



Life Together September 2019

Denny Park Lutheran Church

*Gather to worship and fellowship
Grow in the knowledge and love of Christ;
Go...serve, love and impact the world.*

Fall Transitions

Pr. John Hoyum

I'll take a brief break from the series I've been working through on the significance and history of Christian liturgy to provide updates about some of the things we'll be working on this fall at Denny Park Lutheran Church.

A first thing I'd like to notify you of is that I will be starting a midweek bible study for anyone who is interested. The first meeting will be Wednesday, September 11, at 7:30pm at Espresso Vivace (227 Yale Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109). I will be there for from 7:30 until 8:30 or 9:00 studying scripture. Any and all are welcome to join me. I envision the format being very open ended and conversational, but we will read through and discuss a book of the bible to structure our discussion when that is needed. The goal here is also to get out into our community and get to know the neighborhood better than we do.

As for teaching at our parish, the Fireside Room is nearing completion in the next several weeks. In order to make our bible study hour on Sunday mornings a little bit more welcoming for guests and inquirers, we will be adjusting the format of the class. Once the Fireside Room is finished, we will move our class there and arrange ourselves in rows rather than a circle. This way people can easily be added to the class without having to widen a circle or feel like they're entering a closed group of insiders. Gathering in rows will help open the class in some visible, very needed ways.

Looking ahead to the beginning of a new church year with Advent, I'm hopeful to have an Advent midweek service in the sanctuary with a vespers liturgy, organ support, and some brief reflections on the scripture lessons. Specifics about this are still being established, but I want to alert all of you to that as well. Be on the lookout.

Finally, a few miscellaneous notes for you.

The first is that this past August I had the opportunity to attend the summer convocation of the North American Lutheran Church. This was an exciting and joyous occasion for me—reuniting with old friends, meeting new ones, and spending time learning and worshipping. The NALC also elected a new bishop: Rev. Dan Selbo of San Jose, California will be starting October 1. I believe he will serve as an excellent bishop and very much look forward to collaborating with him in the coming years as a pastor of the NALC.

A second is that Pamela Knowles and I will be attending the annual LCMC national gathering at the end of September and beginning of October. I will report back to you and the church council about this once it happens.

Finally (and speaking of LCMC), the congregation will be meeting on September 22 to appropriate funding for the overages accrued in the construction of the Fireside Room. I will also be bringing a resolution, with consensus from the church council, that we vote as a congregation to join the Augustana District of the LCMC. This is a non-geographic district of LCMC that provides a roster of pastors, assistance with the call process, theological documents, and an excellent, annual theological conference for its churches and clergy. I strongly support the Augustana District and know many of the people involved with it. Denny Park Lutheran Church would benefit greatly from joining, especially since we would be linking up with other like-minded LCMC congregations. I will be distributing a copy of the statement of faith of the district, which we are required to agree to as members of the district.

I suppose I'm at my word limit (or thereabouts) so I'll sign off for now. Peace be with you all this September as fall gets underway.



Over the course of time churches tend to lose the ability to be relatable to their communities. In the consulting relationships that I've had with declining churches I have found this reality to be instrumental in their struggles 100 percent of the time. There are many factors that contribute to this but it usually translates back to the neighborhood changing and the people not so much. We become comfortable. We forget what it is like to walk through unfamiliar doors. We like what we like. Eventually, the very people we are called to in our communities must actually take on the posture of a missionary in order for there to be a connection. They become the ones who must overcome cultural barriers to encounter Christ and Christian community. They have to get out of their comfort zones and wade through strange language, practices, even strange buildings. Consequently, as you might probably guess, it is rare that anyone outside of a church community will actually expend the emotional energy that it takes to walk through the doors of a church on a Sunday morning. And why should they when we, in fact, are called to be the ones taking on the posture of a missionary. We are called to learn what is valuable to our culture and to consider ways in which we can speak their language and join them in their pursuits ... in order to provide moments or glimpses in which we can make the most of every opportunity to then communicate Christ's love and grace to them. I was reminded of that last weekend when our overseas friends joined us for a Sunday to share how they connect to the foreign culture they find themselves in.

That is the heart and soul of The Sanctuary at Denny Park. It is intended to understand the community, to create familiar space, not for those of us on the Inside, but for those who need to experience what we know to be true. It is to communicate scriptural truth in a way and language that is understandable. The Sanctuary at Denny Park is intended to be the missionary posture of DPLC here in the city. It happens through created spaces and through creating opportunities both inside and outside the building. This idea is behind the design of the Fireside Room and the events already scheduled there ... events that never would have happened in a more "church like" space. This idea is behind why we joined in serving dinner for Community Dinners church this past month. This idea is behind why we collected school supplies for homeless high school students in Seattle Public Schools. This idea is behind once again at the end of September joining with more than 100 neighbors in South Lake Union to plant more bulbs that continue to beautify Denny Park right in our front yard.

Being the missionaries we are called to be begins with improving our posture. I'm inviting all of us, as the Fall and a new season of outreach begins, to examine our posture and to really consider how this might become a learning experience and a new chapter of life and vitality here in the heart of the city. As opportunities are revealed either through DPLC communication or posted on the information board in the 8th avenue foyer, consider how you might stretch yourself and join in.

I look forward to joining along with you! Dan

There will be a congregational meeting on September 22 at 11:30 am to appropriate the rest of the funding for the overages accrued in the construction of the Fireside Room.



DPLC Women

Miriam Circle:

Monday, September 9th
at 10:15 am for Bible
Study and Fellowship!
Room 103

Quilter and Kit Assembly:

Tuesday, Sept. 24th at 10am. Room 103 Please bring a sack lunch, coffee will be provided. (please note: both September & October dates are on the 4th Tuesday of the month) To plan ahead October's date is the 22nd.

Are you a prayer warrior, or do you know someone in need of prayer? The DPLC prayer chain would love to hear from you and support you or someone you know in prayer. Please know you are welcomed to call: 206.282.0383 to let us know of any needs so we can lift them before God.



"I call on you my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer." Psalm 17:6

We wish to express our appreciation to all who made Sunday, August 11th a special day, with our missionaries, Luke and Ruth Schroeder and their children. It was exciting to hear about their work on the mission field and the interesting ways they use to reach people with the love of Christ. We continue to pray for God's blessings upon them. Thank you all again for a wonderful time!



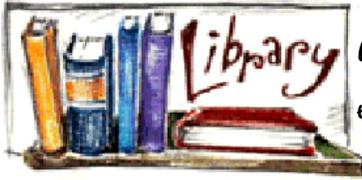
We are building school kits for LWR! Access to education is a critical piece of helping children break the chains of chronic poverty. That's why requests for LWR School kits are on the rise. Take advantage of summer sales to make school kits, and help provide hope and a future to children around the world. Items needed are:

- *Pencil sharpeners
- *Pens
- *#2 unsharpened pencils
- *crayons 16 or 24 count
- *Scissors must be blunt point
- *70 page spiral notebooks

The Fellowship Team invites you to get together for a little fun on Friday, Sept 27 at 7pm for a game night in
Bring a favorite board game and a snack to share.

Any questions? Contact Fran Ryder 425.774.3495

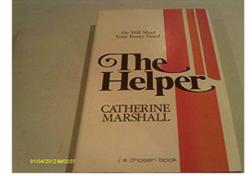




Library Corner @DPLC This column is to review books available in our library and encourage library use. Enjoy!

By: Carolyn Reeder

The Helper – He will meet your every need. By Catherine Marshall, Published by Chosen Books Publishing Co., Ltd., 1978.



Written as a devotional to cover forty days, this book charts a clear way of getting to know the Holy Spirit—or, the Helper, as Christ is recorded saying in John 14. The author, a well-known Christian writer and wife of the 1946-47 U.S. Senate Chaplain, the late Peter Marshall, develops the chapters into a practical sequence, including in each short chapter pertinent Biblical verses, thoughtful narrative and a prayer. Tracking her own and others' experiences, Catherine weaves the book through key sections that address: Introducing the Helper, How to Receive the Helper, How the Helper meets everyday needs, How the Helper Ministers at a deep level, The outpouring of the Helper's generosity, and the Helper and the Church.

She recounts her own experience of making a study of scriptures about the Christian life in connection to the Helper and discovering that the “fullness of the Holy Spirit is not something that happens automatically at conversion.” That God “waits on our volition” for us to ask for Him. Catherine came to the place of quietly asking the Father for the Holy Spirit, as Christ promised would be given in Luke 11, not knowing what to expect for herself. Then came the next few days when “quietly but surely, the heavenly Guest made known His presence in my heart.” As she yielded to the Helper's guidance, in the months and years that followed she found Him concerned with every detail – of her words, attitudes, health, finances, ambition, reputation, safety, time management – as well as of practical, everyday needs. And, she learned to recognize His voice. Further, she discovered that “the manifestation of His presence on which the Spirit places highest value is the power to witness effectively to others of Jesus.”

She also writes “I soon realized that the baptism of the Holy Spirit was no one-time experience, rather a process that would continue throughout my lifetime” as humanness and self “kept creeping back in.” Catherine recounts what she found of the Helper's dealings with “towering Christian figures” including Dwight L. Moody, who wrote: “In some sense, and to some extent, the Holy Spirit dwells in every believer, but there is another gift which may be called the gift of the Holy Spirit for service. This gift, it strikes me, is entirely distinct and separate from conversion and assurance. God has a great many children who have no power, and the reason is, they have not the gift of the Holy Ghost for service... They have not sought this gift.” May this book of gentle readings become a path of greater understanding of the value, the work and presence of the Helper in the Christian life.



Do you have information for the October edition of Life Together? The deadline to have it to the office is Thursday, September 19th, at 10 am. Any questions?? Contact Joanie in the office: 206-623-7447



Happy Birthday to:

Pastor Dan Jacobs ~ September 7

Frank Hofmeister ~ September 31

Happy Anniversary to:

John & Miriam Tveit ~ September

Do you need space for a special activity or a meeting? Please email or call Joanie in the office to check on availability and reserve your space.
206.623.7447
office@dennyparklutheran.org



Sunday, September 1

Worship, 10 am
Fellowship, 11 am
Adult Bible Study 11:30 am

Monday, September 2...Office/Building Closed Labor Day Holiday

Wednesday, September 4th...5 pm

Finance Team Meeting Room 202
Grant from Edward Jones will be here

Sunday, September 8

Worship, 10 am
Fellowship, 11 am
Adult Bible Study 11:30 am
Council Meeting ...12:30 pm

Monday, September 9...10:15 am

Miriam Circle...Room 103

Wednesday, September 11th...7:30 pm Study at Vivace on Yale

Sunday, September 15th

Worship, 10 am
Fellowship, 11 am
Adult Bible Study 11:30 am

Wednesday September 18th...7:30 pm Study at Vivace on Yale

Friday, September 20th...7:30 pm

Bible Study...Room 103

Sunday, September 22nd

Worship, 10 am
Fellowship, 11 am
Special Congregational Meeting... 11:30 am

Tuesday, September 24th... 10 am

Quilting and Kit Building...Room 103

Wednesday September 25th...7:30 pm Study at Vivace on Yale

Friday, September 27th...7pm Game Night

Sunday, September 29th

Worship, 10 am
Fellowship, 11 am
Adult Bible Study, 11:30am
Property Team Meeting, 11 am

DPLC - ON LINE

Please visit our website and join DPLC on Facebook and share the page with friends and family.

www.dennyparklutheran.org

www.facebook.com/Denny-Park-Lutheran-Church

You can now give and tithe online

www.dennyparklutheran.org/give-online.html



Pastor John is available for prayer or visits.
Contact him at: 206-623-7447, 360-689-4257 or email at
pastorjohn@dennyparklutheran.org