

LOVING GOD...*loving people*

As the body of Christ in this place and time, we are a welcoming congregation of ordinary people who gather to worship our extraordinary God, share life together, grow in love for each other and be shaped by God's Word. We are passionate about living out God's love and being a sign of God's loving forgiveness and healing presence in our local community and world.

As Our Savior's mission continues to move through various seasons of life, these five areas of mission and ministry remain at our core--sharing, serving, growing, connecting and celebrating.

SHARING

When you look beyond our congregation, Our Savior is all about sharing God's love and care with as many people as possible. If you've had an opportunity to view our Site Strategic Planning Team's exciting flyer advertising the availability of space for lease, in fact, the entire lower floor of our building, you'll have seen how ideal the nine rooms are for use as an all-day preschool, daycare or eldercare program or as workspace and offices for non-profit organizations. We hope to partner with one or more non-profits that share our mission of providing support to those with needs in the local community, while also expanding our capacity for even more mission-oriented programs and projects.

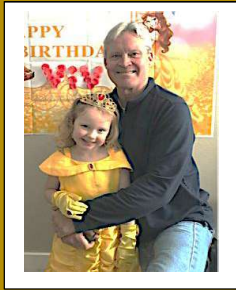
Were you aware that approximately 36 beautiful prayer shawls were crafted this past year to comfort members and friends when they need a special hug or that 20 lap quilts were delivered to our neighboring *Issaquah Nursing & Rehabilitation Center* or that approximately 100 twin-size quilts await shipment via *Lutheran World Relief* to aid in resettlement of Syrian refugees, all created by our church's knitters and quilters?

Not only quilts, but God's love in the form of financial support is extended far beyond our walls to ELCA seminaries and new congregations, to the *Lutheran World Federation's Augusta Victoria Hospital* in Jerusalem for medical services to Palestinians, to the *Arusha Lutheran Hospital Nursing School* in Arusha, Tanzania, and to two college students studying in Chiclayo, Peru. Through our church's supportive donations to *ELCA Global Missions*, two missionaries are serving in Tokyo—The Rev. Dr. Sarah Wilson at *Tokyo Lutheran Church* and Dr. Andrew Wilson teaching at *Japanese Lutheran Seminary*.

SERVING

Nightly, Monday through Friday throughout the year, guests with food security issues (75% experiencing homelessness) come to Issaquah's Community Hall for a welcoming meal provided by volunteers from all over the local community. Twice a month 30+ people each night enjoy a meal cooked in our kitchen and served at the community supper by Our Savior's kitchen team of volunteers—that's over 720 meals per year provided by our congregation! What will God do in 2021-22 with your grateful giving? How many lives will be touched because of *your* generosity?

Ten community charities receive our direct support, including but not limited to: *Eastside Baby Corner* - partnering with qualified agencies to get essential care goods to families in crisis (help with collection drives for diapers, toys, coats, pajamas and more); *AA, Al-Anon and other self-help groups* (meeting space that heals, transforms lives); *Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank* (lunch program for kids, plus bi-monthly collections of food and new clothing); *Encompass* - early learning, pediatric therapy and family enrichment programs (facility usage for programs, classes and counseling); *Issaquah Police and Eastside Fire and Rescue* (space for training drills); *Passage Point* - YWCA sponsored supportive housing for parents facing homelessness after incarceration (Welcome Baskets that contain all household items needed to begin a new life in a new home).



Many in our church and local community are benefiting from our *Stay Safe Mask Project*, having received one or more of the nearly 500 colorful face masks stitched with caring by a small group of our church's volunteers during the pandemic. You are making a tangible difference in people's lives!

GROWING

Transition Pastor John Vaswig was hired in 2021 to help Our Savior Lutheran and Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran explore, discuss, listen and imagine what unity might look like for God's people in both churches. There is much excitement stirring as our ministries continue to expand, touching the lives of more people in healing ways!

You may not have given much thought to all that happens behind the scenes on our campus each Sunday morning. On an average Sunday over 50 volunteers work together to provide an atmosphere where people can come and connect with God and each other to grow in those relationships. In our services worshippers experience uplifting music, dynamic preaching, the holy sacraments administered and the joy of being together as a community of faith, plus Sunday School for children and adult bible studies before the service with a lively gathering for "coffee and..." fellowship after the service. Bring your family members and friends and check out a book or two from our well-stocked Library of books for children, teens and adults as you leave!

Spiritual growth is not automatic, nor merely an individual activity. Don't miss an exciting opportunity this fall to participate in the two-part, self-discovery series titled, *Gifts for You: Opening Your Spiritual Gifts!* In 2021-22 we are planning an even greater emphasis on helping people develop their relationship with Christ and identity in him. Seniors, be watching for an online series of lively conversations focusing on estate planning and long-term care coming in the fall! Pour yourself a cup of coffee or tea, bring your stories, questions and resources, then tell us what you need. Let's talk!

In the variety of ways you are giving you not only help make all of the above happen but our life together is richly enhanced by a wonderful team of pastor and paid staff, all of whom are dedicated, Spirit-led professionals.

Our church building is professionally cleaned, our property is maintained and all manner of mundane supplies like paper towels, garbage bags, hand sanitizer and toilet tissue are available. Additionally, OSLC's office is well equipped with copy paper to print worship bulletins, newsletters and weekly announcements, postage is purchased and daily devotionals are provided free of charge in our lobby. And, of course, our spaces are enlivened and made welcoming with heat, lights, video and sound.

Grateful people giving graciously of their time, their spiritual gifts and their resources make it all work together....and we grow!

CONNECTING

What does it mean to be part of God's family? It's people from different walks of life, diverse experiences and views sharing a common bond. That "bond" is Jesus Christ who is the glue that creates friends out of strangers and holds our relationships together. In churches we call that "fellowship" because we strengthen and encourage each other and walk alongside each other through joys and sorrows. It's what church families do!

Think about how your gifts of caring, time, energy and financial resources are participating in God's life-transforming work. About all those visits to people in hospitals, nursing homes and to the homebound, all the Sunday morning coffee fellowships, the church suppers, the counseling sessions with the pastor, the funerals and memorial receptions, the monthly fellowship dinners for our residents living at Timber Ridge, the Annual Women's Retreat—all the places where *connection* happens. When you give you are provi-



ding so much more than utensils, tables and lighting or coffee, creamer and cups. It's your partnership with God lived out gratefully and generously that make it all possible.

CELEBRATING

Many exciting upgrades are happening at OSLC. For the first time, all worship services at Our Savior Lutheran are being streamed *live* via the Internet to homebound folks and viewers worldwide! Unable to watch at 10:00 AM? Recordings of the services are available following worship on the [Our Savior YouTube Channel](#). Wi-Fi (wireless networking technology) has been installed throughout our building to allow devices such as computers, smartphones, printers and video cameras to interface with the Internet. A new dual fuel residential/commercial stove is now installed in our kitchen to assist with food preparation for the Community Meals Program. Why are we doing all this? We want to help people connect with God, each other and with neighbors—local and global.



thank you!

God's promise and faithfulness to provide all that we need combined with your grateful partnership ensure that Our Savior Lutheran Church's vibrant ministry and mission are alive. God's dream of transforming lives in and through our congregation is happening!

Thank you!

