



Special Services November and December



All Saints Day

Sunday, November 1
9 am and 11 am

Christ the King

Sunday, November 22
9 am and 11 am

Thanksgiving Eve

Wednesday, November 25
7:30 pm - Temple B'nai Torah



Reunion Sunday

Sunday, November 29
10 am followed by Advent Smorgasbord

Blue Christmas

Sunday, December 13
3 pm

Christmas Eve Services

Thursday, December 24
5 pm - Family Service
7 pm - Festival Service
9 pm - Festival Service featuring "Nine Lessons and Carols"

Christmas Day Service

10 am - Nativity of Our Lord



THANKSGIVING
1 CHRONICLES 16:34

PSALM 9:1
1 CORINTHIANS 1:4

**"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
his steadfast love endures forever."**

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Thanksgiving is very biblical. Not the American holiday, of course. That we owe to President Abraham Lincoln, who established the last Thursday of November as a national day of thankfulness in 1863. Later, President Franklin Roosevelt moved it to the third Thursday, causing quite an uproar which led eventually to a compromise - the fourth Thursday of November, which remains the date for Thanksgiving today.

(For all you fans of American history and/or useless trivia, it took an act of Congress in 1941 to formalize the timing of Thanksgiving. You may also find it interesting that the real champion of a national day of thanksgiving was Sarah Joseph Hale, editor of a ladies' magazine in the mid-1800s, who promoted the idea to any and all who would listen for 30 years before Lincoln finally took action.)

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Office Closed for Thanksgiving - On Thursday, November 26, Thanksgiving Day. The office reopens on Monday, November 30.
Happy Thanksgiving!

Office Closed for Christmas and New Year's - The office will be closed on December 24, 25, and 28. The office will reopen on Tuesday, December 29. The office will also be closed on December 31 and reopen on Monday, January 4.

Giving Thanks

Continued from Page 1.

But before there was Thanksgiving, the American holiday, there was thanks giving, the biblical principle. More than 50 times in Scripture we find the phrase “give thanks.” 1 Chronicles 16:34 admonishes us to “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his steadfast love endures forever.” The psalmist declares “I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will tell of all thy wonderful deeds.” The Apostle Paul writes in 1 Corinthians “I give thanks to God always.”

As we come into November, set aside by our nation as a time to give thanks, we should take time to think of what we are thankful for. Among other things, I’m thankful for:

- Jesus! No greater gift has ever been given.
- My family, my wife and my son, and my first and highest calling as a husband and a father.
- My calling as a disciple of Jesus and as a pastor in his church.
- The joy of serving with you this past year, and for those who regularly pray for me and for the mission and ministries of Cross of Christ.

- Fall colors – those Arizona cacti are cool, but they don’t put on the autumn show we get here in the PNW!
- Partnerships like the Inter-Religious Covenant congregations, and our shared Thanksgiving Eve worship service.
- The energy, creativity, reverence and joy of our worship services all year ‘round, and especially in these final two months of the year.
- Pecan pie. A fall favorite of mine, and one of my all-time favorite foods.
- Naps. I don’t get as many of them as I’d like in November and December, but the ones I do get, I relish!
- And I’m thankful that you take the time to read these musings of mine

More even than WHAT we are thankful for, may we pause to remember WHO it is we need to give thanks to during this season and always. Thank you, Father, for your abundant blessings in our lives, in our homes, in our community of faith and in our world. For all your gifts, O Lord, make us truly grateful.

Pastor Dave

The 29th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service

hosted at Temple B'nai Torah,
15727 NE 4th Street,
November 25, 2015, 7:30 pm.



This year we will celebrate the 29th annual Thanksgiving Eve Community Worship Service with St. Louise, Cross of Christ and Church of the Resurrection, Temple B'nai Torah and Episcopal Church of the Holy Apostles!

This is a community event and all welcome as we join in prayer, song, and fellowship and celebrate our many faith traditions.

The annual Thanksgiving Eve Community Prayer Service is an opportunity to give thanks for our blessings and begin the holiday season with neighbors and covenant partners.

Spiritual Health

in Advent



Advent is a time for watching and waiting for Christ to break into our hearts and the world. Many of us find it helpful to use a prayer like this one to guide our devotions. We can add specific people or situations to each line. I've added some names below as an example.

For this time of waiting and watching for the coming of our Savior, we give you thanks, O Lord.

When the Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words, (especially for those who are in assisted living or care facilities: Lillian Anderson, Jim Bone, Pat Budzius, Leona Lenschow, Mary Moen, Jo Paulson, Gerry and Jane Pittenger) we cry to you, O Lord.

For the hope that shines through the darkest night, we turn to you, O Lord.

For the gift of friends and family who walk with us through life, we praise your name, O Lord.

*For our other concerns:
Gather us all under the promise of your Son, Amen.*

FAITH FORMATION



Advent Adult Faith Formation will focus on three gifts of the season. They are gifts that we receive, but also ones we give to the church and the world.

The Gift of Patience - December 6

Waiting is hard. We eagerly anticipate the desires of our hearts and want them to come soon, and yet during Advent we are reminded to be patient until the coming of the Lord.

The Gifts of Speech and Silence - December 13

Encountering the angel of the Lord, Zechariah was struck speechless. Like Zechariah, we are called at times to be silent and listen, at other times to shout with joy.

The Gift of Hope - December 20

We cannot know what will come, but with faith we place our hope in Christ.

Pr. Adrienne

THE SCOUTS ARE TAKING ORDERS FOR WREATHS AND HOLIDAY GREENS BETWEEN SERVICES ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1 AND SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8 BETWEEN SERVICES.

ADVENT SMORGASBORD



Our First Fifth Sunday!

- In months with a fifth Sunday, we combine our worship services into one shared service and plan very special fellowship events. Our first fifth Sunday, or Reunion Sunday, is coming soon - November 29. This is also the first Sunday in the season of Advent. Making it extra special will be this year's Advent Smorgasbord, as well as an Advent Craft Fair where you will be invited to make some very fun and beautiful crafts of the season. It all begins at 10 am with the shared service, followed by the Smorgasbord luncheon at 11:30, with the Craft Fair opening immediately afterwards.

USHERS

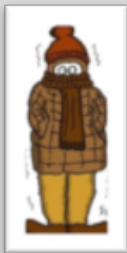
If you would like to usher at either the 9 am or 11 am service please contact Helmut Rae at 425-829-2955 or helmutrae@outlook.com



LECTORS

Several lectors are needed for Christ the King Sunday, November 22. Sign up on-line at the church website cofcl.org or contact the office.

Youth Notes



Coat Drive

Cross of Christ Youth are holding a coat drive in the month of December!

Help us keep kids in our community warm this winter by bringing coats in wearable condition to the donation box on Sundays. See Kristie or email her at youth@cofcl.org for more details.



Youth Discipleship Retreat

Winter is soon to be upon us, and with it, some wintery opportunities not to miss!

November: Coat Drive! If you missed the meeting on November 1, check out the info linked on the Youth Corner webpage: <http://www.crossofchristbellevue.org/youth/>

December: Winter Day in the Snow, December 20, noon! We'll meet at church after the 11 am service and carpool up to Snoqualmie Pass to go tubing. Cost is \$10, scholarships are available, absolutely bring friends! Please note that this event won't happen if there's no snow in the mountains because, well, snow.

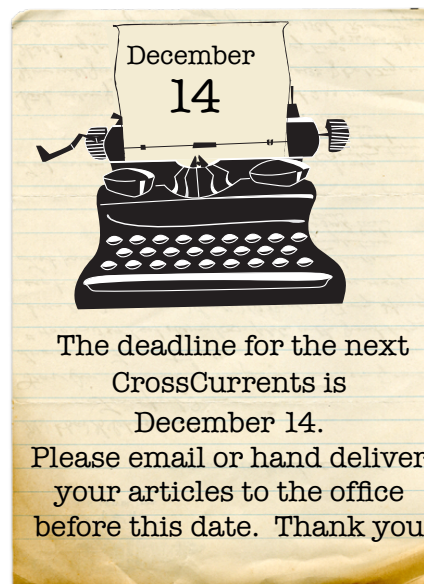
January: There are two opportunities in January for fun and service. First is Monday, January 18, also known as MLK Day. We'll be partnering with United Way of King County for a service project somewhere in the Seattle-Bellevue area. We don't know WHAT yet, but we'll be part of a larger group of 2,000+ volunteers from a variety of organizations working together to celebrate Dr. King's birthday by making it a day ON, not a day off. This event is REQUIRED for Youth Discipleship students, and will be in conjunction with their lock-in retreat the night before.

A second opportunity is the Souper Bowl of Caring Food Drive, for which there will be a planning meeting Sunday, January 10 at 6pm in the Youth Room; dinner is provided! This is also required for YD participants, but all youth and friends are welcome.

I hope all is well and that we'll be seeing you soon!

Blessings,

Kristie



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Needed: Food Rescuers.

One day a month for one hour. Pick up food that would have been thrown away at Fred Meyer and Starbucks or Cash 'N Carry and take it to Hopelink. Questions? Margie Rogers (425) 868-5957 or mjrogers13@yahoo.com



Congregations for the Homeless

Community Outreach Committee along with Thrivent Action Team will be collecting supplies for Congregations for the Homeless local housing. Supplies needed would include toilet paper, cleaning supplies, paper towels, and toiletries such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand soap or other everyday items. A box will be located in the Narthex to collect the supplies. The collection will be from November 1 to November 15. Thank you for your donations.

Compass-Cascade Women's Center

The **WELCA** members would like to support the **Compass-Cascade Women's Center** and I contacted the director and she told me these items would be specifically needed for the women residing there.

The **Compass-Cascade Women's Center** in Seattle has been supported by us and the women continue to use the toiletries that are donated. They have specific requests now for a few extra items. These specific things would be very much appreciated. Twin sheets, Blankets, Pots and Pans, Cooking Utensils, Plungers and Toilet bowl brushes, Bath, hand towels and wash cloths. Place any items you get for the shelter in the bin near the Information Desk marked **Cascade Women's Shelter** and they will be taken there. Thank you for your generous support.

QUILTS

The quilts shipped this fall went to the following organizations:

Baby Corner	11	Seattle Area, serving children from birth to 12.
Compass Alliance	18	Seattle, serving men, women, and children.
Sophia's Way	5	Located in Bellevue, serving women.
LWR	30	Lutheran World Relief

Thanks to all who help with this endeavor. Are you interested in helping next time? It starts now and will finish in May. Then we do it again. Someone always needs a quilt. Call me - Sandra Volkman 425 644 9604



The Ark Basket Fundraiser is coming

Every year The Ark does a basket fundraiser at Christmas time. Theme related baskets will be on sale at the church the first and second Sundays of December (6 & 13). Popular themes have been spa baskets (some with massages), movie baskets, kids baskets, coffee/tea lovers, dinner out, etc.

The proceeds usually go to our scholarship fund, helping families in financial need and to classroom equipment or staff appreciation.

God bless you and your families during this special season of Thanksgiving and celebration of our Lord's birth.

Jan of Ark



The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree will be in the Narthex beginning Sunday, November 29.

Please help a disadvantaged child by taking a tag from the tree. The age and gender of a child will be shown on the tag and some suggested gift items will be listed on the back of the tag.

Please bring back your new gift wrapped and place under the tree either Sunday, December 6 or Sunday, December 13. The gifts will be taken to Hopelink and given to needy children. Thank you for your support of this mission.



Please Join Us as We Celebrate
 50 Years of **OPERATION BOOTSTRAP AFRICA**
 and
 20 Years of
MAASAE GIRLS LUTHERAN SECONDARY SCHOOL

Changing the lives of women, girls, and communities
 across Tanzania and East Africa

Celebrate our successes • Learn about Maasai culture • Sample East African food!

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Diane Jacoby, Director of OBA

Kalai Namuyata Laizer, MGLSS graduate
 and currently a senior at Concordia College in Minnesota

*You will be invited to continue the good work of OBA and MGLSS
 by making a financial gift to help provide solar energy for the school*

Sunday,
November 8, 2015
 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Location:
**Saint Andrew's
 Lutheran Church**
 2650 I48th Avenue SE
 Bellevue, WA 98007

Contact:
Jean Wahlstrom
 425-698-1035

Get Your Genealogy On!

A new
 genealogy
 resource
 has
 opened on



the Eastside. The Family Search
 Seattle Discovery Center, located
 in Bellevue behind the Mormon
 Temple at [15205 SE 28th Street,
 Bellevue](http://www.familysearch.org/locations/15205), provides an interactive
 experience for anyone who
 would like to discover more
 about their family history. Learn
 the meaning of your name or see
 where your ancestors came
 from. With interactive displays
 and fun things to do, it's also a
 great way to get your children or
 grandchildren involved in
 genealogy.

The center is open by
 appointment only, is free, and
 can accommodate groups of up
 to 24. Parking is available all
 around the building and in the
 temple parking lot outside the
 gates. There is a pathway
 between the temple outer
 parking lot and the west
 entrance of the stake center. You
 will enter the Discovery Center
 at the north side of the building
 where the numbers 15205 are
 mounted on the stake center
 wall.

For more information, or to
 make a reservation, visit their
 website at [https://
 familysearch.org/
 discoverycenter/seattle](https://familysearch.org/discoverycenter/seattle).

Lilleby Bequest Status

As of 9/30/2015

	Allocated	Dispersed	Remaining
Benevolence - Synod Gift	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$0
Global Mission	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
Outreach			
Youth Director - 2yr Funding	\$51,000	\$51,000	\$0
New Worship Service Exploration	\$18,000		\$18,000
Future Outreach	\$32,000		\$32,000
Total Outreach	\$101,000	\$51,000	\$50,000
Congregational Care and Support			
Associate Pastor, Spiritual Health - 2yrs	\$77,000	\$77,000	\$0
Facilities and Safety Improvements	\$15,000	\$5,758	\$9,242
Future Support	\$6,000		\$6,000
Total Congregational Care and Support	\$98,000	\$82,758	\$15,242
Worship			
Complete Sanctuary Lighting Project	\$50,000		\$50,000
Special Services Funding (Christmas etc.)	\$5,000		\$5,000
Future Sanctuary Improvements	\$20,000		\$20,000
Total Worship	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000
Total Lilleby Bequest	\$360,000	\$169,758	\$190,242

Associate Pastor and Youth Director funding are now in a Dedicated Ministry Staff account.
 Facilities and Safety Improvements include refinishing the chancel floor and new parking lot sign

The Sanctuary Lighting project and exploring new worship services are in progress.

Contact Cyndee Kraiger at cyndee@peremgmt.com with any questions.

FINANCIALS

Financial Report Month and YTD Ended August 2015						
	Month			Year - to - Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)
Revenue						
August 2015 General Fund Receipts	\$ 36,613	\$ 36,667	\$ (54)	\$ 129,772	\$ 126,667	\$ 3,105
August 2015 Other Income	\$ 1,423	\$ 2,025	\$ (602)	\$ 8,609	\$ 7,800	\$ 809
August 2015 Total Income	\$ 38,036	\$ 38,692	\$ (656)	\$ 138,381	\$ 134,467	\$ 3,914
Expenses						
August 2015	35,947	38,110	2,163	143,931	152,207	8,276
Net/Year to Date Net	\$ 2,089			\$ (5,550)		

Financial Report Month and YTD Ended September 2015						
	Month			Year - to - Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav (Unfav)
Revenue						
September 2015 General Fund Receipts	\$ 29,046	\$ 36,667	\$ (7,621)	\$ 158,818	\$ 163,333	\$ (4,515)
September 2015 Other Income	\$ 1,091	\$ 1,725	\$ (634)	\$ 9,700	\$ 9,525	\$ 175
September 2015 Total Income	\$ 30,137	\$ 38,392	\$ (8,255)	\$ 168,518	\$ 172,858	\$ (4,340)
Expenses						
September 2015	35,914	38,110	2,196	179,845	190,317	10,472
Net/Year to Date Net	\$ (5,777)			\$ (11,327)		

Books for the Peace Corps



Katie Giseburt is working as a Literacy Specialist for the Peace Corps in Northern Uganda. She will be home for Christmas and is collecting children's books to use at the Gulu

Prison Primary School where she is teaching. If you have any books you would like to donate there will be a collection box in the narthex.

Books about African children or children of color are great, as are books that would give children an idea of what life is like in other parts of the world. DK books would be amazing!! Especially their encyclopedias. Picture Children's Atlases would also be amazing. These kids get exposed to so little about other parts of the world.

For more information contact Katie at katiemgiseburt@gmail.com or visit the Northern Uganda page of www.booksforafrica.org.

Main Office Hours: Mon–Thurs 9:30am–2pm
425.746.7300

Contact Information

Pastor Dave Thomas 425-746-7300 Ext .106 pastordave@cofclc.net
Associate Pastor for Spiritual Health
Adrienne Schlosser- Hall 425-746-7300 Ext. 105 Pastoradrienne@cofclc.net
Youth and Family Kristie Walker 425-746-7300 Ext. 107 Youth@cofclc.net
Bookkeeper Denise Fuentes 425-746-7300 Ext. 108 Bookkeeper@cofclc.net
Office Manager Judy Giseburt 425-746-7300 Office@cofclc.net
Music Ministries David Hendrix 206-954-2102 Cell david.e.hendrix@gmail.com
Church Council Council3@cofclc.net
The Ark Childcare Jan Galbraith 425-644-5414 thearkatcofc.org

Advent
Smorgasbord
November 29
11:30 am

SUNDAY SERVICES

9 am Traditional Service
10:10 Adult Faith Formation
11 am Mosaic Service

ALL SAINTS DAY - Sunday, November 1, a special day of remembrance of the saints who laid a foundation of faith for us, and especially members and associates of Cross of Christ who died this past year. Both services will be very special. At the Traditional service at 9 am, Cantorei, our choir, along with special guest musicians, will present "Requiem" by Gabriel Faure. At both the Traditional and the 11 am Mosaic service, our hand bell choir Carillion will present for the first time a new arrangement of "Breath of Heaven" commissioned in honor of Karen Conley. Both services will feature a Litany of Remembrance with candle lighting. Please join us for these moving and memorable services. Take note - Daylight Savings Time begins on November 1 as well, so enjoy the extra hour of sleep!



Change Service Requested

Non-Profit
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Bellevue, WA 98004



Cross of Christ
Lutheran Church

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156th Avenue NE
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