

2023

stewardship
invitation



What really matters

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church



*“And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine **what really matters**, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.”*

–Philippians 1:1-11



The Holy Spirit Lutheran Church community is here because you have proven that **we matter**. With your participation, your ideas, your time, your talents, and your treasure, we are able to carry on our mission and purpose together. With your support, we can do even more of ***what matters to us*** and grow together as a community of faith.

So, we asked:

How does Holy Spirit matter to you?

Holy Spirit matters not just because of the community or my faith—it is a big family and a safe place. I have found my faith through listening to other people's experiences and learning for myself.

Holy Spirit looks out for all of us.

The Oasis Youth Group goes out of state each summer for a week on a mission trip to help those in need. We help the people around us, and also learn about ourselves and our faith.



ZANDER COLE

OASIS Youth Group,
Day Camp Co-Leader,
& member since age 1



KIYO TACHIBANA

Crossways, Mission Trips,
Garden Ministry,
Contemplative Prayer,
Sound Booth team,
& baptized at HSLC in 2014

Since I've joined HSLC, I've experienced my desire to be of service grow; to give back what I continue to receive.

In 2021, I joined the Anti-Racism Forum to have difficult conversations on race. With the killing of George Floyd in 2020, I woke up to the same feeling of injustice still at hand from my earlier childhood observation when I moved to LA from Japan. I've been hibernating and not paying attention to the deep and hidden illness of racism . . . I began to understand how so many people are living in the Duality of us and them; good and evil pushing aside the love Jesus teaches us.

As an Asian amongst mostly white Lutherans, I feel the friendship and the acceptance from others and love of God.

When I face the hateful face that so many Christians are putting forward in our country, I am proud and comforted to be part of a church that is about love and service and care for others.

It matters to me that I can invite gay or trans friends to our church. It matters that I can tell non-Christian friends that there are Christian churches that are NOT like the current face of right-wing Christianity.



CONNIE WIESETH

Refugee Resettlement Committee,
Faith Formation, Social Justice,
& member since 2011



ANGELA SCHAFFER

Part of HSLC since 2015 & officially became a member in March 2023

Being a part of HSLC throughout the pandemic felt very important to me . . . in a time where so much of life was up in the air and unknown, having a network to connect to (even if it was online) meant so much.

I've met so many people through Mom's Midweek Ministry, helping with VBS, at the Women's Retreat, and recently joined the woodwind ensemble . . . being a part of these groups allows me to find new opportunities to learn and grow, as well as give of my time and talents.

With the help of some church members [and] volunteer connections with Bridge Disability Ministries, I'm finally able to leave this survival mode I've been stuck in for the past three years and change.

That I now have a home of my own is no small feat, indeed. But were it not for God putting the right people in the right places at the right times, things may well have worked out very differently.



NATHAN A. ALDEN, III
Disability Inclusion Committee,
Assisting Minister, Bible Study
leader, & member since 1999



YOU MATTER!

What would *you* say?

When did Holy Spirit matter in your life?

How are you connected to our ministries?

Prayerfully consider your support of Holy Spirit's mission and budget by asking:

How does Holy Spirit matter in the world?

How does Holy Spirit matter to you?



If **you** have a story you are willing to share, please fill out our survey here: www.hslckirkland.org/stewardship-survey

To read more stories, visit www.hslckirkland.org/giving