

Notes from FATSAT Monthly Meeting

August 9, 2026

Opening Comments

Lynn invited us to a moment of silence and led us in prayer.

Lament, Hope, and Action: A Shared Reading - The Subversive Nature of Lament

We listened to this meaningful writing by Rev. Benjamin R. Cremen from July 27, 2026. Our calling is not to win every argument. We will make a request to the Council to have a banner made with a sentence from this piece – “Lament is what faith sounds like when love refuses to lie.”

Lucas later commented on the difference between activities and doing action; it is important to sit in stillness. Lynn mentioned Elijah – God was not in the wind or the earthquake or the fire, but in a still, small voice.

Retreat Planning Group Report

Andrew, Luke, and Lynn

- **Date and Time**

We hope to meet this fall on a Saturday, approximately 9 am-4 pm. We will bring sacred energy to any space; location isn't as important as intent. It will most likely be at Peace as this is the starting place for our ministries and would allow the allocated \$1,200 to go further toward facilitator, program, food (which we agreed is an important part of nourishing souls as well as bodies). Perhaps a follow up retreat in the spring. The Fleshers have graciously offered to host a future gathering.

- **Qualities Needed in a Facilitator**

Shape the retreat to our needs rather than their agenda; person of Christian faith; able to read the room; share heart for equality and justice.

- **Content of Retreat Agenda**

Overarching goal: Way of the Cross, gospel message antithetical to empire. Getting deeper together, collective visioning to prepare for going outward.

- **Invitation for others to become part of FATSAT and/or involved in our mission**

For the retreat, we may invite others to join us for an hour or two, perhaps at lunch – possibly Manis, two or three youth, council member, anti-racism work group person. Another option is to invite them, and interested people from other congregations, to a regular monthly meeting.

Election Preparedness Group Action Report

Sally

Sally will continue to send emails for us to read and share with others. The August 4 election had only a 30% voter turnout. It is essential to increase this for future elections.

Report on the Ecumenical Meeting of July 12

Lucas and Lynn

Priorities emerged: turn conversation into concrete action; support those affected by ICE and the detention center, economic hardship, housing and food insecurity; November election; racial justice. Peace shared about FATSAT. Other congregations are interested in coming to a meeting. Need to be intentional about BIPOC representation. Long term relationships. Lynn will send us the report from Brian Humphreys.

Relationship with Youth Action Report

Ben

We will receive the report later. Ben was unable to attend today's meeting as he was helping with outdoor worship and cookout setup.

Manis has expressed interest in the youth being involved with the FATSAT ministry.

Religious Liberty Discussion

Sally

Gratitude to FATSAT people who sent in comments, including those from the church thanks to Gretchen and Pastor John.

The Religious Liberty Commission will hold a virtual meeting to finalize the Religious Liberty Commission report. The hearing's objective will be to review and finalize the draft report and recommendations.

The Religious Liberty Commission was [established](#) by President Trump under Executive Order 14291 and is tasked with producing a comprehensive report on the foundations of religious liberty in America, increasing awareness of and celebrating America's peaceful religious pluralism, highlighting current threats to religious liberty, and developing strategies to preserve and enhance protections for future generations.

When: Aug. 17, 2026 from 9:30 am – 11:00 am ET [so 6:30am to 8:00am our time]

Where: A livestream will be available at <https://www.justice.gov/religious-liberty-commission/upcoming-events>

Lutherans in Minnesota; the church in action will not sit by; election education and monitoring; learn and understand dangers. More information at

<https://faithinusleading.org/>

Organizations are having a two-week call to prayer, new each day. FATSAT will make a request of the council to participate. Andrew, Lucas, and Jo offered to help develop prayers. Let them know if you would like to be part of this.

Action Ideas from Peace Email Newsletter

A Ministry of Presence: Join the New Migrant Solidarity Network

Tuesday, August 18, 6:00 – 7:30 pm on Zoom (1.5 Hours)

How is the Church called to show up in places defined by desolate isolation? In response to the escalation of immigration enforcement, the SWWA Synod invites you to an informational Zoom session about our newly launching Lutheran Migrant Solidarity Network. Centered around the Northwest ICE Processing Center (NWIPC) in Tacoma, this pilot ministry is building a coalition of churches in the Synod to accompany our neighbors in detention. Whether your congregation is near Tacoma and called to face-to-face window visitation, or located further away and eager to join our synod-wide letter-writing ministry, there is a place for you in this work. Join us for a 1.5-hour virtual gathering to learn how your church can step into this sacred act of presence, grounded in the belief that no one is forgotten by God. Register here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/qcHeLz20Q-OjAewwPNR8zQ#/registration>

People of the Resistance

What does it mean to follow Jesus in times such as this? What happens when our core values are under attack? Author and speaker, Rev. Dr. Rick Rouse, will address how this “Bonhoeffer moment” calls people to resist an unjust State by exploring the topics: “The Threat of Christian Nationalism,” “Competing Visions of Christianity in America,” and “Courageous Discipleship in Action.” Refreshments will be served. **Sunday August 30, 3-5 pm** at Resurrection Lutheran Church, [4301 Browns Point Blvd NE, Tacoma, WA 98422](#). Registration is encouraged. Email churchoffice@resurrectionlutherantacoma.org or 253-927-3301.

Closing Reflection and Prayer

Next Meeting: September 20, 2026. 12:30 – 2 pm

Lament – Lisa Hope – Andrew Action – Lymm

Nancy will organize a potluck lunch for the Bishop and all of us.

Respectfully submitted,
Kit