



Edison Lutheran Church

THE PARISH VISITOR

APRIL 2025



*Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world..."
(John 18:36)*

Dear People of God,

America is not God's kingdom on Earth.

This should not be a controversial statement. After all, about the only thing the political left and right can agree on is that America badly needs changing, though they wildly differ on what kind of change is needed. Those on the right argue for restoration of the glory days, reclaiming the old ways so that America can once again be a bastion of freedom and prosperity. Those on the left argue for embracing progressive ideals of justice, correcting the legacies of abuses that have kept this nation from living up to its promise. And even when there is no overtly religious language being used, the fury with which these two sides fight indicates to me that something like salvation is on the line. It seems the very soul of America is at stake, so that everything depends on the success or failure of us Americans to do what is right. With so much riding on the outcome of this fight, it's no wonder emotions are running so high.

But here's the thing: not only is America not God's kingdom on Earth, *it never was*, and *it never will be*.

Although this nation's founding is often portrayed as a hard-fought victory of oppressed European Christians in establishing a nation of religious freedom, the reality is much more complicated. Many of the founding fathers were not what we would recognize as Christian, even if they did profess belief in a Deity of some kind. What's more, from the very beginning the US constitution codified a form of slavery that was even more violent and dehumanizing than that which had been present in the Roman era. And as the states began to overflow with westward-moving settlers, the false doctrine of Manifest Destiny¹ led those who drove out and killed the native tribes to claim they did it in God's name. For all of America's strengths and successes (and there are many!), there was never a time when it was God's kingdom on Earth.

¹Manifest Destiny: the teaching that European Christian Americans are God's chosen people to take possession of land away from the non-white non-Christian native peoples.

But the same is true going forward. No matter how much progress is made, no matter how thoroughly equality and justice is established, no matter how utopian some future version of America becomes, its significance will always be limited to this world. Even if America somehow managed to fully live up to its ideals, it would still not be God's kingdom on Earth, and to declare it so would be to make it a false god. Every nation will one day pass away; not even the greatest of them has eternal significance. When God's kingdom which is not of this world is revealed on the earth, it will not come about by any human efforts, but only by the gracious act of God.

Don't get me wrong: I am not against America, nor am I against working to make it better. What I am against is confusing an earthly nation with God's heavenly kingdom. When we give our conceptions of America eternal significance, we make it into an idol. It matters little whether this idolatrous image is liberal or conservative in character, for idols of all kinds imprison us and blind us to the real world in which we live.

Looking backward, idolatrous notions of a pristine past force us to reject evidence of errors and injustice, blinding us to the needs of our neighbors. They drive us to react harshly, even violently, against all who contradict our picture of a near-perfect America. Looking forward, idolatrous notions of what our efforts can accomplish make us discount the real good that is present now, and so blind us to the good gifts of God. They lead us to judge our neighbors by their commitment to our goals, denouncing as degenerates all who do not meet our standards for ideological purity. As long as these idols captivate us, we are blinded to what God is actually doing here and now. And in order for us to be good and faithful citizens of the nation in which we live, we must be set free from these idols.

As Christians, we are first and foremost heirs of God's kingdom, a kingdom that is not from this world. Because we have such an inheritance, certain and secure, we can be honest about the problems of every worldly kingdom and country, while still giving thanks for their blessings. Because our citizenship is in heaven, we can acknowledge America as it is while continuing to work for its betterment. Because we know that neither God's kingdom nor our righteousness comes by our dedication to ideals of justice, we can be gentle with those whose commitment doesn't measure up.

America is something of a mess right now. But then again, it always has been. And yet, as the nation in which God has placed us, it is full of gifts to be enjoyed and benefits for which to give thanks. Like everything else in this fallen creation, here the good is all mixed up with the bad and it is beyond our power to purify. Rather, as Christians in this world we faithfully carry out the vocations God has set before us, tending to the needs of our neighbors while working for the betterment of the nation in which we live, all the while knowing that only God's action can ultimately save.

Your brother in Christ,
-Pastor John

Women's Bible Study meets on Wednesday, April 16th at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. We are continuing to study "**Biblical Outsiders**" and this month will focus on Ruth. Ruth has an entire book in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament)! In preparation, read the whole book - it's short! If you still get the Gather magazine, she is the subject of the Bible Study in the January/February 2025 issue. All are welcome.



**Please Join Us For Worship
at
Edison Lutheran Church
Every Sunday at 10:30 am**

Worship Attendance

| | In Person | Online (live and recorded) |
|-----------|-------------|----------------------------|
| March 2: | 161 | 62 |
| March 9: | 118 | 41 |
| March 16: | 127 | 0 (technical issues) |
| March 23: | <u>137*</u> | <u>28</u> |
| Average: | 136 | 44 |

*March 30 will be included next month

Church Financial Update for February

February Giving: \$33,393.21* (Thank you!!)

2025 Budget Goal Through February: \$54,727

2025 Total Giving Through February: \$61,012.07

(\$6,285 above goal)

Thank you!

*Does not include bequests

The ministry of Edison Lutheran Church is financially supported entirely by the donations of members and visitors. Your gift furthers this congregation's ministry to those in need, helps foster fellowship, and promotes the spread of the life-giving gospel of Jesus Christ. Donations may be put in the offering plate, sent by mail, or given online by visiting our website or scanning the QR code to the right. We appreciate your generosity!



| OUR CHURCH COUNCIL 2024—2025 | | <i>*Committee Liaison</i> | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Patsy Martin, President | <i>*Stewardship</i> | Cheryl Conner | <i>*Social Concerns</i> |
| Linda Tyler, Vice-President | <i>*Parish Life</i> | Judy Bendtsen | <i>*Evangelism</i> |
| Christie Peterson, Secretary | <i>*P&M</i> | AnnaLaurie Wattson-Lamb | <i>Worship & Music</i> |
| Jean Miller | <i>*Worship & Music</i> | John Johnson | <i>*Finance Committee</i> |
| Laura Engebretsen | <i>Property & Management</i> | Brenda Geary | <i>*Youth & Christian Education</i> |

Holy Week Worship – Mark Your Calendars



Palm Sunday Worship is **April 13th at 10:30 am**. Please gather in the Fellowship Hall, where we will begin our service by singing as we process into the sanctuary carrying palms.

Maundy Thursday Worship is **April 17th at 7:00 pm** at Edison Lutheran Church.

Good Friday Worship is **April 18th at 7:00 pm** at Salem Lutheran Church in Mount Vernon

The Prish Life Committee will be serving their world-famous **Easter Breakfast** on **April 20th** between 8:45 and 10:00 am. **Easter Worship** is at 10:30 am.



Wednesday Lenten Services

Please join us for our soup supper at 5:30 pm and Lenten Services at 6:15 pm on

Wednesday, April 2 and 9 at 6:15 pm.

We are using the "Joyous Light Evening Prayer" booklet.

But first, join us at **5:30 pm for a soup supper** each week. Sign up to help with the soup dinner on the clipboard in the Fellowship Hall.



Good Friday: REQUIEM by Gabriel Faure

As in the past, Edison Lutheran will join with other Skagit County ELCA congregations for a **Good Friday worship service the evening of April 18th at Salem Lutheran Church**. This year will see the service incorporating the major choral work **REQUIEM by Gabriel Faure**. A massed choir made up of choir members and other singers from the participating congregations will present the work, with orchestral accompaniment. You do not want to miss this amazing music and Good Friday Worship.

Edison Lutheran Church Announcements

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner Results: Thank you Edison Lutheran for raising **\$1,402 for Family Promise in honor of Katy Olson's and Cheryl Conner's** years of dedication as the Edison Lutheran Church volunteer coordinators/liaisons for Family Promise. Thank you Worship & Music Committee and Altar Guild for putting on such an amazing dinner! A special thank you to the Mudflat Ramblers! If you still want to donate to Family Promise, write a check to ELC with 'Pancake' on the memo line.

Camp Lutherwood: Our students are planning to attend camp from July 13-18 if you would like your student to attend with the Edison Lutheran students. **Scholarships Available!** Instead of giving out full camperships to everyone who goes to camp, this year we have around \$4,500 that we will be distributing to families based on need. **We want as many kids to go to camp this year as possible!** To request a scholarship, send us an email with the name of your child, the price of the camp, and the amount you are requesting (all the way up to 100%). Any money left over at the end of May will be distributed equally among the campers who have shared their camp receipt with us. Email office@elcbow.org.

Blood Drive: We are hosting a Bloodworks Pop-up Blood Drive on **Friday, April 11th in the Fellowship Hall**. You can make your blood donor appointment online: BloodworksNW.org or even easier, call 800-398-7888. Thank you for supporting this critical need!

Josephine Caring Community: JCC needs the following items: reading glasses (2.5 magnification or greater); washable wool yarn; new hand towels; travel sized toiletries; and birdseed. Please place items on the table in the Narthex hallway.

Second Sunday Hymn Sing: This month Palm Sunday is the second Sunday. We will have the Hymn Sing on the First Sunday, April 6th. Do you have a favorite hymn you wish we would sing more often? Here's your chance! Starting back in May, the **second Sunday of each month at 10:15 am**, we will have a singalong, where you are invited to request that favorite hymn.

Free Notary Public Service: The Church Office offers free notary services. Call or email the church office to make an appointment.

Newsletter Deadline: Is there something missing from this newsletter? If you have information for the next newsletter, please send it to the church office no later than **Thursday, April 24th**. We are always looking for information from committees, partner ministries, and local events that our members are participating in...**we love to support our congregation members!**

Parking: Please remember to **park in our parking space first**, and only park across the street if all our lots are completely full! There is parking all along Church Road as well as along Field Road to the south of the Parish House.

Sunday School: Spring Break for Sunday School will be **Sunday, April 6th**. There will not be Sunday School on Easter; we will all be enjoying the Parish Life Easter Breakfast! For planning purposes, the last day of Sunday School will be **May 18th**.

Easter Breakfast: We will be celebrating Easter on **April 20th** Please join our church family for Easter breakfast in the fellowship hall. Our amazing Parish Life Committee will be serving breakfast on this joyful day from **8:45 - 10:00 am. All are welcome!**

Mark Your Calendar: Are you ready for some fun in the sun? You will love this one: **Saturday, April 12th from 9:00am-12:00pm is spring cleaning day** at the church. We have inside and outside jobs. Remember, **many hands make light work**. We guarantee you will have fun or your money back. Contact the Property & Management Committee or the church office for more information.

Edison Lutheran Church Announcements, Cont.

College Scholarship Applications are due April 15

There are several scholarships available for the **2025-2026 school year**, including the Einer & Ruby Knutzen scholarship we share with Burlington Lutheran. Completed applications must be **received** (not post marked) by the correct church office (hard copy or electronic) **no later than 11:59 pm April 15, 2025**. Applications are available on our website and in the narthex. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted. Contact the church office for more information.

Sunday School

It's not too late to join our Sunday School classes held every **Sunday at 9:00 am**.

Here is the lineup of our amazing teaching team:

Pre-K and K: **Brenda Geary**; 1st-3rd: **Stephanie Knutzen**; 4th-6th: **Sarah Dahl and Kali Howard**; Superintendent: **Becca Geary**

Contact our superintendent, teachers, or the church office for more information.

Surgery Recovery Item Loan Locker

We have a number of members of our congregation that are at the age of getting new knees, shoulders, and hips. **Many of us have things to help with recovery** – like canes, walking sticks, ice machines, long handled shoe horns, etc., that we no longer need. If someone has something that they no longer need, but don't want to keep at their home, Mark and Linda Johnson would be willing to store items at their home. **Please let the church office know if you have a recovery item to share**. If you need an item, we have a complete list. please contact the church office for the list.

Youth Group: Everyone **high school through college age are welcome!** The **group meets Tuesdays at 6:00 pm**. Bring a friend or two or six and have some fun! We are looking for a few adults to help.

Young Adult Addresses: Please keep the church updated on new addresses for our young adults away from home. The **Care Team** sends cards to our young adults who are away from their church family. **We need to keep our list updated**. Please let the church office know where your young adult is. Thank you!

Need a Name Tag? We have new members and visitors to our lovely church. Please wear your name tags the entire time so we can get to know each other. It would be very helpful to leave them on during fellowship as well. Also, if you are a **regular visitor and would like a name tag**, please let the office know.

Edison Lutheran Church Volunteer Opportunities

Help Inform the Congregation: Although we try not to send too many emails, if there is something that you feel the **entire congregations needs to know**, please let the office know. We can send a congregation-wide email. We don't always know about events and **want to keep the congregation informed**. Just call or send an email to the office with all the details.

Friendship House Dinners: We prepare and serve the hot food that is so appreciated the **last Monday of every month**. Contact the church office if you would like to help shop for food, prepare food, or serve food.

Children, Youth, and Family (CYF) Committee: Would you like to help plan CYF activities? **Not good with kids?** No worries! Most of our efforts go into planning activities and arranging volunteers. No child interaction required. **Oh, you like kids?** Great! We also need people to cook meals and entertain kids. In other words, we have a job for you! Stay tuned for our April meeting.

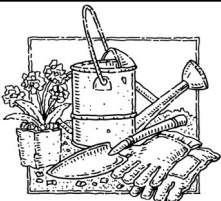
Josephine's activity department continues to need bags of birdseed, blank greeting cards for residents to use, small sample sized toiletries, reading glasses (+2.5), wool blend yarn, and the front of greeting cards you have received. Please leave all items on the table in the narthex.

The **ministry of Altar Guild** is open and welcoming to new sacristans. This ministry involves preparing the worship space with furnishings, appointments, vessels, elements, linens and paraments used in liturgy. We have many behind the scenes jobs. Please talk to an Altar Guild member or Pastor John for more information. The next guild meeting will be **Wednesday, April 2nd at 10:00AM** in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

We need at least 30 dozen cookies on the last Monday of every month for our Friendship House dinners. Home baked or store bought cookies. Please let us know how many cookies you made by **signing the sheet on the bulletin board** in the Fellowship Hall. We would also appreciate it if you marked your container with how many cookies are in each container. Bring the cookies in clearly marked freezer containers and leave them in the freezer in the small room to the left as you enter the Sunday School building. Your empty containers will be left on the small table in the Fellowship Hall near the entrance, for you to pick up and use again. **Thank you for all the cookies!**

The bird feeders around **Josephine Caring Community** provide residents joy and a source of connection to something beyond the walls of their facility. There are between 15 and 30 feeders to fill weekly. **If you are interested in being a feeder filler once a month for about 2 hours** please contact Anne or Bob Kuntz. You can also participate by **donating birdseed** of any kind in any quantity. The seed can be left on the table in the narthex. No suet please, just seeds.

Sunday Worship: It takes a lot of work to set up, run, and livestream our Sunday Worship service. We need people to help greet, usher, and serve as lector and assistant minister. The more people we have, the less work there is for each person. Join our team of fun-loving, happy Sunday workers! We promise many smiles, lots of conversation, and a little work. To volunteer, contact the church office.



Are you looking for some **fun in the sun**? And you want to **help the church** at the same time? And have **fun with friends**?

The Property & Management Committee has a deal for you. Yes, you can have fun in the sun with friends while helping the church! We would like to invite you to a "Spring clean-up" work party scheduled for **Saturday April 12th starting at**

9:00a.m. We have fun opportunities for all ages. Bring the kids or grandkids and help our church. This clean-up party will be packed with twice as much fun and excitement as past Spring clean ups!

Updates From Our Ministry Partners

Tumaini Lutheran Seminary Secondary School, Tanzania

Update from Pastor Moses: With the utmost appreciations I want thank you and all sisters and brothers at Edison Lutheran for their wholeheartedly love and support for Tumaini. With the funds we have received, we decided to make beds for students. The number of students has increased and we don't have enough beds to accommodate them. So we made 25 bunkbeds to accommodate 50 students. We were very busy with the work since receiving the funds and now the work is finished. The students are getting much more rest and are prepared for classes. It is not easy my friends to find sufficient words which parallel the support and love that you have shown us.

We thank God that we are walking together with you, our Dearest friends from The Edison Lutheran Church. Please be well. Peace and Love from God be with you all!

Josephine Caring Community

Volunteer! There are many ways to volunteer at Josephine...help with outings, reading, arts and crafts, one-on-one visits, music, sports activities, building projects, you name it! Can't find something that interests you? Let's work backwards– what are your interests and passions? If you can offer your gifts, with the 200+ residents we have at Josephine, we are bound to have residents who might be interested– and may not even know yet that they are interested. We invite you to try it and find out.

Family Promise

Family Promise Shelter Drive: It's cold out there! Family Promise needs supplies for the Seasonal shelter. They need: canned items, breakfast items, chicken broth, tomato paste/sauce, noodles, kid friendly snacks, first aid items, TP and paper towels, Clorox wipes, dish/hand/laundry soap. Place needed items on the table in the Narthex hallway.

Family Promise Volunteer Opportunity: We will be hosting the Family Promise guests at Burlington Lutheran in June. Stay tuned for more information. Volunteers are needed to stay overnight on very comfortable cots, provide meals, and serve meals. The church has money to pay for food to make the meals for Family Promise. Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall.

Camp Lutherwood



Summer Registration is Open! Do you remember all the fun you had at summer camp as a kid? I remember making friends, singing by the campfire, and playing in the woods. Now is the time to get your children, grandchildren, neighbor's children all registered for Camp Lutherwood. Go to www.camlutherwood.org for more information.

Camp Lutherwood: Our students are planning to attend camp from July 13-18 if you would like your student to attend with the Edison Lutheran students. **Scholarships Available!** Instead of giving out full camperships to everyone who goes to camp, this year we have around \$4,500 that we will be distributing to families based on need. **We want as many kids to go to camp this year as possible!** To request a scholarship, send us an email with the name of your child, the price of the camp, and the amount you are requesting (all the way up to 100%). Any money left over at the end of May will be distributed equally among the campers who have shared their camp receipt with us. Email edisonlutheran@live.com.

Summer Jobs: Camp Lutherwood is hiring! They need youth counselors, leadership team, support staff, and a Camp Medic. Contact Camp Lutherwood with questions, www.camlutherwood.org.



From the April 2025 Edition of *The Spirit*

From the Bishop:

Dear Beloveds,

As you probably know, thousands of bison once roamed the plains of North America. In the late 1800s they were almost brought to extinction. Thankfully, due to conservation efforts, bison are back in the United States plains – even if they aren't nearly as ubiquitous as they once were.

You probably also know that bison are the largest mammals in North America. Male bison (called bulls) can weigh up to 2,000 pounds and stand 6 feet tall, while females (called cows) weigh up to 1,000 pounds and can reach a height of 4-5 feet. Bison calves weigh 30-70 pounds at birth. These are large and powerful creatures.

But even though bison are formidable, the plains can still be dangerous. Their main predators are wolves and mountain lions (what we in the west call cougars), who prey on the weak and the slow – like young bison. Bison typically run when they sense danger, but when predators approach without warning, bison form a multilayer circle of protection. The cows form a ring around the young, and the bulls form an outer ring surrounding the cows.

Just picture this for a moment. A wolf is coming ... the bison cannot run anywhere. And instantly, instinctively, they corral their young in the middle, the females encircle the young, and the males encircle the females. The two rings facing outward. It is a pretty powerful picture. The bison community automatically protects those who cannot protect themselves.

May I ask why we, as humans, seem to do a worse job of protecting the vulnerable than bison? We know God's imperative from Genesis to Revelation. I mean, who did the prophets cry out for? The laborer, the prisoner, the widow, the orphan, the foreigner, the enslaved, the marginalized. Who did Jesus heal? The blind, the deaf, the paralyzed, the bleeding, the possessed, the outcast, the sinner, the forgotten. Again and again, God calls for each beloved person to be held safe – to be provided for and protected – and, when necessary, for those able, to encircle those who are defenseless, especially those society has called expendable.

This is the call God places on each of us – to protect and care for the most vulnerable. Yet, we are witnessing and experiencing the opposite in our society and through government actions. Beloveds in Christ, do not be deceived. When food assistance and benefits are slashed, the vulnerable are left defenseless. When rights are stripped away from women, people of color, the LGBTQ+ community, immigrants, and others, they are being cast to the wolves. Jesus himself warns in Matthew 7, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves."

As followers of Jesus, in these times that may bring discouragement or a sense of being overwhelmed, in these times when it feels wolves are coming at you or for someone you love, may you feel encircled in love and protection – even as you are called to encircle others. May we advocate, love boldly, and protect those who are most at risk. Let us take heart in the promise of God’s justice and mercy. Let us be a people who uplift the weary, feed the hungry, and shelter the displaced. May we be a church that embodies Christ’s compassion and courage, refusing to look away, refusing to be silent, refusing to let the wolves win. For all people are beloved in God’s eyes.

I close with this. I have a little miniature bison on my desk in my office. I look at it often to remember that I am protected by God and that I am called by God. May you remember – as a baptized and beloved child of God, God has called you in this time and in this place. And you are not alone. For even as you protect others, God protects you. Amen.

+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee/ bishop@lutheransnw.org

Announcement From ELCA

SAVE THE DATE! May Youth Weekend at Holden Village will be **Friday-Sunday, May 23-25**. Save the date for this retreat. Look for more info soon!

FREE LiVE Project Weekly Online Bible Study; Abide: Going Deeper: Tuesdays at 7pm. We invite you to abide curiously in God’s Word together. The LiVE retreats and courses are not meant to be stand alone offerings. Go deeper into the Biblical grounding of the course/retreat themes in this weekly synod-wide FREE Bible Study. No need to pre-register. To join, go to zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88407198372?pwd=VZlhJvC39JRPiog6AkBDT28bsWVRSh.1#success>

Synod Assembly: This will be a two-day event, **May 16 1:00-8:00pm and May 17 9:00am-4:00 pm**, at the Edward D Hansen Conference Center in Everett. We will gather as a synod for worship, reports from our synod and churchwide leaders, elections, resolutions, ministry anniversary celebrations, sharing in conversation around our theme of being woven into God’s story, and a few fun surprises. Additionally, we will be identifying a person to serve as bishop for the next 6 years.

LiVE Retreat - Healing Creation: Sacred Hope in Action. Saturday, April 5, 9am-3pm at Our Savior’s, Everett. Hope, active in love, provokes us to join in God’s work of healing creation. Grounded in the image of the Tree of Life in Revelation, Biblical scholar Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing will explore how God’s creation prompts us into action and calls the church into a more expansive identity. Rev. Erik Kindem and members of the Peace Lutheran Creation Care Team will explore ways to connect the dots between our worship life and the natural world, as well as offer practical actions for daily life. Come, be inspired by these, and other leaders whose hearts beat for restorative justice and the healing of God’s creation. Register here: <https://nwwasynod.regfox.com/healing-creation-retreat>

Are You Smarter Than a Confirmation Student? Below is a question that our Confirmation Students can answer. Can you?

What is Maundy Thursday?

See page 12 for the answer.

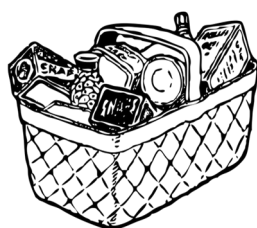
Prayer Requests



Remember in your Prayers: We pray for **Linda Johnson, Janie Smith, David Rebar** (son-in-law of Wymans), **Kay Padden** (mother of the Troxels' daughter-in-law), **Doyle McCalib** (cousin of Marlys Johnson), **Bud Brouwer, Darcy Fredrickson, Al Fredrickson, Arnold Woll, Ted Conner, Randy Merritt, Marion Hoag, Marilyn Gustafson** (sister of Gailyn Ploeg), **Shirley Hots** (aunt of Brenda Geary), **Karri Kanarr** (friend of Troxels), **Greg Nelsen, Maia Simmons** (granddaughter of Karyn Kerley), **Bob Mainard** (father of Mandy England), **Bryan Robinson** (nephew of Garland Robinson), **Alfred Silva** (father of Brandy Jensen), **Chris Whelehan** (friend of Kris Merritt), **Carla Hunter** (aunt of Gregory Ormsby), **Brandon Benson** (friend of Debbie Reigel-Yates), **Marian Hiett** (Janet Wyman's mother), **Jeannie Omdal, John Probstfield, Lyn Scherer** (sister-in-law of Cathy Smith), **Kerri Fredrickson** (daughter-in-law of Barb & Al Fredrickson), **Debbie Chavarria** (friend of Cathy Smith), **Jerry Butterfield, Shirley Lee, Jeanne Youngquist, Gary Englund** (father of Alex), **Jim Forbes** (Debbie Conijn's step-father), **Edith Nichols, Barry Christensen, Chris Isaacson, Taylor Velasquez**, the ministry of **El Camino de Emaús Congregation**, and the **Tumaini Lutheran Seminary Secondary School in Tanzania**.

The Homebound: **Betty Boe, Pat Dahlstedt, and Ron Schutte.**

Please keep the church office current on your loved ones who are (or need to be) named on our prayer list. Office: 360-766-6920 Email: office@elcbow.org



Edison Lutheran Sharing Shelf: The Sharing Shelf is almost empty. It's been getting use and we need to restock it. Please keep your donations coming. Place nonperishable food, self-care items, and cleaning supplies in the shopping cart in the Narthex. Extra items will go to Helping Hands Food Bank. The Edison Lutheran Sharing Shelf is open to all. Please let your friends and neighbors know the shelf is open and needs to be used. With the Sharing Shelf, no one needs to ask for help. It's always open and unmonitored.

| | |
|------|-----------------|
| 4/1 | Paula Peterson |
| 4/4 | Rodney Hansen |
| 4/5 | Kristen Stubben |
| 4/6 | Kaitlyn Brieske |
| 4/6 | Karen Fisher |
| 4/6 | Keith Peterson |
| 4/7 | Ryan Schutte |
| 4/8 | Julie Schutte |
| 4/9 | Susan Berentson |
| 4/12 | Linda Nilsen |
| 4/12 | Jeff Knutzen |
| 4/12 | Dan Martin |

April Birthdays



| | |
|------|------------------|
| 4/16 | Mark Johnson |
| 4/16 | Zachary Larson |
| 4/17 | Tim Larson |
| 4/18 | Jerry Sells |
| 4/20 | Jon Benson |
| 4/23 | Irene Fadden |
| 4/23 | Cathi Troha |
| 4/23 | Tyler Wasilewski |
| 4/26 | Blake Caldwell |
| 4/27 | Bill Black |
| 4/29 | Brenda Harter |
| 4/30 | Iris Galbraith |

Did we miss your birthday? Please let the office know. We love to celebrate birthdays and would hate to miss yours!

Serving in Worship – April

| | April 6 | April 13 | April 20 Easter | April 27 | May 4 |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Assisting Minister | Will Benson | Nancy Nygren | Bonnie Bowers | Mandy Englund | Chris Omdal |
| Acolyte | TBD | Eva Klogjeri | Eva Klogjeri | Jon Benson | Davis Fenimore |
| Lector | Mandy Englund | Mark Johnson | Karen Kerley | Karma Larson | Patsy Martin |
| Usher | Keith & Christie Peterson | Gordy Dahl Debbie Conijn | Brad Wyman Stephanie Knutzen | Jerry Sells Darla Jensen | Bud & Bonnie Bowers |
| Greeter | Shirley Brick Darla Jensen | Judy Sheahan Inger Conner | Cheryl Conner Sarah Dahl | Laura Engebretsen Kris Meritt | Glenda & Keith Gundersen |
| Altar Guild | Nancy Nygren Debbie Conijn | Debbie Conijn Judy Sheahan | Judy Sheahan Julie Rousseau | Julie Rousseau Kathy Shoop | Kathy Shoop Janet Wyman |
| Fellowship Host | Larry & Susie Forsythe Rondi Peth | TBD Christie & Keith Peterson | Bud & Bonnie Bowers Steven & Sarah Dahl | Linda Larson Jerry Sells Debbie Conijn | Anne & Bob Kuntz Laurel Black |
| Flowers | Lent, No Flowers | Lent, No Flowers | Altar Guild | | Bricks |
| CMD | Jean Miller | John Johnson | Jean Miller | AnnaLaurie Wattson-Lamb | Patsy Martin |

Thank you to everyone who helps with worship! We could not have worship without you! Let the office know if you would like to help with worship. It's a great way to get to know everyone!

Family Promise: Did you know you can help Family Promise earn donations by just using your Fred Meyer Reward Card? Just sign up at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards to link your Reward card to Fred Meyer's Community Reward program. Select Family Promise of Skagit Valley as your recipient of these funds. Every time you shop and use your reward card you are helping Family Promise while still earning your rewards, rebates, and fuel points. Remember small donations make a big difference!

Smarter Than A Confirmation Student from page 10:

Answer: The term "Maundy" comes from the Latin "mandatum;" it is from a verb that means "to give" or "to order" — command. After Jesus and the disciples finished the Last Supper and walked toward Gethsemane, Jesus taught them a new commandment — "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (John 13:34). (www.LivingLutheran.org)

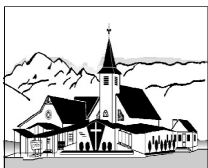
April 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| 30 Lent 4 9:00 a Sunday School 10:30 a Worship 12:00 p Game Day 12:00 p Parish Life Meeting | 31 5:00 p Friendship House Meal | 1 6:00 p Young Adult Group 7:30 p P&M in Parish House | 2 10:00 a Altar G 5:00 p W&M 5:30p Soup Supper 6:15p Worship 7ish Choir | 3 12:00 a Care Team Lunch | 4 | 5 |
| 6 Lent 5 <i>No Sunday School</i> 10:15 a Hymn Sing 10:30 a Worship 12:00 p Social Concerns | 7 | 8 6:00 p Young Adult Group 6:00 p Church Council | 9 5:30 p Soup Supper 6:15 p Worship <i>No Choir</i> | 10 10:30 a Care team Meeting | 11 | 12 9:00 a Spring Cleaning at ELC |
| 13 Passion/Palm Sunday 9:00 a Sunday School 10:30 a Worship | 14 | 15 6:00 p Young Adult Group | 16 10:00 a Women's Bible Study 6:30 p Choir | 17 10:00 a Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 p Maundy Thursday Worship | 18 7:00 p Good Friday at Salem Lutheran | 19 |
| 20 Easter Sunday <i>No Sunday School</i> 8:45-10:00 a Easter Breakfast 10:30 a Worship | 21 | 22 6:00 p Young Adult Group | 23 6:30 p Choir | 24 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> | 25 | 26 |
| 27 Easter 2 9:00 a Sunday School 10:30 a Worship | 28 5:00 p Friendship House Meal | 29 6:00 p Young Adult Group | 30 6:30 p Choir | 1 | 2 | 3 |

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Blood drives: Friday, April 11; June 13; August 22
- ◆ Youth Sunday: May 4th
- ◆ Family Promise Tea at the Manor: May 17
- ◆ Synod Assembly: May 16-17
- ◆ Youth Weekend at Holden Village: May 23-25
- ◆ Family Promise Volunteer Dates: June





Monthly Newsletter of
Edison Lutheran Church
14201 Church Road
Bow, WA 98232

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Bow, WA



April 2025

EDISON LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcoming...Nurturing...Serving

Sunday School 9:00 am Sundays

Worship 10:30 am Sundays

Livestream and Recorded online

at

www.elcbow.org

Please join us!

All Are Welcome

Church Office:
phone: 360-766-6920
email: office@elcbow.org
website: www.elcbow.org

Pastor John Guthridge
360-218-4131
pastor@elcbow.org