

AUGUST 2026

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

***Arlington, WA
www.arlingtonwachurch.org***

***Our purpose: Celebrate, cultivate and share God's love.
Our Values: Welcoming, Compassion, Serving, Respect***

The Messenger

The monthly publication of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church



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Our Saviour's Annual Outdoor Worship Service and BBQ August 23rd

Our Saviour's Annual Outdoor Worship Service & BBQ – August 23rd!

Mark this date on your calendar and begin praying for this fun and delicious event and think about who you can invite to join us!

Special invitations are available in the church entryway for you to give out to those you would like to invite. Our guests only need to bring themselves and perhaps a lawn chair or blanket as well as a healthy appetite!

Weather permitting, our outdoor worship service will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the area behind the church building. If it rains, we will simply move inside. At the conclusion of our service our summer BBQ will take place. Hamburgers, hotdogs, chips and ice cream sundaes will be provided but we need congregational help with salads, side dishes, etc. Signup sheets for set-up, clean-up and potluck dishes you can bring are posted in the kitchen hallway. Thanks in advance for making this special event a success!!!

Save the Date! October 11th Annual Stillaguamish Conference Worship at Camano Lutheran.



From the Pastor

The Third Commandment

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.

What is this? Answer: We are to fear and love God, so that we do not despise God's Word or preaching, but instead keep that Word holy and gladly hear and learn it.

Sabbath. Rooted in a Hebrew word for "rest," the Sabbath is the seventh and final day of the Jewish week (Saturday). The Sabbath begins at sunset Friday evening and ends at sunset on Saturday. This day is *holy in the Jewish religion, its proper observance being demanded in the *Ten Commandments (Ex 20:8-11). Many Christian churches have transferred the sanctity of the Sabbath to *Sunday, the primary day of Christian worship, though some Christian churches maintain keeping primary worship and rest on the Sabbath (e.g., Seventh-Day Adventists). Observance and strictures concerning the Sabbath or Sunday vary greatly among Christians, the author of the letter to the Hebrews even abstracting its meaning from calendrical observance (Heb 4:4-11; cf. Rom 14:5-6). As Saturday evening can be understood as the first part of the day of Sunday (according to OT reckoning), Sunday worship services in some churches are offered Saturday evenings.

Provance, Brett Scott. Pocket Dictionary of Liturgy & Worship, IVP Academic, 2009, p. 113.

Jesus said, "28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.* 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.* 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30 NRSV UE)

New Revised Standard Version: Updated Edition. Friendship Press, 2021, p. Mt 11:28-30.

Coming at the end of August as we close out the summer, we will have opportunity to explore Sabbath. The three samples above, from Luther's Catechism, A dictionary, and the Gospel of Matthew provide different avenues to explore God's desire for us to be refreshed in body and renewed in spirit. We'll start our exploration with Outdoor Worship on August 23rd and continue through Labor Day Weekend. May God's Word make refresh you in mind and body! See you in worship!

Skrade, Kristofer, editor. "Luther's Small Catechism." The Lutheran Handbook, translated by Timothy J. Wengert, Augsburg Fortress, 2005, p. 197.

OSLC Ministries

Mission Circle

We will be meeting the first Tuesday in August 4th. Mission Circle plans to get back into our regular schedule in September. Save these dates: Tuesday Sept. 1 and Sept. 15, 9 a.m.

Again this year we have focused on providing quilts, school kits and baby care kits. The kits and quilts are sent to Lutheran World Relief twice yearly in the spring and fall. For questions or interest please contact Beth Husted at (425) 350-4417.

Mission Circle has a new participation zone along the wall of the stained glass windows. Stop and check out the 75th celebration banner for Mission Circle. Do you sew? Pick up a bundle of precut squares and sew a top for a quilt. Do you shop for bargains? Purchase some items for the school kit drive and the personal care kit drive. Come join us for the first Tue of August in the modular and help tie some quilts. Any questions see Beth Husted.

School Kits: We are in need of donations of school supplies to fill backpack school kits to send to Lutheran World Relief for children who are living in poverty:

*70-sheet spiral notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper, *Wooden 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other, *Pencil sharpener with shaving holder, *Pair of blunt scissors, *Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, *Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink), *Box of 16 or 24 crayons. For any questions, please contact Deb Isler.

Personal Care Kits. As part of our September 13th Gods Work~Our Hands celebration one of the activities our congregation will be participating in is assembling Personal Care Kits for people served through Lutheran World Relief. These kits provide comfort, dignity, and hope to families around the world who have experienced natural disasters, conflict, or poverty. Can you help by donating any of the following: Bath towel (new, approximately 20" x 40" to 52" dark colors recommended); Metal nail clippers; and bath-size bar of soap (4-5 oz. in original wrapping) There is a box in the Narthex for the collection of these items. Thank you for helping us share God's love through service!

Phoebe Circle is a bible study group for women. Phoebe Circle will meet on Thursday August 20th at 10:00am 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: Summer 2026: "I am worthy," by the Rev. Sara Olson-Smith. Phoebe Circle is always welcoming to new people. If you have any questions, contact Sally Shinstrom at (360) 435-9392.

Men's Coffee Fellowship will meet here at the church on Wednesday, August 12^h & 26th at 10am. We will exchange stories, drink some java, and eat some pastries. For more information, please contact Jim Kjargaard.

Comfort Squad meets on the 4th Friday of each month. Join us on August 28th. This month we are meeting at Ellie's at the Airport, 18218 59th Ave NE, Arlington. All are welcome. For more info, please contact Jan Hopson at (808)756-5226 or hopsonjanice1@gmail.com.

Meal Project: This project is now administered through the Volunteers of America. OSLC will provide "Grab and Go" meals on August 18th, Lyle & Laura Kellogg will prepare the meals. The meals will be delivered to the Arlington Community Resource Center.

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. You can drop off these items at church from 9am to 3pm Monday to Thursday and I will take them to the Arlington Community Resource Center (ACRC). For questions or more suggestions on how you can help please call me: Bob Zerbel (425) 239-1785. Thank you.

Fellowship Ice Cream Social

July 18



Childcare & Preschool News



Childcare News

by Melissa Hackworth, Program Supervisor



30 years! At the beginning of July, the Childcare Center celebrated Miss Bev's 30th year of employment at Our Saviour's Childcare. It is incredibly rare in this line of work to have such longevity of employment, and we feel incredibly blessed to have her as our Childcare Director! We truly can't express enough how much we appreciate her!



by Jennifer Ess, Director

Summer is flying by, and soon the preschool will once again be filled with energetic children ready to start making friends and learning about the world around them. This year we are once again offering 3 classroom options for families with 2-, 3-, or 5-day options. We currently have 20 children enrolled in the 3-day Pre-K Class, and 7 children enrolled in the 2-day Preschool Class. We have closed enrollment for the 3-day classroom but still have LOTS of space available in our 2-day classroom.

Our AMAZING preschool team is returning for another exciting year with Anna Lundgren as our 3-day Pre-K teacher, Aura James as our 2-day Preschool teacher and 3-day Teacher Assistant, and Melissa Staffenhagen as our 5-day Teacher Assistant. I am continuing as Preschool Director and fill in teacher/support person as needed. I am thankful and grateful to be working with such a wonderful group of people. Our Saviour's Preschool wouldn't be the same without them.

The classroom is set up and ready to welcome back children in September. We will be meeting soon to finalize school calendars, lesson plans, and activities for the year. We also have an online wish list of items for the preschool. Some items are needed for day-to-day operations; some are wants to enhance the classroom or replace items that are wearing out. If you have any questions, please let me know - www.bit.ly/pslpreschoolwishlist We thank you for your donations and as always for your support and prayers as our school year starts again in September.

Around the NW Synod News

Stillaguamish Conference Corner - Did You Know?



You may be aware that Bethlehem Lutheran Church hosts a Cold Weather Shelter from November through March, when overnight temperatures drop too low, but did you know that it has been expanded to serve as a respite from the heat as well?! This summer, also through coordination with LINC Northwest and Snohomish County, Bethlehem has been opening its doors twice a week, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 am to noon, to provide lunch and resources for those in need. Additionally, upon request by the county, it served as a Cooling Shelter on July 22, when temperatures reached the 90's. This Cooling Shelter option will continue, on an as needed basis, through Labor Day. Bethlehem is so blessed to be able to make use of their space and location (right on a bus line!) to help serve those who are struggling.



July 20, 2026

Dear Our Saviour's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your \$166.67 gift to Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center! Your gift helps further our mission of sharing God's love by allowing others to *Explore GRACE in Creation*.

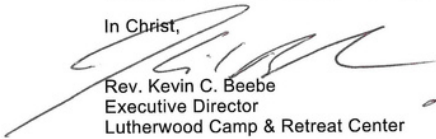
As the rains of early spring shift to summer sun, we give thanks for all the ways that the Spirit brings new life at Lutherwood. With our dedicated staff and volunteers, we continue to build upon 79 years of ministry on Lake Samish. God is calling our camp into its next chapter, and we're honored you are part of the legacy building the future.

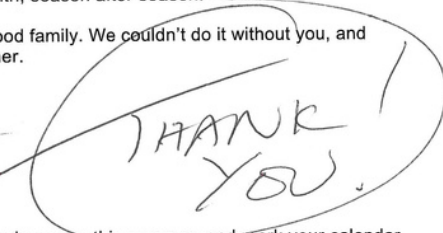
Your gift doesn't just help keep lights on and buildings painted—it plants seeds of faith, friendship, and resilience that will grow well into the future. Each story I hear from campers and staff speaks to the authentic community God fashions here. Which of us doesn't need real community? Your giving makes it possible.

2026 will bring new joys and challenges. We are hopeful to make major strides with bathroom upgrades, painting, and replacing outdated gas heat with sustainable electric options. We are excited to "Wear Love" in the summer, rekindling relationships with campers and God through our various programs. Your partnership helps ensure that Lutherwood remains a vital place in Western Washington where people can root themselves in God's love and grow in faith, season after season.

Thank you for being part of the Lutherwood family. We couldn't do it without you, and we're grateful to walk this journey together.

In Christ,


Rev. Kevin C. Beebe
Executive Director
Lutherwood Camp & Retreat Center



P.S. We'd love for you to hold your camp in prayer this summer, and mark your calendar now for a luncheon and dock dedication on September 12th at Lutherwood!

Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with EIN #91-0629888. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Message from the Bishop



From the Bishop:

July / August 2026

On July 18, 1976 Pastor Nancy Winder was ordained into Word and Sacrament ministry. She was the first woman ordained in what was then the North Pacific District and the fourteenth woman ordained in the American Lutheran Church.

But Nancy and those thirteen women were not the first. We remember all the women who came before them. In scripture we remember Mary, the mother of Jesus, Elizabeth, Mary and Martha, Mary Magdalene, Phoebe, Priscilla, Junea, Lydia, and all the unnamed women including the Samaritan woman at the well who ran to proclaim what she had seen and heard, becoming the first to declare Jesus as Lord.

Along with these women in scripture, we also remember the countless women in these last 2000 years – Hildegard, Katie Luther, Argula von Grumbach, Maria Stewart, Phoebe Palmer, Catherine Booth, Margaret Wold, and so many others who were called by the Holy Spirit to preach, teach, proclaim, lead, and serve. We give thanks for the myriad of gifts that God has poured out through women for the sake of the church and the life of the world.

I am so thankful for the many women in our lives who passed on their faith to us. The women who taught Sunday School, prepared the altar, made meals, visited those who were sick, and marched against injustice. The women theologians, mystics, and writers. The women who, in countless ways, proclaimed through word and deed the good news of Jesus.

Thank you to our sisters in Christ. Thank you for the ways you have lived out your faith in every vocation. Thank you to the women who have gone before us, to the women serving today, and to the women who continue to say yes to God's call – including those called into ordained ministry. I wonder, do you remember the first time you heard a woman preach? The first time you heard an alto or soprano voice chanting the liturgy or saying the words of institution? I remember. I was twenty years old. Seeing and hearing someone who looked like me, who had a body like mine, made the gospel come alive in a way I hadn't experienced before. Truly, it changed my life.

This is why I grieve what is happening to some of our sisters in other denominations. In recent weeks, the Southern Baptist Convention voted at its annual assembly to further restrict women from teaching, preaching, and pastoral leadership. This means women ordained ten or twenty or fifty years ago may now find their callings denied by the very churches they have faithfully served. So many women – chosen, loved, called, sent – women with fire in their bellies to preach the gospel may no longer do so. Not by God, but by their denomination. Their silencing is not only a tragedy for them; it is a tragedy for the whole Church.

So today there is an urgency to remember, celebrate, and publicly proclaim, that women are called by God. Just as the Spirit came to Mary, who sang of the mighty brought down from their thrones, just as the Spirit sent Mary Magdalene to proclaim resurrection to the apostles, just as Lydia helped birth a community of believers, the Spirit has called and continues to call women in every age. So, in joy, thankfulness, and celebration, let us give thanks for the women of the past, present, and future who continue to proclaim, teach, lead, and serve. For, as we read in Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, "Since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart ... For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord."

2026 Council Members & Staff

2026 Council Members

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Financial Report



Month	Actual Giving	Actual Expenses	Difference
June	\$21,093.73	\$26,180.13	-\$5,086.43
Y.T.D. (Jan 2026- Jun 2026)	\$173,150.63	\$162,373.98	\$10,776.65

**Thank you for
giving to Our
Saviour's!**

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

August Worship Servers

	2	9	16	23	30
Audio/Video Booth Techs	Max Maxwell	Max Maxwell	Allen & Darcy Larson	Outdoor Worship	Max Maxwell
Communion Assistants	Greg & Beth Husted	Judy & Burke Phillips	Rohde Family	Greg & Beth Husted	Judy Donoghue Peggy Shortt
Lectors	Jen Ess	Jim Kjargaard	Judy Donoghue	Kathy Kjargaard	Kathy Stuehrenberg
Ushers/ Hosts	Hart Family	Steve & Liz Moore	John & Sharon Billdt	Steve & Robin Barker	Vance & Tammy DeWard
Flowers	Steve & Robin Barker	Peggy Shortt	Sharron Knutson	Outdoor Worship	
Coffee Hour	Phoebe Circle	Men's Fellowship	Mission Circle	Outdoor Worship	
Teller/s	Kathy Thordarson Sharron Knutson	Karen Crone Sharon Knoepfle	Jan Hopson Judy Phillips	Kerry Graves Sharon KNoepfle	Sharron Knutson Max Maxwell
Lock Up	Deb Isler	Kyle Hart	Judy Donoghue	Deb Iser	Deb Isler

Sunday Scriptures for August

August 2nd Ruth 4:1-22

August 9th Esther 4:1-17

August 16th Ester 7:1-10, 9:1-2, 20-22, 29-32

Sabbath

August 23rd Deuteronomy 5:12-15

August 30th Genesis 2:1-3

Celebrations

"Happy Birthday to you ..."		Happy Anniversary!	
7	Mike Thomas	1	Don & June Peterson
9	Monica Larson	2	Steve & Robin Barker
15	Sharron Knutson	10	John & Katrine Schraan
16	Kathy Kjargaard	11	Brian & Connie Foster
19	Sharon Knoepfle	11	Ron & Sharon Gierhan
20	Dianne Engelsen	14	Susan & Jeff Gehrig
19	Hannah Hart	18	Steve & Liz Moore
25	Peggy Shortt	25	Ryan & Dani Hall
27	Frank Gonzales		
29	Heidi Ewing		
29	Harper Ess		

Prayers of Concern and Thanks

Carol Kircher - healing from fall & broken kneecap
 David Mikesell - health challenges (husband of Sue Mikesell)
 Deacon Liz Colver - health challenges
 Dennis Heaton - health challenges
 Dianne Herivel - healing from back surgery
 Eileen Lewis - healing from hip replacement (sister of Robin Barker)
 Ellen Winter - health challenges
 Joe Tolison - improving with therapy (brother-in-law of Laurie Breon)
 Leslie Faxon - pray for ongoing treatment and health. (friend of several members)
 Leena Prindle - healing from surgery & radiation for breast cancer (daughter of Dennis Heaton)
 Lynne Baylor - broken pelvis, at Arlington Health & Rehabilitation
 Margaret Larson - health challenges
 Maxwell & Alyssa Tanner - prayers (Ron & Sharon Gierhan's grandson & his wife)
 Michael Fulton - health challenges (brother-in-law of Linda Jodock)
 Monte Redal - healing from back surgery (brother of Laurie Breon)
 Ozzie Wilkinson - diagnosed with metastasized pancreatic cancer (friend of Bob & Vickie Campbell)
 Patrick O'Neil - stage 4 melanoma (brother of Peggy Shortt)
 Richard Gonzalas - concern w/family member who self deported due to fear (friend of Lisa Masters)
 Roy Grewe - prayers for continued recover from stem cell transplant at home (brother of Ruth Gonzales)
 Sharon Gierhan - healing from fall
 Sue Andersson - hearing issues
 Those serving in uniform.



August Calendar 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 10:00a Worship 4p Basketball	3 6:00p BSA Troop 92	4 9:00a Mission Circle	5	6 6:00p Basketball	7	8
9 10:00a Worship 4p Basketball	10 6:00p BSA Troop 92	11	12 10:00a Men's Coffee Fellowship	13 10:00a Phoebe Circle 6:00p Basketball	14	15
16 10:0a Worship 12:00p Finance Mtg 4p Basketball	17 6:00p BSA Troop 92	18 7:00p Learning Center Board Mtg	19 10:00a Men's Coffee Fellowship	20 6:00p Basketball	21 10:00a Comfort Squad Mtg at Ellie's at the Airport	22
23 10:00a Outdoor Worship 11:00a Summer BBQ 4p Basketball	24 6:00p BSA Troop 92	25	26 10:00a Men's Coffee Fellowship	27 5:30p Church Council 6:00p Basketball	28	29
30 10:00a Worship 4p Basketball	31 6:00p BSA Troop 92					
			12			

Step Outside With us



It's time to celebrate summer! Please join us for our Outdoor Worship Service followed by our Summer BBQ. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be provided, and congregation members are being asked to bring a side dish (signup sheet-kitchen hallway). **You, our friend, are invited to come as our guest.** Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on, along with a healthy appetite! If it rains, we will simply move inside. If you have questions, please call.

You're Invited

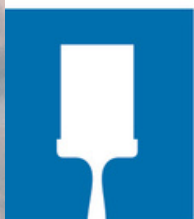
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church Outdoor Worship & Summer Barbeque

615 E. Highland Dr.
Arlington, WA 98223
360 435-8921

**Sunday
August 23, 2026
10:00 A.M.**



God's work. Our hands.



September 13, 2026

August

The Messenger

August 2026

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Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

615 E Highland Dr

Arlington WA 98223-0333

Show Love

**Share Your
FAITH
with Others....**

