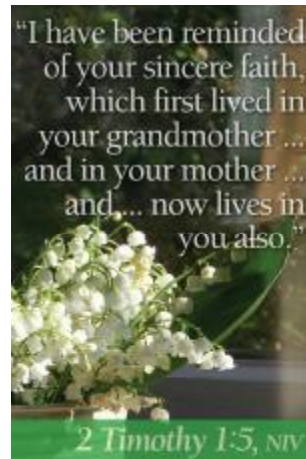
Church Website

www.firstlutheranpo.com

**2483 Mitchell Road S.E.
Port Orchard, WA 98366**

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