



THE PARISH VISITOR

JUNE 2021

Edison Lutheran Church

"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

-Joshua 1:9



Dear People of God,

After forty years of wandering in the wilderness, the Israelites were ready for a change.

A generation had passed since they had been slaves in Egypt, and nearly all those who had been adults at the time of the Exodus had since died. Even Moses, the great liberator and lawgiver of Israel, was gone, leaving his assistant Joshua to lead this fledgling people in his place. In many ways, this nation gathered on the wilderness side of the Jordan was not the same nation who had left Egypt. By their experiences in the wilderness, God had shaped them into a more unified and faithful people. Through their hardship, they had learned to depend on God for their daily needs and to not take God's favor and promise for granted. Unlike their parents' generation, who fearfully doubted God's intention and ability to establish them in this promised land, this new generation was eager to cross over the river and receive what God had promised their ancestors.

Of course, that's not to say they didn't worry about what the future held. After all, it's one thing to learn a lesson; it's another thing to hold onto it in the face of new challenges. And for Joshua, this newly commissioned leader of God's people, this was especially true.

So God reassures Joshua in the way God always does; God makes Joshua a promise. Now, nowhere in the text does it explicitly say that Joshua needed reassuring, but the repetition of those words "be strong and courageous" (three times in four verses!) tells me Joshua was more worried than he let on.

I can relate.

For we have also been wandering in a wilderness of sorts, and the time is quickly approaching for us to gather once again to worship in our sanctuary. And even in my eagerness to return to something like normal, there still linger nagging questions in my mind. What kind of precautions will need to be taken? Are there practices that need to be let go? What about those who cannot yet be vaccinated? And of course, given that I have ten times as much experience preaching in the parking lot as I do in the sanctuary: *What even did "normal" worship look like?* And so, I am paying

extra attention to these words of assurance given to Joshua: "Be strong and courageous...for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

I know I am not the only one wondering about these sorts of questions. I know many of you are uneasy at the prospect of indoor worship right now. And at the same time, I know that many of you share (and exceed) my eagerness to resume worship in the sanctuary. We are like the people of Israel, gathered on the wilderness side of the Jordan, waiting for the right time to cross over, and wondering what awaits them on the other side.

And so I say to you what God has been saying to me: Be strong and courageous, for God remains with you wherever you go. Whether worship is outdoors, indoors, or online, God's word and promise remain trustworthy and true. And as we transition this summer back into our sanctuary, I ask that you pray for me and our other congregational leaders as we work to gather again safely. There is still much work to be done, and there are still many questions to be answered, but we go forth in good courage, knowing that God's promise is trustworthy, and that God's faithfulness endures.

Your Brother in Christ,

-Pastor John

Evening Prayer Service

For those of you who responded to our survey that you want to worship in the church, we hear you. This month, we are taking our first steps toward worshipping in the sanctuary! While our Sunday morning service will continue to meet in the parking lot, we will be holding two **evening prayer services** with music and singing in the sanctuary: **June 13th & June 27th at 7pm.**

In order to follow local and state guidance, this service will be by reservation only. Just a simple email or phone call to let us know you are attending this service. Some pews will be roped off for distancing, and we will be seating one household per pew, unless people from different households ask to be seated together as a group. If you plan to attend one or both of these services, please contact the church office so we can reserve space for you. If you would like to be seated with friends not in your household, let us know when you contact us, so we can reserve a pew or two for your group.

Pastor John's Bible Study -- Mondays at 7 pm (except June 14th)

Join Pastor John and others for a weekly Bible Study via Zoom (zoom.us/join).
Weekly text and Zoom link are posted on the church website.

Meeting ID: 859 5506 0430

Passcode: 274209

Women's Bible Study -- Wednesday June 16th at 10 am

Join Linda Larson for a monthly Bible Study via Zoom (zoom.us/join).
She will be using the current issue of Gather Magazine. Zoom link is on the church website.

Meeting ID: 899 1858 0521

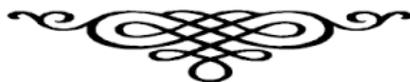
Password: 287649

Sunday Worship at Edison Lutheran Church

Thank you for being patient as we work through ways we can safely worship together while meeting state and federal guidelines. We now offer three ways to worship at Edison Lutheran:

1. **In-person drive-in worship** in the church parking lot. This has evolved over the last year and is now also walk-in worship. We have space in the front for people to bring their own lawn chairs and enjoy worship out in the open under the sun (hopefully). If you would like to be in the seating area, please park on the south side of the Parish Office and walk in front of the Parish Office. A greeter will bring you a bulletin and communion cup. If you would like to stay in your car, please pull in the church parking lot by the front door or the church. As you drive into the parking lot, a greeter will hand you a bulletin along with a sealed cup that has grape juice and a small wafer. Children's bulletins are also available. A parking attendant will then direct you to a parking space. Tune your **FM radio to 98.7** so you will be able to hear the music and Pastor John as he leads the worship. In May we had an average of 85 people attend in person.
2. **Livestream worship** through our website or Facebook. Now you can be a part of our live service regardless of where you are in the world. On our website we have added a Livestream tab. Just click it and you will see the livestream screen and the link to the bulletin. On Facebook, follow Edison Lutheran Church and you will get a notification of when the livestream service starts or search for the church Facebook page. We also post a link to the bulletin on the Facebook livestream. To join the service on Facebook, you do need a Facebook account. The website, however, is open to all.
3. Visit our **online worship** blog on the church website or our YouTube channel. We have all of our worship videos posted. The videos are posted a few hours after Sunday worship and are available to all. The bulletin and announcements are posted in the Sunday blog on our website. We have about 35 people view our online videos each week.

Please join us for worship at our regular time of **10:30 am**.



OUR CHURCH COUNCIL 2020—2021		<i>*Committee Liaison</i>	
Jane Fraser, <i>President</i>	<i>*Worship & Music</i>	Jeanie Hertz	<i>*Social Concerns</i>
Kris Merritt, <i>Vice-President</i>	<i>*Parish Life</i>	Larry Forsythe	<i>Property & Management</i>
Karen Fisher, <i>Secretary</i>	<i>*Evangelism</i>	Bryan Galbraith	<i>*Finance</i>
Brad Wyman, Sr.	<i>*Property & Management</i>	Jerry Sells	<i>*Stewardship/Finance</i>
Gordy Dahl	<i>*Christian Education, Youth</i>	Linda Johnson	<i>Parish Life</i>
Cathy Smith	<i>Worship & Music</i>	Brooke Tyler	<i>*Youth</i>

Edison Lutheran Church Scholarship Results

Congratulations to *Hadley Knutzen, Lisa Omdal, Austin Wright, Mia Omdal, and Michael Larson*. This year every student who submitted an application received a scholarship!

The Gundersen/Omdal Scholarship: Awarded to Michael Larson. Michael Larson is currently a sophomore at Boise State University studying for a degree in Kinesiology with an emphasis in exercise science.

The Theresa Walter Scholarship: Awarded to Hadley Knutzen who just completed her AA at Skagit Valley College. She will be attending Central Washington University to complete her degree in early education with an emphasis in special education.

The Edison Lutheran Church Scholarship: Awarded to Lisa Omdal who will be attending the University of Washington this fall as a freshman. She is accepted into the School of Engineering and will be pursuing a degree in biomedical engineering.

The Lucille Peterson Scholarship: Awarded to Austin Wright who is currently a sophomore at University of Nevada, Reno. He is studying mechanical engineering.

The Thelma Woll Jones Scholarship: Awarded to Mia Omdal who is a sophomore at the University of Washington. She is studying chemistry with an emphasis on medical research.

Sunday School 2020-2021

What a year! Only our amazing team could run Sunday School on Zoom and actually increase the size of our program. Other churches decided to cancel their Sunday School programs. Not the dedicated Team at Edison Lutheran. They just don't give up! Our teachers, Janet Wyman, Linda Tyler, Kristen Stubben, Mandy Englund, and Carrie Omdal, and our substitute teachers, Kristen Caldwell and Lisa Omdal, created lesson plans to entertain and educate the students over Zoom. Peter Ormsby and David Benson expertly sang their hearts out while leading our students in singing, dancing, and laughing over Zoom. Our youth leaders, Lisa Omdal, Alexia Englund, and Brooke Tyler managed the technical aspects of Zoom to ensure we all went to the correct breakout rooms. Our parents helped their students get to Sunday School on-time and helped them stay focused on Zoom.

How was Zoom Sunday School different than in-person you ask? Here it is, according to the teachers:

- On Zoom we could meet all the student's pets and they got to meet mine.
- It was fun and distracting when the students discovered filters that they could add to make their faces look like a cat, or swirl their faces, or give them glasses...very funny!
- We had to be really creative but we were still able to share, play games, and learn about God. We had a scavenger hunt over Zoom that was super fun and very funny!
- Since we had fewer crafts, we talked more about what was going on in the students lives and how God and Jesus are a part of their life.
- The best part was having students from other cities able to join us for Sunday School.
- I loved seeing all the pictures from our Christmas and Easter photo projects.
- I loved the opening of Sunday School and seeing all of us on the screen singing and dancing. It was joyful!

We already miss our students, but want them to remember that no matter what life throws at you, God is always with you and your church family is always there to support you!

Edison Lutheran Church Announcements



Are you looking for some **fun in the sun**? And you want to **help the church** at the same time? And have **fun with friends**?

The Property & Management Committee has a deal for you. Yes, you can have fun in the sun with friends while helping the church! We would like to invite you to a "Summer clean-up" work party scheduled for **Saturday June 19 starting at 10:00 a.m.** Since we weren't able to hold a spring clean up, we really need some extra help this time. This delayed clean-up party will be packed with twice as much fun and excitement as the past Spring time ones!

Dessert Sale: The Parish Life Committee would like to thank everyone involved in our Dessert Sale this spring. Thank you to all those who baked and those who bought and those who donated. We are giving **\$2,100** to the Social Concerns Committee to help our community where it is needed most. Again, thank you!

Personal Care Kits: Thank you to everyone who supported our Personal Care Kits project! The Confirmation Students wrapped up 41 kits. If you still have items you would like to bring in, please do. We have a few incomplete kits.



Lutherwood Camp: Registration is open for Bible Camp with overnight stays and onsite Day Camp. Please see their website for more information. www.camplutherwood.org. A reminder that Edison Lutheran helps with the cost for each child. Keep the office informed if you are registering your child for camp this summer.

Home Baked Cookies: Are you bored? You should make some cookies for Friendship House. Everyone loves home baked cookies! Please give your cookies to the greeters at drive-in worship on Sunday or place them in the freezer in the Sunday School building. Call the church office if you need assistance.

Food and Clothing Donations: We can accept donations again! We are now accepting donations of non-perishable food and clothes only. Contact the church office for more information.

Free Notary Public Service: Did you know the church secretary is a notary public? Call or email the church office to make an appointment.

CARE TEAM: We have a number of Edison Lutheran members who are living alone or in care centers. In this COVID time, many of these people can no longer have visitors. It's been over a year since our church Care Team members have been able to visit many of these people. Please send them a card. Everyone likes getting mail and knowing that others are thinking of them. Something in their mail can really brighten their day. Contact the church office for names and addresses.

Christ in Our Home devotional booklets: We have the July-Sept *Christ In Our Home* booklets available. If you would like one, please ask the greeters as you leave worship or contact the church office.

Family Promise

Family Promise Update: Family Promise guests continue to reside at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and the United Methodist church in Sedro Woolley. Host and support churches are not housing the residents currently but there is a rotation for these congregations to bring meals over to Bethlehem Lutheran. Mark your calendars: Edison Lutheran will be responsible for providing meals **July 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th.**

Family Promise: Did you know you can help Family Promise earn donations by just using your Fred Meyer Reward Card? Just sign up at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards to link your Reward card to Fred Meyer's Community Reward program. Select Family Promise of Skagit Valley as your recipient of these funds. Every time you shop and use your reward card you are helping Family Promise while still earning your rewards, rebates, and fuel points. Remember small donations make a big difference!

Family Promise Donations: There are ongoing things needed for the Family Promise shelter. Paper towels, toilet paper, disinfectant wipes, 33 gallon trash bags, diapers in size 4 and up, all purpose cleaning solution, and bath towels are always needed. You can purchase these items and deliver them to the shelter which is housed at Bethlehem Lutheran, 1006 Wicker Road, Sedro-Woolley or bring items to church and we will get them there.

Friendship House

Friendship House Dinners: We continue to deliver dinner to Friendship House on the last Monday of every month. Due to the pandemic we still are not in the facility serving these meals. There were 47 people who attended the meal we provided on April 26th. Thank-you, Thrivent for grants to help with this ministry. Thank-you, cookie bakers for the special homemade touch you give to these meals.

Friendship House Cafe Donations: Friendship House will accept food donations between the hours of 3 and 6 pm. Items such as 5-10 lb packages of hamburger or chicken, large cans of chili, baked beans, or vegetables, bags of potatoes, and sandwich/sack lunch ingredients are some of the foods to consider donating. To check on the most current needs you may call (360) 336-6138 and select option 4 to leave a message for the Cafe manager, Tom. He is reliable in calling back. The address of the Cafe is 108 Snoqualmie St in Mount Vernon.

Home Baked Cookies: Are you bored? You should make some cookies for Friendship House. Everyone loves home baked cookies! Please give your cookies to the greeters at drive-in worship on Sunday or place them in the freezer in the Sunday School building. Call the church office if you need assistance.



New

Edison Lutheran Sharing Shelf

New

The confirmation students talked about food security and were worried about our congregation. They wanted to ensure everyone had enough food, especially during the pandemic. Food banks are often crowded and have limited hours. To help our congregation with easy access to food, they created the Edison Lutheran Sharing Shelf. It's located behind the church next to the door to the Boy Scout building. It's always available and open to all. Please help yourself and let anyone who needs food know it is there. Thank you Confirmation Students for making our congregation stronger!



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

From the May 2021 Edition of *The Spirit*

I began my Bishop's Report for the 2021 Synod Assembly on May 15, 2021 by quoting Paul in his letter to the Romans, "I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world."

I am so glad to be the Northwest Washington Synod with you – as we walk, journey, travel together. We are connected as the body of Christ – as siblings in Christ – together. We are the Northwest Washington Synod in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully. As people forgiven and redeemed, beloved and welcomed, we are called to embody God's grace in speech, action, and relationships. I am reminded daily that it is Jesus Christ who loves, welcomes, and forgives. As baptized children of God, we are called to participate in this love, hospitality, and forgiveness. I am thankful for all of you for your love, your welcome, and your forgiveness.

We on the synod staff have agreed to embrace the following statement as we work together with the congregations and ministry sites of this synod: *"Trusting in the Spirit, we are journeying together with God's people so that all may discover and participate in what God is doing among us through Jesus."*

Further, there are five focus areas interwoven in the work that we are doing as we journey together in Christ:

1. Faithful Innovation
2. Youth and Young Adults
3. Leadership
4. Connection
5. Racial Justice

I'd like to lift up a few of the actions from the 2021 NW WA Synod Assembly:

We had our first online assembly with 332 voting members in attendance on Zoom and over 200 following along on our Facebook Livestream.

We approved the Recommended Changes to the Constitution that were forwarded from the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

We approved the changes to the Constitution proposed by the Synod Council (with a minor amendment to have the Nominating Committee changed to 5 persons).

We elected persons to the following:

Synod Council

Committee on Discipline

Consultation Committee

Voting Members to the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly

Approved budget.

We shared videos from our ministry partners and synod committees/teams.

Announced Grace Grants recipients.

As we do the work of this synod, I am reminded that it is not us but the Spirit that leads and guides. Trusting God’s promises and participating in the Holy Spirit, we have reached places beyond what I thought possible. We have exceeded priorities and we are moving forward towards God’s preferred future. I am grateful to be on this journey with you.

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee



Northwest Washington Synod Event

Hunger Team: Are you interesting in finding solutions for hunger in the US and around the world? Then you should join us for our monthly meeting via Zoom **Tuesday, June 7th at 7:00 pm.** Find more information on our website, www.lutheransnw.org or contact the Edison Lutheran Church office.

California Lutheran’s Fifty and Better (FAB): FAB’s 4-week Summer I Session begins on June 1st, and registration is now open! Courses will explore subjects such as California's ecosystems, power and leadership through the lens of Hitler and Gandhi's stories, the many incarnations of Perry Mason, and more! We hope you will join us for these captivating courses. Individuals 50+ are welcome, please share with your friends and family! Courses are \$25 each or bundle all 6 for \$100.F or more information about Fifty and Better, visit our website: www.callutheran.edu/fab

Are You Smarter Than a Confirmation Student? Below is a question that our Confirmation Students have learned the answer to...Can you answer it?

Which of our Biblical ancestors sold purple fabric and housed the first Philippian Church? I’ll give you a hint. She’s in the New Testament...that’s actually 2 hints.

See page 10 for the answer.

NOTICE OF SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

*The Semi-Annual Meeting of Edison Lutheran Church
will be held **Sunday June 13th at 1:00 pm via Zoom.***

The purpose of the meeting will be to present an update on year-to-date finances, nomination of new members to the church council (effective September 1st), and an update on Property & Management.

Zoom meeting ID: 835 1646 8905

Passcode: 297821



Are you looking for some **fun in the sun**? And you want to **help the church** at the same time? And have **fun with friends**?

The Property & Management Committee has a deal for you. Yes, you can have fun in the sun with friends while helping the church! We would like to invite you to a "Summer clean-up" work party scheduled for **Saturday June 19 starting at 10:00 am.**

Since we weren't able to hold a spring clean up, we really need some extra help this time. This delayed clean-up party will be packed with twice as much fun and as excitement as the past Spring time ones!

6/2	Alan DenAdel
6/2	Hadley Knutzen
6/4	Jodi Black
6/8	Katirie Booth
6/8	Deanne Dutton
6/10	Vicki Swanson
6/12	Linda Larson
6/12	Cale Schutte
6/14	Sue Calkins
6/14	Patsy Martin
6/15	Cameron Dahl



6/16	David Benson
6/19	Naomi Guthridge
6/20	Susan Aarstad
6/20	Lisa Wallace
6/23	Abby Ormsby
6/25	Jerry D. Anderson
6/25	Debbie Conijn
6/26	Cheryl Conner
6/26	Mike Miller
6/28	Larry Olsen
6/29	Alex Englund



Prayer Requests



Remember in your Prayers: We pray for Tami Sutter (Terri Olsen's daughter), Katy Olson, Vic Jensen, Anne Myers, Clay Marsh, Jerry Handlos, Bridget Pratt Luvera (cousin of Darla Jensen's children), Gary Englund (father of Alex), Jim Lindstrom (Terri Olsen's brother), Joanie Hirt & Nancy Workman (cousins of Kris Merritt), Jim Forbes (Debbie Conijn's step-father), Alice Brisbin, Judy Eitreim, Steven Dahl, Barry Christensen, Hank, Chris Isaacson, Taylor Isaacson, Edith Nichols, and the ministry of El Camino de Emaús Congregation.

The Homebound: Joyce Splane, Arlene Omdal, Charlotte Steiner, Roberta DeMarre, Ruth Sexton, and Wanda Peterson.

Those in the Military: Dustin and Rocio King.

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 Email: edisonlutheran@live.com

Serving in Worship - June

Date	Parking	Greeters	Lector	CMD
6-Jun	Jon & Susie Aarstad	Cathy Smith/Linda Johnson	Darla	Gordy Dahl
		Jane Fraser		
13-Jun	Bryan Galbraith	RuthAnne/Terri Olsen	Bonnie	Jerry Sells
	Mark Johnson	Jane Fraser		
20-Jun	Al Fredrickson	Laura Engebretsen/Linda J.	Mark	Cathy Smith
	Bonnie Bowers	Jane Fraser		
27-Jun	Mark Johnson	RuthAnne/Cathy Smith	Darla	Larry Forsythe
	Chris Omdal	Jane Fraser		

We are looking for volunteers to assist with our Sunday morning drive-in worship services. If you would like to help, we would love to have you. You select the date(s) and duties, we will train you.

To volunteer, contact the church office by phone at: (360) 766-6920 or by email: edisonlutheran@live.com

Smarter Than A Confirmation Student from page 8: Lydia was a successful business woman who made her money selling purple cloth. She was baptized by Paul and held church services in her home.

June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 <i>The Holy Trinity</i> 10:30 a Drive-in Worship	31 <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>No Bible Study</i> 5:00 p Friendship House Meal	1	2 4:30 p Worship & Music Committee	3	4	5
6 <i>Pentecost 2</i> 10:30 a Drive-in Worship	7 7:00 p Pastor's Bible Study via Zoom 7:30 p Property & Management	8 7:00 p Council via Zoom	9	11	11	12
13 <i>Pentecost 3</i> 10:30 a Drive-in Worship 1:00 p Semi-Annual Meeting 7:00 p Evening Prayer Svc	14 <i>No Bible Study</i>	15	16 10:00 a Women's Bible Study via Zoom	17	18	19
20 <i>Pentecost 4</i> 10:30 a Drive-in Worship <i>Happy Father's Day</i>	21 7:00 p Pastor's Bible Study via Zoom	22 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	23	24	25	26
27 <i>Pentecost 5</i> 10:30 a Drive-in Worship 7:00 p Evening Prayer Service	28 7:00 p Pastor's Bible Study via Zoom	29	30	1	2	3

To join any Zoom meeting by smartphone/tablet/computer:

Go to zoom.us/join and enter the appropriate meeting ID and Password. It may ask you to download and install the app. (See page 2 for Bible study ID and Passwords.)

To join any Zoom meeting by phone (audio only):

Call **(253) 215-8782** and enter the appropriate meeting ID and Password. Long distance charges may apply. (See page 2 for Bible study ID and Passwords.)

We are looking for volunteers to assist with our Sunday morning drive-in worship services. If you would like to help, we would love to have you. You select the date(s) and duties, we will train you. To volunteer, contact the church office by phone at: (360) 766-6920 or by email: edisonlutheran@live.com



Monthly Newsletter of
Edison Lutheran Church
14201 Church Road
Bow, WA 98232

Non-Profit Organization
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Bow, WA

Return Service Requested



June 2021

EDISON LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcoming...Nurturing...Serving

During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Drive-in Worship 10:30 am Sundays

Livestream and Recorded online

at

www.edisonlutheranchurch.org

Please Join Us

All Are Welcome

Church Office:
phone: 360-766-6920
email: edisonlutheran@live.com
website: www.edisonlutheranchurch.org

Pastor John Guthridge
360-218-4131
pastor.guthridge@outlook.com