

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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DECEMBER

Vol. 25 No. 10

2010

GROWING
TO SERVE

The mission of Our Savior Lutheran Church is to live God's love in Jesus Christ through word and sacraments, worship and prayer, Christian nurture and fellowship, service and outreach.

A New Building Campaign

Our Savior Lutheran Church

745 Front St. South
Issaquah, WA 98027
(425) 392-4169
(425) 392-2946 fax
office@oslcissaquah.org
www.oslcissaquah.org

Sunday Worship Services:

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School:

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

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One summer, while traveling in Montana, I noticed several signs posted along our route listing the Ten Commandments. I've always wondered why the Ten Commandments were so prominent, while the commandments that Christ gave us were nowhere to be seen. Why not, "love your God with all your heart, mind, and soul," and "you shall love your neighbor as yourself" on a sign? The message could be shortened to, "Love God: love your neighbor," and written in letters big and bold enough to blast the retinas of the speediest of drivers.

In our congregation we're pretty good at loving God. We show up for Sunday services, take communion, pray and sometimes even read the Bible on our own time. Recently we organized a campaign to build a new sanctuary for worship. We found extra money in our budgets, and extra time in our day to paint and hammer. It's a testament to our love for God. But how good are we at the second of Christ's commandments?

Maybe it's time to start another building campaign; one to build a framework within our sanctuary of love for one another. It would be far harder than raising a roof or nailing some boards together. It means that we shift our focus and work for the good of each other first, and the good of the church second. What follows from that will truly benefit our church. It requires treating the woman across the

continued on page 2

Sunday, December 26, 2010 & Sunday, January 2, 2011: One Worship Service @ 9:30 a.m.

On the holiday weekends of Sunday, December 26, The First Sunday after Christmas, and Sunday, January 2, 2011, the Sunday after New Year's Day, there will be one worship service at 9:30 a.m. We will resume our regular schedule of worship services at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. with Sunday school at 9:45 am on Sunday, January 9, 2011.



continued from page 1

aisle as gently as a piece of Chihuly glass; the man in the choir as if he were our best friend; to give the committee chairperson the same consideration, kindness, and forgiveness that we would want for ourselves. To build this, every person has to look into the core of their belief and make a decision to build. *Love God: love each other.* We could write it in our hearts in letters big enough to blast the soul of the worst doubter. You might say it's impossible, but I say let's try. As Christians, we must.

We're in the process of making changes in the way we run the church. We've started a finance committee, a mutual ministry committee, and we're drafting a new constitution and by-laws. But if we do these things without love, what will we gain? Paul has the answer in his famous essay in first Corinthians. Without love we are nothing but a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. God's work is out there awaiting our joyful participation. But first we need to make sure we're not just clanging around.

Sandy Nygaard
Council President

Praying the Lord's Prayer

Beginning November 28, 2010, the First Sunday in Advent, we will pray the "ecumenical" version of the Lord's Prayer on Sunday mornings. We will continue this practice until June 19, 2011, Holy Trinity Sunday. On Holy Trinity Sunday we will resume praying the "traditional" version of the Lord's Prayer. It is our practice to pray each version of the Lord's Prayer for approximately six months of the year.

Friday, December 24 / Christmas Eve Worship Services

There will be three Christmas Eve services on Friday night, December 24. The Christmas Eve Service of the Word, Carols and Candlelight will be at 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. The 11:00 p.m. Service of Holy Communion will also be a service of carols and candlelight. *Please note: This year, OSLC will not offer a Christmas Day worship Service on Saturday, December 25.*



Handicap Parking

OSLC provides parking spaces for handicap parking. These parking spaces are located in front of Anderson Hall and out back by the preschool entrance. On weekdays, evenings and Sunday mornings these spaces provide a needed service to members and friends of OSLC. Sometimes members and friends who do not need to use the handicap spaces for parking, use these spaces while they are loading/unloading their cars. Please be mindful that when you are through loading or unloading your vehicle, you must immediately move your vehicle from the identified handicap spaces to the regular parking spaces. Your cooperation and consideration for everyone is appreciated.

Christian Education & Small Group Ministries

Sunday School

9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

Preschool—Grade 6

For students in Preschool through Grade 6, our Sunday School program combines fun and engaging study of the Bible with monthly family events. These family events, which take place on the last Sunday of each month, give parents an opportunity to join the students in group time and in the classroom.

Grade 7 – 8

For students in Grades 7 and 8, we have a special course of study that ties in with our Confirmation program. Faith Inkubator materials challenge learners to move from head to heart, as they develop ways to talk about their faith.



High School Java Talk

For senior high school students (grades nine through twelve), we offer an off-campus program geared towards conversation and relationship building. Each Sunday, students travel to a local coffee shop with their teacher. They order a beverage and find a table where they discuss a faith topic. Friendship, faith, and free stuff . . . What's not to like?

Thursday Morning Bible Study

The Letters of John

Pastor Thomas leads the Thursday morning Bible study. We meet at 10:00 a.m. in the church library. We are currently studying the Letters of John. Copies of our text, *The Letters of John*, by John R.W. Stott are available from the church office for \$5.00. We will not meet Thursday, December 2, December 23 or December 30th.



Advent Bible Study

I Wonder as I Wander

Nov. 28 -- Dec. 19 @ 9:45 a.m.



The four Sundays of Advent leading up to Christmas are always a special time of year. This class will be led by Rev. Jane Shen and will give you the opportunity to still your heart and focus on the coming of Christ. There is a companion resource available through Augsburg Fortress Press for about \$8 (www.augsburgfortress.org, "Book of Faith Advent Reflections: I Wonder as I Wander") that includes devotions for each day of the Season of Advent.

Mid-Life Spirituality Group

The Mid-Life Spirituality Group meets in participants homes on Sunday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. We are discussing the book, *The Good and Beautiful Life: Putting on the Character of Christ*, by James Bryan Smith. (Copies are available from a variety of on-line vendors.) Contact Marilyn Larson at marilyn.larson@gmail.com for more information about this group.



A Deeper Well

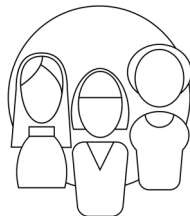
In Recess for December

"A Deeper Well" will be on recess for the month of December. We will reconvene in January so please join us for this gathering that takes place on the last Tuesday evening of each month. This is a time, for those 21 and older, to talk about faith and life and experience some refreshment for both body and soul. Watch the bulletin announcements and the weekly email for a new location. If you have questions, contact Pastor Ryan at (425) 392-4169, ext. 105 or rdfletcher@oslmissaquaah.org.

Hope Circle

Friday, December 17
11:00 a.m.

Hope Circle will meet Friday, December 17, 2010 at the home of Mary Fricke for our holiday potluck. For more information on Hope Circle or for carpooling information, please contact Sandy Aldworth at (425) 837-1233 or mtnlady@comcast.net.



Faith Circle

Monday, December 20
7:30 p.m.

On December 20, 2010, Faith Circle will meet at the home of Shannon Dickens-Little and our leader will be Karen Hansen. Faith Circle meets on the third Monday of each month, from September to May, at 7:30 p.m., in different member's homes. (We break for the summer months - June through August.) We use the Bible study found in *Lutheran Woman Today*. If you need more information or would like to join Faith Circle, please contact Rita Hansen at (425) 392-2108 or ritahansen@brigadoon.net.



OSCLC's Book Club

Barnes & Noble – Pickering Place, Issaquah
7:30 p.m.

Here are the dates and books for our reading schedule in 2011:

January 17, 2011	<i>Missing</i> by Karin Alvtegen
March 21, 2011	<i>Sima's Undergarments for Women</i> by Ilana Stanger-Ross
May 16, 2011	<i>Plum Wine</i> by Angela Davis-Gardner
August 15, 2011	
October 17, 2011	

Please join us this year and read some great books and join in our lively discussions. Send me your suggestions for books you'd like to read for August and October. For more information please contact Marilyn Larson, at marilyn.larson@gmail.com or call her at (425) 392-6594.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting

Sun., December 5
10:00 a.m.

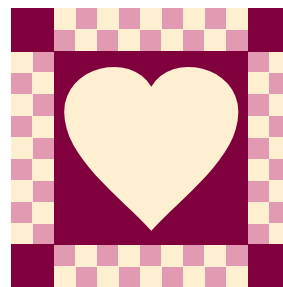


The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet between services on Sunday, December 5 at 10:00 a.m. at the back closet in Anderson Hall to bless newly completed shawls. If you knit or crochet, please come and join us! We have plenty of yarn thanks to a grant from Thrivent. This wonderful ministry provides warm, comfy shawls to those in need.

New knitters and crocheters are welcome. Contact Karen Hansen or Muriel Brown for more information.

Mission Quilters

Join us Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Anderson Hall and assist us making quilts.





Library News

When it comes to holiday reading, we all have our favorites, "*'Twas the night before Christmas...*" and *A Christmas Carol*, among others. Many of the titles you would hope to find are waiting for you in our library. Yes, it's that time of year when the library is filled with holiday wonder. If you've been by in previous Decembers, you know what I'm talking about: books to help with holiday planning, cooking, family fun, favorite stories, carols, and Christmas classics.

But each year we add new titles and those are the ones I'll be telling you about today. They include *Watch for the Light* (242.33) a book of readings for every day of the holiday season, Advent through Christmas. Each reading is written by a different well-known spiritual writer, such as Bonhoeffer, Dillard, Luther, Lewis, L'Engle, Yancy, and many more. *'Twas the Night Before* is a holiday love story by Jerry B. Jenkins (F) in which a couple decides they are two "different" to marry. Devasted by the break-up, Tom flies to Germany to write a story on the Kris Kringle tradition. What he discovers there changes his life and restores his faith. Sound interesting? Thomas Kinkade can do more than paint a lovely warm scene filled with light. He has three Christmas novels set in the hamlet of Cape Light to share with you: *The Christmas Angel*, *A Christmas Visitor* and *A Christmas to Remember*. Looking for a book of up-to-date ideas for family devotions, including songs and activities? Be sure to take a look at *Celebrate Jesus! At Christmas* by Kimberly Ingalls Reese (263.91).

Here is a list of just a few of the newer books we have for children--we hope that you and your family will find something here, or in the huge selection of the other holiday titles, that will delight you in the days to come.

The Littlest Magi by Chris Auer; *Cricket at the Manger* by Edith Hope Fine; *Christmas Treasury* adapted and illustrated by Jan Brett; *The Story of the Three Wise Kings* by Tomie DePaola

Sharon Mantei
Library Committee



Our Savior Lutheran Preschool

Our Savior Lutheran Preschool loves to have visitors come to our classroom. If you have children 3, 4 or 5 years old and are looking for a school for this year or next, please give us a call. We will schedule a tour for you to see all that our students do in a day. Our staff has many years of experience working in early childhood education.

Connie Van Houten, Director
(425) 392-1201, Ext. 4



Computer Needed

OSL Preschool is in need of a computer that has the capacity to run Windows 7. The director's computer is 6 years old and is beginning to show its age. If anyone has a computer which you could donate, we would make good use of it. Thank you very much.

Connie VanHouten
Director
preschool1201@hotmail.com
(425) 392-1201, Ext. 4



Congregational Business

Social Concerns

Thanksgiving and Christmas News

Thanks to all, over 22 families were blessed with Thanksgiving Food Baskets. Special thanks to all those friends and families of all ages who helped in making this project a successful one with your caring work. Detailed numbers will be available in the next Focus.



Our next project is the Christmas Giving Tree. This year we will work on this project as we did last year. Sign up, take an ornament, buy your gift cards, and bring them back with the ornament and a purchase receipt with the activation code taped to the card to OSLC. This will help recipients avoid confusion at the stores when they do their shopping and the clerks or the machines are overwhelmed. More details to follow in the Sunday bulletins.

As always we want to THANK YOU for your continued support of our projects aimed at sharing hope and spreading God's gifts with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Have a blessed Thanksgiving and a Joyous Christmas Season. Praise the Lord and rejoice in Jesus' birth!

Margot Inman and Social Concerns Committee

Advent Greetings from the OSLC Altar Guild

You may have noticed the new communion ware we recently purchased – we were blessed by a member donation to match the funds for this, and we are especially thankful that we were able to bless the new ware during our 50th celebration. Altar Guild serves our congregation in many ways – preparing Our Lords table, baking bread, maintaining the Sacristy and supplies, hanging banners and paraments. We also prepare the Narthex and Sanctuary for all seasons of service. We welcome new members at all times. Please join us this December 4th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. as we prepare OSLC for the Advent Season. We will decorate together and enjoy Fellowship in Jesus' name. Please contact me by phone: 425 445 2803 or email: judirussell56@gmail.com, if you are interested in joining the Guild and or helping with the decorations.

*Blessings on you day,
Judi Russell*

Women's Retreat



Catatonic? or Cataclysmic? No, Catechism for Real Life!

You may have known this stuff once for 15 minutes when you were confirmed umpteen years ago, or you may never have been exposed to this material. Martin Luther's Small Catechism is a gold-mine of practical interpretations of the basics of the Christian faith, and you'll discover both little nuggets and sparkling streams of theological riches to get you through daily life at home, work, in congregational life and in the wider community. "Come away to a quiet place" to study, play confirmand again, and to share meals and fellowship with your sisters in faith. Pastor Heidi Fish will be our retreat leader throughout the weekend, so you can count on great conversation, solid information, and enough down-time to absorb and digest together. Don't miss out on this special time at Rainbow Lodge, February 4-6, 2011. Registration forms will be available in December. If you have questions, contact Kimberly Montague at mkmontague@hotmail.com or (425) 277-1093.



Fellowship Updates

I want to extend a personal and heartfelt Thank You to the many people who rose to the occasion and offered time and talents for the preparation, creation and celebration of OSLC's 50th Anniversary. The names are numerous, and I am sure I will miss some of them in an attempt to record you all, so please know that each one of you are valued for your love and efforts! I do want to recognize the committee members and the core team that went above and beyond:

Ray Harbolt (and Carol); Bill Bergsma; Paula Seeger; Barbara Extract; Connie Fletcher (awesome kitchen help); Shari Lundberg; Sherry Keifel; Janet Heck (honorary go to gal); Pastor Larry; LaRue Nelson (Charter member coordinator); Wendy Winslow; Sandy Nygaard; Marilyn Larson; Lisa Gillin

As I was deep into the planning and preparation for the anniversary celebration, one thought was foremost in my mind: volunteering is in many ways a two sided opportunity. On the part of the volunteer, it is a chance to offer special gifts and talents that one may not have offered before. On the part of the organizer, it is a chance to bring fellowship into an everyday context, putting people and activities into the context of growth and sharing in ways new and exciting for them. I was constantly pleased by the comments and conversation we all enjoyed during these times – some were stretching to do something they felt was beyond the normal kinds volunteering they had done before, and some were pleasantly surprised to find camaraderie with members they previously had known only casually. From the planning sessions with the committee members, to the Halloween party and on to the very full weekend of celebration – I was constantly struck by the love, respect and energy I encountered every time we gathered together. This is truly Our Savior's strength – loving our neighbors and gathering in His name and for His purpose.

Fellowship is also in need of volunteers to bring in snacks for our coffee hour. Shari Lundberg continues to impress me with the organization of congregation members who donate their time and baking talents! If you are interested in donating to coffee hour, please contact Shari, or just drop off your goodies in the kitchen with your name so I can thank you!

*Blessings to you all,
Judi Russell*

"For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes" (Revelation 7:17).

Workshop on Global Missions

Advent Lutheran Church
Mill Creek, WA

Saturday, December 4, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

You are invited to a Northwest WA Synod Global Mission Festival on Saturday, December 4th. Registration is at 8:30 a.m. Bishop Boerger will be there as will Jean Wahlstrom & Marvin Kanenen – returning missionaries from Tanzania. Dianne Johnson from Lord of Life Lutheran in Renton will speak about "Preparing for a mission trip." Worship, fellowship and networking will be highlighted. Lunch is provided. \$12 donation. Contact the church office or Ken Halvorson, Synod Global Mission Committee, (360) 678-1856 for more information.





Treasurer's Update

October 2010

We are 4 months (33%) through our fiscal year.

What has actually happened this year:

We have received YTD - (28.9% of operations budget)	\$ 134,600
We have spent YTD - (28.7% of operations budget)	<u>\$ 133,300</u>
Surplus - We have received more than spent	\$ + 1,300

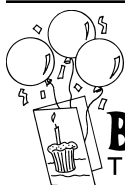
Compared to what we budgeted:

We are behind budgeted giving by	\$ 20,700
We are under budgeted spending by	\$ 21,800

Compared to last year's actual:

Our contributions were less than last year by	\$ 21,800
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*Respectfully,
Bruce Mathias, Treasurer*



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

12/1	Leslie Succo	12/16	Elsa Bachman
12/3	Ben Taylor		Jan Smith
	Paige Lucas		Paula Seeger
	Stan Patterson		Rollie Kiefel
12/4	Jennifer Gardner	12/17	Haley Ziegler
	Sarah (Wuest) Parlin	12/18	Laura Halter
	Shawn Clark		Marc Montague
12/5	Jessica Liepins	12/20	Brittney Peterson-
	Randi Strom		Spence
12/6	Christiana (Baseler)		Dustin Jonas
	Nelson	12/23	Bev Geary
	Lori Downey	12/24	Paul Crawford
12/7	Carol McMurray		Rita Hansen
12/10	Callan Moore		Toby Fletcher
	Frankie Tate	12/26	Gabriel Humphries
12/11	Kristina Steffen	12/28	Gary Kneepkens
	Lucy Acker		Hannah Bachmann
12/12	Stephanie Wright	12/30	Jack Gardner
12/13	Joyce Craig		Sue Friddell
12/14	Doug Patur	12/31	Kate Halter
	Olivia Liebrock		
12/15	David North		



12/2	John & Jean Pass
12/3	David & Katrina Walker
12/12	Steve & Vicki LeFever
12/14	Randy & Linda Baseler
12/19	Bert & Nancy Bailey
12/27	David & Sigrid Flatness
	Olaf & Marilyn Grette

50th Anniversary Good Wishes From Former OSLC Staff & Members

Thanks to the members and friends of OSLC for the countless ways you helped make our November 5-7, 2010 50th Anniversary Weekend a grateful celebration of fifty years of God's faithfulness. The weekend was a wonderful time of worship, fellowship, music, and great food. Beginning with Friday night's Responsive Prayer with our guest preacher, organizing pastor, Rev. Ernest Collard and the dessert potluck, followed by Holden Evening Prayer on Saturday night with former pastor, Rev. Dick Wendt, a great buffet supper ending with All Saints Sunday worship and guest preacher, Rev. Jan Nesse, Assistant to the Bishop and Scott Hafso's beautiful 50th anniversary hymn, "Wherever God Leads," the weekend was a joyous celebration of God's countless blessings and the gift of Christian community.

A special highlight was the presentation of a plaque of appreciation to parish organist Vern Lindquist in celebration of five decades of faithful service: Vern played for OSLC's first worship service at the Issaquah Theatre on Sunday, Nov. 6, 1960 and fifty years later (to the day) Vern played for Holden Evening Prayer on Saturday night, Nov. 6, 2010.

A number of former OSLC staff and members sent greetings to commemorate our celebration. Excerpts from their good wishes follow.

Congratulations on the observance of 50 years of preaching and teaching the gospel, and of serving your community in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord. Fifty years is a long time when looking ahead, but like only yesterday when it is past. It was a true joy and blessing to be able to work with Pastor Ernie Collard and his wife Ruth during the start up of the mission church in Issaquah. It was the time of molding many different lives into a new community of worshipping and serving believers. Those first worship services in the old theater – and the young teen-ager (Vern Lindquist) who played the piano – will always be fond memories...May God continue to guide and bless each of you, to be faithful to His Word and to reach out in witness and service to all in your community. Marylinn (McBride) Heikkila, Former Parish Worker with the Board of American Missions, ALC and ELCA.

It was a privilege to serve as Office Manager at OSLC for almost 13 years. Our church is blessed by compassionate and gifted servant leaders....both present and past....and we look forward to the exciting ministry God has in store for us in the future. Sherry Kiefel, Associate in Ministry, retired.

When I remember the years spent with you in Issaquah, I am hard-pressed to recollect anything except wonderful memories. I remember serving with PW (Pastor Wendt) and how fantastic it was to be teamed with him in ministry. There are memories of youth outings, a trip to the Redwoods, rafting in Wyoming, climbing Mt. Adams, and making the "Days Like These" video with Judi Kleweno and Keith Purves. There was David Herivel and "The Joyful Noise," and all the blessed teens. There were council meetings, confirmation classes, baptisms, weddings and funerals and there were worship services.

Now all of these memories have become part of the foundation, the bedrock of Our Savior Lutheran Church, and upon these memories and countless others will the future of the church be built. I wish I could be there to celebrate with you, hear your dreams for the future, and see your smiling faces. May God continue to bless you with imagination, enthusiasm and energy. I will hold you in my heart. Pastor David Hustoft

*I regret that I won't be able to attend the festivities this weekend for Our Savior's Anniversary celebration. What stands out for me as I recall the time I was privileged to share at Our Savior's is the joy of God's gifted people coming together in His service; particularly the amazing Stephen Ministers and how easily adults volunteered to participate in the middle school and senior high retreats. May that spirit of joy continue. Blessings, **Pastor Karen Hanson***

Grace to you, and peace, as the Apostle Paul used to say. Congratulations on your anniversary! It's a notable accomplishment to have persevered in anything for fifty years. To still be together over so long a time means that you have that grace among you, and are, and must be, that grace to each other. I was part of your community for a mere tenth of that span, but the experience played a large part in my life:

My daughter took her first steps in the parsonage, so well built by charter members of the congregation; OSLC gave me my favorite office - it was the best in the church, I thought, and I've enjoyed none so nice since; Your music program was the largest I've administered, with the most volunteers I've ever worked with; The congregation was full of talent, and gave me opportunities to try all kinds of things with groups large and small, young and old, with voices and instruments - dance, even, and bluegrass!

*It was, in short, the pinnacle of my church music career, and I am grateful for it. Besides all that, I made friends who remain dear to me to this day. Enjoy your history, then - celebrate what you have accomplished over the years, and treasure those around you now, for together you will do yet more as you continue to become Christ to this community. May the peace of Christ rule and guide you as you grow to serve. God is truly good. Great blessings to you all. **John E. Stromgren, Music Director, 1990-1995.***

*God is truly good. Great blessings to you all. **Jan Purves***

Happy 50th. Wow! Anniversary or birthday? I like to think some of each, celebrating the past to grow more deeply in Jesus Christ in your serving, now and in the future. Living God's love in Jesus Christ, Our Savior people gave us Christian nurture "from-the-ground up." The worship, prayer groups, Bible studies, conversations, retreats, pastoral mentoring, and more...all contributed the groundwork planted in Jesus Christ through you. We certainly are blessed, carrying this legacy of grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ among people of North Dakota and now to those in Horseshoe Bend, Idaho, where I serve as Pastor at Grace Lutheran Church.

*Roger and I are sorry not to be able to be with you. We treasure you. We celebrate you. We pray for you. We love you. We expect the Lord to bless you with new life and joy in "living God's love," as you together step through each and every day. Happy birthday/anniversary! With smiles of great joy and gratitude. **Marilyn and Roger de Veer** (Marilyn served as OSL Preschool Director and teacher from 1983-1998 and as Diaconal Minister from 1989-1998. She graduated from Luther Seminary and was ordained in 2002 at Our Savior Lutheran Church.)*

Dear Friends at OSLC, 50Years! Wow! Congratulations. Isn't God good! You certainly were a blessing to us for the 20+ years we were in Issaquah. You became our family in Washington; you still are. You helped us to grow spiritually and expand and extend ourselves in ways that we never could have imagined. You were with us in good times and in hard times; we shared laughter and tears. But that's what family is for. Little did we know that

many of our experiences with you were training for what is, and what is yet to come. Thank you for the many close friendships formed. Blessings to you all! **Paulette and Jack Claver**

Congratulations on OSLC 50th! God truly has blessed the congregation over the years. My brief time there as interim was a valuable experience as it was my first for the Northwest Synod. Many of the members were a great help during the process. God's peace. **Pastor Bob Roiko, Interim Pastor, 1992**

I so wish I could be there to celebrate the 50 years of ministry, but it's not to be. Of course, I will be with you all in spirit. I'm the first to admit that I'm not good at keeping in touch but that doesn't mean I don't remember often the care I received by being at OSLC. I had a few life-changing events occur during my time there and I was so fortunate to be lifted up by so many wonderful people - they all gathered around me and I didn't even have to ask, they just seemed to know what to say and what to do. I am forever grateful to God for surrounding me with so many earthly angels. I am always looking for ways to pay it forward, but I've finally accepted that there is no way I can ever really repay my debt to OSLC - there are no words that can even begin to express my thanks to everyone. Please let folks know that I send them my prayers, blessings and my gratitude. Hopefully, they will all know who they are. **Cheryl Turner, Parish Secretary**

Congratulations on your 50th anniversary! Just think of the great number of people who have been a part of the mission and ministry of OSLC over these many years. Not only those who served as staff, but also the many people who have worked side by side to make known the love of Christ in Issaquah and in the world, each one faithfully sharing their unique God-given gifts...

Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you. I was certainly blessed by you as I served as your Associate in Ministry from May 1998 through October 2006. I carry with me many memories of the ministry we accomplished together by the help of God, and especially, I remember with great fondness your warmth and care and your support and friendship extended to both David and me.

God is providing everything you need to be fruitful for the sake of Christ in the world. It's all there. The power and gifts of God are among all of you and in all of you. You are a gifted and grace-filled people and I am confident because of God's continuing faithfulness and your love for him, there will be at least another 50 years of mission and ministry by Our Savior Lutheran Church. Celebrate with "jumping-up-and-down-joy!" Yours in Christ, **Renee A. McNeal, Associate in Ministry**

Congratulations!

Worship Schedule

Sun., December 5—2nd Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10
 Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13
 Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Sun., December 12—3rd Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10
 Second Reading: James 5:7-10
 Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Sun., December 19—4th Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16
 Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7
 Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Sun., December 26—1st Sunday of Christmas

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9
 Second Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18
 Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

**Sunday morning worship
 services with Holy
 Communion begin at
 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.**

**Sunday School for all ages
 (preschool through adult)
 begins at 9:45 a.m.**

**No Sunday School on
 December 26 and
 January 2, 2011**

Christmas Eve Worship Assistants





	Christmas Eve 7:00 p.m. Service of the Word, Carols & Candlelight	Christmas Eve 9:00 p.m. Service of the Word, Carols & Candlelight	Christmas Eve 11:00 p.m. Service of the Word, Carols & Candlelight w/Holy Communion
Ushers	Jim & Leslie Kramer	Gary & Marilyn Kneepkens	Bill & Jenna Suttmeier
Lectors	Judi Russell	Kimberly Montague	Karen Hansen
Communion Assistants	N/R	N/R	Karen Hansen Shari Lundberg
Sound Engineers	Vince Smith		David Hersey

There is still room for any volunteers wishing to serve at the Christmas Eve Services. If you are interested, please contact Janet Heck in the Church Office (425) 392-4169 or on office@oslcissaquah.org.



December 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> OSLC facility use printed in non- italics. <i>Community facility use printed in italics.</i> </div>		1 9:30 AM Mission Quilters (Anderson Hall) 12:30 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Youth Handbells (Narthex) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Confirmation Group Meeting (Youth Room) 7:00 PM New Member	2 7:45 AM TOPS (Rooms 14, 17) 10:00 AM Al-Anon (Rm 7) 7:00 PM Memorial Bells (Sanctuary)	3	4 10:00 AM—2:00 PM Altar Guild Advent / Christmas Decorating 10:00 AM-1:00 PM Fall Outside Clean-up
5 <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> 8:30AM Worship 9:45 Shawl Knitting Ministry (AH) 9:45 AM Sunday School / Adult Education 11:00 AM Worship 7:00 PM Mid-Life Spirituality (Narthex)	6 10:00 AM OA (Room 7) 1:00 PM Lutheran Counseling Network (LCN Office) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 676 (Anderson Hall) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 676 Parent's Meeting (Room 7) 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	7 7:00 PM AA (Anderson Hall, Room 7) 6:00 PM Global Missions Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Youth Ministry Committee Meeting (Library)	8 12:30 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Youth Handbells (Narthex) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Confirmation Group Meeting (Youth Room)	9 7:45 AM TOPS (Rooms 14, 17) 10:00 AM Bible Study (Library) 10:00 AM Al-Anon (Rm 7) 6:30 - 8:30 PM OSL Preschool Christmas Party (Anderson Hall) 7:00 PM Memorial Bells (Sanctuary)	10	11
12 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> 8:30AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School / Adult Education 11:00 AM Worship / Bible Presentation	13 9:30 AM Avant Designer's Guild (Anderson Hall) 10:00 AM OA (Room 7) 1:00 PM Lutheran Counseling Network (LCN Office) 1:00 PM Parkinson's Support Group (Library) 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 676 (Anderson Hall, Rm 7) 7:00 PM Girl Scouts	14 5:30 PM Issaquah Meal Program @ Fire Station 6:00 PM Executive Committee (Library) 7:00 PM Council Meeting (Library) 7:00 PM AA (Anderson Hall, Room 7)	15  12:00 PM Jan Newsletter Deadline 12:30 PM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Youth Handbells (Narthex) 7:00 PM Chancel Choir (Sanctuary) 7:00 PM Youth Christmas Party (Anderson Hall)	16 7:45 AM TOPS (Rooms 14, 17) 10:00 AM Bible Study (Library) 10:00 AM Al-Anon (Room 7) 7:00 PM Memorial Bells (Sanctuary)	17 11:00 AM Hope Circle @ the home of Mary Fricke	18
19 <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> 5:45 AM-8:00AM Hammond House Breakfast 8:30AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School / Adult Education 11:00 AM Worship / Sunday School Christmas Program 7:00 PM Mid-Life Spirituality (Narthex)	21 10:00 AM OA (Room 7) 1:00 PM Lutheran Counseling Network (LCN Office) 7:30 pm Faith Circle @ the home of Shannon Dickens-Little	21 7:00 PM AA (Anderson Hall, Room 7)	22	23 7:45 AM TOPS (Rooms 14, 17) 10:00 AM Al-Anon (Rm 7)	24  Chris OSLC O 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship 9:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship w/ Holy Communion	25  MERRY CHRISTMAS
26 <i>First Sunday After Christmas</i> 9:30 AM Worship	27 OSLC Office Closed 10:00 AM OA (Room 7)	28 7:00 PM AA (Anderson Hall, Room 7)	29	30 7:45 AM TOPS (Rooms 14, 17) 10:00 AM Al-Anon (Rm 7)	31 New Year's Holiday OSLC Office Closed 5:30 PM Judi Russell/Ralph Case Wedding (Sanctuary)	

We remember in prayer...



We remember in prayer OSLC members: Joe Acker; Maury Clark and family; Chris Cummings; Connie Downey; Gene Elfstrom; Edward Fish; Christine Fry; Carla Geraci; Rita Hansen; Carol Harbolt; Jeff Hendrickson; Lois Jacobson; Marian James; Josee Jordan; Leotagail Kramer; Jeannie Lindquist; Vern Lindquist; Jerry Nack; Helen Nychay; Colleen Petersen; Pastor Eldon 'Pick' Pickering; Catina Piliaris; Donald Rentschler; Jason Stanford; Mary Swanson; Dianne Tanner; Pam Travis; Linda Wallace; Gwynn Wilkinson

We ask for peace and comfort for those mourning the death of loved ones:

Bryon Clevenger (Ron Sordahl); **Daryl Ratjhen** (Dianne Tanner); **Bob Grisham** (uncle of Vern Van Houten); **Catherine Hurlbert** (mother of Linda Wallace); **Myrel Lemon** (Pastor Thomas); **Kurt Heidergott** (Leotagail Kramer); **Cheryl Sherburne** (Connie Van Houten); **Pastor Palmer Gedde** (Ray and Carol Harbolt); **Kevin Smith** (John and Rita Hansen); **Esther Magallon** (Cheryl Neeb); **Rose Wuest** (grandmother of Sarah Parlin and Mary Wuest).

We pray for expectant mothers: **Nicole Marsh** (Cheryl Neeb); **Michelle McIntyre** (Cheryl Neeb); **Nichol Ramires** (Breanna Wood); **Heather Matthews** (granddaughter of Jon and Rita Hansen); **Katie Citrom** (Shelley Howe); **Heidi Acker** (granddaughter-in-law of Joe and Lucy Acker); **Karina Zasqueta** (Howe Family); **Jessica Browning** (niece/cousin of Montague family); **Rachael Korsak** (Cheryl Hauser); **Katy Ulland**; **Laura Suttmeier** (daughter-in-law of Bill and Joanne Suttmeier); **Colleen Darnell** (daughter of Bruce and Norma Byrkett)

We pray for the safety of OSLC members and friends serving in the military here and abroad.

We pray for and give thanks for the ministry of Our Savior Lutheran Preschool.

We pray for our missionaries and global missions: **Henrik & Patty Christopherson**; **Rwanda Partners**; Sister Congregations: **St. Catherine's Lutheran Church** in St. Petersburg, Russia and **Mekelle Lutheran Church** in Mekelle, Ethiopia; for the congregations in Chicalyo, Peru: **Pepe** at Las Brisas, **Merci** in San Antonio and **Harold** at Las Lomas. **MaaSae Girls Lutheran Secondary School** in Monduli, Tanzania..

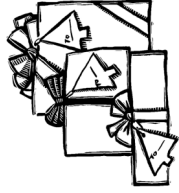
We offer thanksgiving to God: That **Gloria Olson** has successfully completed cancer treatments. For the engagement of **Paul Heck** and **Lauren Lorbeski** son of Mike and Janet Heck. For the births of: **Norah Rogness** daughter of Joel and Louise (Ann and Larry Thomas); **Rowan Nicholas Parlin** son of Mark and Sarah and grandson of Jane Wuest; **Blake Marie Ferguson** daughter of Brenn and Bill (Ann and Larry Thomas); and **Azariah Joseph Fletcher** son of Kyle and Tara and nephew/cousin of the Fletcher Francois family.

Prayer is putting our faith into action, and prayer is pleasing to God. Link up with our prayer chain if you have a need or if you want to share a thanksgiving or praise. Call Jill Naegle, (425) 392-0116.





Worship Assistants December 2010



Service	Date	Time	Ushers	Lectors	Communion Assistants	Sound Engineer
2 nd Sunday of Advent	Dec. 5	8:30	Don Robertson & Richard Lock	Janette Singley-Wray	Janette Singley-Wray Mary Fricke Alice Lewis	Vince Smith
		11:00	Jeff, & Justin Hendrickson		Steve, Pam & Callan Moore	
3 rd Sunday of Advent	Dec. 12	8:30	Craig & Sam Gillin	Connie Fletcher	Connie Fletcher Judi Russell	Dave Wagner
		11:00	Bruce Mathias & Bill Suttmeier	Kimberly Montague	Kimberly, Marc & Ashley Montague	Dave Wagner
4 th Sunday of Advent	Dec. 19	8:30	Lena Schaper & Marilyn Larson	Judi Russell	Judi Russell Mary Fricke	Dave Park
		11:00	Larry & Christine Fry	Maury Clark	Karen Hansen Alice Lewis Muriel Brown Rita Hansen	Vince Smith
1 st Sunday of Christmas	Dec. 26	9:30	Doug & Lindy Downey	Sue Friddell	Sue Friddell Mary Fricke Shari Lundberg Rita Hansen	David Hersey

When you arrive, please sign-in on the worship sign-in sheet located in the sacristy.



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(see extensions below)

(425) 392-2946 fax

Website: www.oslcissaquah.org

All information for the *Focus* is due by noon on the 15th of each month, unless noted otherwise. Please email items to Becky Mogensen (see below).

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