



St. Luke's, Sequim



The Bellringer

A monthly update from St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Sequim

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A Mini-Bazaar!

On Sunday, Dec. 5th, after both services, the St. Luke's Bazaar Group will host refreshments in the Parish Hall and open our cache of wonderful hand made gifts for the shopping pleasure of the parish and their families. Masks are required.

If you are unable to attend, due to health or other reason, yet still wish to do some shopping, let a member of the Bazaar Group know and we can arrange a private meeting for you.

The contact person for this is Ginny Majewski. If you need to speak with her, please contact the church office and we will get you in touch.



We will have the Greening of the Church followed by a Pot Luck on December 23rd.

Decorating begins at 10 am and a pot luck lunch begins at noon.

Everyone's invited to this fun party!

It's that time of year when we are all trimming trees. If you have any greenery, acorns, or berries from trimming, please bring them to the church and leave them on the tarp in the courtyard so that we may use them for the Greening of the Church. Thank you!

If you have questions about this event or bringing greenery, please call Pat Rublaitus, the Altar Guild Directress.





The Angel Tree is going up! This year, due to COVID-19 precautions, the Boys and Girls Club is asking for a simpler donation of gift cards, rather than the toys that they have requested in previous years. Once

collected, giving of the gift cards will be done in a drive-through event where parents receive the cards in order to buy Christmas gifts for their children. (To learn more about the Boys and Girls Club, go to <http://www.bgc-op.org>.)

A lot of us miss the fun of shopping for the kids. Yet, even though we are restricted by COVID-19, we know that the kids still have needs; and they have lost so much this year that it would be sad for them to do without during the holidays. This is a good way to keep the program going until we are able to return to our previous tradition. May that day be soon!

If you would like to participate, watch for gift card envelopes on an Angel Christmas Tree. It will be in the parish hall by Sunday, Dec 5. Each envelope will have a label on it, with the name of the vendor and the amount requested. Envelopes with cards in them can be placed in the box that will be by the tree, or in the white mailbox outside the office, or brought in to the office. If you would rather give a donation towards the event, we will happily accept that as well, and buy the gift cards on your behalf.

Let's make this a year when the Boys and Girls Club remembers that, among all that is topsy-turvy in life right now, St. Luke's still cared.

All cards must be turned in by December 17

Blue Christmas Service December 21st, 7 pm

December 21st is the longest night of the year. On that night, we will have a candlelight service for those who find the holidays to be a difficult time of year.



Christmas Services

Our Christmas services this year will be:

December 23rd, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm - "Greening" of the Church

We'll decorate the church for Christmas services. Decoration will start at 10; when we are finished, we will have a potluck lunch. Come help us make the church beautiful for the Christmas season and celebrate together

December 24th, 7 pm – Christmas Eve Service

This will be a service of light, celebrating the Nativity of the Lord with a hymn sing before the service and special coffee hour afterwards

December 25th, 10 am – Christmas Day Service

On Christmas Day, we will have one service at 10 am.

Where I Find God

by The Rev. Diane Moore

The ministry of Jesus teaches that all creation is an expression of God's love and that nothing is beyond His reach. While Genesis places God's dwelling place in heaven and generations of Christians have looked upward in prayer. The contemplative tradition encourages us to open ourselves to the presence of God and to recognize His presence in all things. So – where do you see God?

(Please feel free to share your own reflections on where you see God for publication in the *Bellringer*. Submissions can be sent to the office)



AT HIS TABLE

Oblations – gifts from your creation...

Bread and wine,

Rich brown loaf

Rounded... Branded with The sign.

Legacy of grapes,

Gleaming red and richly glowing.

Receiving these, I'm gifted,

My hands accept these sacrifices

From Christ's body –

All those who sit before me –

Expectantly... anticipating Mystery.

Starched, smooth linen...

Corporal unfolded

Resting place for Body waiting.

Loaf and grape... Anticipating transformation.

I now become –

Hands and eyes and ears...

Of all Christ's Body seated here before me.

As I've become – hands and eyes and tears...

Of His Body met in darkened corners.

I am for them – I am for Him...

Jesus' hands – making preparations

For His meal to follow.

As it always happens, without my knowing,

Seeing, Hearing, Feeling,

He's here within us, before us, among us...

Body broken,

Blood poured forth...

He is here to feed us, again, again, again...

Transcending us from we.. To Body whole with He.

Transcending He... To Body whole with we.

Transcending We to incarnate Body thee.

How can it be, I'm blessed to set this table.

How can it be, I'm sharing here – Christ from this His table

How can it be, I'm transformed here

To find Him there, concealed in darkened corners.

How can it be, His Grace poured out in me

Dan Butler Wins the Bishop's Ty Chen Award



Our own Dan Butler was honored for his service to the congregation at St Luke's, Sequim during the 2021 Diocesan Convention. In 2011, Bishop Greg Rickel created the Ky Chen Award, whose namesake was known to always answer, "No problem" no matter what the request. The award was created to honor employees from any congregation or affiliated organization who ably and graciously provide outstanding services to the church. The nominating letter said, "During the short time Dan has been here, he has expanded the role of secretary. He has designed systems that organized our office and administration routines. He has also brought a high level of professionalism to the position, and thus upgraded the office environment...It is wonderful to watch people relax and open up with him when they interact in the office." There's more! To see the video of his award being presented, click the button below. And

Congratulations, Dan!

[Ty Chen Award Presentation](#)

Who Was Mary?

submitted by Sr. Judy Kenyon, CFC

Since we are in church school pageant time again, and there are no pageants allowed, my thoughts return to pageants of years past. As a church schoolteacher for about 60 years, I have many from which to choose, but one stands out.



Many years ago, there was a 12-year-old girl whom I will call “Julie,” who started coming to church with her mother. As time went on her mother came less regularly but Julie, being independent and allowed to do many things on her own, began to walk several blocks by herself to come to church. She was new to church and was thrilled to be there learning so many things. She wanted to know everything about Jesus, God, and the Holy Spirit.

When it was time to allocate parts in our Christmas pageant, I decided to choose Julie to play Mary for her faithfulness and her good understanding of who Mary was. The part usually went to an older girl, so Julie was ideal. She was overjoyed and was excited to play Jesus’ mother.

The day of our first rehearsal arrived, but Julie hung back from the others and waited to talk to me alone. Tearfully, she told me, “I can’t be Mary.” In complete surprise I asked, “Why?” “Because I’m black and Mary was white,” she explained and burst into tears. I held her in my arms and breathed my usual before class prayer, “God gave me your words today.”

The words that came to me tumbled out. “Yes, you can play Mary. In fact, you are more like Mary than anyone I know. Mary came from a desert country where people generally have darker skin and eyes than people from northern countries do. You will be perfect.” Julie was not convinced and replied, “but every picture I see has Mary with blonde hair and blue eyes.” Silently I wished I had thought about how this child had been made to feel unworthy because of some pictures I had grown up with and took for granted in the books and lessons I used. I tried another angle. “Also, Julie, Mary represents all women, so she is seen in the likeness of many different women. You will be beautiful and represent her perfectly.” Julie sniffed a bit, then brightened and smiled. “OK, I can be Mary,” and she walked into the rehearsal with her head held high. Julie did play Mary and played her with dignity and joy. I lost touch with Julie when she and her mother moved away sometime later, but I thank her for teaching me a lesson I will never forget.

Report from the Diocesan Convention

by Mark Wegehaupt

Diocese of Olympia Annual Convention 2021: Striving for Justice and Peace October 29-30, 2021

St. Luke's delegates to this convention were the same as last year: Mother ClayOla, Donna Atwood, Diane Grove, Trudy Wegehaupt, and Mark Wegehaupt.

Having attended two consecutive conventions has given me some perspective on steps the diocese is taking to address racism and other issues. It has also given me a better appreciation for the diversity within our diocese and the gifts and grace of individuals and communities within the diocese.

It would be difficult to recap the entire convention here, but fortunately there is a wealth of information that has been posted on the convention website <https://convention.ecww.org/>. Here are my recommendations on getting the essence the convention:

I highly recommend viewing or reading Bishop Rickel's Convention Address, <https://convention.ecww.org/2021/10/30/bishop-rickels-convention-address/>, which reflects upon the actions taken at the 2020 convention, the progress this past year, and most importantly his call upon congregations and individuals to identify actions they can take to address these issues.

- Under "Convention Reports" I recommend viewing: "The Land Acknowledgement Task Force Report"(Mother ClayOla and Gail Wheatley are members) and the "Circles of Color Report".
- Under "Convention Documents" I recommend taking a look at the "D2 Resolution Report (2021)" and particularly Resolution #4 "Supporting and Conduction Diocesan Research on Indigenous Boarding Schools".
- Recordings of the workshops are available under "Workshops". One that I attended that I would recommend is the "Update on Refugee Resettlement". I learned that the diocese has a Refugee Resettlement Office and is now working on resettling Afghan refugees.
- And, you don't want to miss the video in the "Awards" section of the Bishops presentation of the Ky Chen Employee Excellence "No Problem" Award to Dan Butler.

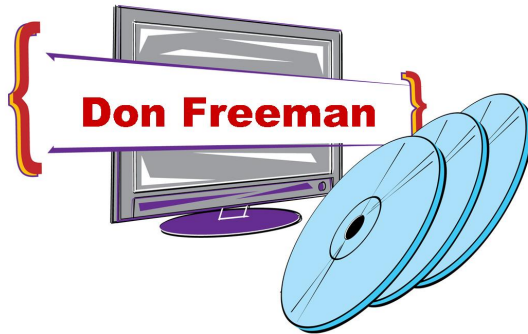
In response to the Bishop's call to action, our delegates met on November 2nd to discuss next steps for our congregation. One of the key things we observed is that Native American communities are significant within our local context,

specifically the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe in Sequim. We discussed creating a Native American Ministries Team and identified actions to raise awareness, provide education and training, establish connections and build relationships, and work for justice and peace. Additional information will follow as we identify team members and specific actions.

Mark Wegehaupt

Spotlight On...Don Freeman Study Group

by Mary Jo Camagna



Study Group

The late Mr. Don Freeman started this study group years ago with an emphasis on archaeology, to better understand the history of the Holy Land. Today, facilitators present sessions with a video "lecture" followed by open discussion focusing on spiritual and personal growth, theology, justice and religions. Courses over the last few years

included:

- A Christian Response to Gun Violence
- MLK Jr.: Epistles and Prophets
- Racial Inequality
- How to Be a Crazy Christian with Rt. Rev. Michael Curry
- Make Me an Instrument of Peace
- Uppity Women of the Bible

Currently the group is meeting on Zoom at 10:00 each Wednesday morning. Everyone is welcome to attend, even for just one session.

Facilitators are Alan & Mary Jo Camagna

Available for Self-directed Study - both the Book and DVD Libraries contain an excellent selection of biblical, religious, archeological, and Christian studies. The St. Luke's website provides a listing of available DVDs to view in your home.

We're Still on Zoom...

We are worshipping in person, but you can also join us on Zoom. The Sunday 10 am service via Zoom begins at 10:00am – but virtual participants are encouraged to sign in early beginning at 9:00am to enjoy coffee and conversation, and to stay after services are over to participate in small groups.

Information on how to access the Zoom service is sent to parishioners weekly or can be requested by contacting the church office.

Franciscan Corner



The Community of Francis and Clare is a religious community in communion with the See of Canterbury that follows the tenets developed by St. Francis of Assisi.

Members voluntarily commit themselves to the Rule and Constitution of the order which focuses on Chastity, Obedience, and Poverty. Members of the order can be found world-wide and are actively engaged in ministries in their communities.

On October 3rd, the feast day of St. Francis, members of the Community of Francis and Clare dedicated a new statue of St. Francis in the garden adjacent to the church. It is hoped the statue will serve as a reminder of God's universal love and peace. Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24).

For more information visit www.cfcfranciscans.org.

Kateri Tekakwitha

by Vanessa Gunther

As European colonists began to arrive in the North Atlantic region in the early 17th century, war, turmoil, and pestilence followed. Rival Dutch, French, and British settlements vied for



influence among the indigenous populations, offering to trade guns and other material goods for access to furs. The introduction of Europeans – complete with their weapons and new diseases – offset the

delicate balance of power in the region and led to a 70-year period of turmoil known as the Beaver Wars.

Few diseases were more devastating than smallpox, which is likely responsible for the destruction of 50-90% of some indigenous communities. It was into this uncertain world that a Mohawk girl named Kateri Tekakwitha was born in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon in 1656. She was the daughter of a chief named Kenneronkwa and his wife Kahenta, a woman from the rival Huron tribe who had been captured years earlier in a raid. Because of the instability in the region, Kateri's early life was marked by turmoil and loss. A smallpox outbreak between 1661-1663 resulted in the death of her parents and her baby brother and forced her from her home at the tender age of four. Kateri also contracted the disease, which left her with significant facial scars and impaired her eyesight. Her name, Tekakwitha, reflects the impact of the disease on her life as it translates to "she who bumps into things."

In October 1666, the French attacked her village and defeated the tribe. Among their terms for peace was the requirement that the Mohawk accept Jesuit missionaries into their village. This mandate laid the foundation for Kateri's later conversion. For the Mohawk, the Christian faith was not entirely dissimilar to their own belief system. However, resistance to European ideas and religion was strong because of the turmoil and misery that preceded its introduction. By the time the Jesuit missionaries arrived in the village, Kateri was 11 and her cousin had already abandoned the village to live among the French as a convert to Catholicism.

In 1674, although Kateri was 18 and of a marriageable age, she refused to consider any potential suitors and instead sought out the company of the Jesuit priest Jacques de Lamberville, who became her tutor in the catechism and baptized her on Easter Sunday in 1676. It was then that she took the name Kateri, the Mohawk version Catherine, after St. Catherine of Sienna. Despite the growing presence of the Jesuits in their communities, opposition to their demands to abandon Mohawk traditional practices resulted in hostility and resistance. After Kateri converted to Catholicism, her life in the village became

untenable, and she escaped to the Jesuit mission of Kahnawake, just south of modern-day Montreal.

There, Kateri lived out the rest of her short life in the association of other devout women. Under the direction of another convert named Anastasia Tegonhatsiongo she became devout in her religious practices, including the mortification of flesh, fasting, and celibacy. It was as a member of this new community that she met Marie-Thérèse Tegauanguenta, another convert who equally shared Kateri's religious zeal. Together they sought permission from the Jesuits to establish themselves into a religious community. Their request was refused, as the priests insisted they were "too young" in their faith.

By 1680, Kateri's health began to fail. As word spread of her impending death, members of her religious community gathered near her and the priests gave her last rites. Around 3:00pm on Holy Wednesday, April 17, 1680, she died in the arms of her friend, Marie-Thérèse.

Kateri's death began a series of events that would lead to her canonization in the Roman Catholic Church. Those present at her death reported the smallpox scars on her face disappeared shortly after she stopped breathing, and in the weeks following her death she appeared to Anastasia, Marie-Thérèse, and Father Claude Chauchetière, one of her confessors.

It was Chauchetière's experience that began to change the dynamic between the Mohawk and the Jesuits as he questioned the Eurocentric view that native people were inferior in their culture and faith. He was also responsible for the construction of a chapel near Kateri's gravesite that soon attracted pilgrims and insisted she was a saint.

It took several hundred years before the Catholic Church made it official. In 1943, Kateri was declared venerable. She was beautified by Pope John Paul II in 1980, and she was finally canonized on October 21, 2012 by Pope Benedict XVI. Today she remains one of only a handful of indigenous people recognized as saints by either the Catholic or Episcopal faiths.

Volunteers are needed...

We need volunteers to be readers, ushers, and acolytes during Church services, and Soup's On needs volunteers to shop, cook, serve, clean up, check vaccination cards at the door, and put up tables after lunch ends. Please contact the office if you would be able to help with any of these roles. And thank you to everyone who helps out—it's how we are

Staying Connected

Staying connected with each other and with God is so important during this stressful time. Members of St. Luke's meet in various groups, where they have made new friends and discovered a world of topics to engage. See below for a list of groups and ministries and their status regarding in-person or Zoom.

If you would like more information about attending one of these, please contact the church office.

- **Prayer Quilt Workshop**, Mondays 10-2 including brown bag lunch--leader: Virginia Reker
- **Bazaar Guild**, Mondays 10-2 including brown bag lunch--leader: Ginny Majewski
- **Men's Spirituality Group**, 1st Mondays at 9 am, in person--leader: Steve Cole
- **Men's Cursillo Group**, Tuesdays at 9:00 am, in person--leader: Bob Brownbridge and Mark Wegehaupt
- **Daughters of the King**, 1st Tuesday at 1:30 pm, in person--leader: Barbara Heckard
- **Morning Prayer**, Wednesdays at 8 am, by Zoom--leader: Br. Steve Penning, CFC
- **Don Freeman Study Group**, Wednesdays at 10:00 am, by Zoom--leaders: Mary Jo and Alan Camagna
- **Wednesday Eucharist**, Wednesdays at 11:15, in person
- **Soup's On**, Wednesdays at 12 noon--leader: Br. Steve Penning, CFC
- **Chancel Choir**, Wednesdays at 1:30 pm and Sundays at 9 am, in person--leader: Susan Kaiser
- **Interactive Bible Study**, Thursdays at 10:15 am, by Zoom--leader: Art Moore
- **Centering Prayer**, Thursdays at 12:00 pm, by Zoom--leader: Judith Parker
- **Photo Club**, 4th Thursdays at 1:00 pm, by Zoom--leader: Sherry Niermann
- **Grief Support Group**, 2nd and 4th Fridays at 10 am, by Zoom--leaders: Janet Popelka and The Rev. Sue Thompson
- **Caregivers Support Group**, 2nd and 4th Fridays at 1 pm, by Zoom--leaders: Janet Popelka and The Rev. Sue Thompson
- **Altar Guild**, Saturday and Sunday mornings (rotating teams), in person--leader: Pat Rublaitus
- **Flower Ministry**, Sunday afternoon and/or Monday mornings (rotating teams), in person--leader: Stacie Koochek
- **Com Com** (Communications Team), next meeting Nov. 11 at 10 am, in person--team led
- **SWAT Team** (Social media, Web, and Technology), meets as needed--team led

Our Taizé service and the Outreach Team are currently on hiatus. We

will publish their meetings when they restart.

If you would like information about joining any of these meetings or groups, contact the office at officeatstlukes@gmail.com.

We'll be happy to connect you!

A reminder...



As the holidays approach, don't forget to use Amazon Smile when you order from Amazon. Each purchase creates a donation for St. Luke's, and every little bit adds up. After signing up, simply shop at www.smile.amazon.com (instead of the plain Amazon site) and donations automatically come to St. Luke's. For help signing up, contact the office and we'll find someone to walk you through it.

*Have a comment, question, pledge card, or donation?
You can leave it in the white mailbox outside the office.*

Donations to St Luke's can be made in person during services, mailed, dropped off during the week, or on Breeze or PayPal. You can also give at the Diocesan website; indicate that it is for St. Luke's and they will route the gift to us. Thank you for your support.

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