

The Quill

DECEMBER 2015



Queen Anne

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Quill is available in the narthex and on our website. If you would prefer to have a copy mailed to you each month, just contact the church office!

BONUS photos can be seen in the Quill online at www.queenannelutheran.org



Christmas at
Queen Anne Lutheran

CHRISTMAS EVE

Thursday, December 24

5:30 PM Christmas Eve Family Vesper Service
served by Shalom Choir, Cherub Choir, Sunday School, and Flute

11:00 PM A Festival Candlelight Eucharist
served by Chancel Choir, Harp, Flute, and Handbells

CHRISTMAS DAY

Friday, December 25

11:00 AM The Feast of the Holy Nativity
served by Chancel Choir

From the Cantor . . .

First of all, **thank you** for the Leave-of-Absence granted to me for October and for the very warm welcome back that I have received over the last few weeks. My time with my family in Illinois was all I could have ever hoped it would be, and more. With the new baby and a 2-year old, I must admit it was sometimes exhausting, but also very exciting and fun. We worked together well as a family and kept the diapers changed and kids fed! We talked and talked, laughed and cried, remembered Roger, worshiped together, and found our time together healing and encouraging, helping us move forward on our life's journey. I particularly enjoyed celebrating Luciana's second birthday, and joining in on all the fun with Halloween.

I was reminded that relationships benefit so much from face-to-face time. We are blessed with email, texting, skyping, and phone conversations, but being in one another's presence . . . well, there just isn't a substitute. That's the way it is for us at church also. Coming together for worship on Sundays is meaningful, fun to be together, and healing. The place is humming with conversation with those we have not seen for awhile, or saw just last week! As we have more and more members living outside the Queen Anne hill area, Sundays become even more of a special gathering time. Did you know we have members living on Whidbey Island (choir members, even!), Issaquah, Mukilteo, Kent, Mill Creek, Bellevue, Snohomish, Renton, Beacon Hill, Federal Way, and beyond? Coming to church on a weekday evening is nearly prohibitive due to traffic issues and distance. Sunday morning is still a distance for many, but they often make it happen, and we are all blessed by everyone's presence. They love our church, our worship, and the fellowship with the good people of QALC. This congregation has a special place in their hearts and has been very important to them on their faith journey in many and varying aspects. We talk often as a staff about ways we can meet the needs of our membership, including those who live outside the Queen Anne, Magnolia, Ballard, and other immediate areas of Seattle.

One of the ways I try to help with this aspect of our ministry is to have two, what I call satellite choir rehearsals. I meet with two groups of children in the Cherub Choir: one at church on Wednesday afternoons for those who do live closer to the church, and then on some Saturday afternoons, I meet on the east side at the Patten home with another group of Cherub Choir children. These two groups will come together to serve in worship on Sunday, December 6 at the 10:30 service. And we are also



preparing to serve at the 5:30 Christmas Eve worship. I have two Shalom Choir rehearsals each week: one in Mukilteo on Mondays (quite convenient for me!) and the other at church on Wednesdays. These middle/high school girls will come together on December 13 and serve for worship playing handbells, singing an anthem together, and joining with the Chancel Choir on another anthem. Some of my colleagues can't imagine this working . . . not having everyone rehearse together at the same time! But as you know, it does work, quite nicely! The Shalom Choir is fabulous and serves our worship very well.

We are called to serve, and that means being creative and dedicated to the work God has called us to do. I look forward to worshipping with you.

Arletta Anderson, Cantor and Associate in Ministry

cantor@queenannelutheran.org 425.355.8776

Out-Words . . .

Does our caring and using gifts of God make a difference in the world? Let's return to the story of the talents. A Master gives generously to three different trusted colleagues. Two, who see the vast generosity of the giver, go out and put it to work, creating more and more blessing as they go. The other one, not able to really see either the gift or the giver for what they were, buried the gift in the ground where no one could get any benefit. That one missed the chance to send blessing OUT into the world.

—Pastor Doug

DOWN, IN and OUT is a program of the ELCA to help us focus on how giving affects all of our life, and how our response is a part of our life in Jesus Christ.

Count Your Blessings.... and then share them!

I've been counting my blessings every day and the number is huge. I have much to be thankful for and I know that I will always be cared for. The more I share and trust in God's abundance, the more I know that I am truly blessed.

Queen Anne Lutheran is also blessed in many ways and in turn shares so much that it has been given in many ways. The discernment and giving in the month of November has been truly inspiring. But, let us keep recognizing these gifts, accepting them and sharing them so that we can continue to grow in our faith. This Thanksgiving Day and during the upcoming Christmas celebration, our Council asks that you consider all that God has given us, all that we have taken in from Him, and how many ways we could be good stewards of these gifts. And consider how these gifts can be shared with all in our faith community, our neighborhood community, and our world at large.

Think of a story that you can share with someone about how you've been blessed in the last month, in the last week, and even today. These are the stories that bind our church together. We hope to grow our church through the sharing of these stories and in listening to others' stories. Our friends, neighbors, coworkers, strangers even—invite them in so that we may share our blessings with them. This is one of the many marks of good stewardship! There are so many ways. Can't wait to hear some of those stories!

In Christ,
Marc Oplinger
QALC Council President

Call Committee Update:

During November, the Committee spent meetings polishing our Ministry Site Profile (MSP) so we can best represent who we are and what we believe we are looking for in our pastor. Please look at the Call Wall in the Narthex to see what we have done, what we are doing and what we will do. This information is visible via our flow chart of activity.

If you have questions about the Call Committee process, please look at the Call Wall flow chart to see what our steps will include. You are invited to call, speak to or email any member of the Call Committee or ask us to join a group you are involved with if that works better for you. Also remember, there is a “Call the Call Committee” idea box located in the Narthex on the mantel above the fireplace if you would like to contact us that way.

CALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE:

Kirsten Erickson	misskirsten77@hotmail.com
Jim Margard	jrm952@gmail.com
Erich Patten	erichpatten@gmail.com
Lori Lynn Phillips	seattle.phillips@gmail.com
Emmett Pritchard	emmettj45@gmail.com
Harold Robertson	gwrhcr@msn.com
Dolly Smith	dollysmith61@gmail.com
Dan Squires	squiresd4@hotmail.com
Virginia Stamey	stamey.v.a@comcast.net

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 2015 Giving Statements, **contributions** for the 2015 tax year **must be in the church office by 2 PM, Thursday, December 31. Offering envelopes mailed** to the church office **must have a postmark date of December 31 or before** to be included on the 2015 Statement of Giving. IRS regulations do not allow for any checks or gifts, received or postmarked after December 31, 2015, to be recorded as a contribution for 2015.

Would You Prefer to Simplify Your Giving?

Queen Anne Lutheran accepts online donations. Just go to the church's website, 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 2016, please consider using **Simply Giving**. **Simply Giving** is a reliable, safe way to move your stewardship plan into action. It allows you to share your donations through planned giving and activates your generosity into ongoing stewardship. Through **Simply Giving**, donations are made through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your checking or savings accounts to QALC. Because your donation is given consistently, you won't need to play “catch-up” at year-end or worry about forgotten checkbooks or missed Sunday offerings. QALC also benefits from steady, more predictable revenues throughout the year, more efficient bookkeeping, and greater confidence in meeting its financial commitments. To enroll or change your EFT authorization, simply contact Ken Hockman, our Financial

Secretary, or pick up a form from the Finance Committee bulletin board in the Sacristy hallway or QALC's website.

Gifts of Stock

Here is another piece of information you may find useful. Queen Anne Lutheran also is 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.

—Ken Hockman

Rotating Display of QALC Member Art

God generously gives us many gifts, great and small, throughout our lives. These things are entrusted to us that we might share them as examples of his infinite love. Many of us have beautiful expressions of this love hanging on a wall or sitting on a shelf in our homes. Each holds special meaning to its owner, but all symbolize the wonderful relationship we have with our creator.

It is in this spirit of stewardship that the Rotating Display of QALC Member Art has begun in the narthex. A piece of member loaned art will be temporarily displayed for two months at a time. Each will include a short narrative that explains how God shines through the work. The idea is to not just show what is traditionally thought of as "art" such as a painting or sculpture. What's important is what the piece means to you, and sharing that with the congregation. Maybe it was something your grandfather or grandmother passed down to you, or something your child made last month. Maybe it has been languishing underappreciated in the closet for years. Doesn't matter, let's see it!

If you have additional questions or have something you think you'd like to display, please contact a member of the Stewardship "In" committee. (Aaron Boysen, Rowland Adeniyi, Myra Dittes, or Jim Margard) We're also looking for ways to improve the "exhibition," so if you have some skill with lighting or art presentation, we'd be glad to hear from you.

Currently on display in the narthex you will find Pastor Doug's Tanzanian sculpture of the Sacrifice of Isaac on the mantel!



***TITLE:** The Sacrifice of Isaac*

***ARTIST:** a young man in Morogordo, Tanzania*

***ON LOAN FROM:** Pastor Doug Stensby*

This carving was carved by a young man in Morogordo, Tanzania. Gretchen and I purchased several of his works, including a giraffe mother with her young, various native-themed works, and also the ebony wood cross that I sometimes wear.

This particular work struck me by the slope of the shoulders of Abraham as he considers offering back to God the son that he had waited for across many years. Abraham quietly bears the inner turmoil while Isaac, seemingly unaware of the future, carries the wood for this special time alone with his father. One of the lessons of this story from Genesis 22 is that what we think of as ours is never really ours. All belongs to God, even those that are most close to us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



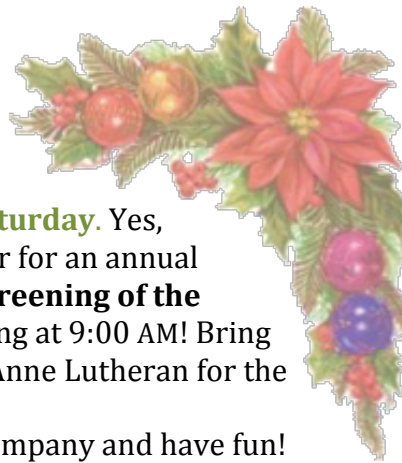
DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

Are You Ready for Green Saturday?!

Forget Black Friday . . . Forget Cyber Monday . . . And remember **Green Saturday**. Yes, it's coming up on that time of the year for an annual event not to be missed. The annual **Greening of the Church**, is on December 5th, beginning at 9:00 AM! Bring the family and help decorate Queen Anne Lutheran for the birthday of God's precious gift to us. Come, relax, enjoy lunch and great company and have fun!



You Are Invited to Sister Clare Josef-Maier's Service of Consecration



All members of Queen Anne Lutheran Church are invited to attend Sister Clare's Candlelight Eucharist Consecration Service, officially consecrating her as a deaconess of the ELCA, on Sunday December 20 at 5:00 PM. The service will take place at Ballard First Lutheran on 2006 NW 65th Street.

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 QALC!

Support us when you shop this holiday

Amazon donates when you shop at smile.amazon.com.

amazon smile





QALC Women's News

It's December—that often way-too-busy time of year! The Advent devotional in *Gather Magazine* asks, “What opportunities are we missing because we are looking at all of the things that seemingly make us unlikely to say yes?” “What looks impossible right now?” Ponder, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” What assignment are you ready to accept? How do we continue to feel connected to each other, QALC Women, to church in general? One of the ways is to join the women in Circle meetings and special projects at this time of the year. Join a Circle (or help create a new one—maybe one for Moms, or women who are working). Julia Circle decided daytime works best for its members. What would work best for you?

Thanks to all the women who helped with the early Advent Celebration on November 22. Those in the kitchen included Cathy Unseth making krumkake, Kirsten Erickson helping with the lefse (Pat Sobeck started it but could not be in 2 places), Seville Moulster making Norwegian waffles, Candy Mathes making pizzelles, Sallie Wilson cooking the scrumptious potato sausage, Pat Sobeck creating julekage and Sallie baking loaves of stollen. Thanks to Pat Sobeck and Lois Unseth for the extra crafts, and Rich Mathes for making sure the holes in the logs got drilled. A special thanks to Jean McLauchlan for getting Tom and Jim to bring us logs from a tree that had fallen on their property, and to Carol Davis for “hearing” a need and ordering the blue candles. We also want to thank all the people who came to drink coffee and eat the wonderful treats as well as making their Advent centerpieces. People participating made all the work worthwhile!

Mary's Place—We have chosen Mary's Place to be the recipient of our Giving Tree gifts. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex at the little red table for items. All gifts need to be returned by December 13 so that Sallie Wilson has time to get the items to Mary's Place by Dec. 15.

Do you want to help, but did not get a tag? One of Mary's place goals this year for Christmas is to get EVERYONE new shoes. \$20.00 will do it. While there are several tags with “shoes” on them, you may also contribute without a tag. Talk to Sallie.

Cookies for those “Special” people at Queen Anne Lutheran Church—We will be making up boxes (about 15-20) of cookies on December 13. Please bring special Christmas cookies, candies, etc. for the boxes. Check with Candy Mathes if you would like to be one of the people who get to deliver the cookies. It is always a treat to get to visit with the ones we deliver to.

Christmas Cookies for Capital Hill Community Lunch—plans are in the works for an afternoon of cookie-making and decorating for Capital Hill Community Lunch. Watch for the date and time in the bulletin. This once in a lifetime chance will probably happen the third week of December! If you are one of the ones that enjoy making cookies but no longer have anyone to make them for, and would like to help, let Candy Mathes know!

Quilt-making at Queen Anne Lutheran Church: Sewing and Service will be meeting for lunch at Jean McLauchlan's house on December 16 and then take the rest of the month off. They will resume their weekly meetings on January 6. PDQ's is also meeting for dinner on their “normal” meeting night. They will once again resume quilting on January 19.

Have a Merry Christmas!

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



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.

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

Northern Lights: Second Monday of each month at 7:00 PM.
Contact Dolly Smith.

Katie's Table: Third 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 Fourth Wednesday at
noon, but will not meet in December. Contact Jean
McLauchlan.

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

LYONS News

Last month, we held the high school fall retreat at Camp Lutherwood in Bellingham. The focus of the weekend was rest. We talked about how in order to better love other people, we also need to love ourselves. One way to love to ourselves is by taking care of ourselves and finding time to rest. God commands us to take that time to rest, and it's a wonderful gift. During the weekend, we spent time together canoeing, hiking, playing games, worshipping, and resting. As we begin the busy month of December and preparing for Christmas, we hope that you are able to find some time for rest.

Upcoming LYONS Events

Middle School Overnight Christmas Party—Friday Dec 4, 7:00pm-8:00am, Phinney Ridge Lutheran

High School Christmas Party—Sunday Dec 13, 3:30-5:30pm, stay & watch the Seahawks game at 5:30!

For more info, visit www.roaringlyons.org or find us on Facebook "Lutheran Youth of North Seattle."
Merry Christmas!

Holden Village 2016? To be open, or not?

The Wolverine Creek fire this past summer put many of the Holden Village remediation projects behind schedule. Although some work has been done the past two months, it will be awhile before we know when guests might be allowed in next summer. The new wrinkle is that the fires destroyed a lot of vegetation, so the road into Holden may be subject to mud slides (from snow or rain) or just slumping. Some culverts may get washed out this winter. Until the Forest Service is satisfied that the road from Lucerne to Holden is safe, Holden might not be open for guests.

The other Holden opportunity next year might be work parties in May and maybe June. Historically, there are Bible studies, time for hiking, crafts or fishing during workweeks. We will keep you posted—
or visit Holdenvillage.org.

—Rich Mathes

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 25, 2016, and we hope to see you there!

2016 Book Selections:

Meeting Date	Book Title and Author	Discussion Leader
January 25	Still Life Louise Penny	Sallie Wilson
February 29	Sense and Sensibility Jane Austen	Shirley Flory
March 28	All the Light We Cannot See Anthony Doerr	Diane Wearne
April 25	The Goddess Pose Michelle Goldberg	Sophie Pritchard
May 23	Seattle Reads To Be Announced	Candy Mathes
June 27	A Year in Provence Peter Mayle	Sharon Longaker
July 25	2017 Book Selection Evening	At Cathi Unseth's home
August 29	To Be Announced	Jan Slawson
September 26	The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II Denise Kiernan	Cathi Unseth
October 24	Orhan's Inheritance Aline Ohanesian	Georganne Robertson
November 28	Small Blessings Martha Woodrooff	Karen McCullough
December	Holiday Break	—

THANK-YOUS

QALC received thanks from Mary's Place for a donation of \$300.

At our Processional Offering on November 22, many members also GAVE thanks for blessings in their lives. Here are some of the things our members noted they are thankful for:

We are thankful for our family

In thanks to God for past blessings and the expectation of continued strong ministry here at QALC for many years to come.

Thankful for each other and our marriage,

Thanks for gracious and endless help from family and friends.

I am thankful for small cute dogs.

Thankful for faithful stewards.

In thanksgiving for the life of my mother, who died one year ago today.

With thanksgiving for the blessings of my three sisters.

Thankful for our wonderful daughter!

Thankful for good health.

In thanks for one year of ministry with QALC.

Thankful for our QAELC Community.

Thank you for our health, friends, and family.

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 to our 21st-century lives, and what we can do to live as Christians in the world.

December 5—Come help “Green the Church” at 9 AM!

Advance notice: Spring 2016 LWR Ingathering will be May 6/7.

—Rich Mathes, Richard Crummett

LWR Truck Loading:

Thanks to all of you who helped load the trucks to the top (9.5 feet). And thanks to Rowland for taking lots of photos. A few are found below. Plan ahead!! Next May 6/7—think Mother's Day weekend.

How long does it take our boxes to get to Baltimore warehouse? They left Tacoma on the railcars on November 2nd. They were picked up November 11th and taken to the Baltimore warehouse. We will let you know when and where they have been shipped. If you want to find out on your own, where and when they get shipped overseas, just log into the lwr.org website, go to “Quilt and Kit Tracker” and input 112385 for Queen Anne Lutheran—you will directly see where they are sent.

—Rich Mathes



Snippets from Community Lunch on Capitol Hill

"It was the Jaws of Life that saved my sister. That and our prayers for her afterward," said Lovelle at the table in the dining hall, while eating her Thai chicken and rice, vegetables and mixed salad.

"I never heard of the "Jaws of Life," I said. "What's that?"

"That's when your car gets smashed like an accordion and they get this big machine called the Jaws of Life to rip into it so they can pull you out." As she paused, I caught Candy skillfully commandeering the kitchen and Pastor Doug and Joel moving pots and pans around like seasoned scullery mates on the high sea.

"It was the Jaws of Life and all the prayers we said that brought her out of a coma after nine days," said Lovelle. "That was months ago. Now she is mostly better, except for being in a wheelchair. She had a baby strapped in the back seat, and he was untouched, like a protective bubble was around him or something. God is SOOO amazing! I take care of my sister in Tukwila now and come here for lunch about once a month. I am going to be with my sister and her family for Thanksgiving."

You never know whom you are going to run into at Community Lunch on Capitol Hill, where Queen Anne Lutheran members join others to serve lunch to the hungry on four Tuesdays each November. Sometimes, some of the most amazing people . . .

Many thanks to those who served in November—we hope you were blessed by the work.

—Jim Margard





No Room at the Inn?

by Kirby Unti, NWWA Synod Bishop

And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." –Matthew 8:20

One of my fond memories of Christmas at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Renton was the child-sized nativity scene that was set up in the narthex. The children of the congregation were utterly fascinated by it and could often be found playing amongst Mary & Joseph, the Wisemen and Shepherds. In fact, one year a child made off with the Baby Jesus.

The nativity scene stirs up the child in me. The child who is captured by the incredibly sad news, "That there was no room for them in the Inn."

This sad news has now become a reality in every town of this Synod. We have families and individuals who are rebuffed with the same message. "There is no room for you in the Inn." So, we find people sleeping in the cars, in tents, on bus shelter benches, and any place that they can find a barrier from the cold and damp Northwest nights.

I cannot imagine trying to survive out of doors night after night. I so easily become cold—even while living indoors. It would be my worst nightmare.

I am grateful that so many of our congregations and ministry sites are committed to trying to provide housing for those who go without. I don't think it is any accident that the Christmas Story includes lodging the Holy Family in a stable. This is the God I know. The God who hears the cry of God's people and comes down to be with us. This is the Jesus I know who enters into the forsaken, rejected, brokenness of the world. This is the Spirit I know who when everyone else is absent comes to counsel and comfort.

What would it mean if the community could see every family without a home as the Holy Family? What would it mean if every person who has to seek some form of flimsy shelter in the cold would be seen as the Baby Jesus?

Is it possible we might treat our sisters and brothers with greater kindness? Is it possible that we would have the political and moral will to put an end to the reality that there are those who go without shelter?

I invite you during this Advent / Christmas season to see those who struggle the most in our community through the eyes of a child—the child who cannot wait to pick up the Baby Jesus from the crèche, wrap them in warm blankets and hold them tightly in love.

+ + + + +

P.S. You will note that I did not use the phrase, "homeless people." For me, it has become a demeaning term. Homelessness describes their lack of shelter. It should never define who a person is. They are persons without a home.



the Last WORD

SOME STIRRING WORDS

An Episcopalian friend of mine claims that there is a secret or subliminal message in the worship service in Advent. All the Prayers of the Day for the four Sundays in Advent begin in some way with “Stir Up, O Lord.” She says this is to remind the worshippers that if they wanted their Fruitcakes to be ready by Christmas, they had better get at the process, which included a great deal of “stirring up” fruit and nuts, and whatever else might end up in a fruitcake. (Feel free to insert your own favorite joke about this unique treat.) I cannot verify this story, but it sounds good. It also points us to a very important idea about the work of God in our lives.

The first Sunday we hear, “Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.” We will read in the stories of great amazing things that are beyond us to explain. They can only come into being by the power of God.

The second Sunday, we hear, “Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.” The real preparations of this season will not be found in the cooking, or buying of presents, or hanging lights, but truly must happen within us. It takes place in our hearts, that we may be ready again for wherever that way with Jesus may lead.

Week three we hear, “Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God . . .” All too often our hearts would call us to action of one sort or another, but some other part cannot summon the effort or determination to do what we know we are called to do. This happens even to faithful people. We pray in this prayer that our hearts, truly connected to God’s work in the world, may lead us to act, to love, and to serve.

Advent concludes as it began, “Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.” Having been made ready by God’s work and by God’s grace, now we pray for the conclusion to all this preparation. May God truly come, in power and in weakness, in mercy and in justice, in the full glory of God and in the mortal form of human beings.

Where is fruitcake in all of this? I am not sure. I have never tried to make one. (Is Hazardous Material experience helpful?) But these prayers seem to suggest that there is more to the process than what my old KitchenAid 5-quart mixer can accomplish. One recipe calls for soaking the cherries, mango, cranberries, currants, and citron in rum for 24 hours. Rum will be called for several times in this process. Now to the last two lines of instruction: “Place in an airtight tin, and age for at least 10 weeks. If storing longer, douse with additional rum for every 10 weeks of storage.” Ten weeks of being cured in rum will change anything.

Kidding aside, however, we pray for the same thing. That this stirring up would change us, soften us, allow us to carry the fragrance and taste of Christ to this old world. We are asking to be made new, into something that we are not yet. This does not come easily, and it certainly does not come quickly. But God is patient and knows how to bring out the best from our lives, and knows what to use, and how long such goodness might take. Stir up our hearts, Lord God.

May you all taste the true sweetness of God’s grace.

Pastor Doug

SERVING IN DECEMBER

Ushers: (10:30 AM)

6 TBD
13 TBD
20 TBD
27 TBD

Offering Counters

Shirley Flory and Diane Wearne

Lectors (8:00 AM)

6 Harold Robertson
13 Jan Olson
20 Dan Squires
27 Jacqui Darroch

Communion Servers (8:00 AM)

6 Georganne Robertson
13 Linda Olson
20 Deb Squires
27 Jacqui Darroch

Assisting Minister (10:30 AM)

6 Rich Mathes
13 Jon Ross
20 Jacqui Darroch
24 Richard Crummett
Jean Oplinger
Marc Oplinger
25 TBD
27 Spencer Nagley

Altar Guild:

Jennifer & Chloe Jones and Sarah Bol

Sunday Coffee Hosts: (8:00 AM)

6 Smith Family
13 Katherine Knorr
20 Smith Family
27 TBD

Sunday Coffee Hosts: (10:30 AM)

6 The Houle Family
13 Karen McCullough
20 Candy Mathes
27 TBD

Flowers on the Altar

6 Altar Guild
13 Altar Guild
20 Altar Guild
27 Sallie & Ruth Ghormley

Staff:

Pastor	Rev. Doug L. Stensby
Cantor	Arletta Anderson
Parish Administrator	Barbara Bash
Sexton	John Bryant
Counselor, Lutheran	
Counseling Network	Sister Clare Josef-Maier
Missionary to China	Rev. Dorcas Wang
LYONS Director	Jon Ross
LYONS Program Assistant	Megan Hundley
Campus Pastor—UW	Rev. Elizabeth Rawling

Deadline for the January Quill is Tuesday, December 29.

CONTACTS for QALC STAFF:

Interim Pastor Doug Stensby
Cantor Arletta Anderson
Parish Administrator Barb Bash
Sexton John Bryant
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December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 12:30pm Lunch & Learn 4:30pm Worshp and Music Committee 7:00pm Executive Committee	2 9:15am Sewing and Service 10:45am Piano Tuning in Nave 5:30pm Shalom Choir 6:00pm Call Committee 6:15pm Cherub Choir 8:00pm A.A. 8:00pm Alanon 8:00pm Alateen	3 3:00pm Staff Meeting 3:00pm Piano Tuning in Chapel 7:00pm Chancel Choir	4	5 Greening of the Church 8:30am Men's Group 10:30am Alanon Women 3:00pm Community Music Jam
6 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	7 6:30pm Yoga 7:00pm 12-Step FA	8 12:30pm Lunch & Learn 7:00pm Church Council	9 9:15am Sewing and Service 5:30pm Shalom Choir 6:15pm Cherub Choir 8:00pm Alateen 8:00pm A.A. 8:00pm Alanon	10 3:00pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm Chancel Choir	11	12 10:30am Alanon Women
13 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Cookie Boxing and Delivery	14 10:00am Julia Circle 6:30pm Yoga 7:00pm Northern Lights 7:00pm 12-Step FA	15 12:30pm Lunch & Learn 5:30pm PDQ	16 9:15am Sewing and Service 12:00pm Sewing & Service Lunch at Jean McLauchlan's 5:30pm Shalom Choir 6:15pm Cherub Choir 8:00pm A.A. 8:00pm Alateen 8:00pm Alanon	17 3:00pm Staff Meeting 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Chancel Choir	18	19 9:00am Katie's Table 10:30am Alanon Women
20 8:00am Worship 9:15am Adult Forum 10:30am Worship 11:45am Cherub Choir Rehearsal 5:00pm Candlelight Eucharist Service of Consecration for Clare-Josef Maier at Ballard First Lutheran	21 6:30pm Yoga 7:00pm 12-Step FA	22	23 7:00pm Chancel Choir 8:00pm Alateen 8:00pm A.A. 8:00pm Alanon	24 5:30pm Christmas Eve Family Vesper Service 11:00pm Christmas Eve Festival Candlelight Eucharist	25 11:00am Christmas Day Feast of the Holy Nativity	26 10:30am Alanon Women
27 8:00am Worship 10:30am Worship	28 6:30pm Yoga 7:00pm 12-Step FA	29	30 9:15am Sewing and Service 8:00pm A.A. 8:00pm Alanon 8:00pm Alateen	31		