

The light shines in the darkness... John 1:5



# HARBOR BEACON

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## OAK HARBOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A friendly, Christ-centered congregation with a place for you!*

*OHLC is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)*

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**Look, the young woman is with  
child and shall bear a son, and  
shall name him Immanuel.**

**Isaiah 7:14, NRSV**

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**Click on these links**

**for the newsletter inserts:**

The ELCA's monthly *Prayer Ventures*:

<https://resources.elca.org/?categories=prayer-ventures>

The Northwest Washington Synod's insert, *The Spirit*

<https://www.lutheransnw.org/news/the-spirit>

OHLC's website:

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

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# PASTOR'S PAGE:

## Now and Not Yet - Advent and the Christian Life

*"This life therefore is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness; not health, but healing; not being, but becoming; not rest, but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it. The process is not yet finished, but it is going on. This is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified."*

Martin Luther, *Defense and Explanation of all the Articles*, 1521

*"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."*

Philippians 1:6

I love the season of Advent. I love the sense of anticipation. I love the reflective, longing, minor key hymns interspersed with hints of joy. I love the delightfully strange mixing of tenses as we ponder Christ's past coming, present coming, and future coming. I love Advent especially because it points to an underacknowledged but widely experienced aspect of the Christian life, which is the paradoxical "now, but not yet," nature of salvation.

The Bible's teaching on salvation is complex. Take St. Paul's teaching on it, for instance. At times the Apostle describes salvation as a done deal. In Ephesians 2:8 he boldly states: "For by grace you have been saved through faith." There is no equivocation here, nothing left undone. Salvation is a completed work. In 1 Corinthians 1:18, however, Paul describes Christians as "those who are being saved." Here salvation is described as an ongoing process, unfolding in the present. And then there is Romans 5:9-10, where salvation is clearly referred to as a future event, a future hope. Twice in these two verses Paul states that we "will be saved." It isn't quite done. Not yet.

This complexity is not intended to undermine one's confidence in one's salvation. It shouldn't introduce fear or uncertainty about whether someone is saved or not. Rather, it describes the reality of how we experience salvation. It is something that is now, but not yet. We are at the same time completely redeemed by Christ, and we are works in progress. God is still working on us. God still has a future in store for us that has not yet come.

You know this is true in your own life. It is certainly true in mine. The Spirit writes God's law on our hearts, setting them to obey, while the old sinner in us continues to surface with all of his or her self-centered, self-justifying shenanigans. The righteousness in which we are clothed as a gift through Christ

is like any other hand-me-down – it doesn't quite fit us at first and often drapes over us awkwardly as we learn to wear it well. We have moments of Christ-like kindness, patience, and grace, and then when we're overtired or hangry or frustrated, we snarl at strangers and loved ones alike. We find real, tangible healing for certain areas of our lives, only to discover new ways to be hurt or that old scabs are easily torn off. We come to moments of profound understanding and insight as the gospel reaches a new corner of our intellect, and then find ourselves confounded again by some new spiritual knot we can't seem to untangle. We have times when God seems so close, when God's love warms us and fills us with joy, and times when a chilly distance sets in, when we long for that warmth, that assurance. Salvation is now, and it is not yet.

Advent is a season to embrace this complexity. During the Advent season it can sometimes feel like we're pretending that Christ hasn't already been born as we emphasize the themes of waiting and preparation. But what we're really waiting and preparing for is for the work begun in Bethlehem to be completed – in us, and in our world. During Advent, we revisit the promises spoken by the prophets to remember that God's people had seasons of waiting and preparation before, and the same promises which sustained them now sustain us. And even as we acknowledge the "not yet," we find hope in the "now" of Christ coming to us in the present through Word and Sacrament. Past, present, and future are woven together as we focus our attention on Jesus, "who is, and who was, and who is to come." (Revelation 1:8)

Advent is so much more than a countdown to Christmas. It is a season to embrace the complexity of salvation. It is a season to wait and prepare, to look back and to look forward, to take hold of Christ and his promises in every tense. It is a season which resonates powerfully with an often-unacknowledged aspect of Christian life, which is that we experience salvation as something that is now and also not yet.

So embrace this season. Come to worship, in-person and often. Mark the season in your home with candles and wreaths and calendars and devotions. As you wait and prepare, remember that Christ has already graced the earth with his holy presence as the Child born in Bethlehem. Remember that he comes to you now through his Holy Word and Holy Sacraments. And remember that he will one day come again to finish what he's begun. He isn't done with this world, or with you. Not yet.



Pastor Jeffrey R. Spencer



# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2024

## The Messiah's Advent Promises For You



Join us this Advent season for our adult Bible study on Sunday mornings and midweek Advent services on Wednesdays as we explore the promises of Advent. On Sunday mornings (9:15-10:15 in the church library) we will have a musical Bible study as we watch select performances from Handel's *Messiah* and then study the scripture passages featured in the libretto. On Wednesdays at Noon and 6pm we will gather for worship, with devotions based on these scriptures and the promises they proclaim. While the Sunday morning classes and the Wednesday services complement each other, each class and service stands on its own, so attend what you are able to attend!

### Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study: 9:15AM in the church library

- December 1:** Isaiah's Prophecy of Salvation
- December 8:** The Coming Judgement
- December 15:** The Prophecy of Christ's Birth
- December 22:** The Annunciation to the Shepherds

### Midweek Advent Services:

Noon & 6pm, soup suppers following

- December 4:** You Will Be Comforted
- December 11:** You Will Be Fed
- December 18:** You Will Rejoice

The Sunday School Christmas program will be presented as part of the 4 PM worship service on Wed. Dec. 24. Rehearsals are held during SS class time on Dec. 1, 8, 15 & 22. Program participants, please meet in the fellowship hall on the 24th at 3 PM to get into costumes and have (we hope) one more run-through in the sanctuary. *Questions?* Contact Beth in the church office, 360-679-1561, [beth@oakharborlutheran.org](mailto:beth@oakharborlutheran.org).

### VISIT THE SHARING TREE!



Throughout the month of December our Sharing Tree will be on display in the narthex, decorated with tags. Each tag includes a gift suggestion for someone in need. All gifts must be received by Wednesday, December 18. Thank you for helping our friends in need this Christmas! See the article on **page 14** for more information.

# YOUTH & FAMILY ADVENT SPECTACULAR!

Sunday, December 1, 4pm-6pm



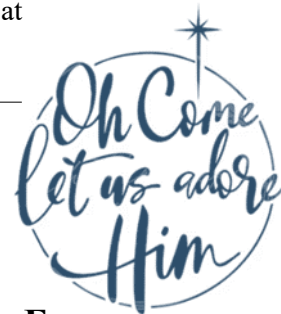
Mark your calendars and plan on joining us on Sunday, December 1, as we kick off the Advent season with our Youth & Family Advent Spectacular! There will be....

- A wonderful Advent nativity craft (pictured above)!
- A delicious dinner -- TATER TOT HOT DISH!
- A hot chocolate bar for dessert!
- Other fun things to do and important things to learn!
- A free Advent countdown calendar to take home!

RSVPs are needed to ensure enough of everything. Please RSVP ASAP via the Connection Card in worship or by emailing Beth at [beth@oakharborlutheran.org](mailto:beth@oakharborlutheran.org).

## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Share the joy of Christmas! Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us for worship this Christmas!



### Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve

**4:00pm: Family Worship Service** (nursery provided)  
*Featuring the Sunday School Christmas Program*

**7:00pm: Traditional Service** (nursery provided)  
*Service will be livestreamed for those who are ill or homebound*

**10:00pm: Traditional Service** (no nursery available)

### Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Day

**10:00am: Worship Service**



## FAIR TRADE WINDS COMING TO OHLC DECEMBER 1

Our friends from Fair Trade Winds will be visiting OHLC once again on Sunday, *December 1*, offering gift items from artists, craftspeople, and farmers from developing nations. Their pop-up store will be in the Fellowship Hall between and after our worship services. Come do some Christmas shopping where you can find some unique items while supporting people in need. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to Lutheran World Relief.

## COMMUNION CLASS FOR KIDS OFFERED DECEMBER 8

On Sunday, *December 8*, after the 10:30 service Pastor Spencer will be offering his communion class for kids, "Journey to Jesus' Table." Those children who are not yet receiving the Lord's Supper as well as those who are already communing are encouraged to attend. A light, kid-friendly lunch will be provided. We'll be done by 1pm. **Please RSVP** via the Connection Card in worship or my emailing Pastor Spencer at [pastor@oakharborlutheran.org](mailto:pastor@oakharborlutheran.org).



## NOVEMBER BAPTISMS, NEW MEMBERS!

Last month we welcomed several new people into the Body of Christ and our congregation. Madeline Elizabeth Hart, the daughter of Tyler and Jessica Hart and granddaughter of Ron and Shelly Muzzall was baptized on November 10. We had the entire **Claycomb family** baptized on November 24: Ali, Josh, their young son Ben, and their infant daughter Annabelle. We also welcomed **Chris & Gretchen Arndt** as new members. We give thanks for God's grace and the gift of new life, and warmly welcome all these new friends into Christian fellowship!



## WEDDING BELLS AT OHLC!

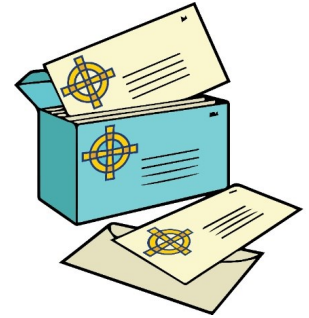
**Carol Stone and Ken Lindh** were united in marriage at OHLC on Monday, November 25. We wish them every blessing as they begin life together as husband and wife!

## YEAR-END GIVING: HELP US FINISH IN THE BLACK!

We are a little short of our budget goals for 2024. Help us wrap up the fiscal year in the black by making a special year-end gift to OHLC! **In order to count towards your 2024 taxes, all financial contributions must be received by the end of worship: Sunday, December 29.**

## OFFERINGS IN 2025: Make a Connection Card note or contact Janis with your preferences by December 8, 2024!

Boxed sets of numbered, paper envelopes will be available for the coming year's giving. If you give regularly to OHLC using cash or checks, these envelopes are extremely helpful for our offering counters ensuring that your gifts go where you intend – to the general fund or a specific designated account or monthly emphasis – and for Janis Powell, OHLC's office manager, who records your giving for your coming year's tax records. Please let her know if you would like her to reserve a set of numbered envelopes for you!



Envelope sets will be available in the narthex in mid-December. Please note that your number may be different from the previous year.

**Are you doing your giving online or through your bank?** Please contact Janis in the office. She will make sure you are assigned an offering number to reflect that method of giving, which will also ensure accuracy in your copy of the year-end report.



## IN JANUARY

### Saturday, January 4: Twelfth Night party

Plan on joining us on Saturday, January 4, at 6 PM for an elegant evening of food, fellowship, and magic. *Save the date! More details will be announced soon!*

### Semi-annual Meeting set for January 19, 9:15 AM

Mark your calendars for our semi-annual meeting! All voting members of Oak Harbor Lutheran are encouraged to attend as we consider our congregational budget for 2024 and attend to other items of business. An agenda for the meeting will be made available by Sunday, January 12.



## DECEMBER NOTES:

Included in this newsletter are *Prayer Ventures* and *The Spirit* for December.

**Quest Club's** holiday schedule is Fridays, Dec. 6 & 20, 3-5 PM.

OHLC's card makers, the **Church Mice Stampers**, meet on Tuesday, **Dec. 10**, starting at 10:00 AM in the library.

**The Brotherhood of St. Bernard**, OHLC's men's Bible study fellowship, meets Tuesday, **Dec. 10**, at noon in the fellowship hall.

**The One Thing Book Group** meets at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, **Dec. 10**, in the home of Lisa Margraf, to consider *Her Hidden Genius*, by Khaled Hosseini.

**Munchy Monday** will not meet on Mondays, **Dec. 23 & 30**.

**Stephen Ministry** will meet on Thursday, December 12th at 4pm in the Library. Please bring an appetizer to share, your own beverage and a Christmas tradition or story to tell the group.

**Get the New Year off to a good start!** The deadline for articles for the January 2025 newsletter is Monday, **Dec. 16**

## OHLC WOMEN

Opportunities for Fellowship, Study & Service

### BLANKET WORKSHOP:

**B**lanket Workshop meets Tuesday & Wednesday, **Dec. 3 & 4, at 9:30 AM** in the fellowship hall to work on tied quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Newcomers are always welcome!

### CIRCLES IN DECEMBER

**Deborah Circle** meets each Thursday at 1PM in the Library. All are welcome! Questions? Contact Gaye Rodriguey at [gaye@tobysuds.com](mailto:gaye@tobysuds.com)  
**Dec 5th** "Receiving Grace: A study in Ephesians," Session three, "Grace-filled living, ancient and new," Nov/Dec 2024 **Gather** magazine, page 18.

**Dec 12th** *Grateful Gatherings*, "Make Space for Silence and Stillness".

**Dec 19th** Christmas Luncheon and White Elephant Gift Exchange, Gaye Rodriguey's house, 228 Rhodena Dr., Coupeville

**Dec 26th** No meeting, Merry Christmas!

**Lydia Circle:** Tuesday, December 17 will be the Lydia Christmas potluck and White Elephant gift exchange.. Bible Study meetings will resume on the first and third Tuesdays of the month starting in January. For more information contact Peg Fosnaugh , 360-929-1653. All are welcome to attend!

### Lydia's Bazaar wrap-up!

- from peg fosnaugh

A huge **Thank You** for all your love and support, and for your gifts of time, home-baked goods, and hand-crafted items to ensure the Bazaar's success. We know we couldn't do this alone; we owe all our success to you, our church family and friends.

All proceeds from the Bazaar go back into the church to benefit you! Of the thirty-four hundred made, \$500 goes straight into Pastor's Emergency Fund and the rest goes to into the building maintenance and ministries of OHLC. Please continue to keep Lydia Circle in your prayer and again thank you to *everyone* who helped in anyway to make the bazaar successful. A special thank you to the Daves, Kelly, Lucas, and Logan for lending their strength to set-up and clean-up.



## BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

December 21 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Our Blue Christmas Service offers a safe place to bring your grief, fear, and loss. Brief readings. Quiet and reflective music. Prayers. All are welcome. Spanish translation provided. The service takes place at 7 p.m. CST on Saturday, December 21, 2024.

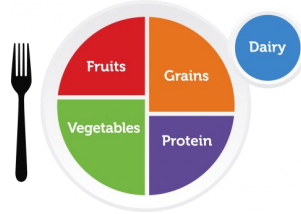


<https://www.womenoftheelca.org/event/blue-christmas-service-virtual-2>



## A Ministry of Oak Harbor Lutheran Church

**W**e are so thankful for November and for all we are learning this month! One very special topic we learned about is nutrition and food groups; discovering how important each is to our bodies, what foods and drinks fit into which categories, and how foods create a well-balanced healthy diet. Students then practiced their lessons by collecting, sorting, and donating nonperishable items to the food bank for Thanksgiving. Thank you to all the families for bringing in items and allowing us to share our blessings with others.



Monday, November 4th they learned about voting and practiced this important duty by casting their very own votes in a highly political race of Grape Juice Vs. Milk. In the end grape juice won by just a few votes, a tight race, but I think the kiddos who got to taste test juice and milk for the project are the real winners! Grocery Outlet of Oak Harbor hosted our field trip this month, students were given a tour of the store, front to back. They practiced identifying food groups with Jesse and Miguel during the tour, dusted off their grocery shopping skills by getting to pick and check out their own healthy treats, and got to explore the back rooms including the loading deck, staging area for products, recycling compactor, storage area, fridges and freezers...brrrr! We are so grateful to explore and learn more about the important role grocery stores play in providing food and supplies to the community.



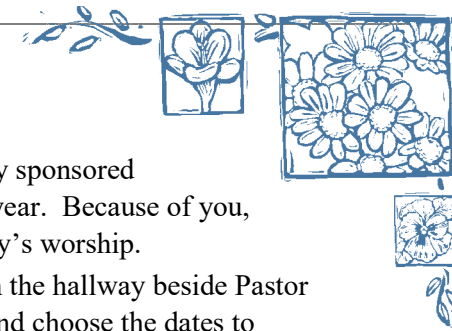
Our annual Feast Day, aka mini-Thanksgiving, was celebrated with all the food favorites. Turkey, stuffing, appetizers, pie, and much more! Students got to try something new, or simply enjoy the classics! What a fantastic way to send them off to Thanksgiving break with their families!

Our question for the students this month was: *My heart is thankful for:*

- |                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Liam:</b> rainbows         | <b>Wren:</b> living              |
| <b>Abby:</b> rainbows         | <b>Colton:</b> dad               |
| <b>Theo:</b> my mom and dad   | <b>Mylo:</b> cheetahs            |
| <b>Harper:</b> noodles        | <b>Rylan:</b> summer             |
| <b>Hannah:</b> mom            | <b>Lennox:</b> my mom            |
| <b>Maren:</b> love and my mom | <b>Dallas:</b> pancakes          |
| <b>Everett:</b> snow          | <b>Karter:</b> playing with kids |

We hope that your Thanksgiving and upcoming Holiday Season are as joyful as the His Kids Preschool Kiddos are!

Thankful for You,  
Ms. Jasmine, Ms. Elva, Ms. Michelle, and Ms. Debbie



**T**hank you to everyone who so generously sponsored chancel and organ flowers for this past year. Because of you, flowers were a beautiful part of every Sunday's worship.

The new calendar has been posted in the hallway beside Pastor Spencer's office door. Be sure to peruse it and choose the dates to commemorate events or honor loved ones. Is your particular date already taken? The organ can host up to 3 bouquets! Please sign up for your special Sunday, and you will be contacted for your choice of flowers and wording for the bulletin.

-- Peg Fosnaugh

## ON THE LIBRARY SHELF

**W**e are featuring a wide variety of Advent and Christmas materials again this year. We have books for both adults and children displayed in the narthex for easy check-out, as well as seasonal offerings on display in the library itself. Happy inspirational reading!

Your library team,  
Kathy Holroyd, Colleen Pedlar, Carol Reafs



## IN SYMPATHY

**L**ongtime member and official OHLC BBQ Pitmaster Roger Anglum died November 5 after fighting many years with the blood cancer, Multiple Myeloma. He was 81. Roger and his wife Georgette have been members here since 1986 when they first moved to Oak Harbor. A memorial service will be held at OHLC, Saturday, December 7, 2024 at 11am. A reception will follow.



Ministry of the Month:



**O**HLC has been busy all year long, sharing and caring in many, many ways— now and then, big and small, here and there and (almost) everywhere! And now the Christmas season is upon us, and the annual **Sharing Tree— December's Ministry of the Month—** is ready for action, by you, of course!

Here's how it works: **Take a tag** from the tree, **purchase the gift/s** listed on the tag, and then **bring the gift AND the tag back to church** by the designated time. **There's also a No Shop Option:** Take any tag from the tree and return it to the church office with cash or a check donation to cover the cost, and someone will purchase items and deliver them for you.

**Please Return all gifts to the church by Wednesday, Dec, 18th**  
**Make sure the Sharing Tree tag is visibly attached to the gift,**  
**whether the gift is wrapped or not! ALL GIFT CARDS should be taken to the church office along with the tag from the Sharing Tree.**

This year's gift recipients include:

1. **Josephine Caring Ministries** – Tags for the residents list a 'bundle' of 3 particular items they would like including a personal card, a lap/twin blanket., and one other item. Please purchase all 3 items and then return them, unwrapped, in a Christmas bag with tissue inside and with the original tag attached. We encourage you to include a personal Christmas card for 'your' resident!
2. **El Camino de Emaus Lutheran Church families** in Burlington – We are asking for some specific gift items that can be wrapped or bagged with the Sharing Tree tag attached, and some Walmart gift cards that can be used for groceries, etc., as needed by the families. The cards will be distributed by their team, based on the family size and need.
3. **Holiday House teen gifts** (also sponsored by the Oak Harbor Lions Club and Toys for Tots) – these cards will ask for gifts for teenage recipients. **Please return these gifts as soon as possible, unwrapped, with the Sharing Tree card attached. There will be a designated box in the church office.**

Thank you for sharing!

Joyfully,  
Sharing Tree Team

## BLOOD DRIVE DATES IN DECEMBER!



**B**loodworks Northwest will be using our fellowship hall again this month for pop-up blood donation clinics. The fellowship hall will be occupied on Thursday & Friday, December 12 & 13, and Thursday & Friday, December 19 & 20 from 10 AM – 5 PM.,

Hannah McNutt of Bloodworks, sent word in late-October that at the last OHLC hosted blood drive they were able to register 158 donors, collect 141 units of blood, and welcome 23 first time donors ! They're thankful of our continued support in the community and look forward to scheduling further events in 2025.

Please note that donations are being made through scheduled appointments. Call 800-398-7888, scan the QR, or follow this link: [https://donate.bloodworksnw.org/donor/schedules/sponsor\\_code](https://donate.bloodworksnw.org/donor/schedules/sponsor_code)

**Our sponsor code is 531b**

## GRIEF AND THE HOLIDAYS

**W**hen you are grieving the death of a loved one, the holidays can be a particularly difficult time. WhidbeyHealth Hospice is offering the workshop "Grief and the Holidays" as a help for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, or other losses. The workshop will provide ideas for navigating the holiday season as a time of healing. All are welcome, and there is no cost to attend. The same workshop will be offered on four dates in the Oak Harbor/Coupeville area:



**Mon, Dec. 9** 1:00 - 3:00 pm at Oak Harbor Lutheran Church  
**Thurs, Dec. 12** 6:00 – 8:00 pm at WhidbeyHealth Medical Center in Coupeville

Please register in advance for your preferred date/time by calling Laurie Johnson, Bereavement Coordinator, at 360-914-5635, or email: [johnla@whidbeyhealth.org](mailto:johnla@whidbeyhealth.org)



## This Holiday Season, Offer the Gift of Remembering to Those Who Are Grieving, Part 2

by Rev. Kenneth C. Haugk, Ph.D.

*With the holidays quickly approaching, . . . people often avoid those who are grieving, uncertain what to say or do. But there's a simple, powerful way anyone can offer care: giving the gift of remembering the grieving person's loved one with them.*



### Listening to and Sharing Memories

Once you've opened the door to remembering, be ready to listen to the grieving person's memories. Sharing memories is a way for them to express their love for the deceased, feel closer to their lost loved one, and experience comfort. Although a grieving person can certainly reflect and remember on their own, there's something special about sharing memories with someone who will listen and care. Whether they're sharing happy memories, sad stories about the deceased's final days, funny anecdotes, or somber reflections, your being there to listen sends a clear message: You are not alone. Each conversation is different. Some people may want to talk and talk, while others may be eager to hear your recollections about their loved one. It varies by individual, so follow the other person's lead. Stay focused on their needs, and you'll be on the right track to providing meaningful care.

### Embracing Every Emotion

One reason people often hesitate to bring up someone's loss is because they're worried about how the grieving person might respond. Memories of a loved one may bring strong emotions—anger, sadness, loneliness, regret—as well as the tears that often come with such feelings. It can be uncomfortable to encounter these strong feelings because we don't know what to say or do. But here's a secret: Usually, the best response is simply to listen and embrace whatever emotions might come. You don't have to say exactly the right thing; in fact, trying to find the perfect words often leads to clichés, platitudes, or other unhelpful responses. In contrast, listening to, accepting, and validating a grieving person's emotions brings comfort. Of course, it isn't always easy to listen as someone cries, expresses anger, or shares how lonely they feel. But when you set aside your discomfort and focus on being present with the other person, you'll be providing exactly the kind of care they need.

### Making the Holidays a Little Easier

Grief has no expiration date. Whether it's been a year, two years, or longer since someone lost a loved one, consider offering the gift of remembering to them, too. No matter how long it's been, listening and reminiscing together is a wonderful way to bring comfort, deepen relationships, offer care, and bring Christ's healing love to those who are hurting during the holidays. Doing that can make a difficult holiday season a little easier.

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- With Gaye Rodriguey

The value of listening and being slow to speech and anger, may seem in short supply in our American culture. Social media urges us to keep posting, generate followers, and comment on what everyone else is saying. Cultural divides deepen as we lose the skills to listen to the thoughtful positions of those who differ from us.

The author of the Biblical book of James advises us to listen and keep calm—timeless advice! Biblical scholars say that although James is located in the epistles (or letters) section of the New Testament, it is in the genre of wisdom literature. James was written for an early Christian community determining how to live as Christians in the world.

Read through James 1 to find several nuggets of wisdom, which lead to a specific end of the chapter: “Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress” (James 1: 27). The point of wisdom and right action isn't to be puffed up with our own smarts, but to use our wisdom and gifts to care for others, particularly the most vulnerable. Like James' community, we would be wise to listen.

**Reflect:** To whom do you find it easy to listen? To whom do you find it more difficult to listen? Where is God calling you to listen next?

**Pray:** God, you hear the cries of our hearts. Help us tune in to our neighbors to hear their joys and sorrows, too. Amen.

*Lisa A. Smith, Anchorage, AK, serves as Director for Evangelical Mission for the Alaska Synod of the ELCA and, along with her husband, parents three young children*



### LESSER FESTIVALS AND COMMEMORATIONS DECEMBER

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 3 Francis Xavier, missionary to Asia, 1552         | 14 John of the Cross, renewer of the church, 1591         |
| 4 John of Damascus, theologian, hymnwriter, c. 749 | 20 Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, 1552 |
| 6 Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c. 342                 | 26 Stephen, Deacon and Martyr                             |
| 7 Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, 397                    | 27 John, Apostle and Evangelist                           |
| 13 Lucy, martyr, 304                               | 28 The Holy Innocents, martyrs                            |





# WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

December 1		
8:00 AM	Assisting Minister: Sheila Ryan Acolyte: Abby Gray Healing Prayer: M. Stroud, G. Rodriguey	Computer: Donna Aspery Organ/Piano: Jan Ernst
10:30 AM	Assisting Minister: Moira Bartrand Communion Asst.: Kerri Totten Healing Prayer: C. Reafs, T. Piper	Computer: Ted Smith Organ/Piano: Jan Ernst
December 8		
8:00 AM	Assisting Minister: Kim Acolyte: Anna Richards	Computer: Emma Norman Organ/Piano: Sue Stroud
10:30 AM	Assisting Minister: Carol Fitzgerald Communion Asst.: Bobbi Miller	Computer: Totten Organ/Piano: Sue Stroud
December 15		
8:00 AM	Assisting Minister: Jeff Margraf Acolyte.: Matthew Richards	Computer: Lisa Margraf Organ/Piano: Kris Bruland
10:30 AM	Assisting Minister: Skip Lycksell Communion Asst.: Rita Carter	Computer: Ted Smith Organ/Piano: Kris Bruland
December 22		
8:00 AM	Assisting Minister: Marty Leukhardt Acolyte.: Elizabeth Richards	Computer: Lucas Stone Organ/Piano: Verna Morgan
10:30 AM	Assisting Minister: Craig Pedlar Communion Asst.: Leslie Improta	Computer: Totten Organ/Piano: Verna Morgan

**Little Lutheran bags in October: Donna Aspery**

*Thank you to Wendy Wilson for September!*

This month's decorative font is: **WOODBADGE**

## FINANCIAL REPORT

## OCTOBER

	October	Year to date
Income	\$ 34,390	\$ 350,013
Outgo	<u>36,404</u>	<u>354,527</u>
	\$ <u>(2,015)</u>	\$ <u>(4,514)</u>

December 24 – Christmas Eve		
4:00 PM		Organ/Piano: Verna Morgan
7:00 PM	Assisting Minister: Rita Carter, Pam Danielson Communion Assts.: Tracey Tomlin, Mike Dilley	Organ/Piano: Verna Morgan
10:00 PM	Assisting Minister: Sheila Ryan	Organ/Piano: Verna Morgan
December 25 – Christmas Day		
10:00 AM	Assisting Minister: Bobbi Miller	Organ/Piano: Jan Ernst
December 29		
8:00 AM	Assisting Minister: Tom Piper Acolyte:	Computer: Sam Richards Organ/Piano: Jan Ernst
10:30 AM	Assisting Minister: Gaylen Smith Communion Asst.: Bobbi Miller	Computer: Totten Organ/Piano: Jan Ernst

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

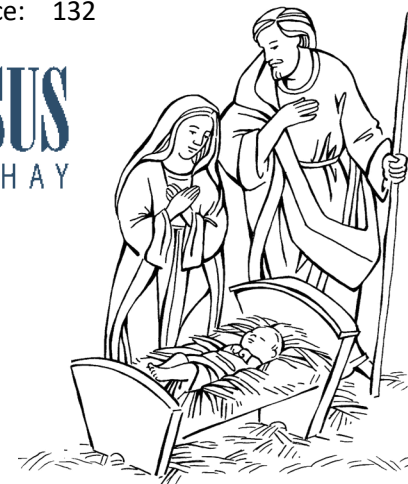
## NOVEMBER

Date	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Oct 27	68	78
Nov 3	48	89
Nov 10	45	88
Nov 17	46	64
<b>Avg. Att.</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>80</b>

*November 24 will be included in next month's statistics.*



Average Sunday attendance: 132

THE **LORD JESUS**  
ASLEEP ON THE HAY



# December



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
<b>1 Advent 1</b>  <b>Worship</b> 8:00 Sunday School 9:15 Adult Ed. 9:15 <i>Fair Trade Market</i> <b>Worship</b> 10:30 Y&F Advent 4:00 CA/library 7:30	2  12:30 M.M. set-up 1:30 Munchy Monday  6:00 private tutoring 6:30 WIYS 7:00 North Whidbey NA/ library	3  9:30 Blanket Workshop   5:30 Al Anon	4  9:30 Blanket Workshop  12:00 Midweek Worship 12:30 Soup & bread  4:00 Chancel Choir  6:00 Midweek Worship 6:30 Soup & bread 7:30 Jubilate Ringers	5  1:00 Deborah Circle   3:00 <i>She Sharps</i> 7:00 NA	6    3:00 QUEST CLUB 6:00 Recital/ Viljoen	7    11:00 Memorial Service   5:00 Toastmasters	
<b>8 Advent 2</b>  <b>Worship</b> 8:00 Sunday School 9:15 Adult Ed. 9:15 <b>Worship</b> 10:30  Recital/Morgan 1:00 Girl Scouts 46518 4:00 CA/library 7:30	9  12:30 M.M. set-up 1:30 Munchy Monday  5:30 Bazaar post -wrap 7:00 North Whidbey NA/ library 6:30 WIYS	10  10:00 Church Mice Stampers 12:00 Brotherhood of St. Bernard 3:00 SPiN B.O.D.  5:30 Al Anon 7:00 Boy Scouts Troop 4059, fellowship hall	11  12:00 Midweek Worship 12:30 Soup & bread  4:00 Chancel Choir  6:00 Midweek Worship 6:30 Soup & bread 7:30 Jubilate Ringers	12  <b>Bloodworks NW</b> 10 AM – 4 PM fellowship hall 1:00 Deborah Circle 4:00 Stephen Ministry 3:00 <i>She Sharps</i> 6:00 Council 6:00 All-Island Community Band Concert 7:00 NA	13  <b>Bloodworks NW</b> 10 AM – 4 PM fellowship hall	14    12:00 NA gathering, to 5 PM	
<b>15 Advent 3</b>  <b>Worship</b> 8:00 Sunday School 9:15 Adult Ed. 9:15 <b>Worship</b> 10:30  CA/library 7:30	<b>16 Newsletter Deadline</b>  12:30 M.M. set-up 1:30 Munchy Monday  5:00 WIYS, till 9 PM 6:00 North Whidbey NA/ library	17  5:30 Lydia Holiday Party 5:30 Al Anon	18  12:00 Midweek Worship 12:30 Soup & bread  4:00 Chancel Choir  6:00 Midweek Worship 6:30 Soup & bread 7:30 Jubilate Ringers	19  <b>Bloodworks NW</b> 10 AM – 4 PM fellowship hall  1:00 Deborah Circle  3:00 <i>She Sharps</i> 7:00 NA	20  <b>Bloodworks NW</b> 10 AM – 4 PM fellowship hall  3:00 QUEST CLUB	21  Michelle Tull Baking 8 AM - 4 PM  5:00 Recital/ Hendricks sanctuary/fellowship hall	
<b>22 Advent 4</b>  <b>Worship</b> 8:00 Sunday School 9:15 Adult Ed. 9:15 <b>Worship</b> 10:30  Girl Scouts 46518 4:00 CA/library 7:30	23    7:00 North Whidbey NA/ library	<b>24 CHRISTMAS EVE</b>  4:00 <b>Worship/S.S.</b> Christmas program  5:30 Al Anon  7:00 <b>Worship/</b> Holy Communion 10:00 <b>Worship/</b> Holy Communion	<b>25 CHRISTMAS DAY</b>  10:00 AM Worship  	26  9:00 newsletter assembly  1:00 Deborah Circle   3:00 <i>She Sharps</i> 7:00 NA	27  7:30 Cultural Homestay Int'l, lib./ed wing, to 3 PM	28      	
29  <b>Worship</b> 8:00 Sunday School 9:15 Adult Ed. 9:15 <b>Worship</b> 10:30  CA/library 7:30	30  7:30 Cultural Homestay Int'l, lib./ed wing, to 3 PM  7:00 North Whidbey NA/ library	<b>31 New Year's Eve</b>  7:30 Cultural Homestay Int'l, ed wing, to 3 PM  5:30 Al Anon	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>HIS KIDS PRESCHOOL</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>M,T,W,TH, F</b>            9:00 AM – 12:15 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Winter Break</b>            Dec. 23-Jan. 3</p>			<div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>TO FULFILL WHAT THE LORD HAD SPOKEN BY THE PROPHET.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Matthew 1:22, ESV</i></p> </div>	