



# Camano Lutheran Church

January 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)



## Reflections with Pastor Scott

### Home Communion



As we move into a new year, the past comes with us. During November and December our Care Team had training sessions on home communion. We walked through the role of the earliest deacons in the church as table servers, taking care of widows, orphans, and others in need of the basics of life, including bringing communion opportunities to them. They embraced this important ministry as the disciples "Devoted themselves to prayer and the ministry of the Word." (Acts 6)

Since returning to in person worship and post pandemic restrictions, churches all over look different than they did prior to covid. Some people returned to the worshipping community they were a part of, some left for other worshipping communities, some continue to stay home and worship online and some completely left involvement in a local church. In talking with other pastors and church attenders from various churches, it hasn't always been easy to determine which category those who haven't returned find themselves.

Our Care Team played an important role in trying to keep people connected during the pandemic. Calls were made, notes sent, zoom gatherings offered among other opportunities to connect. That same heart of caring is present with our Care Team now as we have moved into a new phase of life as a world and a church. Part of that heart of caring will be to offer home communion to those who are unable to come to church. This isn't to replace what pastor already does with visits and communion, but in addition to it. Once a month at the end of worship we will invite our Care Team home communion members to come forward, receive the elements from worship and offer a sending prayer as they carry the communion elements and worshipping community to those unable to attend worship. This is a wonderful extension of the worshipping community. Even though one may not be able to attend worship in person, you are not forgotten and, in this way, will be connected to those who gathered on Sunday morning.

As we begin this new gift of ministry we are asking for your help. If you are one who would like us to come bring communion to you or if you know someone that might be interested, please let us know. You can contact Pastor Scott by calling the office 360 629-4592 or emailing him at [psbclc2020@gmail.com](mailto:psbclc2020@gmail.com). Or, you can contact Paul Shoup who is the chair of the Care Team. Thank you for helping us carry this important ministry forward that first began with the earliest disciples of Christ.

Continuing the journey of faith with you,

Pastor Scott

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



### **From the Bishop:**

More than twenty years ago now, when I was serving in a congregation, I sat with a woman who was dying. I loved this woman. Her name was Bobbie. She was fierce and funny. She was smart. She could

be a little intimidating. She was a tall, big woman who pounded her cane into the ground as she walked. Throughout her life, like most people, she knew grief and joy. Disappointment and surprise. I was honored to hold her hand and sit with her as she took her last breaths.

As pastor, I have had the opportunity to sit with many people as they are dying. It is one of the most holy things a person can do. There is truly a thinness between what is and what is to come. While there are many things I love and miss as a congregational pastor, one of the top absences is being invited into people's lives as they leave this world and enter into God's presence in the company of all the saints.

Recently I attended a three-day retreat with several bishops and leaders from the western part of the United States. Most of what we talked about and discerned was what it means to be church today. Included in the conversation was how to journey and accompany congregations that are dying. This retreat wasn't a "how-to manual" of what to do. Instead, the intentional prayer, singing, worship, and community led us to sit in the same "thinness" feeling that I mentioned above: what is and what is to come.

As we sat in both the grief of some of our congregations closing and in the anticipation of what God is calling us towards, one person made the comment, "There is Spirit-led death and then there is just death." I've been pondering about this statement since it was said. What does it mean to have a Spirit-led death? What does it mean to just die?

Perhaps we can use Bobbie's death as a guide.

I think back to Bobbie who I met with many times before she died. She made it clear to me what her wishes were for her funeral. She talked many times about how thrilled she would be to see her husband

again. (Her husband died when he was twenty-eight leaving her with two small sons.) She was looking forward to resting. She wanted to make sure that I knew how glad she was to not be a burden any more to her sons. She had hopes for the assets she was leaving behind and how they would be used to further her passions. Most of all, she was excited about what was next for her – she talked quite frequently about the questions she was ready to ask Jesus.

In the weeks before Bobbie died, her sons called me to ask if I would be available to sit with Bobbie when she died. They lived far away and knew that they might not make it to her bedside in time. I, of course, said yes. When the nurse called me, I went.

In Bobbie's last hours on earth, I was with her. I felt God's holy presence as I held her hand, sang hymns, prayed the Lord's prayer, shed tears, sat in silence, loved her, and was present with her and Jesus in the thin place between life and death and resurrection.

Going back to the retreat that I was at and the questions that arose, I wonder how we can have language to talk about some congregations having Spirit-led deaths. While I hope and pray that all congregations thrive and grow, I also know that there is a life cycle for all things. And I want to be able to live in the thinness between life and death and resurrection with all of us in the Northwest Washington Synod. I want to have the hard, deep conversations that need to happen. I want us to talk about looking beyond survival and instead talk about death and resurrection. How can we do this in meaningful ways? How can we do this before there is a sudden death? How can we do this acknowledging the pain and heartache and also living in faith and hope?

We in the synod office want to journey with you in these conversations. It is not easy and it is not wanted. But it is a time that can be holy and where God's presence is made known.

As this new year begins, may we walk together in the Spirit – placing our hope in God through Jesus. May we journey as resurrection people.

Have a Blessed Christmas,  
+ Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee

## FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### Stewardship Snapshot



	Nov 2022	YTD
General Offerings Received	\$ 30,599	\$ 219,377
Fees/Reimbursements/Special	180	3,113
Interest Earned - General Account	33	211
From Childcare - Overhead Reimb	580	5,220
From Preschool - Overhead Reimb	250	2,000
Total Income	\$ 31,642	\$ 229,920
Budgeted Expenses Paid	22,680	256,801
Overage (Shortage)	\$ 8,962	\$ (26,881)
Budgeted Benevolence Paid Out	\$ 1,009	\$ 11,099
Designated Benevolence Paid Out	1,944	20,349
Total Benevolence Paid Out	\$ 2,953	\$ 31,448

## Sunday Scripture Lessons for January 2023

### January 1st: 1st Sunday of Christmas

- Numbers 6:22-27
  - Psalm 8
- Galatians 4:4-7
- Luke 2:15-21

### January 8th : Baptism of Our Lord

- Isaiah 42:1-9
- Psalm 29
- Acts 10:34-43
- Matthew 3:13-17

### January 15th: 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

- Isaiah 49:1-7
- Psalm 40:1-11
- 1 Corinthians 1:1-9
- John 1:29-42

### January 22nd: 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

- Isaiah 9:1-4
- Psalm 27:1, 4-9
- 1 Corinthians 1:10-18
- Matthew 4:12-23

### January 29th: 4th Sunday of Epiphany

- Micah 6:1-8
- Psalm 15
- 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
- Matthew 5:1-12



## ADVENT DECORATING AND FELLOWSHIP



## **NOVEMBER 2022 CLC PROPERTY TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

1. Removed mounds of yard waste debris from along west side of the Pioneer Hall kitchen, uncovering vent openings. This is part of a project for covering the vents with rodent proof barriers.
2. Contacted our electrician to repair one ceiling heater in lower Child Care building.
3. Storm damage caused long term power loss at CLC, when one phase of our three phase power was damaged and impacted heat in the larger sanctuary.
4. Spoiled contents of the kitchen freezer resulting from electrical outage were dumped.
5. Worked with technician responding to one of our three heat pump outages.
6. Repaired one of the long tables. Damage appeared to be from rough usage and poor design.
7. Took garlands from attic down to main floor for decoration use.
8. Repaired Day Care road-side sign that was suffering from wind damage. A more long term solution is still needed here.
9. The stage was reassembled and set up for the Preschool program use.
10. Worked with another HVAC technician for repairing one of our heat pumps. The problem continued into December.
11. Worked with our regular electrician to reset GFI outlets in Fellowship Hall.

" I complain that the years fly past, but then I look in a mirror and see that very few of them actually got past."

Robert Brault



The Annual Meeting Reminder: The Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 29th immediately after 10am service.



2023 offering envelopes are now available.

If you have not had envelopes before and would like to have them this year please see Teresa so she can assign a pack to you.



## BENEVOLENCE OF THE MONTH

January 2023

### Housing Hope

#### **Housing Hope: A local response to a community need.**

The North Snohomish County Council of Churches formed a task force in 1987 to look for ways to address the immediate homeless crisis and proposed the formation of a nonprofit agency with the expertise to leverage community resources for real housing solutions. They incorporated Housing Hope on September 30, 1987 and envisioned it as a housing development corporation.

**Mission Statement:** Housing Hope shall promote and provide affordable housing and tailored services to reduce homelessness and poverty for residents of Snohomish County and Camano Island.

Housing Hope offers a full range of housing solutions:

- Emergency shelter for up to 90 days
- Homeless housing with access to voluntary services
- Permanent, affordable rental housing
- Opportunities for home ownership

As well as social support programs:

- Case Management
- Employment Services
- Adult Education Program
- Credit and Homeownership Counseling
- Child Development Program
- Teen Parent Program

An example of some of what was done between July 2020 and June 2021:

Emergency Shelter: 52 children and parents from 19 families moved from living on the streets to having safe housing in Emergency Shelter where they could focus on finding stable and affordable housing.

Service-Supported Housing: 287 households, comprised of 684 family members, received service-supported housing.

Child Development Services: 223 children and parents from 81 families received child development services from Tomorrow's Hope Child Development Center.



## QUILTER'S BULLETIN BOARD

If you haven't been over to the Pioneer Hall lately, you are missing out on the lovely bulletin board that the Quilters have put together. It is such a fun and colorful display of pictures and information. Thank you ladies! Your creativity knows no bounds.



## STAGE SET UP AND REMOVAL

Lots of hard work, brain power, and muscle is expended every Christmas Season (and again in the Spring) for the preschool program's stage to be put up and taken down. Thank you to all of the volunteers who continue to make this job look easy year after year.



## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Thank you to the Martha Bible Study Ladies for putting on a lovely Christmas Luncheon for the church staff and volunteers. The festive atmosphere was a wonderful start to the holiday season.

It was a fantastic time of warm fellowship and delicious food.



## JOSEPHINE CARING CENTER GIFTS



Thank you to everyone who donated a gift for the residents of Josephine Caring Center and brought it by the office. We were able to donate over 20 gifts to the Josephine Caring Center this year.

We can be sure that the residents will enjoy their new cozy items all winter long.



# thank you

Dear Fellow Laborers at Camano Lutheran,

We on the MATA Board of Directors are grateful  
for and humbled by your financial support. You can  
rest assured that we take our responsibility seriously  
to ensure that your ministry dollars are spent wisely.  
You are helping to train the next generation of missionary pilots!

In His Service Together,

*Scott*  
Board Member.



*Thank You!*

November 14, 2022

Camano Lutheran Church  
850 Heichel Rd  
Camano Island, WA 98282-8804

Dear Camano Lutheran Church,

**Thank you** for your recent gift of \$58.00 to Lutheran World Relief given through the Northwest Washington Synod of the ELCA. I'd like to share a story with you about how your support makes a real difference.

Guisela is a single mother living with her two daughters in the remote hills of western Guatemala. Without a regular source of income or the knowledge to work the dry, lifeless land, she struggled to provide a daily meal for her children. She made long daily treks to fetch clean water for her family, hauling heavy containers back up steep terrain to her home. This time-consuming effort left little time for gardening, and with little farming know-how, she often paid the high cost of transportation to buy vegetables for her children at the nearest market. Since job prospects for women in this area are few and far between, earning money was difficult. The cycle of poverty seemed impossible for Guisela to break.

But your love changed everything. Your generosity is delivering seeds, tools and mentorship. Because of you, Guisela has learned to farm and now has an abundance of healthy and nutritious food to offer her growing children.

Thank you for your generosity! We are proud to carry your love — and God's love — to the places it's needed most... until your love reaches every neighbor.

Warm Regards,

*Daniel V. Speckhard*

Ambassador Daniel V. Speckhard  
President and CEO

P.S. For the latest updates on how your generous gifts are reaching neighbors in need all over the world, I invite you stay in touch through our blog ([lwr.org/news](http://lwr.org/news)) and our Facebook page ([facebook.com/LuthWorldRelief](https://facebook.com/LuthWorldRelief)). If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of our staff at 800.597.5972 or [lwr@lwr.org](mailto:lwr@lwr.org).

Please retain this letter for tax purposes

700 LIGHT ST BALTIMORE, MD 21230 T 800 597 5972 LWR.ORG



*Your gift is more than just a donation,  
it is the hope in the eyes of the people we serve.*

Dear Church members,

The holidays just wouldn't  
be the same without the  
Camano Lutheran church's  
support. We cannot thank  
you enough for pie shells,  
spices, and your generous  
monetary support.  
Warm regards, Wendy Foster



# MERRY Christmas

BEST WISHES FOR A VERY MERRY

## Christmas

*Warmest thoughts and Best Wishes  
for a Merry Christmas  
and a very Happy New Year*

JOSEPHINE CARING COMMUNITY



*May the miracle of Jesus' birth shine in your heart.*

*Merry Christmas.*

*Safe Harbor Free Clinic*

## Merry Christmas!



For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
Isaiah 55:12 NRSVUE

## Emanuel!

*Rejoice!*  
**God with us!**

During this season, and throughout the year we are grateful for the many ways that Lutherwood Camp and Retreat Center is supported. Thank you for coming, giving, praying, and working to make Lutherwood a wonderful place of worship, play and praise. As the camp celebrates 75+ years of GRACE in Creation, remember that you are a part of the legacy. Together we can make it another great 75+ years!

*This is your camp.*



**From your Lutherwood Staff and Board**

## COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS



Save the date for the Annual Meeting:

*We will gather at the camp*  
**February 4, 2023**  
**10 a.m.**

1185 Roy Rd, Bellingham, WA 98229

Find more information on the website:

**<https://www.camlutherwood.org/>**



**February 4, 2023 at 10 a.m.** We will gather in the chapel at Lutherwood. Please check with the camp office to see if your congregation is a contributing member and come and vote. Each member congregation can send 1 clergy member and 2 lay members.

## BOY SCOUT CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING



The Boy Scouts will have a Christmas tree recycle drop off location at IGA this year on Sunday, January 7th from 9am-3pm. They are also offering to pick up trees as well. If you would like your tree to be picked up, please contact [tamra.drake@gmail.com](mailto:tamra.drake@gmail.com) to get on the route list. As an added bonus this year, the boy Scouts are offering a bag of compost made out of last years trees to anyone who drops off a tree this year.



## Birthdays

### JANUARY Birthdays

1st Randi Hodne	22nd Eric Larsen
2nd Andy Yee	26th Steve Hanna
6th Sara Schlagel	27th Donna Crow
8th Dene Henderson	28th Jeni Bottin
10th Rick Skiba	29th Tyler Vogue
14th Dave Sears	31st Arlyn Harang
15th Mia Kanehan	31st Pat Major
18th Mary Powers	
19th Angel Honold	
21st Lisa Hayes	

\* 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:** Shannon Buffalo, Pastor Paul and Elsie Wietzke & Family, Kathy Walker, Janette, Mindy Rigney, Zaid Fackenthall, Nathaniel and Anna Powers, Dene Henderson.

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

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

Tommy Young, 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.**



# January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 New Year's Day</b> 10am In Person Worship Service 5pm Al-Anon (Business Meeting) 6pm Al-Anon	<b>2 Office Closed</b> 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 9:30am Children's Chapel 5:45pm Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Samplings w/ Luther	<b>3</b> 5pm Girl Scouts	<b>4</b> 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary	<b>5</b> 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 12:30pm Martha Study Group	<b>6</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>7</b> 8am AA 10:30am Al-Anon
<b>8</b> 10am In Person Worship Service 6pm Al-Anon	<b>9</b> 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 9:30am Children's Chapel 5:45pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scout (Leader Meeting) 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Samplings w/	<b>10</b> 5pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Stewardship and Finance	<b>11</b> 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary	<b>12</b> 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott	<b>13</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>14</b> 8am AA 10:30am Al-Anon
<b>15</b> 10am In Person Worship Service 6pm Al-Anon	<b>16 MLK Jr. Day</b> 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 9:30am Children's Chapel 5:45pm Cub Scouts 6:30pm Girl Scout (Leader Meeting) 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 5pm Girl Scouts 6pm Girls Scout Cookie Rally	<b>18</b> 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10:00 am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary	<b>19</b> 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 7pm Council Meeting	<b>20</b> 5pm Boy Scout Sleepover 6:30pm AA  <b>Dove Articles Due</b>	<b>21</b> 8am AA 10:30am Al-Anon
<b>22</b> 10am In Person Worship Service 6pm Al-Anon	<b>23</b> 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 5:45pm Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm Samplings w/ Luther	<b>24</b> 5pm Girl Scouts	<b>25</b> 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10:00 am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary	<b>26</b> 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10am Dove Flight Crew	<b>27</b> 6:30pm AA	<b>28</b> 8am AA 10:30am AA Business Meeting 10:30am Al-Anon
<b>29</b> 10am In Person Worship Service 5pm Al-Anon (Business Meeting) 6pm Al-Anon	<b>30</b> 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 5:45pm Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts	<b>31</b> 5pm Girl Scouts				



**Camano Lutheran Church**

850 Heichel Road  
Camano Island, WA  
98282

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