



Our Saviour's *Lutheran Church*

MAY 2022 | ORANGE, CA

*This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

Psalm 118:24

Claire Cloninger writes: "I used to be a little baffled by Nehemiah 8:10: "For the joy of the Lord is your strength." To me, that verse never made much sense, because joy didn't seem to be all that strong a quality. I thought it would have made more sense if it had said, The strength of the Lord is your joy. But the longer I live, the more I realize that the ability to find joy in life really is a tremendous strength. The people who can laugh are the strong ones. The people who can throw their heads back and delight in the joy of the moment are going to live a lot longer than those of us who are stressed and pushed and taking ourselves terribly seriously."

What brings you joy? Most of us would say that being with family, whether it be spending time with our children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren, and friends brings joy. Others may find joy in skiing, hiking, riding bikes, hunting, gardening, playing sports, bowling, playing cards, riding horses, walking on the beach, baking, and the list could go on and on. If we find joy in these activities why don't some people find joy in worship or participating in the life of the church? We are called "to follow" Jesus, to be disciples of Jesus in this world every day, so why is it hard for us to do this?

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Some would say it is because "I don't know how to share my faith," "I don't feel that people accept me for who I am," "I have tried to do things in the church, but someone always complains about how I do them," "People in church say one thing in the church building and another outside of the church," "I don't like what is going on, so I am not going to come," or "Society doesn't accept me when I talk about Jesus and I don't like to be different from everyone else." How many times have you heard these types of excuses or something similar? I am sure you can come up with other excuses of why individuals don't share their faith or participate in the life of the church, but what is yours?

Sunday is the day when we gather as the community of believers to hear and share in hearing God's word and participating in the sacrament so that we can be refreshed and renewed for the mission of making disciples in our daily life. The good news of Jesus Christ needs to be shared now more than ever! What is stopping you? Christ died and rose again to give you this free gift of forgiveness of sins and life everlasting, so what's the problem? For most of us the problem is we don't talk about our faith to anyone because we have been taught not to.

In the 1950-1980s it was common that people just came to church because they were expected to. In the late 1990s, mainline church attendance started to decline and continues to decline. Participating in organized religious institutions is no longer a family priority. Today, it is vital that we share our faith stories with others in order to spread the Gospel. How are we sharing our story?

Christ is alive in our lives every day, not just during the Easter season, so why are we not rejoicing in the good news that Jesus has risen from the tomb and death has no sting? God created this day and every day of our lives, so let us rejoice and be glad in what we have been given and boldly share the good news of the risen Christ with the world! Are we ready to be alive in Christ today? Are you ready to leave a legacy of faith for others? Are you ready to share your faith story?

In Christ,
Pastor Jennifer

Our Saviour's Children's Center Updates

Happy May! We hope you all had a wonderful Easter. Things are going well over at OSCC. Our enrollment is up to 57 children. Registration for both the summer program and the 2022-2023 school year are under way.

We are expecting to lose a few for the summer months but we do already have several new children registered to start with us for the summer.

Our Facebook page has been updated on a regular basis showing all of the wonderful things the children are learning and experiencing. Please feel free to give us a follow!

Thanks to a generous donation, we were able to purchase a new table and chairs for the toddler classroom and some other items that have been needed for our toddlers. We have also purchased an outdoor easel to add to our outside learning environment.

We are still working on finding an infant/toddler teacher as we have a few children that are on the waiting list to join us soon!

Thank you again for all your support!

- Jenn and the OSCC Staff



Staff

Pastor: *The Rev. Jennifer Zahnow*

Director of Music: *Chelsea Dehn*

Organist: *Kevin Phan*

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*

OSLC Facebook: *[Our Saviour's Lutheran Church-Orange](#)*

OSLC YouTube: *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*

Mark Your Calendars



**WOMEN'S
MONTHLY
GATHERING**

Bible



Study

**MAY 23 AT 10AM
IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM**



**OUR SAVIOUR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Youth
Bowling
Event*

**JULY 17, 2022
FOR GRADES K-6
MORE DETAILS TO COME**



Birthdays

- May 4– Nelly Walker
- May 9– Dolores Rehms
- May 9– Carol Youngman
- May 11– Helga Berghold
- May 13– Jessica Garcia
- May 13– Kylee Williamson
- May 20– Jim Bermingham
- May 20– Brandon Tolentino
- May 21– Ryan Dierking
- May 26– Carol Yoshizumi
- May 29– Robert Theilen
- May 30– Bill Borden
- May 30– Ashley Davis

Anniversaries

- May 21– Brandon & Kristin Tolentino
- May 24– Carol & Roger Christman

President's Message – OSLC Needs You!

It is already May! And we have lots of plans for the summer that involve you. Our committees are getting reinvigorated and thinking up ways we can come together to enjoy each other's company and to minister to our community.

As you heard from Christine Garcia in April, the Book Worm Program is back this summer! There is no better time to outreach to our community than now when children are very much in need of extra time and support to improve their reading skills. A committee is being formed, and you can support the program by joining the committee or by volunteering to be a reader or helper over the summer. This is not a long commitment, but it is so rewarding and a fantastic opportunity to improve literacy in our community. If you have any questions or ideas or would like to donate any reading materials, you can reach out to Christine Garcia, 714-469-4767.

But that's not all! The Adult Fellowship Committee has planned a painting event on May 7th. Volunteers are not needed (but help cleaning up at the end is always appreciated). Take the opportunity to do something fun and creative with friends. The \$30 fee covers supplies, instruction and snacks and drinks. You might end up with a masterpiece! This event is open to EVERYONE, so come to Moreland Hall the day before Mother's Day. Kids can come and make mom a Mother's Day gift! Contact Melissa Pool to sign up and pay, 714-394-1361 or melpool67@yahoo.com.

There is even more coming this summer. There will be a Youth Bowling Event on July 17th. All kids, grades K-6, are welcome. Your kids can invite their friends – the more the merrier. More details to come, but volunteers will be appreciated.

And there are things that haven't been planned and ideas that haven't been thought of yet. What else can we do to spend time together and SHINE and share the light of Jesus Christ with our community? If you have a passion, let any of the Councilmembers or committee members know and we will work with you to make something happen. Do you have a hobby that you would like to share? Do you sew or do woodworking? Are you a cook or a baker? Is there a family recipe you'd like to share?

Or is there something you would like to learn about – what can your cell phone do that you didn't know about, or what countries around the world have your friends and fellow congregants visited? Do you have a lot of e-waste at home? Old computers or printers, televisions or appliances, batteries or light bulbs? Should we have an e-waste drop-off event for the congregation and the community?

Tell us what you want and need. We can celebrate ANYTHING together.

As always, I look forward to seeing you on Sundays and talking to you about 2022. Remember to SHINE and share the light of Jesus Christ!

Steven Yoshizumi

STEWARDSHIP – ABUNDANT JOY

*...their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed
in a wealth of generosity... 2 Corinthians 8:2*

Fran served on the church council. At one meeting the council debated spending money for children's worship programs. Finally, Fran said "I will pay for it." And she did. Fran ran a home daycare to support herself and her children, abandoned by their father. She made the least of all those on the council and yet she tithed and gave beyond her tithe.

Who gives the highest percentage of their income to the church and other service providers? Surveys show it is those who have the least. This Corinthians chapter deals with the churches of Macedonia. The churches were in trouble yet they gave according to their means and beyond their means. They gave with joy even in their extreme poverty. Have you ever done that? Have you trusted God enough to give beyond your usual gift, beyond your comfort zone? We've done that and we can't say we weren't afraid that perhaps we had bitten off more than we should have, but that turned out not to be the case. We challenged ourselves and the challenge turned out to be a blessing in the end. As Abraham and Sarah were told by the Lord, "you have been blessed to be a blessing." To quote the Lutheran theologian Kierkegaard, we must be ready and willing to "take a leap of faith" for God and God's people.

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, Bob Daw, Bishops Elizabeth Eaton & Andrew Taylor. 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.

OUR SAVIOUR'S *Family Event*

A painting party for the whole family!

OPEN TO EVERYONE!

- May 7th, 2022
- \$ 30 per person
- OSLC Moreland Hall
- 3:00 pm snacks & drinks.

Painting

begins 3:30pm sharp!

(Actual Painting)



For more information and to sign up
contact Melissa at (714) 394 - 1361

MELPOOL67@YAHOO.COM



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

Live streaming on YouTube: bit.ly/OSLCOrangeCA

Videos are also uploaded to our website – orangeoslc.org

The church office is open M-W 9am-2:30pm. All other times by appointment only.

Email: office@orangeoslc.org

Website: orangeoslc.org

Phone: 714-639-9390