

# The Quill

DECEMBER 2014



# Queen Anne

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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# WORSHIP AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN DECEMBER



## *Christmas at Queen Anne Lutheran Church*

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### CHRISTMAS EVE

**December 24**

**5:30 P.M. Christmas Eve Family Vesper Service**

**11:00 P.M. A Festival Candlelight Eucharist**

Pre-Service music begins at 10:40

### CHRISTMAS DAY

**December 25**

**11:00 A.M. The Feast of the Holy Nativity**

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### **December's Sunday Forums**

Our Sunday Forums meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:15. All are welcome!

December 7: **Taste of Christmas.** The Fellowship Hall will explode with tastes of the Christmas season; food and fellowship courtesy of the QALC Women.

December 14: **Blue Christmas** . Sister Clare leads a session for any of us for whom this holiday season brings emotional burdens. God comes to be with all of us in this season.

December 21: **Conversation With the Transition Team.** Stop down to hear about the tasks and timeline of the Transition Team as we move forward in this process. Bring your concerns and questions.

December 28: No Forum.

### **Return of Lunch and Learn**

Lunch and Learn, a weekly Bible study that meets at noon on Tuesdays, begins anew on December 2, led by Pastor Doug. Bring a bag lunch to the Conference Room; all are welcome to join in.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **GREEN is the new BLUE?!!**



Normally Advent is a time of waiting and watching for the birth of our Lord and Savior. During this time we see the color blue in Queen Anne Lutheran, but on *Dec 6th, beginning at 9:30am* we'll be seeing Green too! ***The Annual Greening of the Church*** is a time that we encourage people to help decorate the Church for the Greatest of all Birthdays . . . *Immanuel*, God with us. Come for the good times and enjoy a wonderful lunch. If you have questions call Richard or Joan Crummett, 206-261-4448 or just show up and have fun!

**You know you want to!!**

## **Advent Giving Tree**

Giving Tree tags are hanging in the narthex. This year, the gifts will go to Mary's Place, which runs a free "store." Mary's Place clients will choose gifts there for their family members. Please take a tag and return the gift to the church by Sunday December 14—earlier is better. (The Mary's Place Christmas store will be open to its clients December 15-18.)

## **Coffee and More**

Equal Exchange products make great and thoughtful Christmas gifts. Special orders for Christmas gifts need to be in to Joel Matter by Sunday, Dec. 7. Read more information on page 5, and If you have questions, please see or contact Joel.

## **2015 Offering Envelopes**

2015 offering envelopes will be available on a table in the narthex for **pickup beginning December 7**. The Finance Committee encourages each of you to make faithful use of them. Please use the regular offering envelopes to make gifts to Queen Anne Lutheran Church. Special offerings envelopes are also provided in the packet for contributions to special programs—local and church wide—such as L.Y.O.N.S. and Lutheran World Relief.

Also, with regard to envelopes and in consideration for the dedicated Counters who process all of our receipts, we invite your help to save them time and effort. To ensure accurate accounting of your gifts, it



## **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

5	David Carew
6	Bowen McGowan
8	Carol Ann Davis Ryan Saunders Joelle Nausin
9	Linda Carlson
10	Sarah Hatlen
12	Gordon Storey Devin Patten
15	Joan Hoover
19	Timothy Porter Aaron Boyson Lindley Torbenson
22	Warren Conner
24	Michael Banobi
26	Karen Erickson Nina Roozen
27	Emmett Pritchard
29	Declan McGowan

*If your (or family member's) birthday is missing from this list, please contact the church office at*

*[admin@queenannelutheran.org](mailto:admin@queenannelutheran.org)  
or 206-284-1960.*

is important that the dollar amount of your gift is written on the offering envelope. When using the special offering envelopes, please write the name of the fund or organization (i.e., altar flowers or Queen Anne Helpline) and the total dollar amount enclosed .

We realize, of course, that there will be times when you will use alternate means for your gift(s) such as pew envelopes. In those cases, please include the following information on the envelope: (1) your name, (2) your assigned envelope number, (3) amount being designated to each fund or organization, and (4) total dollar amount enclosed.

The Counters will appreciate your help.

**THANK YOU!!**

## **End of Year Giving Information**

If you are planning to make a gift at the end of the year to support the ministry of Queen Anne Lutheran Church, the information listed below may help you with your planning and ease some of your stress:

### **Closing of Financial Secretary's Record of Giving**

To be included on 2014 Giving Statements, contributions for the 2014 tax year must be in the church office by 2 PM, Wednesday, December 31. Offering envelopes mailed to the church office must have a postmark date of December 31 or before to be included on the 2014 Statement of Giving. IRS regulations do not allow for any checks or gifts, received or postmarked after December 31, 2014, to be recorded as a contribution for 2014.

### **Would You Prefer to Simplify Your Giving?**

Queen Anne Lutheran now accepts online donations. Just go to the church's website, [www.queenannelutheran.org](http://www.queenannelutheran.org), click on the "Donate" tab. The "Donate Online" button will take you to a secure server using PAYPAL where you can make a donation through an electronic fund transfer, debit card or credit card.

Looking ahead to 2015, please consider using "Simply Giving." This is an electronic transfer (EFT) program that provides a safe and simple way to make automatic payments from your checking or savings accounts to QALC. This helps QALC by ensuring that your offering is received, even when you may be unable to make an offering in person. Additionally, the more predictable income helps QALC pay its regular recurring bills like utilities, insurance, and salaries. Other benefits include less chance for error and saving paper. To enroll or change your EFT authorization, simply contact Ken Hockman our Financial Secretary or pick up a brochure from the Finance Committee bulletin board in the Sacristy hallway.

### **Gifts of Stock**

Another piece of information you may find useful. Queen Anne Lutheran is also able to accept gifts of stock in lieu of cash contributions. In some situations this may yield tax advantages to the donor. While QALC's Treasurer and Finance Committee members are not qualified to provide tax advice, we can provide you with the information you need for making a gift of stock. See the Finance Committee bulletin board for details or speak to the Treasurer, Myra Dittes.

## **Capital Campaign Is Close to Reaching Goal**

As of November 23, 2014, our Financial Secretary, Ken Hockman, reports that we have received 35 pledges for the 2014 Capital Campaign totaling \$121,197, which is 97 percent of our goal of \$125,000. Actual dollars received for the \$121,197 pledges was \$102,832 which includes cash and non-cash, such as gifts of stock, payments.

## **Queen Anne Men's Ministry (For men of all ages):**

We invite men of all ages to join in conversation and service to the community on a regular basis. Our regular monthly meeting on Saturday mornings includes discussion of Scriptural topics, how they relate our 21st century lives, and what we can do to live as Christians in the world.

December 6, Greening of Church—Saturday AM discussion starting 8:30 AM in Chapel Conference Room, greening starts at 9:30 AM.

January 17—Discussion at 8:30 AM, Saturday Chapel Conference Room, with healthy snacks.

—Rich Mathes & Richard Crummett

## **Lutheran World Relief Ingathering a Success (truck-loading at Our Redeemers' Lutheran):**



Thanks in particular to all the many loaders who worked a very rainy Friday Oct 31, and a better Saturday. We filled two trucks again (what we normally fill in fall). QALC is storing 1,000 pounds, that arrived late, from Anchorage area churches until the May ingathering. And thanks to all who made quilts or kits, or donated items, or paid for shipping.

—Rich Mathes





## **Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Coffee Project Continues**

As many of you know by now, I have volunteered to carry on the duties of the LWR Coffee Project Coordinator. During the past few weeks I've taken time to understand the particulars of the coordinator's task. All the stock that I have found throughout the church building has been inventoried. I plan to maintain the current self-service and honor system to all sales. While I'm not sure where on the learning curve I'm at, I'm sure I still have a lot to learn.

Why is QALC involved with the Coffee Project? There are three reasons. The first and foremost reason is to provide a more equitable livelihood for small farmers around the world. Second: for every pound of products we purchase through the Coffee Project, 20 cents is donated to the LWR Small Farmer Fund. And the third reason is that QALC itself also receives some of the proceeds from each purchase.

I have made some changes to the products offered. The Divine chocolate bars are no longer ordered because LWR is no longer partnered with SERRV, which distributed these chocolate bars. The remaining Divine chocolate bars will be sold until gone. LWR's partner in the Coffee Project, Equal Exchange, also offers similar kinds of chocolate bars at the same price. Let me know what you think of these products. Also, there are some price changes for the coffee being offered. It turns out that the canned coffees cost more than the bag coffee: \$7.50 each. In addition, decaf coffee costs \$1 more than the regular varieties. Therefore, decaf bag coffee costs \$8 each and decaf canned coffee costs \$8.50 each. On the bright side, tea now costs only \$3 a package.

As I am writing this, I am preparing to call in an order. I am looking at getting more coffee, tea, chocolate, honey, olive oil, cashews, dried mango ... Say What? Yes, indeed, Equal Exchange offers more than just coffee, tea, and chocolate bars. The donation to LWR Small Farmer Fund applies to all products (excluding paper cups, coffee filters, napkins, and the like) that are purchased. While I will hold off ordering for now things like honey, olive oil, dried mango, etc., I encourage you to look at the new catalogue from Equal Exchange, and let me know if there are products in the catalogue you want that are not currently offered on site at the LWR counter.

**Equal Exchange products make great and thoughtful Christmas gifts. Special orders for Christmas gifts need to be in to me by Sunday, Dec. 7. If you have questions, please see or contact me.**

—Joel Matter



*(above) The choir's music delights, from Pastor Doug to the smallest of cherubs.*

*(right) Pastor Wayne's last gift of left-behind treasures found their way to our homes.*

*(below) Barb Bash strung our "Giving Flags" in the narthex on a Sunday morning. The banners provide a way to remind us of the many avenues for stewardship and mission available to the members of Queen Anne Lutheran.*



## Burritos for 300

Queen Anne, Lutheran, which assisted in the establishment 30 years ago of Community Lunch on Capitol Hill, extended its record of support and participation by once again taking charge of the CLCH kitchen each Tuesday in November to provide upwards of 300 hot meals at each lunch. Thank you to the many volunteers who joined to make the events a smooth success, without a hitch.



Lead chefs for the four Tuesdays were Candy Mathes, Don Thomas, Harold Robertson and Jim Margard. We expect to continue with the project next year and invite anyone to volunteer, including aspiring chefs who want to try their hand at the lead chef position (with plenty of assistance, of course!) More information on that next summer. We were also pleased to have Don Jensen, executive Director of CLCH, present at a QAELC forum in November. Don outlined the important role CLCH plays in serving the hungry in our community, and outlined areas of growth, including the initiation of a dinner program two nights a week. Questions or

comments on the program



*Nov 9, 2014: Community Lunch Director Don Jensen presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Queen Anne Lutheran during a recent visit where he talked about the 30-year history of the organization and plans for the future. Queen Anne Lutheran has been part of Community Lunch since the beginning. (l-r: Katherine Knorr, Jacqui Darroch, Harold and Georganne Robertson, Don Jensen, Jim Margard and Rich Mathes.)*



# Taste of Christmas!

## for EVERYONE!

December 7

9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

The Women of QALC along with Sunday School would like to invite you to a Taste of Christmas. We will be cooking several traditional holiday foods as well as making decorations for the Narthex Christmas Tree. Come join us for Lefse, Krumkaka, Pizzelle, Stolen and Potato Sausage. If you would like to help or have a holiday food you would like to share, call Sallie Wilson or Pat Sobeck, or Candy Mathes.



The QALC Women's Committee decided we need to continue the tradition of the Giving Tree. The Queen Anne Helpline will not be giving gifts to families as they have done in the past. We will be helping the families of Mary's Place instead. Gift tags are up in the Narthex; see more info on page 2.



The Sewing and Service group took a morning off to visit the newest residence of Lutheran Social Service. Dexter House, just north of Denny Park Lutheran Church, is designed for families, as well as singles. They could use new or lightly used toys for their children's room - a community playroom for children of many ages. There will be a list on the Women's Board in the Hallway. the list includes Giant Checkers, Art Supplies, Play-Dough, Puzzles, Junior Scrabble, Bop It, Sequence, Soft Building Blocks, Checkers, Candyland, Puzzles for various ages, Math Games, etc. They could

also use books—*The Giving Tree*, Thesaurus, Dictionaries, Dr. Seuss books, Arthur Books, *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* . . .

Join the Quilters and Sunshiners for lunch at Jean McLauchlan's on December 17th, 12 noon. This replaces the normal Sunshiners meeting on the 4th Wednesday. If you would like to join a circle this month, check with the circle to make sure they are meeting.

—Your Women's Committee, Pat, Sallie, Jacqui, Sophie, and Candy

## Women of QALC: Ongoing Groups



Come join us at a circle this month!  
Please check with the circle leaders  
if you would like to attend a circle.

Your Coordinating Committee  
Candy, Jacqui, Pat, Sallie, and Sophie

**Julia Circle** 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. Contact Georganne Robertson or Candy Mathes.

**Northern Lights:** Monday, December 8 at 7:00 PM. Contact Dolly Smith.

**Katie's Table:** 3rd Saturday at 9 AM. For location & questions please contact Joan Crummett.

**Sewing and Service:** Wednesdays.  
Contact Lois Unseth or Shirley Flory.

**Sunshiner's Circle:** Usually meets 4th Wednesday at noon.  
Contact Jean MacLauchlan.

**PDQ's (Pizza, Damsels, and Quilts):**  
3rd Tuesday of most months, sometime after 5:30 PM. Light supper provided. Contact Karen McCullough.

## Queen Anne Lutheran Church Book Group



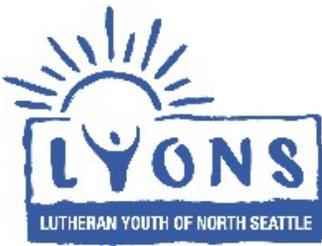
Here are our 2015 Selections.

All are welcome! Come when you can!

We meet on the last Monday of the Month except where noted;  
7:00PM at QALC

Questions? Contact any of the discussion leaders listed below.

Date	Book	Leader
January 26	<i>The Orchardist</i> by Amanda Coplin	Diane Wearne
February 23	<i>The Last Time I Saw Paris</i> by Lynn Sheene	Sally Wilson
March 30	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i> by Betty Smith	Shirley Flory
April 27	<i>I Will Try</i> by Legson Kayira	Georganne Robertson
May TBD	Seattle Reads [May 18, May 26 or June 1]	Sophie Pritchard
June 29	<i>The Cellist of Sarajevo</i> by Steven Galloway	Sharon Longaker
July 27	Book Selections for 2016	Cathi Unseth
August 31	<i>I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban</i> by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb	Cathi Unseth
September 28	<i>The Boys in the Boat</i> by Daniel James Brown	Jan Slawson
October 26	<i>The Imposter Bride</i> by Nancy Richler	Candy Mathes
November 30	<i>In the Shadow of the Banyan Tree</i> by Vaddy Ratner	Karen McCullough
December	Holiday break	



## A Reflection on LYONS Mission Work

From Katelyn Falconer, 9<sup>th</sup> Grader at Ingraham High School:

My name is Katelyn, I have been a part of the LYONS group for four years and have loved every moment. Last summer I had the amazing opportunity to go to Yakima and be a part of the Middle School SLAM trips (Students Learning about Missions) and I think it was a great learning experience for the entire group. We spent the whole week doing yard work for the native elders, and while that may sound dull, it was great. At first, I thought working for six days sounded awful, until I learned how easy it is to make any situation fun. Over the course of the week I got to know some amazing people, and I formed stronger

bond with everyone from LYONS.

This trip was a great learning experience for the entire group as well, one day of the week we had a break from working. We used this day to participate in a Native American church service, during this service we passed around a stick and when someone got the stick they got to share anything they wanted. We heard songs, bible verses, and a few personal stories. I think this taught me, as well as the rest of the group, that you shouldn't be afraid to trust people, because no matter what you think, people who care about you will not judge you and neither will Jesus.

The final thing we all learned is how

strong we truly are. Before the trip, I viewed myself as weak and unable to do hard work, but once I pulled the last vine from the top of a tree that hadn't even been visible the day before, I realized that I am capable of anything, and I can only assume that others from the group had the same feeling.

To this day I still think of memories from the trip to Yakima and find myself smiling. I miss all of the amazing people I met and I hope one day our paths will cross again. I can happily say that my trip to Yakima with LYONS is a memory I will keep forever.



*Katelyn (left) enjoys Otter Pups with other LYONS youth.*

## **The Skinny on Queen Anne Helpline**

The most common question I am asked, when I tell people I am the Director of the Queen Anne Helpline, is why do we need a social service agency providing assistance to neighbors in three relatively affluent neighborhoods - Queen Anne, Magnolia and South Lake Union?

More than 32 years ago a group of neighbors saw that there are in fact people in our community who were slipping through the cracks, who don't have friends or family with the means to help in a crisis. At its core the Helpline is that critical safety net helping some of our most vulnerable neighbors; fixed income seniors, struggling families and other individuals. And while it can be hard to believe, our neighborhoods are home to more than 1200 subsidized housing units as well as several emergency shelters and transitional apartment buildings.

We are unique in the simple fact that we are hyper-local; over 80% of our funding comes from individual donors, and with our very low overhead most of our revenue goes directly to our neighbors in need. Last year the Helpline provided housing, clothing, food and job training assistance to more than 3000 individuals. Here's what that looked like in human terms:

- Through our new Weekend Food for Kids program we partnered with Ballard Food Bank and Queen Anne Presbyterian Church to pack and distribute 1,000 bags of food to local students who were at risk of hunger on weekends when they didn't have access to school meals.
- Provided \$40,000 worth of food and clothing to ensure no one was hungry, or unable to work because they didn't have the right clothes.
- Provided a financial lifeline to many adults so they could complete vital job training and education to become self-sufficient.
- Kept the electricity on for hundreds of people so they had heat and lights during the winter months.
- Prevented 300 evictions so struggling families and individuals did not have to become homeless.

There are numerous ways to get involved and help support our work, from financial donations to clothing and food donations and volunteering in many different capacities. To learn more about the Queen Anne Helpline or to complete a volunteer application, please visit our website:

[www.QueenAnneHelpline.org](http://www.QueenAnneHelpline.org), or call us: 206-282-1540.

*Lisa Moore, PhD*

Executive Director

[lisa@queenannehelpline.org](mailto:lisa@queenannehelpline.org)

**West Side Baby & St. Joseph's Baby Corner**—As many of you know these two organizations have merged to create an even larger focus on helping Seattle's newest and neediest citizens. Donations may continue to be left in the drawer in the narthex and I will see that they get to the baby corner. Donation receipts from that organization are now available. I will be happy to email one to donors upon request.

Thanks for your continued support. —*Ellen Hockman, 206-282-2341*

# LETTERS OF THANKS



Hello parents,

Its my hope that you are fine and doing well with your daily activities. Am glad to tell you that I have received my gift from Dr. Misinjili and when I opened, I had tears of joy dropping down.



What a great love from you people of Queen Anne, I recalled of the statement that Elsa told me when I was in form one, she said, " the people of Queen Anne loves you so much and they said their joy is when they see you doing well until you become self-dependent" Mama Jean told me that you people loves me so

much so to keep your joy, I should always struggle to reach my destiny and one thing she told me was, I should not take for granted the chance that God gave me and I should prove that by doing good in my studies, to which I thank God for the far he has used you Queen Anne people to lift me from zero towards becoming a hero and from nothing to something.

What should I say than saying you have left a remarkable mark in my life, thank you and God bless you abundantly.

I received an envelope with two cards which all had money in it and a bag, a neckless, and a white soft cloth sort of. My heart is full of joy to an extent that the tears are flowing.

God bless Queen Anne,

*Einoth Christopher*

## THANK YOU!

Jackie and I wish to thank all the members and friends of QALC for the wonderful Bactoberfest retirement party. We are grateful for the many cards and gifts and kind words expressed on our behalf. Your generosity and affirmation of my ministry and Jackie's participation in the life of QALC was especially gratifying. Both of us are already missing this very special faith community that was so much a part of our lives for the last twenty-one years. We also would like to extend an invitation: If you should ever be in the Whidbey area, please know you are welcome to visit us at our new home on Whidbey. Our address is 4161 Scatchet View Drive, Clinton, WA. 98236. We both have new email addresses: webacus@icloud.com for Wayne and wnjbacus@hotmail.com for Jackie. Our new telephone number is 360-579-4829. Again, thank you for your generosity, kindness and love,

—Pastor Wayne and Jackie

# LETTERS OF THANKS

I just wanted to say thank you for arranging for us to present at Queen Anne Lutheran on Sunday! Your group was so welcoming. I know that Emily enjoyed seeing some familiar faces, and it was wonderful to have a chance to introduce Derek.

I also want to extend thanks for the socks, groceries, and funds. All are so appreciated, especially as we enter the busy holiday season. We had lots of comments of appreciation on Monday regarding the nice woolen socks we were able to distribute thanks to QA Lutheran.

Have a wonderful week!

Best,

*Jasmine*

Queen Anne Food Bank

On behalf of the Queen Anne Helpline and our clients, thanks to the congregation of Queen Anne Lutheran for their recent donation of \$150. As a community based nonprofit more than 80% of our revenue comes from supporters like you. Queen Anne Helpline provides a critical safety net during times of hardship for neighbors living in Queen Anne, Magnolia and South Lake Union. Your gift helps support our Secure Housing, Weekend Food for Kids, and Clothing Bank programs. Thanks to everyone for their generosity, and for extending your compassion to neighbors in need.

With gratitude,

*Lisa*

Lisa Moore, PhD  
Executive Director

## **Greetings from Boy Scout Troop 70**

The Scouting movement started in the United States in 1910. Boy Scout Troop 70 started on Queen Anne in 1922. We are an inclusive Troop representing many faith denominations. We utilize the Scouting curriculum to build boys into leaders while focusing on outdoor skills and community involvement.

We are looking for boys 11-17 that would like to join us for activities like hiking, camping, technology, archery, climbing, swimming, cinematography, rappelling, white water rafting, mountain biking, science, and environmental science. The best part of earning a merit badge is the experience. And with badges ranging from backpacking to robotics, there are tons of cool experiences.

In the community, Troop 70 hosts blood drives 6-8 times a year and collects donations from the QA Farmer's Market on behalf of the QA Food Bank. We also sponsor a food drive every spring.

If your boys in the Queen Anne Lutheran congregation are looking for adventure, friendship and fun, the Boy Scouts of Troop 70 may be just the solution. You'll see firsthand how once-in-a-lifetime opportunities can lead to a lifetime of success.

We are very open to your questions about the Troop's management at the local level. You can find out more about us at <http://www.qatroop70.org> or simply send us an email at [info@qatroop70.org](mailto:info@qatroop70.org). We are fully supported by our chartering organization, Queen Anne United Methodist Church.

Thanks,

Troop 70

## *Bishop's Message*



### **Advent's Invitation**

*by Kirby Unti, NWWA Synod Bishop*

Advent is upon us again and with it comes the scurry of activities that lead up to the celebration of the Christ child's birth. It stirs within me memories about how we celebrated Advent with our children as they were growing up. The two family traditions we participated in were the daily opening of the Advent calendar and the lighting of the Advent candles. They both created their own challenges. We spent too many years

fighting over whose turn it would be to perform the rituals. Kim eventually assigned each child a day.

We had one daughter who simply could not resist opening up the little doors of the calendar ahead of their assigned day. She is the same child who knew what all of her presents were before she opened them. This came from the constant examination of them as they sat beneath the Christmas tree. She also could not keep a secret of what she purchased for her sisters and often insisted they open their presents before Christmas Day. She still struggles with waiting.

When it came to the lighting of the Advent candles and the accompanying reading we were hopeless. We just could not lend to it the seriousness that it deserved. The kids and their father too often used funny voices or tried to cut out sections of the readings so we could get on with dinner. At least one child insisted on playing with the candle wax. And there was the battle over who got to blow out the candles. Mother was not happy with us and on more than one occasion threatened to end the whole celebration. We protested her threat, even though we made fun of the rituals, because we were not prepared to go without.

Somehow we knew that there was something holy in what we were doing. Somehow we knew the marking of each day with these rituals was a way to add value to the expectation of the mystery. The mystery that there is a God. The mystery that this God takes up residency in our world. The mystery that our God becomes human clothed in baby flesh. The mystery of God's constant coming into the world.

This is what ritual does. It calls us back to the truth. It invites us again and again to consider how something so much greater than what we can comprehend can come to be. It invites us to set aside all of the distractions of our lives to entertain for just a few moments what it means that there is a God who cares so deeply for our lives and the whole creation. A God who has the capacity to delight in God's children. Even those who lack proper reverence. Now this is a great God.

May this Advent season be a time that invites you into the mystery of the incarnation. May it provide you with a few moments of holy laughter in the midst of your preparation and anticipation of the word made flesh. Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!



## The Beginning of the Good News

We enter this Advent into a year that uses Mark as a primary source for the lectionary Gospel texts. How these stories get off the ground is a truly fascinating thing, and one that the theologians have been debating for a very long time. John goes back to even before time itself, with “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” One cannot miss the connection to Genesis which begins with the same phrase.

Matthew and Luke both include narratives around the birth of Jesus, and events that happened to extended members of his family. Why not? Who doesn't like a story that includes a sleeping newborn, a pair of wonderful but apprehensive parents, some gathering admirers, and a chorus of Angels to boot? Both of them tell different stories, but this is all about a new life that has begun in the world. It is something to celebrate, even in the midst of challenges.

Mark, however, starts with “The beginning of the Good News of Jesus Christ, the son of God.” No lead in, no introduction, right out of the blue comes this statement, that the Good News begins now. Mark is in a hurry to get at it. It only takes him seven verses to go from Isaiah, through the prophets of old to the last in the line, John the Baptist. Another handful of verses, and Jesus is baptized, declared to be God's son, driven out on a quest, tempted by Satan, watched by wild beasts, and served by Angels. By verse 14, Jesus steps into his own work: “The time is fulfilled, the Kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news.”

We are indeed in a new day. We are starting a new Church year. We will get through the Advent and Christmas before we know it, and be in a new calendar year as well. We also are beginning the journey of transition. It helps knowing who you are, where you are and how you got there. I will be a step or two behind you, as I have only been around for a few weeks, but I look forward to learning more from you. Queen Anne Lutheran Church has a lot going for it. It has a strong history and has been blessed with fine pastors and staff. The members that I have met are more than willing to work for the things that are important to them. They pitch in to get a lot done. But it is a new day for the congregation as well.

Interims are like that. It might seem only a little like being driven into the wilderness. But God will send either Angels, or perhaps yourselves, to serve in this time. We have already begun the process. I would expect that things that might not change much in form, like Sunday morning Worship, seems new to you. It certainly does for me, but I am enjoying the newness.

We will find, however, that though we are looking at the Interim time while I am with you, or the church year, or different Gospels, or even the entire story of Queen Anne Lutheran Church, it will all point to the good news, that the Kingdom of God has come near to us, and all God's people, in Jesus Christ, the son of God.

Living “Adventally,”\*

Pastor Doug Stensby

\* *(Yes, I know it is not a real word.)*



## Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

The time has come again to decorate our Sanctuary for the Christmas season. The Altar Guild will be using poinsettia plants to decorate the altar area.

If you would like to contribute one or more plants, please fill out the form below. Detach it and mail it to the church office, or leave it in the offering plate on Sundays in December. Cost per plant is **\$12.00**. Checks should be made out to QALC and marked "poinsettias." If you are giving the poinsettias in honor or memory of anyone, please print that name very clearly. Donations and commemorations will be noted in the church bulletins for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

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Name (please print clearly!) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

OR

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

My check is enclosed or attached for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# SERVING IN DECEMBER

## 10:30 Ushers:

7 TBD  
14 TBD  
21 TBD  
24 TBD  
25 TBD  
28 TBD

## Offering Counters

Sharon Greenwood and Vicke Pugel

## 8:00 Lectors

7 Jan Olson  
14 Jacqui Darroch  
21 Dan Squires  
28 Harold Robertson

## 8:00 Communion Servers

7 Linda Olson  
14 Jacqui Darroch  
21 Deb Squires  
28 Georganne Robertson

## 10:30 Assisting Ministers

7 Deb Squires  
14 Jon Ross  
21 Jacqui Darroch  
24 Richard Crummett, TBD  
25 TBD  
28 Carol Ann Davis

## Altar Guild:

Jennifer & Chloe Jones

## 8:00 Sunday Coffee Hosts:

7 Ken & Ellen Hockman  
14 Jan & Linda Olson  
21 Jan & Linda Olson  
28 Dolly & Mac Smith

## 10:30 Sunday Coffee Hosts:

7 TBD  
14 TBD  
21 Lois Unseth  
28 Louie family

## Flowers on the Altar

7 Altar Guild  
14 Altar Guild  
21 Altar Guild  
24 Altar Guild  
25 Altar Guild  
28 Dan & Deb Squires

## Staff:

Interim Pastor	Rev. Doug Stensby
Deaconess Intern	Sister Clare Josef-Maier
Campus Pastor-U.W.	Rev. Elizabeth Rawlings
Cantor	Arletta Anderson
Parish Assistant	Barbara Bash
Missionary to China	Rev. Dorcas Wang
LYONS	Jon Ross
Sexton	Don Boelter

**Deadline for the January Quill is Friday, December 26th**

### **E-MAIL ADDRESSES for QALC STAFF:**

Pastor Doug Stensby      [pas-tor@queenannelutheran.org](mailto:pas-tor@queenannelutheran.org)

Deaconess Intern      [clare.alyce@gmail.com](mailto:clare.alyce@gmail.com)

Parish Administrator      [admin@queenannelutheran.org](mailto:admin@queenannelutheran.org)

## December 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Yoga <b>7:00pm</b> Julia Circle <b>7:00pm</b> 12-Step OA	<b>2</b> <b>12:00pm</b> Lunch & Learn <b>6:00pm</b> Property Committee Mtg. <b>7:00pm</b> Executive Committee	<b>3</b> <b>9:15am</b> Sewing and Service <b>11:00am</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:30pm</b> Transition Team <b>5:30pm</b> Shalom Choir <b>6:15pm</b> Cherub Choir <b>8:00pm</b> A.A. <b>8:00pm</b> Alateen <b>8:00pm</b> Alanon	<b>4</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Chancel Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <b>8:30am</b> Men's Group <b>9:30am</b> Greening of the Church <b>10:30am</b> Alanon Women
<b>7</b> ADVENT II <b>8:00am</b> Worship Service <b>9:00am</b> Taste of Christmas <b>9:30am</b> Sunday School <b>10:30am</b> Worship Service	<b>8</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Yoga <b>7:00pm</b> Northern Lights <b>7:00pm</b> 12-Step OA	<b>9</b> <b>12:00pm</b> Lunch & Learn <b>7:00pm</b> Church Council	<b>10</b> <b>9:15am</b> Sewing and Service <b>11:00am</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:30pm</b> Shalom Choir <b>6:15pm</b> Cherub Choir <b>8:00pm</b> A.A. <b>8:00pm</b> Alateen <b>8:00pm</b> Alanon	<b>11</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Chancel Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>10:30am</b> Alanon Women
<b>14</b> ADVENT III <b>8:00am</b> Worship Service <b>9:15am</b> Adult Forum <b>9:30am</b> Sunday School <b>10:30am</b> Worship Service <b>11:45am</b> Newcomers' Coffee	<b>15</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Yoga <b>7:00pm</b> 12-Step OA	<b>16</b> <b>12:00pm</b> Lunch & Learn <b>5:00pm</b> PDQ <b>5:30pm</b> Worship and Music Committee	<b>17</b> <b>9:15am</b> Sewing and Service <b>11:00am</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:30pm</b> Transition Team <b>5:30pm</b> Shalom Choir <b>6:15pm</b> Cherub Choir <b>8:00pm</b> Alateen <b>8:00pm</b> A.A. <b>8:00pm</b> Alanon	<b>18</b> <b>6:00pm</b> Chancel Choir Holiday Party	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>9:00am</b> Katie's Table <b>10:30am</b> Alanon Women
<b>21</b> ADVENT IV <b>8:00am</b> Worship Service <b>9:15am</b> Adult Forum <b>9:30am</b> Sunday School <b>10:30am</b> Worship Service	<b>22</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Yoga <b>7:00pm</b> QA Book Group <b>7:00pm</b> 12-Step OA	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>5:30pm</b> Christmas Eve Worship <b>11:00pm</b> Christmas Eve Worship	<b>25</b> <b>11:00am</b> Christmas Day Worship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>10:30am</b> Alanon Women
<b>28</b> <b>8:00am</b> Worship Service <b>10:30am</b> Worship Service	<b>29</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Yoga <b>7:00pm</b> 12-Step OA	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>9:15am</b> Sewing and Service <b>11:00am</b> Staff Meeting <b>5:30pm</b> Transition Team <b>8:00pm</b> A.A. <b>8:00pm</b> Alanon <b>8:00pm</b> Alateen			