

The Church of Steadfast Love

Special points of interest:

- Letters of Thanks
- Lutherwood
- Thanksgiving



A mission/development congregation of the ELCA located within Compass Housing Alliance

Patrick

I really enjoy the way Pr. Kristy delivers a sermon. After hearing her for the first time I was convinced that I need not go anywhere else. Her understanding of the scripture and love for the congregation made me feel right at home, and I immediately felt led to tell others about the church and about Pr. Kristy. Furthermore, after returning to the community of the Men’s Program I discovered that Pr. Kristy’s influence went well beyond the doors of the church.

I soon met others that had experience with Pr. Kristy and the Lutheran Church to the extent that as I shared with them they in turn shared with me that which we both already knew and they gave me literature regarding Lutheran missions. I love the way we sing, and I like the way we feel after a service. Recently intern Kari with Faith Action Network (FAN) visited the church and invited us to be an advocating congregation, so we look forward to a trip to Olympia, WA on February 14, 2012 for Interfaith Advocacy Day. We look forward to travelling with some of the staff from Compass Housing Alliance to advocate for housing, the abolition of the three strike law, and the abolishment of



Above-Patrick in the church
Left-in the office

other things. I really thank God and the Veterans Administration for helping me secure housing at the Compass Center, but most of all I thank God for providing for me a church right at my own front door.



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Alternative Christmas Fair at Christ the King, Snohomish

On November 5th William, David and Pr. Kristy travelled to Christ the King in Snohomish for their annual Alternative Christmas Fair. Last year we took hand-made felt ornaments from the congregation, this year we took cards we made asking for donations to buy yarn so members of the congregation could make hats for those who find themselves out of doors in inclement weather. The main attractions were the food: tortilla

soup, and endless coffee, and of course the wonderful people. The day was a success! We raised more funds than last year, and William made two hats while we were sitting and chatting. He and David met lots of new people as they handed out newsletters and devotionals. Thanks to the support of others we will be able to make and give away many hats and scarves this winter. **Thank you Christ the King!**



William setting up the display.

Thanksgiving with our partner congregation

On Thanksgiving Day we packed up the van and headed out into the pouring rain to join our sisters and brothers in Christ at El Camino de Emaus (Burlington Lutheran) for worship and feasting. We heard great preaching and sang some songs

together. We laid our burdens down at the foot of the cross and then we gathered as one community to share a meal together. We had the traditional turkey in an untraditional way. The turkey was found in the pozole (a traditional Mexican soup made with hominy) and was accompanied by beans and corn tortillas on the side. The preparation of the beans was new to us to being blended with bacon, chorizo, tuna and cheese. They were quite good and very filling. There was pumpkin pie, but there



Members from both congregation enjoying the delicious food. Below-Jeff and friend.



Esau applauding his birthday song.

was also melt in your mouth flan. We got to listen as the Spanish speakers sang Las Mañanitas to Pr. Esau for his birthday and then the fun and interesting day was finished off with karaoke! Wish you had been there!



Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center

On October 2nd, we gave up watching the LSU and Auburn game (more a travesty to some than others) to travel to Lutherwood to help clean up the camp for the winter. It poured down rain for the entire drive North, but we overcame a dead battery, low tire pressure, darting deer, and various hazards to have a wonderful day. As we arrived the

sun broke through the clouds and we gave thanks. Our first task was moving picnic tables from around the camp to central locations and we loaded the "blob" onto a tractor and hauled out and moved in a hide-a-bed. We were able to sit further from the table at lunch with our lengthened arms. After lunch we cleaned up the cafeteria and then painted the boys bath house and cleaned the tools. A youth group from Holy Spirit, Kirkland, was there working as well. I was invited to speak to the youth group about the congregation and issues surrounding homelessness the next day at their church. We rounded out the day with a trip to A&W thanks to a generous donor. A good time was had by all.



Above-Don, William, David and Pr. Kristy on a coffee break, not pictured and likely working :) Bill and Esau.



Left-Bill helping to transport the Blob to the boat house.

Letters of Thanks

Every year in the month of December the congregation hosts a “letters home for Christmas event” where cards and postage are provided for those who wish to write to friends or family. It is a time of healing and a chance to reconnect and give thanks.

This year seemed to be the year of the letter. First members of the congregation created 30 cards from paper, felt, glue and buttons to sell at a fundraiser to raise funds for yarn to make hats for others in the larger community. (see story pg. 1.)

Then we decided to make more cards to use as our Christmas card for all those who helped to support us over the year. Imagine our surprise when we found we had to make 101 of them! Thank you!!! Several of the men worked on the cards over the course of many weeks, tracing and cutting the paper backgrounds and the felt mittens, gluing them to the cards and then selecting the buttons and deciding where to glue them to their masterpieces. Each card was unique and beautiful. We then spent two Fridays applying postage, stuffing the envelopes, and sealing them up. I carried them bundled in rubber bands to the post office, waiting in the long holiday lines only to find we would have to pay \$1.85 a card, not for the weight but for the thickness...I spent 4 hours unsealing envelopes and prying off all the buttons :(Then William came up with the brilliant idea of stickers. So William came and, with the help of visitors passing through the office, put stickers over the glue spots, resealed the envelopes and we sent them off. I think the new cards look a bit like us, some bruised and battered, a little rough around the edges, and held together by the gift of love. Thank you for your support of this congregation and those who come here hungering and thirsting for what only our Lord, Jesus the Christ, can provide.



Pr. Kristy and William with the cards being sold to raise money for yarn to make hats like the one on the table made by William.



William selecting cards to send to his friends and family and those who have impacted his life this year.



Thanks for the helping hand. As a mission/development congregation of the ELCA ministering in a unique setting we could not do what we do without the support of the larger community. The Church of Steadfast Love has now been going for close to 5 years! The members have changed and will continue to do so, but the ministry remains the same. We seek to be a place where any and all can gather in safety and hear the Word, receive forgiveness of sins, and new life, share in the body broken and the blood poured out for our sakes, be known and loved, and sent knowing that we do not go alone but wrapped in the promise as children of God. Your gift to us is: hope, love, and light. Here's to a future together where all know peace and everyone has a roof over their heads, food to eat, and people to love them. Amen!

The Church of Steadfast Love

Mailing Address:

77 S. Washington St.
Seattle, WA 98104

Physical Address:

210 Alaskan Way S.

Come Worship With Us!



Wednesdays and Sundays
at 6:30

Dinner is at 5:30
Dial '05' to attend
Pr. Kristy Daniels

Check it out:

Compass Housing Alliance

www.compasshousingalliance.org

Faith Advocacy Network (FAN) formerly LPPO and WAC

<http://fanwa.org/>

Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center

<http://camplutherwood.org/>

Christ the King, Snohomish

<http://www.ctksnohomish.org/>

Opportunities to Serve and How You Can Help

Here are some ways that you can partner with our ministry:

1. Pray for us
2. Come and worship and learn more about our congregation and about the issues surrounding homelessness.
3. Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kristi Weber to serve meals or volunteer in other ways (206) 357-3108.
4. Advocate with Faith Action Network (FAN) for affordable housing, prison reform, immigration rights and many other things that effect our congregation and our community.
5. Invite Pr. Kristy to your congregation for Adult Education, to preach or lead worship.
6. Become a supporting member of our congregation. Call Pr. Kristy for more details. (206)357-3112.
7. Share the wonderful story of this congregation.
8. Organize a sock or hygiene drive at your church or school for the Compass Housing Alliance clients.
9. Share this newsletter with a friend.
10. Order a shirt !

Thank you for your prayers and support!



Church members celebrating and giving thanks at a Birthday celebration for Geoff and Jorge (front and center)

Phone: 206-357-3112

E-mail: PastorKristy@compasshousingalliance.org

www.compasshousingalliance.org/get-involved-now/thechurch-of-steadfast-love/