Time Flies...Much Too Fast  
by Pastor Vera Guebert-Steward

From Ecclesiastes 3...

For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.

2 A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest.

4 A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance.

5 A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones. A time to embrace and a time to turn away.

6 A time to search and a time to quit searching. A time to be quiet and a time to speak.

Time flies and so many things have already changed since the beginning of the summer. The older I grow the faster time goes. When I was a kid, I couldn’t wait to get to High School...then to College...then live into a prosperous career...then, get married. Little did I know then, that by the time I got to 65, I would want time to slow, way down. The opposite, however, is true.

One of my dear friends suggests that she can’t stand change. It would bless her, thank you very much, if everything remained the same; status quo is the way to go. Unfortunately, that is not the way life works. I was struck earlier this summer by the changes that have occurred in our church’s life and in the lives of the children who once called ELC home. High School grads like Anah Fuelling and Isaac Brooks start their college careers. Nick Walker, who also graduated, is stepping out into the world. Attie Forbes is managing her grueling training at the Air Force Academy. Hannah Purkey is off to Seminary. Children are born, families grow and change, folks move away, our elderly move from a home they’ve felt safe and secure in, to Elk Run or another retirement community and our good friends die. Time flies but as I grow older, I realize that it has flown and is flying still, much too fast.

The text from Ecclesiastes is one of my favorites. It’s not about Jesus but it’s about the concept of time and the rhythm of life; gifts from our amazing and loving God. Even through all the difficulties that change brings, through all the tensions in our government, through all the challenges we’d prefer not to encounter, God is there. God’s steadiness and presence sustains us as we face deviations in our day to day routines.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer once said that “time is the most valuable thing that we have, because it is the most irrevocable.” Indeed, time cannot be recovered or reversed. Once we’ve lived a day, it is gone forever. Sounds morbid. But it’s not. From the moment we are born we march toward a final destination. And, between birth and the end of our earthly journeys, there is much life, love, joy, and change to be lived.

In just a few weeks we will welcome our next intern, Joel Pakan. I hope and pray by the first of September we will already have a new Children, Youth, Family, and Outreach Minister in place. The 28th Annual Grove Sale will be behind us. Children will be back in school and all our Fall programming will have begun. We have so much good life to live and so many wonderful changes to encounter.

For everything there is a season. May we know today with deep conviction that even though the seasons change and life marches on, we are held securely in God’s loving embrace. Nothing we encounter will separate us from God’s love. Nothing we struggle with can overcome us because we are held firmly by faith, in the arms of our heavenly Father. Blessed August my brothers and sisters in Christ. I pray you anticipate the future with joy and yearn in peace for what is yet to come.

“Time is the most valuable thing that we have, because it is the irrevocable.”

~Dietrich Bonhoeffer

August 2019
**ELC Summer Schedule**

Summer months through Labor Day weekend we will have ONE Sunday morning worship at 9:00 a.m.

**Thursdays we will worship at 6:30 p.m.** in Agape Chapel, weather permitting, except for the Thursday prior to a Sunday Agape Chapel worship.

Weather permitting, we will worship in Agape Chapel, our outdoor worship area, on the following Sundays: **August 4 and September 1**.

The final Brunch Sunday is **August 11** in the Grove / Memorial Hall.

Thank you to Sue & Gordie Queen for coordinating the brunches again this year.

Thank you to Bob Hawsey and Thrivent to providing all the food for our last Brunch Sunday.

**Confirmation Orientation**

Calling all **6th—8th Graders**!

Confirmation Orientation for kids entering 6th-8th grade and their parents will be in Fellowship Hall, **Wednesday, August 28 at 5:30 p.m.**

We will spend about an hour together talking about the program, scheduling next year’s Affirmation of Baptism for the 8th graders, discussing your commitment to the program and simply fellowshipping with one another.

For more information, DeNae vanWestrienen jimdenae@gmail.com, 303-995-0315.

**Seminarian Support Fund**

Having met our interns, you can fully understand the importance of supporting students/seminarians studying to fulfill their calling to Word and Sacrament ministry. You can donate to the Seminarian Support Fund via check (write “Seminary Fund” on memo) or on our website: evergreenlutheran.org/donate.

Please, in this time of declining numbers of pastors, let us pledge ELC’s support of a needy student who has been called by God to spread God’s Word. For your information, we almost reached our 2018 goal of $5,200 by collecting $4,803.
Shower, O Heavens, From Above

I am writing this during Grove Sale week so showers is probably not what we want to hear about, but showers is what we need in our life. We need the reign of God to rain down and bring restoration, renewal and new life to our lives. The following scripture from Isaiah and prayer from Lisa open us to receiving with open hearts the reign and Grace of God to those parched and broken places in our lives. Reign down oh, Lord rain down.

Summer blessings.
Kim Williams
Director of Adult Ministry

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness; let the earth open, that salvation may spring up, and let it cause righteousness to sprout up also; I the LORD have created it.
– Isaiah 45:8

Reign and Rain down, Glorious One
You alone are God
There is no other

Reign and Rain down, Glorious One
Let all the earth open to your gifts
New life and right relationship springing up
Budding and blooming in our wasteland

Life comes to our mortality
to our frail clay
to our dust
You hold us and wash us and form us
You flood us and fill us
That we may carry this great grace as it carries us

O, the glory of your grace
Grace extending more and more
More and more to us and more and more through us to others

O, bring the reign of redemption and reconciling
Salvation and solidarity
The fullness of your unfailing love

Reign and Rain down, Glorious One
Creating power flows from you
For you alone are God
There is no other

Reign and Rain Down © 2018
Lisa Ann Moss Degrenia

Christian Outreach Disciple

Dave Kirberg, who completed his baptismal journey, was a good and faithful servant. He was involved in many ministries at ELC including the Emergency Shelter Program, Christ's Body Ministries, Men's Retreat, Workshop, and other outreach programs. His death leaves a deep void in our hearts and also at ELC as we consider all the good work he did.

Janet Anderson, Pam Moe, and Pastor Vera are praying that some of you will step forward to pick up where our brother Dave left off. Please prayerfully consider how you might serve in some of these outreach areas.

For more information call Janet Anderson at 303-842-2180.

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation will resume on Sunday, September 8.

Lunch Bunch continues through the summer we will gather at noon on Thursday, August 15 at Lariat Lodge next to Center Stage. This is a no host lunch. Please call the church office if you plan to attend so we can let the restaurant know we are coming.

Thursday Mornings
Java and Jesus will continue to meet through the summer on Thursday mornings, 9:30-11:00 a.m. We will continue our study on Barbara Brown Taylor’s book called “Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others.” Come and join us. If you need a ride or you need child care for Thursday morning please let Kim know by calling the church office.

Stephen Ministry will meet on Wednesday, August 14 at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

Each One In One

The SAS “Each One In One” will begin “Phase 1” of the project which is to gather data from the congregation to see where people are connecting beyond worship. The church office is now utilizing Church360 which is an online database. The Board for Discipleship will set up in the narthex and library throughout the summer to gather information from every member and to help you update your profile and contact information.
Worship & Music

Filled with Hope, Goodwill and the Will to Go On

Psalm 59:16-17
But as for me, I shall sing of your strength; Yes, I shall joyfully sing of your lovingkindness in the morning, For you have been my stronghold and a refuge in the day of my distress. O my strength, I will sing praises to you; For God is my stronghold, the God who shows me loving kindness.

Like you, I have been thinking a lot about David Kirberg and all the ways I knew him through our ministries. I will miss him talking about what food we are going to make for Christ’s Body. I will miss him popping into the office when I’d be there to talk about details of the Emergency Shelter Program or other people he had concerns for. I will miss him most in the front row of the bass section of the choir. I will miss his laughter, sense of humor, and him peering over the top of his glasses at me with his smiling face. I will miss the texture of his voice.

Every now and then someone in the choir will say to me that they feel they don’t add much to the singing. My response is always the same. Without their voice, there is a texture and depth that is missing. And I truly believe that.

Each voice adds strength to the heart and soul of our music. Every person is important.

I was with some choir friends the other day and someone asked what we were going to sing for David’s Memorial service. I responded with “River in Judea”, and they immediately began singing it from heart. It is music of hope, encouragement and that promise that we are held in God’s hands in this life and for a life beyond what we know here.

Oftentimes I dream of music, of the river that freely flows. And it sings a song sweeter than honey, one everybody knows. Late at night, I hear it singing; then again when I wake at dawn. And it fills me up with hope and goodwill, the will to go on, go on.

There is a river in Judea that I heard of long ago. And it’s a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know.

I believe it keeps on trav’lin’ but it rests on the Sabbath day. And the time when it pauses in stillness, I almost hear it pray. When I’m weary and downhearted, how I long for the song it sings, For the calm within its gentle blue, the peace that it brings, it brings.

May the time not be too distant when we meet by the river (meet by the) shore. ’Til then dream of that wonderful day as we sing once more, once more:

There is a river in Judea that I heard of long ago. And it’s a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know.

It is a powerful thing to sing together. We are one voice and one heart. Through music we are lifted up and encouraged that we are not alone. God is in the faces and voices of each person who stands with us to sing of our faith and hope. I have no doubt that David, along with those who have gone before him, is singing with us – smiling and encouraging us to live in the hope of God’s promises.

Peggy Fetchenhier
Minister of Worship & Music

Choir Retreat
Come and sing with us! We are going to have a one day choir retreat on Saturday, September 7 from 9:00 to 2:00 at Evergreen Lutheran Church in the Sanctuary. We will work ahead on music for the fall season. There will be a brunch break about 11:00 so we can have a little social time. If you are interested in coming to try it out, call Peggy Fetchenhier, 303-674-4759, dmfetch@gmail.com, or just come.

Summer Music
Thanks to everyone who participated in special music this summer. You blessed us beautifully!
Thank You, ELC Stone Soup Makers!
We received a booklet full of thank you notes for all who donate food and who make Stone Soup. During the fall, winter, and spring we meet at 7:30 a.m. on the first Sunday of the month to make a 5 gallon pot of soup for the clients at Evergreen Christian Outreach (EChO). Here is a sample of the thank yous:

- You can taste the love and dedication to community! Nothing is better than things made by hand to warm the heart.
- Thank you so very much. It’s great to get something warm when coming in to EChO.
- Thank you so much for your gift of soup—it’s truly wonderful.
- Your soups provide such warmth and comfort to so many! Please know that your dedication is deeply appreciated!
- Very grateful for you and all of the Soup Makers.
- You really make a difference. Thanks from the whole community.
- I look forward to your delicious soups.
- You warm my body and soul with your soup. Thank you!
- Thanks for the wonderful soups you provide us. So glad when I see the pot!
- Thank you for filling our bellies.
- Thank you so very much. Winter in Evergreen wasn’t as cold with such amazing soups!
- Your wonderful soup lifts my spirit especially on cold days throughout the winter.
- It really does make things better.

If you can help, contact Dale Knochenmus, 303-918-9141 and watch for the announcement in the bulletin, Tuesday Newsday, and the newsletter.

The Church Libraries are Still Relevant
The main purpose of the church library should be to support and complement the mission of the church. As Rita Kirkland, a church librarian in Texas aptly states, "it [the church library] encircles the ministries in our church and supports them with our resources and talents." A church library is a storehouse of materials that reinforces the church's message or aids people who want to dig deeper. Libraries have also become places where individuals and families can find entertainment that uplifts spirits and enlightens minds. (See our DVD collection.)

The library is not just a place, however. It is also a ministry that can help people with difficult experiences of life, like the loss of a spouse or a wayward teen, offering a book or DVD before they seek counsel. The right book with a biblical perspective may help people through a bumpy part of life's journey, and it just might help them see the need for pastoral care or psychological or medical help.

At our library, we don't keep a tight rein on our materials by design. You might be surprised to know that we only lose twenty items per year on average out of a collection of approximately 1,500. That's a small price in light of the goodwill our open-use policy engenders. Regarding overdue items, we like to say we practice "grace, not fines."

The next time you walk by the library, stop and take a look at what we have to offer. It may surprise you that we have a wide range of materials that enlighten, entertain, and inform for almost everyone. And don't forget to check out the children's library in the Great Hall.

Coming soon: A collection of twenty-five new and donated books to be displayed on the table in the library.

God’s peace,
Lloyd Peltzer, Librarian
(with the assistance of Luanne Blackburn)

“The only thing you absolutely have to know is the location of the library.”
~ Albert Einstein,
Grandpa Lee's Gems for the Fireside

WorkShip 2019
Please consider joining one of our work groups on Saturday, September 14, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. for Workship 2019. A sign-up is in the narthex. Worship is ELC’s day of giving to people and organizations in the Evergreen community who may need a little home care, yard work painting, mending, or other needs.

Split & Steak 2019
Our annual work with Conifer Community Church to split and prepare firewood for people who need it to heat their homes this winter will be Saturday, September 21, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The donation is $10 but included is a steak lunch and a t-shirt. To sign-up, call Conifer Community Church at 303-838-4161. The sign-ups close on September 1 so we can get the t-shirts and food ordered. Questions, see David Hood.
EChO Client Stories

The mission of EChO is to assist people in our community with their basic and urgent needs and to help them realize their potential on a path to self-sufficiency.

A Veteran in his final days reaches out to EChO...
Xcel Energy will not turn off your power for non-payment if you are using electricity for life-supporting equipment. Having been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Mike was on oxygen 24 hours a day. Due to his other high medical bills, he had not paid his Xcel bill for over a year. But Mike knew that his time was short and he also knew that his wife would be held responsible for the Xcel bill after his passing. He knew that she did not have the resources to pay it which would put her in jeopardy of becoming homeless after his passing. Mike reached out to EChO to see if we could help. Shortly before Mike passed, we were able to pay off the final back due on his Xcel bill using funds from LEAP, Energy Outreach Colorado, and some of EChO’s own funds. Giving Mike some peace in his final days was our reward.

EChO helps client balance work and child-care costs...
Mary and Tom found themselves three months behind in child-care costs after Tom's medical bills from a recent health problem consumed all their savings. Mary works full-time at an Evergreen bank and the family of three has healthcare coverage through her employer. Tom was just at the point of being able to go back to work, when the day care provider gave the couple an ultimatum that their daughter would not be able to attend their program if their day care bill was not paid in full. Forced with deciding between work and taking care of their daughter, Mary and Tom reached out to Evergreen Christian Outreach for assistance in getting current with the day care provider. EChO was able to intercede and provide the funds allowing both parents to work to pay their rent and daily expenses while maintaining their healthcare benefits.

Nancy Judge
Development Director EChO

Food Bank Summer Supplies dipping very low
Every summer donations take a dip in the summer months and as a result, the EChO Food Bank is VERY low on the following items:

- High Protein Soups or Chili (Progresso, Campbells)
- Toilet Paper
- Crackers
- Granola Bars
- Tuna and Chicken Snack Kits
ELC Online Directory
Church 360

Church 360 is an exciting new program for Evergreen Lutheran Church. Our directory is now accessible online and the information you need will always be current because you can update your own information and photo. Installing the Church 360 app on your smart phone allows access to the directory wherever you go. Paper directories, while sometimes convenient, are out-of-date as soon as they are printed; however we will have paper copies available in the office soon (or you can print your own from the online directory).

You should have received an email from automail@360members.com inviting you to join the Evergreen Lutheran online directory. If you missed the email you can search your emails for “360members” or let the office know and another email can be sent.

So you might be wondering “what do I do with this thing now that I’m signed in?” I’d like to give you a few tips for using the new online directory.

Once logged in, you will see a list of familiar faces and names. You’ll also see some that may not be as familiar because visitors are also listed. You do not need to scroll down to find who you are looking for. In the upper left of the screen you’ll see a box that has “Type to filter people” (see “1” in the picture below). You can type anything in this field. Say you are looking for me — you could type “Tara” in the field and you’ll see there are two people named Tara. You’ll see my color photo and hopefully you’ll recognize me. This is really helpful when you meet a new friend on a Sunday and you don’t have Pastor Vera’s ability of name recall.

I often have members stop by who remember the name of a child but cannot recall the parent’s name. Search for the child’s name and then you’ll see the entire family listed. Another example is to search for who lives on a certain street. We used this in the office when we heard of a wildfire a couple months ago. We searched to see who lived on the street where the fire had been reported.

Everything in orange is clickable. If you want to view my information you would click on “Tara Alexander Walker” and would then you’d see my email, cell, home address, as well as the “Tags” (ministries) with which I’m involved.

Tags—in the upper right hand of the screen you’ll see “Showing households” in “Everyone” (see “2” in the picture). Click on the down arrow to the right of “Everyone” to select from a list of ELC ministries. For example, to see all Choir members, click the down arrow and select “Choir” from the list. The list can be printed by clicking on “Print” (see “3” in the picture) in the upper right hand corner. If you view a Tag (ministry), be sure to change back to “Everyone” otherwise any searches will be limited to that ministry.

Should any of your information change, you can keep everyone up-to-date by changing it yourself. You can also upload a new family photo or individual photo by clicking on the photo currently in 360 Members.

Another nice feature is you now have access to your contribution statements online. Open your record by clicking on your photo in the upper right hand corner of the screen; then select Profile. Once your Profile opens, scroll down to “Offerings” on the right-hand side. You may need to adjust the dates of the report. Do this by clicking on the date under your name (see image above) to open the calendar selector tool. You may display offerings sorted by date or by fund.

To change or add your profile photo or information, open your profile and then click on the item you’d like to change.

During the data conversion from our old software to Church 360, some fields had trouble converting. If you see an error in the data, you may either correct it yourself or send a note to the office (office@evergreenlutheran.org) and I’ll get it corrected. About half of the congregation had the incorrect sex assigned. I’ve tried to get those corrected but please forgive me if I missed updating your record.

Tara Alexander Walker
August Calendar

August 7 — 6:00pm — †ED
August 14 — 6:00pm — †ED
August 21 — 6:00pm — †ED
August 28 — 5:30pm —
   Confirmation
   Orientation for parents
   & 6-8 graders
   — 6:00pm — †ED

September 8 Rally Day!

CYF and O Minister Update

We worked hard through the months of June and July to secure a person to fill the Children, Youth, Family, and Outreach position. We are getting closer. Please continue to pray that we hire the right person that will bless ELC and give God glory.

Children, Youth, & Family

Banner on the Cross

At Day Camp in June, the campers created a project to bless the season of Pentecost. They worked with the Piecemakers creating religious icons using their handprints. The icons will change throughout the season of Pentecost. Thank you, Piecemakers and thank you, Marcia Henderson, Kathy Zbryk, and Jeannie Hawsey for creating the beautiful banner and to Jerry Henderson for hanging it.
August Birthdays
1. Carl Cox, Phyllis Wittenberg, Michael Evans
2. JoAnne Meinert, Ron Simonich, Lee Kirberg
3. Jay Lipson, Mark Swenson
5. Rick Mitzelfelt
6. Mary Noonan, Stephanie Seaton
7. Jeanne Schubert, Jonathan Harker
9. Maggie Streett
10. Rosie Boettger, Judy Van Auken, Julianna Hood, Alyssa Diflumeri
11. Mary Simonich
12. Ethan Halingstad, Sawyer Halingstad, Linda Easton
13. Nancy Sohrweid, Cathy Tellman
14. Maryjean Kerschbaum
15. Wyatt Bly
17. Jan Petrocchi
18. Ruth McEwen
19. Colleen Norrgard, Noah Nemmers, Katherine Hood
20. Lauren Area
22. Scott Bergner, Asher van Westrienen
23. Anna Brooks
24. Nicole Prolow
25. Bill Cook
26. Jack Königsbauer
29. Ciara Moe, John Kounalis
30. Bruce Feldkamp
31. Sally Berne

August Anniversaries
3. Mike & Debbie Pucherelli
4. Barb & Fred Guist
6. Gordon & Sue Queen, Megan & Josh Biller
7. Karen & Paul Phillipa
8. Arthur & Sharon Onweller, Joe & Alicia Harker
9. Andy & Larry Patella
10. Dan & Pastor Julie Brooks
12. Larry and Sue Petroskey
17. Sydney & Art Hogling, John & Laura Harms
19. Gail & Jim Brannan
20. Jon and Jo Powers, Randy & Sheila Tripp
23. Dianne & Bruce Campbell
26. Dave and Janet Blumenstein
27. Marlin & Paula Jung
28. Kristi & John Kohnke

Grandma Heuer’s Potato Salad
From “Welcome to Our Table, Recipes from Evergreen Lutheran Church”, available in the ELC Library
- 5 to 6 medium red potatoes in their skins
- Several stalks celery, minced, with leaves and hearts
- 1/2 green pepper, chopped
- 3 to 4 green onions, finely chopped, including some of the green parts
- Small amount dried parsley
- 3 tbsp. oil
- Salt and black pepper
- Dash celery seed
- 4 tbsp. cider vinegar
- 4 tbsp. water
- 1/2 tsp sugar
- Several generous tbsp. Miracle Whip

Cook potatoes in their skins until done—not mushy. Mince celery, chop vegetables. Add parsley. Peel potatoes while warm; cool before cutting and slice thin. (I like to make this in a wide, shallow bowl to distribute the flavors more.) Add oil, salt, pepper, and celery seed. Mix well with wooden spoon. Add vegetables.

Mix vinegar, water, and sugar separately. Pour over potato mixture; mix with a wooden spoon. Add Miracle Whip and mix well. Cover. Let sit in refrigerator for several hours to improve flavor.

Mountain Backpack Food Drives
Volunteers with Mountain Backpacks will collect food at two food drives in Evergreen:
- **Sunday, August 18,** 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Evergreen Safeway
- **Sunday, August 25,** 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Evergreen King Soopers.

Mountain Backdrops will be helping students in Evergreen, Clear Creek, Georgetown, and Gilpin County this year. Needed items are: granola bars, breakfast bars, protein shakes, pudding cups, fruit/applesauce cups, sandwich crackers, oatmeal, and small tortillas.

Quilt from the Piecemakers
Do you know someone who needs a comforting embrace? Let a Piecemaker member or the office know and we will select a Piecemaker’s handmade quilt or shawl to wrap-up your loved one in blessings from ELC.
August Worship Participants

AUGUST LAY MINISTER—George Wittenberg
AUGUST 4 (9:00 a.m.) Agape Chapel
Assisting Minister: Art Whyte
Reader: Jo Powers
Communion Servers: Art & Jacque Whyte, Jan & Dave Blumenstein
Ushers: Linda Easton, Harriet Sear, Bruce & Beth Feldkamp

AUGUST 11 (9:00 a.m.)
Assisting Minister: Andy Riedel
Reader: Dale Fetchenhier
Communion Servers: Carolyn & Scott Bergner, Scott & Kristi Moriarty
Ushers: Sue & Larry Petroskey, Val Prolow, Lyn Lewis

AUGUST 18 (9:00 a.m.)
Assisting Minister: Gary Sohrweid
Reader: Shannon Holtmann
Communion Servers: Jan & Rocky Petrocchi, Jon Johnson, Nancy Eldridge
Ushers: Lloyd Peltzer & Bob Mosca, Shirley Russell, Jackie Lanning

AUGUST 25 (9:00 a.m.)
Assisting Minister: Tom Tracy
Reader: Sue Queen
Communion Servers: Beth Kapner, Kristi Kohnke, Dave & Sue Plothow
Ushers: Deb Pucherelli, Eric Halingstad, Mark Bly, Elaine Sohrweid

All who serve in worship, please arrive 15 minutes early and check in with the lay minister when you arrive on Sunday to let them know you are present.

Thank you for serving during worship.

We are looking for Ushers and Communion Servers. If you can help, please let the office know. Thanks!

Pastoral Acts
Baptisms
Weston Haines Barlow—June 16
Finlee Nina Allyn—July 27

Funerals
Richard Karl Webber—June 6
Laurie Axner—June 15

Wedding—June 22
Jordan Alexander Zach & Kelly Marie Matzner