

“The Christmas message is that there is hope for a ruined humanity—hope of pardon, hope of peace with God, hope of glory—because at the Father’s will Jesus Christ became poor, and was born in a stable so that thirty years later He might hang on a cross. It is the most wonderful message the world has ever heard, or will hear.”

—J.I. Packer



# Welcome

Welcome to Cross Sound Church. Whether you are a follower of Jesus, someone interested in Christianity, or a skeptic about faith—God is calling you to worship. Wherever you are in life, we hope you feel welcome and at home. If you have never been to church (or not in a long time) and fear that you will not know what to do, how to act, or what to say, know this: God’s grace is here and is for people like you.

We are a church that loves our cities: Bainbridge Island, Poulsbo, Silverdale, Kingston, and Seattle. And while we actively love and serve our communities, we don’t pretend to have it all together. Instead, we are a church where there is freedom to struggle with our questions, doubts, and fears; and a place where real healing, joy, and power can be found.

We are a church rooted in the belief that the historic Christian gospel is true, compelling, and promises to change our lives powerfully, in the direction of freedom, hope, and generosity.

The gospel, which means ‘Good News’, tells us that God’s Kingdom has entered history in order to renew us and the world. The gospel is more than entering God’s Kingdom, it is also the way we face every struggle in life and make any progress in personal growth.

The good news is that Jesus lived the life we should have lived and died the death we deserved to die in order to put us in a place where only He deserves to be—in a right, safe, thrilling relationship with God the Father.

Cross Sound Church desires to be filled with both believers and non-believers, who together explore the claims of the gospel and its effects on our lives and on the world.

Our aim in worship is both ancient, with liturgy that connects us to the Church of old and those who have gone before us, as well as modern, accessible, and meaningful. Underneath it all is our desire to be God-honoring, God-exalting, God-glorifying!

Let’s worship God together.

## Say hello

PASTORS:

Dave Sellers: [dave@crosssound.org](mailto:dave@crosssound.org), or (206) 334–5205

Dave O’Connell: [daveoc@crosssound.org](mailto:daveoc@crosssound.org), or (314) 853–2695

To learn more about the entire staff and our team of Elders, Deacons, International Ministers, Stephen Ministry and Community Group Leaders please visit our website: [crosssound.org](http://crosssound.org) or call our office: (206) 842-6898

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*Please silence all mobile phones and electronic devices for the duration of the service.*

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# Gathering

*Please join in song when ready*

**Gloria Patri** — *Words: Gloria Patri, 2nd Century*

*Music: Karl Digerness, 2009*

Glory be to the Father	As it was in the beginning
Glory be to the Son	Shall be forever
Glory be to the Spirit, Three in One	Amen, Amen, Amen

## **Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria in excelsis Deo  
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be,  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

Come to Bethlehem, and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased.

— Luke 2:13-14

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*The largest book in the Bible is primarily a book of poems set to music to sing God's praises. This is all part of God's design to surround His presence with singing. Expressing gratitude to God expresses dependence upon God and is an antidote for cynicism, criticism, and bitterness.*

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# Renewing

## CONFESSION OF SIN

*(Confession happens within the context of relationship, both with God and with each other as we acknowledge our need for forgiveness. Jesus promises that He freely forgives sins removing all of our past regrets. You are invited to personalize your confession as we pray silently).*

Heavenly Father,

At the outset of this Advent season,  
Help us to slow down enough to ponder  
The wonder and glory of what has taken place.

**The infinite became an infant.  
The king traded his throne for a cradle.  
Jesus stepped into the world, for us.**

We confess that in this season it is easy for us  
To be distracted,  
To be forgetful,  
And to even find ourselves indifferent to these things.  
**Father, Forgive us.**

Work in our hearts this season,  
**That we might love, worship, and celebrate Jesus —  
And be made instruments of His joy, His love, and His peace.**

We ask these things, in His most wonderful name,  
**Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND RECEIVING OF GRACE

Praise the Lord, my soul;  
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.  
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.  
— Psalm 103:1, 11-12

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

*2nd candle – (purple) The Bethlemlen Candle or The Candle of Preparation: God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready”. Help us to be ready to welcome you, O God!*

“As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: ‘A voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God’s salvation’. — Luke 3:4-6

**Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence** — *Words: Liturgy of St. James, 4th Century, Translated from Greek to English by Gerard Moultrie, 1864. Music: PICARDY, French carol melody*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand  
Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in His hand  
Christ our God to Earth descendeth our full homage to demand

King of kings yet born of Mary as of old on Earth He stood  
Lords of lords in human vesture in the body and the blood  
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way  
As the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day  
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away

At His feet the six wing-ed seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye  
Veil their faces to His presence as with ceaseless voice they cry  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia Lord most high!

**What Child is This?** — *Words: William C. Dix, "The Manger Throne", 1865, Music: GREENSLEEVES, 16th Century English melody*

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him thru,  
The cross be borne for me, for you.  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise a song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

**Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** — Words: Charles Wesley, 1739;  
Music: MENDELSSOHN by Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

Hark the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies.  
With angelic host proclaim:  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark, the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ by highest heav’n adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin’s womb!  
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see!  
Hail, the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell:  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark, the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris’n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
Hark, the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

## RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS

### Vows for New Members

1. Do you believe God created this world and created your life to glorify and enjoy Him forever because of His love for you and His commitment to you?
2. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope except in His sovereign mercy?
3. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
4. Do you resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as followers of Christ?
5. Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
6. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the church, and promise to promote its purity and peace?

### Vow for the Congregation

Will you, the members of this church, welcome these new members? Will you welcome them, will you encourage them, will you befriend them, to the best of your ability?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you.

—Romans 15:7

Love one another deeply from the heart.

—1Peter 1:22

## MESSAGE

**Text: Matthew 1:1-17**

**Title: The Family of Jesus**

**Speaker: Dave O'Connell**

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham: <sup>2</sup> Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, <sup>3</sup> Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, <sup>4</sup> Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, <sup>5</sup> Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, <sup>6</sup> and Jesse the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife, <sup>7</sup> Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa, <sup>8</sup> Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram, Jehoram the father of Uzziah, <sup>9</sup> Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, <sup>10</sup> Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, Amon the father of Josiah, <sup>11</sup> and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

<sup>12</sup> After the exile to Babylon: Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, <sup>13</sup> Zerubbabel the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, <sup>14</sup> Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Akim, Akim the father of Elihud, <sup>15</sup> Elihud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, <sup>16</sup> and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah.

<sup>17</sup> Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.

## OFFERING

Since you excel in so many ways — in your faith, your speaking, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love — I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving.

You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.

— 2nd Corinthians 8:7&9

### **Who You Say I Am** — *Hillsong*

Who am I that the highest King  
Would welcome me  
I was lost but He brought me in  
Oh His love for me  
Oh His love for me

Who the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed  
I'm a child of God  
Yes I am

Free at last He has ransomed me  
His grace runs deep  
While I was a slave to sin  
Jesus died for me  
Yes He died for me

Who the Son sets free  
Oh is free indeed  
I'm a child of God, yes I am  
In my Father's house  
There's a place for me  
I'm a child of God, yes I am

I am chosen / Not forsaken  
I am who You say I am  
You are for me / Not against me  
I am who You say I am



## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord Jesus, When you entered the world,  
The angels sang out in awe and with praise.  
Allow us this season to stand in wonder,  
And to bring you our praise.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:  
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, When it was time for you to be born,  
There was no room for you except in a stable.  
Be with those in our cities who are in need,  
And provide for those who are in want.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:  
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, The first people to hear of your birth where  
shepherds – those who were belittled in that day.  
Make us a people who show love, dignity, and  
Respect to all people, as we proclaim your name.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:  
Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus, When it was time for you to be born,  
You chose to be born of a simple teenage girl.  
May you continue to use simple people like us,  
To be your vessels of blessing to your world.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:  
Lord, hear our prayer.

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve,  
And to give his life as a ransom for many.  
— Mark 10:45

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away.  
We have left God's paths to follow our own.  
Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all.  
— Isaiah 55:16

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ  
Jesus. Nothing can ever separate us from God's love.  
— Romans 8:1&38

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*Communion, also called the Lord's Supper, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all followers of Jesus Christ to participate. If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you instead to spend this time in prayer ("Prayers for Reflection"). We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church.*

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**Of the Father's Love Begotten** — *Text: v. 1-4, Corde natus ex parentis, Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-413), Translated by John M. Neale (1818-1866) and Henry W. Baker (1827-1877), v. 5, Horatius Bonar (1808-1889), Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM; Sanctus trope, 11th cent*

Of the Father's love begotten  
Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the Source, the Ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see  
Evermore and evermore.

Blessed was the day forever  
When the Virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bore the Savior of our race,  
And the Child, the world's redeemer,  
First revealed His sacred face  
Evermore and evermore.

This is He whom seers in old time  
Chanted of with one accord;  
Whom the voices of the prophets  
Promised in their faithful word.  
Now He shines, the Long-Expected;  
Let creation praise its Lord  
Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heav'n adore Him;  
Angel hosts, His praises sing;  
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him  
And extol our God and King.  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Every voice in concert ring  
Evermore and evermore.

Glory be to God the Father,  
Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory to the Holy Spirit:  
Persons three, yet Godhead one.  
Glory be from all creation  
While eternal ages run,  
Evermore and evermore.

# Sending

**Angels from the Realms of Glory** — Words: James Montgomery, 1816; Music: REGENT SQUARE by Henry Smart, 1867

Angels, from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth  
Ye who sang creation's story  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

## CHORUS

Come and worship, come and worship  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing;  
Yonder shines the infant light:

Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star:

Sinners, wrung with true repentance,  
Doomed for guilt to endless pains,  
Justice now revokes the sentence,  
Mercy calls you – break your chains:

Though an infant now we view Him,  
He shall fill His Father's throne!  
Gather all the nations to Him;  
Every knee shall then bow down:

All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son;  
Evermore your voices raising  
To th' eternal Three in One:

## BENEDICTION

This Christmas season,  
May the God of hope fill you with all  
joy and peace as you trust in him.  
—Romans 15:13a

Amen.

**Amen.**

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*The benediction, different from good wishes or even a prayer, is a pronouncement of God's blessing. God sends us out in peace, giving us His presence as we go to be blessing-bearers to the world.*

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# Announcements

**Wreath and Garland pick up - TODAY!** Thanks to everyone who placed an order for Christmas wreaths or green. Please pick up your order TODAY immediately following our worship service. If you forget to pick up your order, please arrange to pick it up directly from Linda Gordon (llgonbi@gmail.com) sometime this coming week.

**Angel Tree is here!** Pick up a tag if you haven't already - we still have some left! The Church office is accepting gift drop-offs. Thank you for all your donations. *Dede Knapp could use your help sorting, delivering and mailing gifts.* Interested? Email dede.knapp@hotmail.com.

**Christmas Pageant - rehearsals have begun!** Our annual pageant will take place during service on Sunday, December 22nd. Rehearsals will be at 8:45am on Dec 15, and 10am- 12pm on Dec 21st. *If your student would like to participate this year, or if you are interested in helping, please sign up on the clipboard or look for sign-up forms at the Check-in table.*

## **Cross Sound Youth are gathering Socks and Underwear**

**SOCKS** - We are gathering 300 pairs of new warm winter socks (that can be worn by men or women) for the 5-8 grade gift bags for the homeless service project on Dec. 21st.

**UNDERWEAR** - The underwear is for the UGM Search and Rescue vans for which the 7th-8th and H.S. volunteer. The homeless have very little opportunity to wash clothes so a clean pair of underwear is much appreciated. Please bring any donations with you to church and place them in the big white box.

**Cross Sound Is Moving: Our last Sunday service here at BHS will be December 29th!** We'll begin the new year in our new home on Sunday, January 5th. The move will be a great time for community and fellowship. *More information on the back of the bulletin.* Interested in volunteering to help Cross Sound make the move? Sign-up!

## **Women's Events**

**SPRING RETREAT:** Save the date! March 20-21 at Islandwood

**Grandparents Ministry** Grandparents are invited to meet and discuss ways to more deeply engage with grandchildren and God. This session meets 2nd Monday's: 12/9, 4/13, 5/11, 6/8. 5:30 pm at the church office.

**Men's Bible Study** Fridays at 6:30am at Church Office. Contact Roger Barber irbarbers@gmail.com with questions or interest.

**Stephen Ministers** provide one-to-one Christ-centered care. Each minister is paired with a hurting person—men paired with men and women with women—and meet weekly with that person to listen, care, pray and encourage. Leaders: Sue MacFarlane 206-714-5986 and Dick Smith 415-847-8984

# Hope & Healing

**Holiday Travel** He came to earth to live amongst us because He loves us. Jacqueline has moved to a critical access country to tell and live out how much He loves people there. Although some words cannot be safely spoken in public, by making friends through learning language and daily activities she is able to talk about the only real good news. She also has been sharing with a small group, called a club, that meets weekly. The club has been together for one year. The plan is that in one more year the club will be able to function independently and sponsor new clubs. Jacqueline is adjusting to different social structures and spartan lifestyle. She misses family and the traditions of our holiday seasons deeply yet is confident in the love that sent her where she is.

## CS Kids and Youth Group

All children newborn through 6th grade need to check in and wear their printed nametag before they arrive at class.

### CROSS SOUND KIDS

Contact: Laura O'Connell, [lauraoc@crosssound.org](mailto:lauraoc@crosssound.org), Kate Pippinger, [katepippinger@gmail.com](mailto:katepippinger@gmail.com) or Sandy Halbert [sandy@crosssound.org](mailto:sandy@crosssound.org)  
Children will attend the worship portion and then be sent to their classrooms as a whole Sunday school group.

**Small Beginnings Nursery** (new-2yrs) Room #234

Contact: Laura O'Connell, [lauraoc@crosssound.org](mailto:lauraoc@crosssound.org). *Children are invited to be dropped off at this class before the church service begins.*

**Toddlers (2-4 years, must be potty trained)** Room #232

Lead Teachers: Chris and Joanna Livdhal, Keith and Mary Van Eaton, Lisa Grant and Lacey Redinger

**Pre-K/Kindergarten** Room #231

Lead teachers: Keagan Daniels, Jason and Bethany Hickner, Candace Luckman, Kareese Pippinger,

**First & Second grades** Room #229

Lead teachers; Ann Asher, Jennifer Cordell, Patrick and Jenny Kilby, Clint and Chelsea Ramsey, Dianne Stever

**Third & Fourth grades** Room #225

Lead teachers; Knox Duncan, Nate and Dinha Moore, Kate Pippinger, Carol Raney

**Fifth & Sixth grades** Room #222

Lead teachers; Carrie Sellers, Cheryl Keech, Trish Maguire, Bill Parrott.

### YOUTH GROUP

Contact Josh Brouwer at [josh@crosssound.org](mailto:josh@crosssound.org)

**Junior High**, Bainbridge High School Library

Lead teachers; Carrie Beyer, John Daniels, Sean Luckman

**Senior High**, Bainbridge High School Library

Lead teachers; Jamie Brouwer, Chip Halbert, Kerry Sutorius, Dana Webber

**EVENING YOUTH GROUP** at the Church Office: 600 Ericksen Ave. NE

- WEDNESDAYS 6:30-8pm - High School (begins September 25)
- THURSDAYS 6:30-8pm - Jr. High (begins September 26)

# Community Groups

Community Group Fall Session has begun. Unless otherwise noted each of the following groups meet on Bainbridge Island:

<u>Leader</u>	<u>Night</u>
Carrie and Dave Sellers	Tuesday (Kid Friendly)
Halbert/Dafoe	Thursday (Kid Friendly)*
Jennifer and Bob Cordell, Lisa and Bill Parrott	Thursday (Poulsbo)(Kid Friendly)
Kerri and Marc Koenig	Thursday (Poulsbo)
Linda Gordon and Roger Barber	Saturday
Jenny and Patrick Kilby	Sunday, noon–2 pm (Kid Friendly)
Laura and Dave O'Connell	Sunday (Kid Friendly)
Jeff Ogard	Sunday (Poulsbo)

\* Group is full - currently closed

For details contact Roger Barber - irbarbers@gmail.com.

# Connect With Us

If you are new to Cross Sound Church, please tear this portion off and put it in the offering to let us know you were here. You may also use this to inform us of any changes in your contact information, or to submit prayer requests for the staff to pray over.

First time visitor   
Second time visitor   
Regular attendee

Interested in more info for:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ministry

Please add me to:  
Email list  Mailing list

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Children & their ages: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Prayer Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Comments

We welcome your feedback on any aspect of worship.

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*If you have prayer requests or prayers of thanksgiving that you would like to share please email [Kristin@crosssound.org](mailto:Kristin@crosssound.org) or indicate on the prayer request page and drop it in the offering basket. Our prayer team prays for these requests throughout the week.*

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Dear Cross Sound Church,

Reconstruction of BHS Building 100 is well under way. Included in that work will be a remodeling of the Commons where we meet each Sunday. That work begins in early January. As a result, we will be moving to a new Sunday meeting space, so please mark your calendars:

**Our LAST Sunday Service at BHS Commons: Sunday December 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Our FIRST Sunday Service at our new location: Sunday January 5<sup>th</sup>**

In scripture, we find that God called Abram to pick up and “go.” However, we also note that God did not say where, but rather, He invited Abram to go to “a land I will show you.”

Over the past year, we’ve worked with the school district on a move plan that would take us to Wilkes Elementary. Recently, a new door was opened for us to consider moving to Sakai Intermediate School. Church leaders and staff met with school district officials to discuss this new plan. And after a site tour and much prayer, the decision was made to make Sakai our new temporary home for Sunday services.

Going to Sakai offers practical advantages over Wilkes with a larger meeting space, larger classrooms and furniture and more parking, all while remaining more centrally located on Bainbridge Island.

While it is a change to our plan, we’re reminded that our journey is God’s plan and this new element of “disruption” is in His hands. We are in good hands indeed.

Astonished by Grace,  
Cross Sound Elders