

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Arlington, WA

www.arlingtonwachurch.org

Our purpose: *Celebrate, cultivate and share God's love.*

October 2025



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

The Messenger



Our Values

- ◆ Welcoming
- ◆ Compassion
- ◆ Serving
- ◆ Respect

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From the Pastor

Walk with *Jesus*

Every day is a walk with Jesus. We Christians believe life is spent in the presence of our Lord. Therefore, we can talk about every day as a day during which we walk with Jesus. Some days we feel Jesus' presence. Some days we feel quite a distance from Jesus. We boldly proclaim that, regardless of how we feel, Jesus is there. Jesus walks with us every day.

As we who are Our Saviour's Lutheran Church consider our financial stewardship over the next few weeks, you will be asked to think about your use of money and possessions as a part of your walk with Jesus. This is most appropriate, because when Jesus walked this earth with his disciples, he often talked about money and possessions. If money was a part of Jesus' first walk on this earth, it should be a part of our walk with Jesus today.

We believe that everything we have is a trust from God, given to us to care for and manage. What we do with our money is very much a part of our relationship with our Lord. This will be our focus in the coming weeks.

For three consecutive Sundays we will read a bulletin insert and hear a talk in worship. For three weeks, we will each receive a letter from the congregation. All of these will focus on our walk with Jesus, and how money plays an important part in this walk.

Then, on Sunday, November 2, each household will have the opportunity to complete an estimate of giving card. On this card, each of us will indicate our plan for giving for the coming year. This will not only be a plan for giving to Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, it will also be a plan for how we will walk with Jesus in the coming year.

Pastor John Schraan

Stillaguamish Conference Worship Sunday, October 5th - Members of our Stillaguamish Conference have continued to work together to make our fourth annual Conference Worship Service a meaningful time of worship and fellowship. on Sunday, October 5th, 10:00am at Camano Lutheran Church. This year there are plans of including members of the Stillaguamish tribe, as we gather to and celebrate God's gift of creation and the land that we share together. The organizers would like to incorporate a program that our youth can participate in. There will be **no service at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church on that day.**

****Check out the website for our Stillaguamish Conference Churches!**

<https://www.northcountychurches.org/>

Happenings at Our Saviour's

Starting October 12th! Join Pastor John on Sundays at 9:00am in the classroom: **A More Excellent Way: The Gospel in an Age of Division.** Lead and love with scriptural wisdom in divisive times. This study was created to help you navigate the challenges of leading through a time of deep cultural division with grace and scriptural wisdom. 10/12: Overview & Introduction, 10/19: A Lasting Mandate, 10/26: Facing a Flawed Legacy, 11/2: The Rise and Fall of Best Intentions, 11/9: The Way I See It, 11/16: Filling the Sanctuary, 11/23: Memory and Reconciliation, 11/30: Love your Enemies (not just your neighbor).

OSYM (Our Saviour's Youth Ministry) Sundays meet weekly on Sundays at 9:00a.m. Children are invited to come enjoy Bible lessons, fun games and service projects. OSYM Sundays is open to all children ages Preschool through 5th grade. Questions, contact the church office.

Stilly Cup Tailgate! The cross-town rivalry high school football game between the Arlington Eagles and the Stanwood Spartans is coming up on **October 10th 5-6:15pm**. The game is at Arlington this year, Our Saviour's will host a tailgate of Hot dogs, brats & chips! Come for food and take then some football at 7:00pm as well. Come join us!



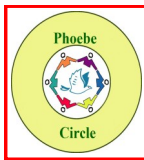
Fall Festival - Saturday, October 18th, 1pm-4pm.

Fall Festival—Saturday, October 18th, 1pm-4pm. We hope you are able to attend our upcoming Fall Festival on Saturday, October 18th from 1:00pm-4:00pm! We'll have carnival games, pumpkin decorating, bouncy house, crafts & snacks. Now is your opportunity to help! Sign-up sheets are in the hallway.

Calling all singers....We would love to have you join this ministry! Our purpose is to support our worship on Sundays by preparing hymns (especially new ones!) and liturgies to undergird congregational singing. And, of course, we prepare anthems that (hopefully) enhance the readings and sermon for the day. Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 5:00pm. Contact the church office or any choir member for more information!



OSLC Ministries, Committees & Groups



Phoebe Circle is a bible study group for women that meets on the third Thursday of the month. This month, Phoebe Circle will meet on Thursday October 16th, @ 10:00 am in the classroom at OSLC. Bring your bible and copy of "Gather" if you have it. If not, we share! The theme for this session is: *Fall 2025: "Money, Stewardship and Generosity" by the Rev. Christa von Zychlin.* Phoebe Circle is always welcoming to new people. If you have any questions, contact the church office.



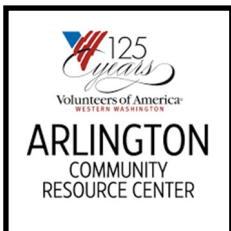
Mission Circle is Tuesday, Oct. 7th and 21th at 9 a.m. Come join us in the modular building. We also wish to express our gratitude for all the donations for school kits, baby items, fabric and your \$\$\$\$. Many thanks for our congregation's generosity. Pick up a colored brochure in the entryway and see how you can participate. Thank you.



Men's Coffee Fellowship will meet here at the church on Wednesday, October 8th & 22nd at 10am. We will exchange stories, drink some java, and eat some pastries. For more information, please contact Jim Kjargaard. (2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month)



Comfort Squad meets on the 4th Friday of each month in the classroom here at Our Saviour's. Join us on October 24th. All are welcome. For more info, please contact the church office.



Outreach To The Vulnerable Team: How can we help with those who need shelter, warmth and food? By providing food items such as canned meat, peanut butter, energy bars, or other non-perishable items that take little or no preparation. As winter approaches warm clothing such as gently used blankets, winter coats, gloves, take them to the Arlington Community Resource Center. You can drop off these items at church from 9am to 2pm Monday to Thursday and I will take them to the Arlington Community Resource Center. For questions or more suggestions on how you can help please contact the church office. Thank you.

Meal Project: This project is now administered through the **Volunteers of America.** OSLC will provide "Grab and Go" meals on October 21st. Gay & Dianne Engelsen, Judy Phillips & Toni Forsman will prepare the meals. The meals will be delivered to the **Arlington Community Resource Center.**

CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM JOSEPHINE CARING COMMUNITY



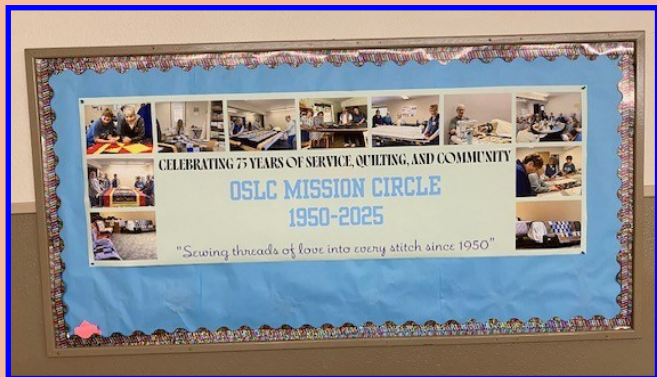
The Spiritual Care Department at Josephine is rooted in God's love and provides emotional and spiritual support to its residents, families, and staff. Over 110 residents are requesting chaplain visits on an ongoing basis. To respond to this important need, the department is offering our Chaplaincy Preparation Program which is a 6-month educational and experiential program to train volunteer chaplains.

The heartbeats of the program are compassion, listening, curiosity, and inclusivity. All that our residents hold to be sacred and meaningful must be honored. Chaplains will be encouraged to discern and strengthen their own faith and values as well through the program.

The training is scheduled for January-June 2026 and will welcome a cohort of 4 new chaplains to join the 10 chaplains currently serving our residents. Rev. Eileen Burdick will be facilitating this program and is a Board Certified Chaplain through the Association of Professional Chaplains with over 11 years of chaplaincy experience. She has also served as a congregational pastor with over 12 years in ministry.

If you are interested in this program at Josephine, please contact the Spiritual Care Department for detailed information and an application. 2026 CHAPLAINCY PREPARATION PROGRAM, 6-month educational and experiential program, 13 hrs. per month. FREE. Application deadline is November 14th. JOSEPHINE CARING COMMUNITY. Rev. Eileen Burdick, MDiv BCC, Spiritual Care Director eileenb@josephinecc.com, (360) 386-3231, 9901 272nd Pl NW, Stanwood, WA 98292

Mission Circle 75th Anniversary & Quilt Sunday



Baptism

Sunday, September 28th, we had the great joy and privilege of celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Baptism for Hannah & Hudson Hart. Hannah & Hudson are the children of Kyle & Emily Hart. We welcome Hannah & Hudson into God's family and the body of Christ at Our Saviour's!



Communion Bread Making Day



Around the NW Synod



LINC NW

Socktoberfest 2025! LINC NW is kicking off Socktoberfest on **October 1st** this year. We are collecting new socks and underwear of all sizes, male and female cut to stock our clothing closet, which serves 5,000 people annually! Your donation helps us stock the closet and ensure that we have enough variety to serve each person uniquely! Look for a collection box in the Narthex soon.



SKY - Sno-King Youth!

SKY October Gathering First Baptist Church (1616 Pacific Ave, Everett) Sunday, October 5 | 6:00 – 7:30pm

Join us for an evening of food, friends, and nerf blasters as we explore the theme Team Building! We are teaming up with Planet Mynd to offer a fun and exciting activity for our first meeting of the 2025-2026 school year. Planet Mynd Play Lab is an “intentional play” programming company that serves companies and organizations in and around Snohomish County, WA. Interactive games are used as a vehicle for education, team-building, and entertainment. Questions? Contact Dustin at cyfdirector@gloria-dei-lutheran.org.

SKY Quarterly Planning Meeting Monday, October 13 | 7:00pm

SKY church leaders, youth, and volunteers are invited to our quarterly planning meeting in October. SKY planning meetings happen on the 2nd Tuesday of the month on a quarterly basis. Help us plan additional fun and service events for SKY! Join us online at https://y7afskebb.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001GN0regxdGbudCCjp5jCg3DP_seNAP83wRZW0YZCzjlhfDQ4pDMUKIxo4n-G39fWJVLhZEOFD8FDdpbwcAonFSB0aT5nU28Kjx8Dv3wqCqlHizfzjNsV4uDODHCcszK2-qDK-BEY5Qo_ganW9TM_FIIbMKHiD9oMUxSq54bxRCU84FwRUvXYhen7ls4ndPxOOQxuudWeyxTWHzpn2y6FNKyKld5D-jZagT&c=FoTD3PDSjzvRQsflk1Nr_2-6hX-aIj_kiu9VoedveSOeGr2A9jhLmw==&ch=qtHcfndH3LqeluEkzyvOeKlAXu3bsOfqCQn8oq1lGhjWnkc84B7AeA==

SKY November Gathering Christ the King Lutheran Church, Snohomish Sunday, November 2 | 6:00 – 7:30pm

Watch for more information online and in the November newsletter.



Lutherwood—Join us for Volunteer Work Day & Oktoberfest!

Head to Lake Samish for a celebration of all things fall and help get camp ready for winter and spring!

Spend the morning on work projects (indoor and outdoor options), enjoy a complimentary lunch, and give back to camp! All ages and skill levels welcome. Stay later in the afternoon for a festive event, featuring brats (meat and vegetarian options available), beer and root beer, and all the fixins’! We’ll offer games, tours of camp, and a casual worship service thanking God and our community for another amazing summer. Come for the morning, the

afternoon, or both!

Lunch is free and dinner by donation. All ages welcome!

(Please RSVP so we know how much food to make).

RSVP Here: [Volunteer — Lutherwood Camp & Retreat Center](https://camplutherwood.org/volunteer)

CHILDCARE NEWS
by *Melissa Hackworth, Program Supervisor*

Fall is here and we love it! The colors are beautiful and there is a nice cool crispness to the morning air. The school-age children have fallen back into their school routine nicely and are having a wonderful time getting to know Miss Kristin. Our preschool age children have been busy learning new things in their classrooms and are getting excited for their fall harvest party. We will have lots of fun activities planned for them to do, along with yummy snacks and the best part is that they get to wear their pajamas! Watch our Facebook page for pictures!



PRESCHOOL NEWS
by *Jennifer Ess, Director*

September was a great start to the school year! We spent the month meeting new friends, reconnecting with returning friends, exploring the classroom, and learning what it is like to be at a preschool. Families were welcomed to the classroom with several orientation days which gave us a chance to connect with the parents as well as their children.

The 3 Day Pre-K class focused on learning about God's love, His wonderful creation, and all the ways he made us special. We spent lots of time outside, started chapel time with Pastor John (a highlight for all the kids), and did lots of art work!

The 2 Day Preschool class is also learning about God's love and all that He created (including us!) as well as what it means to be in a classroom with new friends and how we all work together. We spent LOTS of time outside, practiced walking in a line, and welcomed Pastor John to our classroom for chapel time.

October brings Pumpkin Patch trips, Harvest Parties, more fun Bible stories, and learning about Fall. We are excited to see the growth and changes that will happen this year. Anna, Aura, Melissa, and I are so thankful for the continued support, prayers, and blessing from the members of Our Saviour's.

We are looking for a few more kids to join our preschool family this year - please share the word with families who may be looking for a preschool to call home!



3-Day Class



2-Day Class



From the October Edition of The Spirit | lutheransnw.org/publications

From the Bishop:

October 2025

There are snakes all around us. It might not seem like it, but just like the snakes that surrounded the people of Israel, snakes are surrounding us. Let me remind you of that story found in Numbers 21. The people of Israel had been in the wilderness for almost 40 years and they are tired. They are worn out. They are angry. They are annoyed. There is no water and the manna which God has provided for them is, as the people say, “miserable.” They complain about God and they complain about Moses. And suddenly, in the middle of their complaining, they are surrounded by snakes.

Snakes slithering around them. People running and screaming. People snatching their children up from the ground. Snakes biting and biting and biting. People dying. Finally, desperate, they ask Moses to pray to God on their behalf. And he does. And in response to Moses’ prayer, God sends this message. God commands Moses to lift a rod into the air with a bronze serpent on it for the people to gaze upon. (You can read the full story in Numbers 21:4-9).

Do you see how strange it is for God to command this? To tell them to make a statue of the horrible thing that is killing them? My guess is that they wanted to shield their eyes from this monstrosity. No one wanted to look. Truly when they gazed upon that bronze serpent they saw a scary, horrifying, life-killing image of death. They saw poison and destruction.

But do you know what happens in the story? It is amazing. For when those who were bitten looked up and saw that which scared them the most, what brought the most destruction to them, they were saved. They lived. Out of death came new life.

There are snakes all around us, too. Do you feel them? These snakes take many forms: violence, hatred, greed, despair. Sometimes the snakes look like systems too big to fight. Sometimes they look like shadows in our own hearts. We may want to pretend they are not here. We may want to close our eyes and hope they slither away. But they don’t. They linger, bite, and wound. Like the Israelites in the wilderness, we are not spared from being surrounded by snakes.

And just like the Israelites, God calls us not to turn away but to look. To see the truth of what is around us. To name the injustice, the fear, the grief, the death-dealing realities in our midst. This is not easy. Looking at the snakes feels unbearable. But even more, we are called to look beyond the snakes to what is lifted up. For it is only when the people lifted their eyes and saw the bronzed snake could they find life again.

This Numbers story is quoted by Jesus in John 3. There, we hear, *“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”*

Jesus is using the Numbers story as an invitation for us as followers of Jesus. We are called to gaze upon something beyond the heartache and violence and all the snakes that are surrounding us. God calls us, just as Moses called the Israelites, to look up.

And what are we called to see? Not a bronzed snake but a cross. The cross. The cross of Christ is our bronzed serpent. On it, we see the ugliest things – violence, betrayal, injustice, sin, death itself. And yet, we are promised that this is exactly where God meets us. It is where Jesus bears what we cannot carry, where God does not hide from the world’s brokenness and, instead, becomes broken for the world. Where God’s promise that even death is transformed to the means of redemption, healing, and abundant life.

The snakes don’t magically disappear. And we are called to confess, grieve, speak, listen, and act in community regarding the snakes. But ultimately, we lift our eyes, our voices, and our actions beyond the snakes towards the new life that is promised – where suffering is met with God’s redeeming love. And in holy community is where we are strengthened again – discovering that healing and new life are possible, always, together, through Christ. Amen.

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee | bishop@lutheransnw.org

	Monthly Budget	July 2025	Year-to-Date
Income	*	*	*
Expenses	*	*	*
Net Income	*	*	*

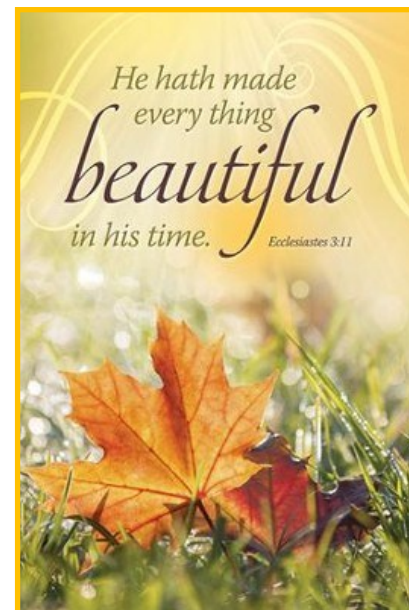
The budget year runs from July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026
 *not available at time of printing

Thank you for giving to Our Saviour's!

Worship Attendance for September 2025

	<i>In person</i>	<i>Online</i>
7th:	60	28
14th:	63	76
21st:	64	88
28^h:	74	40

Minutes of the monthly Church Council meeting and the Financial Report Summary are posted on the office bulletin board for all to read. You can also request a copy be sent to you by email or mail. Contact the church office at (360) 435-8921 or office@arlingtonwachurch.org



October Worship Servers

	5	12	19	26
Audio/Video Booth Techs 2 per Sunday	Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran	Max Maxwell Sally Shinstrom	Max Maxwell	Max Maxwell
Communion Assistants	Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran	Judy & Burke Phillips	Judy Donoghue Peggy Shortt	Jan Hopson Nancy Yonker
Lectors	Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran	Kathy Stuehrenberg	Kevin Ess	Jamie Smith
Ushers/ Hosts	Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran	Vance & Tammy DeWard	Steve & Liz Moore	Allen & Darcy Larson
Flowers	Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran	Laurie Breon	Kathy & Lowell Stuehrenberg	Deb Isler
Coffee Hour	Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran	 		
Tellers	Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran	Sharron Knutson Max Maxwell	Sharon Knoepfle Jan Hopson	Kathy Thordarson Kerry Graves
Lock Up	Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran	Judy Donoghue	Peggy Shortt	Jan Hopson

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6:30p Confirmation	2 6:00p Basketball	3	4
5 10:00a Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran Church 4p Basketball	6 6:00p Scout Troop 92	7 9:00a Mission Circle	8 10:00a Men's Coffee Fellowship 6:30p Confirmation	9 6:00p Basketball	10 5:00-6:15p Stilly Cup Tailgate at OSLC 7p game	11
12 9:00a Adult Class 9:00a OSYM for Kids 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee & Conversation 4p Basketball	13 6:00p Scout Troop 92	14	15 6:30p Confirmation	16 10:00a Phoebe Circle 5:30p Church Council 6:00p Basketball	17	18 1:00-4:00p Fall Festival
19 9:00a Adult Class 9:00a OSYM for Kids 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee & Conversation 4p Basketball	20 6:00p Scout Troop 92	21 9:00a Mission Circle	22 10:00a Men's Coffee Fellowship 6:30p Confirmation	23 6:00p Basketball	24 10:00a Comfort Squad Mtg	25
26 Reformation Sunday 9:00a Adult Class 9:00a OSYM for Kids 10:00a Worship 11:00a Coffee & Conversation 4p Basketball	27 6:00p Scout Troop 92	28	29 6:30p Confirmation	30 6:00p Basketball		

"Happy Birthday to you ..."

2 Sammi Lilgreen
2 Sally Shinstrom
4 Alec Villa
9 Joyce Magelssen
9 Kathy Thordarson
12 Jamie Morgan
14 Elijah Morgan
14 Laurie Breon
15 Jake Parduhn
17 Lowell Stuehrenberg
18 Ellie Erken
21 Byron Scott
26 Donna Larson
29 Susan Maxwell



Happy Anniversary!



☺ **Did we forget you?** If your special date is not listed here, first, forgive us! Then, call the office so that we can update our database. Thanks!



Share Your
FAITH
with Others....
Show Love

The Messenger
October 2025
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Arlington WA 98223-0333



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Our Values: Welcoming, Compassion, Serving, Respect.