



Servants' Song

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
and Catch the Son Preschool
A Reconciling in Christ congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

April
2024

*Called by God
to share the Good News,
we are the hands
of Christ*

- ✚ *Lifted in worship*
- ✚ *Joined in learning*
- ✚ *Extended in service*
- ✚ *Supporting in love*
- ✚ *Reaching for justice*

In this Issue

Pastor Jana Schofield

P. 2

Bishop Shelly Bryan Wee

P. 3

April Calendar

P. 4-5

Catch the Son Preschool

P. 8-11

Sunday Adult Ed

P. 12-13

Children & Youth Ministry

P. 14-16

New Members

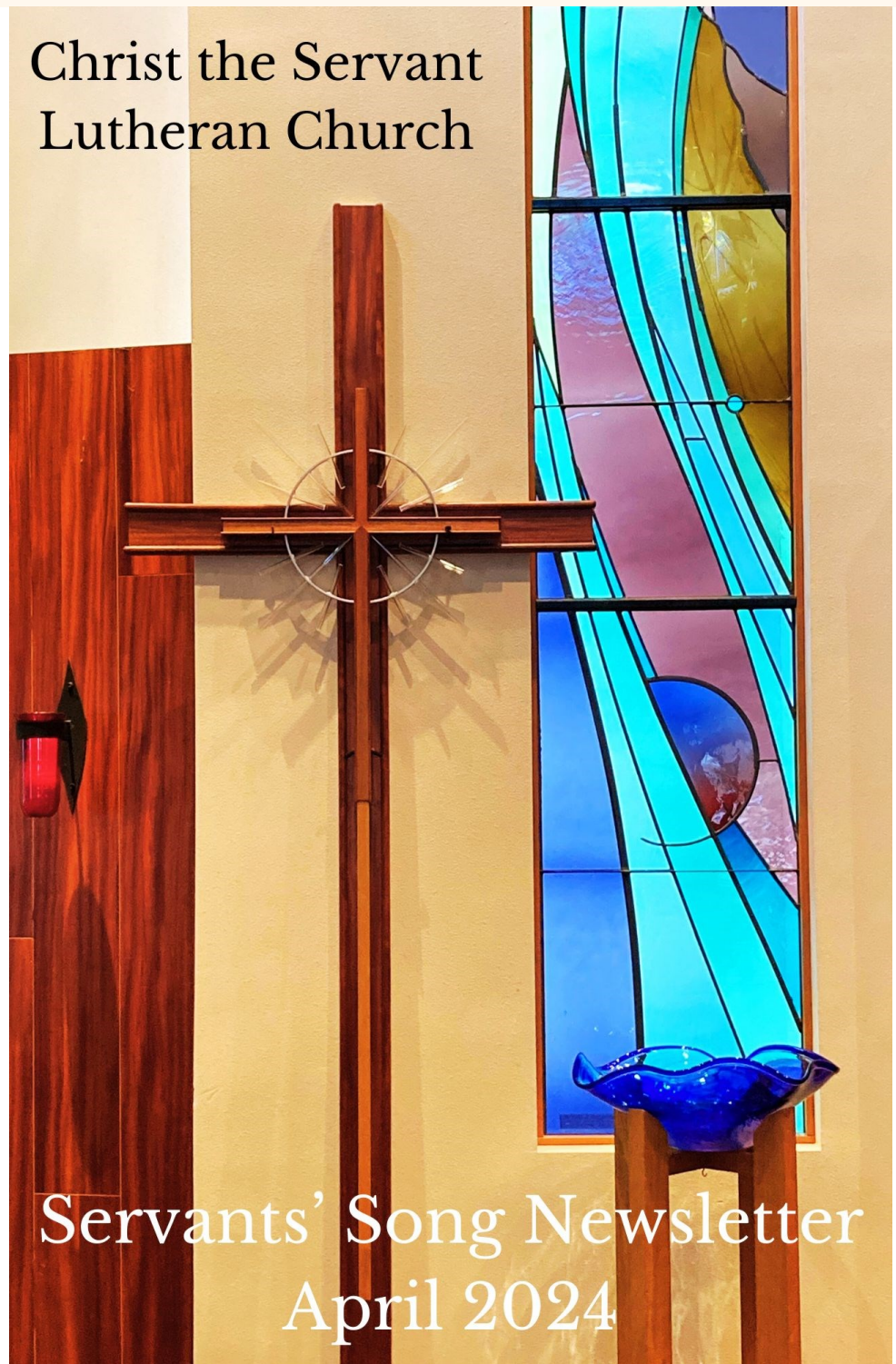
P. 19

**Council Minutes &
Financial Recap**

P. 24-27

And much more!

Christ the Servant
Lutheran Church



Servants' Song Newsletter
April 2024



From Pastor Jana

I've been reading some poems by Mary Oliver during Lent. This one especially struck me:

Worried by Mary Oliver

I worried a lot. Will the garden grow, will the rivers
flow in the right direction, will the earth turn
as it was taught, and if not how shall

I correct it?

Was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven,
can I do better?

Will I ever be able to sing, even the sparrows
can do it and I am, well,
hopeless.

Is my eyesight fading or am I just imagining it,
am I going to get rheumatism,
lockjaw, dementia?

Finally, I saw that worrying had come to nothing.
And gave it up. And took my old body
and went out into the morning,
and sang.

~~~

We just came from experiencing the Easter story in which an angel tells the women at the tomb not to worry. But they had every reason to worry at the disappearance of Jesus' body! And don't we have every reason to worry?!? Wars and rumors of wars, inflation, financial stress, illness and disease, aging, relationship woes, fear about the future, too much to do and too little time to do it.... Or as Mary so beautifully puts it, "was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven, can I do better?"

Worry seems built into our DNA...all the way back to the first recorded humans in Genesis 3 who were worried they were naked when they heard God walking in the garden. Worry is usually our default emotion when we are facing something new or unknown. And worry can immobilize us and cloud our memory and ability to function.

But that's where Mary (both the Mary at the tomb and the Mary of poetry) have something to teach us. Mary at the tomb (and really, all the women at the tomb) were worried, but still believed in the resurrected Jesus and went and told the story that Jesus was alive and death had been defeated. They felt the fear and did it anyway.

And Mary Oliver realized that her worry had come to nothing, so she took her old body, the one that was worried she'd ever be able to sing, into the morning... and sang.

My dear friends in Christ...when you are worried, feel the fear and do it anyway. Go sing when you don't think you can sing! Go confidently to speak truth even when you are shaking in your boots! Don't ever forget that resurrection always has the last word, and even when you don't know what the future holds, you know Who holds the future.

And most importantly, remember the words of the angel and the promise of Jesus: Do not fear...do not be afraid...fear not... "and remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matt. 28:20).

Easter blessings,

Pastor Jana

Pastor Jana is available:

**In the Office:** Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday

**By email:** [pastorjana@ctslutheran.org](mailto:pastorjana@ctslutheran.org)

**By cell** 360-325-5269, including for emergencies  
anytime—messages checked regularly

**Off on Mondays and most Saturdays**

Working from home on Fridays for sermon writing



### From the Bishop:

In fifth grade, I started playing trumpet. This wasn't the instrument that I chose – it was chosen for me because my aunt had an old trumpet and my mom said, "If you want to be in band, you can use this trumpet." But even though I wanted to play the flute, the trumpet was definitely the instrument for me. I loved playing trumpet. I loved the sound, the way to make different notes with just three valves, using different mutes that produced complexity of tone. I loved to polish and clean my trumpet – especially when I received a new silver trumpet in high school. The only thing I didn't like was carrying it to and from school because of the big hill that we lived on.

In high school I was in both band and jazz band. In jazz band we traveled to many competitions – winning the Reno Jazz Festival one year. When I look back on my experience in band, I realize that there are so many things that I continue to apply in my life, and as part of the body of Christ, that go back to being in band.

First, you can't be a band on your own. If you play a solo instrument, that is lovely. But that isn't a band. There needs to be a group to form a band – it can be small or large – but an agreement that you are engaging with one another and playing music with one another leads to forming a band. If you are using music, the same music is important – also the same key and the same beats per measure helps. An agreement on how fast or slow the tempo is important. In short, community is needed for a band.

Second, you can't all play the same instrument. I mean, I love the trumpet – but a band of trumpets is one dimensional (and can be very loud). I admit that as much as I love brass, you need more than brass to form a band. We have all heard brass quartets – but for a band, you need the saxophone, the piccolo, the clarinet, the drum, and so much more. Diversity is needed in a band.

Third, you can't drown out others. I speak as one who plays trumpet. Trumpets know how to be loud. And if trumpeters are not careful, they will hide the beauty of the other instruments. There is nothing more gorgeous than notes from an oboe coming from seemingly nowhere to fill the air with that wistful, haunting sound. In other words, listen for the woodwinds. A variety of sounds and voices are needed in a band – especially those that are more hidden.

Fourth, harmony doesn't mean the same note. It would be boring if every single instrument played the very same note for every song in a band's repertoire. Our ears are tuned to hear melody, harmony, dissonance, and resolution. In a band, it is imperative that different notes are played – different rhythm patterns are introduced, and a play amongst the instruments happens. Harmony and dissonance are needed in a band.

Dear people of God, these four things are also needed in the church and in the world: Community, diversity, variety of sound and voice, harmony and dissonance. I invite you to think about your worshiping community. How are we all like a band? How can we be more intentional in these four areas?

Our composer and maestro is God – God is directing and leading us – in the music we co-create. May this spring awaken you in the beauty and grace of God. May the community in which you gather bring music in all its fullness.

+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee / [bishop@lutheransnw.org](mailto:bishop@lutheransnw.org)

## Calendar April 2024

### *Restroom Use for Groups Meeting at CTS*

If your group meets at CTS during Preschool Hours, Monday - Friday 8:00 AM-1:00 PM, please use the restrooms at the far north end of the building while preschool is in session. There are two gender-neutral restrooms, including ADA accessible stalls, for your use.

### **Monday, April 1**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed  
Preschool Spring Break*

### **Tuesday, April 2**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed  
Preschool Spring Break*

11:30 AM Women's Book Club (Conference Room)  
4:00 PM Deadline for Bulletin/Weekly Note submissions  
7:00 PM Community Ministries mtg. (via Zoom)  
7:00 PM "Into Action" AA

### **Wednesday, April 3**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed  
Preschool Spring Break*

6:45 PM Male Chorus (Sanctuary)  
7:30 PM Servant Singers (Sanctuary)

### **Thursday, April 4**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed  
Nicole - vacation/holiday  
Preschool Spring Break*

10:00 AM Stewardship Committee (Conference Rm.)  
4:00 PM BFOM Chorus Auditions (Sanctuary)

### **Friday, April 5**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed  
Preschool Spring Break*

9:00 Men's Fellowship (Church Narthex)  
5:00 PM York Street AA

### **Saturday, April 6**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed*  
8:30 AM Men's Group Breakfast  
10:00 AM BFOM Chorus Auditions (Sanctuary)

### **Sunday, April 7**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed*  
9:30 AM Worship  
10:45 AM Bridge Youth Group (Youth Room)  
11:00 AM Adult Education (Adult Forum)  
11:00 AM Memory Loss Support Groups (Library)

### **Sunday, April 7 (continued)**

11:00 AM Prayer Partner Ministry info (Narthex)

### **Monday, April 8**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed*  
8:30 AM Preschool  
5:30 PM CTS Finance Committee

### **Tuesday, April 9**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed*  
*Council Report Submission Deadline*  
8:30 AM Preschool  
11:30 AM Women's Book Club  
1:00 PM Executive Committee mtg. (Conference Room)  
3:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry (Youth Room)  
4:00 PM Deadline for Bulletin/Weekly Note submissions  
7:00 PM "Into Action" AA  
7:00 PM Worship, Music, Arts Committee

### **Wednesday, April 10**

*Pastor Jana - Vacation/Continuing Ed*  
8:30 AM Preschool  
11:00 AM CTS Staff Mtg. (Conference Room)  
4:30 PM Preschool Exec. Team  
6:30 PM Compassionate Friends (Adult Ed. Room)  
6:30 PM Personnel Committee (Conference Room)  
6:45 PM Male Chorus (Sanctuary)  
7:30 PM Servant Singers (Sanctuary)

### **Thursday, April 11**

8:30 AM Preschool  
11:30 AM CTS Lunch at the Willows  
1:00 PM Communion Service at the Willows  
2:30 PM Garden View Meal Prep (Kitchen)  
7:00 PM Justice Seekers (Zoom)

### **Friday, April 12**

8:30 AM Preschool  
9:00 Men's Fellowship (Church Narthex)  
2:00 PM Chris Berry Memorial Service  
5:00 PM York Street AA

### **Saturday, April 13**

9:00 AM Renewing Worship Team Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### **Sunday, April 14**

9:30 AM Worship  
10:45 AM Compassion Circle (Youth Room)  
11:00 AM Adult Education (Adult Forum)  
11:00 AM Contemplative Youth (Godly Play Room)  
11:00 PM Property Committee (Conference Room)

**Monday, April 15**

8:30 AM Preschool  
7:00 PM Deep Waters Committee (off site)

**Tuesday, April 16**

8:30 AM Preschool  
11:30 AM Women's Book Club (Conference Room)  
4:00 PM Deadline for Bulletin/Weekly Note submissions  
6:30 PM Church Council (Adult Ed. Room)  
7:30 PM "Into Action" AA

**Wednesday, April 17**

8:30 AM Preschool  
12:00 PM OPOP mtg. (off site)  
6:00 PM Whatcom Clergy and Lay Leaders (Adult Ed Rm.)  
6:45 PM Male Chorus (Sanctuary)  
7:30 PM Servant Singers (Sanctuary)

**Thursday, April 18**

8:30 AM Preschool  
11:30 AM Text Study with Pastor Jana (Conference Rm.)  
4:30 PM Mutual Ministry Committee (Conference Room)

**Friday, April 19**

*CTS Women's Retreat*  
8:30 AM Preschool  
9:00 AM Men's Fellowship (Church Narthex)  
5:00 PM York Street AA

**Saturday, April 20**

*CTS Women's Retreat*  
*Newsletter deadline*  
9:00 AM Hearing Loss Association (Fellowship Room)

**Sunday April 21**

*CTS Women's Retreat*  
9:30 AM Worship  
11:00 AM Adult Ed Class (Adult Forum room)  
11:00 AM Memory Loss Support Groups (Library)

**Monday, April 22**

*Pastor Jana at Bishop's Convocation*  
8:30 AM Preschool

**Tuesday, April 23**

*Pastor Jana at Bishop's Convocation*  
8:30 AM Preschool  
11:30 AM Women's Book Club (Conference Room)  
4:00 PM Deadline for Bulletin/Weekly Note submissions  
7:00 PM "Into Action" AA

**Wednesday, April 24**

*Pastor Jana at Bishop's Convocation*  
8:30 AM Preschool  
6:45 PM Male Chorus (Sanctuary)  
7:30 PM Servant Singers (Sanctuary)

**Thursday, April 25**

*Pastor Jana - all day Synod Candidacy*  
8:30 AM Preschool

**Friday, April 26**

8:30 AM Preschool  
9:00 AM Men's Fellowship (Church Narthex)

**Saturday, April 27**

8:30 AM Hearing Loss Workshop (Conference Room)  
9:00 AM Playground Work Party  
12:15 PM Assumption Community Meal

**Sunday, April 28**

*Nicole on vacation*  
9:30 AM Worship  
10:30 AM Blood Pressure Checks (Library)  
11:00 AM Adult Ed. Class (Adult Forum Room)  
11:00 AM Contemplative Youth (Youth Room)

**Monday, April 29**

8:30 AM Preschool

**Tuesday, April 30**

8:30 AM Preschool  
11:30 AM Women's Book Club  
4:00 PM Deadline for Bulletin/Weekly Note submissions  
7:30 PM "Into Action" AA

## Pastoral coverage

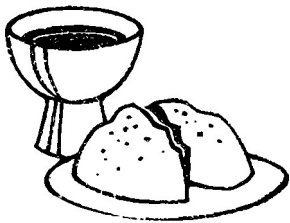
Pastor Jana will be away on vacation and continuing education April 1-10, and for the synod Bishop's convocation April 22-24. Claudia Ackerman will offer emergency pastoral coverage, with backup and Sunday worship presiding from Pr. Harry Grinstead. Please contact Claudia if you have an emergency pastoral need while Pastor Jana is away (360-306-7723).

## Pastor Chris Berry Memorial Service

Join loved ones to remember Pastor Chris Berry and commend him to Christ's eternal care on Friday, April 12 at 2:00pm at CTS. Pastor Andy Yee will be preaching.

## Lunch and Communion at The Willows, Thursday April 11

Pastor Jana Schofield offers communion this month at The Willows (3115 Squalicum Pkwy.) at 1:00 on Thursday April 11. This will be preceded by lunch at 11:30 AM for anyone who wishes to participate.



LUNCH: All are welcome. Please contact Jennifer Johnson (360-920-3865) if you plan to have lunch as a head count for the staff is important. The cost is \$15 and payment by check or cash is accepted. The staff requests no credit cards please.

## Monthly Text Study, Thursday April 18 with Pastor Jana

*Third Thursdays of each month from 11:30am-1:00pm,  
CTS Conference Room*

Take a deeper look at upcoming Sunday lectionary scripture texts with Pastor Jana as we use mutual invitation to explore what God is doing and saying to us--both personally and to our congregation/community. All are welcome. Feel free to bring a lunch to eat while we share.



## Fellowship Helpers Needed

Spring term has begun, sign up now so we might continue to offer weekly Fellowship Hour after worship service. Each Sunday three roles are available: "Host" to set up,

"Goodie Provider" to supply 4-6 dozen treats,

"Clean Up" to tidy and sanitize.

Volunteer through the link in your weekly note, or contact  
Sally Holloway 360-510-7092.

## Reminder: Restroom Use for Groups Meeting at CTS

If your group meets at CTS during Preschool Hours, Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-1:00 PM, please remind your group members that it is our policy to keep adults and children separate in the restrooms. Please ask your group to use the rest rooms at the far north end of the building while preschool is in session. There are two gender-neutral restrooms, including ADA accessible stalls, for your use.



## CTS Prayer Partners

Dear Servants~

“When you call out to me and come to me in prayer, I will hear your prayers. When you seek me in prayer and worship, you will find me available to you. If you seek me with all your heart and soul, I will make myself available to you, says the Lord.” Jeremiah 29:12-14.

This invitation to pray empowers me to pray. Most of my life prayer has been hard for me. If ever asked to pray out loud, I couldn't do it, or I would immediately cry; even when praying in the quiet of myself, the words just sometimes don't come. During my training to become a Faith Community Health Minister, the idea of a Prayer Station and Prayer Partners was introduced to me. It sounded like a wonderfully scary idea, but I wanted to offer it to CTS. I knew that if I were to become a Prayer Partner, I would have to face some fears; if I were to visit the prayer station with my own petitions, I would have to challenge myself.

In opening the prayer station and becoming a prayer partner, I have somewhat overcome my hesitance, even though I still get nervous and sometimes cry. I have found that praying with others has helped me to believe I am heard, and hearing others pray for themselves or request me to pray with them, or to just simply sit in silence, has blessed me in countless ways. I have come to understand that nothing is too big or too small when accepting God's availability. Whatever hesitancies, or embarrassment, or shame, or fear holds you back from partnering in this way, I invite you to visit the prayer station on Sunday mornings during communion and find your own blessing.

If you would like to know more about serving as a prayer partner, please consider gathering in the narthex living room area on **Sunday, April 7th**, immediately following the service, for a brief introductory training.

Blessings,  
Claudia Ackerman



## Catch the Son Preschool

In 1985 a group of CTS mothers shared frustrations in locating options for “good first school experiences” for their toddlers. There were plenty of organized preschools, but none inviting families with 2.5-year-olds to begin socializing and group learning. Karen Stuen, Tisch Lynch, and Pat Fournier reached out to Whatcom Community College to begin a new Cooperative Early Learning Program. Reginia Priebe and Peggy Wepprecht were the first college Parenting Educators, providing structure and guidance for the newly formed Parent Advisory Board. The advisory board hired the first Children’s Teacher, Linda Stevenson. Christ the Servant Lutheran had just completed the first classrooms with attached child sized restroom, so we were ready. The planners decided on a play-based curriculum with the expectation that children and families would catch a bit of the love of Jesus through Catch the Son Preschool.



### Today Catch the Son Cooperative Preschool offers up:



- Play Group class for 2.5 -3-year-olds.
- A 2-Day and a 3-Day Option for Pre-schoolers 3-4 old.
- A 3-Day and a new 4-Day option for Pre-Kindergarteners.

Catch the Son Preschool provides families with a safe and loving environment for their children. Because it is a cooperative preschool, the families work together and find the support and encouragement needed during an often exhausting and confusing stage. Children are met where they are, and classroom teachers know each of their student's academic and social-emotional strengths and needs.



Catch the Son Preschool is integrated into the community and ministry of Christ the Servant. Church staff view the preschool as part of their ministry and share the gospel through their words and actions. Preschool Chapel time may be the only church some families and children experience. Seeds are being sown. Teachers encourage the students to play and facilitate social skills along the way. Even though it seems like they are "just playing", they are learning valuable skills, including important social skills and cooperation with others. All children have at least 1 hour of free-choice time in the classroom and an additional 30 minutes of gross motor play outside on our playground or in our indoor gym.

### **The following are reflections from some of the people deeply involved in the preschool program and ministry:**

*My daughter Cate went to Catch the son preschool. She is now 42. I loved the co-op idea that parents worked in the classroom and learned new skills from the teachers to employ at home. Children really liked seeing their parents at school, and it was also a nice way for parents to meet other parents with same age children. Having the Lutheran pastor involved led to many questions about God and how this related to their life. Love and learning were created in this space, and I believe it is a wonderful foundation for children. Dave and I are proud to tell others about (our) school and so happy to see one of our friends has their daughter Victoria in the school. - Tisch Lynch*



*In 1990, when demand was great but supplies and funds were short, I was hired. For two years I worked for 1/2 salary in order to build up funds and some security for the school. With the hiring of Teacher Pat and additional classrooms completed, we were able to eventually add a preschool, Pre-K, Kindergarten enrichment, and a Kindergarten. Teachers around the district are always happy to have Catch the Son kids in their classrooms. Now I work as an aide, conducting assessments and providing extra help for children struggling in various areas of academic growth. The school is a huge support for parents with different needs and questions. When we don't have the answers, we help them find them. My favorite image of the school is walking down the halls and hearing the excitement, learning and cooperation going on in the classrooms, seeing backpacks and coats hanging in the hallways, noticing the bulletin boards displaying the kids artwork, and the greeting the parking lot full of families who are visiting and laughing, waiting to pick up their children. I treasure all the friends and memories made.*

- Teacher, Kathy Eiford, 1990-present



*Catch the Son was set up as a cooperative school, involving parents as their child's first and best teacher, working alongside me and more importantly, with their child. As a teacher I not only enjoyed teaching and getting to know the children, but I had the opportunity to work with and get to know their parents too! Some of my best memories are watching parents have fun with their children, loving their children, learning right alongside each other. My heart is full of good times with children and their families and that's what comes to mind when I think of the years I spent at Catch the Son. That and singing with the children—lots and lots of singing while I strummed my guitar!*

- Teacher Pat Fournier, visionary, educator, and former CTS member

*I am a proud Catch the Son mom and grandma of kids that benefited from our preschool. My daughter Laura was one of the children who followed Teacher Pat from St James Cooperative Preschool to our beautiful new classrooms at CTS. It was such a joy to be a co-op parent under our special teachers Pat and Kathy. Lifelong friendships were formed as Laura, Dan Stuen, Max Drewes, Kirstin Thorpe, Jake Brog and others grew up together, being nurtured in God's love both in worship and in school. And now all these years later, Laura and Jeremy sent their daughter Ella to Catch the Son to be taught by Teacher Kathy and Dana! Ella is now finishing 1st grade and her little brother Brady has joined CTSon 3-day preschool with Teacher Katie and will continue on to 4-day Pre-K next year!*

- Cindy Henninger, CTS member, mom and grandmother

*What I love about our preschool is that teachers see every child as unique and meet them at whatever stage they're at in their social, emotional, physical, spiritual and academic development. Our teachers create vibrant classrooms with lots of options for kids to explore: the imagination center with dress-ups and props so that kids can be a shopkeeper, a veterinarian, an astronaut or an under sea explorer; an art center with a variety of mediums to create unique and sometimes messy works of art; a center with manipulatives with legos and blocks for building and creating. A favorite memory is the kids observing the wonder of nature and God's creation by watching the metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a chrysalis into a butterfly. Our teachers are well prepared to help kids learn how to manage their big feelings, how to work with others in a group, and how to be kind and caring classmates. The parent coop participation helps us keep tuition costs down, but it also creates a wonderful sense of community as parents connect with other parents and in some cases, become lifelong friends.*

- Kathy Dooley, grateful Catch the Son parent and former Preschool Administrator

*The Catch the Son image that comes to mind is drop-off in the morning: parents and children waiting at the doors for their teachers to come and get them; the trust that parents place in us to care for their most precious possession and release them into our care; the progression from toddlers needing the assistance of their parents to get through the morning routine of hanging up backpacks and coats and washing hands to the pre-k students who confidently take themselves through the necessary steps to get ready for class and simply need an adult present to supervise rather than assist. The halls of Christ the Servant, Monday through Friday from September to May, are filled with the joyous sounds of children who have been given the gift of a safe and loving space to learn foundational skills that last a lifetime.*

- Veronica Hains, current Catch the Son Preschool Administrator, Pre-school Teacher, and parent





# Catch the Son Preschool shines!



Teachers Dana and Veronica kick off the Envelope Fundraiser

CTS kids collect the "Noisy Offering"



Kids take turns holding "Tiny" the Leopard Gecko in Teacher Maddie's Pre-K class. Can you find Tiny?

Teacher Dana's class working on craft projects



Chapel Time with Teacher Katie's and Teacher Lindsey's Preschool classes and Pastor Jana

Pre-K students visit the CTS office for a treat!



Playgroup and Pre-K classes enjoy Chapel Time with Ms. Nicole





|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| Noisy Offering | \$616.36 |
|----------------|----------|

|                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| Envelope Fundraiser | \$3,354 |
|---------------------|---------|

|       |            |
|-------|------------|
| Total | \$3,970.36 |
|-------|------------|

*Thank You!*  
For Your Support

## SPRING 2024 ADULT ED DATES AND INFORMATION

*Sundays 11:00AM - 12:00 PM*



April 7

### **I John (Adult Ed Room)**

Led by Mary Beth Neal

"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God." Share times when God's love has been evident in your own life.

### **Memory Loss Support Groups (Library)**

Facilitated by Jennifer Johnson, Lynn McKinster, and John Reitz, these groups are for anyone experiencing memory loss symptoms or anyone caring for or living with someone experiencing memory loss symptoms. Join us for one hour on the first Sunday of the month in the CTS Church library following worship service.

April 14

### **Dyslexia (Adult Ed Room)**

*Led by Sam Grubbs*

We will have discussion and sharing about Dyslexia from those who experience it and those who teach the young and old how to cope and thrive despite dyslexia.

### **Compassion Circle (Youth Room)**

Compassion Circle, facilitated by David Westerlund, is a process of story sharing that builds deeper connections, and vital skills of listening, empathy, and compassion.

Meets in the Youth Room, and begins 15 minutes following the end of worship.

April 21

**No Adult Forum today; enjoy fellowship and/or hiking with the CTS Hiders!**

### **Memory Loss Support Groups (Library)**

April 28

### **Author visit from Terry Kylo, *Go and Do Likewise: Following Jesus into our Common Humanity* (Adult Ed Room)**

Author Pr. Terry Kylo will share about his conversations with Christian groups and leaders of diverse wisdom traditions to give guidance about how to navigate this fractured time in our society. He helps Christians find their reason for knowing and working with people from all walks of life. He writes: "I don't just think it's okay to work with people of different cultures. I believe it's a big part of being true to Jesus."

See pg. 20 for more information.

May 5

### **Tribalism (Adult Ed Room)**

*Led by Paul Grout*

Tribalism occurs within every facet of human life. Borders are created around nations, states, towns, neighborhoods, religious affiliations, schools, grades in school, levels of education, groups of belonging and un-belonging.

Human beings evolved within tribes. For thousands upon thousands of years living within tribes improved our chances of survival. Our deeply ingrained tribal patterning is at this time in human history turning against us to the degree that it threatens our future survival. Come hear from Paul and engage in discussion.

### **Memory Loss Support Groups (Library)**

May 12 **Compassion Circle (Youth Room)**

**MOTHER'S DAY- (No Adult Ed class)**

## ***CTS Hikers and Walkers: Northshore Park April 21***

Please join the group as we visit the County Northshore Park.  
We have a number of strolling options for folks:

All can do the Hertz-Lake Whatcom trail (1.8 miles each way, nearly flat).

Some might choose to go to the new overlook on the Chanterelle Connector (2.9 miles each way, 850 feet elevation).

The adventurous (crazy) can do the full 10.8 mile loop (2,200 feet).

Post walk, the nearby Fork restaurant awaits!

Folks can self sort at the trailhead parking lot at **11:30 on April 21, Sunday** after Worship Service.

We have been having fun with our last jaunt to Clayton Beach & Fragrance Lake loop in the sunshine!

Brad and Michael





YOU ARE  
**LOVED!**

DESSERT PARTY



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HOSTED AND ATTENDED!

# Plan ahead for Summer Fun



## JUNE 28-30

### GOD'S BARNYARD VBS WEEKEND

Friday, June 28: Family Night

Saturday, June 29: Day Camp for Ages 4-11

Sunday, June 30: Worship and Brunch

### Registration Open for Camp Lutherwood

CTS Youth Director, Nicole Pridachuk, will be on staff

### July 7-12 for Grades 3-9

CTS member Sam Martinez is on staff at Lutherwood year-round!

Register: [www.camplutherwood.org/summercamp](http://www.camplutherwood.org/summercamp)



## AUGUST 2-4, 2024

## ALL-AGES CAMPOUT [AT] LUTHERWOOD

**TENT & RV SITES AVAILABLE**  
**\$20 PER NIGHT PER CAMPSITE**

**Day Visitors Welcome on Saturday**  
**August 3**

All Day: Crafts, Hiking, Swimming, Boating

5:00 PM Bring-Your-Own Supper

6:30 PM Worship, Campfire, and S'mores



Sign-up Genius for Campsites:  
[tinyurl.com/3hxkeec4](https://tinyurl.com/3hxkeec4)

WHATCOM ELCA YOUTH

# GAME DAY

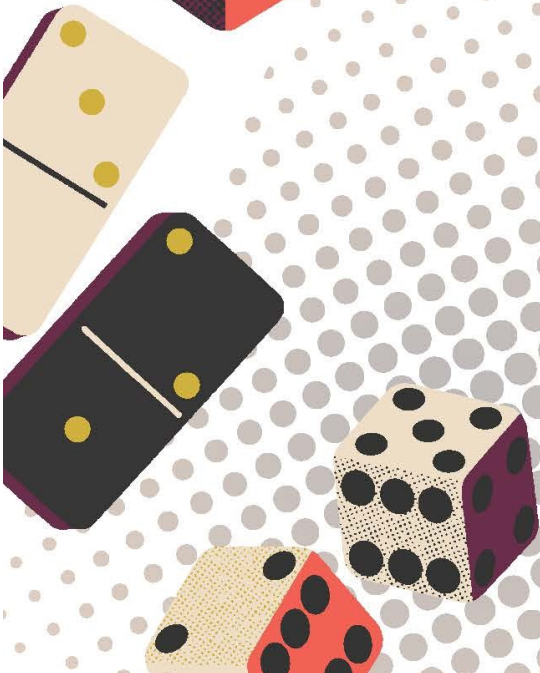
*Let's Laugh  
& Play with  
Friends*

**SUNDAY  
APRIL 14  
2:00 PM**

**AT CAMP LUTHERWOOD  
1185 ROY RD, BELLINGHAM, 98229**

**CARD GAMES, UNO, BOARD  
GAMES, AND MORE!**

For more information,  
contact Sam Martinez  
[Marty.Martinez@camplutherwood.org](mailto:Marty.Martinez@camplutherwood.org)  
Or Nicole Pridachuk  
[Nicole@ctslutheran.org](mailto:Nicole@ctslutheran.org)





## ***From Community Ministries***

### **Work Weekend at Lutherwood! May 31<sup>st</sup> - June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Come help us get ready for summer camp! Your stay is free of charge, all we ask is your time and abilities. There will be projects for all ability levels, from trail clearing and platform building to cleaning and organizing. There is always a way you can help serve camp! Registration is up on our website and if you can offer specific skill sets, please reach out directly to [marty.martinez@camplutherwood.org](mailto:marty.martinez@camplutherwood.org) to discuss opportunities.

### **Gardenview Tiny Homes**

For those of you who are new to CTS, Gardenview Tiny Homes is the tiny homes village at the corner of Lakeway and Woburn that serves senior citizens and the disabled community. CTS has volunteered to provide 2 cooked meals a month to our neighbors at Gardenview, the only home cooked meals they get. March meals to Gardenview included roasted chicken thighs with potatoes and carrots one evening and a second meal of Chicken Chili and cornbread, both well received. As always, the cooks enjoyed their tasks and the village got good, warm meals. To get involved, text or call Holly at 360-201-7608.



### **Interfaith Meal Program**

Thank you to those providing meal kits for the Interfaith Meal Program to 2 families on March 4th and March 11th. The next meal kit delivery dates are May 13 & 20.

## **What Does Our CTS Secretary Do?**

I thought we had a secretary? What does the secretary do? Are you the one taking minutes at the council meeting? I have been asked questions like this since I was elected as the Congregational Secretary at the semi-annual meeting last June. Here is a brief overview of the job the congregational secretary is supposed to do.

Public companies and large organizations have a secretary as one of their board officers or executive officer team. This person is responsible for making sure that all legal filings are submitted to authorities and that the company's records are in good order. CTS has had a secretary called for in its constitution, but we have not filled the position until this year. We also have a recording secretary, who keeps the minutes of council and congregational meetings. Those minutes become the responsibility of the congregational secretary to preserve and use when needed.

I have spent the months since I was elected working with others to review and update documents like our building use policy and fee structure. I have filed our ELCA congregational report, something that a pastor, administrative assistant, and Congregational Treasurer have all had a part in completing in the past. I am finding documents and working with the technology committee to collect and retain our congregational records. Over the next several months, we will define and organize a shared record keeping system and retention policies. We want to set up automatic reminders for annual reports and inspections, and have a shared archive system so that institutional knowledge is not lost when a new committee chair takes over the role. We also need to maintain our historical records for legal and historical purposes.

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me.  
Shawn Dooley, Congregational Secretary

## Ceasefire In Gaza

*The CTS Church Council voted unanimously in March to send the following letter to our legislators in Washington, DC (Pastor Jana will also hand deliver copies of the letter this month while in DC):*

Dear President Biden, Senators Murray and Cantwell, and Representative Larsen,

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church is a congregation of 436 people in Bellingham, Washington. We represent a varied demographic: farmers and teachers, health care professionals and lawyers, construction workers and craftspeople, small business employees and entrepreneurs, parents and grandparents, blue-collar and white-collar workers, young and old.

Like so many others in our country, we watch with horror the daily atrocities and ongoing suffering that is happening in Gaza, Israel, and the West Bank. We pray, we hope, and we cry – and we typically feel quite powerless to affect change in a land sacred to Christians, Jews, and Muslims. We lift our voices to God. We also lift our voices to you – to use your authority to advocate for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza, the release of Israeli hostages, greater aid to those suffering in Gaza, and the dialog and diplomacy necessary to create systems that lead to lasting peace in the Middle East. We need to turn swords into plowshares (Isaiah 2:4) and bombs into bread. We need to move beyond what is “strategic” – it is a moral and human-rights imperative.

Attached is a link to a statement from The Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), the leadership group for our denomination, calling for a permanent bilateral ceasefire in Gaza. <https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8217>

If you have not previously seen it, we ask that you read it, consider the message, and do what is within your power to bring relief to the tremendous distress that we are all witness to.

Thank you for your ongoing service to our country,  
The Church Council of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

## Deep Waters Global Missions

As you know, Deep Waters sent a team to Honduras in February to survey three potential partner communities for a new clean water installation. At our March meeting we decided on our new partner community, Concordia, which already has the leadership, a business plan for water distribution outside their community, and a building to house the system. We are hopeful that the installation could take place this year if planning goes smoothly. We also discussed a second community, Camalotal, with a great need, a strong community ethos of working together, and high level of motivation. They will need a bit more time to develop a water board and plan for a building to house the system. We're excited to think that we could have a second community ready for a water system the following year. As we begin planning for two (!) installations, we would welcome your involvement if you would like to learn more or consider joining one of the installation teams. Please reach out to Rachel Budelsky at 360-966-6393 or [budelsky@comcast.net](mailto:budelsky@comcast.net).

# WELCOME *to our* NEW MEMBERS



Tatiana Preston



Barb & Greg Lykke



Foster Family  
Chris, Morgan,  
& Victoria



### Go and Do Likewise: Following Jesus into our Common Humanity

Seven in ten Americans feel the nation is dangerously divided. We are living in bubbles, isolated from people with other perspectives, traditions, and cultures. We are also dangerously unequal. Many people do not have adequate access to opportunities to care for their family and community.

We know that the road we are on leads to a bleak future - but what can we do?

Lutheran Pastor Terry Kylo set out to find answers. He spoke with leaders from diverse backgrounds—Indigenous, Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim, Secular, and Christian. Their collective wisdom was enlightening. They believe that building trust starts with getting to know each other, collaborating for the common good, and publicly respecting one another. It sounds simple, yet it's incredibly powerful. It also sounds like Jesus, who said: “love your enemies, pray for those that persecute you, do good to those who harm you.” (Matthew 5:44)

Christians are in a unique place of power, possibility, and responsibility in America. We have churches in every neighborhood. We can build bridges with people of diverse traditions and cultures in part because many people in the community know us. When we eat together, share stories, work for the common good, and honor each other in public, ripples of hope reach the whole community.

As Terry worked to overcome prejudice and encourage interfaith relationships, he often heard Christians ask, “Is it okay for faithful Christians to work with people of other traditions?” To make interfaith work possible, this question needs answering. As he responded, he realized that it wasn't just one question, but many. Terry realized that he had grown up in a church that taught:

- Christianity is the only way to God
- Christianity is God's only way to us

On his own journey as a follower of Jesus, Terry slowly realized that Jesus taught no such thing.

His new book, *Go and Do Likewise: Following Jesus into our Common Humanity* builds on Terry's conversations with hundreds of Christian congregations, pastors, and leaders of many traditions. He helps Christians to find their “why” for knowing, working with, and publicly partnering with people of all traditions.

Terry will be joining us for conversation on **Sunday, April 28 for Adult Education at 11:00am**. To prepare, think about these two questions:

- What leads Christians to resist working with people of diverse cultures and wisdom traditions?
- When do we see Jesus working with and respecting people of diverse traditions?

Terry's book is available in print, E-book, and audio book wherever books are sold.

# MAKING SENSE OF THE ROLE OF RELIGION

## *In Russia's Invasion of Ukraine*



### With Nicholas Denysenko



Nicholas Denysenko is Emil and Elfriede Jochum University Professor and Chair and Professor of Theology at Valparaiso University in Indiana. He

is the author of numerous articles and books on liturgy and religion in Ukraine, including *The Church's Unholy War: Russia's Invasion of Ukraine and Orthodoxy* (Cascade Books, 2023).

Scan QR code  
to register  
for the  
webinar



Auto captions will be available for the Zoom event. For the in-person event, advance notice for disability accommodations and special needs is appreciated. Contact Maureen Christman: GHR@wwu.edu or call (360) 650-3030.

Western is an equal opportunity institution.

### About the Lecture:

This lecture is the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Distinguished Speaker of the Department of Global Humanities and Religions.

*Additional support has been provided by the Institute for Global Engagement, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Fairhaven College, History Department, Political Science Department, Ray Wolpov Institute, and The Foundation for WWU & Alumni.*

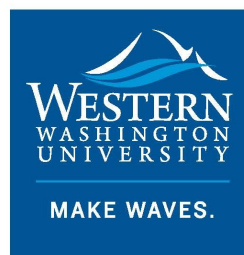
**Tuesday, April 16, 2024 | 4:00-5:30 PM**  
**Academic West, Room 204 & On Zoom**

The war in Ukraine is now over two years old, and the human toll is staggering: over 14.6 million Ukrainians are in dire need of humanitarian assistance. Russia's list of grievances used to justify its brutal invasion include an accusation that Ukraine has persecuted the Orthodox Church in Ukraine. How does religion figure into the war?

Nicholas Denysenko of Valparaiso University explains how a simmering conflict among Orthodox Christians in Ukraine contributed to Putin's decision to bomb and invade Ukraine.

LEARN MORE

<https://foundation.wwu.edu/events>



## Support Students on Cares Day at Cal Lutheran!

California Lutheran University, including Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, is hosting its annual day of giving on Wednesday, April 10th. Please consider making a gift to support student initiatives and programs including **Campus Ministry, Seminary Education (PLTS), and Campus Equity & Inclusion.**



Cal Lutheran is one of 26 ELCA colleges & universities and PLTS is one of 7 ELCA seminaries. Together, they provide higher education classes, certificates, and degrees to nearly 3,500 students each year.

Your gift directly supports students with scholarships, food assistance, and opportunities to travel to conferences. Your gift also supports faculty, digital learning, and operational infrastructure which helps to nourish high quality and expanding learning opportunities for college students, seminarians, and lay leaders.



To make a gift, please scan the code or visit: [caresday.callutheran.edu](https://caresday.callutheran.edu)



# Sacred Earth Fair Urban Edition



**Save the date**

**Saturday**

**April 20, 2024**

1:00 - 4:00 pm



*Replenish our spirits*

*Build knowledge*

*Inspire action*

Calling together diverse environmental voices of our community that have shared common interests and concerns for creation care and environmental activism.

Hosted by:

First Congregational Church of Bellingham

2401 Cornwall Ave.

and

Multifith Network for Climate Justice

For further information contact Nancy Fayram,  
First Congregational Green Team member --  
[nancyfayram@icloud.com](mailto:nancyfayram@icloud.com)

## CTS Church Council Minutes February 20, 2024

The Council of Christ the Servant Lutheran Church met in regular session on February 20, 2024.

**In attendance:** President Doug Sutton, Vice President Bill Salen, Congregational Secretary Shawn Dooley, Tiffany Nangle, Peter Rosenberg, Sidney Evans, Sally Holloway, Bryan Jones

**Ministry Staff Present:** Pastor Jana Schofield, Nicole Pridachuk

**Other Congregational Officers:** Kurt Willis

**Absent:** Larry Moss, Holly Whittle, Don Berry

### Call to Gather, Devotion and Opening Prayer

Pastor Jana shared reflections and posed questions about ways to return to center and pray, especially during Lent.

### Review & Approval of January 2, 2024 "Special Council Meeting-2024 Budget Adoption" Minutes

*Motion to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2024 Special Council meeting made by Bryan Jones.*

*Seconded by Sidney Evans. Motion passed unanimously.*

### Review & Approval of January 16, 2024 Council Meeting Minutes

*Motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2024 Council meeting made by Bryan Jones. Seconded by*

*Bill Salen. Motion passed unanimously.*

### Monthly Reports from CTS Staff

#### Pastor's Report

Questions were asked about the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Audit Team recommendations, which were presented to Justice Seekers in early February for review, prioritizing, and planning. The revised RIC statement will come to Council for approval. Consideration should be given to ways of keeping the congregation informed and providing opportunities to give feedback about recommendations.

#### Children & Youth Ministries Report

Nicole shared that the Children & Youth Committee is down to three people, and she will be doing outreach to increase committee size.

Nicole has been debriefing the Whatcom Cluster Interfaith & Ecumenical Immersion event with the Whatcom Cluster.

Preschool enrollment opened first for current students, is open now for church members and alumni, and following that will be open to the broader community. A fourth day has been added for Pre-K.

Reduced staffing plans have been decided on in the event that target enrollment isn't reached.

The Preschool Board requested approval for CTS membership in the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association at a cost of \$395/year. This would cover all teachers and staff and provide valuable resources. The general consensus was that this is a good idea and Nicole can pay the membership fee out of the youth dedicated account.

#### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Kurt Willis reviewed the 1/31/24 Finance Recap Report and noted that income was higher than budgeted and expenses were slightly lower than budgeted in January. This is similar to the last couple of years.

Employee salaries in January were paid at the 2023 rate. Beginning in February employees will be paid at



their 2024 pay rate, and will be paid the extra due for January.

At the June Council meeting, the allocation of the July-Dec. 2023 Thrivent Choice dollars was approved. The balance as of June was approximately \$5,300, and \$3,000 of the existing balance was directed to Lutheran Counseling Network (LCN) and the remainder plus any additional 2023 donations was directed to Fellowship Committee for events including, but not limited to, fellowship hour, Rally Sunday, and CTS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events. The LCN dollars were intended to be available to Pastor Jana to support members needing financial assistance to utilize LCN services. At the Feb. Finance Committee meeting, it was decided to transfer the \$3,000 for LCN to the Community Assistance designated account. Pastor Jana will need to track LCN expenditures. A 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary line item has been created in the dedicated funds account, and the remaining 2023 Thrivent Choice dollars will be transferred to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary line item.

## **New Business**

### **Update Membership List.**

Pastor Jana provided an overview of the proposed membership updates.

*Motion to receive Tim Surratt into full church membership made by Doug Sutton. Seconded by Shawn Dooley. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Motion to update the church membership to reflect the below listed changes made by Doug Sutton. Seconded by Bill Salen. Motion passed unanimously.*

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Hains Family      | remove from membership |
| Ron & Linda Bahr  | reactivate membership  |
| Carmichael Family | move to inactive       |

### **Building Use Policies Proposed Update**

Shawn explained that #5 was added to the “General Use Policy” section about future calendar year reservations based on feedback from Kay. CTS committees and organizations will be reminded in September of each year to reserve meeting and activity space for the following calendar year prior to December 1<sup>st</sup> when outside groups can begin making reservations. The Technology Committee is getting closer to having a tool to help with communications and reminders such as this.

*Motion to approve the updated Building Use Policy made by Peter Rosenberg. Seconded by Bryan Jones. Motion passed unanimously.*

The approved “Building Use Policies” document is included as an attachment to these minutes.

### **Bulletin Board Usage (Narthex)**

Pastor Jana shared that staff has requested that the narthex bulletin board be dedicated for churchwide use, including announcements that would be beneficial to visitors as well as members.

*Motion to split the narthex bulletin board with one half designated for staff use for all church announcements/general information from staff and committees and the other half designated for focus ministries as determined by Stewardship Committee (one per quarter) made by Sally Holloway. Seconded by Tiffany Nangle. Motion passed unanimously.*

### **Lutheran Counseling Network (LCN) Annual Meeting Update**

Shawn referenced his written report included in the “Exec Committee Reports” document. Shawn clarified that 518 of the 7,337 client hours delivered by LCN therapists were classified as “low fee” meaning that they were under \$70 per hour and eligible for being supported by the “low fee fund”. 98% of all fees are discounted because either insurance providers discount the payment or self-pay clients pay on a sliding scale.

### **Bellingham Community Meal Program (BCMP) Update**

Shawn’s “Exec Committee Reports” document included excerpts of a report from Holly Whittle about a Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> BCMP meeting she and Rick Congdon attended. The meeting topics included a letter from the BCMP President, plans for the year, and whether the community meal would continue. Holly raised two questions for Council consideration:

1. Has the community meal program served its time and now needs to go away?
2. What, if anything, can and should CTS do about the Bellingham Community Meal Program and its leadership challenges?

### **Interfaith Update**

Shawn provided detailed updates in the “Exec Committee Reports” document. Pastor Jana talked recently with Devin Connolly, the Interfaith Executive Director. Following an interview with Devin that was recently published in the Cascadia Daily, several local organizations reached out to Devin to share ideas for housing needs in the community. Shawn has volunteered to serve on the Interfaith Board.

### **Lutherwood Annual Meeting**

Doug and Lisa Cornwell attended the Lutherwood Annual Meeting. Pastor Jana attended the new Executive Director Installation.

### **Future Legacy Gift Potential**

Pastor Jana referenced #6 in her report. Council members are asked to let Pastor Jana know if they have any ideas related to this legacy gift.

### **Reminder to Committees – Get Meetings on the Church Calendar**

Doug asked Council liaisons to remind committees to communicate with Kay to get meetings on the church calendar.

## **Standing Committee Reports**

### **Finance Committee-2024 Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Council needs to decide what the 2024 Thrivent Choice dollars donated to CTS will be used for. Several suggestions were made including:

- Justice Seekers 2024 unfunded budget requests for donations to Lutheran Peace Fellowship, the 66<sup>th</sup> Synod Fund, and refugee resettlement
- Deep Waters unfunded 2024 budget request
- Personnel Committee unfunded budget request of \$500 for staff and volunteer recognition
- CTS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*Motion to direct 100% of the 2024 Thrivent Choice dollars donated to CTS to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration made by Sally Holloway. Seconded by Bill Salen. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Property Committee**

Shawn made Council aware that we will need to replace all the furnaces in the building before long. A congregation member has approached the Property Committee to propose that we have a capital campaign to replace all of the aging furnaces (23-50 years old and using natural gas) with heat pump systems that could be run by solar power.

**Ad Hoc Committees Reports**

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee**

Sidney reported that a save the date mailing for June 1-2 has been sent out, Shawn will be the MC, and newsletter articles have been written.

**Executive Session**

The Council entered Executive Session to discuss areas of ministry emphasis for this year.

**10. Meeting adjourned with closing prayer led by Pastor Jana.**

Next Council meeting is Tuesday, March 19th at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Rosenberg, Recording Secretary

Minutes include one attachment: Updated Building Use Policies document (approved by Council on February 20, 2024)

CTS Building Use Policies document can be found on our website [ctslutheran.org](http://ctslutheran.org) or at [http://www.ctslutheran.org/uploads/9/5/0/0/95003086/building\\_use\\_policies\\_aproved\\_feb\\_20\\_2024.pdf](http://www.ctslutheran.org/uploads/9/5/0/0/95003086/building_use_policies_aproved_feb_20_2024.pdf)

**CTS Finance Recap Report**

**2/29/24**

Expected Income \$402,000 - Budgeted Expense \$442,743 = (\$40,743)

|                   | <b>Budgeted</b> | <b>Actual</b> | <b>Differ-</b> |       |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-------|
| <b>Income to</b>  | \$67,000        | \$96,779      | \$29,779       | 44.4% |
| <b>Expenses</b>   |                 |               |                |       |
| <b>to date</b>    | \$73,791        | \$73,568      | -\$223         | -0.3% |
| <b>Difference</b> | -\$6,791        | \$23,211      |                |       |

# Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

2600 Lakeway Dr.  
Bellingham, WA 98229  
[www.ctslutheran.org](http://www.ctslutheran.org)



## Office Hours

Monday-Friday  
from 9:00 am—1:00 pm.  
360-733-1277  
[office@ctslutheran.org](mailto:office@ctslutheran.org)

## Pastor Jana Schofield (she/her)

[pastorjana@ctslutheran.org](mailto:pastorjana@ctslutheran.org)

## Children & Youth Minister

Nicole Pridachuk  
[nicole@ctslutheran.org](mailto:nicole@ctslutheran.org)

## Council Executive Committee

Executive Committee  
Doug Sutton, President  
Bill Salen, Vice President  
Kurt Willis, Treasurer  
Shawn Dooley, Cong. Secy.

## Catch the Son Preschool

Veronica Hains  
[info@catchtheson.org](mailto:info@catchtheson.org)



You are welcome at  
Christ the Servant!

## Worship Schedule

**Sundays 9:30 AM**

**Childcare 9:15 AM -12:00 PM**