



# Our Saviour's *Lutheran Church*

DECEMBER 2024 | ORANGE, CA

## President's Message

Yes 2024 has flown by and now Christmas is almost here, the most wonderful time of the year as the song goes. The new church year starts on December 1st with that being the first Sunday in Advent. December is always a wonderful time of the year with many gatherings and most importantly the celebration of the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ.

The council approved the draft budget for 2025. You should have received a letter from me with the draft budget for your review so that we can vote and approve it at Part I of our congregational meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup> after church. Pray for the church and its finances for 2025. The second item of business for part 1 of the meeting on December 8th is the election of two council members. Jan Johnson, who has served on council for the past 6 years, will be leaving as she cannot serve again in accordance with the church constitution. (As per the OSLC constitution, members may serve for two terms and then must take a year off before they may be on council again.) We thank Jan Johnson for 6 years of council service. She is the person that was arranging for supply Pastors for the past year. Job well done Jan! and thank you. The second position we need to fill is the one Melissa Pool left when she moved to Arkansas last spring. Sarah Moreno and Brandon Tolentino have agreed to run. If any one of you know of someone else that would run for council, please let me know.

We will be having the Living Nativity on Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup> from 5-8PM. We have invited Getsemani Apostolic Church and The New Hebron Church to be a part of the Nativity by being part of the cast. The nativity always brings out the neighbors as they all want to see the live animals. Hopefully you all can come by also.

There was a nice turnout Sunday November 10<sup>th</sup> working on the Grace community garden. Four raised beds were done for the preschool classes. They will plant and maintain. Several people from the preschool, the neighborhood, OLSC's partner CRECE urban farms and of course OSLC members worked from 12 noon until about 3 PM. It was a great day working together putting the beds together. Thanks to all who worked that day. Hopefully you all are watching our Grace community Farm mature.

The Great Thanksgiving Feast was wonderful. This was a joint service with Christ Lutheran Church. Over 45 people participated. The food was wonderful, especially the turkey. A collection for Lutheran Disaster Response, particularly the hurricane damages in the east, was taken during the feast and over \$2,000 was collected. If anyone out there still wants to contribute, you can put your gift in the offering plate, mail it to the church or use the church QR code and mark it for the Lutheran Disaster Response. Thank you to all who gave to LDR.

The raised sidewalk in front of Moreland Hall was fixed this past month. Two members of the church coordinated and paid for the removal and replacement of the concrete. Now the tripping hazard is gone. Thanks to them for this gift!

Looking forward to seeing you all on December 8<sup>th</sup> at church for part 1 of the congregational meeting, every Sunday, as well as on Christmas Eve. If you cannot be at church hopefully you are watching on the church's YouTube channel, [bit.ly/oursaviourslutheran](https://bit.ly/oursaviourslutheran), or on the church's Facebook site, "Our Saviour's Lutheran Church-Orange". Also, as a reminder current and past services maybe be watched via the church's web site, "[www.orangeoslc.org](http://www.orangeoslc.org)".

Just as a reminder, don't forget to turn in your pledge cards for 2025.

Blessings to you all and I wish you all a Very Merry & Blessed Christmas!

Steve

## Pastor's Message

Welcome to the Advent Season.

If you've been into a store anytime in the last few weeks (or months) it clearly looks like Christmas is upon us. But as people of faith, Christmas is a season that starts on December 25 and goes until January 5<sup>th</sup>, the Day of Epiphany (12 days of Christmas in total).

During these four weeks leading up to Christmas is the season of Advent, it is one of waiting and expectation. It is a season preparing for the new light of Jesus Christ to come into our lives. It is not by coincidence that this liturgical season happens over the shortest days of the year, culminating on the longest night, December 20. On December 21, the light begins to grow, and we as those who celebrate the birth of Jesus know, the Light of Christ that is reflected in us and only continues to grow until we celebrate the everlasting light of the Risen Christ on Easter.

My prayer for you this Advent season is to look for lights, not the big flashy multicolored ones that decorate people's houses (like mine), but look for those places where there is a simple light that is keeping vigil during the darkest hours, one candle is being lit for our Messiah.

-Pastor Cate

## Staff

**Interim Pastor:** *Pastor Cate Luehr*

**Director of music:** *Chelsea Dehn*

**Bell Choir Director:** *Sara Moreno*

**Office Admin:** *Amanda Walton*

**Accompanist:** *MinJung Seo*

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

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

**OSLC Website:** **Orangeoslc.org**

**OSLC Facebook:** *Our Saviour's Lutheran Church-Orange*

**Children's Center Director:**

**Jennifer Gates**

**Children's Center Phone:**

**714-771-5040**

## Council Members

**President:** Steve Vannier

**Vice President:** Jeanine Singer

**Secretary:** Carol Youngman

**Treasure:** Bob Hunter

*Christine Garcia- Jan Johnson*

*Tara Scully- Nelly Walker - Jon Davis*

*Violet Yoshizumi - Steven Yoshizumi*

## Committee Chairs

**Adult Fellowship:**

**Christian Ed:** *Sarah Moreno*

**Finance:** *Bob Hunter*

**Men's Ministry:** *Jon Davis*

**OSCC Board:** *Nelly Walker*

**Personnel:** *Steven Yoshizumi*

**Property:** *Steve Vannier*

**Social Ministry:** *Janice Bosecke/*

*Betty Dierking*

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



# LIVING NATIVITY

SATURDAY, DEC 14TH

5-8PM

COME AND EXPERIENCE A RECREATION OF THE  
LIVING NATIVITY OF CHRIST.  
WITH LIVE ANIMALS, COSTUMES, AND TREATS.  
BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY TO SHARE IN THIS SPECIAL EVENT.

ON THE FRONT LAWN, CORNER OF LOMITA AND CAMBRIDGE  
OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

800 N. CAMBRIDGE ST  
ORANGE, CA 92867  
714-639-9390  
ORANGEOSLC.ORG

## Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, Dec 24th  
5:00PM

Join us for a magical service  
with candlelight, Holy  
Communion, and special  
music.

All are welcome!

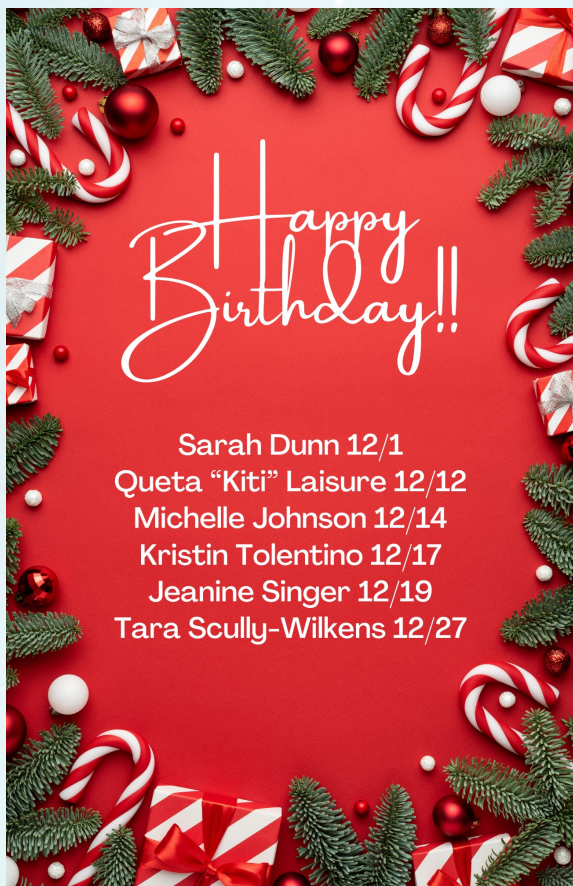
*Save the  
Date*

*December 29th 2024  
10:30am*

Joint Service "Hymn Sing"  
at Christ Lutheran Church

Email your favorite hymns to the  
church office or drop off During  
Service

2715 E. La Veta Avenue,  
Orange, CA 92869



# Congregational Meeting Part 1

Sunday, December 8th

Meeting will take place immediately after the 9am service

# Congregational Meeting Part 2

Sunday, December 19th

Meeting will take place immediately after the 9am service.

Potluck to follow in Moreland Hall

## A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE 70½ YEARS OLD AND OLDER

You can give any amount (up to a maximum of \$105,000) this year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity such as your congregation and/or the ministries you specify without having to pay income taxes on the money. Gifts of any value \$105,000 or less are eligible for this benefit and you can feel good knowing that you are making a difference at the ELCA. This popular gift option is commonly called the IRA charitable rollover, but you may also see it referred to as a qualified charitable distribution, or QCD for short.

### WHY CONSIDER THIS GIFT?

- Your gift will be used today, allowing you to see the difference your donation is making.
- If you are required to take minimum distributions, you can use your gift to satisfy all or part of your obligation.
- You pay no income taxes on the gift. The transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you benefit even if you do not itemize your deductions.
- Since the gift doesn't count as income, it can reduce your annual income level. This may help lower your Medicare premiums and decrease the amount of Social Security that is subject to tax
- You can specify that this gift goes directly to a chosen ministry.





## Garden Ministry Grace Community Farm

What a beautiful Sunday we had on November 10th, which began with a meaningful dedication of Grace Community Farm during the 9 AM service. Following the service, we had a terrific volunteer event focused on setting up 4 garden beds for educational use by Our Saviour's Children's Center. We were organized and guided by Steve Anticono and Abel Ruiz, our partners at CRECE Urban Farms. Everyone had a dusty but good time, working hard to spread wood chips and prepare the garden beds for the children. The volunteers included many church members, Pastor Cate, preschool families & leaders, as well as neighbors and friends. In addition to prepping the school's planter beds, we helped compost pumpkins for the farm compost bin. With good weather & plenty of snacks, a fun time was had by all!

Thank you so very much to all who supported and participated in this great kick-off event. We are looking forward to the next volunteer opportunity and will keep everyone posted on the next date.

The success of our first volunteer event is being followed by our Memorial Tree Fundraiser which will fund 15 fruit trees and 3 non-fruit trees on the farm. With a sponsorship of \$300 per tree, we will plant a tree and dedicate it in honor or memory of a loved one commemorated with a plaque. Please see our flyer in the newsletter for additional details. Thank you for the enthusiastic response we have had so far to this fundraiser.

We appreciate your support of Grace Community Farm at Our Saviour's Lutheran.

Grace Community Farm team:

Nelly Walker - Steve Vannier - Chris Kopczynski  
Jeanine Singer - Carol Yoshizumi - Steven Yoshizumi



Merry Christmas from the OSCC family!

We went on a field trip in November to Oak Canyon Nature Center. This was the first field trip via bus that we have taken since 2019. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to the next trip in 2025.

We had fun celebrating Thanksgiving at OSCC. Each class did something a little different ranging from class parties to making pumpkin pies.

The preschool children are practicing hard for their Christmas program that will be on Dec 13th. This is always an exciting event for the children and their families. We will try to post the video to our social media page so that you will be able to enjoy it as well.

OSCC will be closed from December 23 through January 1st.  
We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Jen and the OSCC Staff





## Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettia plants will adorn the Sanctuary of our Church on Christmas Eve. You may reserve one or more plants to be designated in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Please place this form, with your check made payable to "Our Savior's Lutheran Church", in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office. Please write "Poinsettia" in the memo line.

Cost per plant is \$10.00

Plants may be taken home following our 5pm Christmas Eve Service

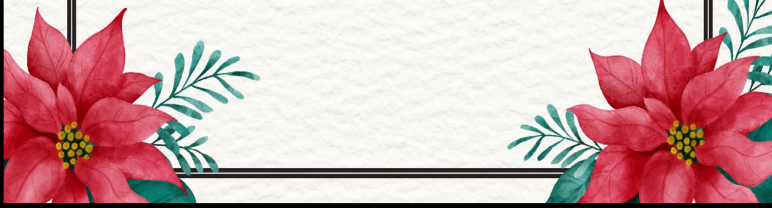
**DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 15!**

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor/Memory of (circle one)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Poinsettia Pots \_\_\_\_\_



## Grace Memorial Tree Fundraiser

We ask for your support for planting fruit trees at Grace Community Farm. Be a part of something lasting by dedicating a fruit tree in honor of a loved one. A tree will bear a plaque in memory of your loved one while helping populate the garden that will be around for years to come.



This will not only produce some delicious fruit but also vegetables in due time, when we implement a proper agroforestry design that allows us to further expand our food options.

Plant a memorial tree with a **\$300** donation, additional support is welcome.

For more information or questions

Visit: <https://www.orangeoslc.org/grace-community-garden>  
Email: [gracegardenoslc@gmail.com](mailto:gracegardenoslc@gmail.com)

## DECEMBER FOOD AND DONATION COLLECTION

There are two separate baskets in the entryway for your donations.  
Thank you for your support!

### Friendly Center

Shampoo  
Conditioner  
Toothpaste  
Dish Soap

### Children's Center

Animal Crackers  
Ziplock Bags  
Raisins  
Vanilla Wafers



## Cookie Exchange Bring Your Best Cookies!

Sunday, Dec. 15

Please bring cookies to the 9 am service. Plates of cookies will be assembled to be delivered to the 9 shut-ins of our congregation.

Cookies will also be used for coffee on the patio and left over cookies are for you to take home.

All are welcome!



2024

# DECEMBER

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

9AM  
Worship

Happy Birthday  
Sarah Dunn

2

3

4

7PM Bells  
8PM Choir

5

6

7

8

9AM Worship  
&  
Congregational  
Meeting Part 1

10AM  
Sunday  
School

9

10

4PM OSCC  
Board

11

7PM Bells  
8PM Choir

12

7PM Council

Happy 95th  
Birthday Kiti!

13

OSCC  
Preschool  
Christmas  
Program

14

5PM  
Living  
Nativity

Happy Birthday  
Michelle Johnson

15

9AM Worship  
Cookie  
Exchange

Last Day to  
Turn In  
Poinsettia  
Forms

16

17

18

7PM Bells  
8PM Choir

19

Happy Birthday  
Jeanine Singer

20

21

22

9AM  
Worship

10AM  
Sunday  
School

23

24

5PM  
Christmas  
Eve Service

25

Merry  
Christmas!



26

27

Happy Birthday  
Tara Scully-Wilkins

28

29

10:30AM  
Joint  
Service @  
Christ  
Lutheran

30

31



JOY





800 N. Cambridge St  
Orange, Ca 92867

Join us Sunday mornings at 9am 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 8:00am – 12:00pm Monday through Friday

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

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

Phone: 714-639-9390