



# The Messenger



Ordinary people, Extraordinary God.....

## "Vaccines, Villains, and Virtue"

By Pastor Bruce Greutz

### January 2021

01/01 HAPPY NEW YEAR YEAH !! 2021

01/09 8AM NO MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

01/10 2ND SUNDAY OFFERING HELPS THE OSL CHARITY QUILTERS

01/19 NEWS LETTER ARTICLES DUE BY MIDNIGHT

AND JUST LIKE THAT ONE MONTH OF 2021 IS GONE

#### January Hospitality Team Coordinator:

Carol Williams  
Shirley a& Gene Aguilar  
Warren & Mary Harris  
Ed & Nancy Gerry  
Ken & Barb Mickelson  
Doris Pancich  
Sara & Aaron Washington  
Andy & Brandi Crosby  
Sam & Jen Harms



As you read this January 2021 OSLC Newsletter, we will have finally escaped the grip of 2020. Time Magazine called 2020 the Worst Year Ever. The editors of Time put a big red X over 2020 on the cover. Previously, they had only used the X four times.

"This is the story of a year you'll never want to revisit," writes author Stephanie Zacharek, "There have been worse years in U.S. history, and certainly worse years in world history, but most of us alive today have seen nothing like this one."

But Zacharek goes onto say that even though 2020 was a horrible year, Americans remain optimistic. "Our optimism is our most ridiculous trait, and our greatest."

Now, with a vaccine out there, hope abounds that 2021 will be an entirely different year than 2020. Like those who built the Tower of Babel, some think the sky's the limit for 2021. But what if the Vaccine doesn't really perform as the experts think it will. After all, there are no longitudinal – long term studies and it's only 95% effective if you get the vaccine a

second time. And apparently, there will be side effects as there can be with any vaccine.

And who says the economy will come back? Maybe it will but a lot of things have to go right for everybody to get back to work. Some governors will have to back off their shut down orders for that to happen. Petitions have begun in a number of states to recall or impeach those allegedly villainous and nefarious governors who have shut down their states' economies through draconian restrictions.

Yes, it's good to have 2020 over but there's no guarantee 2021 will be better. You say, "Hey pastor, I need some optimism here not more doom and gloom." Well, I don't mean to be pessimistic but how will we handle it if the vaccine doesn't have the effect the experts think it will

And even though the economy is doing well in Utah, unless some major changes are made in other parts of the country our brothers and sisters in Christ will be struggling. So, how will we handle it in 2021 if we are still in the thick of a pandemic, economic downturns, social distancing and still wearing these stinking masks?

# OSLC 411

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John Crossfield  
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*This Position is Open*

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**Prayer Requests**  
Main Office  
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**Welcome/Reach**  
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801-540-2396

**Women's Ministry**  
*This Position is Open*

**Hospitality Team**  
Mary Kartak &  
*Co Leader is Open*  
**Via de Cristo**  
Janet Tow  
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In a book I've been reading entitled, *Wisdom From Babylon*, author Gordon T. Smith offers us a biblical perspective on how to live in our current times. Smith reminds us that the prophet Jeremiah addressed the exiles in Babylon with God's message to them. In **Jeremiah 29:4 & 7 God tells them that he sent them into exile in Babylon.** Because He sent them there, it was God's providence and plan that removed them to Babylon. Consequently, they were to seek the welfare of the city where he sent them and to pray to the Lord on its behalf.

Smith exhorts us to not be pugilistic, bellicose or adversarial (see I Peter 3:15) when it comes to dealing with the post-Christian culture we live in. Nor does he encourage us to go along to get along or be separatists who avoid the culture. Rather, he encourages us to see living in a culture where our Christian values are under attack as an opportunity for transformation of that culture. But that will only happen if we are virtuous and not vitriolic people of faith.

He believes God has placed us in the current social, cultural, political, and religious climate as a providential act. He has put us here in this time and place for our good and His glory.

Smith contends if we are where we are because of God's providence than "rather than ringing our hands and despairing for the church and for our culture, we must ask what it might mean if this is of God – if this situation is providential."

Clearly, in 2021, God wants us to pray for the welfare of our country as he encouraged the Israelites to pray for Babylon. Also, he wants us to bring anyone out there in deep water overwhelmed by life's complexities into His family. Like a tugboat that guides ships through deep and treacherous waters into the harbor, we are called to guide hurting people into the harbor of God's grace and mercy in 2021 and every year.

As we begin 2021, may we remember the Lord's words to the Israelites in Isaiah 43:1-3: "Fear not for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior."

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Bruce

*\*\* FROM THE DESK OF THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT \*\**




The year 2020 will go down in history as one where we find ourselves having to reinvent a lot of task we take for granted. The pandemic has caused us to isolate and cancel many activities we enjoyed so much. We find ourselves looking for new activities to stir our intellect and help us grow spiritually. I keep asking the Lord, "What is your will in all of this?" I keep praying, waiting on an answer. I do know we need to reach out to one another, to up lift and let people know they are not alone. Being shut in can be very depressing and we can be the light God intended for us to be by reaching out. If someone comes to mind please act on the prompting and give them a call, send a card, a text, a message on Facebook. We have so many ways of reaching out to each other. Bless you for doing this!

Cont. on next page.

I'd like to "THANK" Kathy Tisdale, Alan Huss and Annie Coyle for serving on council. Your service is so appreciated and the church can't do the Lord's work without you. I'd like to welcome Annie Coyle (re-elected), Teri McCloy and Dave Engen as newly elected council members. Pray for your council that we will always lead the church in the direction the Lord wants us to go.

This will be my last letter as president and I would like to "THANK" all of you for your prayers and encouragement and give all the GLORY to God who bestows on us blessings and His good favor that can be seen in all we do. God bless you all.

Your brother in Christ, Elton

-  **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** ~ *Position is Open*
-  **FELLOWSHIP/Connect** ~ *Rena Schmid - Kathleen Tisdale Council Rep*
-  **GROW-BIBLE HOUR** ~ *Justine Ashcraft - Peggy Tackett Council Rep.*

OSLC is blessed and thankful to welcome Justine Ashcraft to the Grow leadership role. Please take a moment to thank her for saying yes to this call of service.

I would like to thank you for your support over the past 2 yrs in this position. It has been a blessing. Kathy Sutherland.

### **MEN'S MINISTRY** ~ *Elton Sutherland - Alan Huss Council Rep.*

#### Bible Study

We meet for breakfast and Bible study at the Black Bear Dinner in Layton at 6AM on Fridays. We are studying ACTS through John Stott's study guide. This is an account of the early church and will give us some insight on seeing the Spirit at work in the beginning of the Christian faith. All are welcome to attend.

#### Christian Men's Network

Paul Louis Cole of the CMN is doing a series on the book, "Never Quit" by Ed Cole, where you will get tools you need to trust God in these times of uncertainty, and not just survive but thrive. Paul can be seen on YouTube at the ChristianMensNetwork YouTube channel or followed on Facebook at CMN MONDAY NIGHT MEN. Bill Lange of OSLC has recommended CMN for men who are struggling in this time of need. Please reach out to Bill if you have questions.

#### Prayer Time

We encourage everyone to tune in to the pastors Facebook page Live at 7PM on Wednesday nights to take part in prayers for whomever needs them as led by our pastor. This is an awesome time and he will pray any request sent to him. Thank you pastor for leading our church in a way that honors God.

#### Security Team

We are people of the congregation who have taken an interest in the safety and well being of the church. If you would like to participate or have any specialized training you would like to share please contact Alan Huss.

#### Building and Grounds

Winter is upon us and when it snows on Sunday we have to clear the walks. If you are willing and able please come a half hour early to help make the walks safe. We always have tasks that need doing and John would love to hear from you. Contact John Crossfield if you are willing to tackle a project.

#### Fellowship Breakfast

There was not a fellowship breakfast held on December 5<sup>th</sup> due to the Corona Virus. Hopefully if the numbers go down, we can hold one on January 9<sup>th</sup>. This is the second week because of the New Year Holiday. Watch the CCB emails to be updated. The Men's Fellowship breakfast group was able to donate a large screen television, for use in the fellowship hall. Thank you for all of your support throughout the years.



## **MISSION & SERVICE** ~ *Kathy Sutherland - Josh Ashcraft Council Rep.*

I look forward to the blessings of the quilts every year. To see and touch the work of the OSCL Quilters Ministry is such a blessing to all of us. Our second Sunday offering this month is for this ministry. The money donated pays for quilting, fabric, batting, and upkeep on machines. Last year they gifted five quilts to babies in our congregation and one other quilt too. So many benefit from this little group that gathers once each month. (Truth be told, many of them plan, cut, stitch, and iron on OSCL projects from home, too. They are an industrious and caring group and we are lucky to have each and every one of them!)

Military members who are stationed overseas love getting coupons to use when shopping. Thanks to the time spent gathering and clipping them, OSCL mailed coupons to bases in Alconbury, UK; Ansbach, Germany; Atsu and Ikego, Japan; Brussels, Belgium; and Gaeto, Italy. Keep clipping, friends!

LCMC---Our affiliation with a Synod ended when we became a member of LCMC.

Lutheran Churches in Mission for Christ is a collective of autonomous Lutheran churches. It provides leadership and support with low overhead and very low financial impact to local organizations. We do not pay monthly dues or a percent of our collection to LCMC. Instead, when the calendar provides a 5th Sunday, we take a special offering. January, May, August and October have 5 Sundays in 2021, which helps support our Inter-Mountain West Regional office. With Covid 19, our giving was very low this year. Please consider being more intentional this year if you can.

Because we have not sent money to National, council decided to send our March 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday offering to the National office. On the national web site you will find photos from the 2020 annual gathering and convention in Arden Hills, MN and ideas for local congregations. They connect 958 congregations in the U.S. and 186 congregations in other countries. Of course, there is an App and a shop for t-shirts, phone covers, stickers, and bags! Check them out on line, download the App, or listen to the blog! LCMC.net



## **MUSIC AND WORSHIP** ~ *Wendy Nelson ~ Trent Schmid Council Rep.*



## **WELCOME/REACH MINISTRY** ~ *Mary Kartak - Terry Schmid Council*

A new year. A fresh start. A time to ponder and reflect. May the launching of this year bring each of us an increased awareness of what God is calling us toward. May each of us have eyes to see and ears to hear the opportunities that He has placed in our sphere of influence. None of us can meet all the needs that surround us but all of us can prayerfully move into the spaces that will remain void unless we follow God's prompting.

How the reach and welcome ministry will function during the upcoming months remains unclear. We must currently be sensitive to the restrictions caused by the pandemic. My question is this: Would anyone consider a challenge—one that involves reaching out and welcoming on a personal level?

I recently read about growing the Kingdom but focusing on our **OIKOS**. No, not on our yogurt, silly. **OIKOS** is a Greek word that refers to our closest relationships such as those within our extended family, neighborhood and/or our close friends. These are the core groups with whom we spend our quality time. They are most likely the ones that we have been with during the past several months. Or, perhaps, those with whom we would frequently connect if health considerations were not so strong.

What if we began to think of those persons in our **OIKOS** as our mission field. What if we were to more deeply tend to these relationships with the idea of gently sharing our Christian faith. No, not be preaching or Bible pounding or fancy terms. And certainly not by debating differences of understanding. More by sharing how our faith gives us a sense of trust during these harsh times. More by finding the words to share that with an eternal perspective the conflicts of this crazy world become less troublesome. More by praying for or with those toward whom our love is so strong that we can be both comforting and bold.

Many of our friends and family have an **OIKOS** that reaches beyond us and out to others because of

troublesome. More by praying for or with those toward whom our love is so strong that we can be both comforting and bold.

Many of our friends and family have an **DIKOS** that reaches beyond us and out to others because of things such as hobbies, work or school. If we could gently share our confidence in Christ, they might in the future learn that they also have a mission field. Might we pray that in time they would grow stronger because of our modeling and encouragement. That would certainly be furthering the Kingdom and wouldn't really go beyond what we already intend to do as followers of Christ. Plus, no gathering is required.

Have an impactful 2021. That's the challenge. Enjoy that **DIKOS!** Mary and The Reach and Welcome Ministry

 **WOMEN'S MINISTRY ~ PLEASE VOLUNTEER** - Nancy Gerry Council Rep

## **LCMC INTERMOUNTAIN WEST DISTRICT NEWS**

The Intermountain West District (IWD) has been meeting via monthly zoom meetings. This has been since the Covid-19 virus started in March. We were meeting quarterly in person. The district has launched a new website [lcmc-iwd.net](http://lcmc-iwd.net) please visit. It is still being developed but moving along. It will post daily devotions by the various pastors of the district.

It is OSLC's turn to host the next district gathering in October, please keep this in prayer.



### **LANTERN HOUSE—ST. ANNES KITCHEN**

As we are all aware it's been quite a year! Lantern House is not allowed to have volunteers in their kitchen so our chili lunches are not going to be able to happen until there is a change in the overall health directives. However, I took a large collection of sliced lunchmeat, carrots, and celery in December. It was so well received and appreciated I will be collecting the same items again and would love to make this happen in January. I will pick items up January 15, 2021 from the church office. Thank you to those who have always supported this ministry. If you are unable to bring items, I use the monetary donations to buy the same items to donate. (Make a note for St. Anne's Kitchen) Your support is a blessing. In God's love, Steve and Dawn Scholtec

### **FELLOWSHIP HALL WINDOW UPDATE**

As previously reported John has a bid to replace the upper windows in the fellowship hall. There are 10 windows for a bid of \$6,000.00 dollars (600.00 each). Currently there is \$1,800.00 in the fund through November. With the new flooring and the newly installed large screen television, the fellowship hall is more inviting. This can now be used for overflow seating to accommodate more people for our services. With the changing of the windows, it will greatly enhance the room. If you feel like donating to this cause, please mark "windows" on your donation. If you have questions, contact John Crossfield or Dan Kartak.



### **SARAH? RAHAB? RUTH? HANNAH? ESTHER? MARY?**

**Ready to be jump started? Let's learn about these women together. Zoom Parties January through May.**

**Contact Kathy Sutherland 801-540-1720 Don't wait, we need to get the party started.**

# Worship Assistants

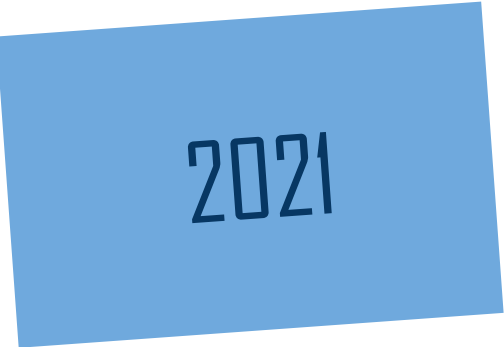
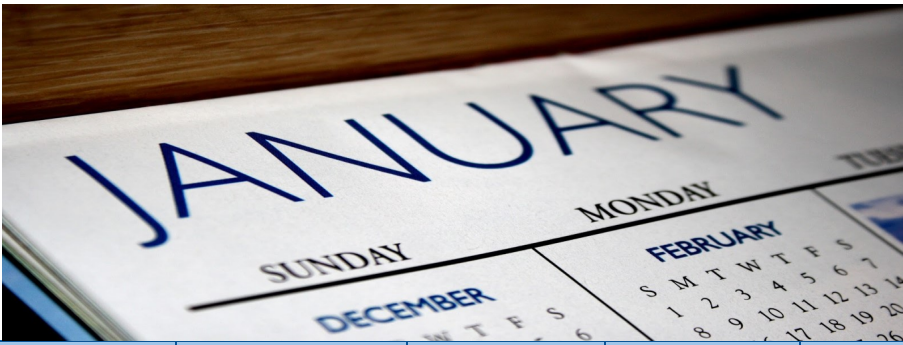



Communion Assistant Sheila Courtney 385-626-8291	Acolytes Pastor Bruce 972 743-5129	Altar Guild B. Spring 801 641-2810	Greeters  Position Needed	Ushers Pat Simonson 801 721-7678	Projector Antonio Ramirez 801 573-2559	Counters B. Spring 801 641-2810	Nursery Pat Simonson 801 721-7678
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9AM	Dec 27	NA	NA	NA	Mary Hartak	Pat Simonson	??		NA
9AM	Jan 03	NA	NA	NA	??	Russ Smith	??		NA
9AM	Jan 10	NA	NA	NA	??	Campbells	??		NA
9AM	Jan 17	NA	NA	NA	??	Stacy Ames	??		NA
9AM	Jan 24	NA	NA	NA	??	Pat Simonson	??		NA
9AM	Jan 31	NA		NA	??	Don McFarland ?	??		



01/03 Chloe Colvell	01/10 Bob Tyler
01/03 Martha Jones	01/15 Shailee Atkinson
01/03 Ryan Kaiser	01/17 John Griffith
01/05 Kim Sparkman	01/19 Graham Faris
01/08 Ross McClellan	01/25 Ben MiSter
01/08 Gail Gildemeister	01/25 Joy Kerns
01/09 Teri McCloy	01/29 Dema Jo Call
01/09 Thomas Curtin	



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
03 9:00a Service	04 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00p Boy Scouts ?	05 6:00p Girl Scouts ?	06	07	01 <b>Office Closed</b> 	02 ----- 09 8:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast (Pending) 8:30a Open Hand Help
10 9:00a Service 2nd Sunday Offering Helps OSLC Charity Quilters	11 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00p Boy Scouts ?	12 6:00p Girl Scouts ?	13	14 9-4 Charity Quilting 6:00p Committee Mtgs 7:00p Church Council	15 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00a Men's Bible Study @ Blk Bear Diner Layton	16
17 9:00a Service	18 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00p Boy Scouts ?	19 6:00p Girl Scouts ?	20	21 6:00p Girl Scouts ?	22 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00a Men's Bible Study @ Blk Bear Diner Layton 7:30a 1st Baptist of Roy Food Bank	23 8:30a Open Hand Food Pantry Help
<b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>		<b>NO NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ACCEPTED PAST MIDNIGHT</b>				
24 9:00a Service	25 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00p Boy Scouts ?	26 6:00p Girl Scouts ?	27	28 6:00p Girl Scouts ?	29 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00a Men's Bible Study @ Blk Bear Diner Layton	30
31 9:00a Service	01 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00p Boy Scouts ?	02 6:00p Girl Scouts ?	03	04	05 <b>Office Closed</b> 6:00a Men's Bible Study @ Blk Bear Diner Layton 7:30a 1st Baptist of Roy Food Bank	06

***Time Sensitive Material***

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***February Newsletter Articles  
 Due Tuesday, January 19, 2021***

**January Lectionary**

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Newsletter

Date	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
01/03	1 King 3:4-15	Psalm 119:97-104	Ephesians 1:3-14	Luke 2:40-52
01/10	Genesis 1:1-5	Psalm 29	Romans 6:1-11	Mark 1:4-11
01/17	1 Samuel 3:1-20	Psalm 139:1-10	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	John 1:43-51
01/24	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Psalm 62	1 Corinthians 7:29-35	Mark 1:14-20
01/31	Deuteronomy 18:15-20	Psalm 111	1 Corinthians 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28





# Thank You

## *Thank You for all your support and kindness*

*God Bless all of my church family. Thank you for our Prayers, cards, calls and encouragement after being diagnosed with endometrial cancer, complete hysterectomy followed by 25 radiation treatments. Good News! With my Lord and Saviors Blessings upon me and your Prayers I am healing well.*

*I would also like to extend a thank you to the Quilters for the beautiful quilt. I was told this one was made by Sue Riley. (I miss her and always feel blessed when she visits I always feel wrapped in LOVE, all warm and cozy. Joan Underwood*

## Alpha Food Drive

"Grateful." "Amazed!" "Overwhelmed." "Relieved." "Thankful." These are among the words reported back when deliveries were made of the items collected for the Alpha Food Drive.

The entry to the Fellowship Hall was overflowing with donations made by so many thoughtful families and caring individuals. Thank you. And thank you to the team coordinators who combined prayer with multiple reminders which in turn lead to a wonderful volume of donations.

Thank you to Bobbi Spring for countless hours receiving and categorizing such a generous quantity of donations. Thank you to Terry and Renae Schmid for arranging for the bundles of perishable items that were supplemented by fresh items supplied through Elton Sutherland who is a volunteer with the Roy Food Bank.

Thank you to Josh, Luke and Levi Ashcroft for helping to sort items into bundles for 8 "families" ranging in number from 1 to 9 individuals.

Finally thank you to those who delivered this "love" contained in boxes and bags. The beautiful result is a unified rejoicing as we ponder how God works in human lives as He allows us to make a difference.

## OSLC CHARITY QUILTERS

This was an eventful year for our quilting group. It's the first year we had a male participate all year. Thanks, Elton! We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month (now that the Fellowship Hall has air conditioning); 9:30 - 4:00. Come on and all, everyone is welcome. There is instruction if you don't know what to do, patience if you think you know what to do and for those of us yet to sew a straight line.

Our long time leader, Nancy Harlan, moved to Las Vegas, mid-summer, to be near her daughter and family, including an amazing granddaughter!!! Thanks Valerie Gilfillan for taking on the leader role. We had a busy year resulting in the following contributions:

Your Community Connection (YCC)	9 quilts
Lantern House	6 quilts
Family Support Center	50 quilts
McKay Hospital IHC	22 kid's pillow cases
Layton Hospital IHC	22 kid's pillow cases
Pregnancy Medical Clinic (PMC)	5 baby quilts
Clean Pathways (½ way house for men)	3 queen size quilts

Our fund raiser sold all 11 quilts offered for sale to the congregation!!! We hope you enjoy them. Let the organization begin, this is such a blessing and will allow more productivity in the future.



Thanks for all your support.

Sincerely,  
Shirley Cooper-Aguilar  
Congregational/Liaison

### — Congregational Meeting Results —

2021 Proposed Budget — Passed

### New Council Members

Annie Coyle - Dave Engen - Teri McCloy



