



The Carillon

December 2023
the Advent Edition

***Welcoming all to a
faith community of
service and love.***

Dear Church,

Happy Advent! This season of Advent and Christmas is when we wait, prepare, and hope for the arrival of Jesus on Christmas morning. Advent is a season we keep vigil for hope to arrive in this world. We desperately need in this tumultuous time a reminder of God's love, hope and peace in the world. So I invite you to join me and our church community to be a beacon of hope and we wait with anticipation for Christmas. Join us for prayer time, a prayer vigil, Sunday worship, education time, youth events, our community meal and more to be in community showing God's love in the world.

Church Staff

Rev. Michelle de Beauchamp
Senior Pastor

Teri Julian
*Administrative Assistant,
Bookkeeper & Custodian*

Kari Hasbrouck
Music & Worship Director

Troy George
Choir Director

Sue Swantek
*Wednesday Coffee Hour
Host*

Council Members

Ruth Hamilton, President
Ray Kahler, Vice President
Mike Erkinen, Secretary
Tony Enzler, Treasurer
Sharal Patton
Teri Moody
Linda Borth
Joyce Easton
LouJean O'Brien

Continued...

I especially want to invite all to join me on Monday, December 4th in the courtyard as we light our outdoor cross and tree as a literal physical symbol of hope for this world. At this short service we will be praying during this time specifically for Israel/Palestine and Ukraine. We will be gathering to pray for peace. To pray for peace and for God to be among us and be with those in those violent and war torn areas. We are gathering and starting this season to remember God is with us...Immanuel.

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. -Isaiah 7:14

The word Immanuel in Hebrew translates as God is with us. During this season of waiting God is promising us that the Messiah shows up and walks with us. That is the promise of Advent - that we are not alone in the midst of all this mourning, pain, and suffering. God is present. God is here! God is there! God is present with us in this world.

Peace,
Pastor Michelle de Beauchamp



December at Saron-1st

Pastor Michelle's return celebration and Holiday Dinner Party – December 3rd

Sign up in Moller Hall for the annual Holiday Dinner where we will be celebrating our Pastor's return to us from a long sabbatical. The meal will start after worship services on the first Sunday of Advent.

Prayer Vigil for the World – December 4th

In the courtyard (where the fountain used to be) at Saron-1st on December 4th at 4:30pm (Sunset is 4:27pm).

Join Pastor Michelle for a 30-minute prayer vigil for the world this Advent. With all the armed conflicts going on in the world (i.e., Ukraine, Israel/Gaza) and our nation, and all the fear, it is time we gather as people of hope and pray for peace. The cross will be placed in the courtyard and lit up for the entire Advent as a symbol for our community and as our own prayer for peace for the world. If you have a battery powered candle you would like to bring with you and place at the cross you are welcome too. If it is raining, we will open the doors to the courtyard and gather inside facing the courtyard.

Winter Wonderings and Centering Time – December 5th

Tuesdays at 11:30am at The Rose Center (210 K St)

Join us for a peaceful, meditative time together.

Bible Study - December 6th

Names for the Messiah: An Advent Study by Walter Brueggemann
Wednesdays December 6, 13, 20

Due to the way the calendar hits this year, December 13th will be a long session of 11:30-1:30 with a light lunch included.

Martha Circle Potluck – December 7th

The ladies of Martha Circle will be having their annual holiday potluck on Thursday, December 7th at 12pm in Anderson Hall. Ladies, bring a side dish to share and your appetite!

L³+P=(RIOT) – December 14th

The Lutheran Literary Ladies plus Presbyterians equals Reading is our Thing will be having their annual holiday potluck on Thursday, December 14th at 12pm in the Fireside Room. Bring a dish to share and your favorite wine glass!

Star Book Ornament Fundraiser Workshop – December 14th

Join Carrie Larson for a fundraising craft event making 'star book ornaments' for the holidays. You are asked to sign up for this event and the cost will be \$20. All proceeds will be donated to the Save Saron fund. Sign-up sheet will be available or contact the office.

Wilhelm's Memorial – December 17th

Services on December 17th at 10:00am for David Wilhelm's Memorial.

Zoolights

The Youth group will be traveling to Point Defiance Zoo on December 18th for a trip to Zoolights! We will meet at the zoo at 4:30pm for fun and festivities!

Blue Christmas

The first day of Winter is the longest. Join us for our annual Blue Christmas service on December 21st at 5pm. The choir will be singing for this reflective service.

Christmas Services

On December 24th at 10:00am we will have our first Christmas service with our wonderful Youth group singing for us. There will be a second service at 4pm where the Choir will be performing.

Saron Lutheran-
1st Presbyterian
Church



GIFT CARDS **FOR KIDS**

**THE OFFICE IS TAKING MONETARY DONATIONS
FOR GIFT CARDS TO BE GIVEN TO
HOQUIAM HIGH SCHOOL KIDS IN NEED.**

**THE GIFT CARDS ARE PURCHASED FROM
ST. MARY'S SCHOOL TO BENEFIT THEIR PROGRAMS.**

360-532-4611

www.sarongraysharbor.org



Outreach Hygiene Closet

Thank you for your generous hearts. We are still in need of all items. There is a box at the top of the stairs outside of the Sanctuary as well as the usual box in Moller Hall by the back door for your donations of needed items. Any type of hygiene item is welcome and will directly impact our friends who need it.

Thank you for your generous hearts!

Community Meal

We have sign-up sheets available for the December 20th community meal. We will need cooks, set-up crew, clean-up crew, helpers/servers, donations of bread, salad, dessert, and drinks. Please sign up in the fellowship hall. The meals run 5pm-6:30pm.

Union Gospel Mission

Team 2 will be making dinner for our friends on December 18th. If you are interested in joining a team, please contact the office.



Get A Life

(Al-Anon Family Group)

holds hybrid meetings at The Rose Center (210 K Street, Hoquiam) twice a week. Their meetings are open to everyone.

Mondays at 6pm-7pm

Wednesdays at 7pm-8pm

Get A Life Al-Anon Family Group
<https://www.southpugetsound-alanon.org/>

Gospel Garden

The garden is put to bed for the season. We have grown over 350 pounds of food this year and are looking forward to doing even more next year. Plans begin in February/March for next spring. Contact the office if you want to be involved. If you would like to make a monetary donation to this ministry, please label it "Gospel Garden". Our harvests benefit the Hoquiam Food Bank.



Ministries

Coffee Hour

You are invited to join us for our weekly Coffee Fellowship gathering each Wednesday at 10am in the Fireside Room at Saron.

L³+P=(RIOT) Book Club

The next meeting is Thursday, December 21st, at 1:00pm in the Fireside Room at Saron. Bring books to trade if you would like.

Martha Circle

The next meeting of Martha Circle will be December 7th at Noon for the Holiday Potluck.

Quilting

The Quilters will take a holiday break and will resume on January 11, 2024, at 9am. Have a lovely Holiday and blessings for the New Year.
-JoAnn Ray

Harbor Food Pantry

Giving away food boxes each Wednesday at The Rose Center at approximately 11am.

Bible Study

Names for the Messiah: An Advent Study by Walter Brueggemann

Wednesdays December 6, 13, 20
Due to the way the calendar hits this year, December 13th will be a long session of 11:30-1:30 with a light lunch included.

This is a lovely Advent study put together by esteemed theologian and Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggeman. Christians have claimed from the beginning that Jesus was the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament.

In this study, best-selling author Walter Brueggemann tackles the questions: "What were these expectations?" and "Did Jesus fulfill them?" Specifically looking at the divine utterance of 4 royal titles in Isaiah 9:6 (i.e., Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace) we will explore how and if Jesus fulfilled them. We will dive in and ponder each of these titles, how the people in ancient days understood them, and how we as Christians interpret them. Pastor Michelle will be back and will be leading this study.

PRAYER PAGES

A Gaelic Blessing—By John Rutter (1978)

Deep peace of the running wave to you
Deep peace of the flowing air to you
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you
Deep peace of the shining stars to you
Deep peace of the gentle night to you

Moon and stars pour their healing light on you
Deep peace of Christ, of Christ
Of Christ, the light of the world to you
Deep peace of Christ to you.

Psalm 46:10-11

Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."

¹¹ The LORD Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Blessing from Anam Cara" by John O'Donohue.

May the light of your soul guide you.
May the light of your soul bless the work
You do with the secret love and warmth of your heart.
May you see in what you do the beauty of your own soul. May the sacredness
of your work bring healing, light and renewal to those
Who work with you and to those who see and receive your work.
May your work never weary you.
May it release within you wellsprings of refreshment, inspiration and
excitement.
May you be present in what you do.
May you never become lost in the bland absences.
May the day never burden you.
May dawn find you awake and alert, approaching your new day with dreams,
Possibilities and promises.
May evening find you gracious and fulfilled.
May you go into the night blessed, sheltered and protected. May your soul
calm, console and renew you.
Amen.

A Celtic Prayer

May the blessing of light be on you - light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine on you like a great peat fire,
so that stranger and friend may come and warm himself at it.

And may light shine out of the two eyes of you,
like a candle set in the window of a house,
bidding the wanderer come in out of the storm.

And may the blessing of the rain be on you,
may it beat upon your Spirit and wash it fair and clean,
and leave there a shining pool where the blue of Heaven shines,
and sometimes a star.

And may the blessing of the earth be on you,
soft under your feet as you pass along the roads,
soft under you as you lie out on it, tired at the end of day;
and may it rest easy over you when, at last, you lie out under it.

May it rest so lightly over you that your soul may be out from under it quickly;
up and off and on its way to God.

And now may the Lord bless you, and bless you kindly. Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers...

*Ron Bacon, Erika Mills, Don Lofgren, Lynn Tangvald, Frank Tinney, The Kelsey Family,
Mic Patton, Bob & his family, Barbara Julian, Harper, Skylar Lake, Sherri Owzarski,
Sanford Cole, Nathan, Ken Matheson, Stephanie Anderson, Michael, Don Frick,
Nita Cross, Lauren, Pastor Sonja Selboe, Jane Bacon, Jeannette Bruun, Shirley Ward,
Sophie Nicholson, Beverly Carson, Marge Salstrom, Stephanie, Marie Ask,
Barbara Bevans, Arbie Irwin, Diana Petrich, Iver Matheson, Myles Robinson,
Melissa Murray, Barbara Roberts, Pastor Linda Milks, Josh, Marianne Larson,
Kiyari, Lisa Chappell, Chari Allen, Rose Hirschler, Ona Karnath, Jennifer Shelly, Brad,
Young Lee, Val Rhodes, Pastor Alan Carlson*

*We also pray for those who are victims of war and violence, teachers and students,
healthcare workers, first responders, police officers, fire fighters,
oppressed & vulnerable persons, and persons affected by COVID.*

For all of those who we speak now or for whom we think of in our hearts and minds.

DECEMBER @ Saron

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1 ADVENT 10a Worship (Choir) w/Sunday School 13 11a Fellowship & Birthday Celebration Holiday Dinner & PM Celebration	4:30p Prayer Vigil for the World in Saron-1 st Courtyard	11:30a Winter Wonderings and Centering Time @TRC	10a Coffee Hour 11:30a Bible Study (new session) 6:30p Choir	HANUKKAH (@ sundown) 12p Martha Circle potluck PM in OLY for Pastor's Advent Eucharist with Bishop		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2 ADVENT 10a Worship w/Sunday School 11a Fellowship		11:30a Winter Wonderings and Centering Time @ TRC	10a Coffee Hour 11:30a Bible Study w/lunch 6:30p Choir	12p L^3+P=(RIOT) potluck 2p Star Book Ornament Fundraiser		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3 ADVENT David Wilhelm's Memorial Service 10a Worship (Choir) w/Sunday School 11a Fellowship 1:30p VASA	UGM Team 2 4:30p Youth trip to Zoolights @ Pt Defiance Zoo	11:30a Winter Wonderings and Centering Time @ TRC	10a Coffee Hour 11:30a Bible Study 5-6:30p Community Meal 6:30p Choir	FIRST DAY OF WINTER 5p Blue Christmas (Choir)		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
4 ADVENT CHRISTMAS EVE 10a Worship (Youth) 11a Fellowship 4p Worship (Choir)	CHRISTMAS DAY Office Closed until 1/2/24	KWANZAA BEGINS Office Closed	Office Closed	Office Closed		
31						
1 CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR'S EVE 10a Worship 11a Fellowship						

DECEMBER @ The Rose Center

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1 ADVENT	5:30p-7:30p GAL AFG	11:30a Winter Wonderings and Centering Time	11a Harbor Food Pantry 6:30p- 8:30p GAL AFG	HANUKKAH (@ sundown)		Atticus' birthday party
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2 ADVENT	5:30p-7:30p GAL AFG	11:30a Winter Wonderings and Centering Time	11a Harbor Food Pantry 6:30p- 8:30p GAL AFG			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3 ADVENT	5:30p-7:30p GAL AFG	11:30a Winter Wonderings and Centering Time	11a Harbor Food Pantry 6:30p- 8:30p GAL AFG	FIRST DAY OF WINTER 5-8p Girl Scout Troop 40949		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
4 ADVENT CHRISTMAS EVE	CHRISTMAS DAY 5:30p-7:30p GAL AFG	KWANZAA BEGINS	11a Harbor Food Pantry 6:30p- 8:30p GAL AFG			
31						
1 CHRISTMAS NEW YEAR'S EVE						



Birthday Celebrations

The first Sunday of each month's Fellowship Coffee Hour will be dedicated to celebrating the birthdays of that month.



Assisting Minister Schedule

We have created an Assisting Minister binder that is available for you to sign up to assist at worship service and fellowship on Sundays. This binder should be available in the sanctuary as well as in Anderson Hall after services and then on Wednesdays during coffee hour and bible study. Contact Teri if you have questions. An abbreviated "job description" is available in the front of the binder. Training is also available if that would be helpful.

Council Meeting

Next Council Meeting will be December 10th, after worship service.

115th Annual Meeting

Copies of the report are available on the table in Moller Hall



Attendance & Contributions

(in-person attendance & contributions include mail-in)

Date	Adults	Youth	Contributions
11/5	35	5	\$2155
11/12	39	8	\$3215
11/19	41	7	\$1715
11/26	44	7	\$1540

Supporting Saron-1st

We are currently working to restore the historic west wall and the stained-glass window. Please help save this wall so the church will stand for another 125 years! There are a few ways to contribute: donate to the Save Saron campaign online, volunteer at one of our fundraisers, and/or attend one of our fundraising events! There are signup sheets for these events on the table in Moller Hall.

Donate directly via PayPal

Visit our website

www.sarongraysharbor.org and click the donate button or follow the link below.

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=HJLL4ZTG68TD6

Thrivent

Thrivent, a Lutheran-founded, not-for-profit financial services organization, has programs in place to assist with special congregation projects or help you designate funds. If you have a Thrivent account and you'd like to consider gifting to your church through their programs, contact your Thrivent representative.

Opportunity Drawings

Baskets available for monthly drawings can be seen in Anderson Hall. Tickets are for sale during fellowship and church functions.



Goods for Sale

A large variety of jams and jellies are available for sale. Prices are as marked on the jars. Place your money in the container and enjoy your purchase! Proceeds benefit Save Saron's West Wall & Stained-Glass Window.

John Rhodes' Book

Our very own John Rhodes, Author, has graciously set out some of his books for sale in Moller Hall and has pledged 15% of the sales made here at Saron-1st will go towards the Save Saron's West Wall & Stained-Glass Window fund. Purchases can be made through the office.

Opportunity Drawing Basket for December

All proceeds benefit the Save Saron's Stained-Glass
and West Wall

Tickets available at church events and the office.



Congratulations to Kay Sund who won the November Christmas Quilt basket. The Quilters thank everyone who supported the Christmas quilt and tote opportunity basket filled with many items that we donated towards the Stained-Glass project. We made \$420.00! – JoAnn Ray

Property Notes

Property Issues?

There is a Property Maintenance binder and a corresponding clipboard on the literature table in Moller Hall. The clipboard will contain forms that you can fill out with maintenance requests. We are asking you to put as much detail as you can about your request on the form as well as your name, phone number and date requested. The forms will be reviewed, and it will be noted when the work has been worked on or completed. We are hoping this will make a better trail for maintenance needed and completed, from here out. Also, for those that are looking for something to do and want to help at the church, you will be able to look in the book and see if there is a task that you would be willing to take on, complete the task and sign and date the form. This will hopefully make things easier for everyone moving forward.

The Rose Center

We are proudly hosting Al-Anon meetings, workshops, safe visitation space, some catering/baking, celebrations of life, meditation, bridal showers, the occasional Girl Scout meeting, clergy overnights, and lots of music.

If you or your group needs a space, contact Teri in the office
(360) 532-4611 or sarongraysharbor@gmail.com.

Office Hours

Mon - Thurs
9:00am - 1:00pm

Saron - 1st Church Office

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The Rose Center

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