

TOWER ECHOES

PHINNEY RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

HELLO ADVENT
DECEMBER 2023



PASTOR'S PAGE

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**ADVENT AND
CHRISTMAS**

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Reconciling in Christ
Congregation

As people made one in the waters of baptism, we believe our lives and faith are strengthened by diversity. We strive to be a community that welcomes people of every ability, age, citizenship status, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, Language circumstance, marital status, political perspective, race and sexual orientation. Whether you are a believer, doubter, or seeker, we openly welcome and value you. We celebrate God's unconditional love and respond joyfully to your presence here. All are welcome. You are welcome.

Anne Lohrmann, Associate Pastor

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Beth Ann Bonnecroy, Chancel & Handbell Choirs Director

Nick Abbott, Organist

Craig Hopper, Gospel Choir Director

Paul Georgeson, Youth Choir Director

Matt McKenzie, PRLC Preschool Director

preschool@prlc.org

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Transition Pastors

Pastor Al Berg,

aberg@prlc.org

Pastor Maynard Atik,

maynardatik@prlc.org

Congregation Council

Nancy Winder, President

Martin Kaste, Vice-President

Luci Baker Johnson, Secretary

Barb Mockett, Treasurer

Members-at-large:

Lori Chrisman

Theresa Magelssen

Linda Ramsdell

David Rice

Thea Kaste, Youth Member

This congregation worships on the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Coast Salish peoples. We recognize the profoundly sacred relationship that our Native siblings have with the land and ask for forgiveness for the ways we have violated that which is revered by them and sustains us all.

PASTOR'S PAGE

What are you waiting for?

*“Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all people’s dignity.
Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs,
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.” (ELW #726)*



The season of Advent is about *waiting*. The waiting is multi-layered. We wait for the arrival of Emmanuel – God With Us – in the story of Jesus’ birth. We wait, with hope, for the promise of God’s ultimate vision of peace on earth. And in the nitty-gritty of our very real lives, we wait for the things that we each long for – maybe peace of mind, or recovery, or love, or health, wholeness, respite, and any number of things. What are *you* waiting for? Advent is the time to hold that longing before God and pray for God to come and make all things new.

The blue color that we highlight during Advent represents the light of dawn. It represents that very moment when darkness is broken and the sun just begins to peek through to illumine the landscape with early morning light. It’s not a full, bright, eye-squinting light. It’s an early light – a glimpse – a beginning – a longed-for hope coming into being but not yet fully realized.

This year, we are going to lean in to the traditional themes associated with the four candles of Advent: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Each week, I invite you to focus on these words. For week one, consider not only what you are hoping for, but where you *see* signs of hope here and now. Cling to those hopeful things, as we remember the story of our God who always, *always* has been faithful to God’s people, no matter how much we stray. We can always find hope in the story of our God who comes to us, loves us, forgives us, and is still working alongside us for the good of the world. For week two, what peace are you longing for? We all long for peace in our world, especially as war rages in the Holy Land. We long for peace in our families, in our neighborhoods, in our own hearts. We need peace from the anxiety and stress we all hold. Give that to God. Week three, we will embrace JOY! Where do you experience joy in your life? Look around our Church and our world and treasure the joys that you see, even in the midst of longing and waiting. Week four is all about love – true love, which is patient, kind, generous, forgiving, and mutual. Where do you experience that kind of love in your life? Do you realize how your God loves you so much that God decided to come into our human experience and walk alongside us through all of the pain, sorrow, grief, joy, mess, birth, death, and reality of human life? *That* is love. How can we share that kind of love in a world so in need of it, in big and small ways?

As you ponder these things, continue to ask yourself: “What am I waiting for?” And as you wait, I invite you to notice—even in the midst of all the darkness and longing—that little light of dawn that grows and grows and will eventually illumine all things.

Light dawns on your weariness, my friends. And we are in this waiting time together. I hope you will join us during Advent for Sunday worship, for learning and important congregational conversations, for soup supper and Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesdays, and through some spiritual practices at home. This time can be so sacred and meaningful, and your engagement in your faith community will surely enhance the season. Instead of getting wrapped up in the stress and busy-ness of this time of year, slow down and wait. Name your longings. Name your needs. Pray for God’s help to come. With hope, peace, joy, and love, we will wait together.

With everlasting hope,
Pastor Anne Lohrmann

FROM THE BISHOP

November 2023



In the song Amazing Grace we sing, “I once was lost but now I’m found.” Because my job sometimes involves travel, there are times when I am wandering unfamiliar airports – trying to find my flight, trying to find edible food, trying to find a place to charge my phone, trying to find a place where there isn’t a cacophony of sound and crowds of people. And sometimes at airports I also experience a feeling like a disconnection from my “self.” Sometimes I am wandering the airport trying to find my “self.” Strangely, there are moments at airports where I get this feeling as though I am unmoored from what connects me to other people. Honestly, I don’t know if this is something only I experience or if others feel the same way.

There have been a slew of recent articles and social media posts written about how churches are dying and pastors are leaving and people are upset and no one goes to church anymore and so on. These posts are hard to read, and I wonder - is this a sign that we are feeling unmoored? That we are searching for something? Or maybe it is simply being lost.

In the gospel of Luke, Jesus tells two parables – one about a lost sheep and one about a lost coin (Luke 15:1-10). You probably remember these parables – the shepherd leaves the ninety-nine in search of the one. The woman turns over her entire house for the one coin that is missing from her purse. I think that traditionally we hear these parables as Jesus searching for the one who needs to hear the good news of Jesus for the very first time. But I think that is a misreading. The lost lamb was a part of the shepherd’s flock. The lost coin was in the woman’s purse. This story is for insiders. For those who know and yet have gotten lost.

This lostness might be of one’s own volition. The sheep wanders from the prescribed pasture. But it can also be something that just happens. A coin cannot, on its own, get lost. We have all experienced the disruption of the pandemic, the cracks in our government, the warming of our climate causing suffering and death, and so much more. We notice changes in our churches and in our families and in our communities. Many of us have experienced personal troubles and tragedies. These all can lead to a sense of feeling adrift. And it can lead to fractures in our church community and our faith life.

However, the circumstance comes about – because of one’s own actions or because of something that descends upon us – lostness occurs. And even when we know God’s love and grace and comfort, even when we know that community is important, even when we are already part of God’s community and church, we can still feel unmoored, lose our sense of belonging, our capacity to trust. We can get so lost that we don’t know who we are or whose we are or where we belong anymore.

I don’t know where you are at as you read this article today. Perhaps you are feeling snug with the other ninety-nine in the sheepfold of God. Perhaps you are a coin cozy with the other nine coins. But perhaps you are not. Perhaps you, too, are wondering and wandering. Perhaps you, too, are feeling disconnected from friends or family or your church community. Perhaps you, too, are wandering in Concourse C wondering how in the world you get to Concourse A. Perhaps you, too, are a sheep bleating for help or a coin under the couch cushions.

If this is you, the good news is that God is a searcher and a finder. The amazing news is that God is the shepherd hiking into the wilderness looking for you. The astounding news is that God is the housewife lighting her lamp and sweeping every corner in the house to find you. You are worth looking for. You are loved and desired. And when God finds you, there is rejoicing and laughter and a party! As Dan Erlander writes, “Love is God’s action to bring us into abundant life – reconciled to God, to each other, and all creation!”

In the 2023-24 course offerings of the synod’s LiVE Project there are many ways to be community together and the body of Christ together. There are ways to encourage and uplift one another. There are retreats, ongoing classes, and a year-long “Abide in the Word” Bible Study. (Learn more at <https://www.lutheransnw.org/ministries/the-live-project>) If you are feeling unmoored, lost, alone, adrift, I encourage you to first join in your community at your church and second, to join in the offerings in the wider synod. We are church together. We are journeying together. We get lost, and we get found, together.

Together we sing, “We once were lost but now we’re found.”
+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee / bishop@lutheransnw.org

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Written by Barbara Mockett, Treasurer

11/21/2023

PHINNEY RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
October 31, 2023

<u>OPERATIONS</u>					
<u>CHURCH</u>	Oct-23	YTD	Oct	2023	2022
<u>INCOME</u>	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	83%	BUDGET	YTD
			Budget		ACTUALS
Tithes & Offerings	47,534	669,467	75%	898,613	642,816
Deficit Retirement	-	100,000	100%	100,000	
Other Income	6,064	69,746	85%	81,730	68,622
	<u>53,598</u>	<u>839,213</u>	<u>78%</u>	<u>1,080,343</u>	<u>711,438</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>					
Congregation	3,557	51,519	75%	69,103	65,468
Worship	3,528	29,370	72%	40,915	25,064
Programming	1,720	18,065	60%	30,100	9,310
Continuing Ed.	500	5,468	73%	7,500	3,377
Support	9,799	97,956	63%	154,645	101,547
Salaries	68,417	645,368	83%	777,978	621,925
	<u>87,521</u>	<u>847,746</u>	<u>78%</u>	<u>1,080,241</u>	<u>826,692</u>
Church Net Income	(33,923)	(8,533)		102	(115,254)

This is the church income statement. Columns 2 and 5 compare the year to date against last year to the same time. Column 3 gives us the percentage of budget to date. In October 2023, our income to date is behind the budget, but expenses are also behind the budget. While October income was significantly behind expenses (mostly salaries and benefits), we are hopeful for a strong November and December to move the Net Income YTD Actuals to a positive number.

Salaries are up due to our addition of interim support and slightly higher health insurance costs for new staff. For November, salaries will go down due to the end of transition support for Pastor Hansen.

See more of Treasurer Barb's report [here](#).

FROM THE PARISH ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

End of Year Giving Deadlines

As you consider end of the year giving, please take note of the following IRS deadlines for tax purposes. We follow these deadlines to determine what is counted as a gift made in 2023 vs. a gift made in 2024.

In Person: Any contributions delivered in person need to be received by **Sunday, 12/31/23**.

By Mail: Any checks mailed to PRLC must be POSTMARKED by December 31 to be counted toward your 2023 giving. This year, December 31 is a Sunday, so you'll need to make sure to mail by **Saturday, December 30** to receive a 2023 postmark.

Online: Any online contributions made through our website / Vanco / Simply Giving have the following deadlines:

ACH (checking/savings)- transaction must be entered **before 1 p.m. PT on 12/28/23**

Credit/Debit Cards – transaction must process **before 9:59 PT on 12/31/23**

Questions may be addressed to Parish Administrator Ann Erickson at parishadmin@prlc.org or (206) 783-2350, x302.

A word about giving stocks

If you give via transfer of stock, please be aware that our account number and other information has changed.

Please talk with Parish Administrator Ann Erickson at parishadmin@prlc.org or 206-783-2350, ext. 302 before transferring stock. Please talk with Ann before December 15th if you are planning on transferring stock for 2023.

Save
the Date

Important conversations are going on at PRLC, and your voice is needed!

Please plan to attend these important congregational events:

December 17 – 10 a.m.

Congregation Meeting to hear about the building, budget process, and transition team.

December 19 & 20

The Food Bank Christmas Distribution will be on December 20th, with volunteer opportunities on December 19th and December 20th.

January 28 - Time TBD

Annual Congregation Budget Meeting

Pledge Report

Pledge Commitment Sunday was November 19, 2023. So far we have **78 pledges totaling \$483,124.60**. And I have several notes of pledges still coming in! Last year after Pledge Commitment Sunday we had 86 pledges totaling \$424,265. In 2022, we received a total of 117 pledges for \$538,924.

Haven't turned in a pledge yet? There's still time! You can still pick up pledge cards in the narthex or the office and turn in your pledge cards into the offering plate or the office (attn: Ann). You can also pledge online here: <https://forms.office.com/r/n6kLzmZhPd>

Thank you for all you do for the PRLC Community:

Practicing our Faith

Reaching Out

Learning together *and*

Cherishing our community

Thank you, Stewardship Team members:

Treasurer Barbara Mockett, Ben Maier, Liz Schmidt, and Pastor Anne.

Your Children, Youth and Family survey results are in!

The Children, Youth and Family Task Force received 55 responses to our recent survey seeking congregation feedback. We also conducted multiple in-person listening sessions. Thank you to everyone who took the time to share your thoughts, concerns, memories, hopes and love for PRLC youth! This task force was convened after the departure of Nicole Meyer and the selection of current director of CYF Ministries David Roby this summer, in order to determine the future priorities for these programs. A majority of survey respondents strongly supported maintaining a full-time position for a Children, Youth and Family minister at PRLC. The program focus that received the most support was "helping kids connect with each other at PRLC." Close behind that priority was helping families connect and support one another, and bringing our youth into stronger community with the wider PRLC congregation. People also love seeing our youth included in the worship experience in every possible way. The programs most frequently cited as important to respondents were confirmation, Children's Word, acolyting, children's choir, youth choir and Sunday school. Some respondents said volunteering is difficult for them right now; others said they are willing to volunteer but would appreciate being contacted, with clear schedules, expectations and notice about volunteer opportunities. There was the strongest volunteer support and interest in multigenerational activities.

Click [HERE](#) to read a more detailed summary of survey findings and [here](#) to see the graphs.

Task force members include Julie Carr, Frank Kreikebaum, Pastor Anne Lohrmann, Deacon Patrick Meagher, Kara Novak, Amy Radil and Erica Shutes-David. Special thanks to Liz Cromwell for implementing the survey.

COUNCIL/TRANSITION

November Council Report

The Congregation Council held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 14 at 7 p.m. in the Tree of Life Room. • Amy Radil brought a report from the Children, Youth, and Family Task Force with recommendations from a survey they did. You can read the report [here](#)*: It is clear that a strong program with Sunday School, Confirmation, youth group activities, music and worship involvement is a high priority at Phinney. • The Council approved a Safe Haven Policy for Phinney and elected Pastor Lohrmann, Ann Erickson, Brian Gruber, and Signe Roscoe to the Response Team. You can read the policy [here](#): • Secretary Luci Baker Johnson presented the October, 2023 minutes which were approved. You can read them [here](#): Treasurer Barb Mockett outlined current financial matters and prepped the council for the upcoming 2024 budget deliberations • Barb also reported on the Endowment Committee. In December the council will appoint someone to fill out the term of Lance Georgeson. • President Nancy Winder noted that the staff review process will begin on December 2 with the Executive Committee reviews for Pastor Lohrmann, Deacon Meagher, and Ann Erickson • Prs. Atik and Berg offered comments on the Transition process and there was a general discussion reviewing the Adult Forum on November 12 with agreement that there need to be more similar offerings and we will plan to schedule those. • The meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer at 9 p.m.

*If you cannot access documents online, you may call the office to request a printed copy

Call Process is Underway!

On Sunday, November 12th, Pastors Al Berg and Maynard Atik gave a presentation on the Call Process that will begin at Phinney Lutheran Church. Each Pastor explained what their respective role will be during this interim time. An explanation was given how the Call Process will function, with the completion of the Ministry Site Profile (MSP), the interview process with potential candidates, and the eventual recommendation of the "Candidate of Choice", culminating in the Congregation's extending the Letter of Call.

Transition Team applications are available at the church office. Give them to Nancy Winder or the office as soon as possible. The Council will decide on Transition Team members at their December meeting.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS UPDATE

Newly completed projects at PRLC through the BAG committee:

-Parking Lot Striping

- Tree removal at the back parking lot retaining wall. This was done professionally and smoothly so as not to interfere with the Preschool. All went well. Repairs to the fence are still in progress.

-Chapel/Columbarium flat roof. We completed the new flat re-roof over the columbarium where there was a leak into the chapel entrance and food bank.

-Replacement of a main circuit breaker/disconnect for panel B that is located in the boiler room

-New replacement refrigerator in the kitchen for congregational use. Our previously used refrigerator could not be repaired. The new one was installed Friday, November 24!

New projects coming up:

-Boiler. We are ordering our new boiler which will be installed in early spring. It takes 20 weeks to get the pieces here. We have a boiler inspection needed for our old boiler coming up to keep it going throughout the winter.

-Asbestos abatement/new pipe insulation: With the new boiler installation will be pipe asbestos abatement in the boiler room, mechanical room, chair/table storage room, and food bank. After removal, the pipes will be reinsulated.

-New keypad lock for the Preschool from the east stairwell on level 2.

-Fix for the non-working stove burners in the kitchen

-Bathroom LED lighting for the bulbs that are out.

-Insurance list: We have a list from our insurance company for general maintenance and clarification to keep our building up to their standards and ours. Each project is being carefully researched and addressed.

-Front yard landscaping: Look for adult forums or narthex comment boards for the front of building landscaping ideas. We are looking again to get all ideas out for the front yard. With our mission to support outside services, tent city, and our neighbors along Greenwood Avenue, we will be looking to have conversations to get to a design that can be priced out by our congregational professionals. Come join in design discussions!

-Van & Bus vandalism: We are looking for ideas to stop the rate of theft and vandalism to our van and bus. We will get a club steering wheel lock and are looking into other ideas for deterrents.

*****We are looking for a **volunteer coordinator** to help us with inside and outside maintenance. If you organize people and projects and want to help us out, contact Ann Erickson!



CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

We had an engaging and adventurous time at Camp Lutherwood Nov 10-12 with about 70 youth from other churches all over our synod. We explored the theme “Created To Be _____” by filling in that blank with the following words: Brave, Authentic, Free, Disruptive, Disciples, and ME!! We made new friends, reflected on our personal faiths, considered what our congregation is currently doing and what it COULD be doing in regards to the theme, learned more about ourselves, found a cozy lounge space where we had fun as a PRLC group and some of our newfound friends, ate delicious food, and lived the example of PRLC by being inclusive and grateful and by participating fully! You’ll see pictures of the entire group who attended the retreat, our very own Aoife leading some worship for the whole group, a colorful flowery cross everyone decorated, us playing cards in our cozy lounge, and all of us right before we hit the bus to head home standing proudly and in awe by the beautiful lake. Join us next year, youth!



CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

4th Floor Cleanup

Look what the PRLC youth accomplished on October 8th!! We cleaned, organized, and otherwise tidied up so many rooms on that floor. We have two rooms (#418 and #419) that are now usable spaces. We cleaned and organized the office space across the hall from these rooms which is full of CYF equipment, and we cleaned the Tower Room, too!

May this be the beginning of dreams come true.

Let us give ourselves permission to dream about what these rooms could become. Shall we rent them out? Shall we convert one to an office? Shall we pad the walls and floor and make one room a tumbling room??? ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN!!! What's our dream with these spaces? Let them be vacant and unused no more!



CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Trunk or Treat

There were a delightful number of neighborhood superheroes, space cadets, ghouls, goblins, and ghosts who joined us for our Trunk or Treat this year! We not only gave away pounds of candy and liters of hot cocoa and cider, but we also collected SO MUCH FOOD to be donated to FamilyWorks and the PNA Hot Meal Program thru their fundraiser "Hunger Goblin." Good work, community! Folks strolled down, decked out, dressed up, and connected in some spooky fun! Let's do it again next year, eh!!!



CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Game Night

Sometimes we as a congregation are a space for folks who are weary, troubled, and stressed...you know, like YOU AND ME AND ALL OF US IN OUR COMMUNITY...just saying...sometimes we all need space where we can just connect with no agenda, no message, no learning except what comes from sharing space, joy, and common interests.

One such event that fulfills this function of serving our community as a member of the community instead of as a *religious* or *spiritual* member of our community was Family Game Night on Nov 6th. We had a blast playing card games, board games, pinball, golf, and so many more games of varying levels of difficulty and required reading level! Folks aged 2-75 had a great time! Join us next time. Next game night will happen in the Winter, hopefully sometime early 2024.

My one regret from this event is that I classically neglected to take even one single photograph. So, just imagine a space of play, joy, and connections where little ones are running around laughing and bigger ones are sitting around gameboards laughing and you'll get the picture. Who KNOWS what we'll do next!! Bingo Night? Vintage Videogame Night? Farkle? Bunko? Indoor Hockey?? The only limitation is our desires...and not breaking things.

Affirmation of Baptism 2023

On Reformation Sunday this year we celebrated and recognized Isabella Vangen and her family as she affirmed her baptismal promises before God and the congregation. We spent time uplifting, supporting, and encouraging this incredible inspiring young adult and promised to continue to do so as she grows in her faith. Let us continue in dialogue and learn from one another regardless of our age and faith experience. Let us be part of Isabella's positive impactful religious growth.



DEACON DISPATCH

DEACON PATRICK MEAGHER

From Seattle to Kenya (and Back!): The Living Water Flows

I have to share some truly good news.

At an Adult Forum in October, we heard a story that began last spring at PRLC, continued over the summer in Kenya, and will unfold with abundance for years to come. Maybe you remember how during lent 2023 I carried around an empty water jug into which you poured the living water of your generosity. Together our Lenten offering raised \$4,000, and we decided to split that sum between Nehemiah Initiative and Friendly Water for the World.






Well, at October's forum we heard from Lesley Lichko, Development Manager at Friendly Water, about what they did with your generosity. **These are the beautiful children of St. Tabitha Orphanage and School in Kibera, Kenya, standing in front "our" cistern!**



This object came to be through a needs assessment directed and executed by local leaders with direct connections to the community. The careful attention to locally conceived, led, built, and sustained projects is part of why I felt comfortable partnering with Friendly Water. The cistern will catch and store clean rainwater for use by St. Tabitha and surrounding community, granting woman and girls freedom from the dangerous daily chore of trekking miles for clean water. Living water indeed!

A prominent sign on the cistern will read: "A Gift of Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church" plus whatever else we wish to say to this community of God's people. What an honor. If you attended the forum, you saw a video made just for us with sweet voices of thanks for our gift. Receiving this gratitude, and imagining what might come of this new relationship, felt like living water flowing right back to our community from Kenya. Let's keep following the Holy Spirit and be amazed!

2023 Holiday Giving Opportunities Around PRLC

<p>Warm Clothing Drive for</p> 	<p>Throughout advent, bring new or GENTLY used warm clothing & winter Accessories to PRLC's Narthex. Items especially needed: Jeans (esp. Men's), Knit Hats, Warm Socks, Waterproof Coats, Thermal Base Layers, any other Waterproof Gear. Thank you for helping keep visitors to Aurora Commons warm and alive this winter!</p>	
<p>Real Rent Duwamish Drive with</p>   <p>realrentduwamish.org</p>	<p>This fall & winter, PRLC Preschool is holding a community drive to support a movement familiar to PRLC: Real Rent Duwamish. To learn more and donate directly, visit realrentduwamish.org. Then, or if you already support Real Rent, please follow the QR code to the right to let the Preschool know you're a supporter!</p>	
<p>Gift Cards for Residents of</p> 	<p>The many individuals and families living in Compass Housing Alliance housing in the Greater Seattle Area need our help once again this holiday season. CHA has requested \$25 gift cards to Fred Meyer, Safeway, and Amazon to distribute to these families and individuals. Please consider dropping off a gift card or two (or three) designated for CHA in the offering basket at church or at the church office before December 18th. You can also donate cash that we will use to purchase gift cards, or even write a check made out to "Compass Housing Alliance." Your generosity in this season of giving would be much appreciated! Questions? Contact Sally Thompson (seattlesally2000@yahoo.com; 206-706-7653).</p>	
<p>Donations for PRLC Food Bank Christmas Distribution</p>	<p>This year, our Christmas distribution day is Wednesday, December 20th. We welcome cash donations we'll turn into gifts for children of food bank families, food donations, cookie donations, and of course your volunteer time. Check your Sunday bulletin or email for food and volunteer needs!</p>	

Thank you for your life-giving generosity!
Contact Deacon Patrick with questions or feedback: outreach@prlc.org

ADVENT WELL SPENT



Ready...set...ADVENT!
INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT EVENT
SUNDAY, Dec. 3 @ 10am
ALL ARE WELCOME!

On December 3rd, we will be having an Intergenerational Advent Event to kickoff the season! This will take place during the education hour (10-10:50am). All sorts of fun activities will be available to help you prepare for and engage with the season in meaningful ways. These may or may not include: wreath-making, coffee and hot chocolate, Advent devotionals, Manger Scene photo booth,



Advent calendar making, cookie decorating, and possibly even more!

Want to help in the fun and Advent preparation? Contact David Roby (he/him) with ideas of how you can help. cyf@prlc.org (206) 783-2350 *307

RED KETTLE BENEFIT CONCERT



Supporting the work of
The Salvation Army serving
North King County

**SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 2**

4:30 PM
Silent Auction and
Hors D'Oeuvres

5:30 PM
Concert featuring

- Morris Northcutt, premier trumpet soloist
- Phinney Ridge Gospel Choir
- Seattle Temple Band & Songsters

FOLLOWED BY

- Dessert Buffet
- Christmas Sale

THE SALVATION ARMY
9501 GREENWOOD AVE. N
SEATTLE, WA 98103

READY TO SPONSOR? VISIT [HTTP://SALARMY.US/STCONCERT](http://salarmy.us/stconcert)

Support our PRLC Gospel Choir and support a great cause...all while listening to wonderful music!

ADVENT WELL SPENT

December Concerts at PRLC

Our building is a year-round home to many community choirs, and we are pleased to support them! Come hear them in concert this season.

Northwest Chamber Chorus: Nature Morte

Saturday 12/2/23 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday 12/10/23 at 3 p.m.

<https://northwestchamberchorus.org/>

Wellspring Ensemble: Echoes Music of Love and Loss

Sunday 12/3/23, 3:20 p.m. Pre-Concert Talk, 4 p.m. Concert

<https://www.wellspringensemble.org/>

Seattle Seachordsmen: Harmony for the Holidays

*With performances from Sound Harmony Chorus,
Ballard High Chamber Chorus, and Ballard High Tenor Bass*

Saturday 12/9/23 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

<https://seachordsmen.org/>

City Cantabile Choir: A Celtic Christmas: The Parting Glass

Featuring Tom Creegan on Uilleann pipes and Dale Russ on fiddle

Grand Finale concert, one show only

Saturday 12/16 at 7:30 p.m.

<https://www.citycantabilechoir.org/>



Would you like to welcome our neighbors *and* enjoy a free concert??

We are in need of volunteers to “host” our choirs and their audiences during this busy season. Your job would be to welcome folks, ensure they know their way around the building, and make sure the building is secure at the end of the event. The perk is that you get to enjoy a free concert! Please mark your Count Me In form or contact Parish Administrator, Ann Erickson, if you are interested in learning more or signing up! Thank you!



Advent

SOUP SUPPER &
HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER



WEDNESDAYS, NOV. 29, DEC. 6, 13, 20
5:30 PM SOUP SUPPER IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
6 PM HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER IN
SANCTUARY

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, Dec. 24

ONE SERVICE at 10am

Advent 4 with Holy Communion

Sunday, Dec. 31

ONE SERVICE at 10am

Service of Lessons & Carols



POINSETTIAS

HELP BEAUTIFY THE SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS! WITH A POINSETTIA IN MEMORY OR IN HONOR OF A LOVED ONE. SEND A NOTE WITH YOUR NAME AND WHO YOU ARE HONORING/MEMORIALIZING TO THE OFFICE. DONATIONS OF ANY AMOUNT ARE WELCOME. SUGGESTED DONATIONS ARE \$15 PER POINSETTIA.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
SUNDAY DECEMBER 24TH
5PM AND 10PM**

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE
MONDAY DECEMBER 25TH 10AM**

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC WILL
BEGIN ABOUT 20 MINUTES
BEFORE EACH SERVICE, SO
ARRIVE EARLY!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Thanks to Signe Roscoe for these special mugs for us to drink our coffee and tea from when we gather!

Spirited Women is a group that gathers every Thursday morning from 10 to 11:30 for delicious treats, delightful conversation about a book we are reading together, and deep connections and care for one another. We eat, we talk, we pray, and we leave feeling better! All women are welcome to join this ever-growing group.

Contact Pastor Anne to learn more or to order the current book we are discussing. You can also participate via Zoom! See your regular Wednesday emails for the link.



The Way - What is it? - Come and See!

The Way is a small group gathering that has been active at Phinney for nearly 30 years and is for people who are newer to our community and those who are returning—either literally or metaphorically—after a time of disconnection. It is a safe space for sharing our spiritual questions and doubts, connecting to others and learning about ways we can get more involved in our community. **Folks who are new to our church community and/or interested in membership are especially encouraged to join The Way!**

Beginning again in January 2024 the latest Way cycle will be on Sunday mornings between services (9:50-10:50). It will run from January 7 through Pentecost Sunday on May 15.

We will meet in The Tree of Life room for fellowship and refreshments after which we will break up into smaller groups to explore the gospel for the day and share our thoughts and questions. The Way isn't about providing pat answers to our questions, but about providing a space for a group of lay, non-expert folks to gather together, explore them together and share our faith stories.

During the month of December, members of the Way leadership team will be available in between services to talk to anyone that is interested in attending. You can also indicate your interest by marking the physical or virtual Count-Me-In form, emailing the church office or letting Pastor Anne know.

Please come and see if the Way is for you! We look forward to welcoming you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All are welcome to participate in a transformative 10-day Civil Rights pilgrimage from Atlanta to Memphis - led by the Rev. Britt Olson, the Rev. Carla Robinson, and the Rev. Bryon Hansen September 30– October 9, 2024. It is rooted in the movements for racial justice and the people of courage who have gone before us. We walk in their footsteps from Atlanta to Memphis as we strengthen our baptismal promise to “strive for justice and peace in all the earth.”

The trip is hosted by the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia, Circles of Color, and St. Luke’s Episcopal Church. Itinerary, cost, and registration information can be found on the pilgrimage website here:

<https://circlesofcolor.org/crpilgrimage/>. A non-refundable \$200 payment is due ASAP to secure your place on the Pilgrimage.

Purpose

Our nation, community, and churches have experienced generations of racial injustice and inequity. Responses like the Civil Rights Movement, Black Lives Matter, and the backlash to them continue to shape our identity. This Pilgrimage is rooted in the movements for racial justice and the people of courage who have gone before us. We will walk in their footsteps as we strengthen our own commitment to "strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being." (Baptismal Covenant)

Payment Details

A non-refundable \$200 payment is due November 30, 2023 to secure your place on the Pilgrimage. You may choose to pre-pay some or all.

Payment Schedule

Land Only

11/30/2023: \$200
1/31/2024: \$768
3/30/2024: \$800
5/31/2024: \$900
7/15/2024: \$1,000
Total \$3,668

Air Fare

7/15/2024: \$431

Please make checks payable to

The Episcopal Diocese of Olympia
(Civil Rights Pilgrimage in memo)
1551 10th Ave. E.
Seattle, WA 98102

CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE

September 30 - October 9, 2024

Register today!

Hosted by The Episcopal Diocese of Olympia, The Circles of Color, and St. Luke’s Episcopal Church



ACFEA TOUR CONSULTANTS

Contact Adrienne Elliott:

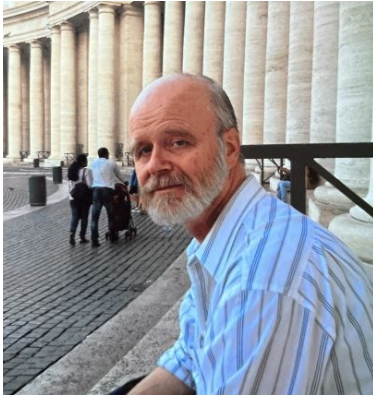
206.325.4200 x3512

aelliott@ecww.org

circlesofcolor.org/crpilgrimage



IN THE FAMILY



FAITHFUL DEPARTED...

LANCE GEORGESON, SEPTEMBER 29

FRED VONDERLAGE, OCTOBER 21

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

ISABELLA VANGEN, OCTOBER 29



BORGNY'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

On Tuesday, Nov 7, friends and family gathered in Fellowship Hall (decked out in Norwegian décor and delicious fare!) to celebrate the 100th birthday of longtime Phinney member, Borgny Eriksen. She has been a blessing to us, and we were honored to bless her with our love and gratitude! Thanks to all who attended and helped make this such a special day. God bless you, Borgny!



Gratulerer med dagen

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
8:30 am Worship 10 am Education Hour 11 am Worship 1 pm Personnel Cmte 6:30 pm WellSpring practice	10am Quilters 6:30 pm NWCC Rehearsal	10am Staff Mtg 1:15-3pm Food Bank 6pm SCC Rehearsal 7 pm AA: MOB 301/302	6:30 am Bible Study 5:00 Angel/Chorister choir rehearsals 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6 pm Holden Evening Prayer 6:15-8 pm Food Bank 6:30 Youth/Gospel Choir rehearsals 7:30 pm AA: YANA 301/302 7:30 Chancel Choir	10 am Spirited Women 6:30 pm NWCC Dress Rehearsal		12pm AA Long-timer's 303/302 7:30 pm NWCC Concert
1st Sunday of Advent 3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30 am Worship 10 am Intergenerational Advent Event 11 am Worship 4 pm WellSpring Concert	10am Quilters	10am Staff Mtg 1:15-3pm Food Bank 5pm Seachordsmen rehearsal 6:30 pm Executive Committee (Zoom) 7pm AA: MOB 301/302	6:30 am Bible Study 5:00 Angel/Chorister choir rehearsals 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6 pm Holden Evening Prayer 6:15-8 pm Food Bank 6:30 Youth/Gospel Choir rehearsals 7:30 pm AA: YANA 301/302 7:30 Chancel Choir	10 am Spirited Women		9:30 am Landscape Group 10 am Prayer Shawl Group 2 & 6 p.m. Seachordsmen Holiday Shows
2nd Sunday of Advent 10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30 am Worship 10 am Education Hour 11 am Worship 12 pm Landscape Group 3 pm NWCC Concert	10am Quilters 6:30 NWCC Rehearsal 7:15 pm Finance Team	10am Staff Mtg 1:15-3pm Food Bank 7pm AA: MOB 301/302 7 pm Congregation Council	6:30 am Bible Study 5:00 Angel/Chorister choir rehearsals 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6 pm Holden Evening Prayer 6:15-8 pm Food Bank 6:30 Youth/Gospel Choir rehearsals 7:30 pm AA: YANA 301/302 7:30 Chancel Choir	10 am Spirited Women 7 pm Cantable Choir rehearsal		5pm—Falalala Lock in (MS/HS Youth) 7:30 pm City Cantabile Choir Concert
3rd Sunday of Advent 17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:30 am Worship 10 am Congregation Meeting 11 am Worship	10 am Quilters 6:30 pm NWCC Rehearsal Sanctuary	10am Staff Mtg 6pm Christmas Food Bank Distribution Set-up 6pm SCC Rehearsal Sanctuary 7pm AA: MOB 301/302	6:30 am Bible Study 12pm Christmas Food Bank Distribution 5:00 Angel/Chorister choir rehearsals 5:30 pm Soup Supper 6 pm Holden Evening Prayer 6:30 Youth/Gospel Choir rehearsals 7:30 pm AA: YANA 301/302 7:30 Chancel Choir	10am Spirited Women TOLR		
4th Sunday of Advent & Christmas Eve 24	Christmas Day 25	26	27	28	29	30
10am Advent 4 Worship 5 pm Christmas Eve Worship 10 pm Christmas Eve Worship		1:15-3pm Food Bank 7pm AA: MOB 301/302	6:30 am Bible Study 6:15-8 pm Food Bank 7:30 pm AA: YANA 301/302 *No Choir Rehearsals or Youth Group*			*Sunday, Dec. 31 at 10 a.m.: One Service of Lessons & Carols 23

TIME VALUE

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Seattle, WA 98103

7500 Greenwood Avenue North

PHINNEY RIDGE
LUTHERAN CHURCH

