

# Our Savior Lutheran Church

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GROWING  
TO SERVE

**MAY**

**2020**

**Our Savior  
Lutheran Church**  
745 Front Street S.  
Issaquah, WA

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## *Yearning for Sunday Morning*

As many of you know, the celebration of Easter in the church does not last for just one Sunday. We celebrate Easter for a whole week of Sundays – seven Sundays. At this writing, Our Savior Lutheran is halfway through. We are currently preparing for The Fourth Sunday of Easter. Also, as all of you know, OSLC has not gathered to celebrate Easter this year on any of those four Sunday mornings. In fact, we have now not gathered for worship for a whole week of Sundays – seven Sundays. So, not only have we had to figure out another way of keeping the Season of Easter, but we have also had to figure out other things to do on Sunday mornings. I am finding the second task to be much more difficult than the first.

Since I have documentation that proves I was baptized on the second Sunday of my life, I'm pretty sure that I have been participating in church activities on Sunday mornings for almost all of the 3,481 Sundays that I have been alive. (I did not do the math. I found a calculator on the internet that will do the figuring me.) I have tried doing all kinds of things on that week of Sundays, going for walks through nature, watching weekly news summaries on television, reading meditative literature, and watching videos of worship on my computer. But none of these activities has been very satisfying.

I am left wondering, what do people do on Sunday mornings that is an improvement on going to church?

Little by little, week by week, we are being introduced to a newer, deeper understanding of what it means to yearn for a new day. A sense of yearning has a long history in the biblical tradition. The Israelites yearned to be free from slavery in Egypt. The exiles yearned to return to their homeland from Babylon. The New Testament people yearned for a Savior to free them from Roman oppression. And the early Christians yearned for the return of the risen Christ within their lifetimes. Now we know what they all were feeling.

*Continued on page 2...*



## From the Desk of Pastor Jim

*Continued from page 1...*

But we are also discovering that are things to do, meaningful things, to honor the yearning. The church office has been dispersed into the homes of OSLC staff, who work from dining room tables and recliners. A handful of us sneak into the building on Thursday morning to make little audio and video recordings of what we think worship would look like if it were really happening, then someone goes home and knits all the pieces together somehow so it can be posted on YouTube. The Council and committees have group phone calls or group “video chats” to keep things going.

We do not do these things so that the yearning will dissipate. We do these things so that the yearning will remain. We do these things to remember what we have lost, so we will be full of gratitude when Sunday mornings return.

Meanwhile, Be of Good Cheer,  
Pastor Jim Kruse



## Church Council



### OSLC's Reaching Out Program

At the last Council meeting, we agreed to help people obtain groceries by providing pick-up and delivery service (but not personal transportation for people to go shopping). If you are a high-risk individual who does not have family or friends helping you out during this shelter-in-place period, then:



- 1.) Pick an Issaquah store that offers online grocery shopping (Fred Meyer, Safeway, etc.)
- 2.) Create your grocery order, pay online, record your order #, and schedule a pickup date and time.
- 3.) Email [kenkonigsmark@yahoo.com](mailto:kenkonigsmark@yahoo.com) with your order details (or if no email then call 425-445-8656)
- 4.) Be home on that date/time to receive your groceries... it's that easy.

#### A few guidelines

- 1.) Just groceries (no restaurant "take out")
- 2.) Delivery of online items only, no in-store shopping by volunteers.
- 3.) One grocery run per week. One store only, and consolidate items into one large order.
- 4.) Physical distancing will be practiced at both ends – pickup and delivery. The groceries will be left on your doorstep and you will be notified when they have arrived.

We will do our best to support those needing this assistance and hope it will make this difficult time a bit easier for you!

Your Church Council



## Small Group Ministries



### Community Outreach Committee

If you are a congregation member struggling to buy groceries or gas during this Corona Virus Pandemic, please contact the church office. We have some limited resources to assist with your needs.

Below are a number of resources to contact for housing and food assistance.

**Issaquah Community Services** 425-837-3125

**St. Vincent de Paul** 206-767-6449

**Hopelink** 425-943-7565

**Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank** 425-392-4123

**Issaquah Meals Program** (Catholic Community Services) 425-679-0342

Location: 180 E Sunset Way, Issaquah

Meals Served:

Monday-Friday	5:00 – 6:00 pm
Thursday	12:00 – 1:00 pm
Saturday	5:00 – 6:00 pm
Sunday	4:00 – 5:00 pm



The Community Outreach Committee selected 5 organizations in our Community to make donations to from our designated funds. We wanted to support them in helping people in our Community thru the Corona Virus Pandemic. The following organizations will receive \$250.00 each.

Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank

Issaquah Community Services

Eastside Baby Corner

Vine Maple Place

Compass Housing Authority (formerly Lutheran Compass Housing)

Sincerely,

Cheryl Leiter, Community Outreach Committee Chair

## Small Group Ministries

### Stay Safe Mission

Hello members and friends of OSLC.

As we prepare for the day we can meet in worship once again, we're considering what that may look like. Our top priority is to keep our guests and members safe. The Mission Quilters have agreed to make fabric masks available for pick up when large groups are allowed to gather again. The masks will be yours to keep. You will be required to wash the mask as recommended. Any fabric mask will decrease the chances of contracting the covid-19 virus, but it will not be medical grade. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is recommending the use of face masks while out in public.



If you need a mask prior to the time when we can all gather again, please contact Tami Cron at [TamiCron@comcast.net](mailto:TamiCron@comcast.net) or 425-241-7696. I will send or deliver 2 masks each, one to wash and one to wear. As quilters, we are all individuals and all masks will not be the same, some have straps, some have elastic, and different designs may be used.

If you like to sew and are willing to join this cause, please contact me at the above contact information. Any help will be appreciated.

Blessings to all and stay safe,  
Tami Cron





# Lutheran Counseling Network

## Lutheran Counseling Network

### Faith and Everyday Life

May 2020

Psalm 139: 1-18

*<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you have searched me and known me. <sup>2</sup>You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. <sup>3</sup>You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. <sup>4</sup>Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. <sup>5</sup>You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. <sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. <sup>7</sup>Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?*

*<sup>8</sup>If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. <sup>9</sup>If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, <sup>10</sup>even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. <sup>11</sup>If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," <sup>12</sup>even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. <sup>13</sup>For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup>I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. <sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. <sup>16</sup>Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. <sup>17</sup>How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! <sup>18</sup>I try to count them — they are more than the sand; I come to the end — I am still with you.*

This psalm has special meaning in our family. It is a favorite of our son's birth mother. I can see why. It talks about how God created each of us deliberately, and knows and loves each of us intimately. I can imagine that in the days leading up to her son's birth, it must have reassured her that he was no accident. It was God who knit him together in her womb. God created him on purpose, and had a plan for his life. This must have been so comforting as she prepared her heart for her adoption plan. She knew she wouldn't be there each day to see her birth son's life unfold. She had to trust that God had a purpose in mind for him, and would be watching over him, loving and guiding him, even when she couldn't. The psalm has special meaning for me too, as an adoptive mother. It assures me that I am part of the plan for my son's life. Knowing God has created me to be just who I am has provided healing from the sadness of not being able to conceive. It assures me that my path is a good one. Knowing God loves me just as I am fills me with love I want to share. It fuels who I am as a mom. It helps me seek to know my son, to love him just as he is, to offer guidance and support. It also reminds me that ultimately, he is God's child, and that God will guide him when he's out on his own, beyond my influence. This is true for each of us. God created each of us with love, just as we are. God has plans and a purpose for us. We are never beyond God's reach, or beyond God's loving care. We are never alone. Thanks be to God!

Written by a staff member of Lutheran Counseling Network



## Help Getting Through

### Lutheran Counseling Network

Lutheran Counseling Network is a coalition of licensed pastoral counselors. LCN counselors and therapists are available to provide mental health and relationship support during this time of crisis. All LCN therapists are doing their work via telehealth, both on HIPAA-compliant video platforms and by telephone. Please check us out at our website: [www.lutherancounseling.net](http://www.lutherancounseling.net). Also available on our website are resources and opportunities to financially support our low-fee fund, which helps provide counseling at a reduced rate for those who cannot otherwise afford it

We offer a variety of approaches to individual, couple and family counseling that is evidence-based and spiritually supportive. Most therapists are professionally trained in both psychology and theology and all our therapists are skilled in integration of spirituality and counseling.

We provide individual therapy for areas of life that cannot always be addressed by congregational programming such as relationship conflict, depression, anxiety, behavioral problems, sexuality, trauma recovery and grief support.

Many of our clients pay a subsidized fee, adjusted according to family income. This is made possible by the generous donations of the churches we serve. We value professional practices that enable clients to access our ministry easily, through our network of referral sources, and through our varied schedules, multiple locations, and adjusted fee schedule. Most of our therapists accept insurance.

To refer or inquire, please call or check us out on the web:

**[www.lutherancounseling.net](http://www.lutherancounseling.net)**

Bellingham: 360-715-2166

Bothell / Issaquah / Kirkland / Sammamish: 425-455-2960

Des Moines / Enumclaw / Federal Way: 253-839-1697

Everett / Marysville / Mill Creek: 425-258-2955

Kent / Renton / SeaTac: 425-271-9711

Seattle / Shoreline: 206-364-1046

Counselor Katherine Mitchell, MA, LMHC, has an office at OSLC, downstairs in the north hallway. You can reach Katherine at:

425-502-1503

or [kmitchell@lutherancounseling.net](mailto:kmitchell@lutherancounseling.net)



## OSLC in Pictures



Pastor Jim Kruse and videographer Elizabeth Waltzer, producing a weekly worship service video.





## Pastoral Care & Visitation



### Emergency Pastoral Care

For emergency pastoral care, please contact  
OSLC Transition Pastor Jim Kruse at  
206-919-9520 (mobile)  
or [JamesKruse814@gmail.com](mailto:JamesKruse814@gmail.com).

#### Pastor Jim's Office Hours:

Monday 9:30 – 1:00

Tuesday 9:30 – 1:00

Wednesday 9:30 – 1:00

Friday 9:30 – 1:00



### Lay Visitation Ministry During the Stay-at-Home Order

Do you know of someone who may be home-bound, in senior care, or otherwise would like a phone call from our Visitation Ministry, and is not currently receiving visits? If so, please pass their name along to Kate Gagnon, OSLC's Lay Visitation Minister at [kjgagnon@yahoo.com](mailto:kjgagnon@yahoo.com), or 425-200-0481.

## Small Group Ministries



**Apply Now!  
Your Project May Be  
Eligible for a Grant  
From OSLC's  
Mission Endowment Fund**

The purpose of the OSLC Mission Endowment Fund is to provide grants that enhance our mission and ministry apart from the general operations of our congregation. We support youth programs, scholarships, leadership training, outreach to the larger community, and other extraordinary programs and initiatives that further the mission of Our Savior.

Our Mission Endowment Fund is taking applications thanks to support from many donors over the last three years. We have a modest and growing ability to make grants between \$500 and \$2000.

Applications can be submitted at the church website, [www.oslcissaquah.org](http://www.oslcissaquah.org). Use the "Missions" tab at the top of the page, and then click on the purple text: [OSLC Endowment Fund Application Form](#). Submissions will be considered by the membership of the committee which meets quarterly.

Kind Regards,  
Justin Ulland. OSLC Mission Endowment Fund President



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with Your Smartphone**

Apps make life easier. With GivePlus Church, you can use your smartphone to give anytime, anywhere!

- ⇒ Download the FREE app on your Apple or Android phone
- ⇒ Make a one-time or recurring donation using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account
- ⇒ Log in or donate as a guest
- ⇒ Securely and conveniently manage donations using Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password



## May Worship Readings

### **Sunday, May 3 — Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Gospel: John 10:1-10

### **Sunday, May 10 — Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Gospel: John 14:1-14

### **Sunday, May 17 — Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Reading: Acts 17:22-31

Gospel: John 14:15-21

### **Sunday, May 24 — Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Reading: Acts 1:6-14

Gospel: John 17:1-11

### **Sunday, May 31 — Day of Pentecost**

Reading: Acts 2:1-21

Gospel: John 7:37-39



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

### **We remember in prayer:**

Dave Carlson, Kip Hauser, Evy Sneva, Mike Winkler, Anthony Templeton, Lynnette, Sheelagh Sacks, Claire Howe, Carmine Kopecky, Dan Cox, JoAnne Naganawa, Jean Stanley, Guests of the Community Meals Program, Elija Del Rio, All affected by the Corona Virus, Mark Howe, Lyle Bentley, Karen Gerde, Sabin Thibodeaux, Amy Jackson, Lil, Sonja, Lucy Acker, Nicole DeCamp, Doug Patur, Scott Hafso, Jeanne Kuipers, John Pass, Emily & Steve Gacek, Carol & Ray Harbolt, Margot Inman, Duane Jacobson, Marian James, Bernice Jensen, Josee Jordan, Florence Kinnune, Jeannie Lindquist, Vern Lindquist, Jerry Nack, Dorothy Soland, Randi Strom, Margit Welch, Gwynn Wilkinson.

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

Barbara Nielson (Karen Hansen); Evelyn Timpe (step-mother to Patty Gerde); Susan Moffett (Doug & Dianne Tanner); David Woods (Lyle & Alice Lewis); Gustavo Hernandez (Karen Hansen); Jerry Duffee (Connie Fletcher); Leah Zamundio (Cheryl Hauser); Jana Layman (Sue Johnson); Rod Paulson (Shelley Howe); John Chytil (Sandy Aldworth)

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

Jessica Murguia (Cheryl Hauser); Yili Leiter (Cheryl Leiter)

**We pray for members and friends serving in the Military; Fire and Police Department personnel; Emergency Room personnel.**

**We prayer for safety and strength to those living in the wake of all disasters, and all who serve as first responders.**

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

Henrik & Patty Christopherson. 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.

### **Thanksgiving:**

For a great outcome after eye surgery for Luke Seelye (nephew of Cheryl Hauser). For the joyous birth of Ashton Kendall Wilson on April 15th to Emily & Dontay Wilson (granddaughter to Larry & Ann Thomas). For the joyous birth of Vienna Juliet Walker on April 8th (granddaughter to Chuck Bachman & Wendy Winslow).



# May Birthdays & Anniversaries



5/2	David Carlson	5/18	Betty Evans
	Ernie Hughes		Joan Schlemlein
5/3	Karen Gerde		Mikey Inman
5/4	Karen Quinn	5/19	Russell FitzGerald
5/6	Emily Waltzer	5/23	Joan Friel
5/7	Mark Cron		Lucille Hersey
5/8	Marcy Wood	5/27	Alexander Ulland
5/9	Lisa Thomasson	5/27	Alexander Ulland
5/13	Jo Hess	5/29	Joanne Suttmeier
5/15	Marshall Inman		
5/17	Ken Konigsmark		



5/10	Henrik & Patty Christopherson
5/15	Bill & Carol Bergsma
5/21	Mike & Lisa DeVogel



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

745 Front Street South  
Issaquah, WA 98027  
(425) 392-4169

Stay connected!

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

[www.facebook.com/oslcissaquah](https://www.facebook.com/oslcissaquah)

All information for the *Focus* newsletter is **due by the 15th of each month**, unless noted otherwise. Please email items to [office@oslcissaquah.org](mailto:office@oslcissaquah.org).

## **OSLC STAFF DIRECTORY**

Rev. James R. Kruse.....	Transition Pastor
Ext. 106 or 206-919-9520	<a href="mailto:JamesKruse814@gmail.com">JamesKruse814@gmail.com</a>
Shari Lundberg.....	Parish Administrator
Ext. 100	<a href="mailto:sharil@oslcissaquah.org">sharil@oslcissaquah.org</a>
Scott Hafso.....	Director of Worship & Music
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	<a href="mailto:carrollaccounting@outlook.com">carrollaccounting@outlook.com</a>
Katherine Mitchell.....	Lutheran Counseling Network
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