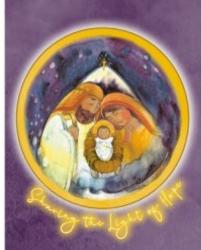
CCS APPEAL FOR THE POOR

December 9 & 10

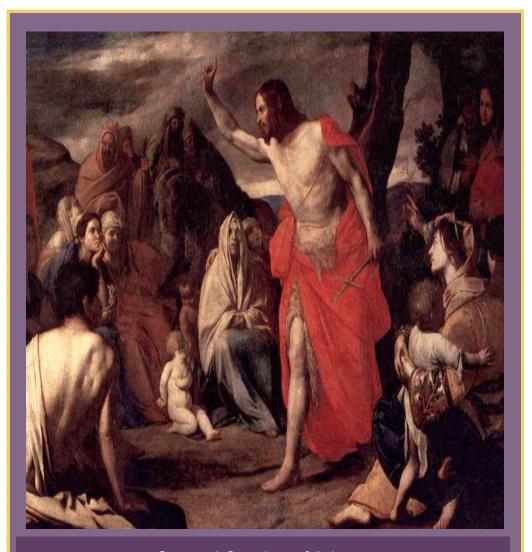


Your gift
supports
CCS/CHS
Services in your
community.

ccsww.org/donatenow

Saint John Bosco Catholic Church

"United as One, in Christ, to Worship and Love, Witness and Serve"



Second Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the way of the LORD, make straight his paths."

- Mt 3:1-12



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES
CATHOLIC HOUSING SERVICES

OF WESTERN WASHINGTON

Dear Parishioners,

The Holy Season of Advent will begin the first Sunday of December and it is also the beginning of the new Liturgical Year 2024 (Year B). The Advent Season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. It reminds us how to prepare ourselves in three different ways: the Solemnity of Christmas, the second coming of Christ at the end of time, and his daily coming into our hearts in Holy Communion. Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

There are a few ways in which you can anticipate this season. Join us for our Advent Penance Service on Friday, December 15th at 6:00 pm and participate in our Christmas Giving Tree Program which started last weekend. I invite you to consider getting involved with our parish ministries in the role of Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Greeter, Altar Server, and other charitable works; and perhaps, now is a good time for you to deepen your faith in Jesus Christ by going to daily Mass, setting up a time to meditate and reflect on the mystery of the Incarnation of Christ and His salvation of the world.

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. It can help you fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

Just a friendly reminder the solemnity of obligation for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is December 8th. We will have Mass at our Mission Church in Steilacoom at 11:00 am and St. John Bosco Church at 7:00 pm. Simbang Gabi will be celebrated at St. John Bosco with a Mass on December 11th at 7:00 pm and a reception to follow.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your love, prayers, and support since I sustained a fall. I am grateful to each one of you in various ways for assisting me during this difficult time. Praise God, I am getting better every day and hope that one day soon I will be fully recovered to serve you. I want to assure you that you are all in my prayers.

There are a couple of heating issues happening at our facility. We will get them fixed as soon as possible. In the mean time, you may expereince the cold in the parish hall and our daily chapel. Thank you for your patience.

May God, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint John Bosco, and all the Saints bless you, and your families. May they unite us as One, in Christ, to Worship and Love, Witness and Serve. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In Christ,

Fr. Thomas

St. John Bosco 10508 112th Street SW, Lakewood, WA 98498 Parish Phone: **253-582-1028** Parish Website: **www.stibosco.org**

Parish Staff:

Fr. Thomas Tran, Priest Administrator

Jeff Greer, Permanent Deacon: Liturgy, Baptism, RCIA

Debbie Pedraza. Pastoral Assistant for Administration

Marianne Manning, Pastoral Assistant for Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

Laurie Kaiser, Secretary

NEW PARISHIONERS



Welcome to our community. Please call the office at 253-582-1028 to register. Anyone over 18 years of age, still living at home, should register as a single adult member of our community.





SACRAMENT OF THE SICK & COMMUNION

Emergency Anointing of the Sick: 253-582-1028

"Through this holy anointing may the Lord in His love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up."

- From the Rite of Anointing of the Sick

PRAYER LINE: Are you, a loved one, or a friend in need of a prayer? Call the parish office at **253-582-1028** to be added to our prayer line.

MASS INTENTIONS: If you would like to schedule a Mass Intention for a loved one, please call the parish office at 253-582-1028.

Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of

Paula Franklin, Yvette & Robert Hadley, Lucille & John Kaiser, Russ Kaiser, Douglas Manning, Kendon Cone Pedraza, Reese Widman, Dallas Goad

May they, their families and friends find peace and comfort in the Lord.



Church Office Hours

Monday - 8:00 a.m. to Noon Tuesday - Thursday - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Friday - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

(Office Closed: 12/22, 12/25, 12/26, 12/27, 1/1/2024)

Masks are required upon entering the Parish Waiting Area and the Parish Office. Only one individual or family is permitted in the Parish Waiting Area at a time. Please wait in the Hall until the individual or family has completed their personal request and exited the Parish Waiting Area. Do not remove your mask when making your request. Thank you.

Mass Times at St. John Bosco

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9am Daily Mass (Friday, December 22nd Daily Mass Cancelled)

Saturday Mass - 5:00 pm Sunday Mass - 10:00 am

Holiday Christmas Schedule: See Flier

Reconciliation



The sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated at St. John Bosco every Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45 pm in the church reconciliation room (masks required) or by appointment. Call the office at 253-582-1028 to schedule an appointment.

First Friday Adoration



First Friday Adoration After 9am Weekday Mass



Interested in being part of our Homebound Ministry Program visiting the sick and homebound? Contact the Parish Office at 253-582-1028.



Baptism classes will be held the *third Sunday* of every month at 9am in the parish library with Deacon Jeff. Complete the application prior to attending the class. The baptismal Intake Form and Guidelines for choosing godparents can be found at *www.stjbosco.org - click on the Liturgy & Sacraments tab and then Sacraments*.



(NO RCIA CLASS 12/24/2023)

Are you an adult interested in learning about becoming Catholic or in need of completing initiation sacraments?

All people who are open to discerning their personal experience of faith and to learning more about the Catholic Church are welcome to begin the RCIA process. Many people come to an awareness of their desire to learn about membership in the Catholic Church in various and different ways. Often it may be a personal faith experience, overcoming personal difficulty and tragedy, or a relationship or discussion with a person of faith which leads one to begin this exciting journey. All that is truly required is a sincere desire to learn, to grow, and to develop one's relationship with God.

The RCIA process can be applied to the following 3 groups:

- * Unbaptized: persons (age of discretion: 7+ years) who have never been baptized and who need a process to help them grow in awareness to God's call to conversion as well as ways to respond to that call. They are considered catechumens.
- * Baptized in Another Christian Church: Those who were baptized into another Christian denomination and wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. They are considered candidates. For baptized Christians interested in possibly joining the Catholic Church, the process will vary depending upon the depth on one's religious and spiritual readiness.
- * Baptized (but uncatechized) Catholic Adults: persons who were baptized as infants and not given any religious instruction in the Catholic faith. These adults will be prepared to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Eucharist. They are also considered candidates.

Please join us for our first gathering on Sunday, October 8, 2023, following the 10:00 am mass in the Parish Library Meeting Room. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at 253-582-1028.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Children's Liturgy of the Word

We will continue our Children's Liturgy of the Word program this Fall but are in need of additional volunteers. Please contact Marianne to volunteer and check out our website for more info: stibosco.org/childrens-liturgy-of-the-word

For More Info or Questions, please visit our Website: stjbosco.org/faith-education or contact Marianne Manning at mariannemanning@stjbosco.org

Faith Formation

Please join us for Faith Formation class after breakfast (11:30-1pm) every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month.

Please enter classrooms through the outside doors labeled with the grade your child is registered to attend. Grades 7-12 (Youth Ministry) meet in the room behind the parish hall. Parents must bring student to check them in and must sign child out at the end of class.

The classes are broken up into the following groups:

Kindergarten-First

Sacrament Prep (labeled Second Grade)

Third-Fourth

Fifth-Sixth

Faith Formation Registration Forms available at:

<u>Faith Formation - St. John Bosco Catholic</u> Church - Lakewood, WA (stjbosco.org)



Please join us for Youth Ministry after breakfast (11:30-1pm) every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month

Youth Ministry Registration Forms available at:

Youth Ministry - St. John Bosco Catholic Church - Lakewood, WA
(stjbosco.org)

FIRST RECONCILIATION/FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion Registration Forms available at:

<u>First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion - St. John Bosco</u> Catholic Church - Lakewood, WA (stjbosco.org)

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation class meets every other Sunday (11:15-1pm) every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. If you are interested in Confirmation, please register for youth ministry. Youth Ministry - St. John Bosco Catholic Church - Lakewood, WA (stjbosco.org)

Youth Mass on Friday Dec. 29 at 6 pm for Grades 7-12.

Dinner Included.



Second Sunday of Advent:

In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord.". We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a neighbor, a family, or do you need assistance because of a loss of a job or an illness? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul leave a message at 253-820-9472.



ADDRESS

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

A JOURNEY IN FAITH

Our next two classes are Sunday, December 10th and January 7th. Meetings are held in the Library at 11:30am.

Are you an adult interested in learning about becoming Catholic or are in need of completing initiation sacraments? Contact Marianne Manning in the Parish Office as soon as possible at 253-582-1028.

Weekly Collection November 27 -December 3, 2023

Including Weekly Online Giving Sign up for online giving at: stjbosco.org



Weekend Collection	\$12,586.10
Weekly Online Giving	\$3,540.00
Total Weekly Collection	\$16,126.10
Budgeted Weekly Goal	\$9,746.42
Weekly Goal Under/Over Budget	\$6,379.68
Actual Fiscal Year-to-Date Giving	234,734.48
(July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)	
Budgeted Fiscal Year-to-Date Goal	\$224,167.66
(July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)	
Under/Over Budgeted Goal	\$10,566.82
Childrens Collection	
	40.0
(Included in weekend collection total).	\$2.10

Breakfast - Lite Breakfast



December 10 (Lite Breakfast)

December 17 (Breakfast)

(December 24 - NO Lite Breakfast)

January 7 (Breakfast)

January 14 (Lite Breakfast)

Second Sunday of Advent:

On this Second Sunday of Advent, light two violet candles on your Advent wreath and ask God for the strength to be like John the Baptist, preparing the way of the Lord."

WELCOME We welcome you to St. John Bosco Parish, celebrating	g with us, whether you are new to the area/parish or maybe	
not so new but just have not registered. If you are not registered, please complete the form below and place it in the collection basket or mail it to the parish office. Thank you. (This is not a registration form).		
NAME	PHONE	

Shawls of Comfort and Joy 2nd & 4th Tuesday of Every Month at 11am (No Meetings on 12/12, 12/26)

Join our Shawls of Comfort and Joy Ministry the 2nd and 4th of every month at 11am

and learn how to make shawls providing comfort or joy to those during illness or recovery, at times of loss and in times of joy. Your hand-crafted gift enables the recipient to be surrounded by prayer and is a tangible reminder of God's care and love. All levels welcome from beginning to expert. We will supply the yarn. You bring the needle. **Next Meeting 1/9/2024**.

Rachel's Corner

The Second Sunday of Advent

"God is at your side and already guiding you. You just have to keep taking each next step, one at a time. He will take care of the rest."

- Fr. John Bartunek

Since the day of the abortion, has it been hard to feel God there at your side? Is it hard to believe He wants to be there, and yearns to heal your heart? Come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and let Him show you.

English Retreat Friday, March 8, Sunday, March 10, 2024

English: (206) 920-6413

(leave a confidential message)
Email: projectrachel@ccsww.org

Visit us at: www.ccsww.org/projectrachel or

www.facebook.com/projectrachelww

Project Rachel is a program of Catholic Community

Services.



MASS CANCELLATIONS

We will make the decision to cancel masses at the latest 1 hour before the scheduled mass. We will be sure to update our website when the decision has been made and post on Facebook.

If you have any doubts or are worried about making the trip, please stay home. You are excused from Mass.



Ping Pong Club
Tuesdays & Fridays
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
All are welcome
Location: Classroom 7
No Ping Pong
12/15, 12/26, 12/29

Immaculate Conception Mission Steilacoom, WA



Join us every other month on the third Saturday for daily Mass at 9am.

Scheduled Mass for 2024 2/17, 4/20, 6/15

August, October and December dates to be determined.

All are welcome to include children with wiggles and whispers.

Patriots Landing



Next Mass 12/20 (Replaces 12/27 Mass)

Rosary available Wednesdays at 10:30am. St. John Bosco volunteers Cecilia Lago and Marie Cadungug will offer communion (not a liturgy service) to those who are homebound after the rosary.

Celebrate Mass with Fr. Thomas every last Wednesday of the month. The anointing of the sick will be offered every other month.

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of Mary: 11am (IC) - 7pm (SJB) (IC Seating Capacity 50)

Sunday December 10

Advent Activity Workshop (Youth): 11am (SJB)

Friday, December 15

Advent Penance Service: 6pm (SJB)

Saturday, December 16

Last Confession Before Christmas: 4pm to 4:45pm (SJB)

Sunday, December 24

Sunday Mass: 10am (SJB)

Christmas Carols: 4pm (SJB)

Christmas Nativity Pageant: 4:30pm (SJB)

Christmas Eve Mass: 5pm (SJB)

Monday, December 25

Christmas Mass: 10am (SJB)

Monday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass: 9am (SJB)

Sunday, January 7

Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord Mass: 10am (SJB)

The Christmas Giving Tree

Share gifts with our neighbors that might otherwise go without.



A Family Activity Teaching the Gift of Service and Love

Don't forget to pick up a Gift Tag today! All gifts DUE back at St. John Bosco by Friday, December 22nd at 4pm. Please bring tags attached to gifts. <u>DO NOT</u> wrap the gifts. The gifts benefit local families in need and children, the Nativity Homeless Shelter, and the Family Housing Network Day Center for Homeless Families.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP TIME. TALENT. TREASURE. WE ARE CA OUR GIFTS

WE ARE CALLED TO SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH OTHERS.

Effective 12/6/2023

Family Returned Pledges: **121**Total Pledged Amount: **\$289,781.00**(Funds pledged remain at the parish)

Thank you to the 121 families who filled out pledge cards totaling \$289,781.00. Our Stewardship goal for 2024 is \$506,814.00. I would like to see an increased participation towards Stewardship. The funds for this campaign help fund the operations of our parish, St. John Bosco and Immaculate Conception. You may either fill out a pledge card available in the pews or you can make your weekly offertory and other donations via online giving at stibosco.org/stewardship-1.



Our Annual Reminder About Your Taxes

For those who might be itemizing their deductions, we will process all donations on December 31, 2023. Donations *received by* that date will be recorded on your 2023 parish giving report. Anything *after* December 31, 2023 will be recorded on your 2024 parish giving report.



This Advent, use this guide to help you and your family prepare for the Lord's birth at Christmas.

Advent Family Traditions

Advent, the liturgical season before Christmas, is a great opportunity for families to enjoy joyful, faith-based traditions that keep the focus of the season on the anticipation of Jesus. This isn't easy when retailers start Christmas the day after Halloween. Even if you didn't grow up with many Advent traditions, are there one or two traditions on this list that you can try this year?

Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath is rich with the symbolism of the season: four candles for the four weeks of Advent and the flames representing the light of Christ to come. The lighting of each candle is an opportunity for the family to gather in prayer and read the daily scripture or reflection from an Advent book. Try turning off the lights and sing a song like, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" or "Light the Advent Candle" as the candles are lit.

Advent Calendar

The point of an Advent calendar is to inspire hopeful anticipation of the coming of Jesus and to emphasize the spirit of waiting over the spirit of receiving. Although the chocolate and Lego calendars are fun, try a faith inspired Advent calendar this year, which are easy to purchase online. Many have daily scripture quotes from Advent to keep you in the Advent frame of mind.

For Sunday Advent reflections by our bishops, inspirational videos and more Advent resources, go to archseattle.org/advent.



Christmas Anticipation Prayer

Also known as the St. Andrew Christmas Novena (not a typical 9-day novena), this beautiful, short daily prayer is traditionally prayed 15 times a day during Advent, starting on the Feast of St. Andrew on November 30. But for most busy families, praying it together once a day is a win. The words of the prayer are a reminder of the humble and historical event of the incarnation. Try saying the prayer after lighting the Advent wreath or as part of your prayers before dinner.

Straw for Baby Jesus

This tradition is when you put out a "manger" (a small cardboard box will do) and a bowl of "straw" in a common area (such as the kitchen table), and the idea is to create a full bed of straw for baby Jesus by Christmas Eve by adding a piece of straw when a good deed or small sacrifice is done for Jesus. Everyone can participate, even parents! On Christmas Eve, you lay baby Jesus (or a doll to symbolize) on the (hopefully) full bed of straw and sing "Away in a Manger" or "Silent Night."

Blessings for the Advent Wreath, Nativity set and Christmas Tree

You can find blessings for the Advent Wreath, Nativity set and Christmas Tree in many Catholic prayer books or online (such as archseattle.org/advent). Taking a moment to pause and pray a blessing is a great way to reflect on the meaning of these traditions. These blessings invite us to enjoy them with intention and gratitude.

Jesse Tree

This tradition traces salvation history from the Old Testament through the birth of Christ. Much like the Advent calendar but more involved with longer daily readings and song, it's a daily activity rich with symbolism and a great way for all ages to participate.

Decorating in stages

Instead of putting up all the Christmas decorations the morning after Thanksgiving, consider putting them up in stages to emphasize the season of waiting for the light of Christ. This will help put more focus on your Advent traditions. One idea is to wait to light and decorate the Christmas tree until Guadete (Rejoice) Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent. Remember, the Christmas season starts on Christmas and lasts all the way through January 9.

"O" Antiphons

The "O" Antiphons are beautiful, short chants used at vespers (evening prayers) for the last seven days of Advent from December 18-24, each starting with "O" and each highlighting a title for the Messiah (O Wisdom, O Lord,...), which increases the anticipation of Christ's coming. You can add these to your evening prayers around the Advent wreath or in front of the Nativity set.

St. Andrew Christmas Novena

Traditionally prayed November 30 to Christmas Eve.

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe. I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother. Amen

For Sunday Advent reflections by our bishops, inspirational videos and more Advent resources, go to archseattle.org/advent.



ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE



CCS/CHS 2023 APPEAL FOR THE POOR

THANK YOU TO PARISHES AND SUPPORTERS WHO SHARE THE LIGHT OF HOPE

WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NEIGHBORS SERVED BY 190 CCS/CHS PROGRAMS IN WESTERN WASHINGTON

2023 CCS/CHS SOUTHWEST PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ The Family Housing Network partnered with the City of Tacoma to create 20 Safe Parking spaces on the former Holy Rosary campus. Guests who live in their vehicles are invited to use the hygiene facilities, laundry, and 24/7 case management on the pathway to stability and permanent housing. Area parishes provide meals and other support.
- In Olympia, a partnership with Providence St. Peter Hospital allows CCS to convert two **Drexel House** shelter beds to medical respite care for medically fragile elderly and disabled guests.
- CCSWW received \$2.7 million from USDA's Farm Worker Relief Program through Catholic Charities USA, one of 14 nonprofit organizations and one tribal entity selected nationwide to provide direct grants to help agricultural households impacted by COVID-19, including residents at CHS housing in Lewis, Clark, and Cowlitz Counties.
- Network Builder Isabel Cisneros Rueda, a member of the Archdiocesan Mental Health Committee, was the first to receive and subsequently provide "safeTALK" suicide prevention training in Spanish to the Latino community in our region.
- CCS SW now provides Housing and Essential Needs (HEN), a housing stability program funded by the state, in Thurston County under the seasoned leadership of the HEN team in Kitsap County.
- In its first year of operation, Bertha's I and Bertha's II, 88 new shelter units serving veterans and older people experiencing homelessness in Vancouver, helped more than 80 residents move on to permanent housing.
- ★ Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program has helped over 400 veterans and veteran families at risk for homelessness find housing stability through Rapid Rehousing and other CCS homelessness prevention programs in Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Thurston, and Wahkiakum counties.









SHARING THE LIGHT OF HOPE ACROSS WESTERN WASHINGTON

COMMUNITIES OF CONCERN

CCS/CHS actively participates in the **Communities of Concern Commission**, a statewide coalition of Black, Indigenous, and Communities of Color in urban and rural areas disproportionally affected by poverty.

FAMILY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

CCS FBH is a recognized leader and pioneer among state behavioral agencies. This year, FBH hosted child welfare experts and agency leaders from Japan seeking to learn how to better address and prevent child abuse and neglect using programs like our **Wraparound with Intensive Services (WISe)**. 95% of the thousands of children and youth we served last year with intensive mental health treatment, integrated pediatric outpatient services, crisis response, and de-escalation remained safely with their families.

IMMIGRATION

Catholic Charities USA awarded CCSWW two grants in 2023 to provide asylumseekers in our region with help and support. A \$25,000 grant provided direct financial assistance to clients of CCS' Catholic Immigration Legal Services (CILS). CCSWW divided the second grant of \$350,000 between CILS and 41 parishes providing emergency services and supplies to refugees in their communities.

LONG TERM CARE (LTC)

CCS Long Term Care (LTC). Last year, we served 4,600 homebound elders and others with disabilities, helping to keep people in their homes in all 19 counties of western Washington. This year, thanks in part to CCS LTC advocacy, more low-income clients are benefiting from "the most significant anti-poverty change in Long Term Care in many years:" the increase of their personal needs allowance from 100% to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

NETWORK BUILDERS

Every year, **CCS Network Builders** work regionally to support service ministries in our deaneries and parishes, connecting the faithful to the people we serve. This year, CCS Network Builders are finding ways to support parish service ministries as they discern the path ahead through the Partners in the Gospel process.

PREPARES (PREGNANCY AND PARENTING SUPPORT)

One hundred four parish partners have joined the CCSWW **Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program**, offering vulnerable families the promise of support and assistance from pregnancy to their child's fifth birthday, including food, clothing, diapers, parenting classes, and referrals to social services. This year, parish volunteers offered special events including community baby showers for high school Teen Parent programs, and participation in Welcome Circle Family Days for refugees.

