



# The Viewpoint

Volume 55 No. 6

June 2008

*“Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul.”*

*Acts 4:32*

a new Music Leader for Contemporary Worship Services at St. Mark's. First, the Search Committee voted unanimously to recommend Darren Kerbs for this position. Then, the Church Council did the same, and Darren gladly accepted the position.

These decisions will have a profound impact on us as a congregation. All of those people chosen as leaders will continue in the footsteps of the gifted and committed servants who went before them, but they will

also bring their own unique gifts to the mission we accomplish together. As we welcome them, I want acknowledge that we speak with one voice when we say “thank you” to the ones they replace. In my seven years at St. Mark's, I have been amazed at the way God raises up such capable people to serve in this place. We are truly blessed.

One of those capable people who has served here for more than twenty years is Anne Bettger, the Director of St. Mark's Preschool. Anne will be retiring this month, and our simple words and gifts will never be enough to express the deep gratitude we feel for her and her ministry. And, when it comes to naming her replacement, I wouldn't be surprised if the Preschool Board also makes a unanimous recommendation. God has been so good to us, and that allows us to look to the future with joyous spirits and hopeful hearts.



By: Pastor Jan Ruud

At St. Mark's, we welcome diversity. We stay committed to living together in community, even when we have very different approaches to issues or strongly disagree. That is what it means to be the Church.

It is also wonderful when we can all speak with one voice. That is what happened in May when it came to the task of choosing leaders. It started when the Call Committee voted unanimously to recommend Rebecca Shjerven as the candidate for pastor at St. Mark's. That unity of heart and soul continued when the whole congregation voted unanimously to extend the call to Pastor Shjerven at our meeting on May 18. At that same meeting, the congregation also voted unanimously to elect a new slate of Church Council and Preschool Board members based on the recommendations of the Nominating Committee. The same could be said about the process to choose

**CONGRATULATIONS  
2008 GRADUATES.  
CELEBRATE SUNDAY,  
JUNE 8TH,  
11:00 A.M.**

For more information visit  
page 13



## Inside this issue:

(Ministry Teams are Highlighted  
in Bold Print)

Pastor's Message	1
Generation 2 Generation	2
<b>Christian Education</b>	2
<b>Congregational Care</b>	3
<b>Peace &amp; Justice Ministry</b>	5
<b>Stewardship Ministry</b>	6
<b>Worship &amp; Music Ministry</b>	9
<b>Youth &amp; Family Ministry</b>	10
Birthdays & Anniversaries	12

## Semi-Annual Meeting Highlights

By: Pastor Jan Ruud

We voted unanimously to call Rebecca Shjerven to serve as pastor at St. Mark's. She will begin on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

We introduced Darren Kerbs as our new Music Leader for Contemporary Worship Services. He will begin on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We said "thank you" to Anne Bettger for more than twenty years of faithful service as the Director of our Pre-school.

We said "thank you" to the following people who completed their terms of service on our Church Council: John Summerour (President), Barbara Ostrander (Vice-President), Susan Newsom (Secretary), Scott Moor (Treasurer), Sonja Yeager (Worship and Music) and Audrey Handy (Christian Education). We elected the following people to serve on our Church

Council: Kim Meade (President), Martin Duenhoelter (Vice-President), Rolf Morstad (Secretary), Steve Titus (Treasurer), Kevin Hayes (Outreach), Jacquie Crenshaw (Worship and Music), John Frazier (Christian Education), John Wascher (Stewardship), Janet Ruud (Congregational Care), and Paula Friedman (Peace and Justice). We also elected Joyce Erickson to serve on our Preschool Board.

We heard reports from the Building Committee and Grace Upon Grace Capital Campaign (see Stewardship section of this newsletter).

We heard a "State of the Congregation" financial report from our treasurer, pointing out the need to increase our giving for the remainder of 2008 in order to fully fund our ministries and provide support for our staff (see Stewardship section of this newsletter).

## Generation 2 Generation: *Living together in Community*

By: Ingelaurie Lisher—Director of Youth & Family Ministry

"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." *Psalms 100 (NIV)*

God's faithfulness does continue throughout all generations.

Throughout this year we have been reminded by our baptismal covenant that we do live within community with one another and that this community is generational. As the theme of Generation 2 Generation is winding down for the year, I know that it will not end. There is a great amount of intention and hope to keep it active and alive in the daily life and ministry of St. Mark's. So in the next few months and even years to come, look for ways on how this theme continues not only in your own lives and families, but in the congregation as well as we

break ground, welcome new staff and install a new pastor.

"Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord." (*Lutheran Book of Worship, 53*) Amen!

## Christian Education

### Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it. VBS will take place at St. Mark's from August 4-8th from 9:00 a.m.—12:15 p.m. each day. Registration is now open for all VBS participants (3 years old to 5th grade), as well as recruitment for VBS staff (youth grades 6 to adult). Please register by July 20th.

If you are interested in helping out this year, call Linda Wimberley at 253-988-6882 or Sheri Kurashima at 253-460-3575.

Have you seen how many shoe boxes we have? If you think we've got enough – think again. Last year we had over 100 students and we expect as many or more this year. That's a lot of shoe boxes we need. Don't forget – we also need coffee cans, paper towel tubes and wooden picture frames (5x7 or 8x10).

## Preschool News

By: Anne Bettger—Director

By now many of you have heard that I am retiring as Director/Teacher of St. Mark's Preschool. I have been very fortunate to be a part of such a wonderful ministry. I believe that our preschool provides an opportunity for children to have a positive first school experience. By the time our students leave preschool, they know their letters, numbers, colors and shapes. They can write their

names, and some are beginning to read. They have also learned valuable skills such as listening and following directions in a classroom setting. Most importantly though, Christian values are encouraged and practiced. I feel that this is the best foundation to give our students after they leave our program - to be able to show the love of God through love, respect, compassion and forgiveness of others.

I would like to thank Linda Buhr for her many years of service to our school. Linda volunteered many

years ago when her grandson, Hunter, was a student here. In 2004, Linda was hired as our "art" teacher. She has brightened the lives and influenced the development of countless children and families in her many years as an early childhood educator.

I am leaving knowing that St. Mark's Preschool will be in good hands with teachers like Laura Oellerich and Teresa Handy who will continue their dedication to making St. Mark's Preschool the best it can be.

## Journey Together Faithfully:

### *An Open Discussion of the ELCA Draft Social Statement on Human Sexuality*

In March of 2008, the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality sent a draft Social Statement to all ELCA congregations asking us to reflect on it together and share our views. They will work on the final version to be brought to the floor of the ELCA Churchwide Convention in the summer of 2009. This social statement addresses the question: What does it mean for us as sexual creatures to love our neighbors as ourselves and thus fulfill God's law of love in this time and society? At St. Mark's, we have many members who are well-equipped to lead this discussion with us, including Dr.

Marit Trelstad, who is a member of the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality and a religion professor at PLU. We hope you can join us at the Adult Forums during June and July as we journey together faithfully and share our thoughts and reflections on this very important topic.

- ✎ **Sunday, June 1:** Talking Together as Christians about Tough Social Issues
- ✎ **Sunday, June 8:** Introduction to Draft Statement on Human Sexuality

- ✎ **Sunday, June 15:** Theological and Ethical Foundations for Understanding Sexuality
- ✎ **Sunday, June 22:** Sexuality as Part of God's Creative Activity
- ✎ **Sunday, July 6:** Trust at the Heart of Faith and Love
- ✎ **Sunday, July 13:** Social Trust and the Common Good
- ✎ **Sunday, July 20:** Concluding Thoughts on the Social Statement
- ✎ **Sunday, July 27:** Responses from Participants

## Congregational Care

### Well Done, Good and Faithful Servants

By: Pastor Jan Ruud

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the members of our Call Committee for a pastor, our Search Committee for a music leader, and to our Nominating Committee for all the great names they presented to us in May.

Call Committee: Char Leone (co-chair), Kristina Williams (co-chair), John Avery, Ben Summerour, Sheri Kurashima, Vic Holme, and Joe Buck

Search Committee: Sarah Sherry (chair), Stan Adams, Matt Oellerich, Nathan Webers, Diana Busch, Danielle Lemieux, and Jan Ruud

Nominating Committee: Kevin Hayes (chair), Marcy Duenhoelter, Elaine Rodning, Bruce Sadler, and Scott Moor.

Please remember to thank them for the great work they did on our behalf!

## Sunday School

Sunday school classes will meet June 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. On June 15<sup>th</sup> all students and teachers are invited to meet in the fellowship hall for an informal breakfast.

Summer Sunday school begins on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. We still have openings for teachers. Consider spending one Sunday morning this summer with the kids of St. Mark's. Sign up for a country and a Sunday at the display in the Narthex.



## Warning Signs

By: Ruth Saathoff RNC, PN

Every moment you wait puts you at greater risk for death—or increases your risk for loss of future heart function if you do survive. Watch for these warning signs, you may be having a heart attack. CALL 911 right away, even if you are not sure.

Signs of a heart attack:

- ☞ Chest discomfort. Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.
- ☞ Discomfort in other areas of the upper body. Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one

or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.

- ☞ Shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort.
- ☞ Other signs may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

### *Language of the Heart*

MI=Myocardial Infarction  
 STEMI=ST-segment elevation myocardial infarction  
 EMS=Emergency Medical Services  
 EKG or ECG=Electrocardiogram: a simple test that detects and records the electrical activity of the heart; sometimes called a "12-lead EKG" because it records activity from 12 different places on the body  
 PCI=Percutaneous coronary intervention, a series of medical treatments that re-open heart arteries that are narrowed or blocked by fatty deposit buildup

## Nisqually River Delta

Come and join us for an easy going walk on the Nisqually River Delta on Saturday, June 7th. This is a nature walk that is on a flat gravel pathway. You will see displays of biologically rich and diverse habitats on this wildlife refuge! Doug Crowe will lead the walk and Tom Hulst will talk about the abundant plant and bird species.

The Nisqually Delta is just off I-5, south of Tacoma and north of Olympia. We will share in a potluck in the parking lot at the Delta after the walk. Meet at the church at between 9:30 a.m. and leave about 10:00 a.m. Get out your favorite walking shoes and potluck dish and go for it. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

## Holiday Bazaar 2008

We are getting the word out early this year. Yes, we are already planning the bazaar for November 2008. Hopefully this will give you time to think about and maybe start on some crafty projects this summer. This is also a great opportunity for "generation to generation" time. All women, men and children are encouraged to participate.

Some people have asked for suggestions. Here are some items that have been popular in years past:

*Afghans, angels, aprons, baby blankets, bird houses, candle arrangements, centerpieces, childrens sweaters (crocheted and knitted), collectibles, doll clothes, doll cradles, dollhouses, dolls, fleece hats, flower arrangements, gift bags, hair pins, jewelry, manger scenes, napkins, needlepoint, ornaments, painted furniture paintings, picture frames, pillows, potholders, pot scratchers, pottery, purses, quilts, scarves, snowmen, table clothes, table runners, towels, wall hangings, washcloths, and wreaths*

For those who are not inclined to sew or craft, themed gift baskets

are very popular. Here are ideas for gift baskets:

*Baby items, bath, BBQ, books, candles, candy, coffee, cosmetics, cups, garden, holiday, ice cream toppings, jewelry, lotions, movies, popcorn & snacks, puzzles, sports, stationary, tea, towel and toys*

Again, these are only suggestions. All gift items and handicrafts will be welcomed.

More information will follow in the coming months.

## Thank You and Farewell to Pastor Charlie Mays

**Wednesday, June 4th, 6:00 p.m.** Potluck Supper

When Charlie Mays began serving with us as an Interim Pastor last Fall, we publicized his teaching ministry as "Wednesdays with Charlie". Now, after teaching and preaching in ways that have truly blessed us, Pastor Mays is concluding his term of service and we want to say "thank you" and "farewell" to him. You are all invited to join us for a potluck supper in his honor on Wednesday, June 4th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a great opportunity to express our appreciation and gratitude for the many gifts he has shared with us during the last several months. There will be a special basket for cards, and you can also mail them to him directly at: 10820 39th Dr SE, Everett, WA 98208

# Peace & Justice Ministry

## Befriending the Stranger



*"One of the big questions for each one of us today is how to turn our backs on the culture of rivalry, individualism, conflict or depression that surrounds us, and move instead into a culture of solidarity and cooperation, peace and hope."*

*and hope."*

*-Jean Vanier*

Considered a man of deep compassion and a humble prophet in the struggle to "become more fully human," Jean Vanier is the founder of L'Arche.

He will be giving a free public talk on Sunday, June 22nd, 7:30 p.m. at St. James Cathedral, 804 Ninth Avenue, Seattle.

## "Muchas Gracias" From The Mexico Mission Team

By: Pastor Jan Ruud

Thanks to you, the Mexico Mission Team now has all the financial support it needs to build four houses for needy families and do ministry with children and families in the neighborhood of El Florido (east of Tijuana). In supporting this project, you are also supporting the local economy in Mexico where all the materials are bought.

We want to say a special thanks to all who participated in the dinner and auction on May 5<sup>th</sup>. We were able to raise most of the money needed in that one single event. Total profits from the dinner and auction exceeded \$8,000.00! Thank you to Mark and Kristi Gaimster for providing all the delicious food for the event. It was awesome.

On Sunday, June 15 we will commission the people who are serving

on the Mexico Mission Team this year. They are: Dick Gustafson, Candy Gustafson, Ryan Gustafson, Roger Willis, Sarith Keo, Brittny Bowe, Levin Conway, Peter Postovoi, Sarah Sherry, Paul Hirschl, Debby Hren, Mollee Hren, Blake Hren, Diane McWilliams, Dan Conroy, Andrew Geary, Melanie Summerour, Ben Summerour, Katie Hargett, Katie Garrow, Mike Handy, Rex Merchant, Shannon Merchant, Parker Merchant, Rob Irwin, Kate Irwin, Caroline Irwin, Andy Holt, Mike Shrauger, Janeen Smith, Sonja Ruud, Kirsti Ruud, and Jan Ruud.

In most cases, these people are all paying for their own expenses, which includes roundtrip airfare to San Diego and food and lodging in Mexico. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this mission. They will be in Mexico during the last week of June.

## Thanks and Thanks

By: Norm Orth

Thanks to the many who sat down in the fellowship hall on Sunday, May 4, or at home, and wrote letters. There was a great response to the 2008 Offering of Letters, sponsored by Bread for the World. As near as we can tell, approximately 150 letters were written to Senators Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray; and Representative Norm Dicks. BFW encourages hand written letters or those typed on personal letterhead stationary. Thank you for the extra effort.

Secondly thanks for the April offerings of \$854. This went to Nativity House here in Tacoma.

In June, we designate those offerings to go to Bread for the World. BFW is a great organization which sponsors legislation and works with

legislators and the President. A few weeks ago, David Beckman, Director of BFW and ELCA pastor, was at the White House having a personal conversation with President Bush. After much persuasive conversation, the President agreed to contact two key congressional people to sponsor and support the Global Poverty Act. Consideration is currently being given to that legislation in Congress.

Bread for the World was begun by Art Simon, a Missouri Synod Lutheran Pastor, serving a congregation in a poverty stricken area of New York City. He is now retired, succeeded by David Beckman. He has written a book on prayer, that is display at the information desk. I had the privilege of hearing him

speak at a BFW seminar in the Washington DC area in the fall of 2006. We established a friendship and now chat on the phone occasionally.

Bread for the World now has eight regional offices in the U.S., staffed by volunteers. The nearest is in Portland. Their address is 0245 SW Bancroft St. Ste. B, Portland, OR 97239 and their phone number is 1-888-75-BREAD.

I invite you to become a member of BFW with a gift of \$10. This gift will put you on their mailing list. Send it to Bread for the World, 50 F Street NW, Ste. 500, Washington DC, 20001. You will be blessed in participating in this most vital ministry.



### Spring Reports

The following items were shipped by boxcar to Lutheran World Relief headquarters in Maryland; 100 quilts, 11 blankets, 70 school kits, 48 health kits, 68 layettes and 17 pounds of soap. The total weight was 799 pounds. St. Mark's Women covered the \$170 boxcar cost. Thanks to all who contributed to the overseas shipping, we were able to send our gift of \$500. We wish to thank Chuck Droubay and Art Larsen for loading the truck with contributions from ten churches and delivering them to collection points in Seattle. We would like to thank our Boy Scout Troop for their valuable help taping the quilt boxes, weighing them, and stacking them for shipment.

Janet Rasmussen was honored on Quilt Sunday for her gift of sewing many quilt tops over the years. During Lent she sewed 7-8 quilt tops a week so we now have a supply in our storage room. A brick in the L.W.R. Quilt plaza has her name engraved on it.

### Mexico Mission Received Four Quilts

When our Mexico Mission Team completes the four houses they build, they will give the new owners a key and a quilt. Your L.W.R. team is happy to provide the quilts for this worthwhile endeavor.

### High School Seniors Choose Their Quilts

From all the quilts draped over the pews on Quilt Sunday eight high school seniors chose the quilt they liked the best. The quilters will present those quilts to our graduates on Graduation Sunday, June 8.

The three adults who were baptized at St. Mark's also received a quilt.

Two New Quilters join the team; Donna McWilliams and Yvonne Pruden. We are delighted to have them join our crew of willing hands. Donna is a new member of St. Mark's. Yvonne is not a member of our church yet, but wanted to contribute to this ministry.

Thanks to all of you who join our crew Monday mornings. They are now busy working on our next shipment for November. Thanks to all who sew tops at home and those who remember us with needed supplies. We will keep you informed.

For questions or suggestions about Lutheran World Relief or Quilting Ministry contact Vangie Billingsley at 756-7766.

## Stewardship Ministry

### Summer Care of Creation Activities

Sign-up posters are set up in the foyer for Care of Creation activities for the summer of 2008. Please join in the activities that meet your schedule and interests.

#### June 7, 2008 Hike along the Nisqually River Delta

This event is geared for all ages within the church family. Walkers will meet at the church at 9:30 a.m. to form car pools and return after lunch. Last month's newsletter had conflicting times. **Please note the correct time to gather is 9:30 a.m. with departure time at 10:00 a.m.** Bring a lunch to share with others and join in this visit to one of the region's premier wildlife areas.

#### July 25-27 2008 Family Camping Trip to Ohanapecosh

Reservations have been confirmed for the annual church family camping trip July 25-27 at Ohanapecosh Campground, located in the southeast corner of Mt. Rainier National Park. This trip is intended for families of all ages and will require traditional outdoor camping equipment.

#### August 20-24 2008 A Trip To Holden Village With A Different Twist

Care of Creation is planning an outing to Holden Village this August 20-24. Early planning and reservations are necessary since the village can fill up early for the

summer season. The backpack schedule is fixed; however, lake-travelers may elect to arrive prior to the hikers for their stay in Holden Village. A single adult, two night stay costs \$123 which includes room, meals and a 13 mile bus trip from/to the Lucerne boat landing. More information is available and reservations can be made on the web site [www.holdenvillage.org/](http://www.holdenvillage.org/). For more information about these activities contact Tom Hulst (460-2683); if you have questions about the camping trip contact Tom Geary; if you want further details on the hike to Holden please contact Rod Hanke (460-5921).

# Financial Updates from the May Semi-Annual Meeting

By: Scott Moor, Outgoing Treasurer

## Where We Were

At the January 2008 semi-annual meeting, the Congregation approved a \$670,000 budget, which included several budget reductions including reducing benevolences from 13% to 10%, holding Staff salaries at 2007 levels and deferring payments into the capital project reserve account. The assumptions were to hire a ¾ time Pastor with 15 years of experience with a start date of August 1<sup>st</sup> and to the repay the remaining \$25,000 of the line of credit.

## Where We Are Now

As of April, 67% of family units that made pledges in 2008 were current on those pledges. Thank you! Over the last 12 months, we've spent more than we've received by \$33,000 (May 2007 to April 2008). The remaining balance on the line of credit is \$24,500 as of April 30. Our expenses in 2008 for utilities and in-

surance are higher than expected.

## What's Next

Two new staff members are joining St. Mark's this summer: Darren Kerbs (Worship Team Director) and Pr. Rebecca Shjerven (Pastor). Our 2008 projected income, based on three-year trend model, is \$626,000. Our projected expenses are between \$645,000 without repaying the line of credit balance and \$670,000 with paying \$17,500 of the line of credit. If these projections are correct, we will have shortfall of \$19,000 to \$44,000.

## What We Can Do

There is much that we can do. Each family can become and stay current on their 2008 pledges. We can use the free Simply Giving service to automate the offering giving by members. We can increase our giving

by \$5 each time we participate in worship. Council, Ministry Teams and Staff will continue to monitor expenses while keeping the ministries going at St. Mark's. Salaries for Staff members will remain at 2007 levels. Council can defer repayment of the line of credit. If necessary, Council can increase the line of credit balance.

## Questions?

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Scott Moor (outgoing Treasurer and Council member), Barbara Meyers (Finance Committee), Steve Titus (incoming Treasurer), Janeen Smith., Pr. Jan Ruud, and any Executive Committee or Council member.

Also, the communication board between the side door and the church office has the Treasurer's Report and other financial graphs.

Stewardship (April-May 2008)		
DATE	ATTENDANCE	AMOUNT
*April 15		\$ 3,230.00
April 20	382	11,374.30
April 20 (additional)		268.42
April 27	323	7,571.13
*May 1		635.00
May 4	333	18,977.44
May 5 (Mexico Mission funds)		8,036.25
May 11	427	8,801.00
*May 15		2,505.00
May 18	389	12,692.55
*Simply Giving		

**Food Bank Suggestions for June:**  
Peanut Butter & Jelly/Jam



# Linking Ministry and Facilities: *Taking the Next Step-- Soon*

By: Jim Pence  
On behalf of the Building Committee

The Building Committee continues to work with the architects and builders to prepare for a groundbreaking ceremony thereby taking another step towards fulfilling our goal to link ministry with facilities.

The architects are nearing completion of construction documents and the builders are completing the budget proposal with a guaranteed maximum price. In early June, we will be ready to establish a construction budget, apply for the mortgage, and authorize moving forward with the project.

As was reported at the congregational meeting on May 18, the Building Committee is on track to hold the overall construction budget to \$3.5 million or less. This amount covers the costs of all new construction, sanctuary improvements (in lighting, sound, and changes to the sacristy and vesting room), and remodeling of the current education wing for music and youth programs. The kitchen and nursery will also be expanded and remodeled within this budget. Most (if not all) of the remodeling work will be done by St. Mark's members.

If all goes according to schedule, our new addition will be ready for use by Easter 2009. The remodel-



ing of existing spaces will commence as soon as possible thereafter, with the goal of completing the entire project for Fall 2009 occupancy.

Thank you to all St. Mark's members for supporting this project and the Grace Upon Grace Capital Campaign.

<b>GRACE UPON GRACE REPORT</b>	
<b>158 PLEDGES &amp; GIFTS</b>	
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	
Total Income from Pledges and gifts to date	\$ 497,759.56
Interest Income	\$ 2,656.78
Thrivent Matching Funds	\$ 5,250.00
<b>Total Income: to date</b>	<b>\$ 505,666.34</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES – Soft Costs</u></b>	
Other expenses: such as, Permits, Fees,	
Engineering, campaign costs	\$ 126,443.76
Architect Fees	\$ 180,731.06
Peace Community Center	\$ 8,550.00
<b>Total Expenses: to date</b>	<b>\$ 315,724.82</b>
<b><u>CURRENT BALANCE</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 189,941.52</u></b>

<b>PROJECTED COSTS FOR BUILDING PROGRAM</b>		
	CONCEPTUAL DESIGN	DESIGN DEVELOPMENT
	JANUARY 2008	MAY 2008
CONSTRUCTION	\$2,389,723	\$2,581,408
SOFT COSTS	\$717,000	\$780,000
(includes, but is not limited to: 8.8% tax, Grace Upon Grace costs, permits, consultant fees, architects, engineering)		
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,106,723</b>	<b>\$3,361,408</b>
SANCTUARY RENOVATIONS		\$57,000
AUDIO/VISUAL FOR NEW BUILDING		\$50,000
RENOVATION OF EXISTING FACILITIES		\$75,000
RENOVATION OF KITCHEN		\$200,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,500,000</b>	<b>\$3,743,000</b> <b>(-\$243,000)</b>

# Worship and Music Ministry

## The Lord's Prayer: *Update from The Worship & Music Team*

By: John Avery

We as a church family have been studying prayer during the past year. The Worship and Music Team for the past year has also been discussing the Lord's Prayer, specifically which version, the King James ("traditional") version or the ecumenical ("contemporary") version fits St. Mark's the best. We agreed that we wanted our congregation, which has 4 very different worship services each week, to be unified in how we said the Lord's Prayer, that is, we all learn the same prayer (children to adults).

We looked at, among others, the following questions both as a committee and with input from pastors outside of St. Mark's:

***What version of the Lord's Prayer is practiced by ELCA and other protestant congregations?*** Reverend Michael Burk, the Executive for Worship and Liturgical Resources in the ELCA Office of the Presiding Bishop, shared that probably two-thirds of the ELCA congregations, like other mainstream protestant congregations, are still using the King James. Use of the ecumenical version is about one-third and is gradually increasing.

***Since there are many versions in many languages of the Lord's Prayer, what is the best process for reflection on this prayer?*** We decided to organize forums and retreats in which we studied the Lord's Prayer, as well as a sermon series taking each part of the Lord's Prayer and reflecting on the language, done by our pastors and staff throughout 2007 and 2008.

***What do we teach our children and youth at St. Mark's?*** The confirmation classes and youth of our congregation learn the ecumenical version of the Lord's Prayer. The children don't have a set curriculum yet to teach either the King James version or the ecumenical version.

We agreed that the **purpose** in looking at these two versions was to do the best we could with the language we have in order to rekindle a deeper understanding of the Lord's Prayer and to be connected to God/Jesus Christ as well as each other in a unity of spirit and worship. Our decision would not judge between "right" and "wrong" versions, simply versions that helped promote the greatest understanding of the prayer based on the language that we use today.

With this in mind, we all agreed that we wanted to promote the use of the ecumenical version in worship at St. Mark's. There are three main reasons for this:

***The ecumenical version is what we are teaching/want to teach our youth and children.*** By using a version using the language of today, our children and youth will have better success in understanding what they are praying. Using the same version in all services makes this part of the service more accessible to them and helps each child/youth feel they are taking an active part in worship.

***By using more current, we allow the words to be more accessible and apparent to a wider range of worshippers.*** It is an element of outreach to update the wording we use while being faithful to the Biblical message. It also impels those of us who are familiar with the traditional words to encounter anew the message of this central scripture.

***The Ecumenical version unites us with believers in many countries and other denominations, reflecting the unity we have in Christ.***

You will notice that our 8:30 and 11:00 services will be using the ecumenical version twice a month beginning in June (the 9:45 service already uses this version). This is so people attending those services will, over time, learn this version. The goal is to transition completely to the ecumenical version within a year.

Thank you for your participation and input in this process through the forums and retreats! We as a team welcome any input from the congregation - if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact one of the members of our Worship and Music Team (see below).

God Bless!!

*Kim Bucklin, Chair*  
*Sonja Yeager, Council Representative*  
*Ron Tellefson*  
*John Avery (new member as of May)*  
*Karen Grams (new member as of May)*  
*Marcia Moe (new member as of May)*  
*Janet Grant (new member as of May)*  
*Lora Gross (new member as of May)*  
*Rolf Morstad (new member as of May)*  
*Danielle J. Lemieux, Dir. of Music Ministry*  
*Jan Ruud, Lead Pastor*

## June 2008 Worship & Music Schedule

*All bell choirs, children's choirs, Chancel Choir and Celebration Ensemble are on summer break. Thank you to the Worship Team for leading worship at the 9:45 service year-round!*

- Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> -** Graduation Sunday for all High School and College young adults – 11:00 a.m. service
- Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> -** SUMMER CHOIR practice, 10:00-11:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
CELEBRATION ENSEMBLE end-of-year BBQ at Levin and Diana's, 5:30-8:00 p.m. – contact Danielle for details.
- Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup> -** MEXICO MISSION TEAM members commissioned  
SUMMER CHOIR sings at the 11:00 a.m. service (warm-up, Purple Sunday School room, 10:30 a.m.)
- Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> -** MONTANA MISSION TEAM youth commissioned

## Summer Music Opportunities

Summer is the perfect time to get that small group together to play or sing something for worship or to bring out a solo that you've been wanting to sing or play on your instrument. If you'd like to serve in worship with your musical gifts, please contact Danielle Lemieux ([danielle@smlutheran.org](mailto:danielle@smlutheran.org) / 752-4966 x105) to schedule a Sunday. Danielle is available for coaching as well.

## St. Mark's Summer Choir

Participate in music this summer by joining the St. Mark's Summer Choir. The summer choir is open to ALL AGES, from young children (4 year olds) to 92-year olds. Just make sure you can attend the practice, (required to sing on Sunday morning). There are sign-up sheets on the Music Bulletin Board just across from the main office or you can contact Danielle (see Summer Music Opportunities article). Here is the Summer Choir schedule:

**JUNE CHOIR:** *Saturday practice, June 14<sup>th</sup> (10-11 a.m.) – Sanctuary  
Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. (10:30 a.m. warm-up)*

**JULY CHOIR:** *Saturday practice, July 26<sup>th</sup> (10-11 a.m.) – Sanctuary  
Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. (10:30 a.m. warm-up)*

**AUGUST CHOIR:** *Saturday practice, Aug., 16<sup>th</sup> (10-11 a.m.) – Sanctuary  
Sunday, Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. (10:30 a.m. warm-up)*

## Youth & Family Ministry

### Parenting Class

We are holding another parenting class on Friday, June 13, 6-8 p.m. We will be facilitated again by Kim Meade and will encourage those who are able to read beforehand some or all of the book: ***Boys Adrift*** by Leonard Sax.

Pizza and childcare provided. Please RSVP to Christine Harris, Jan Pence, or Ingelaurie. Come if you can, even if you don't read the book or RSVP. Note the change of time and day. See you in the Fireside Room.

### Youth For Hire

Martin Stewart is interested in helping seniors with their cell phones, computers, etc. to earn money to attend the Western States Youth Gathering. Martin is our youth "tech" expert and an excellent teacher. He is also willing to pet sit or walk dogs as well. If you are interested contact him at 756-1143.

# Youth & Family Ministry

Congratulations to Kevin Buck. He is graduating from the University of Idaho with a PhD in Electrical Engineering.

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12

## Western States Youth Gathering Upcoming Fundraisers

- **Parents Night Out! Friday, June 6th 6:00-10:00 p.m.**  
Child care and activities will be offered at the church by youth for a free-will donation to this trip. Please contact the office by the Wednesday before to sign up. 752-4966 or at [ingelaurie@smlutheran.org](mailto:ingelaurie@smlutheran.org).
- Have a little house work or yard work you can't find the time to complete? Too tired at the end of the day to get that ever growing grass mowed? The Western States Youth Gathering youth would be happy to do it for you. They are raising money for the upcoming trip to Anaheim and looking for odd jobs. If you need extra help around the house post your job and the amount you will pay their WSYG account on the job board in the hall. They are excellent at mowing lawns, light lifting, light housework and even babysitting. For questions call Ingelaurie in the church office or Lisa at [565-1340](tel:565-1340).

## Kid's Club, JR ALYVE

- Kid's Club! (grades 2-5) is on Summer Vacation!
- JR ALYVE Youth Group (grades 6-8th) Last JR ALYVE night of the school year—**Tuesday, June 3rd 5:30-7:00 p.m. (Game Night at St. Mark's)** Dinner provided.

## Graduation Sunday, June

**8th at 11:00 a.m. Congratulations to our 2008 High School Graduates: Kelsi Burkhart**—Tacoma School of the Arts,

she will be attending Highline Community College for Repertory Therapy; **Jamie Martelli**—Curtis High School, she will be attending Pierce College and then WSU; **Shannon Merchant**—Curtis High School, she will be heading to

the east coast; **Sonja Ruud**—Foss High School, she will be attending Pacific Lutheran University; **Rachael Simmons**—Foss High School, she will be attending Trinity Lutheran College in Issaquah; **Lauren Smith**—Emerald Ridge High School (Puyallup), she will be attending Washington State University; and **Roger Willis**—Wilson High School, he will be attending the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. **Graduates and their families** are invited to a celebration lunch immediately following the **11:00 a.m.** service on **June 8th** in the fellowship hall.



## Rocky Boy Reservation:

### *Mission Trip to Montana*

**July 12-19th, 2008!** This year our middle school youth will be heading to the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation in North Central MT for a week of service. During our time on the reservation we will be doing painting projects, leading a kids program and helping with yard work for local senior citizens. This is bound to be an enriching and very educational experience for both the youth and adults attending. The following people

from St. Mark's will be attending this trip: Spencer Crenshaw, Noah Compton, Cullen Daniels, Anna Grudzien, Charlean Hays, Morgan Hayes, James Kennedy, Sela Neils, Justin Oellerich, Josh Steele, Ruth Young, Devin Watterson, Tony Daniels, Carol Grudzien, Ingelaurie Lisher and Bruce Sadler. If you would like to make a financial contribution to this trip please contact Ingelaurie at 752-4966 or [ingelaurie@smlutheran.org](mailto:ingelaurie@smlutheran.org).

**Thanks to** Lisa and Derek Lindholm for hosting dinner and a movie for our SR ALYVE youth on Friday, May 16th. Thanks also goes to out Jody Smith for all of his work with the Middle School Youth the past two years. Blessings to you as you move to London.

## June Birthdays

June 1 Lindsay Baespflug  
 June 2 Caitlyn Daniels  
 Sharon Klancke  
 Ethan Marshman  
 Carol Vogel  
 June 3 Charles Gray  
 June 4 Joey Newsom  
 June 5 Boden Mueller  
 Mary Stenger  
 June 6 Connor Conley  
 Betty Johnson  
 Katie Jones  
 June 7 Bernice Bowers  
 Kay Houg  
 June 8 Peter Bartanen  
 Evelyn Johanson  
 June 9 Audry Handy  
 June 10 Bebe Chapman  
 Melissa Laubach  
 Diane Paulson  
 Julie Paulson  
 Millie Swanberg  
 June 11 Jennifer Hutson  
 Patty Reinkensmeyer  
 June 13 Claire Humen  
 June 15 John Koisch  
 Greg Menefree  
 Tom Owzarski  
 June 16 Tianna Crocco  
 Cora Reuter  
 Dave Roberts  
 June 17 Jeanne Forseth  
 Pam Whiteley

June 18 Doug Hartman  
 Lori Neptun  
 June 19 Pete Hoiland  
 Diane McWilliams  
 Chris Paulson  
 June 20 Kelsey Richards  
 June 22 Wendy Gray  
 Derek Hartman  
 Lisa Lindholm  
 Joanna Robinson  
 June 23 LaVonne Carbone  
 Robby Moor  
 Ron Tellefson  
 Mary Elizabeth Bunch  
 June 24 Hazel Lund  
 Aleksandra Owen  
 June 25 Madeline Lee  
 Becky Spaulding  
 June 26 Marcia Moe  
 June 27 Lisa Hutson  
 Soren Iverson  
 Sonja Ruud  
 Herman Tobiassen  
 Heather Willis  
 June 28 Jessica Berg  
 Carl Steingrebe  
 June 29 Chuck Ahrens  
 Kari Fricke  
 Morgan Hayes  
 Elizabeth Johnson  
 Barbara Neeb  
 Heather Schultz  
 Ben Summerour  
 June 30 Eric DeLorme  
 Kyler McCarthy  
 Joscelyn Rompogren  
 Justina Rompogren

## June Anniversaries

June 3 John & Marci Gala  
 June 5 Jim & Jan Pence  
 June 7 Kris & Mike Bartanen  
 Eva & Kevin Johnson  
 Carol & Jerry Paulson  
 June 8 Robin & Larry Storset  
 June 11 Elaine & Ray Hansen  
 Shirley & Marv Peterson  
 June 12 Russ & Ann Hillman  
 June 13 Tim Neuberger & Joanna Robinson  
 Avria & Jason Myklegard  
 June 14 Karl Hoseth & Alison Wigstrom-Hoseth  
 June 15 Bernice & Art Bowers  
 June 16 Ed & Virginia Armstrong  
 June 17 John & Carol Avery  
 Stacy & Jason Stenger  
 June 18 Barbara & Bob Ehrenheim  
 June 21 Linda & John Winther  
 June 24 Marni & Mark Hamburg  
 June 26 Auna & Matthew Doyle  
 Alicia & Nathe Lawver  
 Jennifer & Dirk Stegeman  
 June 27 Dawne & Jim Aho  
 Lisa & Oscar Espinosa  
 Carol & John Grudzien  
 Dana & Mark McConnell  
 Maggie & John Schauble  
 Sonja & Jerry Yeager  
 June 28 Chris & Mike Handy  
 June 29 Mark & Kristi Gaimster  
 June 30 Galen & Judy Morstad  
 Georgette & Jim Reuter  
 Tim & Marcia Sherry

## Pastoral Acts

### Change of Phone number –

**Kristina & Eric Williams**  
 253.752.6125

### Change of Address –

**Bernice & Gordon Friend**  
 905 Aaron Drive, #118  
 Lynden Manor  
 Lynden, WA 98264

**Sue O'Neill and Kendrick**  
 3620 N. 27th St.  
 Tacoma, WA 98407

### Correction of Address –

**Donna McWilliams**  
 Zip code should be **98466**

**Rod Hanke & Joan Torfin**  
 Street number should be **1513 S. Sunset Dr.**

### Transfer –

**Connie Fordyce**

To Celebration Lutheran Church, Sartell MN

### Deaths –

**Rachel Baughman**

Died—May 13, 2008  
 Memorial Service—May 24, 2008

**Mark Stuen**

Died--May 21, 2008

### Baptisms—

**Lucie Meers** (daughter of George & Katie Meers)

Born—December 1, 2007  
 Baptized—May 25, 2008  
 Sponsors—Andy and Joyce Mininger

**Anthony Crocco**

(son of Vincent & Prudence Crocco)  
 Born—January 16, 2008  
 Baptized—May 25, 2008  
 Sponsors—Caleb Crocco, Constance Welding

## Council Members June 2008 through May 2009

PRESIDENT	Kim Meade	759-9817
VICE PRESIDENT	Martin Duenhoelter	565-5634
SECRETARY	Rolf Morstad	759-0563
TREASURER	Steve Titus (interim)	507-5321

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

John Frazier, 312-9313

### **CONGREGATIONAL CARE**

Janet Ruud, 564-2832

### **OUTREACH MINISTRY**

Kevin Hayes, 460-1795

### **PEACE AND JUSTICE**

Paula Friedman, 759-3881

### **STEWARDSHIP**

John Wascher, 503-6765

### **WORSHIP & MUSIC**

Jacque Crenshaw, 456-6624

### **YOUTH & FAMILY**

ALICIA LAWVER, 396-1214

## STAFF

General Office Email—[office@smlutheran.org](mailto:office@smlutheran.org) (253-752-4966)

Pastor Jan Ruud—[jruud@smlutheran.org](mailto:jruud@smlutheran.org)

Pastor Otto Tollefson—[otollefson@aol.com](mailto:otollefson@aol.com)

Janeen Smith—Coordinator of Ministry—[janeen@smlutheran.org](mailto:janeen@smlutheran.org)

Ingelaurie Lisher, Director of Youth & Families—[ingelaurie@smlutheran.org](mailto:ingelaurie@smlutheran.org)

Danielle Lemieux—Director of Music Ministry—[danielle@smlutheran.org](mailto:danielle@smlutheran.org)

Jan Pence, Office Manager/Administrative Assistant—[janpence@smlutheran.org](mailto:janpence@smlutheran.org)

Lisa Lindholm, Publications—[lisa@smlutheran.org](mailto:lisa@smlutheran.org)

Pat Buck, Financial Recording Secretary—[pbuck@smlutheran.org](mailto:pbuck@smlutheran.org)

Anne Bettger, Director of Preschool

Becki Christian, Custodian and Hospitality Coordinator

Darren Kerbs, Worship Team Director

Caresse Lemieux, Youth Music Drama Team Leader

Phyllis Bachman, Organist/pianist

Cooper Sherry, Organist/pianist

Adam Manley, Sound Technician

Craig Cootsona, Musician

Teresa Handy, Nursery Attendant

Chuck Droubay, Maintenance Manager

Linda Wimberley, Sunday School Coordinator

Spencer Crenshaw, Facilities Assistant

Lori Neptun, Parish Nurse

Ruth Saathoff, Parish Nurse

Christie Merry, Bookkeeper

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church by The Narrows

6730 North 17th Street  
Tacoma, WA 98406

Phone: 253-752-4966

Fax: 253-752-4990

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A Place for Grace

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[www.smlutheran.org](http://www.smlutheran.org)

## Our Mission Statement

*St. Mark's is a people and place for God's grace. We are a baptized and believing people claimed by Christ. Therefore, we call all people to Worship and Witness, Learn and Serve, Share God's Word and Sacraments, Reach Out with Words and Deeds of Love.*

### Worship Opportunities at St. Mark's

*Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at our morning services.*

#### **Sunday, 8:30 a.m. —**

This worship service draws on a wide variety of musical traditions for both hymns and special music - from Scandinavian Folk Tunes to Asian or Latin American songs of praise; from medieval chants to African American Spirituals - celebrating the rich variety of music that God has given to the Church.

#### **Sunday, 9:45 a.m.—**

The singing at this service is led by a band which includes piano, drums, bass guitar, and often another lead guitar or acoustic guitar, blending contemporary music with historic elements of worship that are in all of our services.

#### **Sunday, 11:00 a.m.—**

People often call this the "traditional" worship service because we sing well-known hymns from our new Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnbook. The Chancel Choir leads the singing, with organ and piano.

#### **Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. —**

*Taizé Prayer Service:* a quiet service centered in contemplative singing and prayer. Candlelit, meditative, renewing, restful peace in the midst of your busy life! The name of the service comes from a community in France, where Christians from all over the world gather for renewal. This Service is taking a summer break and will resume in September.

