

# Our Savior Lutheran Church

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GROWING  
TO SERVE



2023

**Our Savior  
Lutheran Church**  
745 Front Street S  
Issaquah, WA 98027

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## *From the Desk of Pastor Vaswig*

Happy Advent to you all as we await the celebration of the Festival of the Nativity as well. Advent is my favorite season in the church year, perhaps mostly because it is so counter-cultural. While the world seeks to lure us toward December 25, Advent calls on us to wait. Yes, wait with vivid anticipation for the Lord's return in glory. Yes, wait and be patient as Advent-watchful people. Yes, be on the alert for the coming of the Lord.

Of course, Advent's calling is not designed for us to be gazing into the heavens for signs of the coming of the Son of Man. Rather Advent's urgent plea as a season is for us to be alert for Christ's daily presence, his coming to us and for us now. Yes, in the future fully realized, but even now in Advent glimpses. Advent is experienced as we gaze into the eyes of the stranger and see Christ; Advent is realized as we hear the urgency of the Baptist's call to repent; Advent is known as we walk through shopping centers and keep in view the promise of the Lord's return in glory. For we are first and foremost an Advent people.

We are called to maintain an Advent spirit where our lives center around the God we worship who will fulfill all of His promises. This is Advent's promise. The one who created the heavens and the earth, the one who thrust that baby ball into the fray, the one who comes even now in bread and wine, this one promises to come again; so in the meantime, in between the times, be alert.

May your December be filled with Advent curiosity. May your season of expectation be lived in the promised future made present even now during what we call Advent. And if the Lord should tarry, a most blessed Christmas to you all.

*Pastor John L. Vaswig*

# Our Savior Community

## Special Congregational Events and Meetings

We hope to see you at these important events and meetings in Anderson Hall.

### Meet & Greet the Candidates, Saturday, December 2 @ 10 a.m.:

There will be a meet & greet opportunity to meet the pastoral candidates in person, starting at 10 a.m. Coffee and pastries will be provided.

### Special Congregational Meeting to Vote on Candidates, December 3 @ 11 a.m.:

Following worship, there will be a Special Congregational Meeting for a congregational vote on whether to extend the proposed call to the pastoral candidates. This is a congregational decision, not a Council decision.

### Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday, December 10 @ 11 a.m.:

On Sunday, December 10, OSLC will have a Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting at 11 a.m. following worship. These are two of the items on the agenda:

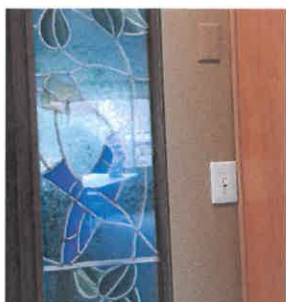
1. Approve upgrading the parsonage.
2. Approve a capital campaign to help pay for working on the parsonage.



**Let there be (more ways to turn on) light!**

#### **Upstairs Hallway (near offices)**

There's a new light switch to the right of Pr. Vaswig's office door that turns on the hall lights. Now you won't have to walk down the dark hallway—nearly all the way to the bathrooms—to turn on the lights. Thank you to Gary Hanson and Rick West for wiring and installing it.



#### **Long Downstairs Hallway**

There's a new light switch to the right of the Youth Room door that turns on hall lights downstairs (down the stairs from the Library and Education Room). For years, that switch didn't work (so you had to walk that spooky dark hallway, or go across the building and down the opposite stairs to turn on lights). Once again, thanks to Gary Hanson and Rick West for wiring and installing it.



## Our Savior Community

### From the Council Co-President

Marilyn Carlson, John McDowell, Wendy Winslow, and I are the Executive Team from Council. One of our main tasks is dealing with church staff finances. I counted six Zoom meetings this month with another one today (November 30). Seven meetings are easily more than the entire year of gatherings. It's all about making things work for our upcoming vote on December 3 for a new pastor. Our final task is filling out the "Definition of Compensation, Benefits, and Responsibilities for Ministers of Word and Sacrament under Call." This incredibly long title matches the time and energy needed to fill it out.

I received the resignation letter from our last called pastor four and a half years ago. I had only been elevated to be the president for a month. "Lately it occurs to me, what a long strange trip it's been." These lyrics are from the Grateful Dead song "Truckin'" and are appropriate for this journey we all have been on at Our Savior Lutheran Church. So many members and attendees have stepped forward during this void to rebuild OSLC.

This coming Saturday at 10 a.m. come meet, greet, and listen to the candidates of choice. Some of you may have checked out the website of the candidates. Your best way to affirm the decision is to meet in person. Pastries and coffee will be provided.

On Sunday, December 10, we will have our Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting. We will vote on fixing up the parsonage and establishing a financial campaign to help pay for it. Hopefully, we will have a full slate of Council members to vote on. We still need a couple "at-large" members. It would be nice to have a full Council for the new pastor(s).

Lastly, assuming the votes are all positive, we will have a send-off for Pastor John Vaswig. We have been incredibly blessed to have him shepherd us in transition. I've heard some members say we need someone like John to occupy the pulpit. It won't happen. It is unfair to compare other preacher's sermons to Pastor Vaswig's dynamic sermons. These candidates will bring other strengths to help OSLC grow for the future.

*Chuck Bachman, Co-President*





# Our Savior Community

## Treasurer's Update: October 2023

Good news! Good news! Good news! We are **four** months into our current fiscal year (July 1-June 30), and I am pleased to report that after a questionable September we are back on track with our budget. We had planned for contributions of \$105,000 year-to-date and as of 10/31/2023 we have received \$105,613 in contributions. Isn't that awesome? Here, in a nutshell:

<b>Budget Year 2023-2024</b>	<b>Jul-23</b>	<b>Aug-23</b>	<b>Sep-23</b>	<b>Oct-23</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
Budgeted Contribution Income	26,250	26,250	26,250	26,250	105,000
Actual Contribution Income 2023-2024	29,414	22,703	18,759	34,736	105,613
Actual Contribution Income Prior 2022-2023	22,740	18,120	17,645	23,009	81,514
Facility Use Contributions 2023-2024	1,505	1,235	1,410	2,260	6,410
Facility Use Contributions Prior 2022-2023	1,433	1,193	3,381	1,323	7,329
Budgeted Expense 2023-2024	38,079	38,079	38,079	38,079	152,316
Actual Expense Current 2023-2024	23,540	22,689	28,177	28,111	102,517
Actual Expense Prior Year 2022-2023	29,630	24,289	19,791	24,326	98,036

<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>Jul-23</b>	<b>Aug-23</b>	<b>Sep-23</b>	<b>Oct-23</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
2023-2024	388	269	292	398	1,347
2022-2023	346	279	315	370	1,310

Giving is up and on track. We are doing better than last year at this time. Expenses are still below budget, but we have not hired any of those "extra" staff members we proposed at the annual meeting last June. Stay tuned for more developments in this area.

And I am happy to report that attendance is also up from last year at this time.

The \$420,000 gift from Shepherd of the Hills remains untouched and is continuing to grow in dollars as it sits quietly waiting for its calling to action.

Just a reminder – if anyone needs to "spend" or "disperse" some money between now and year end – OSLC has options. Either the General Fund or the long-term Endowment Fund would be happy to accept your donations. Let me know if you need ideas or contact information for making transfers. We even accept stock contributions. Keep up the good work to which we have been called!

In service to Him, the Prince of Peace,  
*Wendy Winslow, Treasurer*

# Our Savior Community

## From the Community Outreach Committee

### Holiday Giving

On Sundays, December 3, 10, and 17, the Community Outreach Committee will be collecting gift cards for two purposes:

1. **Vine Maple Place**, an organization that breaks the generational cycle of homelessness by working with single parents and their children, **is asking for \$10 or \$20 gift cards from McDonald's, Subway, Starbucks, or Taco Bell** for parents to gift their teens to use to go out and visit with friends.

2. **OSLC is collecting \$25 Target, Safeway, and Fred Meyer gift cards** to use when we get requests from our church members and the community for a little extra help. They can help purchase food, gas, medications, etc.

We'll have a Christmas tree in the Narthex starting on December 3. **Please take an ornament with the gift card request on it, purchase the gift card(s), and put your gift cards in the box next to the tree.** The Community Outreach Committee thanks you in advance!



### Thank You for Donating

Thank you to everyone who provided gift cards for the Issaquah Food Bank Holiday Gifts Program in November. We collected 53 cards worth \$1,325! So many families will be able to provide their children with gifts for the holidays. Your generosity is appreciated.



### Gifts that make a difference!

There's still time to give through ELCA Good Gifts this season and make an impact in the lives of people around the world. You can find the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog in the Narthex, or go to [goodgifts.elca.org](http://goodgifts.elca.org).



## Our Savior Community

### From the Parish Administrator

As we enter the month of December, it's a busy time at church and in the office as we prepare for Advent, Christmas, and the New Year. It feels like change and growth are on the horizon. Here are a few updates for you:

**The changeover to individual access codes has had some challenges** that are being resolved. For now, please continue to use your key card (or general access code) to enter the doors into Anderson Hall. I'll be in touch when new access codes are ready. Thanks for your patience.

**The OSLC Council recently approved a new 9-page-long Facility Use Form** that includes General Facility Use Policies and Requirements and a Facility Use Request Form. Marilyn Carlson, Wendy Carlson, Chuck Bachman, and I worked to update and standardize the policies, requirements, and fees for using rooms at OSLC. This form applies to outside groups or anyone who wants to rent OSLC rooms for a special event, recital, rehearsal, meeting space, funeral, wedding, etc. OSLC members having church meetings and church activities don't need to fill it out.

**Camp Roberson (formerly Tent City 4):** Yesterday (Nov. 30) I enjoyed visiting with the good folks at Camp Roberson. One resident had a large table piled high with ever-green boughs, ribbons, golden pinecones, wires, etc.; she was creating beautiful Christmas wreaths. She said she's been making wreaths her whole life. It's been great to get to know and laugh with some of our neighbors over the last several months.

The camp is now connected with Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI). They're preparing to move from OSLC's property – with LIHI's help – on or by December 31. Residents are excited because it sounds like LIHI's new site in Preston will be ready in time to welcome them at the end of December.

Since Camp Roberson (now 15 people) is still our neighbor through the month of December, I want to make sure we don't forget about them. **They told me that their greatest needs are hand-warmers, bottled water, and blankets. Also, access to washers and dryers.** Laundromats are expensive. For December they don't have a shower truck or laundry facilities onsite here (it will be set up at the new site), so they've been showering at the Snoqualmie YMCA and trying to figure out how to find less expensive places to wash their clothes. I'm thinking of bringing them a few rolls of quarters for laundry. Please drop any donations off at camp behind the church. Thanks.

Blessings for this time of wonder, waiting, and hope,  
*Cynthia Delaney, Parish Administrator*



## Our Savior Community

### Reflections from the Nov. 10-12 Women's Retreat

A wonderful time was had by all at our retreat in November. Many thanks to all the women who waded in to make this weekend a relaxing and engaging time of learning, fellowship, and fun together. Here are a few fun photos from the November retreat:



We gave prayer shawls to our speaker, Donna Oiland, and her wonderful caregiver, Jaquelyn Villa, and prayed over them. Thanks to Patty Gerde who made the prayer shawls.



Our tradition of working a jigsaw puzzle together was upheld—finished puzzle and those who finished it!

## Our Savior Community

*Continued from page 7 . . .*



The 2023 Speaker and Attendees; we had women from three Lutheran churches this year!

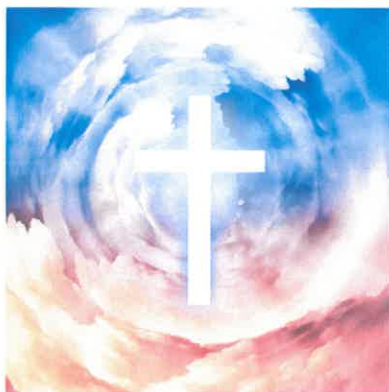
### **Mark Your Calendars: Next Women's Retreat is March 1-3, 2024**

We will return to our "normal" spring schedule in March next year; mark your calendars and plan now to attend! We will soon begin planning for next spring; if you have a suggestion for a speaker, feel free to reach out to Marilyn Carlson ([auntmare@carlsonsnw.com](mailto:auntmare@carlsonsnw.com)) or Sherry Grindeland ([sherry@salc.church](mailto:sherry@salc.church)). Volunteers are always welcome!

*Submitted by Marilyn Carlson*







## Worship with Us

### Sundays in Advent & Christmas Eve

**December 3:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

**December 10:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**December 17:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**December 24:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**December 24:** Christmas Eve (Candlelight) @ 7 p.m.

**December 31:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

**In Person:** Our Savior's Executive Committee suggests attendees continue to wear masks in worship, principally because of singing. Please continue to stay home if feeling sick, and receive Holy Communion in a safe manner.

**Online:** Sunday worship services are live-streamed at 10:00 a.m. A link to the service is published in the weekly email (sent with the bulletin), or you can click here: [Worship Live](#). If you try the link prior to 10:00 a.m. each Sunday, you may see the message "video unavailable."

Services are recorded and posted to the [Our Savior YouTube Channel](#). If needed, pull down the menu under "Uploads," then click on "Past Live Streams," or go to our website at [www.oslcissaquah.org](http://www.oslcissaquah.org).

Gather with us for fellowship and coffee hour each Sunday following worship. Coffee hour hosts are needed. You can sign up to bake/bring treats only, help with coffee, or sign up for both.

The sign-up sheet is located in Anderson Hall next to the kitchen pass-through window, and there are several folks happy to partner with you or walk you through the kitchen and teach you how it all works.



## Call Committee Corner

Please continue to hold the Call Committee in prayer:

Barbara Fetty-Solders  
John McDowell  
Marilyn Jewell

Phil Griffin  
LaRue Nelson

Gary Hanson  
Jen Winslow



# Northwest Washington Synod

## *The Spirit*



*Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee*

### **From the Bishop:**

We were in a car heading to the Sahara Desert. The weather was changing. I looked out the window and, seeing a dark mass in the distance, said to the driver, "Do you know what a tornado is?" He didn't respond. But in a few short moments, we skidded to a stop on the side of the road. There was no visibility, wind was swirling around us. Rain and sand and rocks were pelting the car. And then the car windows broke from the pressure of the storm. We were suddenly being blown around and all of us in the car were showered with rain and sand and rocks and glass. We huddled in our seats, shocked by the ferociousness of the weather around us and fearful of what was happening.

When I look at our world right now, I confess I feel much the same as I did on that day - like I'm huddling in my seat, shocked by the ferociousness of the wind and fearful of what is happening.

In our world, the climate continues to change and people and the very earth are suffering. We continue to harm this planet that God created for us and for all creatures and plants.

In our Holy Land, as I write this in the middle of November, we hear of Palestinian Christian families fleeing, children crying, hunger and desperation, churches being bombed and hospitals being attacked. In our Holy Land, we hear of violence against the Jewish people, kidnapping of children and old people, and the threat of death.

In our country, there are those who are conflating Christianity with patriotism, those who are moving against Democracy and towards authoritarianism, gun violence continues unabated, legislators refuse to do their work and instead look after their own best interests. There is continued racism in our institutions, polarization, refusal to listen to each other, and more.

In the ELCA, we forget that we are gathering for the sake of Jesus and for those desperate to hear God's Word of forgiveness, love, and grace. We try to prop up institutional ideas rather than living into the Spirit of Christ. We would rather live in the "what once was" rather than the advent of something beyond our imaginations (but not God's).

## Northwest Washington Synod

*Continued from page 10 . . .*

Truly, the storms seem strong and fierce.

And yet ... and yet ...

In this time, when we not only are living in these swirling squalls, we are called, as people of faith, to remember and trust how God has worked, and continues to work, in this world. We are called to tell the stories of God's faithfulness again. For in the beginning, through God's Word, chaos became the heavens and the earth. Later, Moses saw God in fire. In the story of Job, when Job questioned God's faithfulness, God replied, referring to the stars, 'Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, or loose the cords of Orion?' When Abraham fought the storm of sacrificing his son, God brought through the darkness a ram. When a country was occupied by Rome, power was held by a few, voices were silenced, and hope seemed fleeting, a young girl became pregnant and sang. A young couple sought shelter far from home.

In a night of storms, one star shone bright. In a world of desolation, a baby's cry was heard.

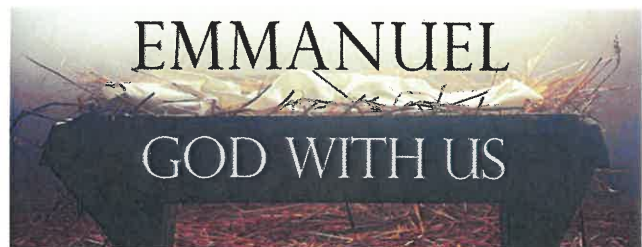
In this stormy time, in this time of deep shadows and unknowns, in this time of memory and hope, in this Advent and Christmas time, together we lift our voices and sing:

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!*

Dear Beloveds of God, I wish you Advent and Christmas blessings and hope.

✠Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee  
[bishop@lutheransnw.org](mailto:bishop@lutheransnw.org)





# Northwest Washington Synod



Kay Edgerton

## From the VEEP:

"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you; I will help you." Isaiah 41:10

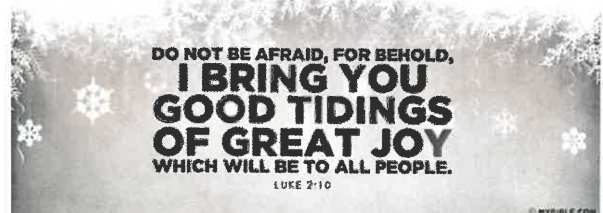
I was discussing world events with a friend recently, and she remarked that she keeps thinking things can't get any worse, and then the world proves her wrong. Terrorism, war, mass shootings, unparalleled storms, a pandemic that just won't die; everywhere we turn, we are confronted with terrible tidings. Hatred and anger and violence and injustice seem to rule the day. It is no wonder, then, that every report the synod council receives from Bishop Shelley begins with concerns over the anxiety and fear that appear to be seeping into so many aspects of personal and congregational lives. How can we break this downward spiral? How do we stop being afraid? How do we stop doomscrolling?

I suggest we begin love-scrolling instead. God reminds us many times throughout scripture not to fear, and we are told, indeed, that that "there is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear." (1 John 4:18) Therefore, when I am anxious or afraid, I look for love. I see love in the gentle touch of a parent wiping away a child's tears. I see it in friends bringing meals to someone in crisis. I see it in teachers bringing snacks to class to ensure no student has to learn on an empty stomach. I see it in the hands that knit and crochet and sew warm blankets, hats, and scarves for those who are unhoused in bad weather. I see it in the neighbor who mows the lawn of the elderly couple next door. I see it in a grandchild patiently explaining how to get the Zoom working for the umpteenth time. I see it in the people who regularly give blood. I see it in those risking life and limb to bring humanitarian aid to war zones. I see it in the spouse who learns to make gluten/dairy/egg-free chicken and dumplings for their food sensitive partner. I see it in the great-grandparent who moves across the country for six months to help with childcare. I see it in all those who give of their time and talents to serve others. Where do you see love?

During the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate the fact that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." (John 3:16) That makes it the perfect time to be on the lookout for that perfect love that casts out fear.

After all, in the words of poet Christina Rossetti:

*Love came down at Christmas,  
Love all lovely, love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and angels gave the sign.*



Jesus, then, is "love incarnate, love divine." What love could be more perfect than that? May your Advent season be blessed with love-scrolling and tidings of great joy.

Kay Edgerton, Vice President of the NW Washington Synod  
[veep@lutheransnw.org](mailto:veep@lutheransnw.org)



**Published November 29 in the November/December Update  
from Advocacy Connections:**

**IN TIME OF WAR:** As weeks extend in the temporarily paused Israel-Hamas war, faith leaders continue to urge peace. Signed by the Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA presiding bishop, several ELCA synod bishops and others through Churches for Middle East Peace, a Nov. 29 [letter](#) to President Biden says, "We condemn all acts of violence against civilians and grieve with Israelis and Palestinians who have lost loved ones." It urges: "You have a unique opportunity to turn the tide of history and finally demand that the fighting stop and that the parties involved resolve their differences through negotiations and diplomatic means. Please do not miss this opportunity. Millions of lives depend on the U.S., no longer being complicit in an unjust war that has already devastated the lives of thousands of civilians. Our prayers are with you in the days and weeks to come. We ask that God give you wisdom and courage to do all you can to bring an end to the killing and the violence."

Our ELCA advocacy continues to urge Congress and the Administration to: 1) Publicly call for a ceasefire to prevent the further loss of life; 2) Prioritize the protection of all civilians, including by urgently securing the entrance of humanitarian aid into Gaza and working to secure the release of hostages and prisoners; and 3) Urge all parties to fully respect international humanitarian law.

**"68 Global and Christian Leaders Call for a Ceasefire and Peace" Press Release**  
November 29, 2023, Washington, D.C.: Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) joins 68 Bishops and Executive Leaders from churches and denominations from across the world to convey the desperate need for the government of Israel to end the bombing campaign and ground invasion of Gaza immediately.

Click on the [letter](#) link above to view the full text of the Churches for Middle East Peace (CMEP) letter to President Biden, as well as the international letter.



**Working Together: Justice can prevail. Peace is possible.**

# Lutheran Counseling Network

## Faith and Everyday Life December 2023

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13)*

Apprehensions and anxiety can rob us of joy and peace in life. We can't relax and enjoy the present. Instead we worry about the future, caught up in anticipating every conceivable consequence, large and small. We miss the good moments of our life as we fret over a future we can't control.

God invites us to lay down our worries and burdens. God wants to carry them for us. The hard part can be letting them go. But when we can trust God enough to lay down our worries—by writing them in a journal or imagining them as clouds floating across the sky—God is more than able to carry them, and us.

When we release our worries to God, we find peace and joy in the present moment. We notice a bird watching us from a telephone line. We see a sunset that fills the sky with color. We feel the touch of a loved one's hand. We live our moments to the fullest, trusting in God, who fills us with joy and peace.

*Written by a staff member of Lutheran Counseling Network*





## OSLC in Our Community

These are the community organizations that use our church building for meetings, rehearsals, and trainings:



BOY SCOUTS  
OF AMERICA®

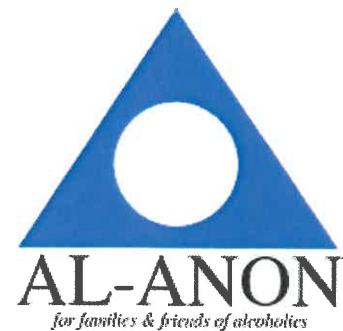


*Spirit of Peace*  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



MASTER CHORUS  
EASTSIDE  
*Feed Your Soul*

ISSAQUAH  
Food & Clothing Bank



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

**Michael Fricke**, for recovery of his injuries suffered in a bad vehicle accident (son of Mary Fricke); **Baby Jack**, who is being treated for leukemia (nephew of Bill Suttmeier); **Gary Hanson**, for God's continued healing presence in his life; **Rawson Gomez**, who is in the Pediatric ICU at UMass Medical Center (14-year-old great-nephew of Sue Johnson); **For the health and wellbeing of the Inman Family**; **Jim Jewell**, for the peace of God that surpasses all understanding (father of Jeff Jewell); **Bob Johnson**, who is receiving treatment for cancer, **and his family**; **Dianne Tanner**, for healing, strength, and peace through her ongoing treatment; **Diane Murff**, who is in a rehab center; **Amy Dunbar**, for peace and wholeness (sister of Dave Carlson); **John and Rita Hansen**; **Treasure Hinds**, who is having chemotherapy treatment (daughter of Rowan and Barbara Hinds); **OSLC Call Committee**, for clear direction and a smooth transition; **Guests of the Community Meals Program**; **all affected by COVID-19**.

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

**Arne Moen**; **Frank Hoffman** (cousin of Paul Isop).

**Healing and peace of mind:** **Bob Beck**; **Lyle Lewis**; **Henrik & Patty Christopherson**; **Vern Lindquist**; **Jerry & Linda Nack**; **Marian James**; **Katie Moeller**; **Margot Inman**; **Dorothy Soland**; **Jeanne Kuipers**; **John Pass**; **Florence Kinnune**; **Bernice Jensen**; **Sandy Aldworth**; **Jen Winslow**; **Larry Pruitt**.

**Undergoing cancer treatment:** **Baby Jack** (nephew of Bill Suttmeier); **Treasure Hinds** (daughter of Rowan and Barbara Hinds); **Bob Johnson**; **Dianne Tanner**; **John Hill** (Marilyn Carlson); **Jim Fricke** (son of Mary Fricke); **Kirsten Olshausen**; **Scott Paine** (Rowan Hinds); **Kip Hauser** (father of Cheryl Hauser); **Roger Stanley** (Alice Lewis); **Larry Harbolt** (Ray Harbolt); **Richard** (Debby Beck); **Marilyn Pro** (sister of Rick West).

**Living with cancer:** **Mike** (friend of Jane Wuest); **Deborah** (Marlice Gilmore); **Gene Christianson** (cousin of Duane Jacobson); **My brother Roger** (Alice Lewis); **Chris Howe** (brother of Mark Howe); **Peggy Scalise** (cousin of Mark Howe); **Eileen Letts** (cousin of Mark Howe); **Sonja** (Dianne Tanner); **Gerald Welch** (Vern and Jeannie Lindquist); **Duane Jacobson**; **Mary Lewis** (sister-in-law of Lyle and Alice Lewis); **Suzanne Lewis** (daughter-in-law of Lyle & Alice Lewis).

**If you have any prayer requests to be included in this list  
(or if you or your loved ones no longer need to be included in this list),  
please reach out to [office@oslccissaquah.org](mailto:office@oslccissaquah.org). Thank you.**



## December Worship Readings

### **Sunday, December 3—1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

### **Sunday, December 10—2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

### **Sunday, December 17—3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

### **Sunday, December 24—4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

### **Sunday, December 24—Christmas Eve (Candlelight) @ 7 p.m.**

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

### **December 31—1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas**

First Reading: Isaiah 61:10—62:3

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40





**Worship Assistants for December**  
**Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.**  
**Christmas Eve (Candlelight) Service: 7:00 p.m.**

Dates & Services	Assisting Minister	Usher	Altar Guild	Sound & Videography
<b>December 3: 1<sup>st</sup></b> Sunday of Advent	Anne Ellett	Bill Suttmeier	Barbara Fetty-Solders	Jonathan Smith
<b>December 10:</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent	Joan Friel	Sang-Beom Shim	Stacy Smith	Jonathan Smith
<b>December 17:</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	Jen Winslow	Larry Thomas	Jane Wuest	Jonathan Smith
<b>December 24:</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	Connie Fletcher	Don Robertson	Jane Wuest	Jonathan Smith
<b>December 24:</b> Christmas Eve (Candlelight)	Jen Winslow	Bill Suttmeier	Jane Wuest	Jonathan Smith
<b>December 31:</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas	Anne Ellett	Ken Konigsmark	Jean Pass & Delaney Cash	Jonathan Smith

**Psalm Cantors for December**

**December 3:** Nora Thomason  
**December 10:** Lori Downey  
**December 17:** Jeff Jewell  
**December 24:** Wendy Winslow



**Volunteer Coordinators**

We're thankful for all our volunteers and for those who coordinate them!

Altar Guild: Jane Wuest  
 Ushers: Bill Suttmeier  
 Memorial Bells: Alice Lewis  
 Assisting Ministers: Cynthia Delaney  
 Sound & Videography: Jonathan Smith

## December Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

12/2 Caleb Cash  
12/3 Stan Patterson  
12/5 McKenzie Henry  
12/6 Lori Downey  
12/10 Frankie Tate  
12/13 Judy Boruck  
Joyce Craig  
12/16 Delaney Cash  
12/30 Sue Friddell



### Anniversaries

12/2 John & Jean Pass  
12/14 Randolph & Linda Baseler  
12/21 Debby & Bob Beck  
12/27 Kate & Les Gagnon



If your name is missing  
from the birthday or anniversary list,  
please contact the church office  
so we can update our records.  
We want you to be included!

# December 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

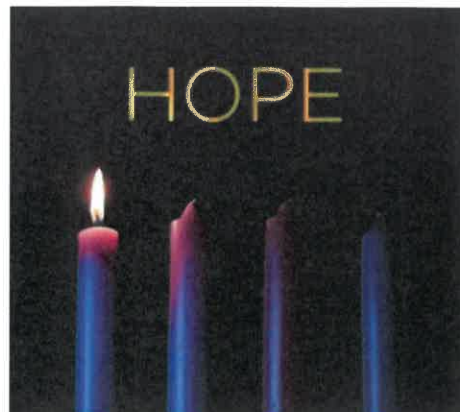
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2
9:30am SOP 10:00am Worship 11:00am Meeting to 11:30am CCM Gifts for	4 3:00pm Companions Bible Study (Zoom) 6:30pm Master Chorus 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop	5 10:00am Issaquah Food & Clothing Bank (Ed. Hall) 7:45pm AA (Anderson Hall)	6 7:30pm Memorial Bells Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	7 9:30am Mission Quilters (Anderson Hall) 10:00am AI-Anon (Ed Hall) 1:00pm Autumn	8 10:30am Congregational Care Ministry (Library)	9 9:00am Decorate for Advent & Christmas 10:00am Meet & Greet the Candidates
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am SOP (Encompass Rm) 10:00am Worship 11:00am Semi-Annual	3:00pm Companions Bible Study (Zoom) 6:30pm Master Chorus 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop	1:00pm Community Meal Prep (Kitchen) 7:45pm AA (Anderson Hall)	10:00am Issaquah Garden Club (Anderson Hall, Kitchen)	9:30am Mission Quilters 10:00am AI-Anon (Ed Hall) 1:00pm Autumn 7:00pm Finance		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30am SOP (Encompass Rm) 10:00am Worship (Sanctuary)	10:30am Congregational 3:00pm Companions 6:30pm Master Chorus 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop	7:00pm Church Council (Zoom) 7:45pm AA (Anderson Hall)		9:30am Mission Quilters 10:00am AI-Anon (Ed Hall) 1:00pm Community 1:00pm Autumn	10:00am Focus Newsletter Deadline	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30am SOP (Encompass Rm) 10:00am Worship 7:00pm Christmas Eve		7:45pm AA (Anderson Hall)		9:30am Mission Quilters (Anderson Hall) 10:00am AI-Anon (Ed Hall) 1:00pm Autumn		
31	Jan 1, 24	2	3	4	5	6
9:30am SOP (Encompass Rm) 10:00am Worship (Sanctuary)						



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

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



Stay connected!  
**[www.oslcissaquah.org](http://www.oslcissaquah.org)**

All articles and announcements for the next *Focus* edition  
are due on the 22nd of the month.  
Please email items to **[office@oslcissaquah.org](mailto:office@oslcissaquah.org)**.

### **OSLC STAFF DIRECTORY**

Rev. John L. Vaswig.....	Transition Pastor
253-677-4515 (cell)	<a href="mailto:jlvaswig@gmail.com">jlvaswig@gmail.com</a>
Cynthia Delaney.....	Parish Administrator
425-392-4169 (office)	<a href="mailto:office@oslcissaquah.org">office@oslcissaquah.org</a>
Dr. Jiyoung Lee.....	Parish Organist
	<a href="mailto:jiyounglee23@outlook.com">jiyounglee23@outlook.com</a>

### **Emergency Pastoral Care**

For emergency pastoral care, please contact  
OSLC Transition Pastor John L. Vaswig  
at 253-677-4515 (cell) or [jlvaswig@gmail.com](mailto:jlvaswig@gmail.com).

