



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

of Stanwood, Washington

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December 15, 2021– Congregational Letter #31

Dear Friends and Members of Our Saviour's;

As we approach the Fourth Sunday in Advent, I want to highlight **opportunities to serve and be served.**

Christmas caroling was such fun 10 days ago, that we are planning another caroling event. Next Wednesday, December 22nd, from 4-6 p.m., you have another opportunity to sing with us and bring some Christmas cheer. Dress warm. Bring a light. We have song sheets. Please call the office if you plan to attend. We will meet at the church at 4 p.m.

The Christmas House is in full swing and providing gifts for countless children in our community. There is a great need for more volunteers and people to help. Last year, 631 families were served. It looks like there might be more families to serve this year. They just received another 50-60 requests two days ago. Families are vetted through the Stanwood/Camano Food Bank. Then the list of names of the kids are passed on to the Christmas House volunteers (shoppers) to gather the appropriate gifts for each child. The Big Need Days are today (the 15th), Dec. 18th and 22nd. But they could use any help up until Christmas Eve, the 24th. The “shopper” volunteers fill bags with gifts for the children. The “helpers” help sort and move stock to the shelves in the house for the shoppers.

If you are interested to serve, please call 360-913-1551- or sign up on sheet posted in the Fellowship Hall.

“Longest Night” Worship Service. Tuesday, December 21st, at 5 p.m. - December 21st is the longest day of the year, and for many folks, the Christmas Season can be a very long, dark period. Due to difficult circumstances, many people can use encouragement. This service is to bring hope, peace, love, serenity, support and prayer to anyone who might need it. Erik Ronning will be leading the music and there will be opportunity to receive prayer if desired. All are welcome. If you know of someone who is struggling – take the opportunity to extend an invitation and then bring them with you.

This Year, Friday, December 24th, **Christmas Eve**, we are offering TWO worship services:

5:00 p.m. – **Family Candlelight Service** – the only service transmitted into the **parking lot**. FM 93.3

11:00 p.m. – **Traditional Candlelight Service** – Adult Choir will be singing.

Merry Christmas and God Bless You All!

Pastor Mark

OSLC Mission Statement:

Encounter God ~ Encourage Believers ~ Extend His Kingdom