

**"SERVING CHRIST THROUGH WORSHIP,  
LEARNING, AND CARING"** mission statement

Church Staff

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Church website: <http://www.firstlutherantacoma.com>

**JUNE 2009 FIRST REPORTS**

**June 14**



**Last Day of Sunday School**

**Recognition of teachers  
(grads recognition 6/7)**



**Church potluck picnic  
after the second service**

Please bring a hot dish, salad or dessert to share

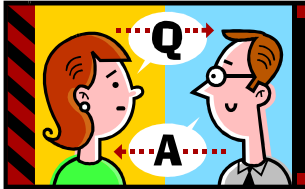


**Save the date!**  
**Creative Arts Vacation Bible School**  
**July 13-17, 2009**  
**9am-12pm**  
**Cost: \$5/child**

**@ First Lutheran Church**  
**524 S. I Street, Tacoma, 98405**  
**272-1538 | [www.firstlutherantacoma.com](http://www.firstlutherantacoma.com)**

You are invited on an exciting adventure of creative expression and faith exploration! During the week we'll sing, act, dance, and play together, connecting creative arts to faith and discovering ways God works in our lives through art.

All ages will also participate in a production of an original musical directed by Judy Hulbert, North End Children's Theater Artistic Director and Duane Hulbert, UPS Music Professor



**ACE Spanish Language Camp**  
**July 20-23, 2009, 1-4pm**  
**\$159/child**

Take an imaginary trip to Peru! At A.C.E's Summer Camp, language learning is fun! The program combines fun and education for all school-age kids and includes games, physical activities, crafts, songs, and cultural projects. Children will learn through practical language using their imagination!  
Questions?: contact Marita Paly, ACE Program Coordinator  
(253)265-6356, or Nina Banken, 752-2127

**See insert for registration forms**

## Year to Date Financial Update

Income through April 2009	\$ 96,603.62
Extra Giving toward Deficit Reduction	11, 579.00
Expenses through April	<u>(103,013.63)</u>
Income/Loss through April	(5,169.09)
2008 Deficit	<u>(22,580.85)</u>
Total Deficit (2008 + 2009)	\$ (17,411.76)



The first Sunday of each month (usually) is an opportunity to purchase fair trade coffee, tea, and chocolate for use at home. Stop by the table and to share your preferences for items we should regularly have available.

Come to the Fellowship hall between 10-10:30 and following the late service!

Coffee: \$7/bag  
Chocolate bars: \$3/each  
Tea: \$3/box

For more info about fair trade, faith, and justice visit [www.lwr.org/coffee](http://www.lwr.org/coffee)





## FROM YOUR PASTOR

When I was the pastor of the Stavanger, Norway International Church, this time of year meant saying a lot of goodbyes. The school year ended and summer vacations--along with job transfers--combined so that 1/3 of the congregation would leave and not return in August. Each year the leadership of the congregation wondered who would fill the vacant pews and positions of leadership. We all got good at saying “The Lord will provide.” The Lord did provide, and fresh faces with plentiful gifts always appeared by the end of August.

As I think about those August Sundays, I realize that they were Pentecost Sundays. People from all over the world would arrive in Norway with two things in common: English and Christian faith. They were examples of Acts 2 where people from all nations were able to speak the “Christian” language in unison. The short sermon which concludes the miracle of Pentecost is spoken by Peter:

*“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” (Acts 2.38-39)*

We are saying our goodbyes to Jacob and Elisabeth Himmelman this Pentecost season. We will notice their absence for a number of reasons including: Jacob’s presence on the Church Council; his gifts of art and design; Elisabeth’s “I can do anything” attitude and work ethic as a member of our staff. Their gifts in our midst will be celebrated on June 28<sup>th</sup> as we say our formal goodbye to them. I know you will want to join with me in expressing your appreciation to them.

How will the Lord provide for us when leadership positions become vacant? I don’t know “how,” but I do know “that” the Lord will provide! Like the surprise at Pentecost, people with spiritual gifts will emerge from our midst, or they will walk in the door some

Sunday and we will know very soon that they speak our language of Christian faith.

In the face of a sacrificial death, Abraham said “The Lord will provide” to his son Isaac. We say the same, knowing that the promise of the Gospel is for us, our children, and for everyone “whom the Lord our God calls to him.” Wait patiently for the Lord to call someone for particular service within our midst. And, if the Pentecost story is still fresh and alive, don’t be surprised if the Lord God calls you! We’ll be waiting hopefully for your response.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Philip Nesvig

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

- The Leadership of our church and our youth. Pray for our troops and their families – Bryon Lavell.
- Our friends who are no longer able to get about easily: Agnes Larsen, Clarence Olsen, Lucille & Cliff Dahlin, Martha Saretske, Ollie Callson, Rod & Selma Larson
- Karin Hirschert—recovery from kidney surgery, Sheila Moe—broken foot, Dr. Robert Klein, Andrew Peterson—wellness, Russ Warner—wellness, David Hamilton—cancer treatment, Hosanna Cook—cancer (Valerie Stewart’s friend), Mary Elinore & Dennis Roley—health issues, Luke Beardemphl—treatment for Hodgkins Lymphoma (Teresa Troy’s friend’s son), Craig Pynn—cancer (Elisabeth Himmelman’s father), David Hulbert—cancer (Duane’s brother), Julie Hendricks—cancer (Heidi Norman’s cousin), Cathy Swenson—cancer (RoAnn Septon’s friend), Harold Nielsen, Jr.—ill (Helen Bates’ nephew), Al Girtz—kidney cancer (Lois Halley’s brother), Andy Sharpe--recurrent lymphoma, Kathy Jasper—breast cancer (Teresa Unkrur’s friend), Jacquie Moats--cancer (Karen Moats’ Mother-in-Law), Dorothy—MRSA virus causing kidney & lung problems
- The prayer chain may be reached by calling Judy Hulbert, 756-9628 or the church office, 272-1538.

## PARISH LIFE COORDINATOR

Elisabeth Himmelman ehimmelman@wamail.net

Well, it's true! Jacob and I are taking a leap of faith and moving to the second coldest metropolitan city in the U.S. – Milwaukee, WI! Jacob will attend the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee to study architecture, and I hope to find a job using my MSW degree in the anti-hunger field. It's a whole new chapter, and we are simultaneously overwhelmed and excited. We are exceptionally grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the community of faith at First Lutheran over the last four years, and will miss it deeply.

After my graduation on June 12, Jacob and I will pack up our belongings and depart for Milwaukee at the end of the month. I will return to Tacoma for the month of July to lead VBS, the youth trip to New Orleans, and to wrap up other loose ends. I will remain on the FLC staff through July 31.

We would like to celebrate this new adventure with our friends and family, and invite you to join us for an open house on Saturday, June 13 from 1:00-5:00 pm at our home. All are welcome; we hope you can stop by!

I want to offer my deepest gratitude for your support of me in the Parish Life role and of Jacob and me as members of the First Lutheran family. Our First Lutheran family has made an immeasurable impact on both of us.

With humble and grateful hearts, thank you!!!!

Blessings,  
Elisabeth

## **VOLUNTEER AT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!**

Creative Arts Vacation Bible School is back this summer:  
**Monday-Friday, July 13-17, from 9am-12pm, with a performance and picnic on Sunday, July 19!**

The event will be an opportunity to reach out to our community with a high energy, Christ-centered, exciting way to spend 5 days of summer! Each day will include participation in an original play as well as daily rotations in art, games, and service projects. With the goal to expand children's understanding and love of God through artistic expression.

***Now you have the opportunity to say "sure, I'd love to help!" We need Art/Craft leaders for 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 days between 9:30-11:30am. Would you prayerfully consider participating?***

Contact Elisabeth: 272-1538 or [ehimmelman@wamail.net](mailto:ehimmelman@wamail.net)



**First Lutheran Graduating  
Seniors and Families  
OPEN HOUSE  
June 7, 2009  
2-5 PM  
@  
Maggie Ross' home  
(Andy Roberts' mom)**

