

The Trumpet February 2025

Newsletter for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church



301 E Lopez Ave. • Port Angeles, WA 98362 • 360-452-2323

Office Hours M-F 9am-1pm

Pastor's Pen

In December, 2008, we moved from Havre, MT, (where -30° was not unusual) to Port Angeles. There was a rose still blooming at the house we rented. Shortly after that a mystery flower began to bloom along the front sidewalk. That turned out to be a hellebore. Christmas rose, Lenten rose, take your pick. Here's one from our yard today:



It seemed so miraculous to me, so positively unheard of in the depths of a Montana winter, that I vowed to plant several when we bought a house. Which we have. I also decided to visit Butchart Gardens in Victoria once/month for a year to really watch the seasonal cycles. And to my surprise, my favorite month was February.

In February, you are essentially alone in the Gardens. You can see the "bones" of the place without leaves or flowers; the skeleton of life there is very moving. Some early daffodils and snowdrops are on the rise; the English daisies have been blooming all winter. The rhodies are getting heavy with buds. And it feels like the earth is moving under your feet. Life is straining to the surface, reaching toward the sun. It knows, even better than we do, that we are gaining 3+ minutes of light each day, and the plants know what to do with it. The changing seasons are glorious in anticipation.

February this year is still fully in the season of Epiphany. Lent doesn't arrive until March 5 so the lovely stars will get extra weeks to shine for us. The Transition Team is hard at work pulling together the pieces needed to complete the Ministry Site Profile to submit to the Synod so that the call process can begin. We thank them for their diligence.

It is a quiet, fallow time of patience, anticipation, settled days until spring really bursts forth; even as my daffodils are in bud already. Life may not feel very settled right now; people may find themselves "glued to" the news, dealing with health or family or financial issues, or community and forgetting to look down, up and around for beauty and solace.

Please don't fall into pious platitudes of "God's got this," or "everything happens for a reason," or "God has a plan." We are God's plan. We are the hands and feet and souls of God's plan. And we need to be prepared to do the work we are given to do of actively loving God and our neighbor. Listen to beautiful music. Take a Sabbath walk to see what tiny thing is blooming near your feet. Draw, write, read a classic children's book like *The Secret Garden*. Watch a sunrise or sunset. Check out the amazing [planetary alignment](#). Take the Coho when it's back mid-month and check out Butchart. The earth is alive and we are part of it; do something special for her this month. She is our most precious gift from God. Let Hurricane Ridge take your breath away.

Actively support the things that are important to you, that align with the values of a Christian community that believes in the life and teachings of Jesus. Step away from the news if you need to. Step closer to your faith community, your family and neighbors; walk in love, as Christ loved us. With God, all things are possible. Let's plan a field trip to Victoria.

Pastor Gail



THE TRANSITION TEAM

The Transition Team is pleased to report that we are well into the writing of the Ministry Site Profile document required by the Synod. We hope to bring it to the Council in early February for review and approval. Copies will be available for all members to review as well.

We are mindful of the advice received from the Synod Bishop's office that we should strive to make this a clear, concise, and compelling document that articulates our congregational sense of Identity and Mission in the Time and Place.

We will be able to accomplish this with God's help and thanks to the thoughtful input from many of you over the last months.

In December, I spoke to the congregation on behalf of the Transition Team summarizing our discernment work. Briefly, we highlighted the 8 gatherings with congregation members for reflection and conversation. Gatherings ranged from 10-45 participants.

A few highlights:

Folks mentioned with joy our congregation's wide WELCOME to all; at the Lord's Table, at the coffee hour, to the LGBTQ community through our RIC (Reconciling in Christ) commitment, through our commitments to many ministries within and outside this building.

We are committed to care for God's good Creation via our membership signing in the ecumenical Charter of Creation and through our varied Creation Care efforts.

We value our tradition of strong preaching. We celebrate being a place in the community where fine music is foundational in our worship and in community music events. We are thankful for our

wonderful facility used by many community groups.

We also discussed some of our sadnesses regarding life at HTLC in this time of community, cultural, political, climatological transition and change.

Time and time again in many and various ways we heard a yearning from participants for community; for ways to connect with God and each other, for empathetic, compassionate Pastoral care, for ongoing learning and faith formation, for able administration and faithful stewardship of our building and lands.

While we complete this step in writing the MSP, we ask this of all of you. Continue your prayers for Holy Trinity. Pray for our work together, for our members, and for the Pastoral candidates who might be interested in sharing our Mission. We can trust that God has a leader in mind for God's church here!!!

In Thanks, Elizabeth Christian on behalf of the Transition Team

Watchfulness and Response A Message from Bishop Rick Jaech

This week our Southwestern Washington Synod Bishop Rick Jaech posted this letter. The letter is from the Bishop, not from the ELCA nor the synod. It is a nuanced letter with much compassion and concern, and it urges us all to pray for our president and his advisors. A chance to discuss the letter will be announced soon. Here is a link to read the letter. <https://swwasynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Letter-to-Synod-January-2025.pdf>

IRS Donation Statement

Your 2024 IRS Donation Statement was mailed and emailed this month. If you did not receive it, please send an email or call the church. Thank you all for your generous donations and your time helping us keep our church going.

youth spot LIGHT



Congratulations Julianna on being crowned Clallam County Fair Princess

Posted By: Radio Pacific, Inc January 27, 2025 @ 7:19 am

PORT ANGELES — Clallam County has crowned its 2025 Fair Royalty, marking the beginning of a year filled with community events and celebrations.

The coronation ceremony took place Saturday, with three young women earning the honor of representing the fair across the region.

Queen Aliya Gillett, a senior at Forks High School, will lead this year's royal court. She is joined by two princesses: Princess Keira Headrick, a freshman at Port Angeles High School from Sequim, and Princess Julianna Getzin, a junior at Port Angeles High School from Port Angeles.

The trio will serve as ambassadors for the Clallam County Fair, attending various parades, community events, and activities to promote the fair and celebrate local traditions.

Winter Ballet Gala with PASO and Music on the Strait

Wow, what a spectacular show! Brava Amalia and Annabelle, the dancing was amazing. Congratulations Wendy Clark-Getzin who played beautifully with the Port Angeles Symphony Orchestra. This will be a can't miss event again in 2027.



Does your child have a public event happening? Did they get an award? Please, let us know if you would like us to share your child's success or for us to attend an upcoming event. We want to support our youth inside and outside of the church!

JOIN YOUNG VOICES
CHOIR!
AGES 4 TO 18
YEARS OLD
CHOIR DIRECTOR: SAGE BATEMAN
Free! Weekly rehearsals,
4-4:45pm Wednesdays



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
301 E. Lopez Ave, Port Angeles, WA 98362

We need You!

We still need a few more people to help with our children's programming, so if you're willing to serve one or more times a month on the teaching teams, please contact Sharon Buck at drstbuck5@gmail.com



February Fireside Chats

January 12 kicked off a new series of sessions. It's not too late to join the Fireside Chats about "Odd Couples" in the Bible. Led by the Rev. Karen Selig, we're exploring various Biblical pairings to discover what they might reveal to us about human relationships, about male and female roles, about divine/human interaction, and our own lives.

Our February discussions include:

February 2 Ahab and Jezebel

February 9 Job and his friends

February 16 Jesus and the two disciples on the road to Emmaus

February 23 Amnon and Tamar

All sessions are held from 11-12 am on Sundays in the Fireside Room unless otherwise announced. We'd be happy to have you join us any Sunday!

LWR Quilting Group

We meet twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday to create quilts that are shipped to those in need around the world through Lutheran World Relief. We meet next on Tuesday, February 11th and 25th at 9:30am-12pm downstairs in the quilting room.



Shrove Tuesday, March 4, 5:30pm (ish) Pancake or French Toast supper as we prepare our hearts and bodies for Ash Wednesday on March 5th. Mark your calendars! More information is coming and volunteers will be needed. Mardi Gras beads provided!



6:00pm Holden Evening Prayer

6:30pm Soup Supper

Bring family, friends or neighbors each Wednesday in Lent (March 12, 19, 26 and April 2, 9). More information to come.



We had three amazing Christmas Services, 4pm geared towards families, 8pm Christmas Eve Candlelight service, and Christmas Day Comfy service with brunch.

We'd especially like to highlight all the youth who participated during our 4pm Christmas Eve Service. They did **EVERYTHING**, yes, everything, except what you need a pastor for! Assisting minister, communion assistant, ushers, narrator and lector. And uncounted other kids who brought up all the figures during the story. The Young Voices Choir did a beautiful job performing.

Shout out to Rick Reuter, Sharon Reuter, Jennifer Drain, Joy Lingerfelt, Candance Hall, Gail Wheatley, and Don Schuba. What an incredible group; they were at all 3 Christmas services.



Thank You

Thank you for the generous Christmas bonus. It was a huge surprise! We are grateful that our efforts are being recognized. Also, we are grateful for such a wonderful community to be a part of and work with. We are so blessed to have this support. We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

With deep gratitude,
Sage Bateman, Candance Hall, Kyle Lucas, and
Natalie Petersen





Do you like the coffee we serve on Sunday mornings? It's available to purchase for your own home! Chocolate Bars, Tea, and Nuts too. Stop by to see these fairly-traded items which are available to purchase during office hours.

Radio Broadcast

Did you know you can still catch our worship service which is broadcast on the KONP radio station?



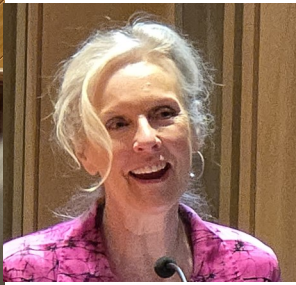
Each Sunday, someone sponsors this, with a donation of \$100. You can, too! Dedicate your donation in memory of someone or an event.

Call or e-mail the church office to sign up.

Thanks for supporting our radio broadcast ministry.

Janette Fishel Concert

Organist Janette Fishel put on an beautiful organ concert on December 12th. This was concert was part of the Margaret Graebner Organ Concert Series. Thank you again, Alan Graebner and family.



Theology on Tap

Thursday, February 6th, 2025
7:00pm

Gather at Mighty Pine Brewing fellowship and discussion, over a cold pint or non-alcoholic drink. 1st Thursday every month. You can bring your own snacks!

FOOD DONATIONS

Thank you to the seven people at Holy Trinity who have committed to checking the Little Food Pantry, one day a week for the entire year!

Congregational members, please keep your nonperishable food donations coming in! The donation box is located across the hall from the church office or you can deposit the food directly into the pantry.

Some suggestions are:

1. Rice
2. Beans
3. Canned soup
4. Granola Bars
5. Peanut Butter
6. Crackers
7. Applesauce
8. Pasta
9. Cereal
10. Tuna



Thank you,
Mary Lange

THREADS OF LOVE shares the power of love through compassionate creativity, using knitting, crocheting, and other handwork to invite, involve, and serve people in our own community and around the world. We gather in the Fireside Room on February 19th from 1:00- 2:30 p.m. Bring your handwork and join us in praying and talking and working together. Don't knit or crochet, but wish you could? You are welcome at our meetings! We will do our best to help you learn whatever technique appeals to you. We even have needles and yarn and patterns to help you get started!

If you have questions contact our coordinator, Karen Selig, revkarenseig@gmail.com or the church office.



The Next Thing

I sent away for Unity's 2024 advent booklet, the theme and title this year: "Be Not Afraid."



I was particularly impressed with an opening story by Rev. Linda Martella-Whitsett in which she recalled being a student in an American ashram in 1977. During a question and answer period, a distraught student asked the guru which spiritual practice or teacher he should follow to address his terrible fear. The author thought it odd that the student should ask about teachers other than the one present. But the guru just calmly listened, paused and then said something simple but profound:

"Just do the next thing."

The guru explained that a brain paralyzed by fear shuts down and has no place to go. So, make your bed, take out the trash, eat lunch, gently proceed with your life...do the next thing.

It's New Year's resolution time again and the master key to success in that area might also be "Just do the next thing." Discouraged with current affairs? Just do the next thing. Worried about the state of God's beautiful earth? Just do the next thing.

If you'd like some positive reinforcement from amazing stories of planet-saving actions and innovations, there are a couple of YouTube channels I can recommend. Plant Wild is a global community of people on a mission to bring back endangered species and clean up waterways. Sam Bentley hosts a monthly good news recap of positive and innovative solutions that are healing our planet. These are heartening and encouraging stories of people doing the next thing.

And finally remember, "...do not be anxious for your life...which of you by being anxious can add one cubit to his span of life?" (see Matthew 6:25-35 for the full quote).

Peace and Happy New Year
Jan Wyman- Interfaith Earth Care Coalition

Finances

Although our expenses are below budget, our income – from you, our faithful ones – is below budget by more. We are experiencing a deficit of several thousand dollars. If you've been forgetting your offerings, please see if you can catch up soon. The church is grateful for every offering. It's true that "our need to give" as response to God's grace and love is greater than "the church's need to receive."

Grace and peace,
Pastor Beth



A poster for a music commissioning fundraiser. The background is dark red with gold geometric patterns at the top and bottom. In the center, there is a gold silhouette of a person standing on a pedestal, similar to an Oscar statue. To the right of the silhouette, the text reads "BROADWAY IN THE BASEMENT" in large, white, serif capital letters. Below that, in smaller white capital letters, it says "A MUSIC COMMISSIONING FUNDRAISER". At the bottom of the poster, in white capital letters, it says "FEBRUARY 22, 2025 | SATURDAY, 2-4PM", "HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH", and "301 E LOPEZ AVE, PORT ANGELES, WA".

Broadway Music by members of the Northwest Women's Chorale

Dessert Auction, Hot/Cold Lite Bites Advance Sale Tickets
available from NWWC Members \$40 (\$25 tax deductible)

Email for more info: marysue@cabledfiber.com

Did you know we have a locking mailbox outside of the church? You can safely drop off an envelope outside of church hours. Another option is to sign up for automatic donations on our website, www.go2trinity.org



Holy Trinity Library



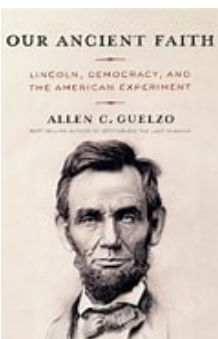
Welcome to a new Library year. Children's authors and illustrators week are some of the many dates to celebrate this month. Come visit and choose one of the many delightful and informative books your library contains...

The Soloist (2008) by Steve Lopez is a deeply moving, true story about Nathaniel Ayers, a homeless street musician with a Juilliard background. Suffering from schizophrenia and living out of a shopping cart, he plays a battered violin on noisy street corners on Skid Row, not for money but for joy. The author befriends him, the transformation

in both men's lives is profound. Hopeful, sad, triumphant, discouraging, heartening and humbling, this is a sensitive portrait of the homeless, the mentally ill and the care system,,,,, lavishly embellished by the transformative power of music. Reviewed by Anita Bonham.

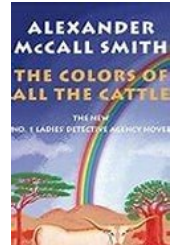
Strength to Love (1963) by Martin Luther King, Jr. This beautiful replacement copy of MLK's powerful writings about nonviolence and God's continuing love are very relevant for today's world. Taken mostly from his sermons, these are powerful short pieces that can help us see our way through these times. Reviews by Ann Marie Rahfeldt.

Our Ancient Faith: Lincoln, Democracy, and the American Experiment (2024) by Allen C. Guelzo, a prominent Lincoln scholar, offers us a clear look into Lincoln's understanding of democracy. Guelzo captures Lincoln's firmly held belief that democracy is the greatest political achievement in human history. Democracy requires something besides



passion, which by itself can be destructive. Consent and sovereignty of the people and adherence to prudent laws is foundational. We must do what we can to save it. This little book is very readable and thought provoking...a good wintertime read. Reviewed by Ann Marie Rahfeldt.

The Colors of All the Cattle (2018) by Alexander McCall Smith. Mma Ramotswe has been convinced to run for a seat on the Gabarone City Council by her friend. The goal is to stop the development of a new hotel next to a graveyard. She loves the old ways of her country, Botswana and the plans for progress do not fit with such ways. Charlie, part time employee of her husband's Tiokwent Road Speedy Motors and part time employee of the Detective Agency volunteers to take on an investigation. Reviewed by Margaret Ruud.



From Bean to Bar (2008) by Lutheran World Relief describes the farmers of a cooperative in Ghana who "decided to challenge the injustices of the global cocoa trade by forming their own Fair Trade chocolate company, Divine Chocolate." Reviewed by Zorba Alexis-Stricker and quoted from back of DVD.

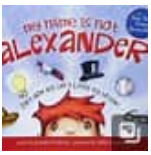
BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

Owl Moon (1987) by Jane Yolan, illustrated by John Schoenherr is one of our family's favorites. The beautifully illustrated and written tale takes a dad and daughter on a late night adventure searching for an owl. A perfect snuggle up read. Reviewed by Zorba Alexis-Stricker, a re-review The Maggie B. (1975) Illustrated and written by Irene Haas. Margaret Wished on a star one night for a ship "to sail for a day alone and free with someone nice for company" She awoke on the ship, the "Maggie B" with her baby brother, James. They traveled, fished and enjoyed the sea. the illustrations present a delightful day. Reviewed by Margaret Ruud.



Ailanga News

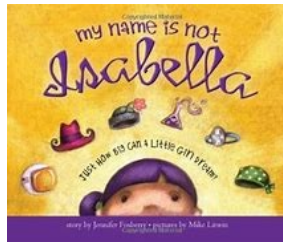
My Name is Not Alexander: Just How Big Can a Little Kid Dream? (2011) by Jennifer Fosberry,



pictures by Mike Litwin. This bestselling tale follows Alexander as he acts out the inspiring accomplishments of his favorite male heroes. The expressive mixed-media artwork transports us inside Alexander's vivid imagination as he time travels across history playing many roles. Includes facts about extraordinary men throughout history, Ages 4+ Reviewed by Liz Ehr.

My Name is Not Isabella: Just How Big Can a Girl Dream

(2010) by Jennifer Fosberry, pictures by Mike Litwin. This award-winning girl power tale follows young Isabella as she assumes the identities and acts out the inspiring accomplishments of her favorite female heroes. The colorful, expressive mixed-media artwork transports the reader inside Isabella's vivid imagination as she time travels across history to blast into space, sharpshoot with the best, practice science and sit at the front of the bus. Includes facts about women throughout history. Ages 4+ Reviewed by Liz Ehr.



Please keep the Ailanga school and the Ailanga School Project in your prayers as they prepare for the mission trip to Tanzania this July. Donations may be made via PayPal at https://paypal.me/AilangaSchoolProject?locale.x=en_US or by check to

Ailanga School Project, c/o Faith Lutheran Church, 8208 18th Ave NE, Seattle, 98115.

For more information, contact the ASP board: President and Holy Trinity (Rick Reuter) - rjandshreuter@gmail.com



Have you taken a look at the website lately? It's newly redesigned and still a work in progress so your feedback is welcome. You can find the Sunday bulletin there each week on the Worship page. The weekly e-news and monthly Trumpet are on the News page. Ongoing and special events are found on the Home page. The web designer is [Relaena Sindelar](#) whom we can most whole-heartedly recommend if you're looking for a designer. Thanks, Relaena!

Called by God's  to

 the good news,

we are the  hands of Christ,

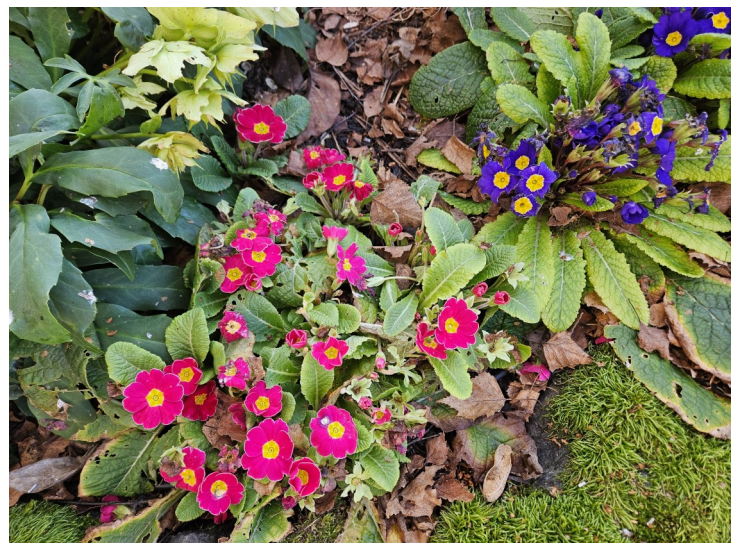
opened by ,

 joined in worship,

extended in ,

 offered in service,

reaching for justice. 





Staff & Leadership

Staff

Beth Orling and Gail Wheatley, Interim Pastoral Team

Natalie Petersen, Office & Financial Administrator

Kyle Lucas, Custodian

Candance Hall, Caretaker and AV Engineer

Sage Bateman, Youth Choir Director

Church Council

President: Mary Ann Unger

Vice President: Wendy Clark-Getzin

Treasurer/Finance: Dean Bensen

Secretary/Communications: Sharon Reuter

Facilities: Dave Birmingham

Worship:

Education: Sharon Buck and Karen Selig

Youth: Julianna Getzin

Christian Service: Mary Lange

Hospitality: Neil Dexter



PASTORAL CARE

We are always here for your spiritual care when you need it.

Feel free to call the office (and leave a message) or email us if you know of someone who should be added to the prayer list or who needs a visit.

Pastor Beth Orling

609-506-5865

bethorling@aol.com

Pastor Gail Wheatley

406-788-5989

gail.wheatley@gmail.com

♥ Thank you Sage Bateman for directing and preparing children in the Young Voices Choir

♥ Thank you Neil Dexter, aka kid wrangler, for helping with all the kids in the back during the 4pm Christmas Eve Service

♥ Thank you Lucy Nordwell for being Sage's amazing 2nd adult.

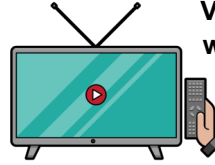
♥ Thank you Vicki Corson and Lucy Nordwell for helping the Young Voices magic happen on Christmas Eve.

♥ Thank you Leah Marsh for playing such beautiful violin music during the 8pm Christmas Eve Service

♥ Thank you Liam Irwin for faithfully updating our outdoor church sign.



February 2025



Visit our YouTube channel for Sunday worship, devotional videos and more!

www.go2trinity.org

This is a great way to "introduce" curious friends or neighbors.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Presentation of 2 Our Lord	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:30am Worship 11am Fireside Chat 11am Sunday School and Confirmation			4-4:45pm Young Voices Choir 4:30pm Holy Bookers	7pm Theology on Tap at Mighty Pine		
5 Epiphany 9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30am Worship 11am Fireside Chat 11am Sunday School and Confirmation		9:30am LWR Quilters 6:30pm Executive Committee	4-4:45pm Young Voices Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir			
6 Epiphany 16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:30am Worship 11am Fireside Chat 11am Sunday School and Confirmation	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 	6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting	1-2:30pm Threads of Love 4-4:45pm Young Voices Choir 6:30pm Chancel Choir	9:30am Library Team Meeting	2-4pm Northwest Women's Chorale Broadway in the Basement	
7 Epiphany 23	24	25	26	27	28	1
9:30am Worship with Young Voices Choir 11am Fireside Chat 11am Sunday School and Confirmation		9:30am LWR Quilters 6:30pm Council Meeting				