

The Carillon

January 2024 Happy New Year!

Dear Church,

The rain is drenching the world outside as I write this letter. The days are finally slowly getting longer, but even this last week it felt like the fog and the darkness are just weighing on the harbor. This time of year: Winter. This season can be a time that feels long and dark, especially this year. Just watch or read the news, with all the chaos and violence happening in the world. This can really weigh on our hearts.

I cannot imagine the pain and suffering that people in Israel and Palestine are going through currently. The loss of loved ones to hate and violence beyond their control. That along with the continued war with Ukraine and other conflicts in the world, plus our own divisions in our country can truly make one feel hopeless. Welcoming all to a faith community of service and love.

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 Erkkinen, Secretary Tony Enzler, Treasurer Sharal Patton Teri Moody Linda Borth Joyce Easton LouJean O'Brien

Continued...

One of the overarching things I took from my sabbatical time is thiscommunities can go through anguish, terror, genocide, and/or ethnocide and yet the message of hope endures. And that we as individuals are called to bring that hope and love to the world. To represent Christ to one another. Jesus is the hope of the world- the light that shines in the darkness. Jesus Christ came into this world out of love. Jesus is still daily breaking into this world through the kind, caring, merciful, compassionate words and actions of each of us.

The magi (aka the wisemen or three kings) are wonderful examples in this time of Epiphany of what it means for hope to endure. For us to hold onto hope and just trust that in the midst of everything God is loving the entire universe and calling us.

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. - Matthew 12:9-10

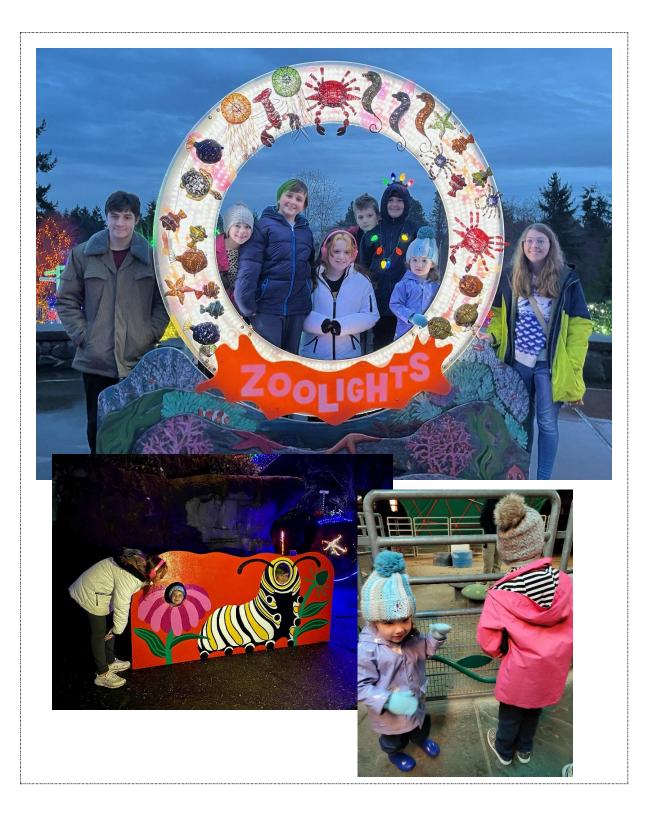
The magi read it in the stars and followed this one star to the Messiah. They just went. They felt a pull on their spirits and knew they had to travel following that star that was rising. How is it that God is like a glimmering star on the horizon in your life? How is God calling each of us to a new way of being or toward hope? Sometimes we get so focused on the steps ahead of us we don't look up and see there has been hope there all the time on our own horizons of our hearts.

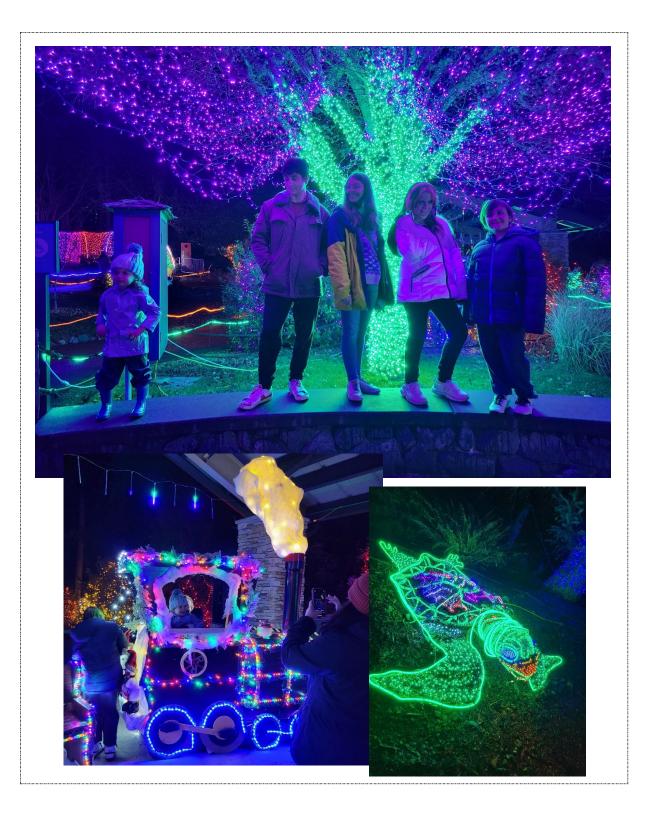
We are called during this cold winter season to see the glimmers of hope all around, even in the midst of the hurt and chaos. If the despair and world is getting too much, please reach out for help. Know that there are resources available:

- 1. Dial 988 for the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
- 2. Reach out to me if there is a pastoral emergency
- 3. Come to church to be in community
- 4. Also, if you feel like you are needing to be needed, please let us know at church. We can use volunteers and help connect you to opportunities of service.

May God bless and keep you during this season of light shining in the darkness....epiphany.

Peace, Pastor Michelle de Beauchamp







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 January 31st 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 3 will be making dinner for our friends on January 15th. 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.southpugetsoundalanon.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.



Coffee Hour

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

L^3+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.

Quilting

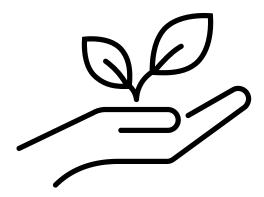
The Quilters will take a holiday break and will resume on January 11, 2024, at 9am. Have a lovely Holiday and blessings for the New Year. -JoAnn Ray

Harbor Food Pantry

Giving away food boxes each Wednesday at The Rose Center at approximately 10:30am.

Martha Circle

The next gathering of Martha Circle will be January 23rd at 10:00am for the annual kitchen cleaning party! The next meeting will be held on February 1st at 1:00pm in Anderson Hall.



PRAYER PAGES

For a New Beginning by John O'Donohue

In out-of-the-way places of the heart, Where your thoughts never think to wander, This beginning has been quietly forming, Waiting until you were ready to emerge.

For a long time it has watched your desire, Feeling the emptiness growing inside you, Noticing how you willed yourself on, Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.

It watched you play with the seduction of safety And the gray promises that sameness whispered, Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent, Wondered would you always live like this.

Then the delight, when your courage kindled, And out you stepped onto new ground, Your eyes young again with energy and dream, A path of plenitude opening before you.

Though your destination is not yet clear You can trust the promise of this opening; Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning That is at one with your life's desire.

Awaken your spirit to adventure; Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in risk; Soon you will be home in a new rhythm, For your soul senses the world that awaits you.

Epiphany Prayer from Women of the ELCA

May we each day open the window of our worlds, inviting the fresh Light of Epiphany to flood us with hope, to bring us fresh insight and to fill us with grateful joy. May we see the world around us with new creation eyes, filled with potential and brimming with promise. May our lives be a continuous unfolding into God's grace, revealing new vistas that expand our faith horizons. In Jesus' name we pray, and by his name we are saved. Amen.

A Prayer for the Feast of Epiphany

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this home and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ That our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers...

The family of Stephanie Anderson, The family of Mark Sunseth, Gretchen Klein's father, Sarah Leigh Blomgren, Greg Taylor, 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, Don Frick, Nita Cross, 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, 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.

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	NEW YEARS DAY	11:30a Winter Wonderings and	10a Coffee Hour			EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
	Office Closed	Centering Time @ TRC				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
BAPTISM OF OUR LORD		11:30a Winter Wonderings and	10a Coffee Hour	9a-12p Quilting		
10a Worship Fellowship - Birthday Sunday Sunday School 3		Centering Time @ TRC	11a Dedecorating the Church			
			6:30p Choir Practice			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
2 EPIPHANY	MLK JR DAY					
10a Worship w/Sunday	Office Closed		10a Coffee Hour	1p L^3+P=(RIOT)		
School 4 11a Fellowship	UGM Team 3		6:30p Choir Practice			
PM to Bishop's Convocation thru Wed						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
3 EPIPHANY		20		20	20	
10a Worship (Choir)	PM Continuing Education thru Wed	10a Martha Circle	10a Coffee Hour	9a-12p Quilting		
w/Sunday School 5 11a Fellowship	Wed	Kitchen Cleaning	6:30p Choir Practice			
11a Council Meeting						
28	29	30	31			
4 EPIPHANY 10a Worship w/Sunday		11:30a Winter Wonderings and Centering Time @	10a Coffee Hour			
School 6 11a Fellowship		TRC	5p-6:30p Community Meal			
			6:30p Choir Practice			

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	NEW YEARS DAY 5:30p-7:30p GAL AFG	11:30a Winter Wonderings and Centering Time	10:30a Harbor Food Pantry 6:30p-8:30p GAL AFG			EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
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Happy January Birthday

4th - Diana Petrich 11th - Tom Rowley 12th - Brett Pelan 12th - Myka Wayman 14th - Tim Pelan (Jr.) 15th - Randall Daugherty 15th - Loki Julian 16th - Gretchen Klein 18th - Mark Johnson 18th - Sarah Leigh Blomgren 18th - Judy Brady 20th - Del Pelan 21st - Sarah Rhodes 22nd - Dave Smith 24th - Claire Olafsen 25th - Barbara Royal 28th - Vada Kohn 29th - Tamara McCarthy 30th - Donna Pelan **31st - Nancy Rowley**

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 is available in Moller Hall on the table. 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.



Attendance & Contributions

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

Date	Adults	Youth	Contributions
12/3	66	8	\$3331
12/10	40	4	\$7792
12/17	68	5	\$2656
12/21	15		\$6740
12/24 10a	33	6	\$775
12/24 4p	83	6	\$805
12/31	34	5	\$635

2024 Pledge letters are in the mail. We have enclosed a selfaddressed, stamped envelope for your convenience in getting those returned to us as soon as you can so we can budget for the next year. The Annual Meeting will be held on February 25th after worship service.

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 <u>www.sarongraysharbor.org</u> and click the donate button or follow the link below. <u>https://www.paypal.com/donat</u> e/?hosted button id=HJLL4ZTG

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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 Moller Hall. Tickets are for sale during fellowship and church functions or through the office.



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 January

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

Tickets available at church events and the office.



Congratulations to Roy Evans who won the December "Happy New Year" basket. This basket brought in \$71 for Save Saron!

JOU'RE INVITED TO

Christmas dedecorating PARTY

Wednesday, January 10th at 11:00am Removing decorations and nativities Help is needed! Bring snacks - coffee will be brewed.

> Saron-1st Church 708 8th Street Hoquiam

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.

Council Meeting

116th Annual Meeting

The next Council Meeting will be The next Annual Meeting will be January 21, 2024, after worship service. February 25, 2024, after worship service.

Office Hours Mon - Thurs 9:00am - 1:00pm Saron - 1st Church Office 708 8th Street P.O. Box 517 Hoquiam, WA 98550 (360) 532-4611 sarongraysharbor@gmail.com www.sarongraysharbor.org **The Rose Center** 210 K Street P.O. Box 517 Hoquiam, WA (360) 637-9451