



Greg Gilbert	9/2	Lonnie Swanson	9/19
Erika Rabura	9/6	Katelyn Barnhart	9/21
Mary King	9/6	April Kollmorgen	9/22
Brandy Weir	9/6	Ed Stock	9/23
Ken Ray	9/7	Emma Banzer	9/25
Dave Bigelow	9/9	Matthew Moore	9/25
Mya Schultz	9/11	Steve King	9/25
Alyssa Banzer	9/12	Walt Elliott	9/27
Spencer Weir	9/12	Sharon Schmid	9/28
Kris Bonholzer	9/13	Ava Adrig	9/29
Rich Wendt	9/13	Lisa Mansfield	9/29
Anne Stock	9/13		
Jimmy Prehm	9/14		
Estelle Osbourn	9/14		
Chris Adrig	9/17		
Lynn Florent	9/17		

TO BE A CHRISTIAN WITHOUT PRAYER IS NO MORE POSSIBLE THAN TO BE ALIVE WITHOUT BREATHING

Martin Luther



Happy Anniversary

- Floyd & Karen Oster 9/3
- Bob & Mary Lou Reister 9/4
- Don & Marilee Mills 9/5
- Rick & Marsha Wright 9/12

September 2019

VINLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH est.1904
 PO Box 2134
 2750 NW Finn Hill Road
 Poulsbo WA 98370

Office: 360.779.3428
 E-Mail: vinland@vinlandlc.org
 Web: vinlandlc.org

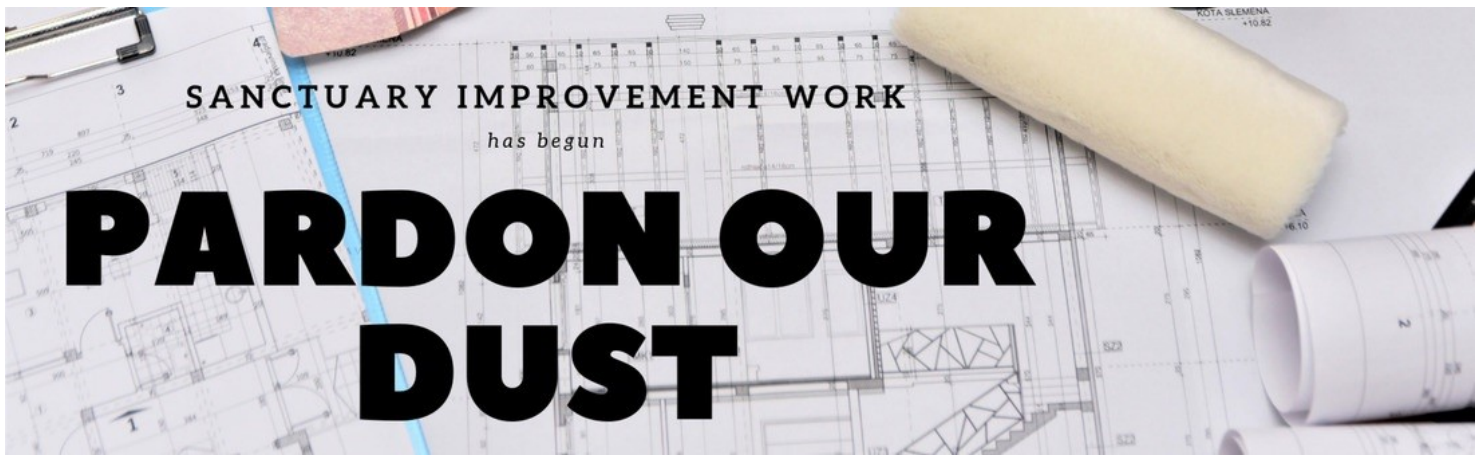
Interim Pastor: Michael Hanson
 Office Admin: Kristine Clucas
 Communications: Marsha Wright

Preschool Director: Janean Moriarty
 Preschool: 360.865.0510
 E-Mail: preschool@vinlandlc.org

Please contact the office or Marsha if your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect or if you are not receiving the e-flash.

FAITH & CARE FAIR SEPTEMBER 15





In January 2019, the congregation approved a plan to improve the overall appearance of the interior of the Sanctuary. Since then, the Facilities Visioning Committee has been working hard to complete the project.

The first step was to paint the interior walls. All the walls of the Sanctuary and Narthex have been painted except for the front wall. That wall will be painted when the new partitions are installed at a later date. The paint and supplies were paid for through donations and the painting was through volunteer labor from the Facilities Visioning Committee.

The new sound system has been installed and is operational. The new system was paid for from the 2019 Church budget. Our Music Director, Rick Baty has been designated as the manager of the new system and will be providing the training to those who need to operate the new sound system.

The old audio sound system has been moved to Grace Hall. It is hoped we can make this system operational in Grace Hall in the near future. Essentially we will be getting two systems for the price of one.

Within a couple of weeks, we will be installing new front doors to the sanctuary. The doors have arrived, and we are waiting on the contractor to schedule an install date. The Sanctuary improvement fund received several donations to make this happen. Most notably, the Preschool has made several donations over the past two years. In addition, Mary King, through her funding raising efforts and special dinners, has made a significant contribution.

We have several remaining components to the overall Sanctuary Improvement Project. In order to complete the project, we will need additional funding. Our plan is to seek additional donations and have a fund-raising effort specifically for the improvement project. The remaining components are:

New Altar, baptismal font, lectern	\$10,000
New projector	\$4000
New front partitions	\$5000
Replace the side light fixtures	\$3000
Ventilation improvements	\$2000

These are cost estimates only. When funds become available we will move on to each new component of the project. Those wishing to donate may do so by sending their donation to the church office with a note indicating the funds are for the sanctuary improvement project. Those individuals or groups which want to adopt and pay for a particular component of the project, may do so as well. Please coordinate with Peter Hansen.



VINLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER 2019



In the Ancient world the Patron was a highly honored individual. There was great respect for these individuals who gave generously beyond all measure. It was not something just anyone could pull off. Patrons are few and far between. When Jesus spoke of patrons he was never suggesting that we should all become patrons because that's simply impossible for most of us. But we can still learn something from their example.

A Patron was someone with enormous wealth. They acquired this wealth by various means, but in all cases it was exception and highly unusual for anyone to acquire this much wealth. Having more than they would ever personally need in life they always found ways to bless others with that excess. And for that they were highly honored in society.

We do have Patrons today, thank God for Patrons! God has blessed them beyond measure and with all the excess they have acquired they desire to bless others. Some Patrons bless the arts in our area. Others bless educational institutions. Others support the work of medical institutions. As a result we all get to share in these blessings.

What we can learn from their example is that God has blessed us to be a blessing to others even in small ways. We have basically what we need in life. And we have a little extra now and then by which we can be a blessing to someone else. By doing so we honor God who blessed us in the first place and in turn we get to be a part of His blessing to others in many small ways.

Pastor Mike

"Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go." T.S. Elliot



LUTHERAN VIA DE CRISTO **What's a cursillo?**

You may have heard the term before used to describe a retreat for spiritual renewal and development of Christian leaders. A Lutheran cursillo will be held this fall. Interested? Read on. Cursillos originated with the Spanish catholic church in the 1940s. Today all Christian denominations have their own "cursillo" and all follow nearly identical curriculums. In the Lutheran church the weekend is called "Via de Cristo". Here in western Washington our 2019 "VDC" weekend is co-ed and will begin on Thursday evening October 17th, and end on Sunday afternoon October 20th. We'll be at the Lakeview Christian Conference Center in Auburn. The weekend is a combined effort of lay people and clergy and totally free to participants... even including your travel.

So what happens, besides great food? Worship, talks, meditations, prayer... in a way that for many is life-changing but at the same time difficult to describe. Pastor Mike has attended many cursillos and can help. In the congregation there are several who have attended a weekend either as a Lutheran or in another denomination.

Walt and Bobbie would be your sponsor for this year's Weekend. Please talk to one of us should you be interested in learning more and/or visit the Weekend's website: page: <https://vdcww.com/intro-to-via-de-cristo/>

WOMEN'S

groups

Women ^{of the} ELCA 

*please
join us*

All women are invited to the September 18 meeting at 10am. Anita Puzon will head the Bible study. Singing, praying and lunch included!



SCHOOL KIT SUPPLIES NEEDED: 70-sheet notebooks, ball point pens, crayons (18 or 24)

Bring supplies to church and the women will assemble them into school kits.



Women of Grace
Encouraging and Supporting One Another

This group of mixed-age women meet on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6:00pm. We laugh together, pray together, learn together and share each other's lives. Our first meeting of the fall will be October 7. It will be an introduction to the year.

We will begin our study year focusing on the word "sanctuary." Google it, look it up in the dictionary, think of what it means to you! Invite a friend to our gatherings.



Keep checking Facebook, your in-box and the weekly view and e-flash for coming events for moms!

Women's Breakfast

**FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 8:30 at Envy's
at the Poulsbo Junction**



Quilters meet EVERY Tuesday from 9-noon. Snacks & Coffee!

They can use helping hands as they put together quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

SEPTEMBER 1
AFTER CHURCH
CONCERT
in the CAFE
MUSIC and FOOD



What Can I Bring?

A yummy snack to share with some friends!

What Will Happen?

We'll sit around tables with new and old friends, snack, visit, and tap our toes to great music!

Faith and Care
FALL FAIR
Sunday, Sept. 15

A new twist on our annual fun-filled ministry fair!
Each Faith and Care Group will provide a "bite to eat" for everyone: something sweet or savory and bite-sized!
We'll also showcase our many groups and ministries and have a couple surprises! Stay after church for the fun.

THIS AND THAT



DIALOGUE ON DRAFT

Will meet on the last Monday of each month at **Western Red Brewery in Poulsbo at 6pm**

Our first gathering will be Aug. 26. The topic is a timely one: Sanctuary.

VINLAND
TRANSITIONTeam

We have gathered a lot of comments, but there is still plenty of time to send us YOUR thoughts. Think of Vinland's strengths, are-as the congregation needs to grow, why you came to this church, why you stayed and what you are looking for in a pastor, etc. Everything you tell us is valued and documented. The Ministry Site Profile will be finalized by the middle of September and given to the council for approval before sending it on to the Synod.



GET READY TO SHUFFLE SOME CARDS! PINOCHLE ON SEPTEMBER 20!

Potluck at 5:30; Cards dealt at 6pm. Sign up!!

Sign up if you want to play!



ALL MEN are invited to a great breakfast on **SEPTEMBER 7 at 8am at church**. Hearty Food and Healthy Conversation! Bring a friend along.



SENIOR LUNCH BUNCH

This group will be eating together at the **Big Apple Diner on 6720 Kitsap Way on Monday, Sept. 9 at 12:30.**

THE VINLAND BUZZ



This is a new column! Let Marsha know if you have something to share in the monthly **BUZZ!**

NEW ADDRESSES!

Lu Tingelstad: Phone: (360) 697-2147
2941 Erlands Beach Loop NW Bremerton, WA 98312

Fred and Audrey Bates: Phone: 360-633-7494
Address: 3380 NE 3rd N #8 Bremerton, 98311

Frank and Sharon Schmid:
7400 Stinson Ave #226, Gig Harbor, WA 98335.
Home Phone: 253-514-8940

We are minutes from Hwy 16-All are welcome!

Jan Saenz: 374 NW Brookwood Ln, Bremerton, 98311
Phones: 360-627-7704 C. 360-434-7798

Tim and Amy Munns 1580 NE Dozer Ln Poulsbo WA 98370 Ph:
Amy 360-440-8800; Tim: 360-421-6210

Clint and Molly Hurda and family are on their way to Japan!

Matt & Claire Campbell and boy are preparing for a move to Virginia. We sure appreciate our Navy families and wish them well.

Lori and Kari VanVlerah have made the decision to move east to South Dakota. This is really sad news for those of us left behind, but we know this new adventure will find them surrounded by the love of family.

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

50, 65, and 70!! Bing and Bonnie Debar celebrated 50 years of wedded bliss on Aug. 16. *"As you can guess, we met in "Music Theory I" at Central Washington State College in 1967, winter quarter. We were study buddies for many of our music classes and both sang in the concert choir. It took me a couple of years to realize what a nice, honest, trustworthy guy Bing was (compared to my current boyfriend), but what really impressed me was that he beat me at leg wrestling.*

And, of course, the dimples. We were married at Bethany Lutheran Church, on Bainbridge Island, on August 16, 1969, and returned to Central, after a brief honeymoon at Ocean Shores, for Bing to receive his degree in music education."

Fred and Audrey Bates hit 65 years on August 8 and **Ken and Nancy Ray** take top prize for 70 YEARS on August 27!! *Ken grew up in Vinland. As a boy he would go to the church on Sunday mornings to start the wood stoves. When attending North Kitsap Union High School Ken would walk to school from Vinland. He and Nancy first met at school. Nancy grew up in Scandia and attended the Bible Church just down the road from her parents farm. They dated and were married after Ken returned from World War II. They were married on Nancy's parents farm and they currently live on a corner of what was the farm. Congratulations and Thank You for the delicious cakes we enjoyed three Sundays in a row!!*



Our lives are blessed by those who enter and by those who leave, leaving footprints on our hearts....

We grieve with the families of **Delores Hammond and Myrt Jodry**. Their loss is our loss. Delores passed away on August and Myrt passed away on August

A memorial service for Myrt will be held Saturday, Sept. 14 at noon.

A memorial service for Delores will also be in September. Watch for further details.

Ingrid Anna Carlson, daughter of Sean and Lindsey and sister of Amelia, was baptized Aug. 4.

Marilynn Maas-Jones extends a huge thank you to everyone for cards, prayers, calls and good thoughts following her surgery!



Make sure you stop by the wonderful yarn shop recently opened by **LISA MICHAEL**. The grand opening was August 17. It is a feast of delicious colors and textures of yarn. Even if you don't knit now, you will want to start really soon!

Megan Adrig is shaking up the all-male social studies department at NK High. She has accepted a part time position teaching Modern History!

Terry Beaudoin is joining the pre-K staff of Peace Lutheran in Bremerton!!

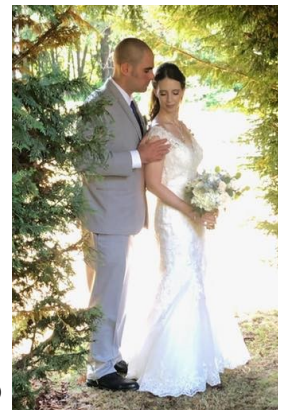
Kendall Becker competed in the US National Home Run Derby in Harrisburg, PA on August 17. We were able to watch her live and then a repeat broadcast on Sunday, the 18th! What an incredible experience for our star and her family!

The Crawford family is traveling to Iowa to deliver **Andy** to college! He'll be playing baseball in the cornfields! They are having plenty of family fun along the way.

Marissa Wendt is headed back to EWU.

Matt LaMagna and Crystal Griffith were married on a beautiful July afternoon in Port Gamble.

Our love and best wishes to this happy couple.



fall is coming



L.O.F.T. NEWS

LivingOurFaithTogether



The search continues for a youth director. Stay patient and prayerful and watchful as the Youth Committee is planning some quirky and fun events for all you middle/high school kids.



Have you ever wanted to discuss the news stories we read in the paper, on-line or hear over and over again on TV? Coffee and the News is returning to Sunday mornings for just that purpose.

Watch for starting dates and time. It will happen before worship, but exact time is TBT. It will be a great opportunity to view some of what's happening in our community and world through a Christian lens and hear what others have to say. We can learn from one another.



Bloom!

Nurturing Seeds of Faith

Bloom! Sunday School curriculum is created by ELCA Pastor Rachel Simonson

Here are her words....

"Hi! I'm a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Over the last couple of years, I've worked closely with a congregation in their children's ministry. During this time I had wished there were more curriculum resources that were affordable, as well as more based on the readings of the Narrative Lectionary.

So I created some. I hope you enjoy!"

We have decided to give it a try this year. It looks great and now we need some fun-loving, kid-loving teachers to put it into practice.



Barb's Backyard by Barbara Erickson

Note: This came out of s wonderful writing class that was offered at Vinland's family Camp this year:

At any time, I can close my eyes & be transported back, and I am brim-full. Full of wonder, serenity, peace, and love. The forest is a magical place for me. On a trail, I can hardly take it all in, but I do try. My eyes scan the tree trunks, taking in the colors, textures, lichens, and spider webs.

Are there holes in the trunks? If so, are they a sign of damage, disease, or animal activity?

I search the ground at my feet, looking for signs that lead to knowledge.

I see tiny fungi, lush mosses—really all miniature worlds. Sometimes my imagination runs wild and I envision small beings living there, working, playing, and building.

I compare their world to ours and find myself wanting to live in their world for a brief time, just to see what it might be like.

I see signs to help better understand this place. For the type of flower petals, tree leaves, needles, branches, and cones that litter the trail tell much about the giants that loom overhead. I know a small squirrel has been above in one place for I see the scales of the Douglas fir scattered about that he (she?) dropped as he tore the cones apart to reach the seeds. In this case, the cones were still green, and I know they were the female cones for they are the ones with seeds.

I note the nearly invisible strands of a spider web stretching between the branches of a red huckleberry whose berries have ripened and are mostly gone now, likely eaten by a robin or towhee. The web leads me to look for others and I begin to see them everywhere, even high above the ground. Some appear tattered and empty. Others contain their tiny weavers, unobtrusive and lurking at the edge of the web, waiting for the hapless bug that becomes caught and struggles against the strands, creating vibrations that alert the spider.

I notice and bask in the quiet. I only hear an occasional bird call and try to identify which bird made it. “Shick-a-dee-dee-dee” gives away the Chickadees, while the “Me-meep” of the nuthatches remind me of a VW horn. Robins are numerous and have distinctive calls and songs. Woodpeckers are often, though not always, loud with their rattling calls and punctuated hammering against a hollow tree trunk.

Gazing through the woods, the trees stand like silent sentinels and below them, covering the forest floor, tall sword ferns reach skyward with gracefully arching fronds. I often wish the trees could talk, for what tales they could tell of all they have seen and heard through the years.

Logs covered with thick green moss attract my attention. I love to search them to see just how many kinds of mosses grow there, to discover small, oddly shaped fungi and the occasional centipede or other creepy- crawly insect.

What a wonder it all is and my thoughts often lead to the Creator of this wondrous place.

I feel a strong presence here, unlike anywhere else and it speaks to me. I breathe deeply of the rich, moist air and am free.

*But ask the animals, and they will teach you;
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;
ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you;
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.
Who among all these does not know
that the hand of the LORD has done this?
In his hand is the life of every living thing
and the breath of every human being. Job 12: 7-10*

Upcoming

EVENTS

Mark your calendars **NOW!**



ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE PETS

SUNDAY, OCT. 6, 1 PM

Bring your cherished companion leashed or caged



Sunday, Oct. 27

Fun starts at 4:00

CHRISTMAS

THROUGH THE DECADES

Women's Advent Brunch
Sunday, Dec. 1 at 11am

We'll take a walk down memory lane with singing, decorations, laughter, a trivia contest, good food and maybe a project or two!
Join in the fun. Mark your calendar now.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

OCTOBER 13 AFTER WORSHIP

Plan to attend! We will be voting on the Call Committee at this time. If you desire to be considered for this committee, please submit your desire in writing or by e-mail to Kristine Clucas at vinland@vinlandlc.org. The committee will be comprised of 6 voting members and 2 alternates who will attend meetings and have vocal input, but no voting privileges.



Join Children of the Nations' Rally for Education by assembling School SmilePacks®

Large zip-lock bags with an enclosed list of items are available in the entry (narthex) of the sanctuary.

FAMILY CAMP UPDATES!

As we say goodbye to another summer and time at the lake, we hope you'll have lots of fun memories of "Kickin' It Old School!". We had a wonderful time at Family Camp this summer and the planning team thanks everyone who joined us and also those who contributed to help make camp a wonderful week.



We look forward to **"All Creatures Great and Small"** next summer where we'll have tons of fun with the focus on....all the creatures God has created. The ideas are already swirling around in everyone's heads. As soon as we get the dates, we'll share them with everyone and we hope you'll join us. Contributions to help fund Family Camp can be made at anytime by giving donations to Kristine Clucas.



Southwestern Washington Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

The Rev. Richard E. Jaech, Bishop

13 August 2019

From Bishop Rick Jaech

Dear Pastors, Deacons and Congregations,

Eight members of the Southwestern Washington Synod, including myself, just returned from the Church-wide Assembly of the ELCA held in Milwaukee, WI. At this Assembly, the ELCA once again committed itself to faithfully following the Way that Christ frees and empowers us to walk, which is expressed in outreach, evangelism, education, compassion and the pursuit of justice. There were many important actions that were taken, which I will report to you in the weeks ahead. However, I wish to speak about one Assembly action which has received considerable media attention in the last few days and, in some cases, the reports have been false and confusing.

The Assembly voted to declare the ELCA to be a “sanctuary denomination”. This action was part of a larger resolution that reaffirmed the long-standing commitment of the Lutheran Church to welcoming and caring for immigrants and migrants, which we have been doing for 75 years through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service.

The word “sanctuary”, however, is a word that is broadly used in a variety of ways and for that reason I want to give you some basic clarifications about the intent and meaning of this resolution.

In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is **publicly declaring** that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith. The ELCA Churchwide Assembly declared that, when we preach on Sunday that Jesus tells us to welcome and care for everyone around us, then on Monday we will use our hands and voices to make sure it happens.

Right now, our immigration system is broken, chaotic and in need of repair. While we may have many different ideas about how to fix this broken system, we are also called to love our neighbors, particularly those who are most vulnerable to the brokenness of this system, especially families and unaccompanied youth.

The Churchwide Assembly’s declaration that the ELCA is a sanctuary denomination binds only the ELCA Churchwide Organization; it does not bind or obligate congregations, synods, or other organizations to be a sanctuary place.

The Churchwide Assembly did not call for any illegal actions. All actions mentioned by the Churchwide Assembly are legal. If any person or organization chooses to go beyond these actions and engage in civil disobedience (and therefore accept the consequences), that would

The mission of the Southwestern Washington Synod is to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ by empowering congregations and Church leaders to grow in worship, education, outreach, stewardship and other ministries.

be their choice. In any case, a congregation or synod that considers becoming a sanctuary organization should first consult with legal counsel.

The Churchwide Assembly did not define what it means to be a sanctuary denomination, but rather requested that the ELCA Church Council provide guidance as to what it means to be a sanctuary denomination.

While we don't yet know the full scope of the work that this declaration will open for the ELCA, we do know that many ELCA faith communities are already doing sanctuary work. For a congregation, Sanctuary could include any of the following:

Form a book study using, for example, *They are Us: Lutherans & Immigration* by Bouman and Deffenbaug, or another book of your choosing. Hold Sunday adult forum conversations or a series of evening discussions and consider inviting people from a number of different perspectives on this topic.

Study the ELCA Social Teaching Statement on Immigration <https://www.elca.org/en/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Social-Messages/Immigration>

Invite members of a congregation to meet with nearby organizations that work in the area of refugee resettlement or immigration issues, such as Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services.

Seek out elected officials to meet with and discuss this subject.

Host English as a Second Language (ESL) classes.

Pray regularly for immigrants and also for ICE and Border Patrol agents.

Welcome all people to your congregation's worship and events without classifying them according to their immigration or citizenship status.

Invite members of your congregation to advocate for immigration reform by writing to congress.

Providing housing for a community member who is in the midst of legal hearings and facing deportation.

Providing sanctuary has many different meanings. I am sure that within our Southwestern Washington Synod, we will have many different reactions to the topic of sanctuary, depending on what definition we give it.

Note: If you would like a more in-depth legal analysis of the topic of sanctuary, here is a link to a legal brief written by the ACLU: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/03xu321czvmnhtf/Sanctuary%20FAQ%204%2013%202017.pdf?dl=0>

Once again I wish to state that the Churchwide Assembly's decision to make the ELCA a Sanctuary Denomination does NOT compel or obligate a congregation to do the same. However, this action gives us the opportunity to dialogue with each other about how our congregations and church body can help the United States fulfill God's desire for justice for all, including citizens, immigrants and refugees.

I welcome your thoughts, reactions and suggestions.



Bishop Rick Jaech