

The Messenger

March 2025

Our Savior's Lutheran Church and School ▪ San Clemente, California
"Inspired to Love, Encouraged to Think, and Sent to Serve"

Lent

March 5th marks the beginning of our Lenten journey together. This year, we have the opportunity to do the Ash Wednesday, midweek services, soup suppers, and Maundy Thursday with Christ Lutheran Church. Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday services will be combined and held here at Our Savior's. Midweek service location will alternate between the two churches. Each church will be doing their own thing and honoring their own traditions for Good Friday.

This is an exciting opportunity to journey through a challenging and introspective season of the church year in an even greater community- two churches together rather than one church alone. I pray that this greater community would lead us more fully into Christ's presence together this year.

If you are able to take part in the evening service on Ash Wednesday, you will hear me make the following invitation into the season of Lent. If you are not going to be able to make it, you can be invited in during your reading of it.

"Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' Passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection."

From sundaysandseasons.com
Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress.
All rights reserved.

As named in the invitation to the season above, Lent is in part about resistance. Resisting evil, resisting distraction, resisting a "quick fix", resisting the things that do not satisfy and do not last. There is only one thing that gives life and will last eternally- God. Let us recommit ourselves to that person and that life that will never let us down.

In Peace,

Pastor Cole



birthdays, anniversaries & more

◆ Birthdays ◆

John Mulligan	3/1
Rick Jensen	3/3
Elise Berschauer	3/5
Ruth Martin	3/5
Courtney Horvath	3/6
Dane Olbrich	3/7
Sean McGlynn	3/9
Nancy Iglesias	3/14
Kalani Fitzhugh	3/16
Pablo Gonzalez	3/19
Paul Skipper	3/20
Scott Cameron	3/22
Carol Hoffmeister	3/24
Elizabeth Lewis	3/28
Betty Colby	3/31

◆ Anniversaries ◆

Rick & Nanette Jensen	3/3
Terry & Janet Gillespie	3/9
Brent & Brandi Davies	3/21

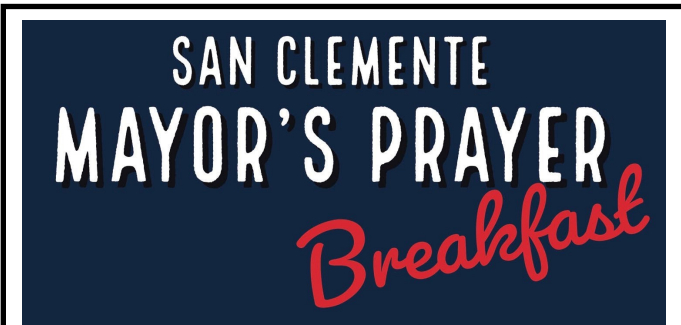


10:30am - Noon

**Drive-thru "Imposition of Ashes"
(gate near church office)**

7:00pm

**Ash Wednesday Worship
Imposition of Ashes &
Holy Communion**



**San Clemente Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
San Clemente Community Center
Tuesday, March 11, 2025
7:00am - 9:00am**

If you would like to attend please
RSVP by call Donna Vidrine
at (949) 202-7210
Fliers are available in the
Church Office & Narthex.



IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ OSLC ARSON UPDATE

The man who committed the crime and started the fire on April 6th of 2024 has been offered to attend a mental facility. After serving his time, he will be released back into the community with a clean record. He accepted that offer.

We, as the victims, have the right to send letters of concern and ask for protection.

Letters may include (but are not limited to):

- Restitution Owed
- Protection Order Requested

PLEASE...Email your letters to:
Joann.brown@OCDAPA.org
Case Number: Ayer24HS0676

Thank you!



Midweek Lenten Service † March 12 - April 9

This year we are doing our Soup Suppers & Midweek Lenten Service in collaboration with our friends at Christ Lutheran Church. Each Wednesday we will alternate churches and preachers. When we meet at OSLC, Pastor Rich will be preaching.

When we meet at CLC, Pastor Cole will be preaching. Each week we will have a potluck supper before the service.

The theme for the midweek services this year will be
“Worship through the Senses”

Each of the five weeks will focus on a different sense. These services will center our five senses as a way of exploring the significance of Christ’s incarnation throughout our Lenten journey.

Soup Supper & Midweek Lenten Service Schedule

**Christ Lutheran Church
March 12, 26 & April 9
Pastor Cole will be preaching**

**5:30pm - Soup Supper*
6:30pm - Lenten Service**

****Please bring a soup / bread to share.***

**35522 Camino Capistrano
San Clemente, CA 92672**

**Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
March 19 & April 2
Pastor Rich will be preaching**

**5:30pm - Soup Supper*
6:30pm - Lenten Service**

****Please bring a soup / bread to share.***

**200 Avenida San Pablo
San Clemente, CA 92672**



AUDIO-VIDEO NEWS...We will be upgrading our audio video system in April! Our new system will be better, more user friendly, and when it is installed, we will be having a training event for people interested in volunteering in the tech/sound booth.

More info to follow.



The Power of Music in Worship: A Call to Action

Music is a universal language that speaks to the soul, and in worship, it becomes a powerful tool for connecting with God. Whether through a solemn hymn or a joyful praise song, music allows us to express what words alone often cannot. It stirs our spirits, lifts our hearts, and draws us into a deeper communion with the Creator.

In the Bible, music played a central role in worship. David's psalms, sung with instruments, are timeless examples of how music can convey love, gratitude, and reverence for God. Today, music continues to be a vital part of our worship experience, inviting us to sing, clap, and even dance in His presence.

However, worship is not just about listening—it's about living. As James 1:22 reminds us, *"Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."* While music moves our hearts, it should also move us to action. Worship is more than a melody; it is a lifestyle of obedience, love, and service.

Let us not only be inspired by the songs we sing but also transformed by them. May the words of praise we lift up in worship shape the way we live out our faith daily. Let's embrace the gift of music as a way to open our hearts to God and commit ourselves to walking in His ways, living as true doers of His Word.

Blessings,

George Freitas, Music Director

from the
Council President



Hello my church family! Things about and around the church and school are really progressing! Sometimes you would have to look closely or you miss the solutions happening all around you at OSLC & School! Sometimes it's new batteries in thermostats and filters in the vents to get the heaters working after the fire restoration OR the pressure washing of the bricks at the church entrance OR moving a playground slide and fort to a better location for the kids OR shredding and shredding old office documents OR creating the cutest little outdoor wooden playground in a new small area for the smallest bunch. It's the happy faces and effort of so many that turns problems into solutions. It shows church pride and ownership. God bless all of our church family!

Peace, M'Liz Kelly



Middle School Youth Group and their families are invited to come to Wednesday Midweek Lenten Services. There will be time after each midweek service for games with youth led by Pastor Cole. This will go to 8:00pm like normal MSYG.

High School Youth Group will meet each Sunday in the Youth Room at 6:30pm in March with the exception of Sunday, March 16th.

Confirmation Classes - March 2 and March 16 at 11:00am in the Founder's Room

Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

Worship and Celebration + March 2025

Did you know....that March is Spiritual Wellness Month?

When I Googled “Spiritual Wellness”, I got all kinds of different results. Most of those mentioned self-awareness, meditation, and other practices that can be helpful, but are not really what I was looking for. I try to be self-aware, and I do meditate/pray, however, I include my faith in these practices. So...

What is Spiritual Wellness for Christians?

Since this is the 21st century, I asked AI to answer this question. Here is what it said:

For Christians, spiritual wellness is about having a deep, growing relationship with God, guided by faith, prayer, and biblical principles.

It involves:

1. A Strong Relationship with God – Cultivating a personal connection through prayer, worship, and studying Scripture (Matthew 22:37).
2. Living Out Faith – Aligning actions with biblical teachings, practicing love, humility, and forgiveness (James 1:22).
3. Trusting in God’s Plan – Finding peace in God’s sovereignty, even in challenges (Proverbs 3:5-6).
4. Serving Others – Reflecting Christ’s love through service and compassion (Galatians 5:13).
5. Fellowship with Believers – Encouraging one another in faith through church, Bible study, or small groups (Hebrews 10:24-25).
6. Seeking Spiritual Growth – Continually learning, repenting, and strengthening faith (2 Peter 3:18).

Spiritual wellness for Christians is about living a Christ-centered life, finding joy in God’s presence, and relying on Him for strength and guidance.

I think that AI summed it up pretty well. How do you experience Spiritual Wellness??
Looking at the 6 practices that it found, I do/have done all of these at one time or another.
And, when I do, I do feel Spiritually “Well”.

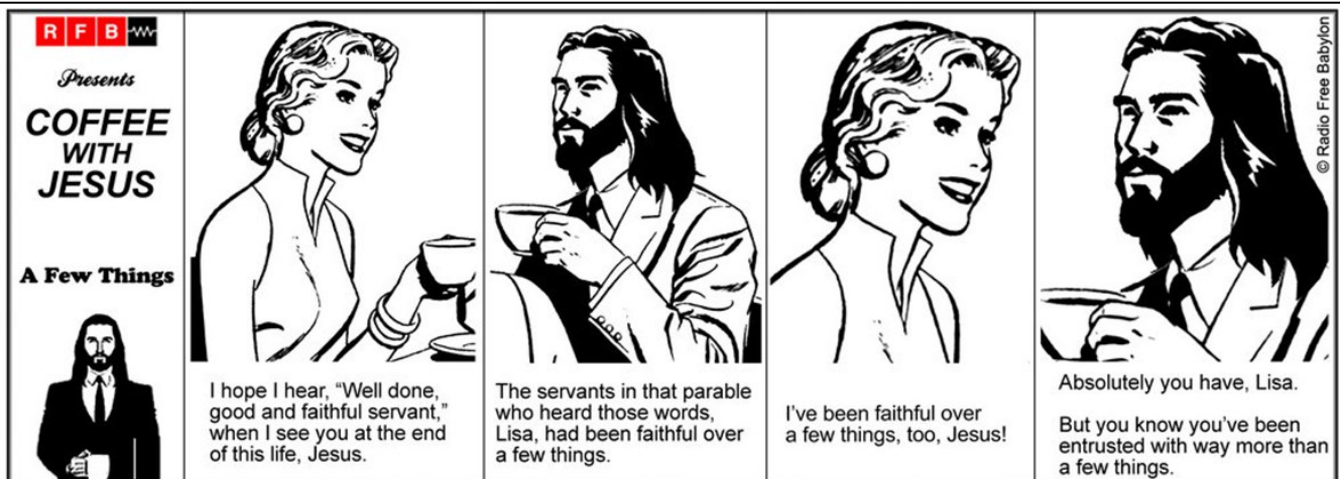
As we enter into the liturgical season of Lent, I am grateful for all of you who encourage me, teach me, connect with me in worship, and serve our church (you know who you are....).

Let’s all STAY WELL!!

In His Service,

Karen Skipper, Chair, *Worship and Celebration*

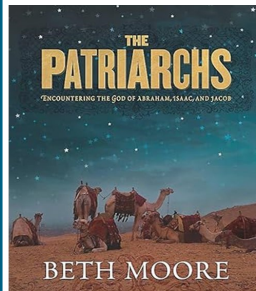
We can all be “good and faithful servants”



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OUR SAVIOR'S

MANNA

Manna Bible Study - February 2025
 at 1:00pm in Pastor's Office
 Tuesday - March 5, 12, 19 & 26
All are welcome!



Women's Bible Study
"The Patriarchs"
by Beth Moore
 March 4 & 18
 9:30am-11:45am
 Founder's Room



Beach Wine Club
 Thursday, March 6th at 5:00pm
 Christ Lutheran Church

Wine selection for March is Malbec Red Wines.
 All are welcome, and we only ask that you bring
 one bottle \$30 tops (per person/couple).
 Please bring a side dish to share.



Men's Breakfast
 Saturday
 March 8, 2025
 8:00am - 9:30am
Meet in the kitchen...

You are invited to join us for a Men's Breakfast,
 Bible Study and Fellowship at OSLC. Pastor Cole &
 Ed Fox will be preparing this months breakfast.

Sunday Volunteers Needed



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025
 June 9 - June 13
 Registration has begun.
 Children ages 3 (as of June 9)
 to Upper Elementary

Go to www.oursaviorsonline.net
 and click on the VBS link to register.
 VBS forms are also available in the
 church office and Sanctuary



Altar Flowers Available Dates

Mar 9 | Apr 20 | May 4, 11, 18
 Jun 8, 15, 29 | Jul 20 | Aug 3, 17
 Sep 14, 21, 28 | Oct 19, 26
 Nov 2, 9, 23, 30 | Dec 7, 14, 21, 28

Sign-up in the Narthex.
Flowers are: \$30.00



**Wednesday, March 19, 2025
2:00pm to 5:15pm**

You are invited to volunteer at
Laundry Love in San Clemente.

**Laundry Basket South
2405 S El Camino Real
San Clemente, CA 92672**

Laundry Love helps pay for people
in need to do laundry.

To sign up for a 90 minute shift please
send an email to Pastor Cole.



Easter Flowers

Our Savior's will be offering Easter flowers to
adorn the Sanctuary and Altar area for
Easter Sunday Worship. Flowers may be bought in
honor or memory of a loved one or dedicate to
family and friends. An insert will be included in the
Easter Sunday Worship folder remembering those
who have had flowers bought on their behalf. The
flowers may be taken home after Easter.

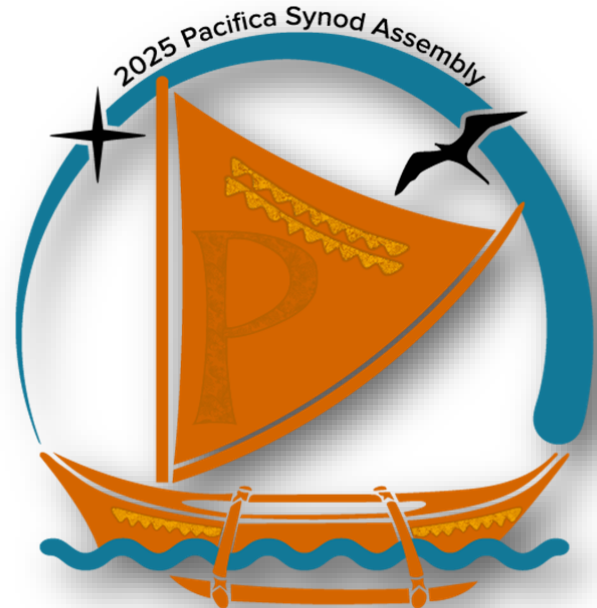
**Easter Flowers are \$25.00 each
Orders & payment are due no later than
Thursday - April 10th**

**You may Venmo us @ OurSaviorsSanClemente
or make your check payable to:
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Venmo/Checks Memo: "Easter Flowers"**

Forms are available on the church website at
www.oursaviorsonline.net or you may
click [here](#) to access the form

DO YOU HAVE THE GIFT OF HOSPITALITY?

The **ELCA SYNOD WIDE ASSEMBLY** is
asking members to offer their homes to those
attending the assembly who may not be able to
afford a hotel.



In a New Boat

DATES ROOMS ARE NEEDED

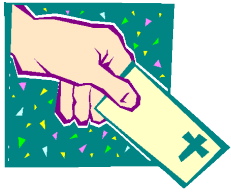
**Thursday, May 15
and/or
Friday, May 16, 2025**

**Sign-up list is available in the
Church Narthex or you may email or call
Deacon Daneen at
Daneen-deacondaneen@mygloriadei.org
(949) 290-0281**

(You are not required to provide meals)



To donate electronically
Venmo us at
OurSaviorsSanClemente
When asked please select
"Friends & Social".
Thank you!



**OUR SAVIOR'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
FINANCIAL REPORT
JANUARY 2025**

Offering	Jan 2025	FY July-Jan
Unrestricted Gifts	\$12,250.78	\$134,142.28
Budget	\$20,250	\$141,750

Our members and visitors continue to be faithful in their stewardship. We collected 60.50% of our January 2025 budgeted amount. Fiscal year to date we have funded 94.60% of the approved budget.

*We truly appreciate your dedication to Our Savior's Lutheran Church.
We continue to be prudent in our spending.*

Thank You For Your Stewardship!



The Social Concerns Ministry thanks you for benevolence gifts given in January 2025 over and above general giving:

- ◆ Family Assistance Ministries: \$305
- ◆ Laundry Love: \$127
- ◆ Orange County Tremble Clefs: \$95
- ◆ Pacifica Synod: \$102
- ◆ Quilts: \$ \$20
- ◆ Special Offering OC Wildfires: \$500
- ◆ Third Avenue Charitable Organization: \$127
- ◆ World Hunger: \$30

Your generosity very much appreciated!

Like us on Facebook - Church
www.facebook.com/oursaviorsonline



School - www.facebook.com/osls.sc



Church Council

Notes

February 2025

- ◆ The drive-through Imposition of Ashes will be held at the church office on Ash Wednesday, March 5, between 10:30am and 12:00pm.
- ◆ The Lenten Soup Suppers will be alternated with Christ Lutheran starting on March 12 at 5:30pm at Christ Lutheran. Alternated midweek services are scheduled for 6:30pm.
- ◆ Christ Lutheran will be having a sunrise, beach service at 8:00am. Easter Sunday. Our Savior's members are cordially invited to attend that service.
- ◆ Easter morning service will be held at Our Savior's at 10:00am

Respectfully submitted by:

Lola Davies, Congregation Council Secretary

Next Meeting Thursday, March 20 at 6:30pm



**April 13 - Palm/Passion Sunday
9:30am - Worship**

**April 17 - Maundy Thursday
7:00pm - Worship**

**April 18 - Good Friday
7:00pm - Tenebrae Service**

**April 20 - Easter Sunday
10:00am - Resurrection of Our Lord**



Happy March...

As the days get longer and the chill of winter begins to fade, March brings with it a sense of renewal and anticipation. From the vibrant colors of early spring blossoms to the celebrations of St. Patrick's Day, this month is filled with opportunities to enjoy the changing season.

Here's what's happening this month:

Infant Center

Infant center students are at a crucial stage of development where they begin to explore and make sense of the world around them. Engaging them in activities that focus on colors and patterns can be both enjoyable and educational. These activities not only stimulate their visual senses but also help in developing cognitive skills.

Benefits of Exploring Colors and Patterns

- ⇒ **Cognitive Development:** Recognizing and differentiating between colors and patterns is an essential cognitive skill. It helps in the development of memory and problem-solving abilities.
- ⇒ **Language Skills:** As infants learn to associate words with colors and patterns, they expand their vocabulary and communication skills.
- ⇒ **Creativity and Imagination:** Experimenting with colors and patterns allows infants to express themselves creatively and fosters imaginative thinking.

Lower Preschool

Sorting items by Size

During this time in the school year, our students begin to develop their ability to categorize and sort objects. This skill is essential for cognitive development and helps lay the foundation for more complex mathematical concepts.

Using Objects as Tools

Lower preschoolers are starting to understand how objects can be used as tools to achieve specific purposes. This involves problem-solving and fine motor skills.

Becoming More Imaginative and Inventive

Imagination and creativity flourish at this age, as children begin to engage in more sophisticated pretend play and storytelling.

Seeking assistance in Resolving Peer Conflict

Social interactions become more complex, and children often need guidance in navigating peer relationships. This includes learning to share, take turns, and resolve conflicts.

These milestones provide a framework to support the growth and development of lower preschool students. By understanding and nurturing these areas, OSLS educators are creating a rich and supportive learning environment.

Upper Preschool

Preschoolers, especially those in their upper preschool years, engage in a variety of activities that support their cognitive development. Creating, copying, and extending patterns are fundamental skills that contribute to their understanding of sequences, relationships, and problem-solving.

Creating Patterns

Our students are creating patterns that involve arranging objects, colors, or shapes in a sequence that follows a specific rule. This activity helps children understand order and predictability.

Copying Patterns

Copying patterns is a skill that requires observation and replication. It enhances attention to detail and memory.

Extending Patterns

Once children are comfortable creating and copying patterns, they can begin to extend existing patterns. This involves predicting what comes next based on the established sequence.

Collecting and Recording Information

In addition to working with patterns, OSLS preschoolers engage in collecting, describing, and recording information.

By engaging in these activities, upper preschoolers develop essential skills that form the foundation for more complex mathematical and scientific concepts. Through playful learning, children enhance their ability to recognize patterns, gather data, and communicate their observations.

Continued on next page

Important Dates

- ⇒ **March 3rd: Parent Volunteer Meeting 8:50am**
- ⇒ **March 5th and 6th: School Closed for Parent Conferences**
- ⇒ **March 9: Daylight Saving Time Begins**
- ⇒ **March 11th & 12th: Grandparents Day at 10:15am**
- ⇒ **March 14th: Blue Grass Family Music Night 4:30pm**
- ⇒ **March 17 and 18th: Spring School Pictures**
- ⇒ **March 20: First Day of Spring**

"Spring adds new life and new beauty to all that is."
— Jessica Harrelson

Wishing you a wonderful and vibrant March filled with warmth, joy, and new beginnings!

Regards,

Michelle Wohlfarth, Preschool / Infant Center Director



FAMILY BLUEGRASS ★ ★ MUSIC NIGHT ★ ★



Live Music, Face painting, Jump house and Food truck

**Our Savior's Lutheran
Church and Preschool**

March 14th at 4:30pm

MARCH

2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

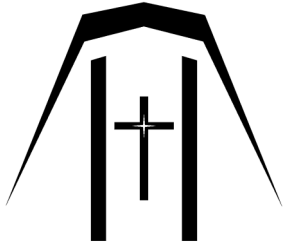
Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<p>2 "World Hunger"</p> <p>9:30 Worship</p> <p>11:00 Confirmation Class</p> <p>6:30 HSYG</p>	3	<p>4</p> <p>9:30 Women's Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 Manna Bible Study</p>	<p>5 Ash Wednesday</p> <p>10:30-Noon Drive thru Imposition of Ashes</p> <p>7:00 Worship</p> <p>No MSYG</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:00 Beach Wine Club @ Christ Lutheran</p>	7	<p>8</p> <p>8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>
<p>9 Daylight Saving Time</p> <p>9:30 Worship</p> <p>6:30 HSYG</p>	10	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 Mayor's Prayer Breakfast @ Community Center</p> <p>1:00 Manna Bible Study</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:30 Soup Supper @ CLC</p> <p>6:30 Lenten Service @ CLC</p> <p>6:30-8:00 MSYG</p>	13	<p>14</p>  <p>4:30 Bluegrass Music Night @ OSLC/S</p>	15
<p>16</p> <p>9:30 Worship</p> <p>11:00 Confirmation Class</p> <p>No HSYG</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 Women's Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 Manna Bible Study</p>	<p>19</p> <p>2:00 Laundry Love</p> <p>5:30 Soup Supper @ OSLC</p> <p>6:30 Lenten Service @ OSLC</p> <p>6:30-8:00 MSYG</p>	<p>20</p>  <p>6:30 Church Council Mtg</p>	21	22
<p>23</p> <p>9:30 Worship</p> <p>6:30 HSYG</p>	24	<p>25</p> <p>1:00 Manna Bible Study</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:30 Soup Supper @ CLC</p> <p>6:30 Lenten Service @ CLC</p> <p>6:30-8:00 MSYG</p>	27	28	29
<p>30</p> <p>9:30 Worship</p> <p>6:30 HSYG</p>	31				<p><i>Holy Communion</i></p>  <p><i>Served every Sunday</i></p>	 <p><i>First Sunday of the month</i></p>



Our Savior's Lutheran Church and School

200 Avenida San Pablo • San Clemente • California • 92672



**The Messenger
March 2025**

"Inspired to Love, Encouraged to Think, and Sent to Serve"

JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:30AM FOR WORSHIP

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Page	1	What's Happening, <i>cont.</i>	7
Birthdays, Anniversaries & More (Arson Update)	2	Financials & Council Notes, Holy Week Schedule	8
Soup Supper & Midweek Lenten Service, AV News	3	Preschool News	9
From the Music Director, President, Youth	4	Preschool News. <i>cont.</i> , Family Bluegrass Music Night	10
Worship & Celebration, Coffee with Jesus	5	March 2025 Calendar	11
What's Happening @ OSLC	6	In this Issue	12

Church Office

(949) 492-6164 ▪ Fax (949) 492-2904
OSLCsec@sbcglobal.net
www.oursaviorsonline.net

School Office

(949) 492-6165 ▪ Fax (949) 492-2904
M.Wohlfarth@oursaviorsschool.net
www.oursaviorsschool.net