



Our Saviour's *Lutheran Church*

SEPTEMBER 2022 | ORANGE, CA

A Living Faith

“So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.”

(James 2:17 NRSV)

There are many events that occupy our time on a daily basis. Now that fall has arrived young people are returning to school which puts more pressure on families. I invite you to take some time and read James 2:1-17. The letter of James is a series of unconnected, practical tips for Christian living. The primary focus of chapter two is favoritism—especially towards the rich.

The example provided in the letter of James could easily occur within any faith community on any given Sunday. These verses describe two people at extreme ends of the economic scale who enter a place of worship, but are treated differently because of their outward appearance, how they look. Imagine for a moment rich person with gold rings and expensive clothes entering a place of worship at the same time as a poor person. Now imagine the poor person does not even wear clean clothes, smells, and has holes in their shoes. If the wealthy person is fussed over and ushered to the best seat, while the poor person is left standing, then there is a real problem. Distinctions have been made based on their exterior wealth of that person. In doing so, we make judgments about a person – all on their outward appearance.

- 1. What is the problem with treating people differently based on their economic status?*
- 2. Have you ever seen this example occur within the church? If so, what action did you take?*

If anything, we are to show partiality to the poor. “Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that [God] has promised to those who love [God]?” (James 2:5 NRSV)

Jesus was not born into wealth. Remember the circumstances of the birth of Jesus, including his mother Mary, the shepherds, and stable, there is not only an awareness of the poor and outcast, but an intentional inclusion of the disfranchised. Jesus was born in a stable, the most unclean of places.

- 3. What are other examples of God's preference for the poor?*
- 4. How does it feel to hear of God's partiality to the poor in the world?*

For those who have financial means, these are not easy words to hear and comprehend. It is important to note the gift of God's kingdom is promised to those who love God. Just because someone is poor does not exclude that person from God, nor does it guarantee eternal life. God continues to seek a response of faith. Wealth does not mean a person is rich in faith.

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5. *Explain in your own words what the writer James is trying to teach.*

6. *What are the implications of this passage?*

Once more, James urges our faith to be transformed to works, actions consistent with faith. We are not only to respond to our neighbor in need by offering comforting words, but we are to clothe and feed. In that way our faith lives. “So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.” (James 2:17 NRSV)

7. *Describe a faith which is dead.*

8. *Contrast a living and dead faith.*

9. *Are you a good steward of your resources?*

10. *What does sharing your wealth look like?*

11. *How are you sharing your wealth with others?*

James describes special treatment given to the wealthy at church. Some might justify this fussing over the wealthy because the church needs money to operate.

12. *Have you ever seen that happen?*

13. *What is your response?*

God’s grace extends to the rich and poor. It is possible to be rich in material goods, but poor in faith. It is possible to be poor in resources and poor in faith. Just because someone is poor does not mean he or she loves God any less. Yet it can be a powerful witness to be someone who has little, but gives thanks for the bounty given through Jesus Christ. Being rich in faith has nothing to do with economic status.

14. *Give an example of being inspired by someone rich in faith, but poor in material resources.*

15. *Does this mean the rich are excluded from the grace of God?*

16. *How are we leaving a legacy of faith for those to come?*

This passage might be the most quoted verse from the letter of James. For some Christians, this verse is simply common sense. Of course, our faith produces results. How can faith in Jesus Christ not lead to an active life of service? Jesus was active in sharing love with those in need as demonstrated when he fed the hungry, healed the sick, taught, preached, and the list goes on.

17. *What actions do you associate with a Christian?*

18. *What can someone do who no longer is physically able to be active?*

The writings of apostle Paul emphasize the importance of faith alone. Martin Luther and the reformers summarized Paul’s writings with the mantra, “Christ Alone, Faith Alone, Grace Alone”. That mantra does not immediately propel people into action—or does it?

19. *Does faith alone exclude actions?*

20. *What does it mean to you to have a living faith?*

Prayer

Creator of all, stir up the embers of our faith and create a vibrant response to your love. Teach us the ways of hospitality, so all might feel welcomed. Use us to respond to the needs of the world and help us to shine the light of Christ in all we do and say. Amen.

Our Saviour's Children's Center Updates:

OSCC is Back to School!

We had a blast during our summer program. We had quite a few new children enroll for just the summer this year. Those children coupled with our already enrolled families made for a full summer program. The staff worked so hard on the themes and planning lots of exciting activities.

If you aren't already, please take a look at our Facebook page to see all the exciting things we have had happen over the summer and continuing throughout the year.

Our classrooms have started out pretty well enrolled. Our toddler room is completely full and will not have any openings until next school year. We currently have a waiting list of 4 children for that classroom. Our infant room also has 8 enrolled with staggering start dates.

We are still looking to hire a teacher for our Jr. Preschool class (formerly the 2's class) and another staff member for the Infant/Toddler program.

We are looking forward to a wonderful school year! Again, a big THANK YOU for all of your support!

- Jennifer & the OSCC Staff



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*

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*

President's Message – *Time for a Restart*

September is a time to celebrate the restarting of things. Things like school, Sunday School, church traditions, and some of our previous ways of serving our church. We will mark the restart with Rally Day on September 11, 2022, right after church, in Moreland Hall.

We celebrate Rally Day at the start of the school year. It's a way to kick-start the fall. Throughout the summer, many of our members have been away on vacation, and we are likely to see a few faces return to Sunday service.

This is also a time that we can restart some of our church traditions that have been modified while we navigated our way through COVID-19. Some of our ministries have been on pause or continued only with limited participation, so Rally Day is a great way to celebrate starting things back up again!

On Sundays, we have already restarted serving refreshments and coffee on the patio after service. Please sign up and bring fresh baked treats OR store-bought goodies – you know we are equally appreciative of both. There will be coffee and the kids would appreciate a few juice boxes or bottles of water.

We are also restarting with Assisting Ministers and Communion Assistants. If that is where you like to serve Our Saviour's, please sign up for those roles. If we have one Communion Assistant, we may have Communion at the rail. If we have two, we may have Communion by intinction.

If you would like to serve as an usher, you can sign up for that. I can tell you from first-hand experience that being an usher is the BEST way to see all of your friends and church family members. Greeting congregants as they arrive, handing out bulletins, welcoming visitors, setting out the coffee accoutrement, and counting the people in the sanctuary are all easy, but VERY necessary tasks.

We are always looking for readers, too. We have some really excellent readers in our congregation, and we look forward to your contribution to the service. And we haven't had an acolyte in a while (even before COVID-19), but you can get trained and serve as an acolyte. You can sign up to be a reader or an acolyte. And as always, we are hoping to add to the Technology Team. You can sign up for that as well.

I mentioned signing up for all of these things. There are sign-up sheets in the narthex that you can add your name to the next time you are in Sunday service. Or, if you think about it at a time when you are not at church, you can call or email Serene in the office (714-639-9390 or office@orangeoslc.org) and ask her to add your name to one of the lists.

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 or call/text me at 714-497-6224.

Remember to SHINE and share the light of Jesus Christ!

Steven Yoshizumi

COMMITMENT

“For they gave according to their means...and beyond their means, of their own free will”

2 Corinthians 8:3

There came a time in our lives that we wanted to purchase our first home. After we set an amount we could afford, we realized that it was not sufficient to purchase a house in the area. We found a house that was higher than the amount set, but we decided to take the plunge.

We talked and prayed about where we should cut our budget. Our tithe to the church was discussed, but we decided to put our trust in ourselves and God and not cut anything, including our tithe to the church. Each month we were able to meet our needs and our tithe.

God does work miracles and will guide us in our decisions, if we only ask. Has your commitment to the church and God waivered? If so, what have you done about it? You can pray, talk to friends, ask advice from your financial advisor, etc.

WOMEN'S FALL GATHERING



Mark your calendars! Please join us for a day of fellowship as we study the Bible and do crafts together. Lunch will be provided. Cost is \$20 per person.

Sign up by calling or emailing the church office. A clip board sign-up sheet will also be available in the entryway.

Contact Jan Johnson and Jean Thompson-Hailstone for more information.

Mark Your Calendars!

Anniversaries

- ♦ Sept. 10— Jean & Lance Thompson-Hailstone
- ♦ Sept. 12—Chris & Jeanine Kopczynski
- ♦ Sept. 14—Lawton & Aldene Miller

September Food & Donation Collection

*There are separate baskets, located in the narthex, for each location we give to.
Thank you for your continued donations!*



	Friendly Center	Children's Center
9/4	Hot Cereal Box	Pretzels
9/11	Peanut Butter Jar	Tissue Boxes
9/18	Mac & Cheese Box	Chex Mix
9/25	Canned Meat	Cheerios

Congratulations Pastor Jennifer!

*to 3 years at
Our Saviour's
Lutheran Church*

Birthdays

- Sept. 1—Gene Bilau
- Sept. 3—Helen Werner
- Sept. 5—Jean Thompson-Hailstone
- Sept. 7—Kathleen Berg
- Sept. 8—Marge Boelman
- Sept. 18—Bobby Meyers
- Sept. 21—Nancy Worley
- Sept. 22—Heather Scully-Wilkens
- Sept. 26—Ronald Duncan

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Get Ready!



Begins on September 18

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church



RALLY DAY!

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Potluck, BBQ, & Games!

RALLY DAY

Rally Day is fast approaching on Sunday, September 11 following church service. We are very excited for everyone to come and build up our community again (SHINE) as we get ready to start the Fall church season. We will be providing lunch, but we are in need of some volunteers in the following areas:

1. Food set up/ prep
2. Running the kids' games (balloon race/ water balloon toss)
3. Bringing cakes/cookies/cupcakes for the Cake Walk (looking for 5-6)
4. Clean-up Crew

A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex on Sunday, but you can also call the church office or call/email Christine Garcia, (714) 469-4767, jmn1086@aol.com.

MARILYN KRIST

News came that Marilyn Krist passed away in August 2022. Many of you will remember her and husband Allen and their 4 children. They were active members of OSLC in the 1980's and 90's. Marilyn served as office secretary part of that time. Condolences to family and friends.

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Bible Study

September 26 at 10:00 am

Join us in the Conference Room

All are welcome! Invite your friends & family!

BIBLE STUDY

The Bible Study will begin Monday, September 26, 10 am. The fall's theme "Jesus and Nature," looks at nature through the words of Jesus and other parts of Scripture. All of God's creatures, the trees and the soil, will offer us new perspective on the character of God and challenge us to deepen our stewardship of God's creation. Everyone is welcome to join the Bible Study in the conference room, next to the church office.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Nancy Worley as she recovers from a fall, 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, Bishop 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 those serving our country.



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 Mondays 9am-2:30pm and T-W 9am–5pm.

Email: office@orangeoslc.org

Website: orangeoslc.org

Phone: 714-639-9390