



Camano Lutheran Church

January 2024

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

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Scott Brents,
psbclc2020@gmail.com

Music Coordinator: Mary Munson

Custodian: Jamie and Austin Staffenhagen

Parish Administrator: SaraLyn Larsen,
office@camanolutheranchurch.org

Preschool Director: Carol Lawrence
camanopreschool@wavecable.com

Childcare Director: Deanna Glenn
childcare@camanolutheranchurch.org

Reflections with Pastor Scott
New Council Members Called to Serve
Here at CLC



As 2024 begins we start another year trusting God to guide and lead us in all we say and do as a community of faith. As I reflect on 2023, I can't help but say Thank you to our outgoing council members for all their time and gifts for ministry used over the last number of years. Several of them served through all the challenges of the pandemic, always having the safety and concern of the congregation in mind along with seeking God's voice for our daily journey as a community of faith.

Now we turn to a new group of council members, called and willing to serve as the Spirit leads. We do not simply try to fill seats on council but try to find folks with the gifts needed for the ministry ahead and who are willing to take their call to serve in this way before God. Below you will see the names of those serving on council this year. Please keep each of them in your prayers as they are installed this January and begin this important role of ministry here at CLC.

President	Jon Hamlin
Vice President	Susann Hendrickson
Secretary	Stephanie Lightbody
Treasurer	Jennifer Satterfield
At Large	
Dan Bauermeister	
Charlotte Shoup	
Ann Eide	
Don Leak	
Conner Helgelund	

I am so grateful for the ministry of this congregation and those willing to serve in leadership roles. Please keep CLC in your daily prayers as we continue seeking to proclaim the Good News of God's love in Christ for the whole creation.

Continuing the journey of faith with you,
Pastor Scott

The Bishop's Article from the January 2024 Edition of The Spirit



From the Bishop:

I was listening to the news a few days ago when I heard that Israel had bombed Gaza using artificial intelligence called "The Gospel." I thought at first that I had misheard.

Surely an AI program designed to bomb people is not named "gospel." But, horrifically, I had heard correctly. As Steve Inskeep from NPR's Morning Edition reports on December 14, "The system is called The Gospel. And basically, it takes an enormous quantity of surveillance data, crunches it all together and makes recommendations about where the military should strike."

Pause right here and read the above paragraph again. I mean it. Read it again.

A weapon of war is named The Gospel. Dear Beloveds of Christ, I cannot emphasize enough how bone-chilling and nauseous it makes me feel that a word designed to bring hope and love and peace and joy to this world – Gospel – is being used to kill.

I don't know who first named this system "gospel." I don't know what marketing expert or even what acronym "gospel" might mean in the AI world. I could not find the origin. But what I do know is that this system is now being used for something horrendous. This is so contrary to the first words from the gospel of Mark, "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."

As you might be aware, the word gospel is translated into English as "good news." When Martin Luther was struggling about the laws of God and feeling that he was a sinner beyond redemption, he recounts in many of his writings how his understanding of God changed as he read Paul's letter to the Romans. He suddenly realized that it was not up to him, but up to God. God was the one who redeemed. God was the one who forgave. Luther suddenly experienced what God through Jesus does for all of us: Through Jesus

Christ, God provides comfort for the terrified, forgiveness for the sinner, and faith for the doubting. Martin Luther was overwhelmed with God's grace and was immersed in the Gospel.

Following this earth-shattering understanding of the Good News of Jesus, Luther taught, preached and wrote about this insight every chance he got. In 1521, Philip Melancthon condensed Luther's insight to this provocative sentence: "The gospel is a promise." To this day, Lutherans continue to bear witness to the whole church and world that the gospel is a promise, truly good news of God's mercy and love in Christ, received by faith alone.

In these days when words are manipulated by those in power, when evil seems to be gaining ground, when neighbor turns against neighbor, may we remember and experience God's grace. May we be enveloped in God's love. And, in response, may we, in our words and actions, move against the forces that are contrary to all that Jesus stands for.

For we are called, my dear Beloveds, through God's grace towards God's promise of wholeness and true peace. *This is the Gospel.*

As the prophet Isaiah proclaims of God in chapter 42, "I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. May it be so.

May it be so.

We look towards 2024 in faith, holding God's promise of Gospel.

+Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee
bishop@lutheransnw.org

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Stewardship Snapshot



	Nov 2023	YTD
General Offerings Received	54,584	249,960
Easter Offerings - 1/2 to General Fund	-	917
Fees/Reimbursements/Special	205	4,153
Interest Earned - General Account	52	901
From Childcare - Overhead Reimb	580	6,380
From Preschool - Overhead Reimb	250	2,000
Total Income	55,671	264,311
Budgeted Expenses Paid	22,017	265,040
Overage (Shortage)	33,654	(729)
Budgeted Benevolence Paid Out	1,054	11,144
Designated Benevolence Paid Out	2,131	21,096
Total Benevolence Paid Out	3,185	32,240

Sunday Scripture Lessons for January 2024

Jan 7th: Baptism of Our Lord

- Genesis 1:1-5
- Psalm 29
- Acts 19:1-7
- Mark 1:4-11

Jan 14th: Second Sunday after Epiphany

- 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
- Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
- 1 Corinthians 6:12-20
 - John 1:43-51

Jan 21st: Third Sunday after Epiphany

- Jonah 3:1-5, 10
- Psalm 62:5-12
- 1 Corinthians 7:29-31
- Mark 1:14-20

Jan 28th: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

- Deuteronomy 18:15-20
 - Psalm 111
- 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
- Mark 1:21-28

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



the
LIGHT SHINES
IN THE
Darkness
AND THE
DARKNESS
HAS NOT
Overcome
IT
JOHN 1:9





BENEVOLENCE OF THE MONTH

January 2024

Housing Hope

When I came to Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Arlington, in 1995, I was asked to join the Arlington Advisory Committee for Housing Hope. I did and I was immediately impressed!

Housing Hope was formed in 1987 by the North Snohomish County Council of Churches to address the homeless crisis. I was impressed because Housing Hope not only provides emergency shelter for homeless families, but brings a full range of services with the goal that homeless families not only find shelter but also a path to permanent housing.

As well as social support programs:

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

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

In just the Stanwood area, Housing Hope has provided:

- Lervick Family Village with seven affordable rent units, six service supported homeless units and a shelter.
- Lincoln Hill Village with nineteen affordable rent units and five service supported homeless units.
- Team Home Building assistance for fifty-five low income families to achieve home ownership by using their own labor as sweat equity for their down payment.

A benevolence offering for HOUSING HOPE is an effective way for us to respond to the continuing homeless crisis of our communities.



NOVEMBER 2023 PROPERTY TEAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Good News: ANDGAR discovered a faulty circuit board and three heat sensors on Unit #2 were causing the continuing shutdown problem. The items were replaced, and the heating system has been working properly since.
2. A clogged toilet in a Childcare bathroom was unplugged.
3. An electrical outlet in a Pre-School classroom that appeared to malfunction was inspected and found working okay.
4. The light bulb in the Halogen light illuminating the church sign by SR-532 burnt out. Since it was made with mercury (no longer manufactured), the ballast was removed, and an LED lightbulb was installed. It supposedly is brighter, and cheaper to operate.
5. A broken soap dispenser in a downstairs Childcare room was replaced.
6. The heat stopped working in Pioneer Hall. Two furnace switches were found in the "off" position. Switched them on, heat has returned.
7. All smoke detectors in the main buildings and Childcare were tested.
8. Dead tree branches around the buildings were cut and removed.
9. Fallen leaves on the parking lots and sidewalks were removed.
10. Jamie Staffenhagen began work as the new custodian. Our sincere thanks to Angel for all of her contributions.
11. Last but not least, Thank You to the volunteers who cleaned the carpet in the Fellowship Hall, thoroughly scrubbed the kitchen floor, and cleaned the ovens.

On behalf of the Property Team, we wish you a Merry Christmas, and the very best in the New Year.

Jim & Dan

CHILDCARE CORNER DECEMBER 2023

Tis the Season! The children have been busy all month long in anticipation of Christmas. They have made many crafts and learned about Baby Jesus. The teachers have adorned our walls with beautiful artwork. Please come by and see what our "little" hands and minds have made.

The school age children are out on break beginning December 20. They will be with us all day from December 20-22. The Childcare will be closed from December 25-January 2nd.

Teachers will return on January 2, 2024, for a Professional Development Day. We have a special guest coming to do STARS Training with the staff.

We are still in the process of meeting state standards to install a fire alarm system throughout the church. A great thank you to all involved in this endeavor.

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, I would like to personally thank everyone involved in helping support the childcare program. Camano Lutheran Church is a very special place, and I am forever blessed to be a part of the ministry.

Merry Christmas to you All,

Deanna Glenn

thank you

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND THANK YOU FROM JOSEPHINE CARING COMMUNITY



Sharon Jones
Frank *Jennifer K.*
Annmaria D.
Alyssa G. *Rebecca*
Shirley
Warmest thoughts and Best Wishes
for a Merry Christmas
and a very Happy New Year
Kevin
Michelle
Tina *Blair*
Shannon T. *Leanne*
Barbara
Terry Robertson
Jim Coy
Brian Shaw
Terry Steckler
Barbara Martinez
Michelle Hanson
Kevin P.
Ann M.
Shannon T.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF *Thank You!*

November 29, 2023
Camano Lutheran Church
850 Heichel Rd
Camano Island, WA 98282-8804

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent generous gift of \$485.25 to Lutheran World Relief's Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund!

The kindness and love you show your neighbors in Christ is truly transformational. Quilts and kits are both practical and comforting. Whenever they are in the world and whatever challenges they face, the families who receive them can truly feel the love and care that quilters and kit makers put into them.

In colder regions of Tanzania, quilts are actually helping children grow! Researchers recently discovered that many children in these regions did not have adequate bedding and were using too many calories to keep their bodies warm — taking away valuable energy they need to grow. For children who are already hungry or malnourished, this can create long-term problems with their physical growth and mental development. But, wrapped in a warm and cozy quilt, they can sleep soundly and grow up healthy.

And that is just one example of how your generosity helps. Whether a quilt or kit reaches a family in a refugee camp, a new mother in an urban slum or a child in a remote village, your kindness brings comfort and hope to people when they need it most.

I am so grateful for the love you are bestowing on our neighbors around the world.

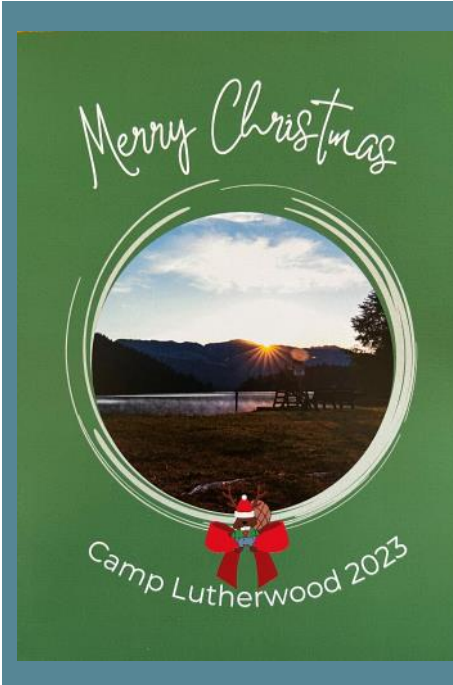
Thank you,
Daniel Spockhard
Ambassador Daniel V. Spockhard
President and CEO

P.S. God bless you and your generous spirit.

As required by the IRS, this letter confirms that Lutheran World Relief has given you no goods or services in return for this gift. This letter is your receipt for your charitable gift of \$485.25—Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund.

Please retain this letter for tax purposes.

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From our House to Yours

As we look back on the year behind us and anticipate the one ahead, may the light of Christ guide our path and illuminate our hearts.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas filled with the warmth of love and the company of cherished family and friends.

The Lutherwood Staff and Board

thank you



doctorswithoutborders.org
Awarded the 1999 Nobel Peace Prize
40 Rector Street, 16th Floor
New York, NY 10006
(888) 392-0392

December 7, 2023

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

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the staff of Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), I want to thank you for your generous gift of \$50.01 received on November 17, 2023.

Your contribution helps ensure that our patients receive the care they so urgently need, no matter their circumstances. In the last few months alone, support from caring donors like you has helped us respond to a range of emergencies in more than 70 countries, including:

- **Earthquakes in Turkey and Syria:** In February, over 50,000 people were killed by devastating earthquakes and aftershocks. With our teams already on the ground in northwest Syria, we mobilized an emergency response within hours of the first earthquake. We have treated more than 7,600 injured people.
- **War in Ukraine:** Our teams continue to deliver lifesaving care across the country in response to the ongoing war. In recent months, attacks on civilians have escalated. When an apartment building in Dnipro was struck by a missile in January of 2023-killing at least 40 people and injuring over 75-we were among the first to respond with medical care, psychological first aid, and relief items.
- **Cervical Cancer in Malawi:** Malawi has the world's second highest mortality from cervical cancer, seven times the global rate. We've developed a comprehensive program in two districts to improve access to vaccination, screening, early diagnosis, treatment, and palliative care-vaccinating nearly 30,000 girls between the ages of 9-14 years-old in their schools.

Our critical work to deliver emergency care to people caught in these crises wouldn't be possible without your generous support. Thank you for being part of our important lifesaving mission.

Sincerely,
A. Huda
Avril Benoit
Executive Director
Doctors Without Borders USA

Doctors Without Borders has not provided any goods or services to the above-named donor in return for this donation.
Doctors Without Borders is a qualified tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. EIN: 13-3413422

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MATLT, 312



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA AT CAMANO LUTHERAN CEMETERY



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY LUNCHEON FOR VOLUNTEERS & STAFF



The ladies put on a lovely luncheon! Naomi wins the prize for bravely sitting at the "Men's table" LOL!



AN UPDATE FROM DANNY EDWARDS-LUCE

Hello Camano Lutheran Church family!

As 2023 comes to a close, my mom has reminded me on several occasions that I haven't sent an update to you all in quite some time. Please know I think of you often and enjoy joining in virtually to Pastor Scott's devotionals that he posts on Facebook. Let me give you an update on the church and a personal update from the past year.

Starting with the church, it has been a good exercise to actually write out all the people who are connected with us at various levels. I was able to put a list of 59 people together who I consider to be under my spiritual care. These folks range from people who might come to worship once a month to people who are officially members of Port Towns Church. In the past year alone, I added ten people to that list, even baptizing three of them (two infants, one adult). It's been encouraging to know that God is using this little church in our community even while Aubrey and I have been grieving and feeling quite out of sorts. It reminds me of Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 12: "[The Lord] said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."



We have also significantly strengthened our service and outreach to the community. With the help of two dedicated church members, we started a monthly food distribution back in February. On average, we have handed out food to 120 families which amounts to 400 people. In total, we have given out over 30,000 pounds of food and hope to keep that number going up year over year. This is a very important service to our community as over 2 in every 5 people in our county are food insecure. We also partnered this year with our local police department to put on a back-to-school party. Together, we handed out 125 backpacks in just 10 minutes @me (we could have handed out a lot more)! A partner church and PTC put on a bunch of games for the kids to play, and we all really had a great time!

Lastly, we hosted our first annual fundraiser where we raised \$9,485! As we held the event, I realized that since the pandemic, we have had few opportunities to have fun and celebrate as a church and this event was just that. Church members, friends, and family all joined together to have good food and a drink, dance, and enjoy one another's company. It was truly a worthwhile event for us that we will keep doing each year.

Continued —>

AN UPDATE FROM DANNY EDWARDS-LUCE

Turning now to our personal lives, this has been a very challenging year for us as we continue to recover from the stillbirth of our son, Zach. Aubrey and I make it a point to visit his grave once a month. Some days and even some weeks are better than others. But the grief is never too far away. Then of course my dad's death has been challenging as well. Recently, I have started to realize how I have joined my grief for the two of them together, and that this has complicated my recovery. I meet with a spiritual director monthly to talk about this, and am looking to start therapy once again.

My spiritual director recently gave me a blurry photo of a painting called "The Annunciation," which is a depiction of Mary after receiving the news that she would become pregnant by the Holy Spirit. What strikes me about the painting is Mary's pensive, melancholy posture. She is clearly worried about what is about to happen and seems to be asking, "How is this going to work? Why me?" On top of that, the painting is rather dark. Only a small section of the painting shows a faint light coming from a doorway or window. It seemed to speak to me and my situation. Things can be complicated, confusing, dark... and God can be working mightily in the midst of the darkness. Like that small light in the painting, I am looking for small glimmers of hope and encouragement in the midst of a lot of dark. I really



hope the dark will go away soon. I've honestly grown pretty tired of it. And thankfully I know that one day it will go away completely when Christ comes again and is our Eternal Light. "The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there" (Revelation 21:23-25).

Thank you for your prayers, notes, and financial support. They have been very encouraging for me and my family. And also know that your prayers and support are making

a little church out near Washington DC continue to exist and share the message of Jesus to any who would hear. You are a gift to me and this community.

Blessings, Danny Edwards-Luce



Birthdays

1st Randi Hodne
2nd Andy Yee
8th Dene Henderson
10th Rick Skiba
14th Dave Sears
15th Mia Kanehan
19th Angel Honold
22nd Eric Larsen
26th Steve Hanna

27th Donna Crow
28th Jeni Bottin
31st Arlyn Harang
31st Pat Major

* If we missed your birthday or anniversary please call the church office or email us at office@camanolutheranchurch.org so we can celebrate with you.*

January Birthdays



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 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.**

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Years Day <i>Office Closed</i>	2 5pm Girl Scouts	3 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary	4 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott	5 6:30pm AA	6 8am AA 10:30am Al-Anon
7 10am In Person Worship Service 11am Adult Education 6pm Al-Anon	8 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/Luther	9 5pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Stewardship and Finance	10 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary 6:30pm Confirmation	11 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 12:30pm Women's Bible Study	12 6:30pm AA	13 8am AA 10:30am Al-Anon
14 10am In Person Worship Service 6pm Al-Anon	15 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 9:30am Children's Chapel 5:45pm Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts	16 5pm Girl Scouts	17 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary 6:30pm Confirmation	18 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 7pm Council Meeting	19 6:30pm AA Dove Articles Due	20 8am AA 9am AA Banquet 10:30am Al-Anon
21 10am In Person Worship Service 6pm Al-Anon	22 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/Luther	23 5pm Girl Scouts	24 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary 6:30pm Boy Scouts (Leader Meeting) 6:30pm Confirmation	25 8am TOPS 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10am Dove Flight Crew	26 6:30pm AA	27 8am AA 10:30am AA Business Meeting 10:30am Al-Anon
28 10am In Person Worship Service 11am Monthly Celebration 5pm Al-Anon (Business Meeting) 6pm Al-Anon	29 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 9am Quilters 9:30am Children's Chapel 5:45pm Cub Scouts 7pm Boy Scouts	30 5pm Girl Scouts	31 9am Facebook Live Devotions w/Pastor Scott 10am Pastor Filming in Small Sanctuary 6:30pm Confirmation			



Camano Lutheran Church

850 Heichel Road
Camano Island, WA
98282

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ORGANIZATION
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Stanwood WA 98282
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or Current Resident

