



Our Journey to Easter

The Lenten Season has begun at Lake Washington Christian Church.

Lent is a time of soul-searching, repentance, reflection and “taking stock” of our faith, and lasts 40 days. These 40 days gives us the opportunity through prayer, penitence, and self-denial to prepare for Holy Week.

Part of LWCC’s Lenten tradition is the weekly Soup Supper and reflection service. We combine with Bellevue Christian Church for these Wednesday events.

Each Wednesday, from 2/24 - 3/24, BCC and LWCC will gather at BCC (10808 SE 28th St, Bellevue 98004) to share

a meal starting at 6:30 PM and followed by a prayer service. This year the service will be in the Taize tradition.

The Taize Community is an ecumenical monastic order in France and has a strong devotion to peace and justice through prayer and meditation.

If you are interested in participating in a daily Taize meditation go to: http://www.taize.fr/en_article75.html.

Lenten Sermon Series

Pastor Kerry is preaching a series of sermons on “Nurturing Holy Habits” during Lent. This series will focus on developing habits that feed our spirits and souls, enabling us to grow in faith and to experience more fully the wholeness that God desires for our minds, bodies, and spirits.

Holy Week Events and Services

Holy Week commemorates the last week of Jesus’ earthly life culminating with the crucifixion on Good Friday and the resurrection on Easter.

The week begins with the celebration of Christ’s triumphant entrance to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, 3/28. At LWCC the children will lead the pro-

cession of the Palms.

On Maundy Thursday, 4/1, we will remember the Last Supper during an inspiring and moving service. The service will begin at 7 PM in our sanctuary.

At noon on Good Friday 4/2, LWCC will join with our Greater Kirkland Ecu-

menical Partners in downtown Kirkland for the “Walk of the Cross”. The silent procession will gather at St. John’s Episcopal Church at noon.

Celebrate the resurrection with us on Easter Sunday. Our worship service begins at 10:30 AM.

Church Staff

Rev. Kerry Grogan, Minister

Jon Mandrell, Board Chair

James Sommer, Organist & Choir

Don Wood, Sexton

Martha Haines, Secretary

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Kerry's Corner

I remember seeing a church sign a few years ago, and probably "borrowed" it for our sign that said "Lent: the original 40 days of purpose." For some, the only thing we know about Lent is that it is traditionally associated with the Catholic church and means giving up something we enjoy like chocolate or red meat.

Lent is simply the 40 days leading up to Easter. It is a time when people often choose to give up something as a way of reminding themselves of the sacrifice of Jesus, and a way of remembering our dependence upon God.

Throughout Lent I will be preaching on "nurturing holy habits." How do we incorporate spirituality into our everyday lives? This is the question of faith. Unless our faith is interwoven throughout our daily lives, we will find ourselves spiritually worn out and short on faith. If Easter is symbolized by the newly transformed butterfly, then Lent can be symbolized by the mysterious work of the caterpillar and cocoon. These 40 days of Lent are days to be intentional about God's work in

us, allowing ourselves times, spaces, and opportunities for God's transforming power in our lives.

In his book *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*, Marcus Borg writes that "the alternative wisdom of Jesus sees the religious life as a deepening relationship with the Spirit of God, not as the life of requirements and rewards." I'm not lifting up any of our Lenten practices as requirements or duties, but rather as things that help us grow in our relationship with God. This Lenten season I encourage you to pay special attention to your spiritual life. Attend Sunday evening Bible Study as we continue with "Living the Questions," attend Wed. night soup supper and prayer service, experiment with different types of prayer, make it a discipline to attend worship each Sunday of Lent, practice acts of compassion, read a scripture passage daily. Find something that resonates with your personality and feeds your spirit and at the end of 40 days, you may find yourself feeling less like a caterpillar and more like a butterfly.

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:30 AM - Choir

10:30 AM - Worship

10:45 AM - Sunday School

11:30 AM - Coffee & Conversation

Weekly Events

Sunday @ 6 PM - Bible Study

Thursday @ 7 PM - Choir

Monthly Events

Piecemakers Quilting

LWCC Knitters

LWCC Book Club

(watch for dates & time)

Becoming Aware

Did you know that there are several people in the LWCC congregation that have a scent sensitivity?

Please keep them in mind before putting on your perfume, hair spray, and cologne on Sunday morning.

If you are interested in more information about scent sensitivity visit www.scentaware.com.

"15% of the population experiences hypersensitivity to chemicals.

Hypersensitivity is an over-reaction by the body to something in its surroundings."

—www.scentaware.com

Bits & Pieces

Prayers:

- Please keep our congregation in your prayers. Several have family members and dear friends dealing with medical, financial and emotional issues.
- Adaline G. is recovering from a bout of pneumonia.
- Prayers for our nations leaders as they try to find workable solutions to improve our troubled economy, reform healthcare, and deal with the other issues that affect our daily lives.

- Prayers for those in the military and their families.

Thanks so much:

- Ridge H. will be working on his Eagle project at LWCC. We thank him for choosing us and for all the hard work he is putting into his project.
- David VH is donating 40 hours to “taming” our blackberries. David is not an LWCC member and is giving his time as part of his Lenten discipline.

Congratulations:

- Judy and Steve H. are busting their buttons over the birth of their grandson, Nicholas. Dad and mom, Charles and Elizabeth, and baby are doing fine.

“Here comes Peter Cottontail...”

It's time for the annual LWCC Egg Hunt on Easter. It will immediately follow worship (approximately 11:40 AM).

Please invite your kids,

grandkids, neighbor & friends kids, nephews, nieces, and cousins.



Book Club Reading “Bulletproof Faith”

The LWCC Book Club is reading “Bulletproof Faith”, by Rev. Candace Chellew-Hodge. Rev. Chellew-Hodge shares her experiences as a “gay Christian searching for how to live with integrity while dealing with hateful opposition”.

Reviewers have called this book, “A practical and insightful guide for all people of faith.” and “Tough, tender,

spiritual, practical”.

The LWCC Book Club is open to anyone who is interested in participating in their reading and lively discussions.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 23, at 7 PM. Toni and Mike L. will be hosting. Please contact the office for their address.

“Candace...calls us to love as fully and graciously as Jesus did”.

—Rev. Philip Gulley

Regional Assembly May 21-23

The NW Regional Christian Church will hold its assembly in Spokane at North Hill Christian Church.

This year's theme is: “Poured Out in

Mission”. Mission opportunities will be included in the 3-day event.

Everyone is invited to attend the assembly. If you are interested please

contact Pastor Kerry. You could be a voting delegate for LWCC.

A Word From the Board

Jon Mandrell, President

We always talk about “personal faith journey”, but the last couple of years have seemed more like a “church family location journey”. At times it has almost felt like we were nomads, wandering lost in the desert. OK, it was the desert of Kirkland, but it definitely felt hot and dusty at times.

I tend to dislike believing in coincidences, and our journey has been full of them: we managed to sell our old building at the height of the housing market, we couldn't immediately purchase a new building so we found the Unitarians to lease their beautiful chapel to us, then the same church we were interested in became available again after the housing market prices had substantially dropped. And as we have contractors coming in doing work on the building they continually comment about how well it is built. Coincidence? I don't think so.

Since we have moved in we have made modifications to our new home making it more appropriate for us. To

make the building more visible we have cut back some trees and repainted the exterior. To be more welcoming we have installed an ADA bathroom. To make our building more suitable for additional usage we have installed a kitchen. Each of these steps have reinforced the LWCC personality throughout.

We have also had a very successful capital campaign for which I would like to thank each and every one of you.

I am excited at the various things we have planned. To be even more visible we will be putting up street signs and the red chalice on our building. To be even more welcoming we will be putting windows in the sanctuary doors. To be more appropriate for our usage we will be updating the sanctuary. These improvements are exciting and at the same time present challenges to us. We need to make sure we maintain giving at a sufficient rate to maintain our operations. We need to keep the church usable during the work. And above all, we need to keep the modifications appropriate for Lake Washington Chris-

tian Church.

In many ways we have also been in a holding pattern since the DOT came to us originally. Now that we are fully moved into our new home it's time to start moving forward again. The board and the elders are currently in a prayer-and-discovery period where we will be trying to determine which direction is “forward”. From time to time we will be prayerfully and humbly asking for congregational input to help us. Using this input we will be putting in place various initiatives designed to strengthen our church family and our congregation.

Your patience in this journey has been amazing. We still have a way to go but I have confidence that with God's help and your continued understanding and support we will make it through to be a stronger, more vital congregation.

Your humble servant, Jon

Clint Goodison, VP of Finance

It takes the whole congregation to support your church. Your time and your donations are greatly needed and appreciated. Together, we can achieve lofty goals that might otherwise be less achievable by one person acting alone. Remember when everyone would pitch-in to move chairs and tables in the old building? As a group, we accomplished in mere minutes, what would have taken much longer (and with much greater physical effort), had the task been left to only one person. Equally so is the case with our financial support. Together, we can reach any goal. To quote John Dickinson (Boston Gazette, July 1768), “Then join hand in hand, brave Americans (in our case, Christians) all! By uniting we stand, by dividing we fall (Boston Gazette, July 1768; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_we_stand,_divided_we_fall)!” Thank you.

Clint Goodison, VP/Finance

Work of the Hand & Heart

LWCC has two active groups that provide an outlet for outreach, fellowship, creativity, and fun.

The LWCC Knitters will meet on Sunday, 2/28, at the Village Yarn and Tea in the Lake Forest Park Center at 1 PM. Everyone is welcome - beginners through experts. Please bring some yarn to share.

The Piecemakers, LWCC's quilters, will meet Saturday, 2/13, at the church. We will continue working on the lap quilts for Evergreen Hospice and baby and lap blankets for Children's Hospital. All skill levels are invited! See you at 10 AM.

