



# *Our Saviour's Lutheran Church*

*of Stanwood, Washington*

27201 – 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.W / P. O. Box 370  
Stanwood, WA 98292  
360-629-3767 / [www.oursaviourschurch.org](http://www.oursaviourschurch.org)

January 27, 2021 – Congregational Letter #21 regarding COVID-19

Dear Friends and Members of Our Saviour's:

We have already fast tracked through January. As we look to February, that means we are looking at the Season of Lent about to begin. Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the six weeks before Easter, arrives on February 17<sup>th</sup>. On Ash Wednesday, as well as the Wednesdays throughout Lent, we will be having a Drive-In Worship at 7 p.m. We will celebrate Ash Wednesday with the use of ashes and Holy Communion, while people remain in their cars. For the following Wednesday nights, worship will include songs, Scripture reading, a Message and Prayer. The format will be simple but hopefully a meaningful time during the middle of the week.

We will not be taping the Wednesday Evening Services, nor have indoor seating, as Alex conducts children's ministry indoors during that time.

As I mentioned last Sunday, we have set dates to begin preparation for the "Alpha" ministry. Alpha is an 11- week program centered around the basics of the faith. Many people have questions, and some of your friends have never had a safe place to inquire about the Gospel. Alpha has been a highly effective set of talks, explaining the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The evening begins with a meal (in this case – pizza, eaten outside), and conversation following the talk.

If you would like to help with the planning of Alpha, or want to know more about it – our first meeting will be held, Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the church. Anyone is welcome to participate and help. If you would like to simply attend the Alpha event and/or bring a friend – mark April 13<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. We are intentionally starting Alpha a week and a half after Easter, so that some Easter visitors might want to know more and attend. As I mentioned last Sunday, over the next 5 years, I hope that all our people at Our Saviour's will experience Alpha – so that we are all grounded in the Gospel and also so that we can speak personally to those inquiring.

Please contact me or the church office – if you plan to attend the training on February 16<sup>th</sup>, or plan to attend the event on April 13<sup>th</sup> – or if you just have questions and interested to know more. Thank you.

Also, I will begin a New Member Class in March. I'm hoping to hold the class before the Wednesday Lenten services on March 3, 10, 17 and 24<sup>th</sup> – beginning at 5:00 p.m. If you are

interested in attending – and/or if the dates do not work – please let me know – we can make adjustments. At this point, I'm looking for who is interesting in attending.

If your radio in your car does not work for the Drive-In Worship, a few battery-run radios have been purchased. Please, let us know if you would like to use one. We would be happy to loan them to you on Sunday morning.

Have a great week. Hope to see you Sunday.

God Bless,  
Pastor Mark

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***Please pray for the following members and friends of Our Saviour's:***

*Cindy and Ron TD; Lorri DeFelice in the loss of her friend, Karen Wittren; Dan Weber (friend of Amy Thompson); Dale Tetlow; Dana and Glenn Burns (friends of Bruce and Lina Richert); Nicki, Brandon and family (friends of Barbara Whitaker); Gary Ruef (family member of Lorri and Joe DeFelice); Lois Peterson (cousin of Connie Ronning); Marilyn Nienhuis; Ken Scott and family (brother-in-law of Sheri Durham); Amanda Hobbs; Ingeburg Paul; Mike Erps (nephew of Leilani Erps); Maureen Foster (sister-in-law of Lina and Bruce Richert); Marylee and Leon Sams; Mick Hanson; Robert MacNeal; Leif and Pam Larson (friends of Gards and Marvel Graham); Ramona Brodland (sister of Del Fox); Judy Anderson; Marlene Schuster; Howard Wangsness; Michele Kunzman; Robin Erickson; Beverley Klatt; Dave Matthewson; Gary Aldinger; Ryker (grandnephew of Judy and Paul Anderson)*

***Prayer of Thanksgiving for:***

*Amy Thompson, doing well following leg surgery.*

***Prayers also for:***

*Our school district: schools, preschools, and daycares; administrators, teachers, support staff, students and parents.*

*All those suffering from the effects of COVID-19, Fires, Hurricanes, and Flooding.*

*All those suffering physical, emotional, and spiritual anguish due to ongoing isolation and overall pandemic stress.*

*For our national and community leaders: President, Congress, WA governor, Stanwood mayor and others in leadership.*

*Pastor Mark, OSLC Staff and Preschool, Our Saviour's Lutheran Congregation, Homeless, Armed Forces, Josephine and Warm Beach residents, Government and Community Leaders, Safe Harbor*

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Reminder from Sheri and incoming treasurer, Linda Mohler:

**2021** Offering Envelopes are available. It is a great help to the treasurer when you use these envelopes for your contributions to OSLC. Call the church office to make arrangements to have them available for you. Thank you!

With many offerings being received by US mail, please note the correct mailing address for Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is P.O. Box 370, Stanwood, WA 98292. Mail addressed to our street address is most times returned to sender as undeliverable. Thank you!

2021 Budget - \$501,377.00

January 17, 2021 Offering Report

	Actual Received	Budget Need
Offering	\$ 12,229.20	\$ 9,642.00
Month to date	\$ 25,709.20	\$ 28,926.00
Year to date	\$ 26,009.20	\$ 28,926.00

Building Fund Balance 1/11/2021	\$ 36,501.70
Offerings/Pledges 1/17/2021	\$ 495.00
Withdrawal to clear Narthex Window account deficit	<u>\$ -890.85</u>
Building Fund Balance 1/17/2021	\$ 36,105.85

January 24, 2021 Offering Report

	Actual Received	Budget Need
Offering	\$ 2,905.00	\$ 9,642.00
Month to date	\$ 31,061.69	\$ 38,568.00
Year to date	\$ 31,404.87	\$ 38,568.00

Building Fund Balance 1/17/2021	\$ 36,105.85
Offerings/Pledges	<u>\$ 415.00</u>
Building Fund Balance 1/24/2021	\$ 36,520.85