

"From the Top"

A monthly publication of
Spirit of Our Savior Lutheran Church, ELCA

Volume V, Issue 1

January 2026

Happy Birthday to . . .

1 – Christina Pedroza	10 – Amy Kamiyama
1 – Cayden Gallegos	15 – Priscilla Gallegos
1 – Terry Knutson	18 – Pamela Demulling
4 – Dick Brossia	21 – Kathy Langer
5 – Jessie Alice Roblado	29 – Hannah Trimbath
6 – Emelie Neher	30- Matthew Seeger
7 – Kurt Anderson	
7 – Crystal Gertner	
7 – Gordon Gertner	
7 – Hunter Williams	
8 – Adan Flores	
9 - Richard Tomasso	



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Happy Anniversary to . . .

12 – Jim and Willy Miller
13 – Paul and June Schmitz
30 – Kurt & Melissa Anderson

Join Us for Sunday Worship! In person or YouTube live. Traditional Service at 8:30 AM, Contemporary Service at 10:30 AM. Watch anytime on YouTube at www.youtube.com/@SOSLutheran **Wednesday Bible Study** in person or online via Zoom at 10 AM Zoom Meeting ID: 854 2429 7034 Passcode: 487951

**Following Jesus
and led by the Holy Spirit,
we love and serve
God and our neighbors.**

Pastor: Rev. Steve Anderson (951) 217-1885

COUNCIL:

President: Rich Kamiyama 335-3636
Vice President: Eric Ogaz
Council Secretary: Don Drost 864-4660
Treasurer: Kurt Anderson 553-3070
Financial Secretary: Viola Angebrandt 887-0799
Congregation Support: Laura Davis 338-2994
Education: Melissa Anderson 213-1059
Property: Dave Clifford (951) 315-3949
Worship & Music: Barb Frey 881-6069

STAFF:

Accompanist: Zabdiel Miranda
Church Secretary: Becky Tarts 496-9550
Custodian: Joe Balli 380-4018
Worship Leader: Heather Ogaz 725-8473

Special Thanks to Margie Arnett for keeping the Facebook page updated and relevant.

This newsletter is printed at no charge by LPi and supported by the generosity of the vendors listed. When you are in need of services, please remember to say 'thanks' to the businesses who help publish this newsletter.

Things you may need to know:

Newsletter Deadline: 15th of the month

Bulletin Deadline: 12:00 p.m. Wednesdays

Submissions must be in writing—email preferred.

Spirit of Our Savior Lutheran Church

P: (909) 882-5013 office@soslutheran.org

Office Hours: M, W, Th 8 AM—4:30 PM Friday 8 AM—Noon

Attendance for November

	Trad	YT	Cont	YT*
11/2	26	3	30	2
11/9	27	1	31	3
11/16	52	0	One Service	
11/23	11	0	36	3
11/30	72	2	Fifth Sunday	

*YT YouTube number of devices online, not number of people.

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Editor: **Becky Tarts**

Spirit of Our Savior Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

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Hello Church –

Happy New Year! As we shift from the seasons of Advent and Christmas into the season of Epiphany, our focus turns toward the work of Jesus in this world – who's greatest work in this world is to bring us life. Easily forgotten is how, from birth, we are captive to sin. Sometimes we think more highly of ourselves, and less highly of others than maybe we should. Sometimes we overlook or justify our sins, while pointing with laser precision to the sins of others. Due to our sinful nature, though, every one of us was 100 percent lost – until Jesus came and brought salvation to light through Himself!



Throughout Advent, I encouraged our congregation through a sermon series to consider what the hymn, "What Child Is This?" (ELW #296) means for our lives today:

<i>What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!</i>	<i>Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!</i>	<i>So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby; joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!</i>
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I also asked you to consider Who is coming, or for Whom we are preparing. The answer to all of this, as I am certain all who are reading these words already knows, is found midway through the first verse above, "This, this is Christ the king", and that is all you really need to know. Not just to 'know' it in your head, though, but more importantly – in your heart. For when you find that your heart truly understands and accepts Jesus as Christ the King – it is nothing short of amazing how much easier it becomes to endure the trials and tribulations of daily life.

As the sun begins to set on my fourth full year as your pastor, and the sun rises upon the start of our fifth year sharing ministry together... On behalf of both Arlea and myself, please accept our heartfelt and humble thanks for your support,

encouragement, grace, correction when needed, and most of all – your love. I am very excited to see and do whatever God has planned for us in the coming year.

iGg,



Pastor Steve

The Church Council of
Lutheran Church of Our Savior—Spirit of Hope
dba Spirit of Our Savior Lutheran Church
 has called for the
Annual Meeting of the Congregation
 Sunday, January 25, 2026
 Immediately following ONE SERVICE at 10 AM
 to be held in the Sanctuary

Committee Reports to the Congregation and
 election of non-council members will take place.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1/1 Th	New Year's Day - Campus Closed	
1/4 Su	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship, S/YT
	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship, S/YT
	1:00 p.m.	HKBP, S
1/5 M	11:30 a.m.	Child Safety Committee, L
1/6 Tu	5:15 p.m.	Young Champions Cheer, PH
1/7 W	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study, L/Z
1/8 Th	10:00 a.m.	Mary Bible Study Group, L
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal, S
1/11 Su	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship, S/YT
	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship, S/Z
	12:30 p.m.	Church Council Meeting, IMCR
	1:00 p.m.	HKBP, S
1/13 Tu		Mary's Table
	5:15 p.m.	Young Champions Cheer, PH
1/14 W	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study, L/Z

1/15 Th	10:00 a.m.	Rebecca Quilt Group, PH
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal, S
1/18 Su	8:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship, S/YT
	10:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship, S/YT
	1:00 p.m.	HKBP, S
1/19 M	Martin Luther King Jr Day - Campus Closed	
1/20 Tu		Mary's Table
Pastor Steve out of town 1/20-1/24		
1/22 Th	10:00 a.m.	Light of the World, L
	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal, S
1/25 Su	10:00 a.m.	ONE SERVICE, S/YT
	11:30 a.m.	Annual Meeting, S
	1:00 p.m.	HKBP, S
1/28 W	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study, L/Z
1/29 Th	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Rehearsal, S

IMCR: Irma Miller Conference Room

L: Library

PH: Parish Hall

S: Sanctuary

YT: YouTube

Z: Zoom

Women of the Church News (WELCA) BY MELISSA ANDERSON

The following thought was shared by a friend.

"As we enter a new year, may your heart stay soft, your courage stay steady, and your love stay loud. May you release what weighs you down and hold tight to what lifts you up. May your family – every part of it – feel seen, safe, and celebrated. And may you remember that you never walk this road alone. Together we can change the world."

MARY BIBLE STUDY GROUP – We meet on the second Thursday of the month from 10:00 - 11:30 A.M. in the library (January 8th). The Winter 2026 Bible Study is entitled "Embodied Prayer" by the Rev. Liv. Larson Andrews. "Prayer is an important part of our relationship with God, and one of the ways we respond to God speaking in our lives. At the same time, we may carry all kinds of baggage or heavy questions about prayer: Am I doing it right? Do I pray enough? Is prayer always done ..." The study is from Gather Magazine. Copies are duplicated.. If anyone comes across another study they would like to try, let me know as our study does not have to be from this one source. Come join us for Bible Study, fellowship, a cup of coffee and a snack.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD BIBLE STUDY GROUP – This group meets the 4th Thursday from 10:00 – 11:30 in the library. We have not met for the last two months, so will continue to study The Pharisee and the Tax Collector from Luke 18:9-14. This lesson illustrates that God favors the humble over the proud. The lesson is from the book Parables: The Greatest Story Ever Told by John White. Copies of the lesson are duplicated so you do not have to have the book to come and join us for Bible Study, fellowship, and a cup of coffee.

REBECCA QUILTING GROUP – This group normally meets the 1st & 3rd Thursday from 10 – 3 in the Parish Hall, but due to the first Thursday on New Years Day, this month we will meet on the third Thursday, January 15th and possibly the fifth Thursday, January 29th Watch for further details. If you would like, bring something to share for lunch, though it is not required. This is an important fellowship where we make quilts for those in need. Even if you have never quilted before, I invite you to join us and learn something new as there are many different tasks that need to be done to complete each quilt. Come and stay for as long as your schedule allows. Next month I will be able to report the results from Thank offering Sunday which occurred on November 30th, after this newsletter article was due.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP – We normally meet weekly from 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. in the library and via Zoom. We are resuming after a two-week Advent break due to

Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. We are continuing our study during the Epiphany Season on the revised common lectionary which involves reading the scripture and discussing important questions. Pastor Steve sends out information in an e-mail at the beginning of each study week. If you are not already on the list, let him know so you can be included. I invite you to join us for the study led by Pastor Steve. The Meeting ID is 854-2429-7034 and the Passcode is 487951 for the study.

EVENTS / SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES / INFORMATION

***The Spring Event** is Saturday, March 7, 2026, at Shepherd of the Valley, 10842 Fury Lane, La Mesa, which is close to central San Diego. The theme is "Spreading God's Love." Registration forms will be out soon. The cost for the event is \$30.00. Scholarships are available. Watch for more details in the newsletter and in the weekly church bulletin.

***Triennial Convention** is July 16 – 19, 2026, in Des Moines, Iowa.

***Check Out These On-line Sites:** Pacifica Synod Notes and Newsletter and Pacifica Synod Women of the ELCA Pacifica Partners are both available on Facebook. You may also email questions to the Pacifica WELCA President's e-mail at welca@verizon.net

Questions or Need More Information – Contact Melissa Anderson at 909-213-1059 or e-mail at custernut@aol.com

Congregational Household Prayer list for January

Week 1: Sue Clark; Jeanie Copeland; Corey Family; Carol Cushing; Laura Davis; Pam Demulling; Gene Diepholz; Don Drost

Week 2: Gary & Janice Eisenbeisz; Katie Eisenbeisz; Kelly Eisenbeisz; Robert & Barbara Eisenbeisz; Amy Eisenbeisz Martinez; Robert & Lois Ellinger

Week 3: Jessics Evans; Paulette Finneseth; Orquid Flores; Linda Follendorf; Barbara Frey; Chris & Rebecca Gallegos

Week 4: Patricia Gemmel; Gordon & Crystal Gertner; Jeff & Melissa Gertner Brown; Dale Gralapp; Jeremy & Rose Gutierrez



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and our neighbors.**

