

# Our Saviour's *Lutheran*

FEBRUARY 2024 | ORANGE, CA

**Ash Wednesday  
Feb 14th**

**Pastor John will be at church from  
12-1pm for those that would like to  
stop by for ashes and prayer.**



## *Lenten Soup Supper*

**Wednesdays 6pm**

Feb. 21, Feb. 28, March 6, March 13, March 20

6pm Soup/ 6:45 Service  
Both in Moreland Hall

Sign-ups on patio to bring soup or bread.





# President's Message

Good grief, the first month of 2024 has flown by and now it is February. I hope you all have recovered from the Christmas holidays and had a Happy New Year.

We started the year with a "meet & greet" with a potential Pastoral candidate and then followed that up with a review of the meet & greet with the candidate by the council. After much discernment the Pastoral candidate withdrew from being our Pastor. Yes, that is a disappointment, but forward we go. I have been in contact with our synod Bishop, Dave Nagler, and our Synod Regional Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Jennifer Schultz concerning this. Bishop Dave responded with the following to me, **"I know that God is very much involved in this process and that only means that the right pastor for your congregation has not surfaced yet."** Keep praying for the process as we go forward in 2024. This means we will continue to be using supply pulpit pastors which Jan Johnson coordinated this past year and during the months of January and February. We owe Jan a big thank you! Also, concerning Jan she had surgery in mid-January and is now in recovery for the next few months. Keep her in your prayers.

The council had their first meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup>. New council members Nelly walker and Jon Davis were welcomed. The council is 11 strong: myself, Jeanine Singer, Carol Youngman, Bob Hunter, Christine Garcia, Steven Yoshizumi, Violet Yoshizumi, Jan Johnson, Melissa Pool, Nelly Walker, and Jon Davis. During the Council meeting I was elected to serve as President again, Jeanine Singer as Vice-President, Carol Youngman Secretary, Treasurer-Bob Hunter, and Financial Secretary-Kathleen Berg for 2024.

Committee chairs were also discussed during the meeting. See them in that section of the newsletter. It would be great if each of you would take part in one of the committees. If you want to learn more about what they do, contact the committee chair. Also, volunteers are needed each Sunday morning for the church service. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex. I encourage all of you, if you have any questions concerning the church, the church committees, etc., please contact a council member.

The council then discussed Lent. Ash Wednesday is February 14, which is also Valentines Day. It was decided that we will not have a service but encourage all to go to a service in another church in the area. Also, Pastor John Embree will be in the church from noon to 1 PM on Ash Wednesday at which time all may come to have a cross of ashes placed on their forehead by him in remembrance of the day after which you may stay as long as you like for meditation/prayer.

We will be having Lenten-soup-suppers the five Wednesdays after Ash Wednesday. After dinner Pastor John will lead us in meditation each week on the catechism. I am really looking forward to that as that will be a good review since I was confirmed. The council will bring soup and bread the first Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. Sign-ups to bring soup the following four Wednesdays will be put out in the narthex. Hope to see you all at these as there is always good homemade soup shared along with bread and meditation.

Can you believe it, Our Saviour's will be celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary in June. The council has set the weekend of June 8 & 9<sup>th</sup> for the celebration. We have booked our Bishop to preach on June 9<sup>th</sup> for the celebration. Melissa Pool is heading up the celebration and will need volunteers to help her. She will be announcing dates to gather inputs. Please participate with your good ideas. Plus put these two dates on your calendar.

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We had a nice turn-out at the annual meeting part II on January 14. It was a pot luck which meant lots of good food shared. (Yes, I like pot lucks, in case you don't know 😊). The 2024 annual report was reviewed and approved, two members, Christine Garcia and Steven Yoshizumi were elected to serve as OSLC's voting members at Synod Assembly in June, and two members, Jan Johnson and Betty Dierking, were elected to serve on the nominating committee for persons that will run for council in 2025. The meeting closed with a presentation by Nelly Walker about moving forward with a community garden on the vacant land west of Moreland Hall. The first action is to come up with a design, we have a preliminary one, along with installing a fence. Of course, this will require funding and to date \$8,000 has been contributed. This should cover about half of the fence cost. If any of you would like to contribute to the garden that would be awesome. Just designate your contribution to community garden. Also, if any of you would like more information concerning the garden contact Nelly Walker or any of the council members.

I am looking forward to a great 2024 at OSLC to "SHINE" and share the light of Jesus Christ!"

Steve Vannier

**3** **ADULT FELLOWSHIP** **6**

**DINNER & BINGO NIGHT**

**FRIDAY FEB. 23**

6 PM | OPEN TO ALL ADULTS  
\$15.00PP MUST PREPAY  
DINNER, DRINKS, PRIZES, DESSERT!

OSLC MORELAND HALL - SIGN UP ON PATIO  
OR WEBSITE - ORANGEOSLC.ORG

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## Staff

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

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

**Office Administrator:** *Melissa Pool*

**Accompanist:** *MinJung Seo*

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

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

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

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

*Melissa Pool-Nelly Walker - Jon Davis*

*Violet Yoshizumi - Steven Yoshizumi*

## Committee Chairs

**Adult Fellowship:** *Melissa Pool*

**Christian Ed:** *Sarah Moreno*

**Finance:** *Bob Hunter*

**Men's Ministry:** *John Davis*

**OSCC Board:** *Nelly Walker*

**Personnel:** *Steven Yoshizumi*

**Property:** *Steve Vannier*

**Social Ministry:** *Janice Bosecke/  
Betty Dierking*



## Our Saviour's Children's Center

Happy New Year! We came back after a nice little break for Christmas and welcomed some of our students that have moved on to TK programs back for drop in care for the last week of winter break. It was nice to see them again. We always miss our kiddos when they move on to other programs. In December we had our annual Licensing visit which required us to do lead testing on the faucets we use for drinking water. We received our results back and thankfully passed and do not have to do anything further for 5 more years. Enrollment numbers are still looking the same. We do have two openings in our infant room currently. We are hoping to fill those spaces relatively quickly. We are looking forward to Valentine's Day parties coming up next month! OSCC will be closed Monday, February 19th for President's Day.

Thank you, once again, for your support!

Jennifer and the OSCC staff



*Red Robin® will give*  
**20% OF FOOD SALES\*  
BACK TO**

### OUR SAVIOUR'S CHILDREN'S CENTER

Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to your server to have your sales counted.

**FUNDRAISER DETAILS**  
1500 E Village Way, Orange, CA 92865  
February 20, 2024\*

If ordering online, please follow these instructions:

- 1 Start your order at [order.redrobin.com](http://order.redrobin.com) and select the restaurant above.
- 2 In the menu, go to the category labeled "Fundraisers (To-Go Only)" and click on that item.
- 3 Click the "add" button, and then "add to bag."
- 4 Add your meal items and check out.
- 5 Arrive at Red Robin, come in, say hi, grab your food and be on your way! If your location has curbside pick-up, we can bring it to your car too!

\*Fundraiser during restaurant operating hours. Visit [redrobin.com](http://redrobin.com) and find this location to view hours. Donation based on all eligible net dine-in and to-go food sales only. Excludes sales from catering (at select locations), 3rd party ordering and delivery sites, alcohol, gift cards, retail, tax and gratuity. Offer void if flyer is distributed in or near the restaurant during fundraiser day & hours.



## PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER

**Jan Johnson**, recovering from cervical spine surgery, **Joan Theilen**, dealing with Ataxia, **Darlene Steege**, **Helen**, **Werner**, **Wes Hayes** (next door neighbor of Janice Bosecke)



## February

### February food and donation collection.

<u>Friendly Center</u>	<u>Children's Center</u>
Canned Tuna	Kix Cereal
Dry Potatoes	Raisins
Stuffing	Ritz Crackers
Soup	Ziplock Bags



# February Bible Study

Monday, February 26 10:00am

Jesus invites us to consider the birds and animals as biblical creatures that we will get to know. We look at biblical animals (some adorable, some terrifying) from ravens to lions and big fish, from the paired creatures on the Ark and that sneaky serpent in Eden. Stories of human and animal interaction in scripture help to reorient our relationships with the non-human world, while pulling us into deeper trust in God. Everyone is welcome to Bible Study, Monday, February 26th at 10:00 am in the conference room.

# Our Saviour's Celebrates 70 years

We will have a planning meeting Sunday, Feb. 25 following service in the conference room to talk about what we would like to do to celebrate this great mile stone.



## Souper Bowl Sunday

February 11th  
World Hunger appeal

In 2024, ELCA World Hunger will celebrate 50 years of global impact. We look ahead to the future of this ministry of our church.

Together we have learned how hunger, poverty and other justice issues intersect. We have been strengthened in hope by the decline in hunger since we began this work. We have nurtured relationships with local communities to ensure that the work we support will be sustainable, effective and authentic.

We at our Saviour's have been part of this story. We have responded to God's invitation to help transform the world. The story goes on. In faith, we know how it will end. "They will hunger no more, and thirst no more and God will wipe away ever tear from their eyes? Revelations 7:16-17).

Join us & be part of the story of the next 50 years - faithfully pursuing God's promise of a just world where all are fed.

Sunday February 11th, will be Our Saviour's chance to support the ELCA project. A cooking pot will be on the patio for contributions to join the fight against World Hunger.

Thank you,  
Social Ministry Committee

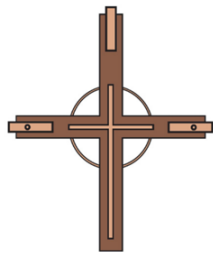
## HAPPY Birthday

- 2/4 Dylan Pool
- 2/4 Zac Pool
- 2/7 Roger Christman
- 2/9 Elizabeth Walton
- 2/12 Tommy Scully-Wilkens
- 2/12 Terri Vaughn
- 2/19 James Pool
- 2/19 Aldene Miller
- 2/19 Chris Kopezynski
- 2/23 Joan Ekdale
- 2/24 Karen Christensen

## HAPPY Anniverdary

2/5 Rick & Carol Youngman





**Pacifica Synod, ELCA**

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**Office of the Bishop**

## Love and Ash

February 14, 2024, will hold two “holidays” that seem to be moving in opposite directions. Valentine’s Day is a Hallmark creation dedicated to expressions of love. Ash Wednesday is a time of remembering our finitude; that each of us and all whom we love are impermanent. On the surface these commemorations seem an odd pair. “Bring a date to church and get an ash cross from a person who reminds them that they are dust”. I would argue that if we go deeper, they are a perfect pairing.

An ancient symbol for impermanence in the Celtic tradition is the triskelion. It is a circle, sometimes depicted with three legs or waves chasing one another around in an endless cycle. It is meant as a reminder that Spring follows Winter, Winter follows, Fall, and Fall follows Summer. Times of scarcity follow times of abundance. Times of connection follow times of loneliness. It is an echo of Ecclesiastes 3 which sings, “To everything, there is a season and a time under Heaven.”

The key to living this fundamental reality in a spiritually healthy way is to not get overly attached to any season or any moment in your history. And yet, to celebrate its beauty to feel deeply and to not deny the power that a moment can have on us. It is a delicate dance between not distancing ourselves from what is happening in our lives, but also remembering that all things fade away. New things arrive daily.

Anyone or anything that we love does not truly belong to us. They are shooting stars that shine brilliantly and then are gone. When they go, they return to the Source; to God. We feel the weight of their empty space and grieve. We also know that this grieving will shape us into a form that will be new for us. The grief we feel is a mirror of the love we shared. The hollow ache is an echo of the heartfelt joy.

One year on Ash Wednesday, I invited the congregation I was serving to a different practice of the imposition of ashes. I traced the ashen cross on the forehead of the first person who came forward and proclaimed the truth, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Then this person turned and did the same to the next person in line. This sequence continued for the whole assembly. Tears flowed when husbands made a black cross on the forehead of their beloved spouses. Voices cracked when parents reminded children that they too would not live forever. As they say, it got real that day!

So, on February 14<sup>th</sup> we will bear witness to love and impermanence. Some of us will spend time with loved ones. Others will be alone. Some will go to church and receive a cross and a word of remembrance. Others will be unable to bear that this year. No matter what you choose, remember that you are loved in this impermanent form. Please consider a Lenten practice of telling someone that you love them everyday until Easter (and then beyond if it makes you and them happy!) And let us not cling to any season too tightly. Our fragile planet will do another lap around the sun. People will come into our lives and depart. All of it is held in Divine hands.

Peace and All Good,  
+Dave



# FEBRUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			31 <b>7pm Bells</b> <b>8pm Choir</b>	1	2	3
4 <b>10am Church</b> <b>11am SS</b>	5	6	7 <b>7pm Bells</b>	8 <b>7pm Council</b>	9	10
11 <b>10am Church</b> <b>11am SS</b>	12 <b>4pm OSCC</b> Board	13	14 <b>12-1p</b> Ash wed. Ashs with Pr John  <b>7:30pm</b> Choir	15	16	17
18 <b>10am Church</b> <b>11am SS</b>	19	20 OSCC Fundraiser @ Red Robin	21 <b>6pm</b> Soup <b>6:45</b> Lent Service <b>7:30</b> Choir	22 <b>7pm</b> Bells	23 <b>6pm</b> Adult Fellowship Dinner/Bingo	24
25 <b>10am Church</b> <b>11am SS</b> <b>11am</b> 70 anniv. planning meeting	26 <b>10am Bible</b> Study	27	28 <b>6pm</b> Soup <b>6:45</b> Lent Service <b>7:30</b> Choir	29 <b>7pm</b> Bells		





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 8:30am– 12:30pm Mondays through Friday

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

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

Phone: 714-639-9390