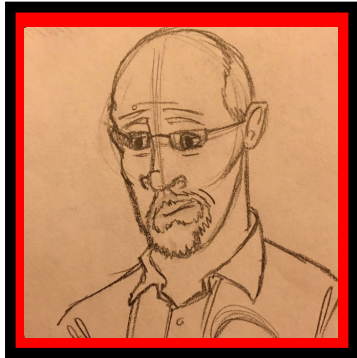


# St. Luke Lutheran Church

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Issue 01/25

January 2025



**Dan Tisdel**  
Pastor

## So...What now?

### Jeremiah 29: 11-13

*<sup>11</sup>For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. <sup>12</sup>Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. <sup>13</sup>When you search for me, you will find me, if you seek me with all your heart.*

January is here, a new start in so many ways for so many people. Even though it is technically, just another day, we use the start of the new year as a sort of restart to our lives. We make New Years resolutions, we make long term plans we dream about how “this year” will be different, or better. In my personal case, I’m getting married on New Years Day, and as you read this, it may have already happened. Definitely a new start in a lot of ways for me and Cristina personally.

The church year is laid out this way too, intentionally. Advent is supposed to be a time of discomfort and things being a bit different and still wonderful. Advent is followed by a time of celebration of the birth of Christ, and also a celebration of the past year and acknowledgment of our journey through Advent. And even though the church calendar technically starts on the first Sunday of Advent, it often feels like the REAL start of the church year is Epiphany,

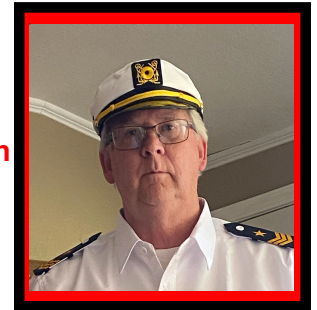
which is always the first Sunday of the calendar year.

In a way I think that’s a really good thing. Advent shakes us out of our comfortable places and reminds us of our baptismal calling to follow Christ and love the world. And then we come to Epiphany and we have a choice. We can continue just the way we were before Advent or we can allow Advent to change us from the inside out, even if it is just a little. Maybe we donate to a local shelter this year or maybe we give a bit more to church. Maybe we decide to volunteer one more day a month to a cause or organization that is near to our hearts. We let the Holy Spirit guide us and lead us into a new way of being in the new year.

So I often find myself saying around this time...”What now?” What is this coming year going to bring? In what ways am I being led this year? How is the Spirit working on me this year? What will 2025 bring? I try not to dictate what will happen but to instead let the year come to me. Because only God knows what is in store. As the passage from Jeremiah states, God has a plan for me, a plan for my welfare and not for harm, a future with hope.

The hard part is letting it happen and not trying to control it. Letting God speak to us without trying to dictate to God how we think it should be. So maybe the best answer to “What Now?” is...”God will let us know in due time.” And in the meantime we let the Spirit work on our hearts and we stay patient. Happy New Year, everyone!

Pastor Dan



**Kirk Autsen**  
Council  
President

## Council President’s Corner

Well, it’s 2025, wow that date seems unreal. Thinking back as a kid I would have probably thought that 2025 was a Science Fiction movie, but here we are, so much for Science Fiction.

Yes, we have incredible new technology and devices but are we any better? Seems like they are just more things that distract us from others and especially God. The good thing is that it does allow us to reach out to more people about God and Jesus and the Good News of his saving Grace. The history of St. Luke shows that we have been a caring and loving congregation that has done many things to help our community and the world. This year will be a challenge as we have stepped out in faith with reopening our preschool and have purchased a parsonage. All of this cost a lot of money. So we pray that our faith can overcome this challenge and with God’s help we can overcome our financial shortfalls.

Remember our prayer we say during the service after the offering is received: “Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him

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## Council President's Corner

*Continued from Page 1*

who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Heavenly Father, Continue to bless our congregation as we do your will and keep us focused on you and what you've done for us, in Jesus name. Amen.



- Jan. 01 - Richard Duesbury
- Jan. 01 - Sally Colligan
- Jan. 05 - Carolyn Christian
- Jan. 05 - Margaret Steen
- Jan. 07 - Jon Jensen
- Jan. 11 - Amy Bloom
- Jan. 13 - Steve Schmidt
- Jan. 13 - Emma Mitchell
- Jan. 16 - Louise Gore
- Jan. 17 - Marlene Custer
- Jan. 17 - Alexander Skov
- Jan. 17 - Tristan Skov
- Jan. 19 - Oliver Smith
- Jan. 20 - Kelsey Christian
- Jan. 21 - Janet Riddell
- Jan. 21 - Aimee Skov
- Jan. 24 - James Morales
- Jan. 28 - Sandi Wilkening

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – December 29, 2024 – Helping Our Local Unhoused

As we begin a new year, we want to first thank you for the generosity shown when you gave \$1,455 for Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) to help the victims of hurricane Helene and Milton for the last 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Special Offering in September. That gift was matched by the St. John's Future Benevolence Fund so that a total of \$2,910 was sent to LDR. So thank you again for helping those hurricane victims. December 29<sup>th</sup>

*Continued on the right column*



**Julianna  
"Juli"  
Bucellato**  
*ACP Director*

Happy New Year! December was a very busy month at ACP! We had a new student start and another one enrolled to start in January. Thank you so much for the cookie donations for our Art Day. We had 20 families come, several of them were families that had been to the November Art Day. It is so wonderful to see connections beginning to be formed with members of the community. A huge THANK YOU to Grant for being Santa for us. The families were able to get some really cute pictures with Santa. On January 11th, ACP will be hosting the Sunnyvale/Santa Clara Las Madres group for a Playdate. This is a great way to show the school to the community and to form more connects with our neighbors. We will also be getting ready for Spring Open Houses to register for the Fall.

Juli Bucellato

**Grant  
Hannon**  
*Youth Director*

### Youth News



Happy 2025!

Hi everyone,

I hope you all had a great Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

Looking back at 2024 we did a lot of amazing things with the youth during the year. We were able to run 2 summer camps with all of our youth volunteers, have multiple regular

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meetings each week with the youth group and other activities, and we were able to go to New Orleans to the Youth Gathering. It has been an eventful and amazing year full of experiences. If you are looking for a way to get involved in 2025 our youth always need adult mentors and people to help with all the events going on.

Looking into 2025 we have trips planned to Alcatraz in January and Skiing in February. There will certainly be lots of fun and interesting things happening all the time! Thank you all for your support this past year and as we move forward into 2025 we will be looking for all of your support as we continue to build a flourishing community for all of the youth.

—  
Grant Hannon  
*Youth Director*  
719-761-1799  
St. Luke Lutheran Church  
1025 The Dalles Ave. Sunnyvale, CA  
(408) 736-9216



**Dave & Lourdes Johnson: 22 yrs. -**  
*January 18, 2003*

*Continued from the right column*

was our final 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday for 2024. Our tradition for several years has been to designate support for the **Sunnyvale Homeless Shelter**, which is now being operated by the **Bill Wilson Center (BWC)**. It is now called the North County Shelter. To say that their needs are great this year is probably an understatement. **Bill Wilson Center** is a nonprofit community-based organization serving

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# The Church Calendar - January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1st Sunday of Advent</b>  10:00 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall)  2:00 PM Round Dancing (K.H.)			<b>1 NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> Holiday  Office Closed	<b>2</b> DAY AFTER NEW YEAR'S DAY  Office Closed	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5 2nd Sunday of Christmas/Epiphany</b>  10:00 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall)  2:00 PM Round Dancing (K.H.)	<b>6</b>  7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 & Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)	<b>7</b> 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM 2nd Harvest Food Bank Distribution (Kurtz Hall) 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)	<b>8</b> 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)  6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary) 7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	<b>9</b>  7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12 Baptism of Our Lord</b> 10:00 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream (Sunday School during Worship Service) 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall) 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Confirmation Class (Youth Outpost) 2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall)  6:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Outpost)	<b>13</b>  7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 & Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)	<b>14</b> 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office) 11:30 AM Witness Meeting (Kurtz Hall)	<b>15</b> 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)  6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary) 7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	<b>16</b>  7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9:00 AM St. Luke Work Day
<b>19 2nd Sunday after Epiphany</b> 10:00 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream (Sunday School during Worship Service) 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall) 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Confirmation Class (Youth Outpost) 2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall) 6:00 PM Youth Group (Kurtz Hall & Youth Outpost)	<b>20</b>  7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 & Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)	<b>21</b> 7:30 AM - 10:30 AM 2nd Harvest Food Bank Distribution (Kurtz Hall) 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)  7:00 PM Council Meeting (Kurtz Hall)	<b>22</b> 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)  6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary) 7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	<b>23</b>  7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  11:00 AM Chuck Wilkening's Memorial Service
<b>26 3rd Sunday after Epiphany</b> 10:00 AM In-Person Worship & Live Stream (Sunday School during Worship Service) 11:15 AM Fellowship (Kurtz Hall) 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Confirmation Class (Youth Outpost) 2:00 PM Round Dancing (Kurtz Hall) 6:00 PM Youth Group (Kurtz Hall & Youth Outpost)	<b>27</b>  7:00 PM Scout Troop #493 & Scout Troop #442 (K.H.)	<b>28</b> 10:30 AM Staff Meeting (Church Office)	<b>29</b> 10:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)  6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary) 7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	<b>30</b>  7:00 PM Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>31</b>	

**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE**  
Wednesday, November 27, 2024



**ADVENT SOUP SUPPERS**  
Wednesday, December 4, 11, 18, 2024



**BLUE CHRISTMAS/LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE**  
Saturday, December 21, 2024



**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
Saturday, December 24, 2024



# January 2025 Calendar of Worship Volunteers

If you are unable to serve any of the positions below, please get a substitute and notify Letty by 12 PM on the Wednesday prior to your date of service at (408) 736-9216 of the change. Thank you!

<u>Readings</u>	<u>Acolytes &amp; Crucifier</u>	<u>Assisting Min/Cantor</u>	<u>Eucharist</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>
<b><u>January 5, 2024 - 2nd Sunday of Christmas/Epiphany</u></b>					
<b>Children's Message: Grant Hannon</b>					
Jer. 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Eph. 1:3-14 John 1:1-18	TBD TBD	Linda Baginski Setting III	Danae Moreno Kirk Autsen	Brandon Pang	Wendy Callahan
<b><u>January 12, 2025 - Baptism of Our Lord</u></b>					
<b>Children's Message: Kirk Autsen</b>					
Isa. 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	TBD TBD	Tim Tsang Setting III	Sue Hutchins Denise Tsang	Mark Shroyer	Shirley Loo
<b><u>January 19, 2025 - 2nd Sunday of Epiphany</u></b>					
<b>Children's Message: Grant Hannon</b>					
Isa. 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 1 Cor. 12:1-11 John 2:1-11	TBD TBD	Walt Wilser Setting IV	Laura Rubio Danae Moreno	Mark Kent	Shirley Loo Denise Tsang
<b><u>January 26, 2025 - 3rd Sunday of Epiphany</u></b>					
<b>Children's Message: Andy Wadsworth</b>					
Neh. 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Psalm 19 1 Cor. 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21	TBD TBD	Mark Kent Setting III	Tim Tsang Denise Tsang	Oliver Smith	Shirley Loo Denise Tsang
<b><u>February 2, 2025 - Presentation of Our Lord</u></b>					
<b>Children's Message: Pastor Dan Tisdell</b>					
Mal 3:1-4 Psalm 84 Heb. 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40	TBD TBD	Sue Hutchins Setting III	Kirk Autsen Danae Moreno	Mark Shroyer	Shirley Loo Denise Tsang

## JANUARY GREETERS - FRONT DOOR

January 05 - Doug & Doriann Shreve  
January 12 - Joyce Masterson  
January 19 - Doug & Doriann Shreve  
January 26 - Joyce Masterson

## JANUARY GREETERS - SIDE DOOR

January 05 - Don & Loretta Merry  
January 12 - TBD  
January 19 - Don & Loretta Merry  
January 26 - TBD

## Donate Hygiene Items



### For sleeping and cleanliness:

Backpacks, sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, sheets, towels, washcloths, soap, toothpaste and tooth brushes, deodorant, shampoo, disposable razors and shaving cream, band-aids, lotion, laundry pods.

**For ladies:** Feminine products, makeup, lipstick, hairclips.

**Clothing:** For men, women and children - clothing, hats scarves, gloves, underwear. The greatest need is for men's clothing.

**Shoes & Socks:** For all sizes but especially larger men's shoes.

**Water Bottles:** Reusable and 8 oz disposable

— **The Witness Team**



## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – December 29, 2024 – Helping Our Local Unhoused

*Continued from Page 2*

over 6000 clients in Santa Clara County annually. If you want to learn more about the Bill Wilson Center and the Sunnyvale Shelter, you may visit their website: <https://www.billwilsoncenter.org/services/all/north-county-shelter.html>

We request that you prayerfully consider a generous gift, **in addition to your normal offering**, for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Special Offering to help the Bill Wilson Center and our Sunnyvale unhoused community. Checks may be made payable to St. Luke with “Sunnyvale Shelter or 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday” on the memo line. **The St. John's Future Benevolence Fund will match every dollar that is given.** Gifts will be accepted into January. Any gift you give will help! God bless you all!  
The Witness Team

## PERSONAL CARE CAFE SERVES THE HOMELESS - HOW YOU CAN HELP IN THIS SEASON

St Luke families have been very generous, donating many useful and essential items to the Personal Care Cafe sponsored by Hope Lutheran, Santa Clara and supported by other Lutheran congregations. The need continues...

Items needed include anything you might need on a camping trip without a store nearby.

## *St. Luke Lutheran Church*

1025 The Dalles Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087  
(408) 736-9216  
[www.stlukechurch.org](http://www.stlukechurch.org)

### **Worship Times**

**Sunday Worship Service** \* (In-person and streaming)

10:00 AM

**\*Sunday School \***

**(during Worship Service)**

**Fellowship after worship**

11:15 AM

**Confirmation Class**

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**Youth Group**

6:00 PM

**To:**



