

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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DECEMBER

Vol. 29 No. 11

2014

GROWING
TO SERVE

*Living God's love in Jesus Christ through word and sacraments, worship and prayer, learning and fellowship
we grow disciples for service and outreach.*

Our Savior Lutheran Church

745 Front St. South
Issaquah, WA 98027
(425) 392-4169
(425) 392-2946 – fax

Email:

office@oslcissaquah.org

Webpage:

www.oslcissaquah.org

Facebook:

facebook.com/oslcissaquah

Twitter:

twitter.com/oslcissaquah

Sunday Worship

Services:

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Summer Worship Time:

(May 24 – September 6, 2015)

9:30 a.m.

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The Church Keeps Advent

By Interim Pastor Richard 'Dick' Christensen

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

The winter of the world is well on its way.

The cold spell we experienced led some of us to believe that God thought this was Nebraska! We survived, but not without a grudging acceptance of the change of nature's seasons. Others have suffered more.

Stores where I shop have aisles dedicated to winter stuff that purports to be about an upcoming holiday. Tacky electric stuff which will dot lawns and inhabit the homes of people who have some confidence that with enough electricity the hardships of winter can be kept at bay.

I heard a carol pretending to set the mood. Not an altogether horrible idea if the mood of the world's winter had anything to do with the child born among us – the Child born for us. I think the carol was intended to be a marketing tool.

As an antidote to the winter's world the Church keeps Advent. A four week time of getting ready for one of the great events in the history of each and of all. We will wait until it is time to sing "O come, All You Faithful" and gather at the Altar as shepherds and wise people once gathered at a nearly un-noticed stable.

Will the wait be worth the effort? Of course.

We will wait with God's Word. God's Word will encourage us to open our eyes to see the wonder of it all, and turn our tears to the miracles.

We will wait with God's Sacrament. Gathered at the Altar to feed on Christ. To experience God's own self come into our own selves.

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We will wait with each other. Sharing joys when we can. Sharing sorrows when we must. Keeping loneliness an arm's length away. Remembering other times and places when those we knew and loved gathered with us the way we would still like them to, but knowing that they now experience the fullness of God which is our hope and goal.

It is always a temptation to get swept up on the world's winter. But, that is a temptation. Avoid it.

Wait. With the Word. With the Sacraments. With blessed memories partnered with great anticipation.

God's peace while you wait in this Advent time.



Advent Worship @ OSLC

November 30—December 21, 2014

During the season of Advent for the past three years at OSLC, we have taken time to engage in unique themes focused on preparing us for the coming of Christ. Each time, we have identified a theme and selected a specific biblical readings that aim to unify our experiences of worship and our journey together through the season as a community. Devotional resources for both adults and families with children have been offered to extend our Sunday morning worship experiences with ongoing engagement throughout the week. Worship during Advent has been a very rich and meaningful time at OSLC and you are invited to savor its goodness in the coming weeks. This year, our thematic focus will be on the person of Jesus and what it is that he came to accomplish in our lives. The preaching, music, biblical readings, poetry and rituals that you will experience in worship will all seek to help you reflect on Jesus' work in this world and to challenge you to participate in these works. From the worship folder cover to the devotional poem on the back page, there are opportunities for those gathered at OSLC to experience the coming of Christ this Advent season.

Wednesday, December 24 / Christmas Eve Worship Services: 7:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

There will be three Christmas Eve services on Wednesday 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 Thursday, December 25.

Sunday, December 28, 2014 One Worship Service @ 9:30 a.m.

On the holiday weekend of Sunday, December 28, 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 4, 2015.



Saint Nicholas Day Family Event

Sunday, December 7, 2014

On Sunday, December 7th you are invited to attend a special Saint Nicholas Day family event after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Saint Nicholas Day is a traditional time in many cultures to get ready for the coming of the Christ child and to remember the actual 4th Century saint named Nicholas whose life of generosity and kindness inspires our traditions of gift giving at Christmas. There will be special foods at the event and a featured art project for all of the kids. You will also learn about family traditions for Advent and Christmas that you can try at home.



Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 21st @ 11:00 a.m.

On Sunday, December 21st, the children and youth of OSLC will take a place in a special worship service that tells the story of Christmas. There are parts to play for everyone. In the weeks of Sunday School leading up to this date, children and youth will be working on their roles. On the 21st during the education hour, we do one last dress rehearsal before the event takes place at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. To have your child take part, simply bring them to Sunday School during the month of December.



Wreath and Poinsettia Plant Pick-up

December 5th

If you ordered wreaths and/or poinsettias from the ELCA Youth Gathering Trip Fundraiser, you can pick them up in Anderson Hall beginning on Friday, December 5th.



OSLC Youth Christmas Party and White Elephant Gift Exchange

December 17, 7:00-8:30 P.M.

Youth in grades 6-12 are invited to the youth Christmas party and white elephant gift exchange on Wednesday, December 17th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Anderson Hall. Bring a wrapped gift (\$10 spending limit) and some snack food to share with others. Friends are welcome!



2015 ELCA National Youth Gathering

Every three years, 40,000 Lutheran youth and adults gather together for a huge event filled with music and speakers that inspire, daily service learning, games and activities and meaningful Bible studies. The dates are set for next summer in Detroit for July 15-19, 2015. The theme for the gathering is *Rise Up Together*.

On Sunday, December 14th at 10:00 a.m. Pr. Fletcher4 will lead a meeting for those interested in attending the Youth Gathering. At that time the deposit for \$150 for the trip will be collected. For more information about the Youth Gathering contact Pr. Fletcher at

425-392-4169, ext 105 or by email at rdfletcher@oslcissaquah.org.





President's Update: Transitional Change

By: Judi Case, Council President

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:18-19

These are hard words to hear unless you have faith. Faith that when we are faced with uncertainty, and reach for the familiar and find it missing, we will still be okay. Faith in our Lord that he will guide us in uncertain times and show us new beginnings. We are beginning a time of transition, a time of change for sure. What will our future look like? How will we know what our congregation will need or want?

Interim Pastor Dick Christensen will lead us through these times, and guide the transition team as they seek understanding, gather input on our future needs, and complete the Ministry Site Profile (MSP). We are in the final stage of confirming our transition team, and once we have the team complete, I will be announcing them to our congregation. They will begin the tasks of completing the MSP under the guidance of Pastor Christensen. This team will report to the Council on a regular basis, and will need the support of all of us. Their work is not light, and they will bear the burden of gathering information, opinions and insights as they complete the MSP. This process will be lengthy. Their work needs prayer, and each of the members of this team will need prayer partners to lift them up as they gather the required information in the MSP. This living document contains multiple sections that are designed to help us define who we are, and what we see as our future direction. We will record member demographics such as age distribution, describe characteristics of our congregation such as socio-economics, recent trends, strategic goals and partnerships with our community and the ELCA. We will revisit our vision and mission statements, look at our inherent giftedness, and define what we seek in terms of new leadership and ministry. This process is intended to make us dig deep, and really think about our future needs.

The MSP will in essence become the roadmap, our 'way in the wilderness.' The results of the MSP will be sent to the Synod Office, and Bishop Unti will use this information as he selects candidates for our new lead pastor. Our Call Committee will also receive a copy of this report, to help them in their prayerful considerations of candidates. As we face change, there are many strongholds here for us to take comfort in – Associate Pastor Fletcher is fully engaged in our daily Christian life at OSLC, teaching the youth and teaching confirmation, visiting the sick, and counseling those in need. Interim Pastor Christensen has already begun Bible studies, ministers to those in need, and brings a wealth of experience in transition planning. Our staff works diligently to plan worship, take care of the needs of the building, scheduling lectors and communion assistants, and in general making themselves available to the needs of all of us as we come and go in ministry and mission. We are truly blessed to have these loving people to help us all as we turn towards 'a new thing'.

During this time, we all need to lift each of our brothers and sisters up – to be understanding of needs, slow to judge, and remember that behind anger often lies grief. Let each of us when called upon be a good ear, a comforting shoulder. Some routines have and will continue to change – let us be willing to offer help, to fill voids and bring resolutions, step in and volunteer, and in general engage with all the needs of our Christian community here at OSLC.

In the next few months, many will be asked to share ideas, information and hope for a new future at OSLC. I encourage you all to respond with your hearts, and focus on our future together as disciples in Christ. I also ask that you continue to reach out to me with concerns, ideas and other issues that you feel need to be expressed. Our Council remains available to hear your needs as well.

I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world. John 16:33



Christian Education & Small Group Ministries

Please note Sunday School will meet on December 7, 14 and 21, 2014 at 9:45 a.m. Sunday School will be in recess on December 28, 2014.

Sunday School

9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

Infants, Toddlers & Their Families
(Class will not meet in December)

Again this year at OSLC, we have a Sunday School class for infants, toddlers, and their families. The class takes place the fourth Sunday of each month in the OSLC nursery. Parents, grandparents, or caregivers should attend the class with their little ones. Each month, this class will include songs, story, and play time and opportunities for the adults to get to know one another. Join us on January 25, 2015.

Sunday School

9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

Preschool—Grade 5

For students in Preschool through Grade 5, our Sunday School programs are tied to the Sunday morning readings that we hear each week in worship. For more information on our Sunday school curriculum, visit www.activatefaith.org or contact Pastor Fletcher (rdfletcher@oslcissaquah.org).



Grades 6-12 Java Talk

For students in grades six through twelve, we offer an on campus program geared towards conversation and relationship building. Each Sunday, students meet in the upstairs youth room for Java Talk, a program geared towards conversation and relationship building.

Sunday Morning Adult Class

Exploring the Gospels and the book of Mark

Interim Pastor Christensen leads the Sunday morning adult class that meets at 9:45 a.m. in the library. The study focus is on the Gospels and the book of Mark. (Class will not meet on Sunday, November 30th, Thanksgiving weekend.)

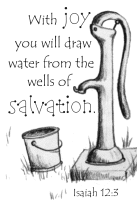
New Life Spirituality Group

December 7 & 21

The New Life Spirituality Group will meet on Sunday, December 7th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the home of Mark Mummy and Bev Geary. They are discussing the book, *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand. Participants should read chapters 28-33 for the December 7th meeting. The NLSG will gather on December 21st for a potluck dinner and white elephant exchange. For more information contact Sue Friddell at fridsd@aol.com

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Interim Pastor Dick Christensen leads a Thursday morning Bible study. The study focus is on upcoming gospel readings that are used on Sunday mornings in worship. Class begins at 10:00 a.m. in the library.



A Deeper Well

In Recess for December

A Deeper Well will be in 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 to talk about faith and life and experience some refreshment for both body and soul. We meet at Sunset Ale House on Front Street. Join us for our next gathering on January 27th. If you have questions, contact Pastor Ryan at (425) 392-4169, ext. 105 or rdfletcher@oslcissaquah.org.

Hope Circle

Friday, December 19
11:00 a.m.

Hope Circle will meet Friday, December 19, 2014 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.



Grow Together in Faith

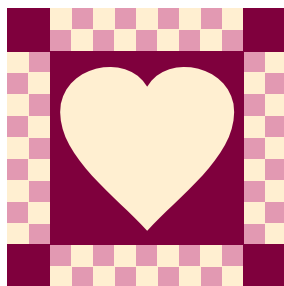
New Women's Bible Study Forming

Ladies, are you wanting to meet with other OSLC women to grow in your faith? We have five women who would like to start a new Circle. This group of women would like to meet in the evening. Circles meet once a month in one of the member's homes. The group studies the Bible study from the ELCA women's magazine *Gather*. It is a great way to meet more women of faith and to bond together to form a loving and supportive small community with Our Savior Lutheran Church.

If you are interested, please contact Sandy Aldworth at 425-837-1233 or by email at mtnlady@comcast.net.

Mission Quilters

Join us Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in Anderson Hall and assist us making quilts. The Mission Quilters make simple patchwork quilts that are donated to people in need. Contact the church office for more information. *Mission quilters will not meet on December 24 and 31, 2014.*



Faith Circle

Monday, December 15
1:30 p.m.

On December 15, 2014, Faith Circle will meet at the home of Marian James. Faith Circle meets on the third Monday of each month, from September to May, at 1:30 p.m., in different member's homes. (We break for the summer months – June through August.) We use the Bible study found in the Lutheran's magazine, *Gather*. If you need more information or would like to join Faith Circle, please contact Rita Hansen at (425) 392-2108 or ritahansen@brigadoon.net.

OSLC's Book Club

January 12th @ 7:30 p.m.
Issaquah's Barnes & Noble



The next gathering for the Book Club will be on Monday, January 12, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Issaquah Barnes and Noble Bookstore. The book club will discuss the book *Pastrix: The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner & Saint* by Nadia Bolz-Weber. Bolz-Weber is the founding pastor of House for All Sinners and Saints, an ELCA mission church in Denver, Colorado.

They will also be picking the books they will read in 2015. Bring the names and descriptions of books you think the book club might enjoy reading. For more information about the book club, contact Marilyn Larson at marilyn.larson@gmail.com.

Congregational Committees and Information



God's Work...Our Hands; locally and world-wide
OSLC's Global Missions Committee

OSLC Mission Quilts and Comfort Kits

On October 31st, 89 quilts made by OSLC Mission Quilters along with care kits that were completed this summer during OSLC's Day Camp, were delivered to the distribution center. This year our quilts have been distributed in the Philippines, Peru, Armenia, Burkina Faso, Armenia, and Tanzania. Quilts have also been made for the local Compass Housing Alliance and for our own high school grads.

World Hunger

Watch for future information about OSLC's participation in coordinated efforts between Lutheran World Relief and the ELCA focusing on ending World Hunger.

Ebola

The ELCA is actively involved in helping to contain the Ebola outbreak by using funds that have been contributed to Lutheran Disaster Response, the Lutheran Church in Liberia and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone to train health care workers, to provide Ebola prevention education and to deliver food to those isolated by the outbreak.

Malaria Campaign Updates

What impact has the ELCA Malaria Campaign had? Check out these three videos on YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLNDmVwhz-M34LjJ69ByRllqmQcyGc3Ykn>

Social Concerns Corner

Thanksgiving Reverse Offering:

Thanks to your generosity, 36 individuals in 15 households were provided with the makings of Thanksgiving dinner, plus essential cleaning, paper and personal care supplies.

Christmas Appeal:



Please let Janet Heck, our Parish Administrator, know if you or someone in our faith community needs a little help this Christmas or could use a day brightener. Our congregation will be gathering gift cards or small gifts for individuals or families within our faith community. Gift cards should be returned to OSLC by Sunday, December 14th.

This year OSLC is also teaming with the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank and their Holiday Gift Barn. Let's help fill Pickering Barn with items that will help someone in our faith community or wider Issaquah community during this holiday season. If you know of families who would like some help providing Christmas gifts for their children, please encourage them to register on line by **NOVEMBER 30** with the Food Bank. Families who register will be given a date and time to shop for their children. Shopping times vary on December 10th and 11th. Look for the Christmas tree in the narthex that will be hung with ornaments listing the items to purchase. Please consider purchasing some items. All donations for the Holiday Gift Barn must be brought to OSLC by Sunday, December 7th. Visit the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank online at www.issaquahfoodbank.org for more information or to register for the Holiday Gift Barn.



Treasurer's Update

October 2014

We have completed four months of the 2014/15 fiscal year.

What has actually happened this year:

We have received YTD - (92% of budget) \$154,045

We have spent YTD - (95% of budget) \$158,396

Deficit. (\$ 4,351)



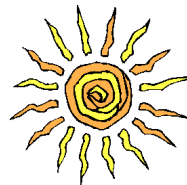
We are under budgeted giving by. \$ 13,592

We are under budgeted spending by. \$ 8,544

Compared to last year's actual giving, our contributions are \$18,759 above last year.

Respectfully, Randy Halter, Treasurer

Seasons of the Heart: Seasons of Prayer



Save the Date:

Join Us for the OSLC Women's Retreat

Rainbow Lodge, March 6-8, 2015

The theme for this year's Women's Retreat is *Seasons of the Heart; Seasons of Prayer*. Pastor Karen Hanson will lead us in exploring the seasons and cycles of life with a diversity of prayer styles. All women are encouraged to attend! Pastor Karen is a former Associate Pastor at OSLC, and is now a Spiritual Director and Board Certified Chaplain. She has a love of hospice ministry and serving as an Intentional Interim Pastor.

Registration forms are now available on the table in the Narthex. If you are interested in a scholarship, or have any questions about the retreat, please contact Joan Friel at frielj4@comcast.net or 425-235-5727.

P.S. Scholarships will be available for the Women's Retreat as funds allow. The congregation is encouraged to contribute to the scholarship fund. Contributions are tax-deductible, so you could help someone attend in 2015 plus gain the tax benefit for 2014! . If you are interested in contributing to the scholarship fund, please make your check out to OSLC Women's Ministries with "Women's Retreat" on the subject line. Thank you.

Thank You From Pr. Larry and Ann Thomas



The other night as Ann and I sat on the couch reading Farewell, Godspeed and Retirement cards, we read a card from my sister, Gloria, thanking us for inviting her to Issaquah for the weekend. Gloria wrote: "The dinner and program were - what else can I say? Perfect." That pretty much sums up our thoughts as well. Sunday, November 9, 2014 was a once in a lifetime experience.

Our gratitude to God and to you for your gracious and generous gifts of love is boundless. Your gifts of words, music, pictures, food, hugs, tears, laughter, gifts, cards, and travel money added up to a glorious day and night, the memories of which we will cherish always.

Sharing life together in Christ with you for the past twenty-two years has been a grace and gift to us. We wish you God's strength and peace as you seek God's guidance and direction for the next chapter of OSLC mission and ministry. In the mean time, we hold you in our hearts and will keep you in our prayers.

Walking out the door on Monday morning on his way back to Los Angeles, our brother-in-law Kent, who spoke for the family on Sunday night, said, "That was the best retirement event I've ever attended." We agree! Thanks, OSLC members, friends, and staff for your love, support, care, and generosity.

Yours in Christ,
Pr. Larry and Ann Thomas

Thanks be to God for our planning staff who helped us say a fond farewell and Godspeed to Pastor Larry and Ann Thomas! I want to thank Janet Heck, Pastor Ryan, Scot Hafso, Marilyn and Dave Carlson and Shari Lundberg for their grace and love as they planned a wonderful event and helped us all say good bye in great fashion. God bless you all.

I also wish to express my gratitude and thankfulness for our outgoing Council members who will conclude their terms on Council on December 31, 2014:

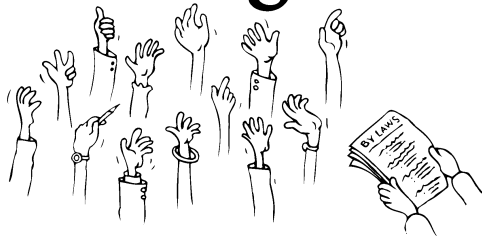
- Lisa Gillin, Administration/Personnel
- Mark Cron, Building and Grounds
- Randy Halter, Treasurer

May you all enjoy a year of Jubilee!

Judi Case, Council President

Thank you, God!
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# Congregational Meeting



## Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 16, 2014

At the November 16, 2014 Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting, the following persons were elected to terms on council, as voting members to the 2015 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly and to the 2015 nominating committee:

### *Council Officers*

- President — Judi Case (2nd council term expires 12/16)
- Vice President — Justin Ulland (2nd council term expires 12/16)
- Secretary — Sue Friddell (1st council term expires 12/16)
- Treasurer — Jeff Ziegler (2nd council term expires 12/15)
- Administration/Personnel — Kristina Steffen (1st council term expires 12/16)
- Stewardship — Wendy Winslow (1st council term expires 12/16)
- Outreach — Kirstin McLeod (1st council term expires 12/16)
- Building and Grounds — Jerry Thomas (1st council term expires 12/16)
- Youth — Glenna Usselman (2nd council term expires 12/16)

### *2015 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly Voting Members*

*(Synod Assembly to be held at the Comcast Arena, Everett, WA, May 15-16, 2015)*

- Synod Assembly Voting Member, female — Lisa Thomassen
- Synod Assembly Voting Member, male —

### *2015 Nominating Committee*

According to Chapter 13 of OSLC's constitution, page 24 (see C13.02), "A Nominating Committee shall be formed annually to present a slate of candidates for election at the congregation meeting. The Nominating Committee shall consist of six voting members of this congregation, two of whom, if possible, shall be outgoing members of the Congregation Council. The members of the Nominating Committee shall be elected at the November congregation meeting for a term of one year. Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible for consecutive reelection."

The current Nominating Committee consists of outgoing council member Mark Cron (Building and Grounds). Elected members are Kate Gagnon and Patty Gerde.

### *Continuing Church Council Members are:*

- Worship — Leslie Waltzer (1st term expires 12/15)
- Christian Education — Kimberly Montague (1st term expires 12/15)
- Social Concerns — Connie Fletcher (2nd term expires 12/15)
- Financial Secretary — Mary Ann Hult (2nd term expires 12/15)
- Global Missions — John Stamm (2nd term expires 12/15)





|       |                           |       |                   |       |                       |
|-------|---------------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|-----------------------|
| 12/1  | Leslie Succo              | 12/16 | Delaney Cash      | 12/2  | John & Jean Pass      |
| 12/2  | Caleb Cash                |       | Elsa Bachman      | 12/3  | Dick & Sharon Shire   |
| 12/3  | Ben Taylor                |       | Rollie Kiefel     | 12/9  | Justin & Katy Ulland  |
|       | Paige Lucas               | 12/17 | Haley Ziegler     | 12/12 | Steve & Vicki LeFever |
|       | Rob Hanson                | 12/18 | Laura Halter      | 12/14 | Randy & Linda Baseler |
|       | Stan Patterson            |       | Marc Montague     | 12/27 | Les & Kate Gagnon     |
| 12/4  | Jennifer Gardner          |       | Talton Johnson    |       |                       |
| 12/5  | Jessica Liepins           | 12/22 | Davis Walters     |       |                       |
|       | Randi Strom               | 12/23 | Bev Geary         |       |                       |
|       | Les Gagnon                | 12/24 | Rita Hansen       |       |                       |
| 12/6  | Christiana Baseler Nelson |       | Toby Fletcher     |       |                       |
|       | Lori Downey               | 12/25 | Brian FitzGerald  |       |                       |
| 12/10 | Frankie Tate              | 12/26 | Gabriel Humphries |       |                       |
| 12/11 | Kristina Steffen          | 12/28 | Gary Kneepkens    |       |                       |
|       | Lucy Acker                |       | Hannah Bachman    |       |                       |
| 12/13 | Joyce Craig               | 12/30 | Jack Gardner      |       |                       |
|       | Judy Boruck               |       | Sue Friddell      |       |                       |
| 12/14 | Doug Patur                | 12/31 | Kate Halter       |       |                       |



## Christmas Eve Worship Assistants

| Christmas Eve<br>Worship,<br>Wednesday<br>December 24th | Christmas Eve<br>7:00 p.m.<br>Service of the Word,<br>Carols & Candlelight | Christmas Eve<br>9:00 p.m.<br>Service of the Word,<br>Carols & Candlelight | Christmas Eve<br>11:00 p.m.<br>Service of the Word,<br>Carols & Candlelight<br>w/Holy Communion |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Greeters                                                | Don & Nancy Cumming                                                        | LaRue Nelson                                                               | Vicki LeFever                                                                                   |
| Ushers                                                  | <i>Open</i>                                                                | <i>Open</i>                                                                | <i>Open</i>                                                                                     |
| Lector                                                  | Judi Case                                                                  | Marilyn Carlson                                                            | Karen Hansen                                                                                    |
| Communion<br>Assistants                                 | N/R                                                                        | N/R                                                                        | Karen Hansen<br><i>1 CA Needed</i>                                                              |
| Sound<br>Engineer                                       | <i>Open</i>                                                                | David Hersey                                                               | David Hersey                                                                                    |

## Worship Schedule

### Sun., December 7—2nd Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9  
Second Reading: I Corinthians 1:3-9  
Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

### Sun., December 14—3rd Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-13  
Second Reading: I Thessalonians 5:16-24  
Gospel: John 4:7-26, 39-42

### Sun., December 21—4th Sunday of Advent

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27  
Gospel: Matthew 1:18-35

### Sun., December 28—1st Sunday of Christmas

First Reading: Isaiah 61:10—62:3  
Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7  
Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

**On December 7, 14 and 21  
Sunday morning  
worship services with Holy  
Communion begins at  
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.**

**On Sunday, December 28, we  
will have one worship service  
with Holy Communion at  
9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School will meet on  
December 7, 14 and 21 at 9:45  
a.m. Sunday School will be in  
recess on December 28.**

## Praying the Lord's Prayer

Beginning November 30, 2014, The First Sunday of Advent, we will be praying the "ecumenical" version of the Lord's Prayer on Sunday mornings. We will continue this practice through Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2015. On May 31, 2015, the Sunday of The Holy Trinity, we will resume praying the traditional version of the Lord's Prayer. It has been our practice to pray both versions of the Lord's Prayer over the course of a year: approximately six months praying one version, and then, six months praying the other.



## Handicap Parking

OSLC provides parking spaces for handicap parking. These parking spaces are located in front of Anderson Hall and out back at the back 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.

# December 2014



| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Tue                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Wed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Thu                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Fri                                                                                  | Sat                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>1</b><br>12:00 PM OA<br><i>(Downstairs classroom)</i><br>1:00 PM Lutheran Counseling Network<br>7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 676<br><i>(Anderson Hall, Downstairs Classroom)</i>                                                                                                                                  | <b>2</b><br>7:00 PM AA <i>(Anderson Hall, Downstairs Classroom)</i><br>7:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i>                                                                                      | <b>3</b><br>9:30 AM Mission Quilters <i>(Anderson Hall)</i><br>12:30 PM Staff Meeting <i>(Narthex)</i><br>6:00 PM Pilgrim Journey Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i><br>7:00 PM Chancel Choir <i>(Sanctuary)</i><br>7:00 PM Confirmation Teaching Session #8            | <b>4</b><br>7:45 AM TOPS <i>(Rms 14, 17)</i><br>10:00 AM Al Anon <i>(Downstairs Classroom)</i><br>10:00 AM Bible Study w/ Pr. Christensen <i>(Library)</i><br>7:00 PM Social Concerns <i>(Library)</i> | <b>5</b><br>Youth Fundraiser Wreath and Poinsettia Pick-up<br><i>(Anderson Hall)</i> | <b>6</b><br>10:00 AM Altar Guild Holiday Decorating @ OSLC<br>                  |
| <b>7</b><br>Second Sunday of Advent<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>10:00 AM Adult Education Class <i>(Library)</i><br>11:00 AM Worship<br>12:15 PM St. Nicholas Day Family Event<br>6:30 PM New Life Spirituality Group @ the home of Mark Mummy & Bev Geary | <b>8</b><br>9:30 AM Avant Designer's Guild <i>(Anderson Hall)</i><br>12:00 PM OA <i>(Downstairs classroom)</i><br>1:00 PM Lutheran Counseling Network <i>(LCN Office)</i><br>2:00 PM Parkinson's Support Group <i>(Sanctuary)</i><br>7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 676 <i>(Anderson Hall,</i>                         | <b>9</b><br>5:30 PM Issaquah Meal Program @ Fire Station<br>6:00 PM Executive Committee <i>(Library)</i><br>7:00 PM Council Meeting <i>(Library)</i><br>7:00 PM AA <i>(Anderson Hall, Downstairs Classroom)</i> | <b>10</b><br>9:30 AM Mission Quilters <i>(Anderson Hall)</i><br>12:30 PM Staff Meeting <i>(Narthex)</i><br>6:00 PM Pilgrim Journey Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i><br>7:00 PM Chancel Choir <i>(Sanctuary)</i><br>7:00 PM Confirmation Small Groups                  | <b>11</b><br>7:45 AM TOPS <i>(Rms 14, 17)</i><br>10:00 AM Al Anon <i>(Downstairs Classroom)</i><br>10:00 AM Bible Study w/ Pr. Christensen <i>(Library)</i>                                            | <b>12</b>                                                                            | <b>13</b>                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>14</b><br>Third Sunday of Advent<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>10:00 AM 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering Meeting w/ Pr. Fletcher <i>(Narthex)</i><br>10:00 AM Adult Education Class <i>(Library)</i><br>11:00 AM Worship                                        | <b>15</b> <br>12:00 PM OA <i>(Downstairs classroom)</i><br>1:00 PM Lutheran Counseling Network<br>1:30 PM Faith Circle @ the home of Marian James<br>7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 676 <i>(Anderson Hall, Downstairs classroom)</i> | <b>16</b><br>11:00 AM Global Missions Committee <i>(Narthex)</i><br>7:00 PM AA <i>(Anderson Hall, Downstairs Classroom)</i><br>7:00 PM Vocal Ensemble Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i>                              | <b>17</b><br>9:30 AM Mission Quilters <i>(Anderson Hall)</i><br>12:30 PM Staff Meeting <i>(Narthex)</i><br>6:00 PM Pilgrim Journey Rehearsal <i>(Sanctuary)</i><br>7:00 PM Chancel Choir <i>(Sanctuary)</i><br>7:00 PM Youth Christmas Party <i>(Grades 6-12)</i> | <b>18</b><br>7:45 AM TOPS <i>(Rms 14, 17)</i><br>10:00 AM Al Anon <i>(Downstairs Classroom)</i><br>10:00 AM Bible Study w/ Pr. Christensen <i>(Library)</i>                                            | <b>19</b><br>11:00 AM Hope Circle @ the home of Mary Fricke                          | <b>20</b>                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>21</b> <br>Fourth Sunday of Advent<br>8:30 AM Worship<br>9:45 AM Sunday School<br>11:00 AM Worship / Sunday School Christmas Program<br>6:30 PM New Life Spirituality Group            | <b>22</b><br>12:00 PM January Focus Newsletter Deadline<br>12:00 PM OA <i>(Downstairs classroom)</i><br>7:00 PM Lutheran Counseling Network <i>(LCN Office)</i>                                                                                                                                                 | <b>23</b><br>7:00 PM AA <i>(Anderson Hall, Downstairs Classroom)</i>                                                                                                                                            | <b>24</b><br>Christmas Eve<br>OSLC Office Closed<br>7:00 PM, 9:00 PM & 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship                                                                                                                                                             | <b>25</b><br>Christmas Day<br>OSLC Office Closed<br>                                                               | <b>26</b>                                                                            | <b>27</b>                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>28</b><br>9:30 AM Worship                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b>29</b><br>12:00 PM OA <i>(Downstairs classroom)</i><br>7:00 PM Lutheran Counseling Network <i>(LCN Office)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>30</b><br>7:00 PM AA <i>(Anderson Hall, Downstairs Classroom)</i>                                                                                                                                            | <b>31</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <b>January 1, 2015</b><br>New Year's Day<br>OSLC Office Closed                                                                                                                                         | <b>2</b>                                                                             | <b>3</b><br><div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px;"> OSLC facility use printed in non-italics.<br/> Community facility use printed in italics. </div> |

## **We remember in prayer...**



### **We remember in prayer OSLC members:**

**Sandy Aldworth; Don Chaney; Maury Clark; Gene Elfstrom; Barbara Extract; Sandy Fish; Emily Gacek; Steve Gacek; Carol Harbolt; Ray Harbolt; Jeff Hendrickson; Margot Inman; Marian James; Josee Jordan; Jeanne Kuipers; Florence Kinnune; Jeannie Lindquist; Vern Lindquist; Jim Marshall; Carole Miller; Kimberly Montague; Jerry Nack; Eloise Peters; Elaine Stamm; Glenn Smith; Dave Walters; Gwynn Wilkinson; Shirley Witsoe**

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

**Moria Dennert** (Margot Inman); **Chol Mayen Kuol** (Maury Clark); **Fannie Boroo** (mother of Cheryl Neeb); **Joyce Honeyman** (Lucy Acker); **Joan Campbell** (Connie Fletcher); **John Bonomi** (Maury Clark); **Wilma Hill** (Bill Bergsma); **Mike Andersen** (Bill and Sally Malaney)

### **We pray for expectant mothers:**

**Shannon** (Jordan Usselman); **Katy Ulland; Christiana Nelson** (daughter of Randy and Linda Baseler); **Katie Garcia** (niece of Mark and Shelley Howe); **Trina Pomeroy** (niece of Mark and Shelley Howe); **Casey Baseler** (wife of T.J. Baseler)

**We offer blessings to:** **Dave and Carrie Ann Berry** who transferred to Saint Luke's Lutheran Church, Summerville, South Carolina.

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

### **We pray for our missionaries and global missions:**

**Henrik & Patty Christopherson; St. Catherine's Lutheran Church** in St. Petersburg, Russia; for the congregations in Chiclayo, 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:**

For the ministry and leadership of **Interim Pastor Richard 'Dick' Christensen.**

For the sale of **Dave and Georgeanne Park's** Issaquah home and for the quick acceptance of their offer on their next home on Whidbey Island.

For the good health of **Rachel** and for **Theresa's** recovery from cancer. (Joyce Craig)

For **Ralph Case's** new employment position at Isilon.

For the service of outgoing council members: **Mark Cron, Building and Grounds, Randy Halter, Treasurer, and, Lisa Gillin, Administration/Personnel.**

*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 Shirley Witsoe, 425-413-6754.*



# December Worship Assistants

| <b>Sunday Service</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Time</b> | <b>Greeters</b>                   | <b>Ushers</b>                  | <b>Lectors</b>     | <b>Communion Assistants</b>                                   | <b>Altar Guild/<br/>Bread Bakers</b>              | <b>Sound Engineer</b> |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2<br>Advent           | Dec. 7      | 8:30 am     | Mary Fricke<br>Robin<br>Timmerman | Don Robertson<br>Jeff Lucas    | Carl Boruck        | Marilyn Carlson<br>Mary Fricke<br>Mary Ann Hult<br>Jane Shen  | Robin<br>Timmerman<br><i>Bread:</i><br>Jane Wuest | Jeff Ziegler          |
|                       |             | 11:00 am    | Don & Nancy<br>Cumming            | Mike & Sandy<br>Nygard         | Joan Friel         | Joan Friel<br>Kate Gagnon<br>Alice Lewis<br>Leslie Waltzer    | Jane Wuest                                        | Miranda Smith         |
| 3<br>Advent           | Dec. 14     | 8:30 am     | Don & Jean<br>Chaney              | Craig Gillin<br>Jon Smith      | Connie<br>Fletcher | Connie Fletcher<br>Alice Lewis<br>Jane Shen<br>Leslie Waltzer | Mary Fricke<br><i>Bread:</i><br>Kathy Ziegler     | <i>Open</i>           |
|                       |             | 11:00 am    | Sandy Aldworth<br>Vicky Jacobson  | Larry &<br>Christine Fry       | Sue Friddell       | Sue Friddell<br>Les & Kate Gagnon<br>Rita Hansen              | Rita Hansen                                       | Vince Smith           |
| 4<br>Advent           | Dec. 21     | 8:30 am     | Bonnie Brice<br>Diane Nelson      | Lena Schaper<br>Marilyn Larson | Judi Case          | Ralph & Judi Case<br>Mary Fricke<br>Mary Ann Hult             | Judi Case<br><i>Bread:</i><br>Connie Fletcher     | Marilyn Larson        |
|                       |             | 11:00 am    | Paul & Nilvane<br>Swanson         | Brad & Jacki<br>Marx           | Youth Program      | Muriel Brown<br>Les Gagnon<br>Alice Lewis<br>Leslie Waltzer   | Karen Hansen                                      | Miranda Smith         |
| 1<br>Christ-<br>mas   | Dec. 28     | 9:30 am     | Jerry & Linda<br>Nack             | Jeff & Kathy<br>Ziegler        | Brook<br>Buchanan  | Jane Shen<br>Stacy Smith<br>Les & Kate Gagnon                 | Robin<br>Timmerman<br><i>Bread:</i><br>Jane Wuest | Marilyn Larson        |



## ***Our Savior Lutheran Church***

745 Front Street South

Issaquah, WA 98027

**(425) 392-4169 office**

(see extensions below)

**(425) 392-2946 fax**

Stay connected with OSLC through our Website, on Facebook or through Twitter:

**Website: [www.oslcissaquah.org](http://www.oslcissaquah.org)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/oslcissaquah](http://www.facebook.com/oslcissaquah)**

**Twitter: [twitter.com/oslcissaquah](http://twitter.com/oslcissaquah)**

All information for the *Focus* newsletter is **due by noon on the 15th of each month**, unless noted otherwise. Please email items to [oslcnewsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:oslcnewsletter@yahoo.com) on or before the deadline.

## **OSLC STAFF DIRECTORY**

Richard 'Dick' Christensen .....Interim Pastor  
Ext. 106                      [rlchristensen@oslcissaquah.org](mailto:rlchristensen@oslcissaquah.org)  
Ryan Fletcher .....Associate Pastor  
Ext. 105                      [rdfletcher@oslcissaquah.org](mailto:rdfletcher@oslcissaquah.org)  
Scott Hafso..... Interim Choir Director &  
Ext. 103                      Worship Coordinator  
                                 [bellevuer@gmail.com](mailto:bellevuer@gmail.com)  
Janet Heck .....Parish Administrator & Focus Editor  
Ext. 100                      [janeth@oslcissaquah.org](mailto:janeth@oslcissaquah.org)  
Sabrina Wick.....Nursery Attendant

Vern Lindquist .....Parish Organist  
                                 [vernindquist@msn.com](mailto:vernindquist@msn.com)  
Shari Lundberg .....Office Assistant  
Ext. 104                      [sharil@oslcissaquah.org](mailto:sharil@oslcissaquah.org)  
Paul Timmerman.....Accountant  
Ext. 104                      [pault@oslcissanquah.org](mailto:pault@oslcissanquah.org)  
Paul Anderson.....Lutheran Counseling Network  
                                 (425) 455-2960