



## Compassionate. Challenging. Inclusive.

Monthly Newsletter

*Inside this issue:*

Pastor's Letter (con't)	2
Holden Evening Prayer "Around the World"	2
Morning Meditation	2
Juneteenth Celebration	2
Library article	3
Refugee Kit Drive	3
Volunteers Needed for Bridge Ministries Celebration	3
PRIDE parade	4
VBS & Day Camp	4
7th & 8th Grade Summer Week of Service 2023	4
Golf!	5
Help Moving Chairs	5
Middle School trip to Wild Waves	5
Baseball!	5

### Creating New Butterflies

by Pastor Gina

*"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." - Isaiah 43:19*

I saw the first caterpillar of the season at our house yesterday. It reminded me once again of the amazing ways in which God is always at work in and through us, as well as through creation. It was also a reminder of how God continually transforms us and is always doing something new and creative among us, even if we don't always perceive it or recognize it.

In the case of the caterpillar, of course it will go through many stages and then become a butterfly. But what's really amazing about this is that while the caterpillar is in its cocoon, it doesn't just grow wings on its old body; the body of the caterpillar is actually completely dissolved into a liquid goopy mess, and out of that becomes an entirely new being. That's why the transformation of the butterfly is such a powerful image of life and death! God takes something that is seemingly completely lifeless and

destroyed, and creates something beautiful and new out of it.

I don't need to tell you about the many new things – the new realities – we've had to adapt to during and even now after COVID. The very reality of our planet as we knew it was destroyed and we continue to come to grips with what this new reality looks like. However, this painful and difficult time in our world has also opened up new possibilities and opportunities to try things a different way. Countless people are joining our worship services through live streaming. We started new small groups to connect people in new and different ways outside of Sunday mornings. And Zoom meetings are now second nature to many, making meeting and connecting with people faster and (sometimes) easier, though also exhausting and still not the same as meeting in person. It has opened up a lot of opportunities, and some of the realities of today are ones I would not have thought possible before COVID. God has brought forth many new butterflies out of this crazy goopy COVID mess.

(continued on page 2)

At Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

We believe we are called by the Holy Spirit to proclaim and embody the compassionate, challenging, and inclusive love of God revealed in Jesus Christ.



### SummerFest! Sunday, June 4th

Are you looking to make new connections with folks at HSLC this summer, stay in contact with friends, or try something new? If so, join us for SummerFest on Sunday, June 4th! After all three services, you will have the opportunity to check out a variety of opportunities to connect with people over the summer, such as a golf outing, a Mariners game, and a new young adult group. If you have an idea of something you'd like to do with the congregation, contact Pastor Gina at [pastorgina@hslckirkland.org](mailto:pastorgina@hslckirkland.org).

## Pastor's Letter (continued)

All of these things excite and inspire many of us to think about things in new ways and try new things. I am excited for the new opportunities that are coming this summer. At Summer-Fest on Sunday, June 4th in between worship services, several of the summer small groups that formed last year are starting up again, including a golfing group and a Mariner's game, and there are others that are starting for the first time – opportunities to connect with folks in new ways. We have a variety of opportunities for children, youth, and families to connect over the summer, especially the High School trip to Florida to help with hurricane relief, Vacation Bible School for Pre-K through 6th grade, which brings in more and more new families each year, and the Confirmation Week of Service, where 6th-8th graders have the opportunity to build a tiny house, host a food drive for needy families, and package food to be sent overseas to Sierra Leone. Not to mention, I always enjoy having kids in worship over the summer when Sunday School is not in session. Children always bring new ideas about God into the mix!

God is always doing something new – creating new butterflies all over the place. Perhaps you have some new ideas and thoughts to bring into the mix, something new you've been wanting to try or talk about. If so, we want to hear about it! You never know what butterflies you might bring about in the life of our congregation.

Pastor Gina

## Holden Evening Prayer "Around the World" Saturday, June 3rd at 7:00 pm

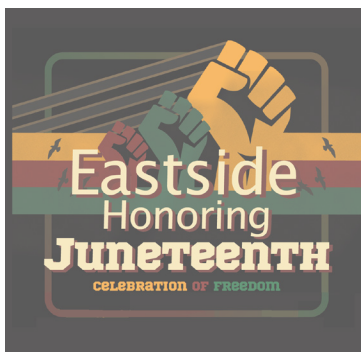
Once a year, Holden invites Villagers across the globe to come together through participation in the Holden Evening Prayer. This year, we will celebrate Holden Evening Prayer "Around the World" on June 3rd at 7:00 pm. Join us on the first night that Holden Evening Prayer will be sung in the Village for the summer. Even though geography may separate us, by singing and saying the same words together on the same day, we connect in spirit.

## Morning Meditation Saturday, June 10th at 10:00 am

The members of the Contemplative Prayer group invite you to join them for Morning Meditation on Saturday, June 10th at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. The service includes prayer, simple music, 20 minutes of silent meditation, and encounter of the Scripture through Lectio Divina. No previous experience is needed. All are welcome. If you plan to attend, please contact Christina at [cebrug@gmail.com](mailto:cebrug@gmail.com) so we can set up enough chairs.

## Eastside Juneteenth Celebration Saturday, June 17th | 11:30 am - 4:00 pm

Join HSLC and the wider Kirkland community for a Juneteenth celebration at Juanita Beach Park! This free event is great for all ages, and features speaker and activist Delbert Richardson, who led a three-part workshop for us at Holy Spirit in January of 2021. His traveling museum, 'Unspoken Truths,' will be featured at the event, so if you've wanted to see the artifacts and displays we could only see on Zoom in 2021, this is a wonderful chance! Entertainment, food vendors, and games will be available from 11:30am – 4pm on Saturday, June 17th. Hope to see you there!



## Summer Reading Bingo!

This summer, step up your reading game with HSLC Library's Summer Reading Bingo! Try something a little different, learn something new, and share your own story. Pick up your Summer Reading Bingo card at SummerFest or at the HSLC Library (and pick up a book to check off your first box!).

All the best books come with pictures, so just in time for summer, we've got some great new middle grade and teen graphic novels. Look for the Graphic Novel sticker on the spine:

***El Deafo*** by Cece Bell: In Cece's quirky coming-of-age story, fitting in at a new school is even harder when you have a large, clunky hearing aid strapped to your chest. When she realizes her hearing aid allows her to hear the teacher \*all\* the time, not just in class, she uses her new superpower to become El Deafo!

***Isla to Island*** by Alexis Castellanos: When Marisol is sent away from her home and family in Cuba to New York, to keep her safe, the whole world feels cold and gray, literally. This wordless graphic novel brilliantly brings to life the feeling of losing home and finding a new one.

***I am Alfonso Jones*** by Tony Medina: When Alfonso Jones, a high school kid thinking only of his crush and upcoming starring role in Hamlet, is shot by an off-duty police officer, he wakes up in an afterlife ghost train populated by other victims of police violence. Meanwhile, his family and friends struggle through their grief as they seek justice. A heartfelt first look at the Black Lives Matter movement.

***Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up with Me*** by Mariko Tamaki: Freddy can't believe her luck when Laura Dean, the coolest girl in school, is willing to date her. Freddy is willing to do whatever it takes to stay together, no matter how many times they break up. But should she? This beautifully illustrated LGBT un-romance is a powerful reminder of the challenges of learning to value oneself.

Stop by your HSLC Library for more great books. Happy reading!

- Hattie Branch



**Mission:**  
*To expand the intersection of intellect and spirituality while holding physical space in our busy world for prayer, introspection and study.*

## Refugee Committee Kit Drive now through Sunday, June 18th

The Refugee Committee is sponsoring a collection drive for refugees in honor of World Refugee Day (June 20th). They will build cleaning kits and bathroom kits from the donations you share. There is an expected increase of refugees from June through September. Please bring your NEW items to the Fellowship Hall no later than Sunday, June 18th.

Items requested:

Cleaning supplies - mop and bucket, broom and dustpan, pack of sponges, all-purpose cleaning spray, toilet brush, dish soap, laundry detergent, package of 4-6 light bulbs, 2 rolls of paper towels, 2 boxes of tissues

Bathroom supplies - bath towels (4), washcloths (4), shower curtain, shower curtain rings, hand soap, 6-pack of toilet paper, small wastebasket.

You do not have to purchase a whole "kit" - everyone's donations will be grouped together to make the kits. Questions? Contact Judy Abdo at [abdofam@gmail.com](mailto:abdofam@gmail.com) or 425-417-8769.

## Volunteers Needed! Bridge Disability Ministries Sunday Celebration | Sunday, June 25th

HSLC is hosting the Bridge Disability Ministries' Sunday Celebration on June 25th. Our guests will join us for worship at the 11:00 am service. Following worship, we will provide lunch in the Fellowship Hall. We need volunteers: parking lot attendants, lobby greeters, set up and clean-up crew, kitchen duty, food servers, and table hosts. We encourage you to sign up by contacting Joan in the church office ([office@hslckirkland.org](mailto:office@hslckirkland.org) or 425-823-2727).

## March with Holy Spirit in the Seattle PRIDE Parade! Sunday, June 25th

We are organizing a group from Holy Spirit to march with 200 other Synod Representatives in the Seattle PRIDE Parade. As a bonus, the Synod is offering t-shirts for purchase this year (\$15 each). If you would like to march with us and/or would like a t-shirt, you need to sign-up by Sunday, June 4th. You can sign up and/or order a t-shirt at [www.hslckirkland.org/pride](http://www.hslckirkland.org/pride).



## UnderSea Adventure

### Vacation Bible School & Day Camp - July 17-21 Registration is open, and we need volunteers!

Each summer, children ages 4 through those entering 6th grade in the fall join us for an adventure where kids explore the Bible in a variety of ways - through song, story, crafts, games, science, and snacks. This week is fun and has something for everyone! It's a week you don't want to miss! Everyone discovers something more about loving each other, building a community, and discovering God's never ending love. We are so excited to have your child join us for an amazing week at UnderSea Adventure. Early registration ends June 15th.

VBS & Day Camp could use more adult volunteers! We are in need of Games Co-Leader for ages PreK - 3rd grade (a person to join our Games Leader to plan and implement the games for our PreK - 3rd graders), PreK Co-Leader (a person to join our current PreK Leader in leading the youngest participants during the day), Shepherds for all grades (building relationships with participants in a specific group and leading them throughout the day, no teaching required), and Decorating Volunteers (people who want to dream about what our space can look like and how we can transform the building into an "UnderSea Adventure.")

Register or sign up to be a volunteer on our website: [www.holyspiritvbs.org](http://www.holyspiritvbs.org). Share the information with your neighbors and friends. Questions? Talk to Becky or email her at [children@hslckirkland.org](mailto:children@hslckirkland.org).

## 7th and 8th Grade Summer Week of Service 2023 July 24-28 — 9 am - 3 pm daily

We are planning a big Summer Week of Service for middle school youth at the end of July and we would love your help! Below is a list of service projects we will be doing during the week along with the non-profit organizations we will be partnering with for each event. There are several ways you can support us. If you are interested in helping put together our tiny house, please contact Tammie through the church office. We will collect food Monday through Thursday for the drive-thru food pantry and will invite the community to come and pick up the food on Friday. The list of the items needed for the food pantry will be available in mid-June. You could also support our week of service through monetary donations. Mark your donations, 'summer week of service'. We would love to have your support.

Build a tiny house for someone experiencing homelessness: LiHi (Low income Housing Institute)

Host a drive-thru food pantry at the church that is open to the community: Nourishing Network

Pack food bags to be sent to Sierra Leone, Africa: Children of the Nations

If you have any questions, contact Tammie at [confirmation@hslckirkland.org](mailto:confirmation@hslckirkland.org).

## Calling All HSLC Golfers!

We are looking to schedule some golf outings again this summer at one of the nearby golf courses (Bellevue Golf Course or Willows Run). Players of all levels and abilities are welcome. This is a recreational activity, not a tournament.

If you are interested in joining us for one or more outings, please contact the church office ([office@hslckirkland.org](mailto:office@hslckirkland.org)) to be added to the email distribution list. Being on the email list does not commit you to attending any outings.

We are planning on the following dates and will aim to get tee times starting around 1:00 pm.

- July 15 (Sat)
- August 6 (Sun)
- September 2 (Sat)

To secure tee times, we'll need to know who will attend about 2 weeks in advance. Watch for an email reminder 3-4 weeks prior to each outing.

We'll see you on the golf course!

- Judy Meyer and Eric Henrikson



## Help Needed Moving Sanctuary Chairs

On Thursday, June 22nd, we have scheduled a deep cleaning of the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall floors. This will require all the chairs to be removed from these two spaces before Thursday and returned before Sunday. The chairs will be temporarily stored in the Narthex during the cleaning. We are looking for volunteers on Wednesday (6/21) and Saturday (6/24) mornings to help move the chairs back and forth. There are 300 chairs to be moved - it would take one person 5 hours to move all the chairs. The more volunteers, the quicker we will be done. If you can help, just show up - we will start at 10:00 am both mornings. Thank you!

## Middle School Trip to Wild Waves

Wednesday, June 28th from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Current 6th, 7th, and 8th graders - celebrate the beginning of summer by joining us for a day of fun in the sun and excitement at Wild Waves theme park! Save the date now and watch for more info coming soon! Questions? Contact Becky at [children@hslckirkland.org](mailto:children@hslckirkland.org).

## Seattle Mariners Faith and Family Day

Saturday, August 26th at 1:10 pm vs. Kansas City Royals

Attention all Mariners fans! Gather your friends and family for some summer baseball at this "Faith and Family" event at T-Mobile Park on Saturday, August 26th at 1:10 pm. Tickets are \$26 and include a limited edition "Faith and Family" T-shirt. To sign-up, e-mail Joan at [office@hslckirkland.org](mailto:office@hslckirkland.org) with the number of tickets you wish to purchase. Checks should be made out to HSLC with "Mariners game" on the memo line. Deadline to order tickets is Sunday, July 23rd. Questions? Contact Joan at [office@hslckirkland.org](mailto:office@hslckirkland.org) or Becky at [children@hslckirkland.org](mailto:children@hslckirkland.org).





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**June/July 2023 HSLC Newsletter**

**Worship on Sundays - 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 AM**

Childcare available at 9:30 am and 11:00 am  
Livestreaming at 9:30 am

## Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, June 11th at 12:15 pm  
In Person Only

Your participation, leadership, and vote are vital to the life of this church. We will vote in new Council members, review our financial status, and vote to approve the 2023-2024 budget. A quorum is required, so please plan to attend! Lunch provided. Childcare available after the meal.