



The  
Dove



**Camano Lutheran Church**  
December 2023

# Camano Lutheran Dove

The Dove is Camano Lutheran Church's Monthly Newsletter

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## CAMANO LUTHERAN CHURCH

360.629.4592

[www.camanolutheranchurch.org](http://www.camanolutheranchurch.org)

### CHURCH STAFF

**Pastor:** Scott Brents,  
[psbclc2020@gmail.com](mailto:psbclc2020@gmail.com)

**Music Coordinator:** Mary Munson

**Custodian:** Angel Honold

**Parish Administrator:** SaraLyn Larsen,  
[office@camanolutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@camanolutheranchurch.org)

**Preschool Director:** Carol Lawrence  
[camanopreschool@wavecable.com](mailto:camanopreschool@wavecable.com)

**Childcare Director:** Deanna Glenn  
[childcare@camanolutheranchurch.org](mailto:childcare@camanolutheranchurch.org)

## Reflections with Pastor Scott

### Advent Christmas Schedule



By the time you receive this article we will be near or fully immersed in the Advent season. Advent literally meaning “Coming” as we ponder the coming of Christ day to day and in that time to come as God makes a new heaven and earth. I want to say a big thank you to everyone who came on December second to get all the decorations up. They don’t just show up, it takes a group of dedicated folks to help us visually engage the season every year. I also want to say a special thank you to the Floyd family for donating both our Christmas trees for each worship space. Their generosity over the years continues and it is deeply appreciated.

Below you will find our Advent Christmas Season schedule. I hope you can take the time to join us in the Advent journey to Christmas.

Continuing the journey with you,  
Pastor Scott

### Advent Midweeks

Soup Supper each week at **6pm** followed by worship at **7pm**

**December 6** Holden Evening Prayer “Pause”

**December 13** Holden Evening Prayer “Prepare & Wonder”

**December 20** Longest Night/Blue Christmas Service

This time of year can be one of the most difficult for people journeying through loss and grief, addictions, depression and other difficult life realities. This service gives us a space to name those realities and be reminded of the hope and promise that Christ is with us every moment as we journey in the struggle.

If you have battery operated candles that you can lend to Pastor Scott for this service, please put your name on them so they can be returned and have them to the office by December 18.

Sundays in Advent **December 3, 10, 17, 24 10am**

(Yes, we have Advent 4 worship the 24th at 10am)

Christmas Eve Services **5:30pm** Large Sanctuary, **8pm** Small Sanctuary



## The Bishop's Article from the December 2023 Edition of The Spirit



### **From the Bishop:**

We were in a car heading to the Sahara Desert. The weather was changing. I looked out the window and, seeing a dark mass in the distance, said to the driver, "Do you know what a tornado is?" He didn't respond. But in a few short moments, we skidded

to a stop on the side of the road. There was no visibility, wind was swirling around us. Rain and sand and rocks were pelting the car. And then the car windows broke from the pressure of the storm. We were suddenly being blown around and all of us in the car were showered with rain and sand and rocks and glass. We huddled in our seats, shocked by the ferociousness of the weather around us and fearful of what was happening.

When I look at our world right now, I confess I feel much the same as I did on that day - like I'm huddling in my seat, shocked by the ferociousness of the wind and fearful of what is happening.

In our world, the climate continues to change and people and the very earth are suffering. We continue to harm this planet that God created for us and for all creatures and plants. In our Holy Land, as I write this in the middle of November, we hear of Palestinian Christian families fleeing, children crying, hunger and desperation, churches being bombed and hospitals being attacked. In our Holy Land, we hear of violence against the Jewish people, kidnapping of children and old people, and the threat of death.

In our country, there are those who are conflating Christianity with patriotism, those who are moving against Democracy and towards authoritarianism, gun violence continues unabated, legislators refuse to do their work and instead look after their own best interests. There is continued racism in our institutions, polarization, refusal to listen to each other, and more.

In the ELCA, we forget that we are gathering for the sake of Jesus and for those desperate to hear God's Word of forgiveness, love, and grace. We try to prop up institutional ideas rather than living into the Spirit of Christ. We would rather live in the "what once was" rather than the advent of something beyond our imaginations (but not God's).

Truly, the storms seem strong and fierce.

And yet ... and yet ...

In this time, when we not only are living in these swirling squalls, we are called, as people of faith, to remember and trust how God has worked, and continues to work, in this world. We are called to tell the stories of God's faithfulness again. For in the beginning, through God's Word, chaos became the heavens and the earth. Later, Moses saw God in fire. In the story of Job, when Job questioned God's faithfulness, God replied, referring to the stars, 'Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, or loose the cords of Orion?' When Abraham fought the storm of sacrificing his son, God brought through the darkness a ram. When a country was occupied by Rome, power was held by a few, voices were silenced, and hope seemed fleeting, a young girl became pregnant and sang. A young couple sought shelter far from home.

In a night of storms, one star shone bright. In a world of desolation, a baby's cry was heard.

In this stormy time, in this time of deep shadows and unknowns, in this time of memory and hope, in this Advent and Christmas time, together we lift our voices in and sing:

***O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.***

***O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!***

Dear Beloveds of God, I wish you Advent and Christmas blessings and hope.

+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee  
bishop@lutheransnw.org

## FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### Stewardship Snapshot



	Oct 2023	YTD
General Offerings Received	21,131	195,375
Easter Offerings - 1/2 to General Fund	-	917
Fees/Reimbursements/Special	145	3,948
Interest Earned - General Account	58	850
From Childcare - Overhead Reimb	580	5,800
From Preschool - Overhead Reimb	250	1,750
Total Income	22,164	208,640
Budgeted Expenses Paid	22,070 <sup>1</sup>	243,023
Overage (Shortage)	94	(34,383)
Budgeted Benevolence Paid Out	1,009	10,090
Designated Benevolence Paid Out	2,228	18,966
Total Benevolence Paid Out	3,237	29,056

<sup>1</sup> Budgeted expenses paid were less than expected due to the following:

- Pastor's mileage reimbursement - none in Oct due to surgery
- Insurance expense - Oct premium paid in Sept

## Sunday Scripture Lessons for December 2023

### **Dec 3rd:** First Sunday in Advent

- Isaiah 64:1-9
- Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
- 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
- Mark 13:24-37

### **Dec 10th:** Second Sunday in Advent

- Isaiah 40:1-11
- Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
- 2 Peter 3:8-15a
- Mark 1:1-8

### **Dec 17th:** Third Sunday in Advent

- Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
  - Psalm 126
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
- John 1:6-8, 19-28

### **Dec 24th:** Fourth Sunday in Advent

- 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
- Luke 1:46b-55
- Romans 16:25-27
- Luke 1:26-38

### **Dec 31st:** Reformation Sunday

- Isaiah 61:10—62:3
  - Psalm 148
- Galatians 4:4-7
- Luke 2:22-40

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 2023



No celebration is complete without cake!



Calvin Hendrickson



Brooke Berry



Marla Larsen



Brooke Berry, Calvin Hendrickson, and Marla Larsen were celebrated during worship on Sunday, October 29th. They completed the three year Confirmation program which includes a study of the Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments, Apostles' Creed, the Sacraments from Martin Luther's catechism, and an overview of the Bible. They are now ready to publicly affirm their baptism, be confirmed as an adult member of the church and be commissioned into a ministry.



# ELCA GOOD GIFTS

BENEVOLENCE OF THE MONTH

December 2023

## ELCA Good Gifts

Below you will find some of the popular items people purchase for the ELCA GOOD GIFTS Program. This is a way to be a blessing to others during this Christmas season when so much is consumed and purchased that isn't always truly needed. These, your gifts, can change a life and a community.

We will have a tree up with tags. Take the one you want, fill out your name and place it in the offering plate. This way we can keep track of what we have done as a congregation. There are also some blank tags as you may decide to purchase something else from the Good gifts catalogue. Simply write on the blank side what you purchased and the amount.

You can also google [ELCA.org/ Good Gifts](http://ELCA.org/Good Gifts) to see other possibilities for giving or find a catalogue in the narthex at church. You can donate on line or write a check to the church and in the memo put ELCA Good gifts and what gift you are purchasing and this will be sent in from the church to the ELCA GOOD GIFTS Program. If you do donate online, please let the church know what you have donated. Again, while we won't show names or those who donated, we will keep track of all donations and share what we did as a congregation in January.

## POPULAR GIFTS



**Chicks**

**\$10**



**Goat**

**\$50**



**Cow**

**\$500**



**Stock a backpack  
with food**

**\$10**



**Feed 10 people at a  
soup kitchen**

**\$20**



**Farmers' field school  
for a woman**

**\$75**

## OCTOBER 2023 PROPERTY TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

October has come to an end on Trick or Treat Day. So will this report.

1. Unfortunately, "the Elephant is still in the room". Discrepancies in the HVAC system continue to be discovered during the repair process. Andgar responded 4 different times, one visit included the Service Manager. Numerous checks and tests have been performed (inside and out), several parts replaced, a lot of troubleshooting has been taken place, a lot of head scratching and discussions have occurred. We've been with them every workday, and we are confident they will solve the complicated problem. Fortunately, adequate heat is still being provided while they are working towards resolution.
2. Two inoperable light bulbs were replaced in the kitchen.
3. A Representative from Camano Island Fire Department toured the buildings to verify the floor plans it has are accurate. Those plans are used to assist them with firefighting.
4. The outdoor faucets have been winterized.
5. Our Custodian (Angel) has given notice of resignation. We have been reviewing existing work requirements and are presently looking for a replacement. It is a part-time job, 10 to 12 "flexible" hours per week, cleaning and maintaining our buildings. It is a very responsible position, if you know of anyone who might be interested, please contact Dan or me.
6. Pye-Barker performed the annual inspection on the kitchen range fan.
7. L&I certificates were received and posted on the hot water heaters.
8. A broken (rotted) post on one section of the playground equipment was found on the ground and removed. Since it was not in a primary location, or used that much, a replacement is not necessary at this time.
9. Regular mowing of the fields, and around buildings, continues, as well as other yardwork by several volunteers.

Six months ago, 'time does fly", Ivan stepped down and I now fully understand his parting words of wisdom: "I came, I saw, I forgot what I was doing, retraced my steps, got lost on the way back, now I have no idea what's going on." How true. Sometimes it is like that, but it's really fun anyway. If you see something wrong around the buildings or grounds, please don't hesitate to bring it to our attention.

Take care, stay healthy, stay safe.





## CHILDCARE CORNER NOVEMBER 2023

Greetings From Childcare!

As we enter into our holiday season, the teachers are taking time to have conversations with their “littles” about giving thanks for all that God has blessed us with. For most of our kiddos, it’s all about their toys. They are reminded that parents, grandparents, siblings, etc are all part of the blessings in our lives.

Along with that, the kids are busy making turkeys and decorating their classrooms.

November is another busy month for us at the childcare. We will have the school age kids with us on November 15-17<sup>th</sup> due to school conferences and early release on Wednesday November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The childcare will be closing at 3pm on Wednesday November 22<sup>nd</sup> in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will also be closed on Thanksgiving and the day after.

On a personal note, I am very grateful to all of you for your support as the teachers and I take care of the children. We could not do it without you. May you all have a wonderful time with family and friends as you celebrate your many blessings.

Forever Blessed,  
Deanna Glenn



# ALL SAINTS SUNDAY





# thank you



## Family Promise of Skagit Valley

360-854-0743  
communicationteam@familypromiseskagit.org  
www.familypromiseskagit.org



### Guest testimony:

When I first walked into Family Promise, I was warmly greeted by Angie. For the first time in a long time, I didn't feel alone.

Family Promise is a place I called home: a place of comfort and security. I will never forget what Family Promise gave me, taught me, and the important role it has in my story of recovery and growth.

### Thank YOU!

It is because of you that this story and many others like it are possible.

*Thank you, Camano Lutheran Church,  
for supporting us since 2019. you keep  
families warm + cared for. thank you!*

*Family Promise*



Camano Lutheran Church  
850 N Heichel Rd  
10/24/2023

Dear Camano Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your thoughtful donation of \$83.00 on 10/05/2023 to support Lutheran Community Services Northwest's critical mission to bring health, justice and hope to our communities. Hope is the operative word. Your gift aids us in providing life-affirming services to those in need.

We are passionate about helping our clients find opportunities for growth and improvement. We seek to energize them with the tools they need to thrive. LCSNW works with individuals, families and communities to face the future with vision, support and resiliency.

Your generous giving helps us to make this mission a reality. Thank you!

With gratitude,

David Dues  
President & CEO

Lutheran Community Services Northwest  
(206) 816-3270 [advancement@lcsnw.org](mailto:advancement@lcsnw.org)

Lutheran Community Services Northwest is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN: # 93-0386860. Your gift may qualify as a charitable deduction. Consult with your tax advisor to determine deductibility. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

Lutheran Community Services Northwest  
4041 S 188th St Ste 300, SeaTac, WA 98198  
206-801-1685 | [donations@lcsnw.org](mailto:donations@lcsnw.org)  
[lcsnw.org](http://lcsnw.org)

## Thank you

Dear members of Camano Lutheran  
The Gathering Place  
ministry appreciates and  
thinks you for your recent  
donation from the Sillaguanish  
cluster event.  
Thank you for your support!  
Blessings  
B. Christy, coordinator G.P.



# thank you



## CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

CLC's Cemetery Committee is looking for maybe two more members to join the group. Would this be a good fit for you? If you have any questions regarding this opportunity, please call anyone of the following: Alan Hall, Karen Camp, Connie Hall & Jeff Camp.

## THE JOURNEY OF CLC'S QUILTS

### The Journey of Our Quilts

Eighty-two quilts from Camano Lutheran were delivered to the Seattle Fall Lutheran World Relief Ingathering.

Quilts are “unboxed” and compressed at the warehouse, then baled and wrapped for the journey around the world.

Last year, 220,317 quilts were received in 19 countries.



In addition to quilts, Camano Lutheran put together 144 personal care kits and 60 baby care kits.

Thanks to all who donated their time, talents, boxes, items for the kits, and support for shipping expenses. **God's work...Our hands!**



## WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



# WREATHS — *across* — AMERICA

Anderson and Camano Lutheran. Those wreaths will be positioned in stacks throughout those cemeteries for a December 16th program when attendees will then lay wreaths on the flagged gravesites.

All of you are invited and encouraged to join us at 10:00 AM, Saturday, December 16, 2023, at the Camano Lutheran Cemetery for a brief ceremony followed by the laying of a wreath. Each of you will then have the opportunity to carry a wreath to a veterans grave, say the veteran's name out loud, then lay the wreath on the headstone. We will provide instructions and answer any questions before starting.

Last year was the first time Anderson participated and it proved to be a very memorable occasion for everyone to remember and honor those veterans.

On December 16, 2023, cemeteries across America will participate in the National Wreaths Across America Day to honor and remember veterans. Wreaths purchased by the public will be placed on Veterans' graves on that day.

You may have noticed banners and flyers located throughout our community, with information regarding wreaths being purchased for the Anderson Cemetery in Stanwood (535 gravesites), Camano Pioneer Cemetery (8 gravesites), and Camano Lutheran Cemetery (235 gravesites). Volunteers working with the American Legion Post #92 have identified and will soon flag those gravesites. Sometime around December 14th a Wreaths Across America truck will deliver the wreaths to







**Northwest Washington Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

November 2023

Grace and Peace to you, faithful people of the Northwest Washington Synod!

"He himself [Jesus] granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ...we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love." (Ephesians 4:11-13, 15-16)

The theme of our 2023 Synod Gatherings, "Equip the Saints," was taken from the above referenced passage. We were heartened by the strong turnout and active engagement in the many workshops and forums we offered. We are so blessed here in the Northwest Washington Synod with an abundance of glad and generous hearts. We are generous with our time, our talents, and our treasure. We are truly seeking to build up the body of Christ and grow and mature in our faith.

Please take a moment to thank your congregation for the ways in which it contributes to the mission of the synod. Mission Support funds allow our synod staff to support new ministries (check out our list of mission starts on the synod website), assist congregations in transition, and provide faith formation resources such as the current synod-wide bible study, and other classes and retreats sponsored by the LiVE Project. This year, we have also launched a new Lay Ministry Formation program for lay leaders who wish to deepen their sense of God's call and to equip them for the work of the ministry.

We are also grateful for gifts of time and talents, volunteers working tirelessly to serve, nurture, and love those in need, bearing with one another in love. We give thanks for the hands that knit warm hats and sew quilts, that build tiny houses and prepare food, that plant seeds and harvest crops, and that bind wounds with patience and gentleness. We give thanks for those who teach, coach, mentor, counsel, and otherwise sustain the weary with a word. Together we are promoting the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Enclosed is your quarterly statement for the Mission Support monies that have been received in our synod. As you review this statement for accuracy, please consider your congregation's financial support of God's work through the NWWA Synod in the upcoming months. We look forward to your continued generosity and support.

Yours in Christ,

Kay Edgerton, NWWA Synod Vice President



# December

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Birthdays

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 6th Emily Staffenhagen | 17th Greta Satterfield  |
| 7th Cecelia Thiel      | 17th Alfred Hendrickson |
| 8th Teresa Luce        | 24th Liz Paul           |
| 8th Jo Reed            | 27th Irma Yee           |
| 9th Janet Mayer        | 28th Aaron Osburn       |
| 11th Bonnie Thomas     | 30th Julie Floyd        |
| 11th Kathy Uroff       |                         |
| 16th Irene Nelson      |                         |
| 16th Carolyn Tobiason  |                         |

### Anniversaries

- 4th Bob & Dene Henderson
- 9th Karl & Mary Munson
- 16th Paul & Charlotte Shoup
- 17th Andy & Irma Yee
- 17th Rand & Gretchen Pigott
- 23rd Larry & Nadine Lien
- 31st James & Martha Schelle

\* If we missed your birthday or anniversary please call the church office or email us at [office@camanolutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@camanolutheranchurch.org) so we can celebrate with you.\*



## Prayers Needed

**Healing for:** Dave Perkins, Vicki Baunsgard, Don, Alexis, Caden MacQuarrie, Shannon Buffalo, Pastor Paul and Elsie Wietzke & Family, Kathy Walker, Janette, Mindy Rigney, Nathaniel and Anna Powers, Dene Henderson.

**Comfort for: The Family of:** Joan Vogue as they mourn her loss, the family of Teresa Luce following the loss of her husband Greg and Danny & Aubrey Edwards-Luce following the loss of their newborn child.

**Guidance for: Port Towns** Church Planting: Danny & Aubrey Edwards-Luce

**Military persons associated with Camano Lutheran or Specific Request:**

*Damien Weller, Dan Porter, Tyler Munson, Scott Johnston, Derek Hinde, Brian Cummings, Robert F Guerrero, John VF Guerrero, Michael SF Guerrero, Isaac Teichgrab, Kyle Osburn*

**PLEASE** HELP US KEEP THE PRAYER LIST UP TO DATE BY NOTIFYING THE CHURCH OFFICE OF ANY ERRORS, OMISSIONS, OR CHANGES. **THANK YOU.**

# December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:30pm AA	2 8am AA 10am Advent Decorating 10:30am Al-Anon
					3 10am In Person Worship Service 11:15am Adult Education 6pm Al-Anon	4 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/ Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 10am Stage Installation 5:45pm Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Samplings w/ Luther
10 10am In Person Worship Service 11:15am Adult Education 6pm Al-Anon	11 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/ Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 9:30am Children's Chapel 5:30pm Lor Stevens Piano Recital 5:45pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scout (Leader Meeting) 7pm Boy Scouts	12 5pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Stewardship and Finance	13 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/ Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Holden Evening Prayer	14 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/ Pastor Scott 12:30pm Women's Bible Study Luncheon 5pm Preschool Christmas Program	15 6:30pm AA	16 8am AA 10:30am Al-Anon 12:00pm Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby
17 10am In Person Worship Service 1pm Piano Recital/Mary Munson 5pm Al-Anon (Business Meeting) 6pm Al-Anon	18 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/ Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 5:45pm Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Samplings w/ Luther	19 5pm Girl Scouts	20 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/ Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Holden Evening Prayer	21 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/ Pastor Scott 7pm Council Meeting	22 6:30pm AA	23 8am AA 10:30am AA Business Meeting 10:30am Al-Anon
24 <b>Christmas Eve</b> 10am In Person Worship Service 5:30pm Christmas Eve Worship 7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 <b>Christmas Day</b>  <i>Office Closed</i>	26 5pm Girl Scouts	27 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/ Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming 6:30pm Boy Scouts (Leader Meeting)	28 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/ Pastor Scott 10am Dove Flight Crew	29 6:30pm AA	30 8am AA 10:30am Al-Anon
31 <b>New Years Eve</b> 10am In Person Worship Service 11am Monthly Coffee Hour Celebration 6pm Al-Anon						

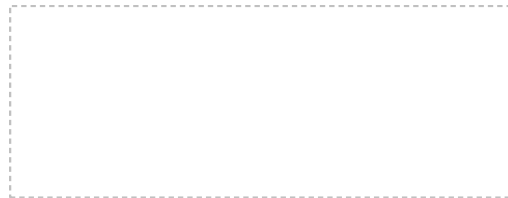




**Camano Lutheran Church**

850 Heichel Road  
Camano Island, WA  
98282

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*or Current Resident*

