



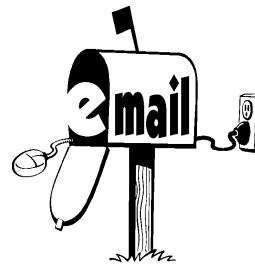
Sharing Christ's Love

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1279 High Street
Auburn, California 95603

If you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail please send an e-mail stating so to the church office at bethlutheran@yahoo.com.

You may also view it on our **NEW** website at

www.bethlehملutheranauburn.org.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President - James Anderberg

Vice President - Sid Frame

Secretary/Treasurer - Diane Allison

Members at Large:

Debbie Clark

Richard Reid

Bob Thiessen

Kathy Ryan

1279 High Street, Auburn, CA 95603
PH: 530.885.4515 FAX: 530.885.2287
bethlutheran@yahoo.com

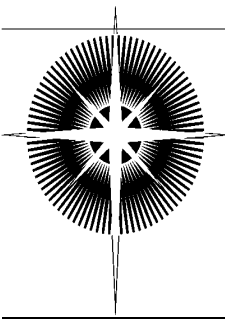
NEW WEBSITE

www.bethlehملutheranauburn.org

Worship Services

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM

Sunday Morning 8:30 AM & 11:00AM



**CHURCH
STAFF**

PASTOR

Rev Bryon Hansen

**DIRECTOR OF
YOUTH MINISTRY**

Bryan Whiteside

OFFICE MANAGER

Joy Johnson

**WORSHIP
COORDINATOR**

Denise Nelson

**FAITH COMMUNITY
NURSE**

Randi Olson

**DIRECTOR OF
CHILDREN'S
MINISTRY**

Kathy Hamm

NEW SERVICE TIMES BEGINNING

September 12

8:30 & 11:00

ARISE! 9:45 (*special "Godly Play" session for adults*)

* * * * *

Rally Day Kick Off

SEPTEMBER 19

Between Services

All are welcome in-between services to a special celebration kicking off the Fall Schedule!

* * * * *

**Full schedule will begin
September 26 with these faith**

formation opportunities:

- "Godly Play" - ages 3- 5th grade
- "Reel Faith" - Middle and High School

Adult Formation opportunities:

- "Stories Class" taught by Pastor Paul (Garden Room)
- "Worship 101" exploring the basics of our worship life with Pastor Bryon (meet in sanctuary)



Over the centuries, shawls have come to symbolize shelter, peace, and spiritual sustenance. Now, thousands of knitters and crocheters are creating hand-made shawls for people in need. This has grown into an international cause, with countless numbers of shawls being given to grateful recipients around the globe. We are very proud to be a part of this great need. I would like to thank all that contribute to our

Prayer Shawl Ministry. Many shawls have gone to our church family. Others have gone to Kaiser Hospice. We have made over ninety shawls and more coming. Thank you again. Jean

**SEPTEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**

Joe Irvin
 Chuck Anderson
 Joy Johnson
 James Greenlee
 Debbie Clark
 Muriel Raught
 Bryan Whiteside
 Pearl Schmidt

Allison Magee
 Eugene Classon
 Kathryn Stoltenburg
 Irene Kalnins
 Ellen Bjork
 Joel Sizemore
 Eric Chun
 Loren Clark
 Ken Stephenson
 Keith Brintnall

Patti McDonald
 Raff McDonald
 Paul Tjornhom
 Karen Ciola
 Suzanne Heisleman
 Claude Eggebraaten
 Dave Raught
 Zach McCrary
 Jo Reid

THREE CUPS OF TEA WITH GREG MORTENSON

Join Greg Mortenson, best selling author of *Three Cups of Tea*, as he introduces us to his new book *Stones into Schools*. Mortenson is the director of Central Asia Institute, a 501 © 3 non profit that promotes and supports community-based education, especially for girls, in the remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan. With your support, CAI has established 146 schools educating 60,000 students, including 40,000 girls. Help to promote our mission by attending and supporting this worthy cause! Online tickets available now at www.ikat.org/bayarea. Gifts for attendees include Greg Mortenson's new book!



RUTH CIRCLE will meet September 23 @ 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. We begin our study, "The People of God: Unity in the Midst of Diversity". Our theme verse is "Can two walk together, except they be agreed", Amos 5:3. The main text for this study is Romans 15:1-4. The lesson plan is, "Reading the Bible". Read pages 28-30 in *Lutheran Woman Today*, before we meet. All women are invited. We start at 9:30 in the fellowship hall with coffee and snacks. If you don't receive *Lutheran Woman Today* call or see Donna Larson @ 530-888-1908 or call Augsburg Fortress @ 1-800-328-4648. Please come and join us for a morning of study and fellowship.

QUILTING PLUS, resumes on Tuesday, September 7 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month September through May. We make a very simple quilt. If you can cut a square of tie a knot you are qualified. Our quilts are then sent to Lutheran World Relief who distribute them as needed around the world. With all the flooding in Pakistan and China some are on their way, if not there already. We also send some to the Lutheran Mission in Northern Arizona. We also keep some on hand for those who might be in need locally. Please join us for a morning of "Good Works" and fellowship. All women are welcome

ASILOMAR, November 19-21, This is the Sierra Pacific Synods Women's Retreat. A time to quiet your soul and "Listen! God is calling" The featured speaker is Jane Strohl, a professor of Reformation History and Theology at our own seminary in Berkeley, PLTS. There are a limited number of beds available. Deadline for registration is September 11. Cost is \$300.00 No refunds after October 1st. Registration forms are available on the Women's Board in the fellowship hall or see Donna Larson.

Pastor Page ~ "Mission of God"

Shortly after Britt and I returned from vacation, my engagement calendar began to fill up with appointments and meeting dates. A sure sign that Autumn was just around the corner and the program year was about to begin!

Flip through the pages of this *Herald* and you will find news about a host of activities and ministries. Besides the small groups and formation ministries already taking place, new ones are emerging and about to begin. I call your attention, in particular, to Sunday morning and Wednesday evening opportunities.

In addition, this month we focus on "**Grow One Step.**" This is our annual financial stewardship response. I also want to call your attention to the new Bethlehem Lutheran Church website:

www.bethlehemlutheranauburn.org The website not only details the various ministries of Bethlehem and the wider church. It is also a source of inspiration and includes the daily lectionary readings and "verse of the day."

Surely these activities are a sign that ministry is alive and well at Bethlehem. I make this observation fully aware that a large volume of activities or numbers are not necessarily a sign of faithfulness or commitment to the values of God's Kingdom. My observation stems, rather, from the sense that our life and ministry at Bethlehem is rooted in something greater than ourselves. This has been my abiding sense of our congregation as long as I have been with you. Put another way, I believe we are seeking to and struggling with ways to welcome the stranger, form disciples and reach out beyond the proverbial four walls.

A wise person once observed that the church does not have a mission. Rather,, the mission of God has a church. In Baptism we are beckoned to be part of the mission of God—to participate in God's on going activity of healing and transforming a broken world. Our common worship each week, shapes, forms and commissions us to be part of this very mission. The good news is that it's not about us.

Peace, *Pastor Bryon*

From Bryan Whiteside-Director of Youth

Can you believe that summer is already over? It seemed like last week I was attending graduation parties and looking forward to all of the fun things that I had ahead of me. But now it is over and it is time to get back into the groove of things.

There are so many exciting things to look ahead to and so many things to announce. First, our high school youth night "**Emmaus**" will be picking up again on Tuesdays nights from 6:30-8:00 starting on September 7. This year we are going to have a strong emphasis of incorporating the arts into our Tuesday night gatherings. We will also have a lot more opportunities for people to bring their friends and to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

I am also excited to announce that we will be returning to **Wolf Mountain for a kick-off retreat September 24-26** (\$105) and beginning confirmation the following Wednesday night (Oct. 6) from 5:30-7:30.

Lastly, I am excited to announce another **Mexico Pilgrimage** opportunity. Coreena and I spoke to Pastors Romelio and Marina the other day about the opportunity to visit in October. They were the thrilled about the opportunity to meet more people from BLC!!! Therefore, we are planning a short pilgrimage over Columbus Day Weekend Oct. 7-10 for anyone who is interested. If you are interested in hearing more information about the trip, there will be a meeting Thursday Sept. 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



www.bethlehmlutheranauburn.org



**YOU ARE
INVITED**

You're Invited!

An invitation from St. Luke's

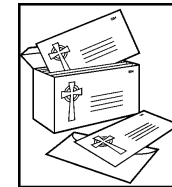
Please join us for our celebration of the Reverend Susan Plucker's ministry to our Church including her six years as Rector of St. Luke's. Reverend Susan will be retiring from full-time parish ministry on October 1, 2010. We will host a "Picnic style" meal and party at 4:00 PM on Saturday September 25, 2010 in St. Luke's parish hall. We hope you will be able to attend. Please RSVP to St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 124 Orange St., Auburn, attention Meredith Guy.

July Giving

Actual	\$27063 offering
\$30889 expenses	-\$3827 net

Year to Date

Actual	\$205202 income
\$236354 expenses	-\$31152 net



SIMPLY GIVING If you would be interested in the Simply Giving Program that allows you to have your offerings transferred electronically to the church's account there are forms on the Welcome table for you to pick up that would enable you to do that. This is especially helpful for those who travel. Contact the church office for more information.

ADULT FELLOWSHIP

It's time to kick off the new year for Adult Fellowship! Come to the Allison's for a potluck and brain storming session on Saturday, September 25th at 6:30 PM. Bring a dish to share and your ideas for fun for the upcoming year. Please RSVP to Diane Allison, or e-mail her at johnallison@juno.com

For more information contact the church office.

SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD DISTRICT B GATHERING You are invited to attend "Leadership for these Times" at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in Granite Bay on September 18 from 10:00 to 3:00. Bishop Mark Holmerud will be preaching followed by the Keynote Speaker, Rev. Dr. Phyllis Anderson, President of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and Gregory Favre, former editor of the Sacramento Bee and faculty member of the Poynter Leadership Institute. There will be a time for workshops, worship and a track for youth. Please RSVP to lcr@lcrchurch.org or cal 916-791-4661 by September 14th.

RWANDA SCHOOL PROJECT

Our church supports the Rwanda School Project, many things are taking place and God is doing amazing work, to learn more log on to www.rwandaschoolproject.org

HOME VISITATION

Please join us Tuesday, September 28th at 10:00 AM. All current visitation and communion ministers as well as members who would like to serve in this way. We will be meeting to update and plan this years activities.



Update- Be sure to view the current art display, if you haven't as it will come down about October 1. Our next show is entitled, "Season of Plenty". We encourage you to submit art/photos for consideration to be hung in each exhibit.

FOR YOUR PRIVACY To protect your privacy we are no longer publishing birthdates and phone numbers in our newsletters. Please check your church directory or contact the church office for assistance.



Faith Community Nurse Randi Olson

WHOLISTIC HEALTH FOR THE SOUL

Eating Habits...Good and Bad

Psalm 139 "O Lord, you have searched me and known me...you discern my thoughts from far away...and are acquainted with all my ways....I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

Churches are known for wonderful social connections, most importantly with God at the center, and often with food as a centerpiece. Here at Bethlehem Lutheran, I have seen a bit of a healthy change in the type of potluck and coffee hour foods supplied. There is always an abundance, enough for everyone. No one goes hungry here. Surprisingly, starvation is still prevalent outside the door, and sometimes even inside.

Our society is very aware of eating disorders, many connected to compensation for overwhelming feelings and emotions. In my past nursing experience, and now in visiting our church families, eating habits are often discussed. Elderly folk are feeling the need to eat a lot and often, sometimes because friends and family insist. In reality, the older and less active we become, the less we need to eat if our food is healthy. In the same vein, some want to stay slim for blood pressure, bone health, and diabetes control, and rightly so. From the outside, family may think their loved one is anorexic, (and that can happen) but a little of "good" food goes a long way and usually the body will tell us when it is needed nutrients.

A newly diagnosed food condition is orthorexia. It is characterized by an obsession with healthy eating! It is about the purity and healthiness of what is eaten. These individuals become consumed with eating right, and can get into self punishment and depression or anxiety problems if they are too wrapped up on food. Self esteem and self righteous eating separate them out socially, daily eating becomes an isolating activity. Only at this point does healthy eating become a problem.

So how do we find the balance? Knowing and understanding how God values us can help correct erroneous self-perception. God is in control of our lives, not the person or the eating habit. He can guide us in listening to our bodies and its needs. Of course food is needed, and family and friends will provide if we can no longer cook, but the amount we consume is our decision, not dictated by what we are given in abundance. Our likes and dislikes will change as we age, some will be good and some will be bad for us...but listening to our inner voice, we can make the decision of what and how much to consume.

The Tuesday, September 21st Care Ministry Workshop will be a fun evening for everyone (men and women) choosing to help make interesting recipes! Five "centers" will provide places to chop, slice, grind and mix our super yummy meal. Linda Greenlee will preside in giving us hints as to how to live happily to the ripe age of 100! Happy eating!

Randi, FCN

Calving All Kids!



We want you to join us at ARISE and THE WELL!

**Sundays 9:45 – 10:45 am
Godly Play**

Arise! and join us for Godly Play every Sunday! This innovative learning draws on the traditions of ancient storytelling. The teachers model how to use the language of the Christian tradition through presentations of parables, sacred stories, liturgy and silence. The Godly Play classroom provides a space to worship God, not just speak about God. Just as adults experience the Sanctuary as sacred space, so do the children experience the Godly Play room as sacred space.

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Wednesdays 5:30 – 7:30 pm K.O.W.

Kids On Wednesday (K.O.W.) joins Confirmation and Journey of Faith on Wednesday nights at **The Well**. We will all gather together for dinner from 5:30 – 6:00 pm. Kids will then participate in blocks of fun, hands-on learning. Topics will include Music, Art, Healthy Living, Cooking and Games.

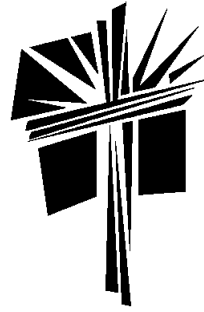


12 Things You Don't Know About Mrs Kathye Hamm

Number 8: I LOVE to watch the Academy Awards! Before the show, I watch all of the best picture movies. Then I keep the list of who is nominated from Entertainment Weekly magazine and check off the winner of each category during the show. Two years ago I threw a formal Oscar party with foods themed on each of the best picture nominees.

W Psalm 119:65-72 Isaiah 57:14-21 Luke 14:15-24	Sunday <u>September 12</u> Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 51:1-10 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-1	W Psalm 12 Proverbs 21:10-16 Luke 20:45—21:4
Th Psalm 1 Genesis 39:1-23 Philippians 2:25-30	M Psalm 73 Amos 7:1-6 1 Timothy 1:18-20	Th Psalm 146 Proverbs 22:2-16 2 Corinthians 8:8-15
F Psalm 1 Deuteronomy 7:12-26 Colossians 4:7-17	Tu Psalm 73 Jonah 3:1-10 2 Peter 3:8-13	F Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:3-10 Ephesians 2:1-10
Sa Psalm 1 Deuteronomy 29:2-20 Matthew 10:34-42	W Psalm 73 Job 40:6-14; 42:1-6	Sa Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:11-28 Luke 9:43b-48
Sunday <u>September 5</u> Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 1 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14:25-33	Sunday <u>September 26</u> Luke 22:31-33, 54-62 Th Psalm 113 Exodus 23:1-9 Romans 3:1-8	Sunday <u>September 26</u> Amos 6:1a, 4-7 Psalm 146 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31
M Psalm 101 2 Kings 17:24-41 1 Timothy 3:14—4:5	F Psalm 113 Ezekiel 22:17-31 Romans 8:31-39	M Psalm 62 Amos 6:8-14 Revelation 3:14-22
Tu Psalm 101 2 Kings 18:9-18 1 Timothy 4:6-16	Sa Psalm 113 Isaiah 5:8-23 Mark 12:41-44	Tu Psalm 62 Hosea 10:9-15 James 5:1-6
W Psalm 101 2 Kings 18:19-25; 19:1-7 Luke 18:18-30	Sunday <u>September 19</u> Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13	W Psalm 62 Hosea 12:2-14 Matthew 19:16-22
Th Psalm 51:1-10 Genesis 6:1-6 1 Timothy 1:1-11	M Psalm 1 Proverbs 14:12-31 Acts 4:1-12	Th Psalm 37:1-9 Lamentations 3:19-26 Revelation 2:8-11
F Psalm 51:1-10 Genesis 7:6-10; 8:1-5 2 Peter 2:1-10a	Tu Psalm 12 Proverbs 17:1-5 1 Corinthians 9:19-23	
Sa Psalm 51:1-10 Genesis 8:20—9:7 John 10:11-21		

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS



- **"Stories Class"** taught by Pastor Paul (Garden Room) Sunday Mornings at 9:45
- **"Worship 101"** exploring the basics of our worship life with Pastor Bryon (meet in sanctuary) Sunday Mornings at 9:45
- **"Lunch and Lectionary"** - led by pastoral staff exploring the lessons coming up the following Sunday. Meets Wednesdays at 10:30, followed by lunch.
- **"FIREPROOF YOUR MARRIAGE"** September 26-November 7, if there is an interest. Contact Joe & Patricia Irvin
- **"Women's Book Club"** Meets on the 4th Tuesday at 2:00 PM



We pray for- Vern Mierkey, Bernie Tupper, Jane Hodgson, Larry Dugan, Pearl Schmidt, Dora Sather, Irvin Sather, Cheri Rinn, and Caroline Davis, Chuck Anderson, Jan Rumbut, Ruth Faia, Cindi Bowman, and the Jack Baird Family as they mourn Carolyn's death. **We continue to pray for-** Dale Buse, David Iezzi, Dennis Greenlee, Inez Larson, Agnes Bensley, Sandra Weller, , Jolene Kirk, Cleo Hummel, JoAnn Anderson, and Dori Dralle, **We pray for these ministries-** Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson, Bishop Mark Holmerud, Sierra Pacific Synod, Dr. Richard Young (our missionary in Guyana), BLC's Church Council, Children's Ministry, Stephen Ministry, Pastor Gerard Mahirane at our sister Church in Kibungo Rwanda and Curtis Lee.

FALL SCHEDULE



Worship Coordinator News

We have had our share of computer problems at the office this past month. One of the reasons that I like my job is that it has challenges, such as deadlines and scheduling. I guess when I have challenges with the computer I can consider it part of my job! I have not called very many of you to ask you how you like to serve during worship. I look forward to talking to many of you in the coming weeks.

Fall scheduling is here and there are a few changes that are coming. The choir will be returning to the 8:30 service and the 10:30 service will be moved to 11:00 to make time to have Sunday School at BLC again!

Please refer to the calendar pages in this newsletter. The service times are marked for each week. Also, check to see when you are scheduled to serve. I try to call each week, but some weeks I run out of time. There will also be schedules on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

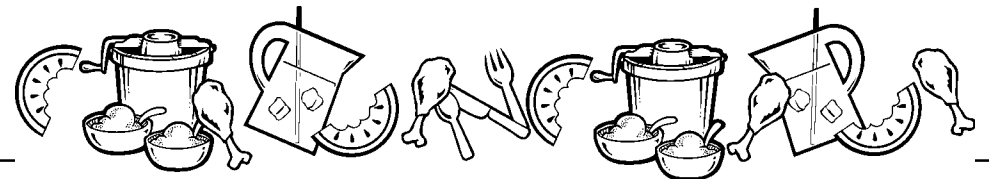
Peace, Denise Nelson Worship Coordinator

CARE MINISTRY SEMINAR FIT FOOD FAIR

September 21 at 5:00 PM

Come and learn how to plan, purchase and prepare healthy food. We will even get to eat it.

Come learn about the 100 Year Lifestyle !





The Journey of Faith

By Loren Clark

In the not-too-distant past, adults wanting to become Christians attended a few weeks of instruction and were quietly baptized on a Sunday morning. Here at Bethlehem we are taking a second look at the process that leads to adult baptism, a process through which we take the time, hand-in-hand, to form and initiate adults into the Christian faith. We are just one amongst many congregations looking at a return to our roots. There is much to learn from our predecessors on how to assist adults in their transformation that leads to life with Christ. Early Christians struggled with their place in a modern, hostile and at times violent society (the Roman Empire) just as we often struggle to find our way in a modern world that doesn't always value the beliefs, traditions and values of Christians.

Holy Baptism is the event where God reaches out and touches the person who is being initiated into the Christian community. Recently there has been a renewal of an ancient and traditional process of forming and initiating adults into the Christian faith. The process is known as the *catechumenate*; a word based upon the Greek for the instruction given to a person or inquirer, prior to and immediately following their baptism.

During the formative years of the early Church (150-500 AD), church leaders used the catechumenate as a process by which new Christians were brought into faith. These early Christians realized that initiation into the Christian faith was a process that required commitment, involved certain stages in the growth of the inquirer and that it necessarily involved the entire faith community. They also understood that such a process takes time. It was not something that could be rushed or accomplished alone with a Pastor after a few short weeks of instruction. To quote Tertullian, a third century North Africa lay theologian, "Christian are made, not born."

For the past two years, Bethlehem has embraced the catechumenate to bring adults into relationship with Christ through Baptism as well as a process to affirm and strengthen those desiring to renew or affirm their baptism.

At Bethlehem we invite any and all to make an inquiry about their faith or their desire to be baptized. For those who are interested, they are invited to participate in the **Journey of Faith**. Over time sponsors are appointed for individuals in the process. The sponsor becomes a vital link between the inquirer and the congregation. Sponsors help shepherd the inquirers into the ministries of the congregation and the wider Christian community. During *Journey of Faith* sponsors and inquirers participate in weekly sessions on Wednesday evenings.

First and foremost, the **Journey of Faith** is a process of conver-

sion. It is about changing hearts and transforming lives. Along the way, inquirers participate in a number of rites at Sunday worship in which the Bethlehem community gradually affirms the inquirers full membership and commitment to following Jesus. The fullest of these rites is Baptism or Affirmation of Baptism celebrated at the Easter Vigil.

A Quick look at the Year

Come and See - Traditionally known as the period of inquiry, this period is an open space where people's questions are honored and the basics of the Christian faith and the Lutheran tradition are explored. It is a time to reflect on one's own life in the light of the values of the reign of God. During *Come and See*, the inquirer, through discernment, decides whether or not to proceed into the catechumenate process.

Advent (December) - Those who decide to go forward begin the *Journey of Faith* process in earnest in early December. The Rite of Welcome, celebrated this year on December 12, signals the official beginning of the process. During this time, participants listen and share stories and reflect on God's presence in their lives.

January and February - As the process continues, participants come to know Christ and the Christian community more deeply. Each week, in the Wednesday evening sessions, we discuss the Sunday Gospel readings through a reflection in small group settings which encourages participants to "break open" the Word of God and consider its meaning in their lives. Each week we also spend time together in a large group setting with instruction on themes that emerge from the Gospel readings from pastoral staff and lay leaders.

Lent (March and April) - At this time we begin our "journey to the font." This is a time to "dig deeper" in preparation for Holy Baptism or Reaffirmation of Baptism at the Easter Vigil.

The Three Days - Participants journey with the entire community of faith in this highpoint of the Christian year. The Three Days are really one service of worship beginning Maundy Thursday, (April 21) and culminating at the Easter Vigil, the highpoint of the Christian year, celebrated this year on April 23.

The Fifty Days of Easter (late April and May) - During this final period in the process we focus on the practice of Christian living and ministry in daily life. This culminates on the Day of Pentecost (June 12 in 2011) with the celebration of Christian vocation.

Please contact Pastor Bryon or the church office for more information, or any member of the Journey of Faith Team: Loren Clark, Don Waage, Denise Nelson, Karen Stein, Jan Whiteside, Ruth Dugan, Pastor Virginia Ward.