

*First Lutheran Church  
512 N Ruby Street  
Ellensburg, WA 98926-3154*

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# THE FLARE

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**July ~ August 2013**

*First Lutheran Church  
512 N Ruby St, Ellensburg, WA 98926  
509-925-2844  
flceburg@yahoo.com † www.flc-eburg.org*

## From Our Pastor . . .

I'm writing this article in June. It's been breezy lately, as it often is here in June. The trees really move around in the wind after they have all of their summer leaves. Young trees often need stakes for support. This is especially true in windy Ellensburg. If you plant a little tree and don't tie it to a solid metal or wood support, it will probably just break off in the wind. So young trees need a solid support to help them grow straight and strong—at first. But you also cannot leave that support there too long. As the tree keeps growing and if the rope is too short then it hobbles the tree and limits the tree's growth and potential. As I understand it, a certain amount of bending in the wind is good for a tree. It helps the sap flow and the tree to grow stronger.

God's law is like the stake: the supporting pole. God's Spirit is the life giving sap flowing in the tree. When we are young in the faith, we need God's law to support us, to hold us firm. We need that stake to keep us from getting blown over by life. But after a while, as we mature in faith, we realize that the law is not really what our relationship with God is all about. Our relationship with God is really about God's love for us in Jesus. Our relationship with God is really about living in the Spirit: being guided by God's Holy Spirit and joyfully producing the fruits of the Spirit in our lives and in our encounters with other people. The list of rules, after a while if we come to believe that that's really all it's about: that list of rules will hobble and shorten our own growth in God's Spirit.

We have been reading through Galatians on Sundays during June. The Apostle Paul's Letter to the Galatians is often called the Magna Carta of Christian liberty or Christian freedom. Paul has preached the pure grace of God in Galatia (Turkey, today). He has been teaching that salvation is through Jesus Christ alone. But then some legalists came to Galatia after Paul and were trying to add requirements to the gospel. The legalists were saying you have to follow the letter of the law as well as trust in Jesus. Paul says, "No way! Do not fall back into that narrow minded slavery to purity laws. Do not fall back into that narrow minded thinking that you can earn your way with God by making all the right moves and doing all the right things just so and performing certain rituals perfectly.

No, don't go back there. You have been set free from the impossible task of trying to earn your own salvation. Christ Jesus has set you free by freely giving his life for you. Don't fall back into thinking like a slave. "For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery (Gal 5:1)." Paul certainly knew all about God's law, since he was a Jewish lawyer. He says God's law is good and certainly has its place in our lives, but the law does not save us. Only Jesus saves us. And the law does not lead to joyful life in the Spirit, either. Paul urges the Galatians—Paul urges us, to live by the Spirit and not by the law or by the flesh.

## PARISH STAFF

Pastor  
Ministry Associate  
Organist  
Choir Director  
Office Administrator  
Youth Director  
Preschool Teacher  
Preschool Aides

Dennis Hickman  
Carla Bergman  
Betty Kramlich  
Tor Blaisdell  
Christine Rice  
Joe Johnson  
Laura Gorman  
Kandice Halferty &  
Aeimee Stinson

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## CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS THROUGH JANUARY 2013

### Officers:

President  
Vice President  
Secretary

Brett Koss  
Doug Fessler  
Patty Akers

### Ministry Assignments:

Worship & Music

Erik Hurson  
Nancy Budner  
Dewey Keith

Education

Neil Caulkins  
Debbie Butler

Youth

Lesley Swan  
Bev Gruber

Congregational Life  
Outreach

Doug Fessler  
Dave Stambaugh

Property Management  
Stewardship

Mike Luvera  
Patty Akers

### Non-Council Positions:

Treasurer  
Financial Secretary  
South Property  
Facility Coordinator

Min Meseck  
James Stolte  
Glenn Madsen  
Don Morris

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The FLARE is published monthly. We encourage all members to contribute articles which may be submitted to the Church Office by the 15th of each month.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ON KXLE-AM RADIO (1240)



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[www.flc-eburg.org](http://www.flc-eburg.org)



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[flceburg@yahoo.com](mailto:flceburg@yahoo.com)



## Remember in Prayer

*George Robertson, Ginny Krekling and family at the death of her Father, Patty Shafer (Libby Street's sister) stage 4 cancer, Dainis Zelenko (Dzintra's cousin) cancer treatment, Cathy Hickman (shoulder surgery 6-11), Paul Dittmer (Tim's Dad Lymphoma), Greg Otis, Ken Kramlich (broken arm), Jerry Nelson (Diane Nelson's husband), Bill Schmidt (cancer surgery), Anna Richmond, Sandy (Berry) Barnett, Tom Alford (Ackerman's son-in-law: melanoma), Grace Meyer, Gladys*

*Wahle, Evelyn Carter (Carol Thoosen's mom), Dillon Duncan (Ian & Bonnie Smith's grandson), Mary Ann Hardenbergh (Tim Dittmer's aunt), Pr. Rick Evenson, the people in the countries of the Middle East, for safety for all U.S. Service Men and Women and their families, especially Jana (Blazek) Kitelinger, Marcus Nelson, leaders of all nations, and for peace in our world and in our families.*

We pray also for our Companion Synod, the Ulanga Kilombero Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, Bread for the World and FISH Food Bank.

*~Please update Pastor Dennis about people on the prayer list~*

## Winegar's Wednesdays

University Way Winegars. Wednesdays. July 10, 31, August 7, 28. 2:00 –3:00 p.m. This is a little time for Youth to talk, pray, read together . . . and have ice cream.

## Thorp Hike

Mount Stuart Elementary – Thorp. August 1, 9:30–12:00.

We meet at Mt. Stuart Elementary and hike to the Thorp AM/PM (about seven miles on the John Wayne Trail). We need a few drivers to bring us back. Hikers: bring good shoes, sunblock, some trail food, lots of water, and a few dollars to get something cold at AM/PM.

## Moses Lake Waterpark

Moses Lake. August 20, 9:30–5:00 We survived last year, so we're going back. [\$8–\$10, depending on age]. We also need a few drivers. Although this is technically a "Youth" event, it's a great opportunity for whole families to join us.

Now, we never discard God's law. Some folks in Paul's day got the wrong idea about that as well. They thought that life in the Spirit meant throwing away the law and doing whatever they darn well pleased—even if it was hurtful toward their neighbors. Paul says, "No, that's not right either." God's law is always good support for our lives and there are times when we need it close to grab onto and support us. Furthermore, the law always shows us our sin; the impossibility of our saving ourselves and our great need for our Savior Jesus. But God has much more in mind for us than life according to the law. God has much greater potential in mind for us his children: namely-life lived by the Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the life giving sap flowing in our veins that produces the fruit of the Spirit which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal 5:22).

Thank God for the salvation given us through the love of Jesus Christ. And let us live joyfully by the Holy Spirit as we love our neighbor as ourselves.

Serving Jesus together with you,  
Pastor Dennis

## Pastor's 10th Anniversary Potluck Sunday, July 21



There will be a potluck lunch after worship on Sunday, July 21 to celebrate Pastor Dennis' 10th anniversary at First Lutheran.

Please bring a dish to share and let's have a good old fashioned mid-summer Lutheran potluck. (...red jello salad, anyone?.....how about tuna casserole with chips?)

Remember, there are 3 ovens and 2 refrigerators, so we can keep your dish hot or cold until worship is over when we can enjoy a delicious meal together.

It's really going to be the LUCK of the POT, so anything goes! Mark your calendars ~ hope you can join us.



## Bishop's July Article

*God's beloved people,*

Blessings to you in these rich and warm days of summer! I hope that you have adequate and restful Sabbath time to enjoy as vacation this summer. God's creation waits for your enjoyment!

Like most pastors I think a great deal about preaching; preparation for preaching; the purpose of preaching; how I might become a more faithful and winsome preacher. One of my favorite books on the preaching task has come to mind again as I read a more recent book by the same author, Richard Lischer. Lischer is a Lutheran pastor who teaches at Duke University. His book, "The End of Words: The Language of Reconciliation in a Culture of Violence" (2005), is one of the most important books I've read and I commend it to all who care about the preaching task.

I'm thinking of that book again (and planning to re-read it) because a new resource is available, this time not so much for preachers but for those who listen to preaching. The new website, [www.withearstohear.org](http://www.withearstohear.org), has been developed by a Wartburg Seminary teacher, Samuel Giere, and I commend it to you. Here's what Dr. Giere says about his purpose: "In our North American context where the winds of American "pop Christianity" blow swiftly at times and where the style of a preacher's delivery is often more valued than the content of the message, I hope that this modest resource will help to orient the ears of our listeners toward preaching that is both centered on Christ crucified and formed and informed by Scripture."

This seems like a wonderful resource both on the task and theology of preaching and as an accompaniment to reflecting on the weeks' sermon. It includes resources for call committees those who teach confirmation, and internship committees.

I hope use of this resource might improve both our speaking and our listening in the act of preaching, including "preparation" for listening to the texts and then the sermon itself. I don't think it's too much to say that if we tended the sermon, in preparation and listening, we would both preach better sermons and we'd hear better sermons!

Blessed summer!

Bishop Martin Wells

## FISH Summer Lunch Program

Kiwanis Park/Mt View Park. July 15–19. 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. (varies) Some of you may have taken part in the FISH Summer Lunch Program over the last two years. If you did, then you had an amazing week (or day) of playing games with and serving our community's kids. The FISH Summer Lunch Program is geared at distributing quality food to many kids who may not otherwise eat well through the summer months. If you (any one from First Lutheran) can be a part of helping this summer, please let Joe know. We are scheduled to join with Chestnut Street Baptist's Youth group during the week of July 15–July 19.

The program involves meeting at Kiwanis Park and/or Mountain View Park (11:00–1:00, time varies depending on park), playing frisbee or kickball or just visiting with kids in the community, and helping to serve a FISH-prepared meal.

This is an amazing opportunity for churches in our community to share the love of Christ in a personal and tangible way. This year, we're hoping to get more Youth involved, so watch for more information and get signed up—even if you only have one afternoon available.

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## Youth Mariners Trip

Seattle. July 24. 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. We have purchased 18 tickets for this trip, and they're going fast. \$15 contribution per ticket (except drivers and chaperones). Row 182 (Bleachers) Row 1, Seats 1–18. Sign up is on a first-come-first-served basis on the gym door or the FLC web site.

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## Youth-Parent Book Group

FLC homes. Sunday evenings. July 28 and August 25. 6:30–8:00 p.m. Another opportunity to get Youth in FLC homes... and read great Christian books. We've had our first meeting, discussing C.S. Lewis's *The Great Divorce*. We still have two more to go, so get a copy of the next book (to be announced) and join us on July 28. All Youth and parents are welcome to participate (and if you're neither Youth nor parent, we won't kick you out). If you can host, we need homes.

**Youth Announcements Continued on Next Page.**



## FLC Web Site and Event Updates

Throughout the summer, we'll use several tools to inform FLC folks about Youth activities: Facebook, email, and the FLC web site. Facebook has been a little dormant lately, but it will be active again with news and event information: [www.facebook.com/flcyouth](http://www.facebook.com/flcyouth). Also, the FLC web site includes a special Youth summer page including an overview of upcoming activities and a downloadable calendar: [www.flc-eburg.org/ministry/youth-summer](http://www.flc-eburg.org/ministry/youth-summer). Finally, be sure to signup for email updates. We'll send one out every week or so with highlights, news, and upcoming event information. You can send your address to [flcyouth.eburg@gmail.com](mailto:flcyouth.eburg@gmail.com) or signup on the "Signup for Email Notification" page on the church's web site.

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## Summer Youth Program

The Youth Summer Schedule is available at FLC's web site ([www.flc-eburg.org/ministry/youth-summer](http://www.flc-eburg.org/ministry/youth-summer)). Here's a partial list of events and programs still coming up: Boulder Cave Hike, Mariners game, FISH Summer Lunch Program, Winegar's Wednesdays, and Moses Lake Waterpark trip. For more information, see the site or contact Joe Johnson at [flcyouth.eburg@gmail.com](mailto:flcyouth.eburg@gmail.com).

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## Upcoming Dates High School Home Study

FLC homes. Sunday evenings, July 7, 21, August 11, and 18. 7:00–8:00 p.m. We're spending some time in our Bibles . . . and FLC homes. All upcoming, current, and recently-graduated high school students are invited to an hour in Bible study. And, we're asking Youth parents to host. If you're a HS Youth, bring your Bible. If you're a HS Youth parent, consider hosting. If you can host August 11, please visit the "Youth Summer Schedule 2013" page on the FLC web site to signup. The two June sessions were fantastic. If you missed them, you can still start now.

## Can you help us mow the lawn?

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall (next to the flower chart) to mow the church lawn. The church has all the equipment needed. The grass clippings can go in the dumpster. There are lots of open weeks between now and September. Can you take a week or more? See Mike Luvera or James Stolte to find out how to get into the shed and dumpster or if you would like more information.



A great big *thank you* to all the people who helped at Vacation Bible School in June. It was a great week and it wouldn't happen without people willing to serve as station leaders, crew leaders, cooks, registrars, etc. Thank you to all of our youth helpers and of course, to all the enthusiastic children!

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## A Big Thank You

Thank you, to all the ladies Doreen Day, Erleen Beckly, Ida Malde, Bea Fairburn and others who keep the garden looking so wonderful. We appreciate all the time and effort you put in to keep it looking so good. Also a big thank you to Mike Luvera, James Stolte and Joe Johnson for keeping the lawn mowed.



## July Birthdays

1 Opal Solberg	14 Maya Swan
1 Julie Johnson	16 Kathleen Beach
2 Stacey Ferris	19 Wade Stacy
2 Brad Ringe	23 John Akers
4 Tyler Ringe	23 Kenneth Beckley
8 Patti Johnson	27 Therese Young
9 Amber Strand	



## August Birthdays

3 John Michel	15 Sheila Johnson
5 Delores Anderson	15 Cassie Johnson
8 Phyllis Alley	17 Kasey McNamee
9 Marla Firman	25 Carla Bergman
10 Justin Johnson	25 Jerry Grebb
10 David Lygre	25 Taylor Young
13 Katelyn Strand	26 Alex Ponchene
13 Julia Wickerath	
14 Lynn Blazek	

## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

### August 4, 2013

Eccles. 1:2, 12-14;2:18-23  
Ps. 49:1-12  
Col. 3:1-11  
Luke 12:13-21

### August 18, 2013

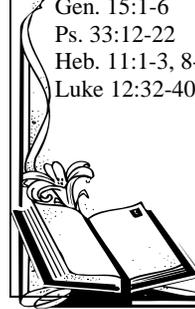
Jer. 23:23-29  
Ps. 82  
Heb. 11:29-12:2  
Luke 12:49-56

### August 11, 2013

Gen. 15:1-6  
Ps. 33:12-22  
Heb. 11:1-3, 8-16  
Luke 12:32-40

### August 25, 2013

Isa. 58:9b-14  
Ps. 103:1-8  
Heb. 12:18-29  
Luke 13:10-17



You are encouraged to read these in preparation for worship on Sunday. "Christ in our Home" devotional booklets also follow these Bible readings.

## WHATS HAPPENING?

Worship with Holy Communion.....August 4, 11, 25  
Worship on Wednesday.....August 7, 14, 21, 28  
Bible Study, Fellowship, Prayer Group.....August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
September Flare Deadline.....August 15  
Church Council Meeting.....August 12  
Pastor will be away.....August 5-25



**Pastor Dennis** and his family will be away on vacation Monday, August 5th through **Pastor's** Sunday, August 25th.

Pastor Ginny Krekling will be preaching on August 4th and 11th. Pastor Mary Johnson will be preaching on August 18th and 25th. She will also be handling any emergencies, should they arise. Her phone numbers are: home 925-6802 or cell 607-9130. Thank you Mary!

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## SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

### July 17, 2013

Isa. 66:10-14  
Ps. 66:1-9  
Gal. 6:[1-6]7-16  
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

### July 21, 2013

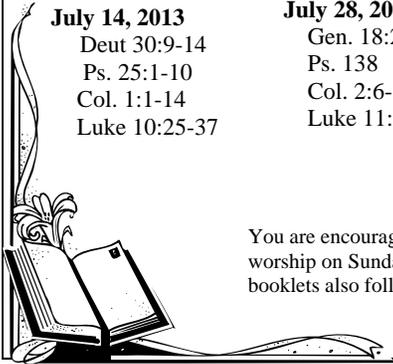
Gen. 18:1-10a  
Ps. 15  
Col. 1:15-28  
Luke 10:38-42

### July 14, 2013

Deut 30:9-14  
Ps. 25:1-10  
Col. 1:1-14  
Luke 10:25-37

### July 28, 2013

Gen. 18:20-32  
Ps. 138  
Col. 2:6-15 [16-19]  
Luke 11:1-13



You are encouraged to read these in preparation for worship on Sunday. "Christ in our Home" devotional booklets also follow these Bible readings.

## WHATS HAPPENING?

Worship with Holy Communion.....July 7, 14, 28  
Worship on Wednesday.....July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
Bible Study, Fellowship, Prayer Group.....July 11, 18, 25  
Church Council Meeting:.....July 8

**Food Donations for FISH in July:** We're doing this differently in July! Everyone - bring CARROTS. (If you forget, don't worry.) Garden produce and other foods always accepted, too. Thanks

### Dinner at F.I.S.H. Food Bank July 20th

It is First Lutheran's turn to cook and serve dinner at our FISH Food Bank on Saturday, July 20th. We start 'setting up, prepping and cooking at 3:00 and serve dinner at 5:00. Clean-up takes about an hour. Come for all or part of it as your schedule allows. And plan to stay and eat with our guests if you are able.

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## July Anniversaries

7/2/77 Bill & Susan Vertrees  
7/9/77 Andrew & Kari Ponchene  
7/14/79 E.J. & Kim Black  
7/14/90 Dennis & Cathy Hickman  
7/20/91 Paul & Stacey Ferris  
7/25/87 Karl & Nancy Lillquist  
7/31/56 Virgil & Carol Thovson



## August Anniversaries

Ethan & Carla Bergman 8/11/79  
Harry & Mike Kukes 8/12/45  
William & Melva Schmidt 8/13/55  
Terry & Marla Firman 8/15/87  
Brad & Cookie Ringe 8/19/78  
Wayne & Bea Fairburn 8/20/66  
David & Laurae Lygre 8/20/66  
Richard & Cynthia Borrud 8/21/55  
Don & Geraldine Childress 8/21/54  
Paul & Julie Johnson 8/21/93  
Jim & Andrea Hurson 8/25/90  
Nate & Teena Gruber 8/28/93  
Michael & Christine Luvera 8/28/93  
Donald & Alice Wanless 8/28/54

calendar

calendar