



# THE GRAPEVINE

POULSBO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## FROM THE PASTOR

Ecclesiastes 3

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born and a time to die;

a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill and a time to heal;

a time to break down and a time to build up;

a time to weep and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek and a time to lose;

a time to keep and a time to throw away;

a time to tear and a time to sew;

a time to keep silent and a time to speak;

a time to love and a time to hate;

a time for war and a time for peace.

### Transitions, change, grief, and joy...

You might know I've been singing with PLU's Choral Union these past many years. This year, our conductor of 32 years retired from the group. The focal point of our [last concert \(click if you want to listen!\)](#) was Daniel Knaggs' "To Everything, a Season", a setting of the familiar Ecclesiastes text. The seasons of our ensemble were illuminated in the segments of the concert: the founder of the group (and my undergrad conductor) visited to conduct the beginning of the program, the conductor taking over next year took the middle of the concert, and our retiring conductor saw us to the end. The seasons of music were highlighted as we sang pieces from an 1878 mass followed by a lot of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century music. At the end of the concert, all past members of the ensemble were invited to the stage to join us in singing "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" by Peter Lutkin. It was our way of recognizing all the musicians Dr. Nance has touched, as well as blessing Dr. Nance on his way.

This transition, as with any transition or change, brings grief. There's the grief (sadness) of saying goodbye to someone who has been a significant part of our musical journey, for sure. There's also the joy of welcoming someone new. There's the grief (disappointment) of the new person not doing things the way we're used to. There's the joy of discovering new musical nuances. There's the grief (anxiety) of not quite knowing what to expect. There's the joy of the newness of Spring. Seasons change. Change always brings grief, even though we don't always recognize it as grief; and each new season has its joys.

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JUNE/JULY, 2025



VISION  
STATEMENT  
People  
gathered  
and sent in  
the love of  
Christ.



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We have similar transitions going on at PFLC, both as we seek to fill our two open staff positions and as we seek to follow the Spirit's call into ministries that are unfamiliar and might be a little uncomfortable. We trust that the Spirit will lead us both through the grief and into the joys of the new seasons of ministry.

There are also changes happening at the macro level of church: fewer people attending onsite, fewer dollars in the offering plate, fewer pastors accepting the call to serve congregations, more and more work to do in the world. The seasons of ministry are changing, and we lament the loss of the ministries we grew up with, the ministries we find comforting, the ministries we are used to.

And we live into our new life in Christ, a resurrection life! Jesus does not promise this new life will be free from grief, only that grief never gets the last word. There's always resurrection, there's always joy.

I can't say this often enough: all change, however small or large, causes grief. We don't always recognize it as grief, we don't always acknowledge that it's happening. But it manifests itself in our bodies, it changes our emotional baseline, it affects the way we think. Some may tell you to focus on the joy, and that's a good thing, but we also need to focus on the grief and how it is affecting us – body and soul – and not just ignore it or wish it away. We don't need to wallow in it; we need to admit the humanness of it.

As we do this, there are things we can do to reorient ourselves to our new situations:

1. Dwell in the Word. Jesus knows grief. Jesus also brings hope and joy, gathers and sends us, and loves us without limits.
2. Learn. In my experience, nothing makes us more adaptable to the changes life throws at us than continuing to learn throughout our lives. It even makes our brains more adaptable, more elastic!! See the justice pages and the PLU pages in this newsletter for expansive learning opportunities. Check out the justice information rack in the narthex or [look at the websites, novels, and other things that were formative for PFLC's Sacred Justice Working Group.](#)
3. Talk with others who are experiencing the grief and joys of transitions. Talk to Evelyn Levey for insights from her Transitions Group of a few years ago. Talk to a professional counselor. Listen to those with wisdom to share.
4. Read novels that come from a point of view unfamiliar to you. The beauty of literature is that it can expand our worldview far more than our insular lives ordinarily allow!
5. Pay attention to your body and what it is telling you about the changes you're going through. Be gentle with yourself and others. Love yourself – God does!

The Spirit is so very active among the people at PFLC. We grieve, and we rejoice with the transitions the Spirit brings. And through it all, we walk together.

In Service,  
Pastor Alison

# BUILDING COMMUNITY AND SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS THROUGH GENEROSITY

## GENEROSITY MOMENT WITH PASTOR ALISON

### **Falling in Love with God and Neighbor (continued from May)**

#### **Building beloved community with Stephanie Spellers**

Published Jul 05, 2024

By Faith+Lead



Stephanie offered a wealth of insights for church leaders seeking to foster renewal and creative witness in challenging times:

#### **Reimagine Evangelism**

For many mainline churches, evangelism can feel uncomfortable or manipulative. Stephanie offered a fresh definition: "We seek, name, and celebrate Jesus' loving presence in the stories of all people... and then we invite everyone to more."

This approach emphasizes curiosity, humility, and joy. "The most amazing practice of evangelism is simply looking around your neighborhood, your community, your family, and when you see people doing something that looks like God, say so," Stephanie shared.

This reimagined approach to evangelism aligns closely with the Christian tradition of seeking and serving Christ in all persons. By focusing on recognizing and celebrating God's presence in people's lives, it removes the pressure of having to "convert" others and instead creates opportunities for genuine connection and spiritual conversation. Stephanie noted that this approach often surprises people, opening doors for deeper dialogue about faith and meaning.

#### **Integrate Reconciliation and Creation Care**

Stephanie explained how evangelism, reconciliation, and creation care flow from the Great Commandment to love God and neighbor. "These ministries, these commitments to evangelism, reconciliation, creation care, are really how we live out that great commandment," she said.

This integrated approach allows churches to engage in environmental and justice work as an expression of Christian faith and practice.

By connecting these areas of ministry to the core Christian call to love, Stephanie offers a theological framework that can help churches move beyond siloed programs to a more holistic, mission-driven approach. This integration can energize congregations by demonstrating how environmental stewardship and social justice work are integral expressions of Christian discipleship, rather than optional add-ons.

#### **Nurture Small Group Communities**

While many churches focus primarily on Sunday worship, Stephanie emphasized the importance of small groups for sustainable discipleship. "You're not going to be able to necessarily live this way of love, this Jesus-centered life if you're just going to church periodically," she noted.

Stephanie also emphasized the importance of intentionality in small group formation. "We need each of us to get a pattern of some kind," she explained, referring to the Way of Love practices. Small groups provide an ideal setting for establishing and maintaining these patterns of discipleship. By creating spaces where people can regularly pray together, study scripture, share their faith journeys, and hold one another accountable, churches can foster a deeper sense of community and spiritual growth. These groups can also serve as incubators for new leaders and ministries, as participants discover and nurture their gifts in a supportive environment.

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# BUILDING COMMUNITY AND SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS THROUGH GENEROSITY

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## Lead with Vulnerability and Joy

Stephanie highlighted the importance of leaders' own spiritual lives in fostering congregational renewal. "When the leader's heart has been broken open and the leader is yearning for more of God, and the leader is sharing those stories... People so often we'll come back and say, that's what we've been waiting for."

This insight highlights the critical role of pastoral leadership in church renewal. Stephanie's emphasis on leaders sharing their own spiritual journeys and longings for God can create a culture of authenticity and growth within congregations. By modeling vulnerability and joy in their own faith lives, leaders can inspire and empower their communities to engage more deeply with their own spiritual formation.

As churches navigate an increasingly polarized cultural landscape, Stephanie encouraged leaders to stay rooted in the "gospel of love" rather than seeking to win arguments. By speaking truth in love and inviting others into deeper relationship with God and neighbor, churches can offer a powerful witness in these challenging times.





Last month the PFLC Welcome Statement was in this spot. Reconciling Works helped PFLC develop that statement which was a huge step in becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Here is a link to the most recent newsletter from Reconciling Works [May 2025 RWKS Newsletter](#).

June is Pride Month in many places across the country. Here are some opportunities to participate in Pride celebrations locally:

- ⌘ June 21, Bainbridge Island at the Waterfront Park
- ⌘ July 19, Kitsap Pride at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds

While PFLC will not have a booth at either of these events, feel free to attend and show that the love of God is for all people.



## THE RED CARD

"The red card is a list of legal rights for immigrants who might find themselves targeted by federal agents and lists practical tips for legally protecting and exercising those rights. They can slide it under a door to agents or show it through a window."

The card can be found at the Immigrant Legal Resource Center website and printed at home in multiple languages for free. You can also find some in the Justice rack in the narthex.

I do not wish to speak with you, answer your questions, or sign or hand you any documents based on my 5th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution.

I do not give you permission to enter my home based on my 4th Amendment rights under the United States Constitution unless you have a warrant to enter, signed by a judge or magistrate with my name on it that you slide under the door.

I do not give you permission to search any of my belongings based on my 4th Amendment rights.

I choose to exercise my constitutional rights.

*These cards are available to citizens and noncitizens alike.*

<https://www.ilrc.org/red-cards-tarjetas-rojas>



## BUILDING COMMUNITY AND SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS

## FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

As we find ourselves at the beginning of spring in the Northwest, we have had both good warm weather and a fair amount of rain. Some have called this a false spring; to me, it's a typical spring. The Church Council is keeping its hand on the pulse of the congregation with many things happening. It is just about Pentecost and then into the green season. There has been some movement in the number of people applying for the open positions, and the personnel committee is working toward scheduling interviews.

As we are the hands and feet of Jesus, our congregation continues to reach out into the community. Thank you to the scouts for running the parking fundraiser during Viking Fest, and thank you to those who walked in the Viking Fest parade. This was a fun time. The north wall of the Social Hall has been cleaned, and the gutters have been cleaned from the trees that were growing. Thank you, Laurie and Meredith Musick.

Let us continue to uphold our church family in prayer as we navigate the coming months. May we remain grateful for the blessings in this building and for each other, as we carry out Christ's work here in Poulsbo.

In His Service,  
**Paul Jose**

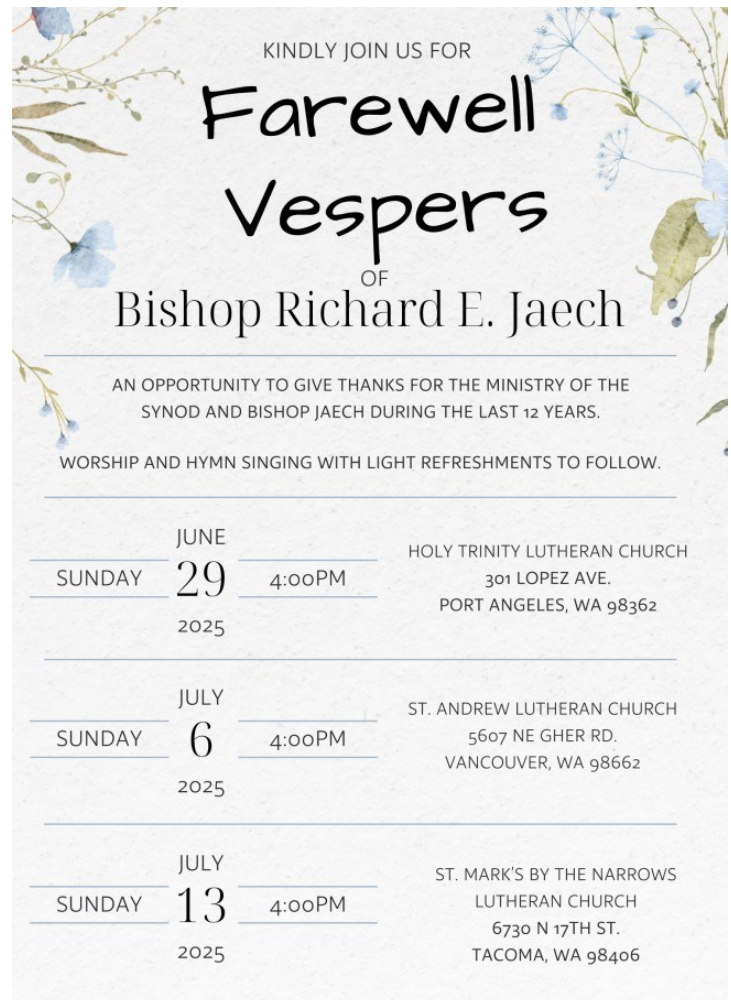
## COUNCIL ACTIONS IN MAY

At the May meeting, the council voted:

1. To appoint Patti Kratzke as a PFLC Parish Nurse. Patti, an RN, has completed the Parish Nurse coursework and will be installed this fall.
2. To increase the computer budget. Kitsap Networking Solutions (our IT provider) has informed us that small businesses in our area are being targeted with ransomware and trojans. There is a fee for additional upgraded software and monitoring.

### SWWA SYNOD ASSEMBLY JUNE 13-14, 2025

Pastor Alison, Pastor Kent, Paul Jose, and Terry Beaudoin will be attending the SWWA Synod Assembly representing Poulsbo First Lutheran Church. One of the main agenda items at this meeting will be the election of a new bishop for the synod. Bishop Jaech has faithfully served the synod for two six-year terms. We thank him for his service and wish him the best in his retirement.



KINDLY JOIN US FOR

# Farewell Vespers

OF  
Bishop Richard E. Jaech

AN OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE THANKS FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE  
SYNOD AND BISHOP JAECH DURING THE LAST 12 YEARS.

WORSHIP AND HYMN SINGING WITH LIGHT REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW.

JUNE			
SUNDAY	29	4:00PM	
	2025		
			HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 301 LOPEZ AVE. PORT ANGELES, WA 98362
JULY			
SUNDAY	6	4:00PM	
	2025		
			ST. ANDREW LUTHERAN CHURCH 5607 NE GHER RD. VANCOUVER, WA 98662
JULY			
SUNDAY	13	4:00PM	
	2025		
			ST. MARK'S BY THE NARROWS LUTHERAN CHURCH 6730 N 17TH ST. TACOMA, WA 98406

*Just as we receive communion in two kinds, the PFLC community worships in two places, expanding the ways God can speak love and grace to the world.*

### **As we gather onsite for worship:**

Your worship planning team continues to consider current practices with an eye toward improving our encounter with God in word and meal in worship. Some practices we would like to engage in need some helping hands, so if you are interested in helping, contact the church office. We are trying different ways of engaging children in worship, including having the chapel play area available. Children do worship with a joyful noise, and that is a welcome sound!

### **As we gather online for worship:**

The worship service is livestreamed at 9:00am every Sunday. Participate in the service at [pflc.org](http://pflc.org) or [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pflc) at that time. After the service is over, the recording will remain available on our website and Facebook under "videos" until the following Sunday. In order to receive notifications for live worship, Facebook users need to "like" and follow PFLC's page.

## **FROM THE MINISTRY HEAD**

Don't have much to say about the summer since it's not here yet...That was last week when I started thinking about writing this article for the two months of summer – hard to do when still in the throes of the routine of performance. As a musician, one does have to think and plan ahead but also be so very present for the work in the here and now. Add to this, of course, the lunch ladies at school remind me, "Only 3 more Mondays, and we're done!" and something in me says, "No, that can't be! I'm not ready!", as if it's the Second Coming. You've heard the joke, "Jesus is coming back, look busy!" Actually, I'm not ready for the lack of structure that comes with summer break, but just like winter dormancy, this season has its purpose in the slowed pace of routine and opens its doors to opportunities to serve more freely.

What that means for us at PFLC is we have one Sunday until Pentecost on June 8 and then the symbols & decorations for Easter come down, our paraments will change to red for the day, (you can wear red, too), liturgy will change, and choir will sing both services (also wearing red) then be done until September. We will be looking forward to varied liturgists and special music at that time, so thanks to all in advance.

Keeping the work of Easter in our hearts, and the work of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost in mind, I am holding on to something Pastor Kent said, "Who are we to draw lines that God, through the Holy Spirit, has already erased?" Our communion table is open to all. Also, June is Pride month, and we can look forward to reconciling works, and a new narrative lectionary based on Jeremiah, with reminders in our liturgy of God's call to justice and mercy.

We'll keep that liturgy and those reminders through July and August. As many use this time to travel, we can anticipate folks visiting us in their travels or seeking a place of belonging if they recently moved to the area. We have the opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ by welcoming them with our authentic selves – our ushers do this so well, and there is room to serve in that capacity as well. Even if you are not an usher, Christ is glorified as we share the sign of peace in welcoming the stranger

Pastor says once Jeremiah is done it's on to Revelation. Jesus is coming? I rather think Christ is here and now in all we say and do.

~Cyndi Gilman

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

As Cyndi stated in her article, there are several areas of worship where you can participate. Each Sunday people are needed to acolyte (fancy name for lighting the candles), usher (they collect the offerings and other stuff), cantor (this is a more skilled job as they lead the singing), and special music during the summer (you don't have to sing, maybe you play an instrument and want to share).

## LEARNING GOALS FOR PFLC:

- ⌘ Provide opportunities for community for PFLC attenders
- ⌘ Provide opportunities for the people of God to live out their faith and engage their community (near and far) through service and witness
- ⌘ Proclaim the love of God to kids and adults; to encourage kids and adults to proclaim the love of God to each other
- ⌘ Equip parents to be the primary faith-giver for their children
- ⌘ Give teenagers the community they need during adolescence
- ⌘ Equip teenagers to articulate their faith
- ⌘ Equip adults to articulate their faith



## TRIP TO GREECE, THE GREEK ISLES, AND EPHESUS APRIL 12-22, 2026

Join Pastor Kent and Elias Tours on a trip to Greece in the footsteps and sailings of Paul! We'll visit such biblical hot spots as Thessalonica, Philippi, Athens, Corinth, and Ephesus seeing ruins and learning of the faith and culture then and now. We'll spend several days on a cruise touring the Greek Isles including the Islands of Mykonos, Patmos, Crete, and Santorini. Each of these islands holds special mention in the travels of Paul, Titus, St. John, and others in the time of the early church. Here is the [link](#) for information and registration. If you have any questions, please ask Pastor Kent. I'm excited to lead this trip as we strengthen our faith and relationships in the footsteps of Paul.

## SUMMER READINGS

The summer session of the Narrative Lectionary begins June 15 with a six-week series in Jeremiah followed by a six-week series in Revelation. Take some time this summer to study these readings.



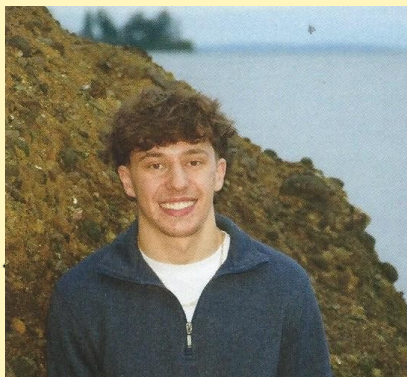
SUMMER 2025	
June	
1	Galatians 3:1-9, 23-29
8	Acts 2:1-4; Galatians 4:1-7 [5:16-26]
15	Jeremiah 1:1-10; 7:1-11
22	Jeremiah 18:1-11
29	Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-31
July	
6	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-14
13	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15
20	Jeremiah 33:14-18; 31:31-34
27	Revelation 1:4-8
Aug	
3	Revelation 4:1-11
10	Revelation 5:1-13
17	Revelation 7:9-17
24	Revelation 13:1-18
31	Revelation 21:1-6; 22:1-5



## CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



Noah Misuda will graduate from Kingston High School on June 14. He will be attending the University of Washington in the fall, studying to become a high school history teacher. Noah is the son of Takashi & Lynn Misuda.



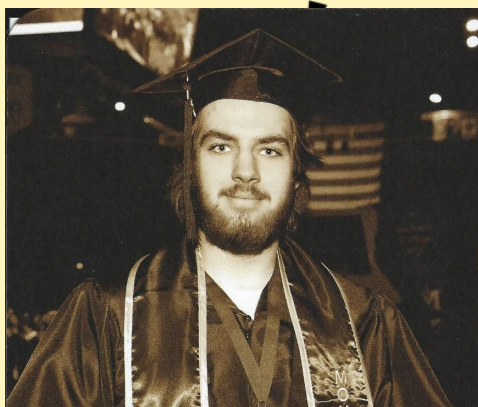
Jack Metrick will graduate from North Kitsap High School on June 13. He is going to the University of Oregon in the fall to study sports business. Jack is the son of Kitson & Alex DeBlois and grandson of John & Gerry Stamm.



Margaret DeBlois will graduate on June 14 from Bainbridge High School. She is going to Colorado State University in the fall to study Eco Tourism. Margaret is the daughter of Alex & Kitson DeBlois and granddaughter of John & Gerry Stamm.



Olyvia Renae Young graduated Cum Laude from Marist University on May 24 with a BS in Fashion Merchandising with dual concentration in promotion & product development and a minor in communications with a concentration in journalism. She plans to move into New York City this summer and continue in the fashion industry. Olyvia is the daughter of Robb & Jessica Young.



Patrick DeBlois Graduated from Montana State University-Gallatin College where he completed his certifications in Carpentry (2024) and Welding (2025). Patrick is the son of Alex & Kitson DeBlois and grandson of John & Gerry Stamm.



Alyson McClung is graduating from Western Washington University in June with a BA in Education in Language, Literature and Cultural Studies. Alyson has earned a Teaching Certificate with endorsements in Elementary Education (K-8), English Language Learners, and Reading. Alyson plans to stay in PNW and is actively applying teaching positions for Fall. She is the daughter of Ron & Carol McClung.

## FAITH FORMATION AT HOME

Your homes continue to be the most important place for faith formation. Please prayerfully consider using some of the options below for connecting with your family and friends in caring conversations.

- ⌘ **FAITH 5** is an excellent resource that works in a variety of ways and locations. How does it work? Thanks for asking! Share, Read, Talk, Pray, Bless. Share your high and low for the day. Read some scripture and see how it applies to your day. Pray for each other, and then end with a blessing. How easy is that? Find out more at [faith5.org](http://faith5.org)
- ⌘ ***Famlying the Faith: Effective Ways to Equip Parents as Faith-Influencers*** is a wonderful new resource from our friends at *Vibrant Faith*. You can purchase the eBook for only \$10 right [here](#).
- ⌘ **God's Story Our Story** is another great way to help engage your family and friends in short devotions, longer caring conversations, and random service projects. You can find it on the confidential page of the PFLC website ([click here](#)) along with the children's bulletin, and more!
- ⌘ **Pray as You Go** is an online prayer site that offers several options for listening to a new meditation Sunday-Friday each week. It offers soothing music, a prayer, a scripture, and a couple of questions to ponder all in 10-12 minutes. You can access this wonderful tool here: <https://pray-as-you-go.org/>

## BIBLE AND BREW

BIBLE AND BREW is a weekly bible study on Tuesdays at 6:30pm. Beginning June 3, the group gathers on the Gleason's patio (19022 3rd Ave NE, Poulsbo) to read and discuss the upcoming Sunday's scripture text while enjoying a favorite brew.

Lisa Hutcheson is the communicator for the Bible and Brew crew. Please contact her at [amcourtright@comcast.net](mailto:amcourtright@comcast.net) for more information.



## LIBRARY SELECTIONS FOR JUNE/JULY

### CHILDREN:

- ⌘ A Young Child's Garden of Christian Virtues by Susan Lawrence – "Children learn by doing. 'Turn family devotion time into an opportunity to explore God's Word through sight, sound, taste, and touch.'"
- ⌘ Seeds of Change by Nina Laden – "After stumbling across an area in her local Madagascar community devastated by drought, a young girl gets inspired. She gathers her friends and makes a case" to use the help of everyone in her community to make a garden.

### CRAFTS:

- ⌘ Quilt-Lovers' Favorites from American Patchwork & Quilting by Better Homes & Gardens – . . .treasured quilts, original quilts, all-new projects patterns, colors, ideas for gifts . . .

### MINISTRY:

- ⌘ The Godbearing Life – The Art of Soul Tending for Youth Ministry by Kenda Dean and Ron Foster – "A book that deals directly with primary need for God in the lives of the adolescents and those who minister to them."
- ⌘ Jesus Among Other Gods – The Absolute Claims of the Christian Message by Ravi Zacharias – "Moods change. Truth does not."





PACIFIC  
LUTHERAN  
UNIVERSITY

Summer is a great time to spend some time learning! PLU alumni continue their quest for knowledge, engagement, and critical thinking as they explore new ideas, challenge their beliefs, and listen to new perspectives from diverse groups. We are excited to offer lectures, conferences, and workshops that are open to the community.

### UPCOMING EVENTS



#### **The Changing Spiritual Lives of University Students**

**Vocational Vistas series**

**June 17, 2025 at 4:00pm Pacific Time (Virtual)**

University Pastor Jen Rude will offer a fascinating look at the questions and concerns raised by PLU students in their quest for lives marked by meaning and purpose.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

### PAST LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS



#### **Native Now and Forever: Celebrating and Integrating Indigenous Literary Voice for Young Readers**

*Jolita Hylland Benson  
Education Lecture*

Cynthia Leitich Smith (Mvskoke citizen) will highlight the history and growth of Native representation both on the page and behind the bylines.

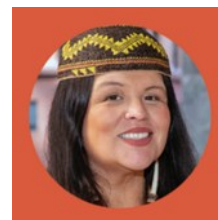
[LEARN MORE](#)

#### **Ninis'a:n-na:ng'a' / The World Came to Be Lying There Again, the World Assumed Its Present Position**

*Annual Natalie Mayer  
Lecture in Holocaust &  
Genocide Studies*

Presented by Cutcha Risling Baldy, whose research focuses on Indigenous feminisms, Californian Indians, Environmental Justice, Traditional ecological knowledge, and decolonization.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

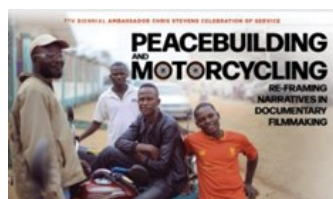


#### **What if God is NOT in Control?**

*David and Marilyn Knutson Lecture*

Dr. Thomas Jay Oord will offer a view of God's loving activity that answers our biggest questions about life, evil, and scripture.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



#### **Peacebuilding and Motorcycling: Re-Framing Narratives in Documentary Filmmaking**

*Chris Stevens Celebration of Service*  
Keynote lecturer Dr. Jaremey McMullin

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

#### **Sephardic Jewish Voices and Experiences in the Holocaust**

*Powell-Heller*

*Conference for Holocaust Education*

Keynote speaker Devin E. Naar

[WATCH VIDEOS](#)







## Preparing for Death, the Last Calling in Life

*Vocational Vistas series*

[PRESENTATION RESOURCES](#)



## Makah Voices and the Sea

*The Walter C. Schnackenberg Memorial Lecture*

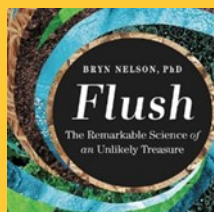
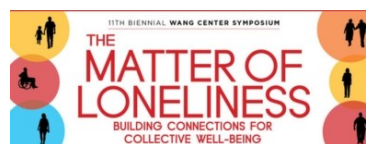
Speaker: Joshua L Reid

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

## The Matter of Loneliness: Building Connections for Collective Well-Being

*Wang Center Symposium*

[MORE INFORMATION](#)



## From Revolting to Revolutionary: How Poop Has Transformed Science and Reshaped the World

*Rachel Carson Lecture*

Speaker: Dr. Bryn Nelson

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



## Adam Smith's America: How a Scottish Philosopher Became an Icon of American Capitalism

*The Seventeenth Dale E. Benson Lecture*

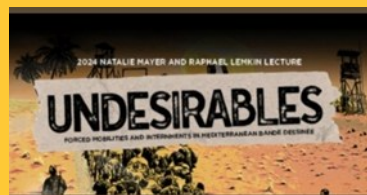
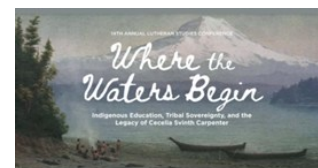
Speaker: Glory M. Liu

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

## Where the Waters Begin: Indigenous Education, Tribal Sovereignty, and the Legacy of Cecelia Svinth Carpenter

*The 14th Annual Lutheran Studies Conference*

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)



## Undesirables: Forced Mobilities and Internments in Mediterranean Bande Dessinée

*Annual Natalie Mayer and Raphael Lemkin Lecture*

Speaker: Aomar Boum

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

## WOMEN'S GROUPS

Below are some groups for women to come together and engage in action that makes a difference in the world, including bible study, knitting for the homeless, and creating quilts for people in developing countries.

- ⌘ **PFLC QUILTERS:** Fireside Room, 10:00am, Tuesdays — If you have questions, please call Pauline Ostheller at 360-598-2239 or email [lady.osth@gmail.com](mailto:lady.osth@gmail.com) or you may contact Sharon Brown at 360-731-5014 or [sharonbrown0512@gmail.com](mailto:sharonbrown0512@gmail.com). The quilters always appreciate donations of fabric or batting for their quilts. Please call Pauline or Sharon to make arrangements to donate items. You do not need to know how to quilt or sew to join the group. They will teach you everything you need to know!
- ⌘ **KNIT WITS:** Social Hall, 2:00pm, 2nd Saturday—The Knit Wits will meet on **June 14, but not in July**. If you would like more information, contact Lisa Hutcheson at 360-620-8219 or [amcourtright@comcast.net](mailto:amcourtright@comcast.net). The Knit Wits are in need of orange, yellow, and blue yarn. If you are able to donate some, please leave it in the main office labeled "Knit Wits".
- ⌘ **DEBORAH/LYDIA CIRCLE:** Social Hall, 2:00pm, 2nd Thursday—Deborah/Lydia Circle meets for Bible study on **June 12 and July 10**. The Bible study is in the current edition of Gather Magazine. Two copies of the magazine are in the folder by the WELCA bulletin board in the Social Hall, or you may find the study online at [gathermagazine.org](http://gathermagazine.org). To receive a reminder email before the meeting please contact Helen Humes at 360-509-2105 or [hhumes2002@hotmail.com](mailto:hhumes2002@hotmail.com).



## COME LEARN TO ROW

Kitsap Rowing Association has reserved a seat in each class for this year's Learn to Row program for a member of the Poulsbo First Lutheran Church. We will introduce you to the key aspects of rowing by experienced coaches and rowers.

Classes consist of an ON-LAND sessions in the Mountain View Room of your Church Wednesdays (6:00 to 8:30 pm); and ON-WATER sessions on Saturday and Sunday (7:00 am to 12:30 pm) at the KRA Dock located within the Port of Poulsbo.

Schedule listed below; for more details, please contact Mary Ellen Salyan, [kitsaprowing@gmail.com](mailto:kitsaprowing@gmail.com). We look forward to this opportunity to share a unique experience on Liberty Bay.

Class	ON LAND (Wed) 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm	ON WATER (Sat) 7:00 am to 12:30 pm	ON WATER (Sun) 7:00 am to 12:30 pm
3	June 11	June 14	June 15
4	July 16	July 19	July 20
5	August 13	August 16	August 17
6	September 10	September 13	September 14

*"When we launch our shells, we leave behind all else and become one with the boat; and there is growth in each of us. When we dock our shells, we take with us the lessons of the row; preparing us to walk through life more humble and grateful than the day before."*

## OLYMPIC LUTHERHAVEN UPDATE

It is now June, which means it is camp season at Lutherhaven. In late April we had our first combined work party of the year. We cleaned up debris off the cabin and lodge roofs as well as cleaning up the trails to the cabins. We also removed weeds from the waterfront and the edges of the trails and pressure washed the basketball court. There was much to do that was left for future work parties. Stay tuned in the fall for more work parties. More bodies are always welcome, and lunch will be provided to share in fellowship with members of the other Lutheran churches of the area.

There will be family nights on the picnic side in July on Wednesday nights. Bring your family or a friend for some boating and swimming as well as a bring your own picnic with others (see flyer on next page). If Wednesday nights don't work for you, the picnic side is available for visitors all summer to enjoy swimming and boating on Wildcat Lake.

There will also be Youth Bible Camp (see flyer below) at Lutherhaven from August 3<sup>rd</sup> through August 9<sup>th</sup>. It is open for youth entering 4<sup>th</sup> grade to 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall. Those entering 10<sup>th</sup> grade or older can volunteer to be a camp counselor. If you have any questions about Youth Bible Camp feel free to email Alyssa at [alyssakharper@gmail.com](mailto:alyssakharper@gmail.com).

Justin Pennington  
PFLC representative to Olympic Lutherhaven Board



Swimming, boating, worship, campfire,  
games, crafts, friendship, and more!

# OVERNIGHT SUMMER CAMP

August 3 - 9, 2025  
Wildcat Lake, WA

Early Discount:  
**\$400**  
/CAMPER

GRADES  
**4 - 9**

[www.olympiclutherhaven.org/  
youth-bible-camp](http://www.olympiclutherhaven.org/youth-bible-camp)

[Staff Application Form \(must be  
starting 10th grade in Fall 2025, or  
older\)](#)

# LUTHERHAVEN FUNDRAISER

## BINGO!

Great prizes, Cash too!  
Fun for the whole family.

**SUNDAY, June 1st at  
McCloud's Grill House  
4111 Wheaton Way, Bremerton**

Come at 4:30 for a place, Bingo is from 5 to 7 PM  
50% of all Bingo goes to Lutherhaven

**And SUNDAY, June 29 too!**

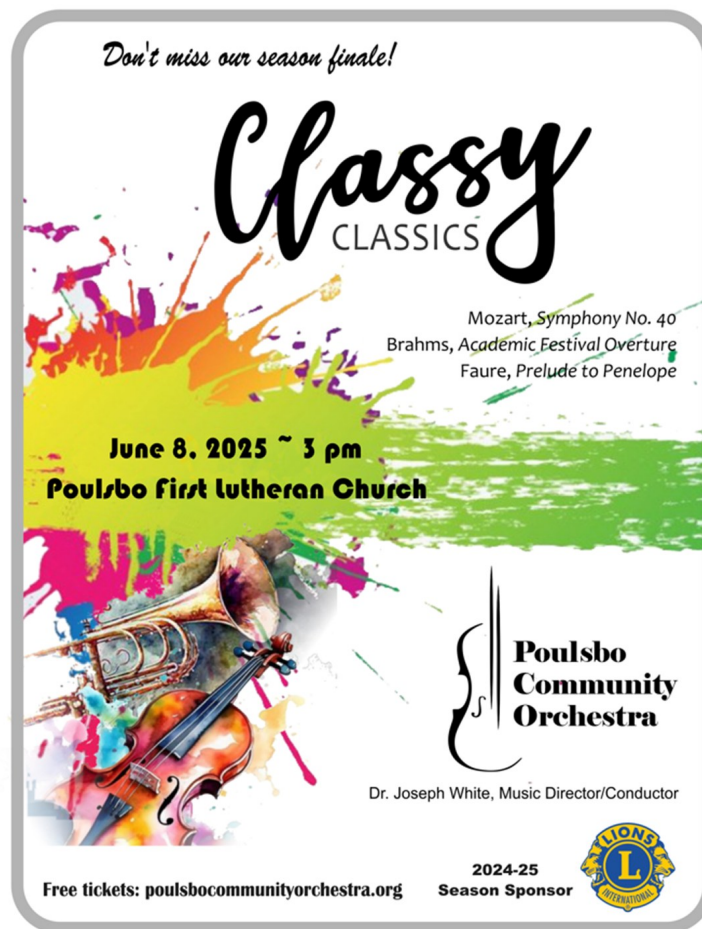




Wednesday Lake Nights  
**B.Y.O.P.**  
BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC

July 9<sup>th</sup> • 16<sup>th</sup> • 23<sup>rd</sup> • 30<sup>th</sup> | 6:00-8:30pm  
LIFEGUARD ON WATCH!

The poster features a background image of two yellow kayaks on a calm lake. In the top right corner, there is a circular logo for the Olympic Lutheran Church, established in 1955, with a mountain and trees inside. The text is overlaid on the image in a mix of bold, sans-serif and stylized fonts.



*Don't miss our season finale!*

**Classy**  
CLASSICS

Mozart, Symphony No. 40  
Brahms, Academic Festival Overture  
Faure, Prelude to Penelope


June 8, 2025 ~ 3 pm  
Poulsbo First Lutheran Church

**Poulsbo Community Orchestra**

Dr. Joseph White, Music Director/Conductor

Free tickets: [poulsbocommunityorchestra.org](https://poulsbocommunityorchestra.org)

2024-25  
Season Sponsor



The poster has a white background with colorful paint splashes in purple, orange, and green. It features an illustration of a trumpet and a violin. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout with a mix of serif and sans-serif fonts. The Lions Club logo is in the bottom right corner.

## FREDERICKSEN WILDERNESS PARK

Fredericksen Wilderness Park on Big Valley Road is 60 acres of forest, trails, wild life, and disc golf. Any time is a perfect time to take a walk in the forest! Take some time out of your busy day and enjoy some time in nature.

WildWise School will have a Hearthfire Camp July 7-11, 9am-3pm. They may also hold a Nature Camp for the remaining three weeks of July if they are unable to reserve the space they want. You are still welcome to use the park during that time, but please be respectful of the learning that is taking place.

While you are out enjoying the park please follow these few simple rules:

1. Drive slowly when entering and exiting the park.
2. The gate will be locked at sundown.
3. As always --if you pack it in, pack it out.
4. No smoking.

Find out more on our Facebook page! Please go to <https://www.facebook.com/PFLCFWP> to "Like" and "Follow" the page.



## TUESDAY NIGHTS ARE SCOUTING NIGHTS!

Cub Scout pack 4571 finishing up the school year and looking forward to summer nights in the park. The pack will begin meeting outdoors from 5:15-6:15 pm at Rabb Park until summer is over. For more information, please contact Cub Master Colin Tierney at [pack4571poulsbo@gmail.com](mailto:pack4571poulsbo@gmail.com).



Scout Troop 1571 finished up two successful fundraisers and would like to thank all those that contributed. The Troop is looking forward to camping at Lutherhaven and scout camp along the Oregon Coast. Scout Troop 1571 (a combined boy/girl troop) are open to all children ages 11-17 and meets from 6:30-8:00pm at PFLC through June 17<sup>th</sup> and then will move to Fredrickson Park for the rest of the summer. For more information, please contact Scout Master Lucas Reber at [Troop1571poulsbo@gmail.com](mailto:Troop1571poulsbo@gmail.com).



## FROM THE MINISTRY HEAD

June wraps up our focus on welcoming the stranger among us. When I think about what that looks like, I think about what it would feel like to be unsafe and searching for safety in a new and foreign place. I think about wondering how I could trust anyone to help me and those in my care, especially if I were coming from a dangerous or violent place. When I put myself in the place of someone seeking safety, it's difficult to understand how anyone could deny for someone else what they would want for themselves.

And that's all I ask of us as a church this month. To imagine what it feels like to be in danger and seeking safety. What would you hope someone would do for you? Then figure out a way to do that.

As we move out of our quarterly focus on Jesus's instruction to welcome the stranger, let's take a moment to celebrate how we, the PFLC community, did just that. We:

- ⌘ Supported a barista by attending a play she was performing in.
- ⌘ Spent time with neighbors.
- ⌘ Made running errands a "team" event.
- ⌘ Just being aware of the stranger among us.
- ⌘ Created and curated an exhibition at the Historical Museum reminding visitors that most ALL of us are immigrants of some sort.
- ⌘ Donated to Fishline to ensure our neighbors are cared for.
- ⌘ Donated to the SWWA Synod Refugee Fund.
- ⌘ Simply smiled.
- ⌘ Continued calls to elected officials advocating for immigrants and refugees.
- ⌘ Taught and learned methods of restorative justice to replace punitive mindsets.
- ⌘ Joined in local protests, making our voices heard.
- ⌘ Made an effort to meet someone new.
- ⌘ Volunteered at Fishline.
- ⌘ Quilted with the PFLC Quilters.

We did all those things, and more, I am sure of it. Well done, church.

Our next focus, beginning in July, is feeding the hungry: in our homes, in our neighborhoods, in our localities, and in our world. How will we do that good and faithful servants? How will we invite others to join us in that work? The Serving Ministry team is listening.

If you would like to be part of this team, contact Elizabeth Vander Esch, [elizabethvanderesch@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethvanderesch@gmail.com).

## COMMUNITY MEAL RETURNS!

Marti Williamson is bringing back the Thursday night Community Meal beginning Thursday, June 5, 5:00-6:30pm in the Social Hall. In the beginning, Marti will have help from Summer Anderson, who is providing meals for the Recovery Resource Center, with recipes and meal prep. As time goes on, she will need more help with preparing meals, serving, and clean up. Please call Marti at 206-618-3322 if you would like to be part of the Thursday night kitchen crew.

*Together we can help support the care of children and seniors at*

**MARTHA & MARY**

2025 GENERATIONS OF CARE  
VIRTUAL AUCTION



*Auction registration is free!*

*No purchase necessary, although we hope you do!*

Scan the QR code above or look for the Generations of Care auction link at [www.MarthaandMary.org](http://www.MarthaandMary.org) for more details and REGISTER TODAY!



For more information please contact the Martha & Mary Development team at 360.394.4065 or via email at: [auction@mmhc.org](mailto:auction@mmhc.org). Thank you for your support!



## FROM THE MINISTRY HEAD...

**He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." - Luke 10:27 (NRSV)**

**For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." - Galatians 5:14 (NRSV)**

**Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness;...So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them,... God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. - Genesis 1:26, 27-28, 31 (NRSV)**

**For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. - John 3:16 (NRSV)**

It has been suggested by some that the truth/guidance of *"love your neighbor as yourself"* should be flip-flopped. If we were to love ourselves as we love our neighbors, our awareness of God's undying love for us might lead us to be ever more mindful of just how precious we are in God. Not that we should back from loving our neighbors, of course.....but we beat up on ourselves a lot, while at the same time allowing for God's love for others, which isn't the witness of the Spirit in and through us.

The parade of scripture listed above has the focus on how much we are loved by God, how our life is created, established, grown, within, and dependent upon God.

### **We are made in the image of God.**

This creation is "very good", in God's pronouncement, which cannot be nay said. God's Word is God's Word and stands forever.

To witness this reality within yourself is important. Loving ourselves as God loves us, and loving our neighbors likewise is the witness of the Spirit and the life of Christ shown throughout scripture. Living the reality of God's love in and for me places me in the place of freedom to love my neighbor and all of God's creation as God created and continues to create me for. Witness in the Spirit how God loves you. Be mindful of this, and let this love be poured into the world as you are called.



Figure 1 - "Love yourself as your neighbor" - Graphic by CoPilot AI

# BUILDING COMMUNITY AND SHARING THE LOVE OF JESUS THROUGH CELEBRATIONS, SYMPATHIES, AND MORE

## JUNE/JULY BIRTHDAYS

6/2	Denise Wendt	7/1	Kim Rowe
	Jerry Huddleston	7/6	Hassan Sherafatmand
	Patti Kratzke	7/8	Joy Lê
6/3	Dan Jose		Tom Driscoll
6/4	Hannah Zeigler		Don Morey
6/5	Linda May		Olyvia Young
6/9	Jacob Misuda	7/11	Adelyn Galbraith
6/12	Elizabeth Barick	7/12	Gerry Stamm
6/13	Kris Stamm		Elise Kerttula
	Alijah Hovey	7/13	Steve Eisenhart
	Leah Reiter	7/16	Samantha Hendrickson
6/15	Paul Davis		Paul Jose
6/16	Sally Donohue	7/18	Kelliann Dixon
	Robbie Larson		Jim Kerttula
	Suzanne Lanchester		Marilyn Olson
6/17	Jeanna Stenman	7/20	Heidi Zeigler
	Andrew Sletten	7/22	Alice Muell
	Mary Angerer	7/23	Al Moum
6/19	Terry Beaudoin		Debbie Collier
	Bob Nichols	7/24	Dani Priest
	Rich Frederickson	7/25	Anna Eifert
6/20	Carol Taylor		Karen Wiggins
	Perry Ann Porter Brown	7/27	Grace Beasley
6/23	Greta Johnson		Ron Muell
6/25	Carol Daniels	7/30	Rachel Hinz
6/27	Lisa Macht		Doug Vander Esch
6/28	Ron McClung		
6/29	Isabel Hagenbrock		
	Darryl Milton		
6/30	Becky Dice		

## JUNE/JULY ANNIVERSARIES

6/10	Jon & Scarlett Madamba
6/14	Pr. Paul & Gail Black
6/16	Ken & Janine Severud
6/18	Steve & Joyce Holzhey
	Christopher Ferranti & Hassan Sherafatmand
6/20	Kevin & Lauren Eyer
6/21	Scott & Allison Pringle
	Jerry & Gladys Parrish
6/24	Gary & Karen Byrd
7/3	Dan & Julie Holt
7/5	Andrew & Jennifer Sletten
	Dennis & Narda Hedlund
7/7	Ron Muell & Helen Humes
	Alex & Kitson DeBlois
7/8	Lance & Becky Dice
7/9	Knud & Samantha Hendrickson
7/10	Glenn & Kaylene Gracey
7/17	Bruce & Joyce Becker
7/18	Steven & Beth Gallick
7/23	Konrad & Elena Uri
7/24	Bob & Sharon Nichols

## HOLIDAY CLOSURES

- ⌘ Thursday, June 19, for Juneteenth.
- ⌘ Friday, July 4, for Independence Day.

The office will reopen on the following business day.

## VISION STATEMENT

People gathered and sent in the love of Christ.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To build community—To share the love of Jesus.

## SYMPATHIES TO:

- † The family of Betty Gonnason, who died April 6.
- † The family of David Fricke, who died May 2.
- † Robb Young and family at the death of his brother, Todd, on May 4.
- † The family of Mark Sjostrom, who died May 4. Mark was Joanne Erickson's brother-in-law.
- † The family of Sharon Neubauer Holt, who died May 7.
- † Karin Klein and family at the death of her mother, Irmgard, on May 12.
- † Stan Amos and family at the recent death of his wife, Alice.
- † The family of Joanie Martin, who died May 11. She was a cousin of the Machts.
- † The family of Betty Malde Jackson, who died May 23.
- † The DeJager family at the recent death of Gwyneth, Helen Humes' cousin.



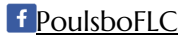
## POULSBO FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

18920 4TH AVENUE NE

POULSBO, WA 98370

PHONE: 360-779-2622

EMAIL: [welcome@pflc.org](mailto:welcome@pflc.org)



# THE GRAPEVINE

## JUNE/JULY, 2025

### MINISTRY STAFF

Alison Shane, Pastor  
Kent Shane, Pastor  
Melinda Madamba, Office Manager  
Miriam Haddon, Organist & Choir Pianist  
Sam-Hannah Ronning, Custodian

### CHURCH COUNCIL & MINISTRY LEADERS

Paul Jose, President  
Terry Beaudoin, Vice President  
Marti Williamson, Secretary  
Elise Kerttula, Treasurer  
TBD, Facilities Ministry  
Lauren Eyer, Learning Ministry  
Elizabeth Vander Esch, Serving Ministry  
Lisa Hutcheson, Supporting Ministry  
Jeff Hora, Witnessing Ministry  
Cyndi Gilman, Worshipping Ministry

To contact the church office, please call  
360-779-2622.

**Office Hours:** Mon-Thur, 10am-2pm,  
Fri, 10am-noon

Staff may be in the building outside of these  
hours, call the office for availability

**Sunday Worship: 9:00 & 10:30am**

Participate online at [pflc.org](https://pflc.org) or  
[PoulsboFLC](https://www.facebook.com/PoulsboFLC) on Facebook

Please submit articles by email to  
[welcome@pflc.org](mailto:welcome@pflc.org).

Articles are subject to editing.  
Submissions due by the 20th of each month.