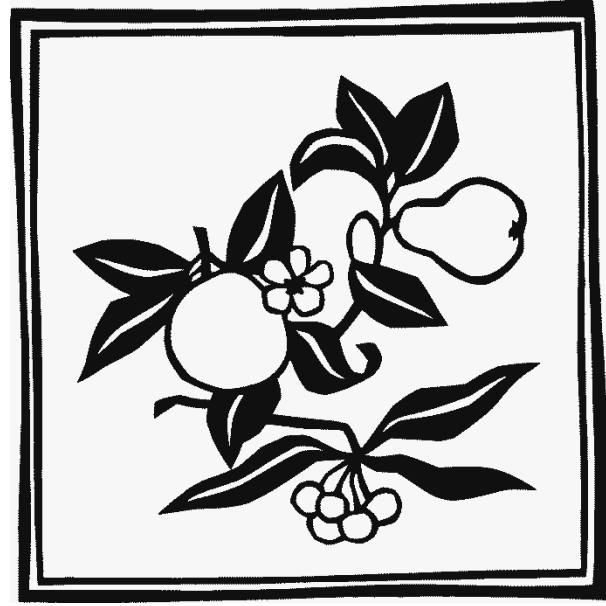


The Quill

JANUARY 2014

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The Quill

JANUARY 2014

Queen Anne Evangelical Lutheran Church
Called to Proclaim God's Love in Christ to Every Person
2400 8th Avenue West Seattle, WA 98119
206.284.1960
www.queenannelutheran.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 a.m. CONFIRMATION 9:15 a.m. ADULT FORUM 9:15 a.m.

Queen Anne Lutheran Church Congregational Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 26, 2014

Following 10:30 a.m. worship
Fellowship Hall

Annual reports will be available Sunday, January 19th. Annual Report articles are due in the church office by January 6th.

The new branding will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

From the Cantor . . .

Thanks to all musicians who served in worship for the Advent and Christmas services. Thanks to the parents of the children and youth for making their involvement in worship a priority in your busy schedules, as well. We all are swamped with so much to do in this season, and we seldom begin preparations early enough. But when Christmas evening or Christmas morning come, I am so grateful for the preparation we have done together to provide the musical gifts shared, the hospitality offered to those who are new to our community, and the care extended for those among us who struggle. We are the church, in this place, at this time. It is important work we do and I thank you for being part of this ministry. God with us. With all of us, and with those we do not yet know.

Now in this next month, we enter the Epiphany Season . . . the season of Light. The Epiphany worship texts teach us about Jesus' life on earth . . . Jan 5 we celebrate Epiphany, Christ revealed to the nations; Jan 12 we celebrate Baptism of Our Lord, Christ revealed as God's servant; Jan 19 Christ revealed as Lamb of God; and Jan 26 Christ revealed as prophet. We hear the word proclaimed, sing the hymns of our faith, share the Eucharistic meal, and are encouraged to be the church to one another and to our community.

I look forward to our worship together.

*Arletta Anderson, Cantor
and Associate in Ministry*
ajp724@comcast.net



FAITH FORMATION



LUNCH & LEARN BIBLE STUDY
The Gospel of Matthew
BYOB (bring your own bag lunch)
Tuesdays @ Noon – Conf. Room
Starts January 7, 2014

The Gospel according to Matthew is our Lectionary Gospel for the new church year, which began the first Sunday in Advent.

According to the ELCA's first major Bible Study publication *Witness to the Word*, "The gospel of Matthew is probably the most widely-read book in the New Testament. Traditionally, Matthew's gospel has been the church's favorite gospel as it is quoted more than any others in official church documents and statements."

Join us for an in-depth look at Matthew's gospel as we study the gospel lesson for the coming Sundays. We will begin with an overview of Matthew's gospel (characteristics, Matthew's Jesus, the community Matthew writes to, etc.) and then proceed to the lectionary appointed gospel readings.

January Forum

Jan 5 **No forum**

Jan 12 **Sacraments—Baptism (Wengert)**
A video presentation by Professor Timothy Wengert of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia examines the cornerstone of our faith – baptism. Using the articles 9-13 of the Augsburg Confession as the basis for looking at Baptism, Wengert examines the important sacrament of Baptism.

Jan 19 **Lutheran Campus Ministry**
University of Washington

This year a change was made in campus ministry – Rev. Scott Postlewait left at the end of September to serve as Pastor of Advent Lutheran. The Campus Minister for this school year is Rev. Elizabeth Rawlings. She will explain some of the challenges & joys of changes in this time of transition. Come and meet Elizabeth & find out more about campus ministry.

Jan 26 **Forum on Annual Meeting**

The Finance Committee and the Council will lead the forum on the budget and reports as we prepare for the annual meeting later today.



JAM

Wednesdays
in January 15, 22, 29
Join us at 6 P.M. for dinner
followed by conversation and prayer.

Be forewarned:

These fourteen tales of transgressive pleasure are guaranteed to arouse your moral imagination.

The 7 Deadly Sins Sampler

is a popular anthology that includes 14 short story masterpieces selected for discussion and reflection. At the end of each story there are two sets of questions. The book is available online both used and new from Amazon, Barnes and Noble and other book retailers.

Below are the sins and their stories:

- Pride:** *A Rose for Emily*, William Faulkner
Good Country People, Flannery O'Connor
- Envy:** *Roman Fever*, Edith Wharton
Smokers, Tobias Wolff
- Anger:** *Mary Postgate*, Rudyard Kipling
Hairball, Margaret Atwood
- Sloth:** *The House with the Mezzanine*, Anton Chekhov
Shiloh, Bobbie Ann Mason
- Greed:** *The Rocking-Horse Winner*, D. H. Lawrence
The Inherited Clock, Elizabeth Bowen
- Gluttony:** *Fat*, Raymond Carver *Famine*, Xu Xi
- Lust:** *Not a Good Girl*, Perri Klass
For the Relief of Unbearable Urges,
Nathan Englander

Shalom Choir	5:30 – 6:10 P.M.
Meal	6:00 – 6:45 P.M.
Cherub Choir	6:15 – 6:45 P.M.
Faith Formation	6:45 – 7:20 P.M.

JAM is our acronym for Jibe At Midweek. Jibe is a sailing term meaning to change direction. This fall we are encouraging households in the congregation to **Jibe**, that is change direction on Wednesday nights and sail into the harbor of QALC to nourish both body and soul. Every Wednesday evening we will be serving delicious dinners for the whole family. Dinner is followed by engaging conversations to help you grow your faith.

Thoughts from a fellow parishioner . . .

With a quiet afternoon approaching (translation – home alone), I opened a Bible and the page staring me in the face revealed the following verse which led me to a few thoughts to share with you . . .

“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” 1 Peter 4:10

How did you do with your resolutions for 2013? About the same as other years? Can you remember what those resolutions were? Do not panic! As we enter 2014, we have another opportunity to start over. The privilege of starting over is one of the things in life that gives hope and courage as we look to the future.

A new year carries with it hope for the possibilities of the future, like:

Renewed health for those who are ill
Restored relationships for those who are estranged
The arrival of children into a family anxious to have them
Sufficient food for those living with scarcity
New inventions, experiences, and adventures
A place for those who are homeless
. . . and much, much more.

For many, a new year also carries with it fears, like:

Continued deterioration of one’s health
The death of a loved one
The loss of old traditions and ties to the past
The loss of significant relationships through conflict
. . . and much, much more.

Everything we have is given to us by God: our time, our health, our relationships, our property, our talents, the Gospel, and the environment. A Christian steward serves God out of love and gratitude for these gifts, knowing that it’s not how much we have, but what we do with what we have that is important.

We, as Christians, trust that the hope we have received in Christ is sufficient to conquer all the fears we may face, whether they be fears about our world, fears about ourselves, or even fears about our church. May 2014 bring you a renewed sense of this hope, and fill you with the peace that Christ came to earth to bring.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Ken Hockman

FINE ARTS MINISTRY

Sunday, March 2, 2014 ~ 3:00pm

The Liturgical Art of Ernst Schwidder 1932-1998

A most unique lecture and art presentation is coming to Queen Anne Lutheran Church

A graduate of the University of Washington, Ernst Schwidder became the first chair of the Valparaiso University (Indiana) Department of Art in 1958, and later a professor in the Art Departments at Seattle Pacific University and Pacific Lutheran University. Schwidder met Charles Stade who was the architect of the University’s Chapel of the Resurrection on the Valparaiso campus, dedicated in 1959. In 1963 Schwidder resigned his position at Valpo and went to work as a designer of chancels and chancel furnishings in the Charles Stade workshop.

The Schwidder family moved to the Pacific Northwest in 1964, but Schwidder continued to consult, carve, and work for Stade from the West Coast. Schwidder’s liturgical artwork can now be found in approximately 300 churches across the United States, including many churches in our area - Magnolia Lutheran, St John the Baptist Episcopal, Phinney Ridge Lutheran, all in Seattle; St Matthew Lutheran, Renton, St Yves Catholic, Mossyrock, Spanaway Lutheran, and many more.

Pastors Richard Tietjen, Joel Nickel, and Roger Sylwester, all recently retired from active parish ministry, decided to archive Ernst Schwidder’s work. Tietjen was Schwidder’s pastor during the final fifteen years of his life; Nickel and Sylwester are artists in their own right. Following Schwidder’s death in 1998, his family held many drawings, but little information was known about which drawings materialized into projects and which projects found their way to worship spaces. These three pastors have completed a lot of research and have quite a presentation to share with us.

Saturday, March 1, a tour of Seattle churches where Mr. Schwidder’s art is installed will be offered by these three presenters. Their lecture and visual presentation will be made on Sunday, March 2 at Queen Anne Lutheran at 3:00pm. A reception will follow. More details about the tour will be posted soon at www.queenannelutheran.org

Happy New Year! This is also a new time of beginning for QALC Women!

Have you noticed we have NOT announced our annual meeting? Needed - women with ideas for the annual meeting. Talk to Sallie, Pat, Allyson, or myself and give us YOUR suggestions.



st. joseph's Baby Corner

Celebrating 25 Years of Service

Twenty-five years after its founding in December 1988, St. Joseph's Baby Corner continues to provide essential items to families with young children living in poverty in the greater Seattle-King County area. Often the slip into poverty is sudden and unexpected and the needs are urgent and it's there that the huge service provided by St. Joseph's is so critical.

Right now the most urgent needs are for diapers of all sizes, baby hygiene items, receiving blankets and infant clothing. Please continue to leave your gently used outgrown baby items in the drawer in the narthex and they will be delivered to the Baby Corner. Please call me if you have items too large to fit in the drawer so I can arrange for them to be donated. And please consult the website at www.seattlebabycorner.org for more information on how you can make this 25th anniversary year their best year ever for serving the needs of Seattle's newest citizens and their families.

Thanks again for all your support.

Ellen Hockman
206-282-2341

IN CIRCLE BIBLE STUDIES - IN GOOD COMPANY: STORIES OF BIBLICAL WOMEN we study about offering Hospitality. We want our churches to be inviting and welcoming places. Sometimes we fall short. How do we live out God's hospitality in our communities? In session 5 we study Abigail, a calm strategist.

Theme verses: "Then Abigail hurried and took two hundred loaves, two skins of wine, five sheep, five measures of parched grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs. She loaded them on donkeys and said to her young men, "Go on ahead of me; I am coming after you" But she did not tell her husband Nabai" 1 Samuel 25:18-19

COME JOIN US AT A CIRCLE THIS MONTH.

The Lutherettes: 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30pm. Contact Allyson Fredericksen to find out what we have in store for this month!

Julia Circle: Monday January 6th.

Northern Lights: Monday January 13th at the Squires home.

Sunshiner's Circle: meets the last Wednesday of the month, call Shirley Flory.

Katie's Table: 3rd Saturday at 9a.m. at Luther's Table in Renton. Contact Sallie Wilson.

Sewing and Service: Wednesdays in January. Contact Lois Unseth or Shirley Flory.

PDQ's (Pizza, Damsels, and): 3rd Tuesday of most months, sometime after 5pm. Light supper provided. Contact Sallie Wilson.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Men's Group: The Queen Anne Men's Ministry invites men of all ages to join in conversation and service to the community on a regular basis. Regular monthly meeting includes discussion of Scriptural topics, how they relate our 21st century lives, and what we can do to live as Christians in the world.

We will move our Saturday meetings to the 2nd Saturday for January & February due to holidays the 3rd weekend.

Next discussion group Saturday, January 11 at 8:30 a.m. in Conference room (healthy snacks and coffee provided).

Rich Mathes, Richard Crummett

USHERS & COFFEE HOSTS NEEDED in January and February.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 9:30 - 10:15. From 9:30 - 9:40 we will meet in the chapel to sing together. From there we will break into classes to have a lesson, respond to the lesson through art, drama, games or music, and then have a snack.

No Sunday School January 5.

CONFIRMATION meets @ 9:15 a.m. in the Chapel Conference Room.

No Confirmation Class January 5 & 19.

Queen Anne Book Group

Month	Book/Author
January 27, 2014	<u>Blood, Bones and Butter</u> Gabrielle Hamilton
February 24, 2014	<u>Left Neglected</u> Lisa Genova
March 31, 2014	<u>The Cat's Table</u> Michael Ondaatje
April 28, 2014	<u>The Buddha in the Attic</u> Julie Otsuka

Faith and Film January 28th

Stay tuned for the movie selection in the bulletin and website . . .

CARE CONCERN for JOHN CONEY -

You can find the link on the homepage of our website:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4DACA82FAA8john>. If you cannot use the online form please contact Emmett Pritchard.

THANK YOU

"I used to preach"

Thank you to the dozen or so volunteers who helped make our Tuesday in November Community Lunch on Capitol Hill program a great success again this year. We helped to provide upwards of 250 people with hot lunches each Tuesday. One of the things that makes the program so rewarding is the gratitude expressed by many of the guests. For example, as I said goodbye to one gentleman, he responded by enthusiastically saying "my love for God . . . it's unreal. You can't even imagine. Thank you so much. You know, I used to preach . . ."

-Jim Margard

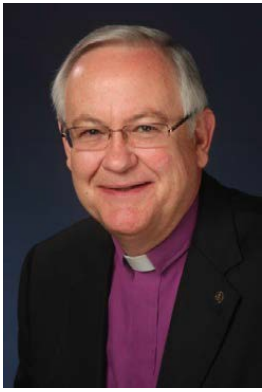
QALC Received the following Thank You's:

Ballard Food Bank

Compass Housing Alliance

Queen Anne Food Bank Sacred Heart

Queen Anne Helpline



Good News

by the Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop

It is always good to enter the New Year with some Good News!

Take a look around our typical Lutheran congregation and you may not see a lot of younger people in the pews. It would be easy to conclude that our young people are no longer participating in the church. It could be we are looking in the wrong place to see them.

I know when I was back in Pittsburgh for the ELCA Churchwide Assembly this year there was a record number of youth and young adult voting members. They were not only present but they made their voices heard on many issues. I was so impressed with how composed and articulate they were.

It is also worth rejoicing in the fact that we have a growing number of young adults applying to participate in the Young Adults in Global Mission Program. This program is growing with a goal of having 100 young people serving in ministry sites around the world. This year we have four young people from our synod serving: Gabe Moe-Lobeda, Luke Roehl, Abby Cress and Anna Guthrie.

There is also a surging interest in young people who want to serve domestically through Lutheran Volunteer Corps. Again, the applicants exceeded the number of positions available. Our LVC young adults are serving in some of the poorest communities in America and do so while living on a meager income. LVC unites volunteers with financial supporters, non-profit organizations and ministries to work for peace with justice across the nation, including an office here in Seattle.

Recently I attended a gathering at Seattle University of Ecumenical Partners some of whom just returned from the World Council of Churches in Korea. Guess what they said? They spoke of how impressed they were by the number of young adults who were present and actively engaged in the deliberations.

Add to this list a update I received about the United Nations Climate Change meeting in Warsaw where a group of seven Lutheran young adults have been leading the ecumenical and interfaith effort and initiating a fast, especially in solidarity with one of the leaders of the Filipino delegate who linked the lack of inaction with the devastation that has recently hit his homeland.

There are many more sightings that I am sure you could add to this list.

Our young people care about this world and they want to be actively involved in serving it. We need to applaud them for putting their faith into action and encountering Jesus throughout the world.

Adding to their hearts of service, I increasingly value our young people because of their cultural competency and fluency. They know how to navigate this culture. This is a form of wisdom our church needs to value and lift up for leadership.

Jesus often had to redirect the eyes and ears of his followers so that they could see and hear the signs of the kingdom.

I count our young people as a source of great news as we enter a New Year.



The Gift of Religious Imagination

Snow swirls outside as I sit down to write my Last WORD column for the start of the new year, the year of our Lord, 2014. Inside on the internet, television, radio, and print media words are swirling about regarding the controversy the *Arts and Entertainment Channel* (A&E) created when it suspended patriarch, Phil Robertson, for “words” unbecoming, this mega-millionaire and star of the most watched television show in America: *Duck Dynasty*.

Now, in the interest of full disclosure, I must confess I have never seen a single episode of *Duck Dynasty*. Out of sheer coincidence, just the week before Robertson interview went public, I attended a Christmas party where a guest was enthusiastically telling me about this series and how religious these people were. He concluded his conversation with this caveat to entreat me to watch: “They’re always praying.”

Robertson’s suspension was the result of his anti-gay remarks to *GQ* magazine. Homosexuality was listed among his sundry list of sins. According to Robertson: “Neither the adulterers, the idolaters, the male prostitutes, the homosexual offenders, the greedy, the drunkards, the slanderers, the swindlers – they won’t inherit the kingdom of God. Don’t deceive yourself. It’s not right.”

Mr. Robertson considers himself a devout, Bible-believing Christian and, as a devout, Bible-believing Christian, he knows when a sin is a sin. Camp Robertson has many devout Bible-believing Christians who share his view and believe this is a free speech issue. It may well be. I will resist weighing in on the issue of free speech and leave that decision to the courts. However, what I cannot resist is Robertson’s failure of religious imagination. This is *his* sin. Yes, I said sin. The failure of religious imagination leads to the sin of babledolatri. Yes, you heard it here first, babledolatri is the most ecumenical of sins. No believer, Lutheran, Catholic, Evangelical, Fundamentalist, or whatever can escape it. The sin of babledolatri begins with the lack of religious imagination.

Case in point: EPIPHANY! The new year of our Lord, 2014, begins with the celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany. Epiphany is the story of the Magi, Kings, Wise Men, Sorcerers, Astronomers, Palm Readers, etc. Pick whichever name suits you best. It doesn’t matter. Let your religious imagination run wild. Some days I like Wise Men and at other times the idea of **Magi**-cians intrigues me, too. It’s also fun to imagine the Magi to be like the Palm Readers who advertise on Aurora Avenue with their little globes in the windows. The Three Kings of Orient could have been one of those things or all of those things. No one knows for sure what this threesome was. Go ahead, let your religious imagination run wild.

For all we know one of them could have been gay. One of them could have been a drunkard or a swindler. And the gifts: the gold, the frankincense, and myrrh, could have been part of an international scam these three wise guys were working. And, quite possibly one of them could have been a woman, aka Barbara Streisand, in the film, *Yentil*. We just don’t know. Here, however, is what we do know; they came to worship the Christ-child. and the author of this story, the evangelist, St. Matthew, invites us, no, urges us, even compels us to use our religious imagination.

What kind of people would possibly come to the Lord Jesus Christ: prostitutes for sure, prodigal sons, too, and don't count out the swindlers, whoops, I mean tax collectors, and the woman who anointed Jesus feet with that expensive perfume. Religious imagination is what faith is and vice-versa. Faith is, as the writer of the letter to the Hebrews says, "the assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen." You can't have faith without religious imagination. Without faith you have biblesolatry.

Biblesolatry is not faith in Jesus Christ crucified and risen. Biblesolatry is Bible worship. The Bible is not God. Grant it, picking and choosing what you want to believe in the Bible and then declaring the Bible to be your infallible, paper pope is much more to our liking. That way we get to choose who is in and who is out. In other words, we get to play God. Conservative Christians are not the only ones who are guilty of biblesolatry. My friends on the left are equally guilty of biblesolatry; picking and choosing the scriptures that support their sacred cows and ignoring those pesky inconvenient truths.

We do not worship the Bible. We worship the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. No one knew this better than our own Blessed Martin Luther who said, "The Bible is the cradle in which Christ is laid." Like the Magi, or were they Kings, or just three Wise Guys from New Jersey, who knows? What we do know is they came to worship the King of Kings, the Savior, Jesus Christ, and not the manger. And what about those shepherds, the ones to whom an angel of the Lord said: "I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people, for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, Christ the Lord." With my religious imagination running wild I can only assume that among those shepherds, one or two of them might have been . . . well, let me leave that to your imagination.

I envy those countries where Epiphany, the Twelfth day of Christmas, is the day they exchange gifts. Their celebration of "Christmas" is about the arrival of the three "special" visitors bearing gifts. My own religious imagination runs wild thinking about who were these first worshippers of Christ. It makes me wonder if at least one of the three wasn't a Lutheran. Maybe? Maybe not, because history tells us if one of them would have been a Lutheran, one of the gifts would have been a "hot dish."

Blessed Religious Imagination this Epiphany,

Pastor Wayne

