



# Our Saviour's *Lutheran Church*

AUGUST 2022 | ORANGE, CA

## *The Great Crowd of Witnesses*

**“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith ....”**

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NRSV)

This month I invite you to read Hebrews 11:29-12:3. These readings encompass a parade of the heroes of faith that began in the previous verses of Chapter 11. Some names are familiar and expected in this litany of people who lived by faith – Moses and his life of faith, the people of Israel who trusted in God and crossed the Red Sea, as well as Joshua and the battle of Jericho where the walls come tumbling down. There are even a few surprises in this litany of names: Rahab, the prostitute, who welcomed the spies of Israel prior to the fall of Jericho. This is a list of faithful men and women who lived out their lives despite their circumstances.

- 1. Read over the list of names in Hebrews 11:32-34. What do you know about them?*
- 2. Who are some unlikely “heroes of the faith” in your life?*
- 3. Who are the heroes in your faith story?*

The author of Hebrews continues to hold up examples of faithfulness of the heroes of the past by naming some of the suffering, torment, and persecution they endured. (See Hebrews 11:35-38) These graphic experiences point to the faithfulness of those who endured hardship and serve as examples for the believer. We think of them as witnesses of the faith. The word in Greek for witness is *martyria*, from which is derived *martyr*.

- 4. Whom do you think suffers for the faith today?*
- 5. How can their experiences strengthen our faith?*

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After the litany of Chapter 11, the letter to the Hebrews reaches a summary conclusion. “Therefore...the case for faithfulness has been made.” The author enlists the strongest of words to bring the message home. “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith...” (Hebrews 12:1-2 NRSV)

The journey of faith is not a sprint to the finish line, but it is rather a marathon to be run with perseverance. It requires us to be lean, to discard all the things that weigh us down and inhibit our running. The focal point of the race – the goal to which we strive – is Jesus. Jesus ran the race before us (the pioneer of our faith). Jesus ran it in absolute obedience to God’s will (the perfecter of our faith).

*6. Does the image of the life of faith as a race speak to you? Explain.*

*7. What does it mean to “look to Jesus” in the race?*

*8. How are you inspired to spread the gospel for future generations?*

We do not run the race of faith alone. We are surrounded by a “great cloud of witnesses.” All the names included in the litany of heroes in Chapter 11 – all the faithful people who have lived and died trusting in the promises of God – all are in the grandstand, cheering us on.

We have Jesus, who lived the life of faithfulness and obedience to God – the great high priest, the perfect sacrifice – “who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.” (Hebrews 12:2)

*9. How might enduring the cross become a source of joy for Christ?*

*10. How might we share our faith with others?*

*11. How might we be the light of Christ in the lives of others?*

Each Sunday, we are united with all the faithful of every place and time. As we hear God’s word and share in the Lord’s Supper, we are strengthened by the great cloud of witnesses for the journey of faith.

*12. Who do you hope and expect to be in that great cloud of witnesses?*

*13. What does it mean to you to have their support as you follow Jesus?*

## **Prayer**

We give you thanks, gracious God, for the great cloud of witnesses, for those who taught us the faith and serve as examples in our journey of faith and life. Focus our eyes on Jesus to lead the way. Help us to leave a legacy of faith for those who come after us. Amen.



## Directory Information Updates:

To keep your directory up-to-date, below are some recent changes in information:

Jean Thompson-Hailstone email:  
jeanupsth@gmail.com

Don and Dolores Rehms Phone Numbers:

San Clemente Landline: (949) 218-1732

Phoenix Landline: (623) 518-6152

Don Cell: (623) 256-1042

Dolores Cell: (714) 293-6240

If you have any updates in information, please contact the church office.

## God Speed and Farewell Kevin Phan

June 26<sup>th</sup> was Kevin's last day as accompanist for Our Saviour's. He was with OSLC for over five plus years accompanying the choir, playing the hymns, preludes and postludes. What glorious music he made! We will miss him and wish him all the best in his new position at First United Methodist Church in downtown Orange.



## Staff

**Pastor:** *The Rev. Jennifer Zahnow*

**Director of Music:** *Chelsea Dehn*

**Bell Choir Director:** *Sarah Moreno*

**Office Administrator:** *Serene Flores*

**Children's Center Director:** *Jennifer Gates*

**Children's Center Phone:** 714-771-5040

**OSLC Phone:** 714-639-9390

**OSLC Email:** office@orangeoslc.org

**OSLC Website:** [orangeoslc.org](http://orangeoslc.org)

**OSLC Facebook:** [Our Saviour's Lutheran Church-Orange](https://www.facebook.com/OurSavioursLutheranChurch-Orange)

**OSLC YouTube:** [bit.ly/OSLCOrangeCA](https://bit.ly/OSLCOrangeCA)

## Congregational Council

**President:** *Steven Yoshizumi*

**Vice President:** *Jan Johnson*

**Secretary:** *Kristin Tolentino*

**Treasure:** *Bob Hunter*

**Adult Fellowship:** *Christine Garcia & Heather Wilkins*

**Christian Ed:** *Kristin Tolentino*

**Finance:** *Bob Hunter*

**Men's Ministry:** *Lawton Miller*

**OSCC Board:** *Heather Wilkins*

**Personnel:** *Steven Yoshizumi*

**Property:** *Lawton Miller*

**Stewardship:** *Pastor Jennifer*

**Social Ministry:** *Pastor Jennifer*

**Women's Ministry:** *Jan Johnson*

**Worship & Music:** *Christine Garcia*

## President's Message – *Staying Cool in August*

August. Even the word sounds hot and humid. It can only be said with a big exhale. So what is a person to do in a hot month like August?

Stay cool. How? There are many ways.

The most obvious is to come to the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. The air conditioning is still working great – let's hope it stays that way. Join your church friends (family) for a great hour of fellowship and some coffee and refreshments afterward – you know we have some AMAZING bakers in our congregation.

How else? Come to a workday! That may not sound cool, but it could be if we start early, have enough volunteers and enough lemonade or iced tea or water it will be. Our workday to clean Moreland Hall is on August 6, so listen for announcements on Sunday or in your email for more information.

How else? I don't know but I'm open to suggestions.

Do you want to meet for margaritas at Rodrigo's on Katella? I think it would be easy to find people who want to join you, so please just spread the word. We all want to spend time with our church family, so make the suggestion and we will make it happen.

Do you want to meet at Hart Park for a concert on a Wednesday night? There are three in August. Maybe it won't be really cool weather-wise, but it will be cool to see you there. If that sounds like a good idea to you, let me or anyone on council know and we will get the word out. (There's an 18-piece swing band that will be performing on August 10, and classic rock bands on August 3 and August 17.) Search for "City of Orange" and "Concerts in the Park," or call the city for more details.

How else can we stay cool? How about by sharing our gifts with one another? I've already mentioned the great bakers in our congregation. We also have a lot of talent. We have some very musical people and some very artistic people. If there is enough interest, we could assemble an "Our Saviour's Got Talent" show in Moreland Hall. Members could share their musical and artistic (and other) talents and we could partake of some snacks made by other members.

If ANY of these ideas sound good to you – LET ME KNOW. Me, or any of the other council members. We want to plan events that people want to come to, so if you want to do any of these things – OR ANYTHING ELSE – please speak up. Let us know how you feel.

As always, I look forward to seeing you on Sundays and talking with you about the rest of the year. If I don't see you, feel free to reach out to me via email at: [sayorange714@gmail.com](mailto:sayorange714@gmail.com) or call/text me at 714-497-6224. Remember to SHINE and share the light of Jesus Christ!

Steven Yoshizumi

# Mark Your Calendar

## Anniversaries

- ♦ August 7 – Don & Delores Rehms
- ♦ August 15 – Ann & Bob Pool
- ♦ August 24 – Bob & Barbara Hunter

## Opportunity to fellowship

Sunday, August 21 after Service  
Zito's Pizza – Tustin/Meets

All are welcome!

(This event is not funded by OSLC)

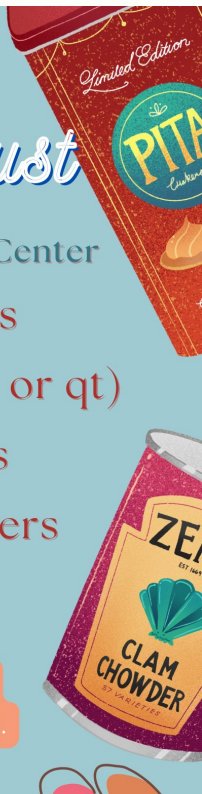


## Food & Donation Collection for August

Friendly Center   Children's Center

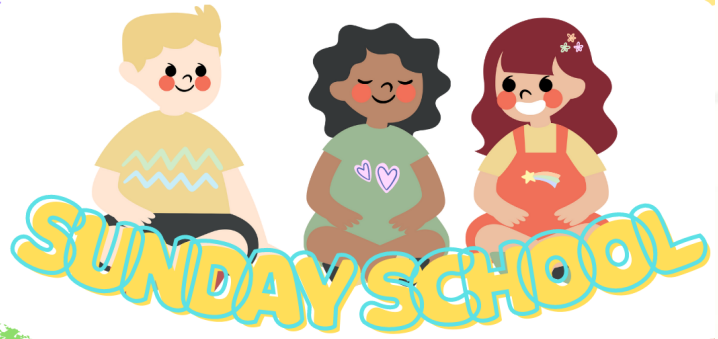
- 8/07 Canned Fruit   Saltines
- 8/14 Beans   Plastic Bags (lb or qt)
- 8/21 Bags of Rice   Wafers
- 8/28 Canned Soup   Crackers

There are separate  
baskets located in the  
entry way for donations.  
Thank you!



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

## Get Ready!



Begins on Sunday, September 18

## Birthdays

- August 2– Finn Kopczynski
- August 2– Madison Youngman
- August 4– Carol Christman
- August 7– Melissa Ratzlaff
- August 12– Ethan Dehn
- August 15– John Embree
- August 21– Madeline Meyers
- August 23– Chelsea Dehn
- August 24– Caleb Dehn
- August 25– Katie Vaughn
- August 26– Aaron Duncan
- August 26– Zachary Duncan
- August 29– Christine Garcia
- August 30– Tony Ekdale



## Our Saviour's Children's Center Updates

We have been having a wonderful time in our summer program thus far. The staff have worked hard planning and implementing the summer curriculum and it has paid off! Our children have been having a blast. Please feel free to check out our Facebook page to get a peek at what all has been going on this summer. August will begin out 2022-2023 school year. There are some staffing changes this upcoming year... Ms. Lee will be teaching Pre-K, Ms. Jyll is taking over as the Lead Teacher of the 2's class, Ms. Massi will be the closing teacher, and Ms. Meliss will be combo teaching TK/ Kindergarten. Our toddler room is completely full. We already have begun a waiting list for that program and we have 1 or 2 spots left in the infant room. Much different look than the past few years! We will begin fundraiser dinners again in September. Please stay tuned for more information on that! And don't forget to find us on Facebook!

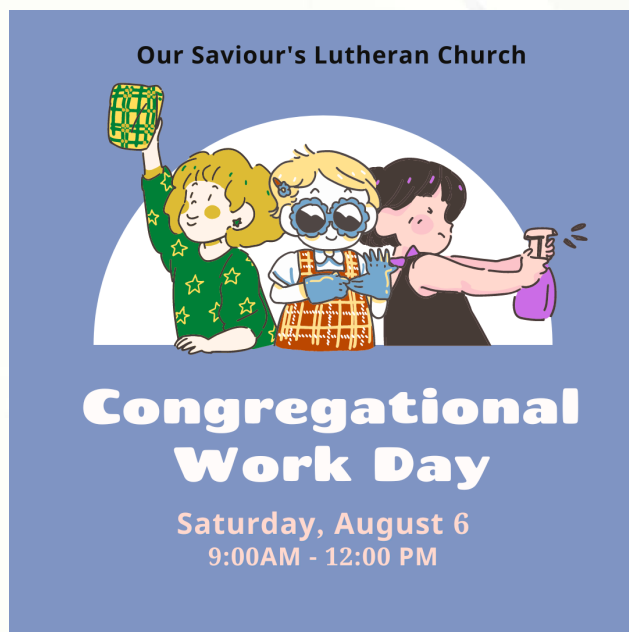
As always, thank you for your support!

- Jen and the  
OSCC staff



## Congregational Work Day

A congregational work day is scheduled for Saturday, August 6, from 9:00 am to noon. Please bring your cleaning supplies to Morland Hall. The plan is work on the tables, chairs, kitchen counters and windows. The Fall season will soon be here and we want to be ready for our upcoming events. Join us if you can and bring your water, a snack and hope for a cool day.



## SAVE THE DATE!!

*Sunday, September 11th Rally Day!*

Church potluck & BBQ, games and a good old fashion cake walk! Let's start this Fall season off by building up our church community!



## ***The Stewardship of Giving Thanks***

Do you remember the last hand-written note you received? Writing notes used to be standard practice, but today we turn to email, text, and social media to thank and communicate with others. We email newsletters chock-full of information, send reminders via text (often with acronyms and poor grammar), and point people to websites with calendars and electronic forms. More and more churches are sharing lessons and news through video, audio, and photos online to communicate with their flock and promote their mission. We have more communication channels than ever before, but is something lost in all the options?

Like me, you may have been the recipient of a handwritten thank you from Pastor Jennifer. What a difference it is from all the electronic shortcuts we experience every day!

People often engage with church where they feel like they have a real and authentic connection. Certainly, we are in the business of building relationships with Jesus Christ, but one of the ways we do that is through authentic relationships with fellow church members. We have worship and fellowship gatherings for instance, to help build those bonds, but how do we build or maintain those relationships through our communications? Hand-written notes! Cut through the technological clutter with a simple, yet meaningful handwritten note that tells the recipient you care enough about them to slow down long enough to share your appreciation. This simple act of giving thanks via a hand-written note will endear the recipient to you and will strengthen your relationship. Sending thank you notes to other members warms the community spirit and the bonds Christ has called us to build. It is part of our discipleship. Not sure what to write? Thank them for singing in the choir, ushering, giving or leading Sunday School, or bringing the refreshments for Sunday. If you can't come up with something specific, then thank them for being part of the church. The notes do not need to be long, but push yourself to be as specific and genuine as possible. Giving thanks to church members for the ways they contribute to and enhance your church through a simple hand-written thank you note will build a stronger and more authentic relationship between you, and it may encourage them to pick up the practice. Think of it as "Stewardship of Giving Thanks." We give thanks to God and we give thanks for each other.

### ***REMEMBER IN PRAYER***

Rose Zemanek (Marge Boelman's sister) who is in hospice, Daniel Dunn, Kristin Hailstone, Darlene Steege, Sylvester Vaughn, Heather Wilkens, Kay Boatman, Helen Werner, Wes Hayes (next-door neighbor of Janice Bosecke), Lance and Jean Thompson-Hailstone, Kristin Maxwell, Rebekah Simmet, Bishops Elizabeth Eaton & David Nagler. All who have been affected by COVID-19, fires, and storms. Police officers, firefighters, medical professionals and all who are serving on the front lines during these uncertain times. All military chaplains and all others serving in the military.



Join us Sunday mornings at 10am for our worship service.

Live streaming on YouTube: [bit.ly/OSLCOrangeCA](https://bit.ly/OSLCOrangeCA)

Videos are also uploaded to our website – [orangeoslc.org](https://orangeoslc.org)

The church office is open T-W 9am–4:30 pm. All other times by appointment only.

**Email:** [office@orangeoslc.org](mailto:office@orangeoslc.org)

**Website:** [orangeoslc.org](https://orangeoslc.org)

**Phone:** 714-639-9390