THE PARISH VISITOR FEBRUARY 2020

Edison Lutheran Church

Change

Change can be hard! Effective change encourages growth. At Edison Lutheran, we are on the cusp of change. In the next few weeks we will say farewell to our pastor and friend Al Berg and hello to Pastor John Guthridge and family. Change is upon us!

Teams of people have worked diligently since October of 2018 to bring about this change. The Transition Team headed by Katy Olson met regularly to analyze data collected through a survey of the congregation. The team developed a profile or word picture of who we are as a congregation, how we nurture our members and serve our community. They defined the values we cherish and the qualities desired in our next pastor. The Call Team lead by Bonnie Bowers collected and edited interview questions, that reflected the desires of the congregation and conducted interviews with potential candidates. Eventually, a candidate was recommended to the church council and congregation. The Prayer Team, coordinated by Anne Knutz and Linda Johnson, faithfully prayed for the whole process. On December 15, the congregation voted to call Pastor John Guthridge and in a few days, he will be welcomed into our ELC family.

Pastor John will bring new gifts and new perspectives to us. We need to be ready, thoughtful and open to the changes that are sure to come. As a congregation, we have called John Guthridge to work and serve with us. We must also remember that God has called each of us to be part of the body of Christ, welcoming, nurturing and serving one another.

Yes, change is coming! As we look to the future, let us work together to bring about effective change that will encourage and strengthen our congregation, enabling us to be the church God would have us be in this community.

Kris Merritt

Announcements

Pastor Al Berg. His final Sunday as our Transitional Pastor will be Sunday February 9th. Please plan to join us at 10:30 a.m. worship and a luncheon following to thank him for his loving and caring service to Edison Lutheran Church over the past 14 months..

Sunday School. Please note that there will not be Sunday School February 16th, the Presidents Day weekend. We resume at 9:00 am Sunday February 23rd.

Hymn Sing. Join us the last Sunday of the month, February 23rd at 10:15 a.m. prior to worship for singing of favorite hymns by request.

Serving in Worship. Are you interested in serving in worship as a Greeter, Usher and/or Lector? If so, please let the church office know (phone 360-766-6920) or by email at: edisonlutheran@live.com.

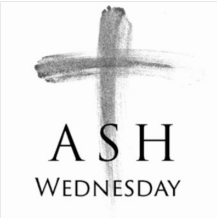
Blood Drive. Our next Blood Drive at Edison Lutheran Church will be Monday, March 9th from noon to 6 pm. More information and opportunity to sign up coming in the next few weeks.

SHROVE TUESDAY Pancake Dinner

5 - 7 pm, Tuesday February 25th in the Fellowship Hall.

Serving pancakes, waffles, Scandinavian pancakes, sausage & ham.

Join us for food, fellowship and music(at 6, Peter's Dixieland band, the Mudflat Ramblers).



ASH WEDNESDAY

7:00 pm, service, Wednesday February 26 led by Pastor Guthridge in the sanctuary. Worship, imposition of ashes and communion.

Thank You Notes

The Friendship House: The Friendship House residents say Thank you! You have helped those in need more than you will ever know.

The Alger Food Bank: Thank you for your recent donation. We are so blessed by your continued support. May God bless you in the coming year.

ELC **Blood Drive** Monday March 9th, 12 noon to 6 pm

Bettering Our Community Drop By Drop

2679. That's the number of people that have potentially been helped by our congregation's blood drives since 2003. With just 10-15 minutes, each of us can give a lifesaving gift. **Please consider signing up for the next drive to be held on Monday, March 9th from noon to 6:00 pm. Appointments can be made with Gailyn Ploeg by email at gailynploeg@outlook.com or by phone at (360) 766-6729.**

Every one of us that donates our blood can help up to three other persons. Each donation of whole blood is separated into its three primary components: *red blood cells* (that will aid our friends and neighbors undergoing planned surgeries like organ transplants and emergency traumas), *plasma* (that benefits severe burn victims and other surgery patients), and *platelets* (given to help blood clot for both emergencies and other treatments). Each component has a finite window in which it must be used. While plasma can be frozen and kept on hand for up to a year, platelets must be used within 5 days of donation.

Those that we're helping aren't nameless strangers. Our partners for the drive, Bloodworks Northwest are the local blood banking organization for Northwest Washington. Our donations stay in our community and go to hospitals like Skagit Valley, United General and Island. They go to help members of our community directly affected by emergencies and traumas.

At the March 9th blood drive, qualifying donors have a chance to make an even bigger impact to folks fighting cancer and who are in needs of platelet donations specifically. We have 6 apheresis openings for people willing and interested in donating platelets. These donations (lasting 70 minutes to 2 hours), provide 6 times the number of platelets available in a whole blood donation. Because platelets can be stored for just 5 days, these donations are vital and always in need. For more information and eligibility requirements, please visit http://www.bloodworksnw.org/programs/platelets

Please consider signing up to donate on **Monday, March 9th. To make an appointment, or for more information and other ways you can help,** please contact Gailyn and Ron Ploeg: 360 766-6729 or gailynploeg@outlook.com

OUR CHURCH COUNCIL 2019—2020 **Committee Liaison*	
Kris Merritt, *President* **Parish Life*	Keith Peterson, **Property & Management*
Kathy Shoop, *Vice President* **Christian Education*	Karma Larson, **Evangelism*
Jeanie Hertz, *Secretary* **Social Concerns*	Jane Fraser, **Worship & Music*
Brad Wyman *Property & Management*	Larry Forsythe, *Property & Management*
Gordy Dahl *Youth*	Bryan Galbraith, **Finance*
Cathy Smith, *Worship & Music*	

By ***Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee****, NWWA Synod*

From the February 2020 Edition of *The Spirit*

Grace Grants I am excited to announce that the application process for Northwest Washington Synod Grace Grants is open. Thanks to the vision and desire for continued ministry, Grace Lutheran, Bellevue gave the synod council a percentage of their proceeds when they closed their ministry. The synod council, in turn, wants to invest this money in congregations and ministry sites who are doing faithful innovation. In that spirit, Grace Grants were born.

For each of the next three years, $100,000 will be made available for congregations and ministry sites to apply for Grace Grants. If other congregations, institutions or individuals would like to contribute to this fund, the synod council will continue Grace grants beyond these initial three years.

Congregations and ministry sites are welcome to apply for grants ranging from $2,000 to $20,000. The council welcomes all applications. In particular, the Grace Grant Committee and synod council are looking for congregations who are faithfully looking into the future, trusting God, and seeing new possibilities in sharing the story of Jesus.

As you consider these grants, these questions might help you discern what God is up to in your area of the synod: • What is happening in your church's neighborhood? Where do you see possibilities for partnership or collaboration? • What is our unique ELCA identity and witness? • Are there avenues to talk with and listen to those outside the walls of the church? • How can we equip disciples and our own community of faith? • How can we foster a spirit of connection across the synod? • What are the resources needed to develop new leaders? • How can we partner with young adults, listening and collaborating? • Where are the places we can be more ecofriendly in our church buildings? • Who are those marginalized? • Who are those discriminated against?

Of course, there are other areas to consider for ministry through these Grace Grants. These are just a few ideas that might help. As you prepare, here are some important dates:
• February 1 - Grant Application Period open, find form on synod website. • May 1 - Applications due. No late applications will be accepted. • May - Grant committee review will take place. • June 5 - Final approval of Grants by Synod Council. • June 6 - Notification of grants awarded at Synod Assembly. • July 1 - Grants to be funded Grants need to be used between July 1, 2020 & April 1, 2021. Grants are potentially renewable. I hope you find this opportunity as exciting as the Northwest Washington Synod Council. We are excited to continue vitalizing our congregations and ministry sites into the future – as we trust God is walking with us, leading us and guiding us.

Grace & Peace, *Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee*

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 *Epiphany 4*	3	4	5 10:00 a Altar Guild 5:15 p Worship & Music 6:30 p Choir	6	7	8
9 Epiphany 5 9:00 a Sunday School 10:30 a Worship 11:30 a Luncheon	10 7:30 p Property & Management	11 7:00 p Council	12 6:30 p Choir	13 10:00 a Care Team	14	15
16 Epiphany 6 -- No Sunday school 10:30 a Worship 4:00 p Installation of Pastor Guthridge -dinner following	17 *Presidents Day Holiday*	*18*	*19* 10:00 a Women's Bible Study 5:15 p Worship & Music 6:30 p Choir	*20* 10:00 a Prayer Shawl	21	22
23 Transfiguration of our Lord 9:00 a Sunday School 10:30 a Worship	24 5:00 p Friendship House Dinner served	25 5-7p Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	26 6:30 p Choir practice 7:00 p Ash Wednesday Service	*27*	28	29

Serving in Worship This Month

Worship is a time when all members, on a rotating basis, have an opportunity to participate in the workings of the church. This rotation helps give everyone a chance to participate in service to our church and to our community. Most duties outlined here are relatively easy tasks, yet important.

If you are unavailable at a time shown on the schedule, it is helpful and most appreciated that you find a replacement for the date indicated and please notify the church office of the change.

*****Greeters may also serve as ushers during offering and communion*****

Feb	Asst. Minister	Lector	Acolyte	Altar Guild	**Greeters**	Ushers	Fellowship Hosts	Council M of Day	Flowers	Counters
2	Chris Omdal	Jane Fraser	Sara Omdal	Debbie Conijn Jane Fraser	Wyman family	Lyle Caplinger Wyman family	Evan & Vicki Swanson Susie & Larry Forsythe	Brad Wyman		Judy Sheahan Larry Forsythe
9	Mark Johnson	Linda Johnson	Dakota Wyman	Susie Forsythe Betty Boe	Cathy Smith Kathy Shoop	Cheryl Conner Tom Wake Lyle Caplinger	Laurel Black Danielle & Bryan Galbraith	Gordy Dahl	Tom & Judy Sheahan	Judy Sheahan Deanne Dutton
16	Al Fredrickson	Jon Aarstad	Marin Jensen	Betty Boe Susie Forsythe	Jason & Linda Tyler	Jerry & Deanne Anderson Jason & Linda Tyler	Dan & Patsy Martin Carrie & Chris Omdal	Kathy Shoop	Kris Merritt	Jenifer Troxel Deanne Dutton
23	Nancy Nygren	Alexia Englund	Jonathan Larson	Jane Fraser Kathy Shoop	Vic & Judy Jensen	Alex & Mandy Englund Vic & Judy Jensen	Mandy & Alex Englund Jerry & Jenny Nelson	Brad Wyman		Jenifer Troxel Tom Wake
MAR 1	Darla Jensen	Karen Kesselring		Kathy Shoop Nancy Nygren	Ron & Gailyn Ploeg		Jenifer & Gary Troxel Colleen & Kraig Knutzen	Keith Peterson	*Lent no Flowers*	Judy Sheahan Larry Forsythe

Fellowship Hosts

If you are unavailable for your scheduled date, it is helpful and most appreciated that you find someone to trade with or a replacement for the date *indicated. Please notify the church office of the change.*

Fellowship Hosts for next month are shown here.

MAR 1	Jenifer & Gary Troxel Colleen & Kraig Knutzen
8	David Benson Bud & Bonnie Bowers
15	Jerry & Deanna Anderson Inger & Scott Conner
22	Karen & Ron Schutte Kat Black
29	Kristin Caldwell Tom & Judy Sheahan

Prayer Requests

The Edison Lutheran Church Prayer chain members encourage your prayers at this time, especially:
Pastor Deb Benson (Anacortes Lutheran), Pastor Larry Olsen, Jolene Lomsdalen, Neva Leed, Ron Spoelstra, Alice Brisbin, Barry Christensen, Cindy Caplinger, Deanne Ramsey (cousin of Neva Leed), Don Minnick (friend of Barb & Al Fredrickson), Hank, Judy Eitreim, Michael Barnwell, Merlie Anderson (daughter-in-law of RuthAnne Pocock), Steven Dahl, Taylor Isaacson, Edith Nicols, Darlene Wright, Roberta DeMarre, Ruth Sexton, Lorraine Gundersen, Arlene Omdal, Charlotte Steiner and Wanda Peterson .

Our thoughts and prayers are with those in the military: Dustin and Rocio King and Rob Mainard.

The Synod Ministry: Bishop Rev. Shelley Byran Wee, Assistant to the Bishop Andrew Yee, Deacon Dianne Johnson, Rev. David Hahn; and those in the ministry of El Camino de Emaús Congregation.

Please keep the church office current on your loved ones who are (or need to be) named on our prayer list.
Office: 360-766-6920
Edison Lutheran Church email: edisonlutheran@live.com

In Our Prayers

2/2	Anna Swanson
2/6	Bobbi Fisher
2/7	Aidan Jensen
2/8	Walter Deming
2/8	Jason Tyler
2/9	Taryn Booth
2/9	Stephen Olsen
2/10	Alexia Englund
2/12	Dan Berentson
2/14	Grady Dahl
2/18	Jacque Larson
2/24	Ella Ormsby
2/24	Betty Swihart
2/25	Barb Nelson
2/25	Kaycee Stubben

Monthly Newsletter of
Edison Lutheran Church
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Bow, WA 98232

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Bow, WA

February

EDISON LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcoming...Nurturing...Serving

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship Service followed by Fellowship

Please Join Us All Are Welcome

Pastor Al Berg / Pastor John Guthridge
Church Office: 360-766-6920
edisonlutheran@live.com
www.edisonlutheranchurch.org