The Magnolia Lutheran Spirited News in a Community of Faith NOVEMBER 2011 - Volume 11, Issue 11

When Little Ones Join the Rest of Us

When I was a young boy, I remember the rules about Church. "This is God's house, so no running, no talking, no climbing on or under the pews, and look spiritual." If you had to get close to the altar area, you had better be on tiptoe. Church was a dark and strange place, with uncomfortable wooden benches that tested my endurance. I had no idea why God would choose to live there. There was nothing to do, no TV, no place to sleep, and I never heard God play the organ anyway. If you were an adult, or had completed confirmation, (whatever that was), on the first Sunday of the month, they would file up to the front of the sanctuary and kneel down in groups while the Pastor said some words that I couldn't quite make out, hand out something, and one by one, each head would tip back and then forward again. When my parents returned to the pew, they did not seem to have in their hands whatever was handed out, and my mother would look a little more solemn than usual for a few seconds. Life was full of mysteries then.

I have seen the world change in many ways during my lifetime. I think the attitudes we have learned concerning kids in Church is a vast improvement over those days of dark mystery. Children have become a normal part of our worshipping community. This is good. But perhaps a little intentional thought as to how we do this might help us all.

We provide the option of child care

(Continued on page 2)

Church Officers: President Linda Johnson Vice President **David Moussette** Secretary Mary Langholz Treasurer **Dwight Dively Financial Secretary**

Alice Pease **Church Council:**

Kathleen Brose '14 Linda Johnson '14 Mary Langholz '13 Randi Mezich '12 David Moussette '13 Tom Muramoto '12 John Nagy '14 Rob Rowan '12 Celeste Stubbs '13

Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

Celeste Stubbs

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

from Jeanne Moussette

We have a name and are currently in the discernment process with this person. The candidate of choice has agreed to consider our call. We hope to be able to formally announce his name soon. He is currently scheduled to meet the council at their November meeting. We believe that he will bring a skill set to MLC that we need to move forward into the future.

The Call Committee members are Barbara Helde, Chris Backman, Cliff Kurtzweg, Maureen Nagy, Clayton Ramsey, Jeanne Moussette and Nathan Watson.

Save the Date: November 27

Meet the candidate and his family on Sunday, Nov. 27th from 2-4pm!

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Nursery Attendant Amie Cuhaciyan



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during the service. Parents will know their children and be in the best place to determine how the service will play out. If it would be better for the kids, the parents, and all concerned to use this, go ahead. That is what it is there for, and we want you to get something out of the service.

When the kids are old enough to join you, they are welcome in our service, complete with all their squirmies. stuffed animals, and impatience. They have a place in the family of God. We have some quiet activity bags at the back of the sanctuary that you may use, and we can always improve them if you have a good idea of something to add. Feel free to take up some extra pew space if it would help. It will be a wonderful thing when the congregation is busting at the seams, but it will probably be a while yet. (It is possible from time to time for a child to become a distraction that may require some cool down space in the narthex or hallway, but I assure you parents, you will get to that point long before anyone else around you does.)

There are things to learn about worship. Teach them how to follow along in the bulletin, how to find hymns in the hymnal. They will also have to learn how the words of several verses are included in hymns. Give them the chance to participate as much as they can. They can put your envelope in the

offering, or better still, to make giving their own offering a regular part of the service even if it is just a few coins. Let them hand the offering plates to the usher or the person next to them.

"We believe in the communion

of saints..." which includes kids as well. Bring them to the altar, so that they know that there is something there for them, even if it is a blessing. When they are old enough to ask questions about communion, we can talk more about First Communion instruction. It is no longer tied to a particular age, or to the rite of Confirmation, but as the parent, your decision on this stands. I will help as I can.

Kids can be remarkably well behaved around someone else's parents, so help each other out. Let kids sit with their friends' family if they are old enough. You get a break and the kids get to try out a bit of independence. If all goes well, the next week your kids can return the invitation.

For us all, make sure to include these young ones in the sharing of the peace. As they enter or leave the service, make sure that you let them know that you are glad they are there.

The Apostles once thought that Jesus should not have to be bothered with kids and babies. He had a better idea and welcomed them to himself so they would know his blessings. We are still at it in his name. Keep up the good work.

Thinking of kids with a smile on my face.

Pastor Doug

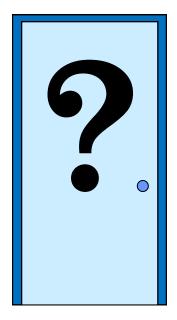


SAVE THE DATES!!!

The Call Committee has unanimously selected our Candidate of Choice to be MLC's new Pastor. You are invited to come **Meet and Greet** both he and his family on **Sunday, November 27th** from **2:00-4:00pm** in the Fireside Room.

Then on **Sunday, December 11th**, immediately following the 10am service, a **Special Congregation Meeting** has been scheduled to vote on his Call. A **quorum is REQUIRED**, so please plan on attending this important meeting. Voting by proxy is NOT allowed.

The question has been asked as to why the candidate's name cannot be published, and the answer is that the Call Committee is working under strict guidelines and cannot disclose his name until he is presented at the meet and greet gathering on the 27th. So come and see who is 'behind Door #1'!



Stewardship Update

Our recent stewardship program, Make it Simple, concluded with a celebration of our life together as Magnolia Lutheran Church. We enjoyed a brunch together and planned for stronger mission together in the coming year. It may be that in the year to come, a new pastor will provide leadership for our common work. There is much to celebrate. If you have not yet had the opportunity to return your commitment card please bring it to church with you this Sunday and place it either in the collection plate or in the basket provided.

We have been richly blessed in the past, and we pray for God's continued blessing into the future, as we bring our ourselves, our gifts, and our time to God's service.



Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran World Relief

A big **THANK YOU** for all your help collecting the items for the Fall Ingathering for LWR. We were able to pack and ship 9 Quilts, 30 School Kits, 5 lbs of soap and 17 Health Kits. Look for an announcement after the first of the year for the next project to support those less fortunate. If you ever wonder where the items are shipped, just check out the poster in the coffee hour room!



ELCA members respond to record-level rainfall in Central America

Heavy rains have led to flooding, mudslides and ruined crops throughout Central American countries. Read this story and more at www.elca.org/disaster and at www.elca.org/news (click on News Releases in the left-hand column).

Two ways to observe World AIDS Day

- Hear a conversation between ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson and Ambrose Moyo, former bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe, on Thursday, December 1, World AIDS Day, at the Church of the Redeemer in Atlanta, Ga., from 5:30-7:00 p.m., followed by a light supper and worship service.
- Attend the conference, "A Time to Listen: The Church and HIV and AIDS," to be held on December 2-3, at Lodge at Simpsonwood in Norcross, Ga. For registration and other information, contact david.creech@elca.org.

A nonviolent warrior for peace

"Every time the bold men rose up, they rose up with guns," says Liberian Lutheran Leymah Roberta Gbowee, winner of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize. Read Leymah's story by visiting "Living Lutheran" at www.livinglutheran.com/stories/a-nonviolent-warrior-for-peace.html.

Madagascar: Standing on the success of past missionaries

Barbara Hinderlie recently completed service in Madagascar to begin service in Tanzania. She reflects on her missionary service and how previous generations of missionaries have walked alongside the church there as it prepares for a new era of ministry. Read the entire story at www.elca.org/handinhand; click either the copy-ready bulletin insert or the Fall 2011 issue of the Hand in Hand newsletter.

Russia: A new era of service

Bradn Burkle and his spouse, Natasha, served parishes of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Russia and Other States and its Novosaratovka Seminary in St. Petersburg from 2002-2011. He now begins a joint appointment between the ELCA and the Hermannsburg Mission (Germany) to serve in Siberia. Watch a short video at http://blogs.elca.org/handinhand.

Sponsors needed for missionaries in Palestine

You can be a sponsor for Julie Rossate and Jeff VonWald, newly called missionaries to Palestine, where they mentor young adults serving ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. Sponsors from the New England Synod of the ELCA and the Iowa area are especially welcomed to minimize their travel time and maximize their effectiveness while on home assignment. For more information, write missionarysponsorship@elca.org or call 800-638-3522, ext. 2657.

Seeking agricultural volunteers

Various volunteer opportunities from two months to one year in duration are available with the Asian Rural Institute in Japan. Visit www.elca.org/globalserve/search and do a keyword search for "Japan" for more information.

Christian Music: A Global History

This new book from Fortress Press travels beneath the plurality of forms and styles to pose questions about the

In our prayers

Pray for the Latin American and Caribbean companion churches and organizations that have developed ministries with individuals living with HIV and AIDS in the region. Pray that the love, compassion and advocacy of these people on behalf of those living with HIV and AIDS bear witness to a love for all of creation. (This prayer for December 2 is available along with daily prayers from around the globe at www.elca.org/prayerventures.)

Advent & Christmas 2011

Sunday, November 20,

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Magnolia Lutheran Church, 5:00 PM

Sunday, November 27, Advent I

Advent wreath making

Holy Communion 8:15 & 10:00 AM

Sunday, November 27

Meet and Greet Our Pastoral

Candidate of Choice

Fireside Room, 2:00—4:00 PM

Saturday, December 3
Swedish Pancake Breakfast
8:00 AM—12:30 PM

Sunday, December 4, Advent II

Feast of St. Nicholas

St. Nick visits the Children of the Church

Holy Communion 8:15 & 10:00 AM

Magnolia Chorale Concert at MLC

Saturday, December 3, 7:30 PM Sunday, December 4, 2:00 PM Wednesday, December 7, 6:30pm

Christmas Ships Party at the Helde's

(Bring beverage and food to share)

Sunday, December 11, Advent III

Sankta Lucia Celebration

Festive Scandinavian Coffee Hour

Holy Communion 8:15 & 10:00 AM

<u>Special Congregation Meeting</u>
To vote on our Pastoral Candidate
Following the 10:00 AM Service

Sunday, December 18, Advent IV

Children's Christmas Pageant

Holy Communion 8:15 & 10:00 AM Service

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve

Holy Communion 5:00 PM Family Service

Holy Communion 10:30 PM Festival

Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day

<u>Holy Communion, 10:00 AM</u>

Is there a Story in the stained glass windows?

Yes, the stained glass windows in the sanctuary have stories behind them. This month we'll continue with the windows on the west side.

The windows on the west side are the work of artists Robert and Jill Hill. These Dalle Glass windows, set in mortar, depict the life of Jesus Christ.



The **Advent** window (now behind the piano). The dreary brown of the desert-like earth at the base of the window is visited by the dynamic penetrations of God into the world. This is designated by the blue glass and elongated, pointed fragments pressing down to meet the barren world.

The **Incarnation** window. The dominate blue of this window conveys the downreaching, intrusion of God into the World of humans with a funnel of energy pressing downward to focus on a small piece of vibrant blue, representing the Babe in the manger. This is the Christmas window.





The **Life and Ministry** window. The blue of God in the form of a man, Jesus, standing with raised arm, blessing the host of people in front of him. The color of the world is green and gold, reflective of the vitality brought to the earth by God.



The **Crucifixion** window. Bright blue glass is the focus of the window representing the head of Christ on the cross and the dark, broken surroundings of the world. All is surrounded by the blue showing God is upholding the Crucifixion.

The **Resurrection and Ascension** window. The broken darkness of death is pictured at the lower portion of the window, now resting on a green, living world. The ascending blues of God and Jesus once more unite in one large blue sphere at the top.



Answer to Last Month's Trivia Question: Where is the "Creation" window?



To the west of the piano, in a small alcove behind the choir, is a small window of many colors, dazzling in the sun. This is the **CREATION** window.

A matching window on the McGraw side of the Sanctuary (now in the Sacresty) portrays the cup of the Eucharist in the CUP OF THE EUCHARIST window.



This month's Trivia Question:

Where does Santa Claus fit into the Christian celebration of Christmas?



Local Events

MAGNOLIA CHORALE - LOVE IN DECEMBER

The Magnolia Chorale will be presenting their Fall/Winter concert at Magnolia Lutheran on Saturday, December 3 at 7:30pm and Sunday, December 4 at 2:00pm. Titled "Love in December", the program will feature Eric Whitacre's *Five Hebrew Love Songs, Lux Arumque*, Lauridsen's *O Magnum Mysterium* plus classic holiday favorites.

Tickets are available at Leroux Fine Apparel, Magnolia's Bookstore or from Chorale members - \$10 if purchased early, or \$12 at the door.

Holiday Joy To Go!

The **Market Street Singers** invite you to a performance of holiday joy, winter reflections, and some wicked seasonal comedy. This unconventional community choir promises to leave no aspect of the season unwrapped.

Saturday, December 10, 7:00 pm

Ballard First Lutheran Church, 2006 NW 65th St (corner of 20th and 65th, across the street from Smokin Pete's BBQ)

After the concert at Ballard First Lutheran Church, you'll find "the Singers" on the go, caroling around downtown Ballard.

Presented in conjunction with the Ballard Artwalk, a fabulous and fun Ballard tradition, which we encourage you explore before and after the performance. For more on the Ballard Artwalk: http://www.myballard.com/ballard-artwalk/

Admission is free, but contributions are always gratefully accepted.

For more about this event, or The Market Street Singers, please visit: www.marketstreetsingers.org or call 206.465.3296

In the News

In October, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Bellingham, Wash., issued a "Letter of Call" to Rev. Joel Langholz, pastor at First Lutheran Church in St. James, Minn., and he accepted. Joel, Becky and 6-month old Alec will be moving in November, and Joel will start his new position in early December. Our Saviour's Lutheran is located a few blocks north of historic Fairhaven. Joel is the son of Mary Langholz and the late



Rev. Douglas Langholz. Needless-to-say, Mary is quite happy to have them all nearby.

Well wishes can be sent to them at 2802 29th Ave W. Seattle, WA 98199.



Members Make a Difference

North Seattle Chapter

TURKEY TROT FOR ELCA WORLD HUNGER

Walk around Green Lake to raise funds for ELCA World Hunger:

Friday, November 25, Registration at 9 AM

Green Lake - Meet at South End Grandstands

Stop at Information Booths set up along the way to gain valuable information about our world. Walk off your turkey dinner and raise money for those who are still hungry!

North Seattle Chapter 30185

Holiday Gift, Craft, and Goodies Bazaar

Once again the Women of the ELCA are sponsoring a Holiday Bazaar at the Swedish Pancake Breakfast on the morning of Saturday, December 3. We need donations of Christmas decorations and small gifts, as well as holiday baked goods. All proceeds will be distributed to charities we have long supported. If you have nothing to donate, please bring your wallets and splurge on some wonderful holiday treats!

Updated Website

Check out our updated website www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com

Michael Farthing has been updating the website with new features and capabilities.

That Priceless Grace

Text by Emmanuel F. Y. Grantson

That priceless grace, that priceless grace, that priceless grace which gave me life: Jesus Life is priceless grace.

That priceless bold, that priceless blood, That priceless blood was shed for me: Jesus blood is priceless grace

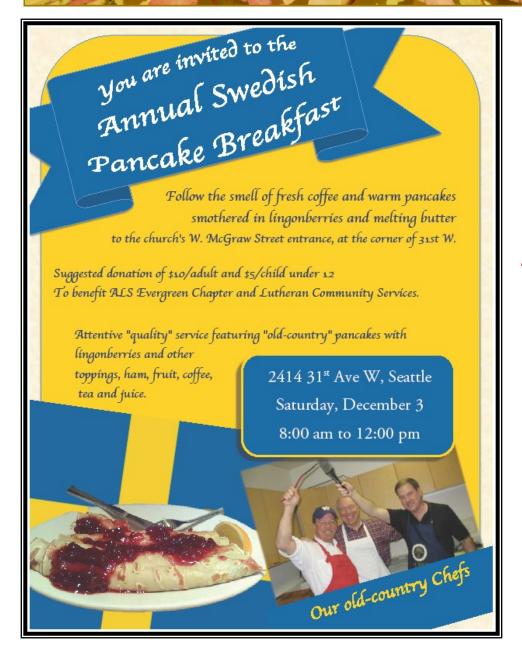
That painful death, that painful death, That painful death took sins away: Jesus death is priceless grace

That precious word, that precious word, That precious word which brought me light: Jesus word is priceless grace

We sang this hymn on Reformation Sunday and I thought you would all like to read the words again. They carry such meaning for the message that we are saved by Grace alone! This is Luther's gift of the reformation and is what we believe.

Celeste Stubbs

It isn't much news, but the Editor of The Magnolia Lutheran has been unbelievably busy lately and this edition of the newsletter is evidence of that. Again, my apologies. I'll try harder next month.





Holiday Gift, Craft, and Goodies Bazaar

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NEW LANDSCAPING ON SOUTH SIDE OF MLC



Have you noticed the new landscaping on the south side? This was professionally designed by Kay Christie of Delphinium Gardening. Thanks to Donna Hegstrom and Don Thoreson for their donations to make this happen!

Around the Parish

- **Choir Rehearsals** continue on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. Come and sing.
- **Bible Study** with Pastor Stensby in the library on Tuesdays, at 10am and at 6:30pm.
- **New Members** will be welcomed through transfer or Affirmation of Baptism on November 13.
- Wreaths and Garlands from Magnolia Mission Youth will be available for pickup on the afternoon and evening of Nov. 22. If you need delivery to your Magnolia home, that can be arranged. Contact MMY Board members Tom Muramoto at 285-7206, or Sandy Nielsen at 283-2187.
- Al Hokanson, long-time member of MLC, died on November 8th. A memorial service in celebration of his life will take place at MLC on a date yet to be announced.
- Longtime member **Lisa Lethenstrom** died September 16, 2011, age 93 in Sacramento, CA.
- Longtime member Ruth Westberg died October 9, 2011. Ruth and Orville joined Magnolia in 1953. Ruth worked as parish secretary for several years and Orville as choir director. Ruth was 100 years old.



November Birthdays

11/3 - William Olden

11/6 - Barbara Munro

11/11 - Luci Bennett

11/11 - Stacey Engle

11/16 - Paul Whitfield

11/21 - Mimi Lewis

11/25 - Mary Langholz

11/26 - Irene Long

11/29 - Nancy Debaste



Remember, if it's your birthday but you're not on the list, then we don't know that its your birthday. Let us know so we can add it to the list and wish you a Happy Birthday!

Help Wanted

Irene Long is looking for someone to help with decorating for Advent. Skills needed include ladder dancing (being young and able to go up and down a step ladder) and a willingness to help for about 15 minutes each week during Advent.

Sunday Worship Attendance - October

Date	8:15	10am	Total	
10/2	14	81	95	
10/9	11	63	74	
10/16	16	62	78	
10/23	17	68	85	
10/30	11	87	98	

A new worker to replace Deborah when she retires in January has been found. Watch for announcements and introductions!

The Search for a Pastor during Bible Times

Dear Member,

We do not have a happy report, as we have not been able to find a suitable candidate for pastor of our church thus far. We do, however, have one promising prospect. The following is our confidential report on the candidates:

Adam: Good man, but has problems with his wife.

Noah: Former pastorate of 120 years with no converts. Prone to unrealistic building projects.

Joseph: A big thinker, but a braggart. Interprets dreams. Has a prison record.

Moses: Modest and meek, but poor communicator; even stutters at times. Sometimes blows his stack and acts rashly in business meetings.

Deborah: One word—female.

David: The most promising candidate of all, until we discovered the affair he had with a neighbor's wife.

Solomon: Great preacher, but serious woman problems.

Elijah: Prone to depression; collapses under pressure.

Jonah: Told us he was swallowed by a huge fish. He said the fish later spit him out on the shore near here. We hung up.

Amos: Backward and unpolished. With some seminary training, he might have promise; but he has a problem with wealthy people.

John: Says he's a Baptist, but doesn't dress like one. Sleeps in the outdoors, has a weird diet, and provokes denominational leaders.

Paul: Powerful CEO type and fascinating preacher. But he's short on tact, unforgiving with young ministers, harsh, and has been known to preach all night.

Timothy: Too young.

Judas: His references are solid. A steady plodder. Conservative. Good connections. Knows how to handle money. We're inviting him to preach this Sunday with great hopes that he will accept our offer!

From "Moses' Favorite Travel Jokes," published by Barbour Publishing, Inc., Uhrichsville, Ohio. Copyright 2009. Used by permission of Barbour Publishing, Inc. From www.beliefnet.com/Entertainment/Joke-of-the-Day

Servants for November

Sunday, November 13 - 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Assisting Minister—Alice Pease

Lector—Linda Tabor

Acolyte—10:00 AM—Samantha Scheiber

Altar Guild—Irene & Russ Long

Ushers—Cliff Kurtzweg

Counters—Donna Hegstrom

Coffee Hour—Kimberly Brangwin

Sunday, November 20 - Christ the King Sunday

Assisting Minister—Deborah Moser-Donlen

Lector—Kay Kurtzweg

Acolyte—10:00 AM—Helena Harris

Altar Guild—Caroline Alabach & Jeanne Moussette

Ushers—Cliff Kurtzweg

Counters—Todd Glockley

Coffee Hour—Deborah Moser-Donlen

Flowers—Celeste Stubbs

Sunday, November 27 - 1st Sunday in Advent

Assisting Minister—Celeste Stubbs

Lector—Thor Sigmar

Acolyte—10:00 AM—Kristjan Sigmar

Altar Guild—Caroline Alabach & Jeanne Moussette

Ushers—Cliff Kurtzweg

Counters—Donna Hegstrom

Coffee Hour—Open

Flowers—Evergreens

Sunday, December 4 - 2nd Sunday in Advent

Assisting Minister—Brian Reierson

Lector—Caroline Alabach

Acolyte—10:00 AM—Alexi Lewis

Altar Guild—Kay Kurtzweg & Kathleen Brose

Ushers-Tom Muramoto & Beth Harwood

Counters-Mark Kelly

Coffee Hour—Fellowship Committee

Flowers—Evergreens



Please use this list as a bookmark and keep the following in your prayers:

Pam Baumler, friend of Beth Harwood

Lucile Bennett

Mana Cazzanti

Chris Cross at home.

John Cross at home.

Myron Cross, with heart issues.

Dorothy Fribrock

Milt Furness, friend of Linda Norby

Kathi Goertzen

Mat Hale, friend of John & Mo Nagy

Bob Harris

Ron Hobbs

Barb Haro

Irene Holroyd

Ginny Joiner, with daughter Jeanne Moussette.

Nick Jones

Cliff Kurtzweg

Lee Lubin, at home.

Bob McIntosh, at home.

Judy Maleng

Kassandra Mirosh, cousin of Victoria Watson,

Dave Muramoto (father of Tom Muramoto)

Mary Muramoto (mother of Tom Muramoto)

Alice Ness

Mary Obrastoff (friend of Kay Kurtzweg).

Laurie Pickering

Mark Reiff

Geri Russell, quilter at MLC

Mary Shelton, Pastor Kragthorpe's daughter

Sue Soderstrom, Susan Dively's mother

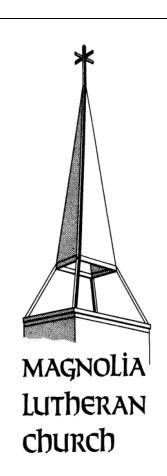
Georgene Swenson

Keith Swenson

Carmel Tanner, friend of John & Mo Nagy

Frank & Helen Wicklund, at home.

Sally Winkel



Contact Us:

Magnolia Lutheran Church 2414 31st Avenue West Seattle,WA98199 Phone: 206-284-0155 Fax:206-284-4553

Email: mlcelca@qwestoffice.net www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com

Ministers:

Members of the Congregation

Pastor:

The Rev. Doug Stensby

Director of Music:

Ann Simonson

Organist:

Ann Simonson

Parish Administrator:

Deborah Ramsey

Caretaker:

Mara Meloy

Nursery Attendant:

Amie Cuhaciyan

Newsletter Editor:

Russ Long, email: Russell_Long@msn.com

Youth Director—LEAP & VERGE

Worship Services:

Sundays

8:15 AM, Holy Communion 10:00 AM, Holy Communion Nursery Care Provided

Education Hour:

Sundays

9:00 AM (for all ages) Adult Sunday School

Fellowship:

Sundays, 11:00 AM

Youth:

Sundays, 5:00 PM Verge for middle school 7:00 PM , LEAP for high school at Magnolia Presbyterian Church

The Magnolia Lutheran is published the first Wednesday of each month to nurture our members and extend the ministry of our congregation.

Publication deadline is the 25th of the preceding month.

Magnolia Lutheran Church 2414 31st Avenue West Seattle,WA98199-3398

Time Value - Mailed 11/21/2011
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED