



CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN DECEMBER 2020

Birthdays

12/4 Jeanne Nicholson
 12/9 Gabriel Olson (5)
 12/11 Sharon Boelman
 12/14 Don Knee
 12/17 Marilyn Woolard
 12/19 Shirley Theil
 12/23 Don Burke
 12/25 Marilyn Nickols
 12/28 Jeff Petersen
 12/29 Rich Olson

Anniversaries

12/29 Fern and Leonard Zechmann

Warmth, Peace and Pajamas

Salvation Army is collecting new pajamas for Norfolk children until Dec. 17. Most needed are children sizes 8 through adult XL. Please consider making a monetary donation or buying a new pair of pajamas and dropping off at Salvation Army, WJAG Radio (309 Braasch Ave.) or Sundance Investments (100 N. 34th St., suite F). Checks payable to Norfolk Salvation Army Pajama Project can be dropped off or mailed to 610 West Norfolk Ave.

Card of Thanks

Thank you for your support and prayers while I was sick with Covid-19. I was very sick, but I feel better now. Please wear your mask, social distance, and wash your hands so you stay healthy and to help the doctors and nurses. They were very kind to me and are working hard. Please pray for them.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Mike Morton

I want to thank everyone for their prayers and concern for me during my journey with cancer. I have taken three rounds of oral chemo and the MRI results from Oct. 27 show that my tumors are shrinking! I have felt the power of your prayers and I am so grateful. Please keep sending the prayers my way. Also, please include BJ in your prayers as he is having some health problems.

“Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances.”

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Love, BJ and Sharon Koeppe

To Christ the Servant congregation,
 Thanks for your recent donation of money from your craft Sunday. This will help provide 4,600 Mercy Meals to be given to many families that are hungry. Orphan Grain Train appreciates your support!

Doug Trampe, warehouse manager

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December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7 Advent service	3	4 6:30 Girl Scouts	5
6 9 Sunday school 10 worship	7 7 Boy Scouts	8	9 7 Advent service	10	11	12
13 9 Sunday school 10 worship	14 7 Boy Scouts	15	16 7 Advent service	17	18 6:30 Girl Scouts	19
20 9 Sunday school 10 worship	21 6:30 Council meeting 7 Boy Scouts	22	23	24 5pm candlelight service	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26
27 9 Sunday school 10 worship	28 7 Boy Scouts	29	30	31		

Altar guild: Kathy Rogers

Membership care: Rhonda Beed

Treasures of the Heart

There are some things in a person's life that can never be forgotten, regardless of how old or feeble one becomes. I truly believe that even when one is ravaged by dementia or worse, Alzheimer's, there are little memories that stay with us—even if we are unable to communicate those memories to others. When I was in seminary I was asked to assist an elderly couple who needed help due to Alzheimer's. The husband's condition was such that he could not communicate nor could he walk without being guided. Before his illness he was the comptroller for the city of Columbus, Ohio, and he was a concert pianist with the Columbus Symphony. One evening when I was helping him to his bedroom his wife turned on the radio and the Symphony was performing. He stopped and he raised his eyebrows with that look of recognition. It was at that moment I became convinced that—despite the ravages of that terrible disease—those memories of playing with the Columbus Symphony were alive and well in this wonderful man.

As a child, my memories of Christmas are a mixed bag. But there is one memory that I consider to be the best of the best memories I have of Christmas. I know this will probably sound silly to some, but the memories of receiving that little brown bag of goodies after the Christmas Eve program at church is something that still brings tears to my eyes. It was pure joy—that wonderful ribbon candy, peanuts in the shell, an orange and an apple—and my personal favorite—those gelatin orange slices. I know you are probably thinking, "That's his best memory of Christmas?" Yup, that's it! Some of you have heard me tell of how abusive my father could be, and Christmas was no exception. I'm pretty sure the first ten to twelve years of my life our poor Christmas tree didn't survive the season without being thrown across the room during one of my dad's tirades. So a bag of goodies from the church was a true gift. Even if you really messed up your lines during the Children's Christmas pageant, you would still get that little brown bag of goodies—no exceptions!

To an adult it may not seem like much, but to a child who is living in uncertainty something as simple as a bag of goodies can make a difference. Today, amidst all of the anxiety and fear surrounding the pandemic, life is difficult enough for adults—just imagine how difficult it is for young children who are dependent on parents or grandparents or maybe even a stranger for their next meal. In families where parents are unemployed or under-employed and struggling to provide food and shelter, this may cause children to have both health and learning issues now and in the future. I am a perfect example of this—the anxiety and fear I experienced as a child resulted in obvious learning delays. When I graduated from high school I tested at a 5th grade reading level. That is no joke—we need to do whatever we can to help families, especially families with young children. Do you remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:35-36?

As I said, it may sound silly that a bag of goodies is my best Christmas memory. To me, that memory is bursting with meaning—it reminds me that God's unconditional love is truly that—unconditional—no exceptions, regardless of how much or how many time you messed up—God's love overflows covering us with the gift of life. We don't have to beg or plead or anything else to be loved—we just are! God also gave us another wonderful gift of love at Christmas all those years ago. For unto us a child is born, and that child is Christ the Lord. We are truly blessed and I pray that we pass that blessing on to everyone we come in contact with—Thanks be to God!

I want to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart for allowing me to be here with you as your interim pastor—you have all been such a blessing to Donna and me. We also want to wish all of you a blessed joy-filled Christmas and New Year—in the midst of these difficult times I am certain that God is present with us and in us through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ—regardless of what the future may hold, I know God is actively working through all of us here at Christ the Servant. May we all have a faith-renewing Advent, a joyous Christmas, and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Pastor Dennis & Donna Reich

Change of Address

Linda Cyboron, 8605 Maplewood Lane, Edmonds, WA 98026

Volunteers Needed

Three teams of two persons needed ASAP to count offerings
 Training will be provided; contact the church office

HELP!

Members needed to serve on the Membership Care Team. Contact Doris Hoffart if interested.

DECEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

ACOLYTES		LECTORS		*USHERS		*COMMUNION	
12/6	Delilah Broders	12/6	Michelle Anderson	12/6	Danita Broders	12/6	Louise Skoglund
12/13	Ethan Wolfe	12/13	Kay Jaeger	12/13	Warren Bennett	12/13	Shirley Theil
12/20	Emilee Olson	12/20	Richard Hillrichs	12/20	Mike Finkral	12/20	Mary Weich
12/27	Lucas Petersen	12/27	Lonnie Svitak	12/27	Steve Freese	12/27	Margaret Svitak
					* needed only if communion is offered at the altar		* needed only if communion is offered at the altar
					* backup if acolyte is absent		

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please make your own trade.