



# Tower Echoes

The Monthly Newsletter of Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church  
7500 Greenwood Avenue North  
Seattle, Washington 98103  
206.783.2350 — [www.prlc.org](http://www.prlc.org)

Volume 56, Issue Eight

October, 2009

## Coming to the Adult Education Hour in October...

Each Sunday in the Tree of Life Room, an opportunity for an amazing encounter with new information, insights, and people is available for adults of all ages. ADULT FORUM will offer you the following opportunities to “grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ...”

### Here’s the October line-up:



Sunday, 11 and 18 October

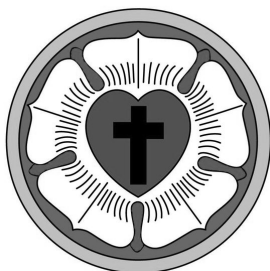
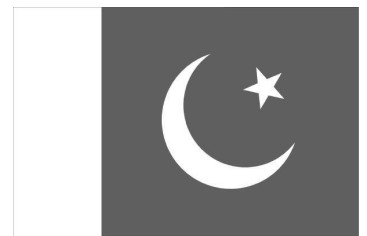
#### **Overtaken by Events: A Pakistan Road Trip**

Guest Speaker Ethan Casey

Last year, prior to returning to Pakistan, Ethan shared his unique insights and experiences as a journalist who has traveled widely, but particularly within the nation of Pakistan. This area of the world, so volatile, so important, and yet – so filled with people just like us!

Now Ethan has once again visited Pakistan in preparation for his new book, and will return for a two-week engagement as our featured Adult Forum speaker.

- ⊕ 11 October will be a slide show/lecture format
- ⊕ 18 October will be more of a hosted “talk show” format in which we could hope to learn “why this matters,” and “what difference does it make to us as people of God?”



Sunday, 25 October

#### **Reformation Sunday Bible Study**

Led by PRLC member and New Testament scholar, Leon Seaman. Leon will help us recover and more deeply appreciate our Reformation heritage through an encounter and discussion with Luther’s favorite New Testament book, Romans.

## New Church *Picture* Directory is on it's way!

The wait is over! We are finally ready to produce (with help from our friends at Olan Mills) a new church directory with all our smiling faces included. **Step 1 is to have your family's picture taken on October 26, 27 or 28th** (3-9:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall). To make an appointment, sign up at the Grace Station on Sunday mornings or Wednesday nights in October, or online at <https://signup.olanmills.com/familyinfo.aspx?chcontract=45273>. Contact Don in the church office if you have any questions.

## Meet New Church Staff

A new leader has appeared among us on Wednesday evenings – Angel Choir Director, **Heather Mullin**. Heather has taken the leadership of our youngest singers, the Angel Choir, and welcomes all those who have reached the age of at least 4 years and who are not yet in kindergarten to come sing with her each Wednesday evening from 5:30-6:00 p.m. in Room 303, just across from the new 300 level restrooms. As part of her duties as Angel Choir Director, Heather also provides weekday musical leadership in the Child Development Center, building a bridge through music between CDC families and the congregation's worship life. Heather comes to us with great skills and experience as both a musician and a child educator. We welcome her to the staff!

Please also welcome **Angel Phelps** to the nursery staff. She will join Beth Werries and Abby Cress on Sundays and Wednesdays to watch over our little ones as they grow in God's grace. Angel has experience in Early Childhood Education and is currently a student at Shoreline Community College. She is looking forward to making the Nursery a warm and welcoming place. Stop by the nursery to introduce yourself anytime!

## In the Family

### Death

Jeanie Sonnenfeld  
died 11 September

## Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church

7500 Greenwood Avenue North  
Seattle, WA 98103  
206-783-2350  
[office@prlc.org](mailto:office@prlc.org)

### Church Staff E-mail Addresses:

Paul E Hoffman, Lead Pastor  
[phoffman@prlc.org](mailto:phoffman@prlc.org)

Beverly R. Piro, Associate Pastor  
[bpairo@prlc.org](mailto:bpairo@prlc.org)

Patrick Meagher, Minister of Outreach  
[pmeagher@prlc.org](mailto:pmeagher@prlc.org)

Abigail Jiménez, Children & Family Minister  
[ajimenez@prlc.org](mailto:ajimenez@prlc.org)

Darren Hochstedler, Parish Administrator  
[dhochstedler@prlc.org](mailto:dhochstedler@prlc.org)

Jen Hamilton, Child Development Center Director  
[cdc@prlc.org](mailto:cdc@prlc.org)

Don Boelter, Office Administrator  
[dboelter@prlc.org](mailto:dboelter@prlc.org)

### Sunday Schedule:

Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Education at 10:00 a.m.  
Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m.

### Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### Newsletter Deadlines:

November 2009	October 23 (for 10/29 mailing)
December 2009	November 26 (for 12/3 mailing)
January 2010	December 24 (for 12/31 mailing)

*The mission of Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church  
is to provide a place to worship God,  
to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ,  
and to reach out to the community.*

## Affirmation of Baptism, Sunday 25 October

Each year on Reformation Sunday young men and women who have been *Preparing to Affirm* stand before the congregation to begin the journey of taking adult responsibility for the baptismal promises their parents made for them as infants or children. This year a large group of (mostly) eighth graders will Affirm their Baptism at the 8:30 service as on 25 October. Please keep them, their families, Godparents, and mentors in your prayers as this significant day in our congregation's life draws near.

**Ian Calvert** mentored by Doug Bell  
son of Raymond Calvert and Mim Turnbull

**Samantha Carlson** mentored by Abigail Cress  
daughter of Peter and Dianne Carlson

**Stephen Doorenbos** mentored by Chris Wilder  
son of Keith and Ardith Doorenbos

**Henry Halvorson** mentored by Steve Moody  
son of Michael and Kim Halvorson

**Jacob Hostettler** mentored by Sonny Ritonga  
son of John and Carolyn Hostettler

**Marvin Hudkins** mentored by Russ Beers  
son of Robert and Kari Hudkins

**Audrey Long** mentored by Kathy Nelson  
daughter Bruce Long of and Lorraine Gibbs

**Manny Loya** mentored by Tim Sullivan  
son of Manny and Kelly Loya

**Emma Maier** mentored by Suzanne Fiegenschuh  
daughter of Joel and Patty Maier

**Joshua Ramsdell** mentored by Larry Burris  
son of Jeff and Linda Ramsdell

**Spencer Johnson** mentored by Michael Halvorson  
son of Steve Johnson and Kirstin Storey



There are some unique features about this year's confirmation class. Two of our members are not yet baptized. As Ian and Jacob have prepared for affirmation, they have also prepared for baptism itself. Two of our members are ninth graders – Stephen and his family came to us within the past year, so he has been a participant with this class as a way of taking full advantage of confirmation ministry. Spencer “pressed pause” on his confirmation process during the time that his family lived in Italy. Audrey Long is a member of Luther Memorial Lutheran Church and participates in our program to do so among a peer group. Joyfully, her family, mentor, and Pastor will join us for the Confirmation Day celebrations. Four of our students have parents who are not yet congregational members.

Along with the celebration and reception on October 25<sup>th</sup>, these young men and women are all writing statements of faith in preparation for affirming their baptism. They will be special guests at the October Church Council meeting (13<sup>th</sup>) and share in a celebration supper at the Hoffman's home on Sunday evening, 11<sup>th</sup> October.

## Around the Parish

### Prayer Shawl Ministry to Consider Partnership with Compass Center

Pastor Kristy Daniels leads the congregation that is housed at the Compass Center downtown. She has a special ministry to the homeless and the poor who rarely find their way to traditional churches. Pastor Daniels encounters moments in her ministry where a Prayer Shawl would provide needed comfort and support to persons who are suffering or in distress. We would like to partner with her and the Church of Steadfast Love to provide shawls for her ministry.

Please come to our October meeting on **Saturday, October 10 at 10:00** to meet Pastor Daniels, learn about her ministry and the work of our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Donations of money for yarn are welcome at any time. All skill levels are welcome.

### Calling all bread bakers!!

The year is quickly flying by and it will soon be time for the Welcome Loaf Baker's Schedule to be printed for 2010. We are looking for new bakers to participate in this important ministry of our church. A baker will bake 12 small loaves of bread to be given out to visitors on Sunday mornings. Most bakers will bake approximately 5 to 6 times per year depending on how many people are on the baking schedule. Pans are available at the church. The bread must be delivered to the church on the assigned Sunday before the 8:30 service. If you are interested in joining the bakers please contact Kirstin Shaw at (425) 347-5260 or by e-mail at [bunnymom11@verizon.net](mailto:bunnymom11@verizon.net) by the last Sunday in October as the schedule will be made in early November. If you are a current baker and do not wish to continue next year please use to contact information above by the last Sunday in October or you will be included on the schedule and expected to find your own replacement for the Sundays that you are scheduled.

### Greenwood Halloween Trick-or-Treat Event

Our neighborhood will resemble an open air haunted house a little early this year. On October 24<sup>th</sup> from 12-3pm, the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Safe Trick-or-Treat event will bring hundreds of little ghosts and goblins to area businesses as well as PRLC. We hope your family can participate, and we'll also need volunteers to hand out candy and be sure our doors are open to warmly welcome many young visitors and their families. Look to sign up on October's Count Me In forms, or contact Minister of Outreach Patrick in the office. Boo!

### Circles in October

Pastor Hoffman and Minister of Outreach Patrick Meagher will join the circles in October discussing the 33<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Jeremiah. We'll consider our lives and the life of PRLC next to the promise of God in verse 3, and the vision for the restoration of Judah that Jeremiah paints throughout the chapter.

**Mary/Martha Circle**, 14 October, 1:00 p.m.  
Ida Culver House

**Bethany Circle**, 19 October, 9:30 a.m.  
Carolyn Henry's Home

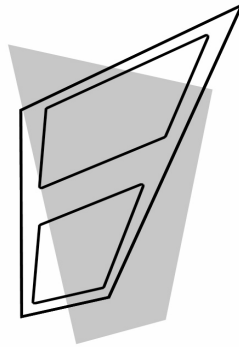
**Salem Circle**, 21 October, 9:30 a.m.  
Hazel Olson's Home

### Thank You

The Art Committee would like to thank all those who helped us prepare for our Narthex decorations as we returned to the Sanctuary August 30<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Bev Piro, Patrick Meagher, Abigail Jiménez, and Roberta Diesner. Without your contributions of pictures, music, poetry and ideas our presentation would have less depth and creativity. And a special thanks to our Honorary Art Committee member Don Boelter, who went out of his way to help us find things to complete our presentations.



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*Ninth Annual*

**OPEN DOOR MINISTRIES**

*~ Autumn Gala Dinner and Auction Saturday,*

*November 7, 2009*

*5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.*

Brockey Center at South Seattle Community College  
6000 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southwest  
Seattle, Washington 98106



For reservations contact Darleen Atik at 425.672.8692 or [darleenatik@comcast.net](mailto:darleenatik@comcast.net)  
Before November 1, 2009 tickets are \$65.00 per person.  
As of November 1, 2009 tickets are \$75.00 per person.

All proceeds support Open Door Ministries outreach and welcoming programs.

## The WAY Begins October 25

New to Phinney? Exploring Christianity? Cautiously dipping your toes into church life to test the water? *All are welcome* to join The WAY this fall.

What exactly is The WAY? That's best answered by describing what it is **not**. It is **not** a class to teach you what or how to believe. It is **not** a series of boring lectures by a pastor. It is **not** a way to see if you will fit in with us.

### The WAY is:

- ⊕ a (nearly) weekly gathering of others like you and congregational members (5 to 7 p.m. on Sundays)
- ⊕ a community meal and child care for your children
- ⊕ conversation and exploration guided by *your* interests and questions;
- ⊕ a time of exploring the challenges and questions of faith in a pluralistic society and suffering world
- ⊕ an invitation to engage in Scripture in a reflective and spiritual fashion
- ⊕ leadership shared among pastors and lay members
- ⊕ friendly and non-threatening – no strings attached
- ⊕ a way to explore how we are being called into mission together
- ⊕ a way to follow THE WAY of Christ

Help us plan for you by signing up on the **Count Me In** form on Sunday morning or call or e-mail the church office (206.783.2350 or [office@prlc.org](mailto:office@prlc.org)). Direct your questions to Pastors Hoffman or Piro. We look forward to walking The WAY of Christ with you.

### General Fund Snapshot

	August	Year to Date
<b>Income</b>	61,033	486,539
<b>Expenses</b>	46,587	491,846
<b>Net Income (loss)</b>	14,446	(5,307)

## The Back Page, by Pastor Hoffman

†The Feast of St. Luke

Word, Meal, Song, and Individual Prayers for Healing

**Celebrated Sunday, 18 October 8:30 and 11 a.m.**

Near the center of this autumn month, we will have the opportunity to celebrate the ministry of St. Luke the Evangelist, the apostle whose name is borne by the third Gospel. Since the tradition surrounding Luke holds that he was a physician, it is typical in the church to mark his feast day with services and prayers for healing. For more years than most of us can count or remember, St. Luke has been celebrated each October at Phinney Ridge with a service that includes the rites of healing. Those rites are individual prayers, the laying on of hands, and anointing.

This unique service offers any one who wishes to receive these ministries to come forward at the time of communion, pausing for individual prayers by a congregational leader at various kneeling stations across the front of the chancel. Some come seeking healing in their own lives. Some come on behalf of others. Some worshipers will ask for a healing prayer that is deeply personal. Others will mention a more global need – justice, world peace, or healing in relationships. All requests are welcome. All are honored. And all are offered and responded to through the minister on behalf of Christ himself.

It is powerful and moving service each year on the Feast of St. Luke. Many will recall that it is one of those Sundays that cannot be rushed. It is filled with silences, beautiful music, tears of both sadness and joy, and moments of the Spirit's work among us. Those remaining in the pew to wait for their opportunity to come forward are invited to lift their prayers for the healing of the world's needs.

It takes courage and spiritual maturity as a congregation to celebrate such a ministry. To do so acknowledges the brokenness of our own lives and the brokenness of the world in which we live. There is no mistaking at such a liturgy that we are "in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves." Neither is there any mistake that we long for the sorts of healing and wholeness that we believe with all our hearts only Christ can bring to us.

While these rites of healing are offered every Sunday following evening prayer, St. Luke's Day is the one time each year that, as a gathered congregation of God's people, and in the midst of our usual busy, Sunday worship life, we pause. We pause to thank God for the healing that Christ Jesus offers to one, to all on the cross. We pause to ask for that which we so often do not dare to ask – that such healing could be ours. We pause to believe with all our hearts, surrounded and supported by others whose lives are broken, and longing for the healing that we all believe only Christ can offer.

Yours in the Healer,  
Pastor Hoffman



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# Save the Dates:

**OCT 16-18**  
**FRI-SUN**

**Women's Retreat**  
Dumas Bay

**OCT 18**  
**SUN**

**The Feast of St. Luke**  
Healing Services at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

**OCT 24**  
**FRI-SUN**

**Greenwood Neighborhood Trick-or-Treating**  
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**OCT 26-28**  
**MON-WED**

**Family Photo Sessions for Picture Directory**  
3-9:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

**NOV 1**  
**SUN**

**Dedication of Renovated Sanctuary**  
All Saints' Day