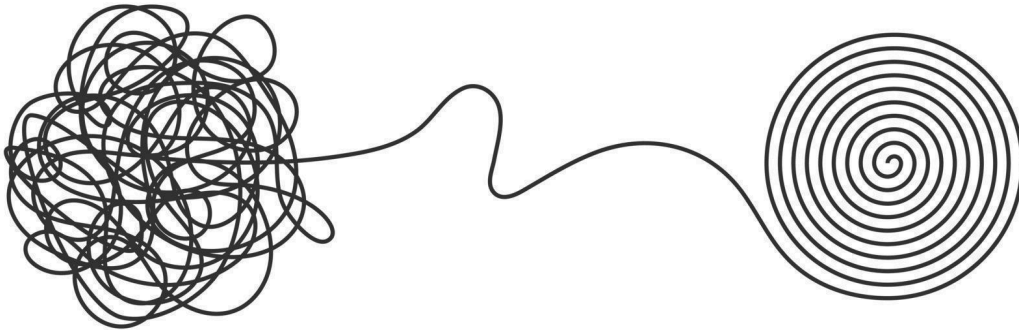


February/March 2024

Newsletter



Order and chaos. In the beginning God created. But God did not create out of nothing. God's spirit moved over the waters, the Hebrew symbol for chaos, and created order. Genesis 1:1. In seven days God took chaos and brought order to it. Boundaries, distinctions, separation, forms, beauty and goodness. Order is good.

When pastors leave a congregation the order that they brought is threatened. And it is a very human tendency to want to hold onto that order. It is natural to say or think things like, "This is the way we have always done it." Or "This is the way Matt and Janine did it." Or "Let's not change EVERYTHING." Chaos feels like a threat. Certainly, there is enough chaos in the world (or in my life) and we don't need to create more of it. But here's the thing: the chaos is here. The order is diminished. So, now what do we do? We can try to bring order back as quickly as possible. Or, we can do what God did. We can take the chaos and create something out of it.

Isn't that what artists, and cooks and craftspeople do? Have you seen a kitchen when a chef is in the middle of meal preparation? Have you seen a painter in the middle of a painting? This is order being brought out of chaos. But I have talked to chefs and painters and potters and woodworkers who were surprised at what they created, because somehow the elements, the paint, the fabric, the clay, the wood, seemed to call for something different than the artist had first assumed.

The interim period for a church, the time-between-pastors, is a time of chaos, despite our best efforts, but it is also a time for creativity, experimentation, investigation, trying something different. There will be plenty of time, when the new pastor comes to establish order, and routine and "the way we do things around here". Try something different. God's grace is constant, you will never lose that.

Pastor Bob Albing

208-446-5206 pinetreepadre@gmail.com

Call, text, email, stop by and talk. I am in Newport Sunday through Wednesday.

From the Call Committee:

Blessed Lent, dear friends.

The Pastor Call Committee met after church on January 14th and were grateful to be joined by our Interim Pastor Bob Albing. We spoke of expectations, excitement, anxiety, change and about the promises God makes to us all. As we move forward in this thoughtful process, we ask for your input, whether in person, phone, email, or facebook.

Annie Frederick afrederick2018@outlook.com 509-270-0496

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Pat Kowal pckowal@yahoo.com 509-263-7171

Larry Sauer sweetnsauer2@gmail.com 509-671-2411

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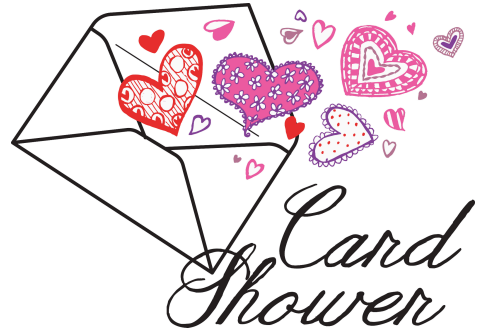
Kristi Bell kristibell55@gmail.com 509-447-4117

Above all, we ask you to keep us in prayer. Loving God, inspire us during this time of discernment. Calm our hearts so we can calm the hearts of our fellow members. Fill us with your peace. Grant us wisdom. Keep us mindful of the work you would have us do. Bless all who have taken on extra responsibility for this process, and fill them with a sense of your love and presence. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Pastor Janine



From the Evangelism Committee:

We'll be contacting our college students away from home with Valentine's greetings. Please get their on campus addresses to Valerie at: vjsamson@aol.com. Or 509-447-4525 (or at Church.)



**Sunday February 18:
Installation of our interim Pastor.
Welcome potluck for Pastor Bob and
his wife Mary**



**JOIN US THURSDAY FEBRUARY 22ND
FOR SOME FUN AND FRIVOLITY.**

Candies and small trinkets will be collected prior to the Easter Egg hunt. We are already blessed with an abundance of plastic eggs. Thanks!



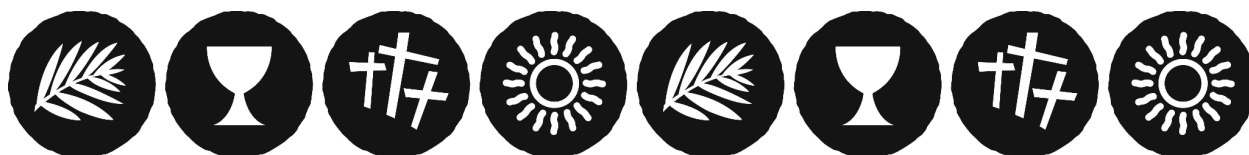
Thrivent Members

We don't have a current membership list, so if you are a Thrivent member (formerly called Lutheran Brotherhood and Aid to Lutherans) please contact Hedy Mitchell, Kristi Bell or Sandy Ellersick.



Ash Wednesday Service February 14 @ 7pm

We enter into Lent by remembering that we are frail and our lives are short, but God has us and holds us and will not let us go.



Lenten Soup Suppers & Worship

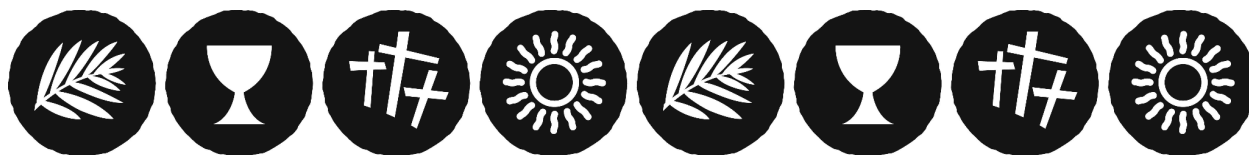
Wednesday Feb. 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20 at ALC

Stories of Faith, God and God's People in ALC

Soup at 5:45

Holden Evening Prayer at 6:30

Sign up in the narthex to bring soup and help set up and clean up



Sundays in Lent: Old Testament Stories, God and the Chosen People

{ Abraham and Sarah, Jacob, the 10 Commandments, Snakes!, the New Covenant }

March 24 - Palm / Passion Sunday

March 28 - Maundy Thursday Service - 7pm

March 29 - Good Friday Service - 7pm

March 31 - Easter Sunday



Save the Dates:

March 20

June 5

September 5

December 12

February

Birthdays

Christian Britton	02-04	Paul Waterman	03-06
Gail Johnson	02-05	Julie Brown	03-07
Jerry Wootan	02-08	Annie Frederick	03-09
Mary Bug Smith	02-10	Mary Lou Kroening	03-13
Jared Hughes	02-11	Ron Heinrich	03-20
Dennis Alliger	02-11	Trish Akre	03-22
Ladimer Mischenko	02-12	Steve Bailey	03-23
Carol Bourassa	02-13	Bob Kowal	03-23
Val Urvat	02-14	Brennan Jones	03-23
Roger Brandt	02-15	Sark Ratliff	03-26
Nancy Thome	02-17	Terry Zakar	03-26
Sue Mauro	02-18	Phyllis Morey	03-28
Levi Waterman	02-19	Valerie Samson	03-28
Kendall Hinchliff	02-24		
Elise Hinchliff	02-24		
Dorothy Funden	02-26		
Beth Sturgeon	02-27		

March

Birthdays

Ushers & Greeters



FEBRUARY 2024

*4 Marlene Faraca
11 Rita Crisp
18 Theresa Watson
25 George Weisbarth*

MARCH 2024

*3 Toby & Gail Johnson
10 Roger & Terry Brandt
17 Carleen Bliesner-Bowen
24 Katie Kersting
31 Easter: Valerie Samson*



February

- 4 Sandee Meade
- 11 Valerie Samson
- 18 Hedy Mitchell
- 25 Cheryl Schoesler

March

- 3. Faith Hughes
- 10 Pat Alexander
- 17. Elaine Petersen
- 24 Lee Shaver (Palm Sunday)
- 31 Robert Balow (Easter)

For Jason (Stretch) Lindberg

Jason,

**at the bend in our river
you grew into a giant cedar,
tall and full of life.**

**We had to look up to
see your face.**

**Your branches reached out
to build, to help, to fix,
extending yourself to others
and to do whatever
was too high for the nuns
at the abbey to reach.**

**How right that your art
was creating fun, friendship,
and carving beauty in wood.**

**But now, never a settler here,
you have left your roots
and I see you have always
been untamed.**

**You are now one of the wild horses
running high on the banks
above the Columbia.**

**You are free, unsaddled,
racing toward the ocean,
facing each sunset, pushing
into the depths of mystery.**

**We salute you brother, friend,
son, husband, helper, pal, explorer.**

**We still love you
in every weather, in every form,
in every season. -Sandee Meade**

FEBRUARY















2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			7PM: CHOIR	1	2	3
4 WORSHIP 10AM	5 10AM: BIBLE STUDY NOON: AL-ANON	6 10 AM: QUILTING	7 7PM: CHOIR ASH WEDNESDAY	8	9	10
11 WORSHIP 10AM	12 10AM: BIBLE STUDY NOON: AL-ANON	13 10 AM: ANNA CIRCLE 7PM: COUNCIL MEETING	ASH WEDNESDAY 14 SERVICE 7PM CHOIR AFTER SERVICE	15	16	17 
18 WORSHIP 10AM INSTALLATION AND WELCOME POTLUCK	19 10AM: BIBLE STUDY NOON: AL-ANON	20 10 AM: QUILTING	SOUP SUPPER 5:45 21 HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER 6:30 CHOIR AFTER SERVICE	22 FAMILY FUN NIGHT 5:30PM	23	24
25 WORSHIP 10AM	26 10AM: BIBLE STUDY NOON: AL-ANON	27 10 AM: QUILTING	SOUP SUPPER 5:45 28 HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER 6:30 CHOIR AFTER SERVICE	29		

MARCH

NOTE:
2ND HARVEST
WEDNESDAY
MARCH 20

2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						
3 WORSHIP 10AM	4 10AM: BIBLE STUDY NOON: AL-ANON	5 10 AM: QUILTING	6 SOUP SUPPER 5:45 HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER 6:30 CHOIR AFTER SERVICE	7	8	9
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17 WORSHIP 10AM	18 10AM: BIBLE STUDY NOON: AL-ANON	19 10 AM: QUILTING	20 SOUP SUPPER 5:45 HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER 6:30 CHOIR AFTER SERVICE	21	22	23
24 PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP 10AM	25 10AM: BIBLE STUDY NOON: AL-ANON	26 10 AM: QUILTING	27 7PM: CHOIR	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE 7PM	29 GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 7PM	30 
31 EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP 10AM						

American Lutheran Church



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alc.pastors@gmail.com
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Church Council Members

President: Annie Frederick
Vice-President: Katie Kersting
Secretary: Pam Thompson
Treasurer: Kristi Bell

Education: Shannon Radke
Monica Jones
Terry Zakar

Evangelism: Val Samson
Sandy Loskill
Carleen Bliesner-Bowen

Missions & Social Concerns: Mary Bug Smith
Jeff Bell
Bob Kowal

Property & Maintenance: Toby Johnson
Jason Jones
Dennis Alliger

Stewardship: Sophie Hinchcliff
Ken Brown
David Grice

Worship & Music: Nancy Sauer
Hedy Mitchell
Millie Brumbaugh

*Marked with the cross of Christ forever,
we are claimed, gathered, and sent for the sake of the world.*