

The Quill

D E C E M B E R 2 0 2 2



Queen Anne

L U T H E R A N C H U R C H

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The Quill can be viewed in full color online at queenannelutheran.org. If you would prefer to have a copy **mailed to you** each month, just contact the church office at 206-284-1960. Likewise, if you receive The Quill in the mail and would prefer **not** to, just contact the office.

Weekly, we are also mailing bulletins and sermon transcripts to households that are unable to attend church. If you would like to receive such a mailing, please let us know. And if you do **not** need to get the bulletin by mail, give us a call as well!

Please Note: All mail to the church must be sent to this address:

Queen Anne Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 17029
Seattle, WA 98127-0729

Poinsettias for One Another



This year, your donated poinsettias will be given as gifts to elderly, ill, or isolated members of our congregation. Some of the poinsettias will also decorate our altar this season.

If you would like to contribute one or more plants, please fill out the form below. Detach it and leave it in the offering plate or return it to the church office before Wednesday, December 21. You may also email us your information. 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 someone, please print that name very clearly. Commemorations will be noted in the church bulletins for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

Your name (please print clearly!) _____

Number of plants _____

☐ In memory of, OR ☐ In honor of: _____

Attached is my check for \$ _____



I took the quilt to the cleaners to get washed. They looked at it and handed it back. If we touch this, they said, it will fall apart.

To most eyes, the quilt is nothing to look at. The bright yellow ducklings have long faded to muted colors. The binding is frayed. Happy, my dog from childhood, chewed holes in the fabric where stuffing came out and repair was never finished. (Happy did this to many sheets and blankets in my growing up years. My sisters and I called them "Happy holes." My mom did not.)

From the time I was a toddler, this quilt has held my laughter, tears, secrets, sleep, insomnia, sickness, health, anger. In darkness, this quilt surrounded me in warmth. Years later, my children were wrapped in this same quilt.

Long before my grandma quilted my "duckie" blanket and gave it to me, there was a young family without permanent shelter and a baby soon to be born. The village midwives came into the night to help birth a baby for a family unknown. They came to an unhoused couple, a foreign couple, a poor couple with no prospects or power. And yet, these midwives left their warm houses and their own families, bringing their own handmade blankets and strips of cloth as they participated in this baby's birth. And, when he was born, they wrapped this child and his mom in warmth.

We know this because we hear the angels' words to the shepherds, "This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' Surely if the baby was wrapped in bands of cloth, the child was also wrapped in blankets.

What a difference it would have been without these blankets, without these swaddling cloths, without these midwives. Without the skills and the gifts God gave to them. The vocation of midwife brought Jesus into the world. The hands and wisdom of these women wrapped him in swaddling cloths.

It is such an amazing story ... through God's invitation, and from Mary saying yes and Joseph saying yes and the innkeeper saying yes and the midwives saying yes – Jesus came.

Two thousand years ago, in a way no one could have imagined, God was with us in human form. Wrapped in blankets.

Held in love.

What love, what grace, what beauty. Amazingly and almost inconceivably, in this little baby, God's love came, and God's love continues to be among us through Jesus – Immanuel, Incarnate, God-in-the-flesh love. Embodied love ... for you and for me. Always.

I know that life is messy. Life is sometimes hard. Sometimes the world seems out of control, and we are so small against so much of what is out there. And yet ... through something as small and vulnerable as a newborn baby, we are promised that God is here. Amongst us. And God's love is for everyone. Absolutely everyone. Regardless of your job or your political party, your anxiety or your income; your ethnicity, your language, your gender, your situation in life. God's love is for you who celebrate this holy day and God's love is for those who don't. God's love is for those you are estranged from and those you embrace.

This Christmas and this year, may you feel surrounded by God's love and presence. In your laughter, tears, secrets, sleep, insomnia, sickness, health, anger—in darkness and in light may you feel God wrapping you into God's embrace ... like a worn, faded blanket that is covered in ducks and Happy holes.

Have a Blessed Christmas,
Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

FROM THE CANTOR

It's a special time of year for music! Read on for some info about upcoming services, as well as a little background about one of the most cherished Advent hymns.

A Season of Music: Highlights for December

- **Kids and youth in worship:** This season we welcome kids and youth to help as their schedules allow with bell ringing, leading the psalm or other parts of worship, and ringing the large outdoor bell for the 10:30 service. *Please keep your eye out for the Friday emails and any updates or late breaking announcements about special music involvement from our families this Advent-Christmas season.*
- **Brass quintet for two services:** We will be joined by a student brass quintet from Pacific Lutheran University on Sunday, December 11 for the 10:30 service and on Christmas Eve, Saturday December 24, for the 11:00 p.m. service. One of the players is a former voice and choral student of mine and it's wonderful to reconnect with him as a skilled collegiate musician!
- **Choral concert in Tacoma, with poetry by one of our own:** I am delighted to feature "Night of Wonder," a poignant new choral piece with poetry by QALC member Pastor Paul Hoffman. My community choir, Northwest Repertory Singers, presents this piece as part of a lush collection of Christmas music tied to the Americas—with nods to Canada, the Southwest, the African American musical tradition, and more. Our concerts on Saturday, December 17 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, December 18 at 3:00 PM at Tacoma's Christ Episcopal Church. Tickets and info: www.nwrs.org.

A Season of Preparation: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

You may have noticed that each Sunday at both the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM service we sing one stanza from the famous Advent hymn, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (no. 257 in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*). The source material for this hymn is the ancient collection of seven "O" antiphons, dating to the eighth century or perhaps even earlier. A different antiphon is intended to be sung with the Magnificat (the Song of Mary from Luke 1:46–55) at Vespers each evening from December 17 to 23. The Savior is invoked to come among us, using a different name or trait in each antiphon: O Wisdom; O Lord (Adonai); O Root of Jesse; O Key of David; O Dayspring; O King; and finally, O Emmanuel. In Latin, the first letters of each word following "O" form a reverse acrostic, spelling the words *Ero cras*, or "I will be tomorrow"—that is, on Christmas Eve, in the hiddenness of night, the Savior will arrive. In *Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Paul Westermeyer digs into the symbolism of the acrostic:

This acrostic gives an obvious level of meaning: you get the Advent message of preparation by waiting for it day by day, letter by letter. But the acrostic, like the church year's seasons themselves—and maybe especially the lead-off season of Advent—also pushes to a deeper meaning. Because you have to read the acrostic backwards, the opposite direction is suggested: "I was yesterday." Because we sing these antiphons in the present, that is, "between the times," with the knowledge of God's past and future presence in Christ, the paradoxes that Advent highlights emerge: Christ is to come, but was and is. The hymn itself suggests the same thing.

God's blessings and peace to you during these "between times," as we give thanks for Christ's first advent and celebrate the mystery of the incarnation, even as we eagerly await his second advent and the fullness of the redemption we have received through him.



Kyle Haugen, Cantor • cantor@queenannelutheran.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 4: The Greening of the Church

Jennifer Jones and others are decorating the church for the Advent season after the 10:30 worship on December 4 and would love your help. Talk to Jennifer for details.

MS / HS Youth: Gingerbread Building Contest

Sunday December 4 from 4 to 6 PM (*right after cookie-baking—see page 7*)

What kind of structure will you make, and will it win the top prize of “Gingerbread Superstructure”? Join Project Phoenix (formerly LYONS) for an afternoon filled with gingerbread and pizza! (Dinner will be provided!)

What to bring: Yourself, your friends! (Optional: candy to add to our building supplies.) **Questions?** Email Kirsten Erickson: klerickson77@gmail.com



Christmas Caroling!

Sunday Dec. 11 at 4 PM

Come sing Christmas carols together—outside on the church grounds if weather permits—and invite your friends! Refreshments will be served in the narthex.

Nativities for Families/Children

Our mother, Lois Unseth, collected Nativity sets. They had more meaning to her than being a “hobby”—that word does not do justice to her collection. If you knew our mother, you would know of her love and commitment to children.

We can think of no better way to honor her legacy than sharing her Nativities with the children of QALC and their families. Today we have set Mom’s Nativities out on tables in the hallway across from the office. Please select one to take home. The Nativity sets range from a single piece up to one with 20 figurines, so you may want to consider your available space. We hope the sets will give you a fond remembrance of Mom.

—the Unseths

Christmas is near! Please join us for our holiday services:

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24

05:30 PM

11:00 PM

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25

One service only, at 11:00 AM (note: our regular 8 and 10:30 services will not be held this Sunday)

New Year’s Day, Sunday, January 1

One service only, at 10:30 AM. We will return to our regular schedule after that.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee & Chocolate, Old & New

Thanks to Joel Matter, we now have a new shipment of Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade coffee and chocolate bars and you are invited to purchase them after worship. Note that the old (pre-pandemic!) supply of coffee is marked with a red "X" and available to anyone who wants to use it as garden fertilizer—it is no longer very tasty when brewed, as we have discovered.

You Ever Wonder:

How is QALC doing financially?

What was discussed at the last Church Council meeting?

What's the status of the Triangle Project?

What about our search for a Children's Ministry Coordinator?

Well, wonder no longer! Each month, the records of the Church Council meetings are posted for all to see—minutes, motions, financials, and the Pastor's report. *Where, you may ask?* In the sacristy hallway! If you have further questions about the business of the church, talk to any of your Church Council members:

Brent McCullough
Lisa Kjaer

Myra Dittes
Brian Louie

Kirsti Melby
John Reese

Lisa Ondrejcek
Al Shabino

Susan Evans
Cathi Unseth

NORTHWEST REPERTORY SINGERS
KYLE HAUGEN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR | MARJORIE SKREEN, ACCOMPANIST

Illuminations: Holiday Music from the Americas

Dec. 17
7:30 PM

Dec. 18
3:00 PM

Ticket Info

TICKET SALES NWRS.ORG

\$20 GENERAL ADMISSION

\$18 SENIOR OR STUDENT I.D.

UNDER 13 FREE

Event Location

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
310 NORTH K STREET
TACOMA, WA 98403

Christmas Concert Opportunity

The Northwest Repertory Singers is a community choir directed by our Cantor, Kyle Haugen. Former interim Pastor Doug Stensby sings in this chorus, and QALC member Pastor Paul Hoffman has written a text which will be used this season in one of the pieces. Kyle would be delighted to see you at the concert.

DECEMBER FORUMS

Join us from 9 to 10 in the Conference Room or via Zoom on these December Sundays to catch up with the work of three nonprofits we closely support:

12/04 **New Horizons**

with Rob Stewart

12/11 **Compass Housing**

with Sam Townsend

12/18 **CORE Tanzania**

with Michael and Jeannette Banobi

(Find the Zoom link on our FORUMS web page, or check your Fall-Church emails.)

SOCIAL ACTION



New Horizons Dinner Dates— Our Next “Fifth Friday” Is Dec. 30

We have pledged, going forward, to **provide dinner for 35 youth to New Horizons** on all months with “Fifth Fridays,” with the next date being **December 30**. We have a main dish—please let Jim Margard know (jrm952@gmail.com) if you can contribute a vegetable side, salad, bread, or dessert.

Looking ahead to 2023, our “Fifth Friday” months will be March, June, September and December.

Compass Housing Holiday Giving —Donations by December 16

Once again this year, we would like to give some holiday cheer to the residents of Compass Housing. This year, we’ll collect **gift card** donations, and will also encourage donations of **cookies**. Some details are below; more info can be found at www.compasshousingalliance.org/holiday/

Gift Cards: The primary need this year is gift cards for residents. This way they can get *exactly* what they want for either themselves or their families, which is extremely empowering to them. You have two options to donate gift cards:

Purchase gift cards in \$25 increments from Walmart, Fred Meyer, or Amazon. We can collect these here at church and deliver them to Compass Housing—we’ll have a collection box on the office counter.

Donate directly online. You can also go to Compass Housing’s donate page and select “Holiday gift fund” from the “Designation” drop-down. They will then purchase cards.

Holiday Cookie Extravaganza: Please see page 9 for details about donating home-baked or store-bought cookies.



Cookie-Baking Together December 4 from 1 to 4 PM

Come to the Fellowship Hall Kitchen to bake and decorate cookies! Some will be used the following week for caroling, others donated to Compass Housing residents for Christmas cheer. Youth and adults welcome! Contact Susan Evans for more details:

susan_evans@comcast.net

COMMITTEE MESSAGES

An End-of-Year Thank you from the Finance Committee ... and notes about End-of-Year Giving

As we near the end of another year, the Finance Committee wishes to thank all of you who have faithfully supported the mission and ministry of Queen Anne Lutheran this year. Your faithful donations throughout the year have allowed us to stay current with all of our benevolence payments and our ministry expenses. And we are grateful as well for your many hours of volunteer service that keep our ministry vibrant and always reaching outward.

End of Year Giving

In this Advent season, many of us are already planning our end-of-year giving. If you are planning to make a special gift at the end of the year to further the mission and ministry of Queen Anne Lutheran, the following information may help you with your planning.

Donations by Check

You may know that the church must always observe the IRS rules for acknowledging donations. In order for your gifts to be included on your 2022 QALC Giving Statement, please remember that:

Hand-delivered checks must be received in the church office **by 5:30 Friday, December 30**, as the office will not be staffed on the 31st.

Donations made on December 31 must be either **mailed with a “2022” postmark**, or **posted as a credit card or PayPal transaction dated 12/31/2022**.

PayPal Donations

QALC also accepts PayPal donations. Visit the church’s website (queenannelutheran.org) and find your way to the “Donations” page. Like donations made via check, PayPal transactions must also be dated 2022.

Gifts of stock

Queen Anne Lutheran is also equipped to accept gifts of stock in lieu of checks. We have a brokerage account with Edward Jones that can easily accept your stock transfers. Contact our QALC Treasurer, Myra Dittes, by email (treasurer@queenannelutheran.org) for the Edward Jones account number and DTC number.

Looking ahead to 2023

The new **2023 Offering Envelope booklets** will be available on a table in the narthex from December 11 through the Christmas season. If you don’t see an offering envelope book with your name on it and would like one, please contact our QALC Financial Secretary Sallie Wilson at sallie.n.wilson@gmail.com, or the church office. The church provides these numbered offering envelopes to help you become a faithful giver, but also to ensure the accurate recording of your donations by the Counters. Note that in addition to weekly envelopes, your book of offering envelopes includes several envelopes for “special offerings.”

Lastly, please consider enrolling in QALC’s **“Simply Giving” program**. We have been using the “Simply Giving” system for several years now and this accounts for 30 percent of our regular donations. Through this program, you can set up regular Direct Withdrawals from your checking or savings account to Queen Anne Lutheran. Jacqui Darroch administers this program for us. The paperwork is quite simple. To enroll, use the Enrollment and Authorization Form available on the narthex sign-up railing, from Jacqui, or go online to our GIVE page. Return the completed form, with a voided check, to the church office in a sealed envelope marked “Simply Giving.” With questions or to make changes in your Simply Giving enrollment, just contact Jacqui, Myra Dittes, our QALC Treasurer, or our Financial Secretary, Sallie Wilson.

The Finance Committee members are Myra Dittes, Ken Hockman, Sallie Wilson, Cathi Unseth, and Rich Mathes. You can ask questions or provide input to any of us, or place your notes in our office mailbox, located in the lower left section.



QALC Women's News:



Blue Christmas Service Online

DATE: December 21

TIME: 5:00 pm PST

Blue Christmas: Bring your fear, loss and grief.

Women of the ELCA will host its third Blue Christmas Service on the longest night, **Wednesday, December 21 at 5 PM PST**. Our Blue Christmas service offers a safe place to bring your grief, fear and loss in the midst of the hustle and bustle of Christmas. Register in advance (search for "WELCA Blue Christmas") and receive further information. Spanish translation available.

Compass Housing: Gift Cards and Holiday Cookie Extravaganza

Our friends at Compass Housing tell us: To make the holiday parties special, **cookies** are needed.

So: Love to bake? Love to see people smile? Then this opportunity is for you! Many of our guests and residents love cookies (who doesn't?!), especially during this season. So, contribute your favorite holiday cookies and spread some joy!



- Cookies can be homemade or store-bought and should be bundled in sets of 24.
- You CAN make/bring other baked goodies (brownies, bars, etc.).
- Compass Housing does not have freezer/fridge space for items that need to be stored cold. Please do not donate baked goodies that need to be refrigerated.
- All homemade goodies MUST have a recipe card with them that lists the full list of ingredients.
If your recipe contains nuts of any kind, please make a clear note.

Gift Card Donations: Please see page 7 for details about donating gift cards to Compass Housing.



Winter/Spring 2023 Bible study: *The Ten Commandments*

Way before human beings took to social media, Netflix or Judge Judy (those can only take you so far), there were God's laws. Not for entertainment, but for eternity, these ten commandments actively promote the health and life of others and ourselves.

From January to April 2023, we will join the Rev. Dr. Christa von Zychlin (back by popular demand!) for a Bible study that examines how the commandments still speak to the challenges of our world today: faith, joy and romance; violence, murders and minding our tongues; the spirituality of sex; integrity in the marketplace; overcoming generational divisions; hectic and overscheduled lives; peace and respect; and more.

Subscribe now to join *Gather* and Pastor Christa, as she puts to bed any rumors that the commandments are outdated or quaint! (Go to gathermagazine.org to subscribe.)

QALC WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Core Tanzania—while you are “giving,” don’t forget Core Tanzania! Jeanette and Michael Banobi will be in Adult Forum on December 11 to bring us up to date on Twegashe — the school they are building in Bushasha. That would be a good day to donate to QALCW to help support the school.

The **Evening Circle** will not meet this month. We will look forward to studying the Ten Commandments in January. January meeting will be via Zoom only. **Sewing and Service** will not meet on December 21 or 28.

Your Women’s Committee,
Pat Sobeck, Sallie Wilson, Candy Mathes and Barb Bach

Women’s Calendar—Come join us!

Wednesdays—**Sewing and Service** 10 AM to 12:30 PM QALC Lower Level
(Not meeting on Wednesday December 21 or 28)

Monday, Dec. 12—**PDQ** (Evening Quilt Group) 5 PM to 8 PM (Bring a sack dinner.) QALC Lower Level
Note: **PDQ** welcomes both men and women, young and old to the quilting tables!

Evening Circle Not meeting until January 17, 2023 (contact Barb Bach)

Monday, Dec. 12—**Northern Lights** 6 PM
(Holiday gathering at a restaurant, this month only—contact Dolly Smith for details)

THANKSGIVINGS



(above) Queen Anne Helpline Executive Director Cara Lauer gives thanks for the non-perishable Thanksgiving groceries for homebound seniors on Queen Anne Hill. We donated 24 bags, plus a personal check of \$100 toward the hot food.

(at right) Jim Margard delivered women’s and children’s hats to Mary’s Place, all handmade by Barbara Koziol. Men’s hats were donated to QA Helpline—a total of 341 hats! Thank you, Barbara; thanks Jackie and Cathi, who sorted the hats, and thank you, Jim, for delivering everything.

Thanks are also due this month to all of our Community Lunch on Capitol Hill volunteers, who served for five Tuesdays in November to help prepare and distribute lunch to hungry people.



NUTS AND BOLTS

Covid Protocols in Worship and in the Building

The Church Council and Worship & Music Committee have set our current health and safety practices, and details are posted online and in print in the church narthex. In brief, while **we still recommend masking and distancing**, masks are now optional in the building, and having food and drink is allowed.

Office Hours—Vacations

Since Pastor Dan and Cantor Kyle are typically present in the office Tuesday—Thursday and Wednesday—Thursday, respectively, as well as on Saturdays, specific office hours will no longer be held. Instead, feel free to stop by the office, or contact Pastor Dan or Kyle directly if you wish to make an appointment.

Main Office (Barb Bash): Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Barb will be on vacation from Wednesday December 7 through Wednesday December 14. The office will be closed Friday, December 9, and hours will be shorter on the other days Barb is away. Please call or email Pastor Dan or Kyle to find out when they will be present in the building during that time.

Cantor Kyle will be away on December 17 and 18, and guest organist Sean Connors will be with us that Sunday.

Pastor Dan will be out of the office from December 26 through Thursday, January 5, and Pastor Kristy Daniels will preside and preach here on January 1.

Contacts:

Pastor Daniel Peterson	pastor@queenannelutheran.org
Cantor Kyle Haugen	cantor@queenannelutheran.org
Parish Administrator Barbara Bash	admin@queenannelutheran.org
Office Phone:	206.284.1960

For emergency pastoral needs, text Pastor Dan at 253-230-9695.

Mailing Address:

Queen Anne Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 17029
Seattle, WA 98127

Street Address:

Queen Anne Lutheran Church
2400 8th Avenue West
Seattle, WA 98119

DECEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	1	10:30am Alanon Women (upstairs) 7:00pm Shanty Trudgers (upstairs)
					2	
					3	
					4	
Advent II					5	
8:00am Worship	7:00pm Food	7:00pm Executive Committee (Zoom)	Office: Short hrs.	Office: Short hrs.	6	
9:00am Forum	Addicts in Recovery		10:00am Sewing & Service (Fireside)	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	7	10:30am Alanon Women (upstairs)
10:30am Worship			8:00pm AA Counterbalance (FH)		8	7:00pm Shanty Trudgers (upstairs)
11:30am Greening of the Church					9	
1:00pm Cookie- Baking					10	
4:00pm Youth: Gingerbread Houses						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Advent III		Office: Short hrs.	Office: Short hrs.			
8:00am Worship	5:30pm PDQ	7:00pm Church Council (Zoom)	10:00am Sewing & Service (Fireside)	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal		10:30am Alanon Women (upstairs)
9:00am Forum	Quilting (Fireside)		8:00pm AA Counterbalance (FH)			7:00pm Shanty Trudgers (upstairs)
10:30am Worship	6:00pm Northern Lights					
4:00pm Caroling	7:00pm Alzheimer's Support Group					
	7:00pm Food					
	Addicts in Recovery					
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Advent IV						Christmas Eve
8:00am Worship	7:00pm Food		8:00pm AA	7:00pm Choir Rehearsal		10:30am Alanon Women (upstairs)
9:00am Forum	Addicts in Recovery		Counterbalance (FH)			5:30pm Christmas Eve Worship
10:30am Worship						7:00pm Shanty Trudgers (upstairs)
						11:00pm Christmas Eve Worship
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christmas Day					New Horizons - D...	
11:00am Christmas Worship	7:00pm Food Addicts in Recovery		8:00pm AA Counterbalance (FH)			10:30am Alanon Women (upstairs)
						7:00pm Shanty Trudgers (upstairs)