

The Quill

DECEMBER 2016



Queen Anne

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Inside this issue

The Church's New Year—Advent.....	2
Christmas at Queen Anne Lutheran.....	3
Advent Stewardship Calendar	4
End-of-Year Giving Information.....	5
Visitor's Informal Committee Report.....	6
Announcements and Birthdays	7
Queen Anne Book Group; Thank-Yous	9
More Announcements; Vocab Corner	10
Poinsettias for the Sanctuary	11
LWR Loading pics	12
Community Lunch Pics	13
Women of the ELCA	14
Women's Circles, Men's Ministry; LYONS.....	15
Grow in Faith-Education and Music.....	16
Bishop Unti's Message	17
The Last Word.....	18
Serving in December	19
December Calendar	20

The Quill is available in the narthex and at www.queenannelutheran.org. If you would prefer to have a copy mailed to you each month, just contact the church office!

The Church's New Year is here—Advent

~ Why is Advent Important to our Spiritual Journey?

The cycle of the church year orders our time in Christian community around the central mystery of our faith: the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Our experience of this mystery, however, is not linear—a simple narrative path from beginning to end. Our lives are full of endings and beginnings happening all at once, interspersed with waiting, lament, and hope.

The “now-and-not-yet” nature of the fulfillment of our hope in Christ is never more rhetorically real than in the season of Advent. In its great wisdom, the lectionary launches us into this wheel of time with a season that, much like our own lives, is full of endings and beginnings—and, of course, waiting.

While Advent has often been understood as Christmas's Lenten counterpart—a season of preparation for a particular feast—our readings in this season serve a deeper liturgical purpose than simply helping us resist the commercialization of the holiday season and more reverently celebrate Christmas. Advent is indeed a season of anticipation and expectation, but also of revolution. The readings of Advent prepare us to receive not only a new baby, but a new world where God's justice and mercy reign.

For this reason, the first Sunday of Advent begins not with a reference to Jesus' impending birth but with the “coming of the Son of Man” at an unexpected hour. *Matthew 24* This text disrupts our sense of time by declaring that we don't, in fact, know what time it is—and need time to prepare. The texts for each Sunday in Advent continue this theme of conversion and change. By the fourth Sunday we are ready to hear of the Child. We are now ready to be changed and receive the gift, for now we know what to look for: not a new program or politician or product to come and save us, but a sign that says, “God is with us.” *Isaiah 7, Matthew 1*

It's all here: hope, longing, fear, comfort, repentance, restoration, death, birth, endings, and beginnings. And like our lives, it doesn't all come at us in a tidy package. But over these four Sundays, the arc of the story is clear: the darkness is giving way to the light, the world is being reborn, and God is on the way.

The readings in Advent conjure up a mixture of images and emotions that often intersect with what we are feeling in ourselves this time of year: longing, lament, judgment, hope, and promise. Advent hymns, with their sometimes solemn, sometimes joyful, always hopeful texts and melodies are uniquely poised to give voice to this full spectrum of praise and lament. How unfortunate if a congregation was deprived of the experience of praying and singing with their full hearts—and all that is within them—in order to only celebrate.

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*Christmas at
Queen Anne Lutheran*

CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24

5:30 PM

Christmas Eve Family Vesper Service
*with Pipe Organ,
Cherub Choir and Shalom Choir*

11:00 PM

A Festival Candlelight Eucharist
*Pre-Service music begins at 10:40
with Pipe Organ, Chancel Choir,
Handbells, and Flute*

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday, December 25

11:00 AM

Nativity of Our Lord
with Pipe Organ and Chancel Choir

December 2016

Advent & Christmas Stewardship Calendar

Ephesians 5:1-2: Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 27 Give Me 5 – Dan Squires & The Porters	28 Advent is from the Latin word for coming. We prepare for Christ's coming. What a gift! As God's stewards, how can we share God's many gifts to us to care for our world?			Dec. 1	2 Why blue? It's the color of hope.	3 Count down with advent calendars & wreaths.
4 Give Me 5 – Mark Dibble & Virginia Stamey- Johnson	5	6	7 Hum or sing " This Little Light of Mine " – How will you shine with God's love this season?	8	9	10 Got a change jar? Bring some coins to help our kids buy a LWR pig or goat!
11 Give Me 5 – Magdalena Phillips	12	13	14 Time, Talent & Treasure – how do you imitate God?	15	16	17 Week 3, we light the pink candle tomorrow. Be lighthearted this coming week!
18 Give Me 5 – Marc Oplinger	19	20	21 10-10-80 means Save 10%, Give 10%, Spend 80%. Aspire to 10-10-80 living? Google Moon Jars!	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE Is the manger scene up at your house?
25 CHRISTMAS – God gives Himself to us!	26	27	28 May you "live in love" this Christmas season, a beloved child of God.	29	30	31 Last 2 days for a tax deduction in 2016! Give online at queenannelutheran.org . You can set up auto giving for 2017 too!

At Queen
Anne Lutheran
Church, God
calls us to:

Preach

God's Word —
the good
news!

Teach

the faith by
which we live.

Reach

out in service
to the
community.

Pray about your
giving for 2017.
Can you increase
your gift \$5 each
week for God's
work through our
congregation?

PLUS
\$5

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

IRS regulations are strict regarding charitable donations.

To be included on the 2016 Giving Statements, **contributions** for 2016 **must be in the church office by 2 PM, Friday, December 30. Offering envelopes mailed** to the church office **must have a postmark date of December 31 or before** to be included.

Would You Prefer to Simplify Your Giving?

Queen Anne Lutheran accepts online donations. Just go to the church's website, www.queenannelutheran.org, and 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 2017, 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 the church office or Ken Hockman, our Financial Secretary. You can also pick up a brochure in the church narthex.

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.

2017 Offering Envelopes

Postage rates are expensive! Help QALC stretch its budget! Please pick up your 2017 offering envelopes from a table in the narthex beginning Sunday, December 4. QALC provides the offering envelopes to help you to become, be, or remain a faithful giver supporting our ministry and mission. Thank You!!

“Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” Hebrews 13:1

Visitor’s Informal Committee AKA “The Force”

Pastor Dan has appointed four members to an informal visitor’s committee (Aaron Boysen, Emmett Prichard, Sophie Prichard, and Amy Nagley). Together they are seeking to enrich the way we welcome new visitors at QALC, and would like to invite you into their mission for the upcoming year.

Mission: To proclaim God’s love in Christ for every person *by actively welcoming and drawing visitors into community* at Queen Anne Lutheran Church (QALC).

Vision: Visitors from all around feel actively welcomed as QAL members greet them, engage them in meaningful conversation, and provide information about our church community. Members actively seek to engage visitors in conversation by inviting them to coffee and/or lunch after their first visit. Visitors easily perceive the welcoming and loving spirit present at QALC through its members. Many visitors choose to become members themselves. As QALC draws in new members, the congregation is enriched in spirit and service, and individuals who were not previously part of a community now have a place to call home.



Core Values:

- ✓ Members will speak from their hearts when interacting with visitors
- ✓ Individualized coffee/lunch meet-ups based on what the visitor is seeking
- ✓ Welcoming visitors vs. “selling our congregation” to them
- ✓ Compassion and openness toward visitor perspectives
- ✓ Conveying that we do not have all the answers, but seek to be a place where people can discuss and question.
- ✓ Will be an informal, and organic “committee”

Goals & Objectives:

- ❖ To create and print a new visitor’s card that asks specific questions that will provide information about what a visitor is seeking and needs in his/her life.
- ❖ To create, print, and deliver a flyer/brochure/etc. that presents information to potential visitors about who we are, what makes us unique, and what we have to offer as a Lutheran church in secular Seattle.
- ❖ To actively welcome guests each week by engaging them in conversation.

Steps:

1. During the announcements, visitors will be invited to fill out a newly designed visitor’s card that presents questions regarding what they are seeking by visiting.
2. If visitors check “yes” to their desire to be contacted on the visitor’s card, Barb will send out an email to Aaron with all visitor names. Aaron will then delegate each visitor to someone on the “The Force,” who will then contact the visitor and invite them to lunch or coffee. Members of the church that are interested in helping out with meeting new members over coffee/lunch, please contact Aaron Boysen.
3. Flyers and/or brochures will be developed that provide information about who we are and what we do, which will be passed out in the QA neighborhood.
4. Future endeavors will be organic and natural as we assess future needs to enriching our church community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

David Carew
Carol Ann Davis
Ryan Saunders
Joelle Nausin
Linda Carlson
Gordon Storey
Devin Patten
Joan Hoover
Timothy Porter
Aaron Boyson
Lindley Torbenson
Warren Conner
Michael Banobi
Karen Erickson
Nina Roozen
Emmett Pritchard

If your (or family member's) birthday is missing from this list, please contact the church office at 206-284-1960 or admin@queenannelutheran.org



Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas

After the 10:30 service on December 18, we will gather to decorate the Christmas tree and hang the greens, wreaths, set the candles in place, and all the things we do to make our worship space ready for the celebration of Christmas. Deb Squires has offered to provide a pot of soup for us to share. All are welcome—kids, youth, adults . . . save an hour of your time for this project. Please come join the fun and lend a hand.

KIDS STEWARDSHIP: “Change for Change” Drive.

your house have a spare change jar? The Sunday School kids are hoping you'll share some of what's in your jar for a “Change for Change Drive” this advent. The drive has two purposes:

CRITTERS



- Collect enough spare change to buy an animal this Christmas from Lutheran World Relief for a family in need. To help third-world farmers, LWR offers worms (great for soil!), chicks, a piglet, sheep, and even a donkey--how advent appropriate is that!

- Teach our children to be “imitators of God” by giving and caring for others. The message of the manger comes home in a new way when we help fill a *real* stable with life-giving animals. Please support our “Change for Change Drive!” From now through Dec. 18 there will be a pail in the narthex for your change and a poster showing what we can get. Then, we'll count the coins, the Sunday School kids will make their pick and we'll report back in January on how your change will change a family's life for the better.

Remembering Our Members by Boxing and Delivering Cookies



We will be making up boxes of cookies on December 11 to deliver to church members who have difficulty attending worship. Please bring at least 15 special Christmas cookies, candies, etc. for the boxes. Check with Candy Mathes if you would like to be one of the people who deliver the cookies. It's always a treat to visit with these church members.



QALC's Giving Tree:

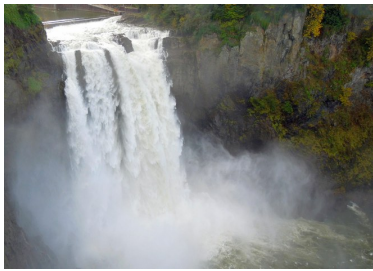
We will be accepting donations for two projects:

- 1) **Hats and gloves** for the **Church of Steadfast Love**,
- 2) **Gifts** for **Mary's Place Giving Tree**. We have 25 gift tags for toys (these are for gifts that will be given to homeless moms, dads, and grandmas so that they in turn can give them to their children), and 25

gifts tags for Mom, Dad, and Grandma gifts (these items will be placed in Mary's Place Santa Store where the kids will shop for gifts to give their families).

Starting 11/27, please drop off new hats and gloves, and take a gift tag from the narthex and return by 12/11. Please contact Lisa Ondrejcek (lisa@dfnetresearch.com) with any questions.

Adventure Group Ministry is going to Snoqualmie Falls!



Everyone is invited to join in for this beautiful, easy hike on Saturday, December 10!

About the Hike:

- Length: 1.4 miles round trip
- Elevation Gain: 250 ft.
- Dog- & Children-Friendly

Meet at church that Saturday; we will leave at noon and expect to return before 5 PM.

Shop Amazon Smile to Benefit the Church! If you are making holiday purchases online with Amazon in the coming month, simply go to smile.amazon.com and type in Queen Anne Evangelical Lutheran Church. Then when you begin shopping online with Amazon, 0.5% of your purchases will be donated to our congregation!

Holden Village, Summer 2017

Are you interested in going to Holden Village in Summer 2017? There is now a signup sheet on the bulletin board for people interested in joining a group to go to Holden this coming summer. You can indicate which weeks would work best for you on that sheet.

There have been changes to the Holden's registration system, and I do not know yet if the group reservations process has changed. Individual and family reservations can all be done on line—including paying. It will be exciting to see the changes that the art-expertise of directors Peg and Chuck will bring to the program.

—Rich Mathes

Russia 2017: Exploring the Life, Faith and Ongoing Challenges of the Lutheran Church in Russia

The ELCA NW WA Synod Team Russia Committee is pleased to announce a projected Mission trip to Russia for ten days, plus two travel days, during March 2017 in which NW WA Synod Bishop Unti plans to participate. There will be an Informational Meeting for interested participants in the proposed trip on Sunday, December 4 from 11 AM – 2 PM, Grace Lutheran Church, 9625 NE 8th St., Bellevue. *Exploring the Life, Faith and Ongoing Challenges of the Lutheran Church in Russia*, with NW WA Synod Team Russia, March 7–19, 2017. High School youth are also encouraged to participate. Contact our church office for more information or for registration forms. Reservation form applications may be submitted to Ken through Dec. 10, 2016, or given to Ken at the meeting on December 4.

—Ken Grigsby, ELCA NW WA Synod Team Russia Chairman, island66@comcast.net

Queen Anne Book Group Will Not Meet in December

We welcome all at our monthly book group! There is still time to ask for these books for Christmas so you can participate in our last-Monday-of-the-month discussions. The group will convene again in the narthex at 7 PM on Monday, January 30, 2017, and we hope to see you there!

2017 QALC Book Club Selections

January 30	Forever Amber By Kathleen Winsor	Sallie Wilson
February 27	Between the World & Me By Ta-Nehisi Coates	Sophie Pritchard
March 27	Miracles of the Bells By Russell Janney	Georganne Robertson
April 24	Suite Francaise By Irene Nemirovsky	Jan Slawson
May 22	“All Seattle Reads” Selection	
June 26	My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry By Fredrik Backman	Sharon Longaker
July 31	Book Selection Gathering	Cathy Unseth's
August 28	The Light Between Oceans By M.L. Stedman	Diane Wearne
September 25	The Three Year Swim Club: The Untold Story of Maui's Sugar Ditch Kids and Their Quest for Olympic Glory By Julie Checkoway	Cathy Unseth
October 30	Are Women Human? By Catherine MacKinnon	Candy Mathes
November 27	Mobile Library By David Whitehouse	Karen McCullough
December	No Book Club	

THANK-YOUS

QALC received thanks from:

ELCA World Hunger for a gift of \$1,100 to our synod.

Lutheran World Relief for donations of \$31.25 and \$1,200.

Mary's Place for donations of \$50.00 and \$75.00.

Thanks are given by our community to:

Katherine Knorr for her quiet care for our gardens.

Rich Mathes for raking our leaves.

Georganne Robertson for helping sort through old Christian Education materials



Explore the Intersection of **Faith & Film**

“Joyeux Noël”

DATE: Saturday, December 17

in the Fellowship Hall

TIME: 4:00 PM Happy Hour

4:30 PM Watch the movie together

6:30 PM Break

6:40 PM Discussion

There is something mystical about the way in which the Christmas season opens our hearts beyond our typical day-to-day experience. People reach out to lost loved ones, seek forgiveness and reconciliation, and express love as they put their pride aside. It causes us to wonder what is at the root of this magical time of year. Based on a true story, “**JOYEUX NOEL**” takes place at the advent of World War I when Europe is thrown into chaos as soldiers are forced to engage in war. As Christmas approaches, the soldiers in the trenches of the Western Front face a transformation, however fleeting, toward peace and goodwill. Against all odds, four unlikely individuals from opposing sides (Diane Kruger, Benno Fürmann, Guillaume Canet, Gary Lewis) bond during this respite to experience the hope and goodness in humanity.

Please join us on Saturday, December 17 at 4:00 PM to watch the film and engage in a heart-felt discussion. We will enjoy a potluck dinner together as we celebrate the coming of Christmas. Please bring your favorite dish as we join in community with each other this advent season.

Community Music Jam— You’re Invited!



On Saturday, December 10, a Community Music Jam session will take place from 3:00–5:00 PM in the chapel.

If you like to play an acoustic instrument, sing, or just like to be in the same room where

fun music is happening, then be sure to join us. Bluegrass, gospel, country, folk, blues, and other roots music styles will be played. All skill levels are welcome. The Jam meets on the second Saturday of each month. For more information about the jam, contact Emmett at emmettj45@gmail.com.

Vocab Corner

Lectionary – Latin: “reading.” A book containing those sections of Holy Scripture appointed to be read during the liturgy throughout the church year. At festival liturgies, the bookbearer may carry the lectionary in the entrance procession and during the Gospel procession.

Use of the Revised Common Lectionary is encouraged by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), of which Queen Anne Lutheran is a part. Lectionaries have been in use in the church since the Fourth Century. The RCL is an ecumenical lectionary created by over twenty-five North American Protestant Churches and the Roman Catholic International Commission on English in the Liturgy. It follows a three-year cycle, Year A, Year B, and Year C, carrying the church through the sweep of the biblical narrative. On November 20th, we ended Year C, and on November 27th, the First Sunday in Advent, we began the readings assigned to Year A.



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.

Name (please print clearly!) _____

Number of plants _____

In memory of: _____

OR

In honor of: _____

My check is enclosed or attached for \$ _____

LWR Seattle Fall 2016 Ingathering, November 4 & 5

THANKS to all who helped load trucks, direct traffic, give away fabric samples, and provide food on November 4 & 5 at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Ballard. Friday, we had really nice weather; Saturday was more typically wet and miserable.

And thanks to all who contribute to the freight costs. We (and many churches) pay for both the cost to ship our boxes to the Baltimore warehouse—21 cents per pound—plus the cost to ship the quilts and kits overseas—54 cents per pound. Total cost is approximately 75 cents a pound; QALC ships 1,500+ pounds each year. If we collect more than we need here, we still send the excess to LWR for shipping, since some churches cannot afford to pay the entire shipping cost.

—Contact Rich or Candy Mathes with any questions. lwrmathes@aol.com



Community Lunch on Capitol Hill:

QALC continued our many years of service in providing lunches to those in need, typically about 200 guests, at Community Lunch on Capitol Hill, at 1710 11th Ave. QALC was one of the founding churches of this wonderful organization, which has been serving the community for well over 20 years. Our November volunteer sponsorship of Tuesday lunches at Community Lunch on Capitol Hill concluded on the fifth Tuesday the 29th, with Harold Robertson serving as lead chef. Special thanks to Georganne Robertson, Joel Matter, Sallie Wilson, Don Thomas, Cathi Unseth, Peggy Morgan, Rich Mathes, Candy Mathes, Mark Broughton, Jim Margard, Kelly Margard, Jan Olson, Lisa Ondrejcek, Eric Patten, Carol Whitfield, and others who volunteered their time and talents for these events this year!

—Jim Margard



It's December! Christmas is coming! Have you considered asking for Registration (and Airfare) to the **Triennial Convention in Minneapolis** this coming July 13-16? Ask a friend or a family member to join you. It is great to see multiple generations of women—mother, daughter, granddaughters—joining in worship.

Join the conversation as we explore the triennial gathering theme “All Anew.” Listen to inspiring speakers; participate in worship and praise; learn by attending workshops, viewing films and engaging in servant events. Visit the exhibit hall where you can gather, shop and connect. And don't forget our special events where women in their 20s and 30s can eat chocolate and join others to run it off later. And where's it all happening? In Minneapolis, at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

While this is an official event of Women of the ELCA, all women in the church are invited to attend. One need not be a participant in Women of the ELCA. In fact, we invite all our ecumenical partners to attend as well, so share this invitation.

Thanks to everyone who joined in giving money to the **WELCA Thankoffering**. As of last Sunday we had collected \$425.00.

Advent: Preparation—December 4 at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Come join the Women of QALC and the Sunday School for a time of fun and fellowship. Learn about treats from around the world, or just come share the fruits of our labor and a cup of coffee. There will be crafts to make—paint an ornament or make an angel or two. If you need a set of Advent candles, they will be there too!



December Schedule:

December 4, 9 AM - Advent Celebration in the Fellowship Hall.

December 11, Following 10:30 service in Conference Room - Boxing

Cookies for our friends who cannot make it to church. Bring about 2 dozen cookies or specialty items to share. We will need volunteers who would like to help deliver the boxes.

December 14, 12 noon - Sewing and Service Christmas Lunch at Jean McLauchlan's (Sewing and Service will not meet on December 21 and 28. It will begin again on January 4.)

December 20 (Tuesday), 5:30 PM- PDQ's will meet as usual!

December 21 (Wednesday), 10:00 - Cookie making & decorating 250 cookies for Community Lunch on Capitol Hill.

December 22 (Thursday), 11:00 - Wrapping Individual Cookies for Community Lunch on Capitol Hill.

—The Women's Committee
Candy Mathes, Sallie Wilson, Pat Sobeck, Sophie Pritchard, and Lisa Ondrejcek

Women of QALC: Ongoing Groups



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

Julia Circle: Second Monday of the month at 10:00 AM. Contact Georganne Robertson.

Northern Lights: Next meeting is a holiday celebration at Arnie's in Mukilteo from 6:30-9 PM on Monday, December 5. We would never turn anyone away who wanted to join us. Dutch treat. Contact Dolly Smith.

Katie's Table: Third Saturday at 9 AM. For location & questions please contact Carol Ann Davis.

Sewing and Service: Wednesday mornings. Contact Candy Mathes or Sallie Wilson. Sewing and Service will not meet December 21 or 28.

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

Queen Anne Men's Ministry (for men of all ages):

Thanks to all who loaded trucks and directed traffic at the LWR Ingathering at Our Redeemers' Lutheran Church.

No regular Saturday meetings during December or January.

Sunday Dec 18—We will help everyone else with Greening of the Church after the 10:30 service.

—Rich Mathes; richmathes@aol.com



Lutheran Youth of North Seattle News

You are invited to the **LYONS Stay at Home Tea**. Rather than inviting you to yet another event during this busy time of year, we invite you to stay at home, enjoy a cup of tea on us, and consider including Lutheran Youth of North Seattle in your end-of-the-year giving. Envelopes including a tea bag and letter will be available after worship.



High School Christmas Party is **Sunday, December 4** from 6-8 PM at St John United. Come for an evening of games, friends, and time to be together in this season of waiting. Please bring a white elephant gift (\$5 or less).

Middle School Christmas Party is **Sunday December 11** from 6-8 PM. More details on the way!

Note: There is a new 3-ring binder in the narthex for signing up for LYONS events. Youth can also go online to sign up. A complete Calendar is available at roaringlyons.org!



Grow in Faith this Advent!

Sunday School will meet on Sunday, December 11 and 18; then we will be off until January 8. All children ages 3+ are welcome to attend. Please join us, whether you can make it only once in awhile or every Sunday. No commitment is required, so come and check it out. We meet in the chapel at 9:30 AM and dismiss at 10:15 AM from upstairs.

Adult Forum Special Guests: *Living Local* is a new initiative in the Northwest Washington Synod. Working with congregations, and rostered leaders we long to participate intentionally with what God is already doing with neighbors and among neighborhoods. Through a set of specific practices of listening, discerning, experimenting and reflecting we believe God is calling us to organize our life as church with our neighborhoods, and to better listen to where God might be calling us to partner for the common good. **On December 11 and 18 we will introduce you to this work.** The Rev. David Hahn, PhD, Living Local Coordinator, and Sr. Liz Colver, Community Organizing Specialist, will share their own experiences for how they have come to this work, and how they see it affecting the congregational journey for becoming a Spirit-led learning community. We invite you to come with an open mind to listen and engage this innovative and renewing ministry.

Lunch & Learn! Bible Study: Due to Pastor Peterson's family situation, Lunch and Learn is temporarily being cancelled, beginning this December and extending into the New Year.

Chancel Choir rehearsals are Thursday evenings at 7:00. Both the **Shalom Choir** (high school) and **Cherub Choir** (grade school) are also up and running. Please contact Arletta at ajp724@comcast.net for more information about their schedules in December and January, and to express interest in taking part.



Bishop's Message

Loss of a Loyal Partner

by Kirby Unti, NWWA Synod Bishop

I knew she would be the right person to share ministry with when she said, "I want to be a part of a church where my friends would want to go." A single sentence that spoke volumes to me. It aligned so well with where my heart for ministry has been anchored. When Kathryn Buffum spoke of her friends they were not church people. They were people that she shared life with in her Seward Park Neighborhood and at the University of Washington Dental School.

This shared desire to try to be church in a way that creates greater access for those outside of the church led to our sharing in ministry together for over a decade. First, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Renton and later as we both have served the Office of Bishop for the Northwest Washington Synod.

Kathryn has been my go-to person. Her ability to wade through mountains of information and make sense of it has been invaluable. Her eye for detail is very sharp. Her ability to constantly renew what needs to be on the agenda is a real asset. Her locality to the work we shared was not to be questioned. Her ability to deliver on projects left me in awe. The range of knowledge she possessed from Biblical to Human Relations matters was impressive. What she didn't know she was willing to research and learn. Her responsiveness to the needs of the Synod reflected her deep desire to be a Servant. The graciousness with which she dealt with even difficult people revealed her deepest held values. And the love she had to serve the church in the call to be Assistant to the Office of Bishop was always evident.

You are probably getting a pretty clear picture of why none of us in the Synod Office were prepared to face the reality that Kathryn would have to set aside her call because her health could no longer sustain the demands of work. We have been grieving, praying and wondering about how to move forward.

We quickly discovered we are not alone. So many cards and well wishes have been offered up to Kathryn and expressions of support for the work of the Synod. It is clear how deeply loved and appreciated Kathryn is.

Kathryn is wrestling with an auto-immune disease known as vasculitis. It has robbed her of strength and, for a period of time, her mobility. The hoped-for outcome is to drive the disease into remission allowing Kathryn to regain her strength through vigorous physical rehabilitation. Not an easy assignment.

Knowing Kathryn, she will take on her health challenges the way she has faced all of life's challenges. She will research it and learn as much as possible. She will put heart and soul into her recovery. Kathryn has real grit and I have never heard her complain about anything. If anyone can make a strong comeback it will be Kathryn. A big part of her motivation will be her desire to continue to be a faithful servant of Jesus. Kathryn knows that her dream that the church might be a place where her friends would want to go has not yet been realized.

Will you please join me in offering up our heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation for Kathryn's ministry. And please pray for her complete recovery so she can get back to making the dream come true.

(We are working on a job description and hope to have a new call in place by the first of the year. Prayers are greatly appreciated during this transition. +BKU)



the Last WORD

Be Imitators of God

Advent is a special season, a time of expectation, one where we anticipate the greatest gift God could ever give: Himself. Martin Luther marveled at the paradox, that somehow the Almighty Lord of the Universe could be found lying in a manger, that God had become small—even weak—in Jesus Christ. What a paradox indeed!

That God could fall into being, however, marks more than a paradox. It stands perhaps as the greatest sacrifice, next to the cross, that God could ever make—leaving eternity to become manifest in history, setting aside the safety of infinite freedom to be bound by the chains of time and with it the inevitability of death.

We are the *only religion* to make such a claim: God—yes, God—born and crucified, the gift of His body and being as the fullest measure of self-sacrificial love. “God is love” (1 John 4:8), not a being who loves us from afar, but *the very act, event, and process of absolute, self-giving love* which the life of Jesus embodies and reveals.

Think of it like this: Jesus says in John 14:9, “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” What do we see when we see Jesus in the Gospel stories? We see, to cite Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s amazing phrase, a “man for others”—a man who no longer lives for himself but shares in the pain and joy of those to whom he ministers. His disposition reveals to us the very heart of God. Just as Jesus lives for others, God through Jesus lives for us.

It’s easy to stop there. Sure, Jesus makes God known. Who or what, then, is God? The answer is simple: absolute, self-giving love. Okay, the writer of Ephesians says, there is just one more thing.

You and I must go and do likewise!

Called this Advent to be “imitators of God” (Ephesians 5:1), we have an amazing opportunity before us. As we await the greatest manifestation of God’s love in the birth of Christ, one where God gives Himself to the world, we can do the same—we can give of ourselves as well—to those in need, to our congregation, to our families, our co-workers. These communities ALL thrive when we do as God does, when we give our time, our talent, and our treasures.

Let us, therefore, be imitators of God. Let us this season give as God does in Jesus Christ.

Rev. Dan Peterson, PhD
Pastor

SERVING IN DECEMBER

Interested in being an usher or worship leader? Contact Arletta Anderson to volunteer.

Ushers: (8:00 AM)

- 4 Ken Hockman
- 11 Ken Hockman
- 18 Katherine Knorr

One service at 11:00 AM on Christmas Day

Ushers: (10:30 AM)

- 4 Lori Lynn Phillips, Svend Phillips
- 11 Jim Margard, Dennis Alfson
- 18 Jim Margard, Dennis Alfson
- Saturday, Dec. 24, 5:30 PM Vicke Pugil
- Saturday, Dec. 24, 11 PM TBD
- Sunday, Dec. 25, 11 AM TBD

Offering Counters

Sallie Wilson and Vicke Pugil

Lectors (8:00 AM)

- 4 Harold Robertson
- 11 Jan Olson
- 18 Dan Squires

One service at 11:00 AM on Christmas Day

Communion Servers (8:00 AM)

- 4 Georganne Robertson
- 11 Linda Olson
- 18 Deb Squires

One service at 11:00 AM on Christmas Day

Assisting Minister (10:30 AM)

- 4 Kirsten Erickson
- 11 Jacqui Darroch
- 18 Karen Saunders
- Saturday, Dec. 24, 11 PM Karen Saunders
- Sunday, Dec. 25, 11 AM service TBD

Altar Guild:

Jennifer and Chloe Jones

Flowers on the Altar

Flowers for Advent and Christmas will be provided by the Altar Guild.

New sign-up sheets for 2017 are now out in the narthex.

Sunday Coffee Hosts: (8:00 AM)

- 4 Advent Celebration in Fellowship Hall
- 11 Katherine Knorr
- 18 TBD

One service at 11:00 AM on Christmas Day

New sign-up sheets for 2017 are now out in the narthex.

Sunday Coffee Hosts: (10:30 AM)

- 4 Houle family
- 11 Sunday School
- 18 TBD

One service at 11:00 AM on Christmas Day

New sign-up sheets for 2017 are now out in the narthex.

Staff:

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Daniel Peterson
Cantor	Arletta Anderson
Parish Administrator	Barbara Bash
Sexton	John Bryant
Missionary to China	Rev. Dorcas Wang
LYONS Director	Bryant Williams
LYONS Program Assistant	Megan Hundley
Campus Pastor—UW	Rev. Elizabeth Rawling

Deadline for the December Quill is Tuesday, December 20.

CONTACTS for QALC STAFF:

Pastor Daniel Peterson
Cantor Arletta Anderson
Parish Administrator Barbara Bash
Sexton John Bryant

Office Phone 206/284-1960

pastor@queenannelutheran.org
cantor@queenannelutheran.org
admin@queenannelutheran.org
sexton@queenannelutheran.org

December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm Dress Rehearsal- Smith Recital	2 P	3 10:30am Alanon Women 11:00am Cherub Choir Satellite Rehearsal@Patten's 4:30pm Student Recital - Smith 7:00pm A.A.-Shanty Trudgers
4 8:00am Worship 9:00am Intergenerational Advent Event 10:30am Worship	5 6:30pm Northern Lights 7:00pm 12-Step FA	6 7:00pm Executive Committee	7 9:15am Sewing and Service 12:30pm Staff Lunch 3:00pm Staff Meeting 8:00pm A.A. 8:00pm Alanon 8:00pm Alateen	8 5:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Chancel Choir	9	10 10:30am Alanon Women 3:00pm Community Music Jam 7:00pm A.A.-Shanty Trudgers
11 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Holiday Cookie Boxing	12 10:00am Julia Circle 7:00pm 12-Step FA	13 12:15pm Piano Tuning 7:00pm Church Council	14 9:15am Sewing and Service 9:30am LCN Christmas Party 3:00pm Staff Meeting 5:30pm Shalom Choir 6:15pm Cherub Choir 8:00pm Alanon 8:00pm A.A. 8:00pm Alateen	15 7:00pm Chancel Choir Holiday Party (Offsite)	16	17 9:00am Katie's Table 10:30am Alanon Women 4:00pm Faith and Film 7:00pm A.A.-Shanty Trudgers
18 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Greening of the Sanctuary (after 10:30 worship) 12:00pm Social Concerns	19 7:00pm 12-Step FA	20 5:30pm PDQ 7:00pm LYONS Board at PRLC	21 10:00am Cookie-Making for CLCH 3:00pm Staff Meeting 5:30pm Shalom Choir 6:15pm Cherub Choir 8:00pm Alanon 8:00pm Alateen 8:00pm A.A.	22 11:00am Cookie-Wrapping for CLCH 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Handbells 7:00pm Chancel Choir	23	24 10:30am Alanon Women 5:30pm Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm A.A.-Shanty Trudgers 11:00pm Christmas Eve Service
25 11:00am Worship	26 7:00pm QA Book Group 7:00pm 12-Step FA	27	28 8:00pm Alanon 8:00pm A.A. 8:00pm Alateen	29	30	31 10:30am Alanon Women 7:00pm A.A.-Shanty Trudgers