

# Central Thoughts

Central Lutheran Church

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2702 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett, WA 98201

November 2022

Volume 40 | Issue 10

## A Message from Pastor Jim: *Academia Latina*

Our September Mission of the Month was *Academia Latina*. We were blest to have Rosamaría Grazian, the Director of *Academia Latina*, join us for worship and tell us about the life-changing work they do. As you may recall, *Academia Latina* is the largest Latino organization in Snohomish County, and teaches English, GED, and math to the Latino community. They also provide nutritional assistance for their students and families.

Following Rosamaria's visit, she and I discussed ways Central could support and participate in the important work of *Academia Latina*. I learned that one way we could assist was by providing classroom space. At its October meeting, the Council approved *Academia Latina's* request to use one room here at Central each Tuesday and Thursday from roughly 5:00 to 7:30 pm.

After sharing the good news with Rosamaria, she came by on Friday, October 21, to look at what spaces were available and discuss other details. She was incredibly grateful and informed me that she had a group of students ready to start meeting that coming Tuesday, October 25. (As you can see, Rosamaria is very passionate about the work she does.) By the time you receive this newsletter, *Academia Latina* will have already met twice in our building!

Currently, we are only providing space for *Academia Latina*. Hopefully, we will soon be able to provide more support. Here are ways to participate and support Rosamaria and her students:

- pray for *Academia Latina*, Rosamaría Grazian, the students, and this new relationship for Central
- donate granola bars for snacks for the students
- donate pencils, erasers, paper
- donate child & adult face masks and hand sanitizer to prevent spreading viruses
- donate a new or used computer, monitor or laptop (in working condition, Windows 8 or higher)
- donate a new or used printer and ink
- donate funds to help cover the cost of utilities and other items that are not donated
- A Thrivent Action Team could be formed and the funds used to provide needed supplies.

I hope you are as excited about the possibilities of collaborating with Rosamaria and *Academia Latina* as I am. No one yet knows where the Holy Spirit will lead us as we begin working together. But what I do know is this, the Holy Spirit will be working in the midst of whatever we do, and good things will come of it!

Please contact me if you would like more information about donating items. A box for collecting items will be in the back of the church in the next few weeks.

Peace,

*Pastor Jim*

### November Worship Schedule

November 6:	All Saints' Sunday - Psalms 149:1-5	Ephesians 1:11-23	Luke 6:20-31
November 13:	Pentecost 23 - Job 19:23-27a	2 Thessalonians 2:13-17	Luke 21:5-19
November 20:	Christ the King - Jeremiah 23:1-6	Colossians 1:11-14	Luke 23:33-43
November 23:	Thanksgiving Eve - Watch the bulletins for more information.		
November 27:	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent - Hanging of the Greens		

## A Message from the Bishop

adapted from *The Spirit* November issue

I just spoke with one of my friends who attended seminary with me. She is a pastor in the Midwest. And she is a great pastor. She is warm. She is funny. She loves Jesus. She loves the Church. She loves Church so much that she used to attend three different Lutheran churches in a weekend (not counting the church she serves). She feels called by God to be a pastor. But today I had a phone call from her. She was crying. And she said to me (as a friend – not as a bishop), “The thing is I don’t get that much enjoyment out of pastoring for the work involved except God probably wants me to do it. Knowing that is some consolation.”

Recently I heard Pastor Dan White speak about pastor burn-out on a podcast:

*“I mean, I’m seeing pastors every week who would never have considered rethinking their call as a pastor, who are doing that every week. And it’s just because things are so broken and hurting and exhausting, and they’re faced with that question now. And they never had to face it before. So I think it’s just kind of flipping over the apple cart, and everything is kind of being questioned.”* *The New York Times Podcast First Person, July 21, 2022*

According to Barna Group\*, two out of five pastors have thought about leaving ministry in the last year. This is remarkably higher from previous years. What is the difference? According to Barna, the top reasons include stress, loneliness, and political division. While these three reasons are not new, we know that Covid compounded some of the tensions that already existed. We know that the last two and half years have frayed relationships in ways we did not expect. As Bishop, I know that pastors are leaving congregations at a faster pace than I have ever experienced and the three reasons above are often the reason.

Oof! This makes me sad and anxious. This isn’t how pastoring is supposed to be. As I tell people in premarital counseling, “Sometimes life is hard. Sometimes a relationship is hard. But neither life nor marriage should be hard all the time. Most of the time your relationship should make life better.” And the same holds true for being a pastor. Sometimes pastoring is hard. But it shouldn’t be hard all the time.

So how can we help pastors, and other leaders, who are experiencing stress, loneliness, and political division in the congregation? If we continue to look at Barna research, it appears that pastors who continue to feel called to ministry responded that even though they might be experiencing stress, loneliness, and political division, they also have support through family, community, and other strong relationships.

How can this happen? How can we build mutually caring and loving relationships with one another? How can we rebuild what Covid frayed? How do we best support and encourage our pastors, deacons, and lay ministry professionals? How can we, together, be the body of Christ for one another? May we mutually uphold and support one another as siblings in Christ.

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

\*Barna Group is a private, non-partisan, for-profit research organization. This particular research comes from the online article, “Pastors Share Top Reasons They’ve Considered Quitting Ministry in the Past Year,” April 27, 2022.

### November Dates to Remember:

- ♥ November 6: Quilting
- ♥ November 9: Sunday Supper
- ♥ November 13: Congregation Forum
- ♥ November 20: Quilting
- ♥ November 23: Sunday Supper

Articles for the **December issue** are due **Friday, November 24.**

Send your article to:

**[centralluthoffice@gmail.com](mailto:centralluthoffice@gmail.com)**

**Everyone** is encouraged and welcome to submit!



## MISSION OF THE MONTH, NOVEMBER 2022

### Thanksgiving Food Baskets



Again this year, we will be distributing up to fifty THANKSGIVING FOOD CARDS for needy families and individuals. Each card will be a minimum of \$50, depending on the family size. Donations are needed to make this annual event a success. All financial gifts appreciated, in addition to your regular general fund offerings. Your contribution makes this benevolence possible. Please mark your check "Thanksgiving". Thank you.

Debbie Ritchie & Dave Finstad

### Congregation Forum

On Sunday, November 13, following worship we will meet to dream and discuss where God is leading Central Lutheran Church. Please plan to join with your church family for this important forum.

### Thank You!

Dear friends at Central Lutheran Church, Yesterday we received your very generous donation! We are deeply grateful. We are now feeding 48 families every week and every penny counts. Thanks so much for your solidarity. Rosamaria Grazian, Director of *Academia Latina*



### Remember Our Homebound and College Students in your Prayers

Please pray for these persons who are unable to regularly worship with us:

*Sarajane Petersen, Linda Slater, Ellen Matheson, Pat Krassin, and Sheryn Todd*

#### Our College Students

*Mim Fox—University of Portland & Anna VanderWeyst —Northern Arizona University*

(Please contact the church office if you would like to be included or add a name to this list.)

### November Anniversaries & Birthdays

#### Happy Anniversary!

Nov. 3 Bill and Jane Loesche  
Nov. 17 Neal Shipley & Debra Saunders

#### Happy Birthday!

Nov. 1 Robbie Lee      Nov. 11 Mark Lee  
Nov. 4 Travis Anderson      Nov. 23 Lisa Thompson  
Nov. 10 Martin Luther (1483)



### The PrayGround

Children pre-school age and under have their own special space to enjoy worship - The PrayGround. Parents whose children are using the PrayGround are asked to sit on that side of the Sanctuary so they can supervise their children.

### Faith Formation Opportunities

Sunday Morning Bible Study takes place following worship in the Friendship Room. We are studying Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. All are invited.

"Do I Stay Christian?" Book Study takes place Wednesday afternoons 2:00 - 3:00, and Thursday evenings 6:30 - 7:30. Feel free to join at any time.

Central Lutheran Church  
2702 Rockefeller Ave.  
Everett, WA 98201



November 2022

**Central Lutheran Church  
Council Members & Staff**

President: Kathy Trosvig  
Vice-President: Bob Lee  
Secretary: Barbara Lichnecker  
Treasurers: Dave Finstad, Debbie Ritchie  
Property: Kelli Trosvig  
Education: Karen Fox  
Stewardship & Missions: Jean Lilley  
Fellowship: Nancy Olsen  
Pastor: Jim Killough  
Music Director: Peggy Kurtz  
Office Manager: Miwa Lockeman  
Organist: Joan Dirska  
Pianist: Kristi Lee  
Custodian: Duane Blair

*"For you, O God, are my fortress,  
the God who shows me steadfast love." Psalm 59:17*

Central Lutheran Church  
Everett, Washington

