



Our Saviour Lutheran Church
 725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
 Dallas, North Carolina
 702-922-4648



Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XVII, Issue III

March 2023

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Saviour Lutheran Church welcomes all people to a safe place to grow in faith and serve the Lord Jesus Christ

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The Season of LENT

“Lent is a time for giving things up,” we tell ourselves. Yes, it is. But for a good reason. Lent is the time we remember how much our Lord Jesus Christ gave up for us. In former times, Christians were told to give up eating meat on Fridays during Lent. The reason? It was on a Friday (Good Friday) that Jesus gave up his “meat” -- his flesh, his life -- for us. So every time someone had a meatless meal on Friday, that person was supposed to think, “I’m giving up meat today because on a Friday Jesus gave up so much for me. Thank you, Jesus!”

Why did the One we have seen and heard to be God’s beloved Son have to give up his life for us? The very first day of Lent, **Ash Wednesday**, tells us that story. On Ash Wednesday we learn again how Adam and Eve disobeyed the Lord God in the Garden of Eden. God had created Adam from the dust of the earth,” the story said. God had given Adam and Eve everything in the Garden to eat--except the fruit of one tree. “In the day you eat of that one, you will die.” God warned them solemnly.

But they were tempted by Satan and they disobeyed. God confronted them in the Garden: “What have you done?” and reminded them of the consequences: “You are dust, and to dust you shall return.” That’s why many Christians observe Ash Wednesday by wearing ashes on their foreheads. That’s also why the Scripture readings for Ash Wednesday urge us to “return to the Lord, your God” by confessing our sins and seeking God’s forgiveness (“Create in me a clean heart, O God”).

Those are thoughts we should try to keep on our minds throughout the Lenten season.

The **First Sunday of Lent** gets us off to a good start. The Gospel reading in all three years (Lectionary Series A, B, and C) deals with our Lord’s going to the wilderness after he was baptized by John in the Jordan River. (We celebrate our Lord’s baptism, remember, on the Sunday after Epiphany, which was January 6. We should maybe celebrate Ash Wednesday the very next week--except that we had all that important Epiphany season

stuff to learn about Jesus, and if we are going to live the story, it’s a good idea to have all the pieces in place, even if that takes us a while to do.)

A couple of items to note here. One is that the length of time Jesus spent in the wilderness was 40 days. That’s how long our season of Lent is, and that’s probably why. But in Jesus’ day, those 40 days in the wilderness were probably supposed to remind his followers of the 40 years the children of Israel spent in the wilderness after they had crossed the Red Sea on their way to the Promised Land. Can crossing the sea be a foreshadowing of Jesus’ baptism? Both of these events involved coming through water, didn’t they? And both of them, in a way, marked something wonderful God has done to be a Savior for his people (your baptism certainly does that, doesn’t it?)

Another item to note is what was about to happen in the wilderness. The devil was waiting there to try to tempt Jesus to sin. We recognize the tactic, because we saw it back in the Garden of Eden, where the serpent was just waiting for Eve to come by. The devil is still trying to get people to “return to dust.” The season of Lent does a good job of reminding us of that.

But we are not alone in the wilderness. Our Lord Jesus is with us here. And so is the family of God has made us part of, going all the way back to Abraham and Sarah, whom we meet on the **Second Sunday in Lent** as God promises to bless them.

As we move through the season of Lent, then, we continue to see temptations to sin--look for them every week--and the dreadful result of sin--look for that too. By the **Fifth Sunday of Lent** we come face to face with death. But, as was the case in the Garden of Eden, we also continue to see a God who is “gracious and merciful--and abounding in steadfast love,” a God who is willing to sacrifice in order that people might be rescued from the results of their sin. If “we are dust,” Jesus is with us in this wilderness, sharing our dust--our humanity--and eventually sharing its outcome. For our sakes, he will “return to dust” and die.

(Lent Season cont’d on page 12)

29th Celebration of Life Fund Raiser

“But Jesus called the children to Him and said, ‘Let the Little Children Come to Me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.’” Luke 18:18

Date: Thursday, March 9, 2023

Location: First Assembly of God,
777 S. Myrtle School Road, Gastonia

Time/Program: **It is Different...**
There will **NOT** be a meal!
Invitations won't be sent.

5:45 pm: Doors Open

6:15 to 7:00 pm—Musical Worship in the Sanctuary.

7:00 pm—Program in the sanctuary.

Speaker: Jan Fox, PreBorn!

Seating: On a First Come, First Serve basis
There will be reserved seating for those
unable to climb steps.



See insert for donation

Why is Lent 40 days? Well, 40 is a biblical number...the Israelites spent 40 years wandering in the **desert** and Jesus spent 40 days in the desert before the temptation with both situations centering around allowing one time to pray, think and meditate. Lent is the same thing – 40 days to pray, think and meditate. I urge you to take advantage of this season in the Church calendar and devote time to pray and meditate. But what is the deal with 40 days? It is 46 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday! Well, the formula is that on Sundays you rest and observe the Sabbath, thus those 6 days are taken out of the count. So $46 - 6 = 40!$

Lent is a great time to reflect on your mortality, your ethics, morals, desires, wants, needs, gifts, direction in life, relationships with family and others (especially those strained relationships) and anything else that brings you joy or weighs you down. And before you go too far, no, Lent is not a time for solving all those problems, rather it is a time to realize and adore the salvation offered to you in spite of those problems!

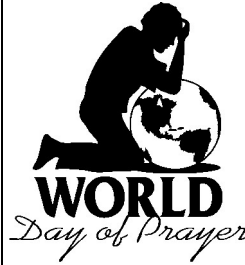
And so, to steal a line, **Lent's Get It On!!!**

Starting each day during Lent Pastor Pet will hold a devotional conference call at 6:00pm for about 5 minutes each evening. To simplify this, all you need to do is call in to

305 224 1968

and enter the Meeting ID: 817 6705 3049

MARCH 3



is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service.

- It is a movement initiated and carried out by women in more than 170 countries and regions.

- It is a movement symbolized by an annual day of celebration – the first Friday of March – to which all people are welcome.

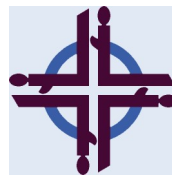
It is a movement which brings together women of various races, cultures, and traditions in closer fellowship, understanding, and action throughout the year.

Through **World Day of Prayer**, women around the world

- affirm their faith in Jesus Christ
- share their hopes and fears, their joys and sorrows, their opportunities and needs
- Through **World Day of Prayer**, women are encouraged
- to become aware of the whole world and no longer live in isolation
 - to be enriched by the faith experience of Christians of other countries and cultures
 - to take up the burdens of other people and pray with and for them
- to become aware of their talents and use them in the service of society

Through World Day of Prayer, women affirm that prayer and action are inseparable and both have immeasurable influence in the world

The symbol for World Day of Prayer was developed by the women of Ireland and adopted as the international logo in 1982. Its design is made up of arrows converging from the four points of the compass, persons kneeling in prayer, the Celtic cross, and the circle, representing the world and our unity through all our diversity.



THIS YEAR TAIWAN IS THE COUNTRY THAT THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER IS CENTER AROUND

The theme of the worship service “I have heard about your faith”, based on the letter to the Ephesians, is an invitation to active listening, which is the ground of our prayers. Following the example of the letter (1:15-19), where the author praises the church for their faith in Jesus and love toward all the saints, the worship service contextualizes the witness of the saints with the stories from Taiwan.



Our Saviour Lutheran Church Anna Lowery, President January 30, 2023 Council Minutes

Meeting called to order by President, Anna Lowery

Devotions: Anna Lowery

Members present: Steve Digh, Anna Lowery, Teri Trudnak, Alice Vlaservich.

Members Absent: Becky Messick, Melinda White, Robbie Wooten

Minutes: October 17, 2022 of Regular Meeting; Special Called Meeting of November 27, 2022 and Congregational Meeting of December 18, 2022 minutes were reviewed; Steve Digh made the motion to approve the minutes and Teri Trudnak gave the second motion

Reception of Petitions and Communications:

- Carr School requested money for play ground equipment. OSLC will support in prayer.
- NALC Disaster Respond Request: Board instructed to place an announcement in the February 19 bulletin that members can help by purchasing a gift card (Lowe's, Home Depot, Target, Walmart, etc.) and placing in the basket provided in the Narthex or table in Education wing on February 26.

Report of the Pastor: Pastor Pete's mother, Helga Feige died. Memorials, cards and members went to her service to express sympathy.

Report of the Treasurer: Report for October, November and December were reviewed. Motion was made by Steve Digh to accept the Treasurer Report and seconded by Anna Lowery

Report of the Ministries:

- Property:** New Main water line with supply lines to campus buildings was installed. Leaks in roof were repaired, Crape Myrtle trees trimmed. Talked about other trees to be trimmed.
- Stewardship and Finance:** None
- Worship & Music:** Christmas decorations in the church were taken down.
- Youth Team:** None
- Witness:** Cards and bulletins continue to be sent to shut ins.
- Christian Education Team:** Ask Julie Digh to help Melinda White with VBS

Report of Auxiliaries:

- Prayer Group unable to meet.
- The Rachel Group will meet at the home of Marie Robinson on January 31.

Old and/or Unfinished Business:

- Crape Myrtle Trees were trimmed in January. Members paid for the service. Thank you!
- New gutters/guards were installed on the Activity Building thanks to members of the church.

New Business:

- Council discussed service and breakfast on Easter Sunday. There will only be an 11:00 am service. No breakfast.
- Council discussed Wednesday Lenten Bible Study. Anna Lowery will talk with the Pastor.

General Information:

- Attendance: BRING A FRIEND
- Laszlo Mission Report
- The Carolina Regional Mission Report
- Guy Roofing (Sanctuary) was called back to address leak issued. Fixed.
- Cathey Roofing repair leak in roof in the Education wing for \$500.
- Church's main water line and supply to all buildings were replaced for \$3,800. Funds came from Memorial fund.

The Council meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is March 20, 2023 at 7pm

Devotions: Robbie Wooten -



NALC Disaster Response is a **vital and active part of our church**. In 2010 the North American Lutheran Church determined a need for a disaster response coordinator to support congregations in their response when disasters strike. They provide disaster preparedness training, early response coordination and long-term recovery training.

Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

NALC Disaster Response has resources and capabilities to assist in early response and longer term recovery. We can open the gates to material resources, networking, counseling, training, and volunteers. Remember, the key is early communication!

When disaster strikes the NALC Disaster Response has to have supplies and resources to help those in need. That is where our congregation and others come into the picture by either donating monetary/gift cards donations. Even after (as stated above) the dust has settled, they need to have supplies on hand after a disaster has struck.

Instead of purchasing items, the Board recommend that members can help by purchasing a gift card (Lowe's, Home Depot, Target, Walmart, etc.) and placing it in the basket provided in the Narthex or table in Education wing on February 26.

Or if you would like to make a monetary donation please see the below.

Donate online or mail checks/gift card payable to:
North American Lutheran Church
PO Box 860565
Minneapolis, MN 55486-0565

OR put it in the basket in the Narthex or on the table in Education wing.



March 12, 2023

about their own potential and self-worth.

Founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low, Girl Scouts' membership has grown from 18 members in Savannah, Georgia, to 3.2 million members throughout the United States, including U.S. territories, and in more than 92 countries through USA Girl Scouts Overseas.

Girl Scout Promise and Law

The Girl Scout Promise and Law are shared by every member of Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout Promise is the way Girl Scouts agree to act every day toward one another and other people, and the Girl Scout Law outlines a way to act towards one another and the world.

The Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

The Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do,
and to
respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place, and
be a sister to every Girl Scout.



Girl Scouts of the USA is the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls—all girls—where, in an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adult volunteers, girls develop qualities that will serve them all their lives, like leadership, strong values, social conscience, and conviction



The Community Foundation Run is an annual fundraising event for local nonprofits facilitated by the Foundation. On the day of the Run, over 5,000 people come together for one of the biggest cele-

brations of community spirit and support in the county.

When:

The 2023 Run will be held IN PERSON on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 9am.

Who:

Walkers and runners of all ages, participating nonprofits, community members

What:

5K Run, 2K Fun Walk

Where:

Downtown Gastonia, CaroMont Health Park, 800 W Franklin Blvd, Gastonia, NC 28052

Deadline:

The deadline to contribute to nonprofits is Monday, April 10.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INFORMATION:

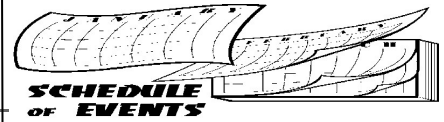
Founded in 1978, the Foundation currently manages more than \$63.6 million in assets and 311 charitable funds. As a primary steward of philanthropic giving in Gaston County, the Foundation focuses on coordinating donors and needs of our community.






What to learn more about *the Run* or get involved? Please contact "Community Foundation of Gaston County, Inc." by visiting their website www.cfgaston.org or calling 704-864-0927

March 2023



Sunday School: 9:45 pm
Church Service: 11:00 pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 	4
5 2nd Sun. in Lent	6	7	8	9 CPC 29th Fund Raising Event	10	11 LMIM 
12  3rd Sun in Lent	13	14 	15	16	17 	18
19 4th Sun. in Lent	20 Council Meetings	21	22	23	24	25
26 5th Sun. in Lent	27 Rachel Group	28	29	30	31	

- **March is Women's History Month**
- **Mar. 3**— World Day of Prayer (see p 2)
- **Mar. 5**— 2nd Sunday in Lent
- **Mar. 9**—CPC 29th Fund Raising Event,
- **Mar. 4**— **LMIM 100th Gathering** (see p 12)
- **Mar. 11**—**set your clock ahead one hour for March 12**
- **Mar. 12**— **Daylight Saving starts begins**
- **Mar. 12**— 3rd Sunday in Lent
GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY
- **Mar. 14**— Prayer Group will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza at 1:30 pm
- **Mar. 17**— St. Patrick's Day (see p 4)
- **Mar. 19**— 4th Sunday in Lent
- **Mar. 20**— 1st Day of Spring
- **Mar. 20**— Council Meeting
- **Mar. 26**— 5th Sunday in Lent
- **Mar. 27**—Rachel Group TBA



Food Collection

Holy Communion Schedule:

All Sundays



Worship Service Assistance:

Acolyte: Nora Cole
Communion Asst: Nora Cole
Lay Reader: OSLC Member
Worship Asst: OSLC Member
Greeters:
Ushers: OSLC Member

Council Devotions: Robbie Wooten
Collections: OPEN

FOOD FOR THE MONTH:

Pinto Beans, Canned Meat, Corn



Choir practice each Wednesday at 4:00 pm unless otherwise announced the bulletin



Birthdays



BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARY

4 Jack Clemmer	Christian Clemmer
19 Bailey Messick	Mariel Finger
	Ben Finger
22 Steve Digh	
30 Emma Dease	

FLOWERS

Flower Schedule:

Mar. 5 None during Lent
Mar. 12 None during Lent
Mar. 19 None during Lent
Mar. 26 None During Lent

Please sign up to place flowers on the altar in the glory of God and in honor or memory of your love ones.

22 openings
Please sign up and help
Decorate the altar of our Lord



ANNIVERSARIES

31stBritt & Anna Lowery



725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
 Post Office Box 475
 Dallas, North Carolina 28034
 Phone: 705-922-4648
 Email: oslcdallas@aol.com
 Website: oslc-nc.org



OUTREACH MISSION
SHUT-INS
NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Please remember our church members who are shut-ins or reside in a nursing home* or senior living and visit them or send a card to them

Marilyn Finger
 2701 Jackson Square, Anderson, SC 29625

Jill Petzold #122
 Stanley Total Living Center
 514 Old Mt. Holly Rd,
 Stanley, NC 28164



Help fill the pantry
 at the
 Dallas-High Shoals Christian Ministry.

Check and see what food item they need for the month (on page 5—our calendar) and let us over fill that basket in the hallway. This is a great outreach program.

God will bless you in your generosity.

FOOD FOR THE MONTH:
Pinto Beans, Canned Meat, Corn

Souper Bowl Sunday



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
 UPDATE AND FINAL
 \$250.00 IN DONATIONS
 55 can goods



SEE PAGE 8

HAIRCUT

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son, "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut. Then we'll talk about the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided, he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it. After about six weeks his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

(You're going to love the Dad's reply below)

"Did you also notice they all walked everywhere they went!"

**Events For
 Lutheridge -Lutherock-Lutherspring-
 Lutheranch**

Web site: www.NovusWay.com
 and

Kure/Agape Beach
 E-mail: kurebeach@agapekurebeach.org
 Web site: www.agapekurebeach.org

Please see calendars
 and
 other
 information on the
 bulletin board or go on-line



**GO OUT ON A LIMB
 GET INVOLVED
 BE A WORSHIP ASSISTANT**
 A positions are still open. Participate in the service of the Lord and sign up.

Sign up sheets
 for the 2023 calendar year are on the
 wall in the Education wing.
 THANK YOU!

WE ARE SMALL AND NEED YOUR HELP

A Stewardship Minute

“There is a story in this month’s issue of *Stewardship* about a large downtown church in the midst of a prayer meeting with several hundred people present. It was during the Lenten season and the pastor asked a rather simple, but searching question: “Suppose you had the chance to be one person associated with those last days of Jesus in Jerusalem, whom would you choose to be?”

A timid little woman arose to speak. “There are many people in the passion story whose place I could never fill,” she said. “I could not carry my

Master’s cross as Simon of Cyrene did. Nor could I have followed him out to the garden as some of the others did. But, I could make ready for him the best room in my house, where he might eat the last supper with his disciples. I could promise him that it would be made ready to his satisfaction.” There is no record of any such thing in Scripture, but it is easy to imagine some homemaker telling her Christian friends how the Lord had come to their home that night and had eaten that last solemn meal under her roof. She never wrote a gospel nor became a martyr, nor did she hold an office in the church, but she could

provide a furnished room!

A great deal of the service of the kingdom of God must be rendered by those who are never publicly commended, and are never elected as a delegate. “Well done, thou good and faithful steward.”

Prayer: Our loving Creator, you have given generously to us. Keep us from ignoring opportunities to serve you as good stewards of all that we are. **Amen**

St. Patrick's Day



The person who was to become St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, was born in Wales about AD 385. His given name was Maewyn, and he almost didn't get the job of bishop of Ireland because he lacked the required scholarship.

Far from being a saint, until he was 16, he considered himself a pagan. At that age, he was sold into slavery by a group of Irish marauders that raided his village. During his captivity, he became closer to God.

He escaped from slavery after six years and went to Gaul where he studied in the monastery under St. Germain, bishop of Auxerre for a period of twelve years. During his training he became aware that his calling was to convert the pagans to Christianity.

His wishes were to return to Ireland, to convert the native pagans to Christianity. But his superiors instead appointed St. Palladius. But two years later, Palladius transferred to Scotland. Patrick, having adopted that Christian name earlier, was then appointed as second bishop to Ireland.

Patrick was quite successful at winning converts. And this fact upset the Celtic Druids. Patrick was arrested several times, but escaped each time. He traveled throughout Ireland, establishing monasteries across the country. He also set up schools and churches which would aid him in his conversion of the Irish country to Christianity.

His mission in Ireland lasted for thirty years. After that time, Patrick retired to County Down. He died on March 17 in AD 461. That day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day ever since. Much Irish folklore surrounds St. Patrick's Day. Not much of it is actually substantiated.

Some of this lore includes the belief that Patrick raised people from the dead. He also is said to have given a sermon from a hilltop that drove all the snakes from Ireland. Of course, no snakes were ever native to Ireland, and some people think this is a metaphor for the conversion of the pagans. Though originally a Catholic holy day, St. Patrick's Day has evolved into more of a secular holiday.

One traditional icon of the day is the shamrock. And this stems from a more bona fide Irish tale that tells how Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to explain the Trinity. He used it in his sermons to represent how the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit could all exist as separate elements of the same entity. His followers adopted the custom of wearing a shamrock on his feast day. The St. Patrick's Day custom came to America in 1737. That was the first year St. Patrick's Day was publicly celebrated in this country, in Boston.

Today, people celebrate the day with parades, wearing of the green, and drinking beer. One reason St. Patrick's Day might have become so popular is that it takes place just a few days before the first day of spring. One might say it has become the first green of spring.



Church News



Altar Flowers

NEW FLOWERS CALENDER FOR THE CHURCH is posted on the first door in the hallway of the Education wing. Please sign up to place flowers on the altar in the glory of God and in honor or memory of your loved ones. You can then take them home with you or give them to one of our shut ins.

THERE ARE 23 OPENINGS

LENTEN Devotions

Started on Thursday, February 23, Pastor Pete will hold a devotional conference call at 6:00pm for about 5 minutes each evening during Lent.

To simplify this, all you need to do is call in to
305 224 1968

and enter the Meeting ID: 817 6705 3049

PASTOR PETE FEIGE TELEPHONE:

704-516-2805



RACHEL GROUP

will meet at the home of TBA

March 28th



"Prayer Group"

will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza

March 14th at 1:30 pm

LET US PRAY... "Are any among you suffering? They should pray...The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up." (James 5:13-15)



PRAYER CONCERNS— MARGARET Addington, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penley's), MARVIS Anderson, WHITNEY Auten (breast cancer), KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease's), KATHY Bohanan (cancer), RONDA Bradley (Marsha Patton's mom, surgery for neck fusion), KAREN Brady, MIKE Coffey (Robbie Wooten's uncle), STEVE Cloninger (friend of Brady Ratchford-cancer), ROB Curley (cancer), STEVE Digh (cancer), HARDY Feige (Pete's dad - chronic back pain), GLEEN Fraizer (friend of Steve & Julie Digh -cancer), NANCY Friday, DON Gardner (John Patton's uncle -cancer in lung, liver, stomach & pancreas going into remission and improving), BECKY Goodwin (friend of Brady's - cancer), JASON Hames (friend of the White's), GRACE Harbin (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), ANDERSON Jones (friend of Penny Wilson-paralyzed by fall), JEFF Lineberger (stroke), DANA Kirshman (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), JACK Lonon (Kasey Digh's step-father-cancer), MARINA Marazza (Shirlee Marazza's granddaughter-Long Haul Covid19), BO Messick (foot), FRANCIS McAllister (broken hip), CHRIS Messick (recovering back surgery), JASON, ALLISON & LEX Murray, ELIZABETH Mustin (rare breast cancer), GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), SONDRRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White), TERI Trudnak, RONNIE Shiles (friend of Brady Ratchford-declining health), MARTHA Surratt (friend of Alice Vlaservich-cancer). TONY Trudnak (cancer reoccurring), GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), ALICE Vlaservich (healing), MELINDA White (blood cancer -pray to find a clinic study program.), NANCY Wilson, MARY BETH Wright (cousin of Nick Vlaservich -cancer).





2023 PARISH DIRECTORY OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

CHURCH OFFICE 704-922-4648 --- EMAIL oslcdallas@aol.com --- Website oslc-nc.org

LEADERSHIP BOARD

Term Expiring 2023

Teri Trudnak
922-4485

Melinda White*
922-7056

Term Expiring 2024

Alice Vlaservich*

922-3052
Robbie Wooten*
691-8967

Term Expiring 2025

Anna Lowery

616-8850
Becky Messick
460-8664
Steve Digh
718-6430

*2nd Term

OFFICERS OF THE LEADERSHIP BOARD AND OTHER OFFICIALS

President	Anna Lowery
Vice President	Alice Vlaservich
Secretary	Melinda White
General Treasurer	Joe Finger
Delegates	Undesignated (appointed by Board)

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Peter (Pete) Feige
Parish Administrator	Nick Vlaservich
Choir Director	Marie Robinson, Interim
Archivist	
Organist.....	Nancy Wilson, Interim

BOARD MEMBERS ON MINISTRIES AND OTHERS

Property Team.....	Alice Vlaservich
Ministry of Christian Education	Melinda White, Becky Messick
Ministry of Worship	Anna Lowery, Teri Trudnak, Robbie Wooten
Ministry of Finance & Stewardship .	Steve Digh
Ministry of Witness	Becky Messick, Alice Vlaservich
Ministry of Youth	Melinda White
Nominating Ministry Team	(appoint in Oct.)**
Fellowship/Facility Ministry Team .	

MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Dallas-High Shoals Christian..... Julie Digh

Term of Office for Board Officers and Board Members on Ministries starts January 1 of each year and ends December 31 of the same year.

** Made up of two outgoing board members and the executive officers of the Board (Pres., V-P, & Sec.). This team will compile a slate of eligible candidates (up to 5) for the ballot to the Leadership Board to voted upon by the congregation.

2023 MARCH MISSION EMPHASIS

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Our staff and partners in the countries where we work know the local languages, traditions and customs necessary to provide appropriate solutions. And they have access to the knowledge and expertise of their colleagues in other countries around the world. We work in Latin America, Africa, Middle East, and Asia.

AGRICULTURE, CLIMATE & DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Our goal is to improve the lives of millions of small-scale farmers and their families, and to help them adapt to and mitigate the effects of changing weather and environmental conditions. With your generous gifts, LWR, in partnership with a local non-profit organization, is helping 80 farming families in this remote region increase their food security along with their potato crop yields. To do this, we're equipping farmers with a variety of native potato seeds. To further the reach of this work, we're providing training for farmers so that they can serve as local, technical resources to help other area farmers improve their crops. We're also helping families set up seed banks so they can continue to grow the native potato varieties.

Peru, high up in the Andes mountains. The people like the Potato Project, which helps them out of the extreme poverty. Juan wants to make money to educate his kids. This project also helps Daisy and her family, who live in the Castrovirreyna Province, high in the Andes Mountains in Peru. While most of Peru has seen economic growth, poverty persists in this region.

The Philippines has a Cash-for-Work program that helps when disaster strikes, such as a hurricane or typhoon. Decades of political strife, along with severe weather conditions, led many people to leave the region, taking with them the knowledge of traditional farming practices. As a result, many native potato varieties, a staple in the regional diet, were lost. Put together with low household income, this put many families at risk for hunger.

Leonida Carupo is a grandmother living in the Philippines. The Typhoon demolished their house and also their crops. LWR has helped with supplies to rebuild their houses and also to provide seeds and tools to plant gardens. They are very thankful.

WE ARE PREPARED

Prior to emergencies, we and our partners have established systems and capacities that allow us to respond to emergencies efficiently. In order to efficiently and effectively respond to disasters, our staff and our partners need plans and systems in place. Each of our country offices has an Emergency Preparedness Plan that outlines when and how we will respond to emergencies. We train our staff and our partners' staff on best practices for programs, monitoring and evaluation, rapid assessment, etc. We also participate in active networks of organizations, such as Action by Churches Together (ACT) and InterAction.

People affected by disasters are able to recover and rebuild their source of income in ways that maximize their resilience to future disasters. We also plan ahead by pre-positioning items (such as LWR Quilts & Kits) in warehouses supported by the United Nations (U.N. Humanitarian Response Depots). These depots allow us to quickly send items where they're needed, when they're needed. People affected by disasters are able to recover and rebuild their source of income in ways that maximize their resilience to future disasters. We also plan ahead by pre-positioning items (such as LWR Quilts & Kits) in warehouses supported by the United Nations (U.N. Humanitarian Response Depots). These depots allow us to quickly send items where they're needed, when they're needed.

Ellie Kitchner lived in Poland during the II World War, she and others had to leave their country and go to refugee camps. Over the years she has moved to Canada. Now she makes quilts for LWR.

Health Kits are given by LWR to people in Latin America for children of poor families and are much appreciated. Quilts are given in India at hospitals and at hospice care.

Sharing Gifts of Extraordinary Love

Pens and pencils, a toothbrush, a quilt ... ordinary items we take for granted become treasures in the hands of their recipients. The items you send will be cherished and used by people who take nothing for granted, for whom even a simple bar of new soap is special. Your gifts of time and resources are beautiful expressions of God's love and grace to those in greatest need. Thank you for your partnership in putting them together.

Please tell the people who are responsible for sending these Kits that we thank them from the bottom of our hearts. The Children will carry these gifts in their hearts, and in their minds they will know that there are people in far away places that care enough to share and send help to people in need.

(Mission cont'd on page 11)

(Mission cont'd from page 10)

– Saul Paisig, teacher whose students received School Kits in Peru

Quilts and Kits provide comfort, cleanliness and needed supplies to people during and after a disaster. They are donated every year from individuals and congregations around the United States. We distribute them in response to both long- and short-term, and slow- and quick-onset emergencies around the world. We also supply other non-food items like shelter support items, clothing and bedding, or other items as necessary. We obtain items from local sources as much as possible, to ensure support for local economies.

2023 Mission Emphasis for March is *Lutheran World Relief*.

This information and these stories tell a small part of what *LWR* is responsible for through their missions. It is an opportunity for members of *Our Saviour Lutheran Church* to contribute toward easing the hunger and thirst, as well as the results of severe weather disasters. Give any Sunday in March by check or cash for *LWR*. Pray for those in active service in other countries through *LWR* and also pray for those who receive the benefits of these temporal and spiritual blessings.



Help fill the pantry
at the
Dallas-High Shoals Christian Ministry.

Check and see what food item they need for the month (on page 5—our calendar) and let us over fill that basket in the hallway. This is a great outreach program.

God will bless you in your generosity.

Women's History Month

Women's History Month has been celebrated annually in the month of March since 1987 and serves to pay "...tribute to the generations of women whose commitment to nature and the planet have proved invaluable to society."

3 Reasons Why We Celebrate Women's History Month

1. **So little girls can feel empowered.** In my opinion, learning about the accomplishments of women before them is extremely important in helping young girls gain confidence and feel empowered. Girls need to hear empowering messages throughout their life because as we all probably know, raising girls in this society is still a struggle. Consuming media (both print and digital) with strong female characters and that celebrate the beauty of being a woman goes a long way to establishing a sense of pride for girl.
2. **So little boys can appreciate.** It's not just little girls that need to celebrate Women's History Month. Boys also need to learn about the variety of women in history and consume media with strong female characters. This will help them appreciate past and present struggles of women, so they in turn can help make a change for future generations.
3. **So women's history is not erased.** It can be easy to forget about the past, but as I often tell my children, it's important to know our history and learn from it. Celebrating Women's History Month ensures these stories are not forgotten or erased. The legacy of many important women needs to live on so future generations of women can continue to create history.

NORTH CAROLINA
LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION



The 100th Anniversary Gathering

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION
MARCH 11, 2023

Grace Lutheran Church
3020 Grace Church Rd
Salisbury NC 28147

Will host the Gathering “in person” and “virtually” by Zoom

On-Site Registration 9 – 10 am
Gathering Begins at 10 am
Keynote Speaker...Rev. Dr. Tim Smith
Bishop, North Carolina Lutheran Synod

To register, use the following Eventbrite link for an invitation to attend.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/100th-gathering-of-north-carolina-lutheran-men-in-mission-tickets-513537674007?utm-campaign=social%2Cemail&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-source=strongmail&utm-term=listing>

There is no cost to attend the Gathering. We offer a Zoom option but would prefer you to join us at Grace on the 11th.

If you are unable to register online contact Terry Edwards at the Men in Mission office, 704 633-4861 Ext # 9560, Cell 704 477-3429 or: Email: nclmm1988@gmail.com tpaulewards@gmail.com

Prayer REQUEST

I have a prayer request. There's a wonderful lady I've known all my life. She's very sick. On top of that, she's being abused by those to whom she has given everything. Just breaks my heart. There's nothing I can do alone, but maybe, if we join in and lift her up together, God will hear us and heal her. She's over 246 years old, but way too young to die. **Her name is United States of America** and I love her.



(Lent Season cont'd from page 1)

That is why the Church has chosen to make its observance of Lent a somber affair. “Lent is a time for giving things up,” we say. Even in our worship, many churches “give up” joyful music for a while, and joyful colors. Some congregations (like ours) do not have flowering plants in the chancel during this solemn

John 3:16

A little boy was selling newspapers on the corner, the people were in and out of the cold.

The little boy was so cold that he wasn't trying to sell many papers.

He walked up to a policeman and said, "Mister, you wouldn't happen to know where a poor boy could find a warm place to sleep tonight would you?"

You see, I sleep in a box up around the corner there and down the alley and it's awful cold in there for tonight.

Sure would be nice to have a warm place to stay."

The policeman looked down at the little boy and said, "You go down the street to that big white house and you knock on the door. When they come out the door you just say John 3:16, and they will let you in."

So he did. He walked up the steps and knocked on the door, and a lady answered. He looked up and said, "John 3:16." The lady said, "Come on in, Son." She took him in and she sat him down in a split bottom rocker in front of a great big old fireplace, and she went off. The boy sat there for a while and thought to himself: John 3:16 ... I don't understand it, but it sure makes a cold boy warm.

Later she came back and asked him "Are you hungry?" He said, "Well, just a little. I haven't eaten in a couple of days, and I guess I could stand a little bit of food,"

The lady took him in the kitchen and sat him down to a table full of wonderful food. He ate and ate until he couldn't eat any more. Then he thought to himself: John 3:16 ... Boy, I sure don't understand it but it sure makes a hungry boy full.

She took him upstairs to a bathroom to a huge bathtub filled with warm water, and he sat there and soaked for a while. As he soaked, he thought to himself: John 3:16 ... I sure don't understand it, but it sure makes a dirty boy clean. You know, I've not had a bath, a real bath, in my whole life. The only bath I ever had was when I stood in front of that big old fire hydrant as they flushed it out. The lady came in and got him. She took him to a room, tucked him into a big old feather bed, pulled the covers up around his neck, kissed him goodnight and turned out the lights. As he lay in the darkness and looked out the window at the snow coming down on that cold night, he thought to himself: John 3:16 ...I don't understand it but it sure makes a tired boy rested.

The next morning the lady came back up and took him down again to that same big table full of food. After he ate, she took him back to that same big old split bottom rocker in front of the fireplace and picked up a big old Bible.

She sat down in front of him and looked into his young face. "Do you understand John 3:16?" she asked gently. He replied, "No, Ma'am, I don't. The first time I ever heard it was last night when the policeman told me to use it." She opened the **Bible** to John 3:16 and began to explain to him about Jesus. Right there, in front of that big old fireplace, he gave his heart and life to Jesus. He sat there and thought: John 3:16 -- don't understand it, but it sure makes a lost boy feel safe.

You know, I have to confess I don't understand it either, how **God** was willing to send His Son to die for me, and how Jesus would agree to do such a thing. I don't understand the agony of the Father and every angel in heaven as they watched Jesus suffer and die. I don't understand the intense love for ME that kept **Jesus** on the cross till the end. I don't understand it, but it sure does make life worth living.. **John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."**

Just for Laugh — — Keys

OK, as we get older we have to be aware of issues like this.

Several days ago as I left a meeting at our church, I desperately gave myself a personal TSA pat down. I was looking for my keys. They were not in my pockets. A quick search in the meeting room revealed nothing.

Suddenly I realized, I must have left them in the car. Frantically, I headed for the parking lot. My wife, Diane, has scolded me many times for leaving the keys in the ignition. My theory is the ignition is the best place not to lose them. Her theory is that the car will be stolen. As I burst through the doors of the church, I came to a terrifying conclusion. Her theory was right. The parking lot was empty.

I immediately call the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen. Then I made the most difficult call of all, "Honey," I stammered. I always call her "honey" in times like these. "I left my keys in the car, and it has been stolen."

There was a period of silence. I thought the call had been dropped, but then I heard Diane's voice. "Ken" she barked, "I dropped you off!" Now it was my time to be silent. Embarrassed, I said, "Well, come and get me." Diane retorted, "I will, as soon as I convince this policeman I have not stolen your car?"

THE LAW IS THE LAW

So "if" the US government determines that it is against the law for the words "under God" to be on our money, then, so be it. And "if" that same government decides that the "Ten Commandments" are not to be used in or on a government installation, then, so be it.

I say, "so be it," because I would like to be a law abiding US citizen. I say, "so be it," because I would like to think that smarter people than I are in positions to make good decisions. I would like to think that those people have the American public's best interests at heart.

BUT, YOU KNOW WHAT ELSE I'D LIKE?

Since we can't pray to God, can't Trust in God and cannot post His Commandments in Government buildings, I don't believe the Government (Federal, State and Local) and its employees should participate in the Easter and Christmas celebrations which honor the God that our government is eliminating from many facets of American life.

I'd like my mail delivered on Christmas, Good Friday, and Thanksgiving & Easter. After all, it's just another day.

I'd like the "US Supreme Court to be in session on Christmas, Good Friday, Thanksgiving & Easter as well as Sundays." After all, it's just another day.

I'd like the Senate and the House of Representatives to not have to worry about getting home for the "Christmas Break." After all it's just another day.

I'm thinking that a lot of my taxpayer dollars could be saved, if all government offices & services would work on Christmas, Good Friday & Easter. It shouldn't cost any overtime since those would be just like any other day of the week to a government that is trying to be politically correct."

In fact.... I think that our government should work on Sundays (initially set aside for worshipping God....) because, after all, our government says that it should be just another day....

What do you all think???? If this idea gets to enough people, maybe our elected officials will stop giving in to the "minority opinions" and begin, once again, to represent the "majority" of

ALL of the American people. SO BE IT.....

Please Dear Lord, Give us the help needed to keep you in our country! **'Amen' and 'Amen'**

WHO IS GOD

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be glory and honor forever and ever. Amen.

1Timothy 1:17

God is King. He is in charge and in control. All things owe Him allegiance. His will always comes to pass in the world.

God is eternal. This is difficult for us to conceive. Nonetheless, He has always existed, and He always will. That puts Him far above us. Time is a convenience for us, but for Him it is not even relevant. The events of 6,000 years ago are just as much with Him today as the things that are 6,000 years in the future.

God is immortal. He had no beginning, and He will have no end. His character and way of doing things will never change.

God is invisible. He cannot be seen. Some take His invisibility to mean that He does not exist. This is a false conclusion. He has not left us clueless, though, concerning His existence. Romans 1:20 tells us, "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse." Things about Him can be seen in His creation. We are all without excuse.

God is only wise. There is no other that has wisdom. He is the source of it. Our understanding consistently falls short of Him. He is the only one that is wise.

To Him belongs honor and glory for ever and ever. All the earth will one day acknowledge that the LORD, He is God. Every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is LORD. He is eternal, immortal, invisible, God only wise!

2023 HANDBOOK

Health:

1. Drink plenty of water.
2. Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dinner like a beggar.
3. Eat more foods that grow on trees and plants and eat less food that is manufactured in plants..
4. Live with the 3 E's -- Energy, Enthusiasm and Empathy
5. Make time to pray.
6. Play more games
7. Read more books than you did in 2011
8. Sit in silence for at least 10 minutes each day
9. Sleep for 7 hours.
10. Take a 10-30 minute walk daily. And while you walk, smile.

Personality:

11. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
12. Don't have negative thoughts or things you cannot control. Instead invest your energy in the positive present moment.
13. Don't overdo. Keep your limits.
14. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
15. Don't waste your precious energy on gossip.
16. Dream more while you are awake
17. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need..
18. Forget issues of the past. Don't remind your partner with His/her mistakes past.
That will ruin your present happiness.
19. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone. Don't hate others.
20. Make peace with your past so it won't spoil the present.
21. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.
22. Realize that life is a school and you are here to learn. Problems are simply part of the curriculum that appear and fade away like algebra class but the lessons you learn will last a lifetime.
23. Smile and laugh more.
24. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree....

Society:

25. Call your family often.
26. Each day give something good to others.
27. Forgive everyone for everything..
28. Spend time w/ people over the age of 70 & under the age of 6.
29. Try to make at least three people smile each day.
30. What other people think of you is none of your business.
31. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch.

Life:

32. Do the right thing!
33. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
34. **GOD** heals everything.
35. However good or bad a situation is, it will change..
36. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
37. The best is yet to come..
38. When you awake alive in the morning, thank **GOD** for it.
39. Your Inner most is always happy. So, be happy.



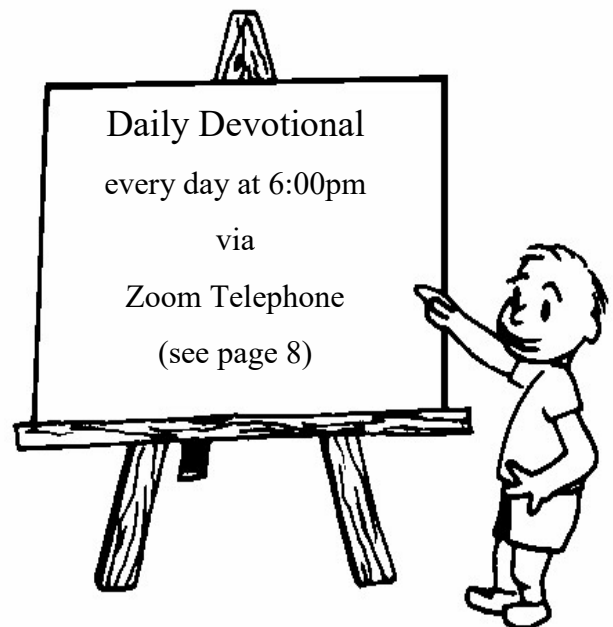
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 457
725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
Dallas, NC 28034



March 2023



**March 11
For
March 12**





700 Robinson Road
Gastonia, NC 28056
704-867-3706

God can save babies John 3:16 and save Souls! Ephesians 3:20
I can do all things through Him Who strengthens Me. Phillipians 4:13

“Celebration of LIFE” Annual Fundraiser – March 11, 2023

Giving Goal: \$230,096.00 Annual Budget: \$499,096.00

Please fill out the “2 Giving Options” after listening to Dr. Ancil Overbey give the appeal on the Fundraiser video. Please allow the Holy Spirit to lead you in your giving. Please deliver or postmark this form by March 12, in the envelope provided to: 700 Robinson Road, Gastonia, NC 28056

My Personal Information:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Church/Business: _____

Opportunities:

- Contact me about: Hosting a pew or table in 2022 Baby Bottle Blessings Walk for Life
 Sexual Risk Avoidance Presentations Monthly praying at a CPC office
- I would like to: Daily/weekly prayise for CPC Be a driver for the RV Ministry
 Volunteer at the Center Receive the monthly newsletter via email (Include email above)

2 GIVING OPTIONS:

1. SINGLE GIFT

- I would like to make a single gift of \$ _____
- My business/employer/church will MATCH my donation. Company Name: _____
- I'll give through Community Foundation Run: \$ _____ Make check to Gaston Community Foundation by April 17

2. MONTHLY GIFT/PARTNER

- \$1,000 per month = \$12,000 annually
- \$ 500 per month = \$6,000 annually
- \$ 250 per month = \$3,000 annually
- \$ 200 per month = \$2,400 annually
- \$ 150 per month = \$1,800 annually
- \$ 100 per month = \$1200 annually. I would like to become (continue as) a SPONSOR A DAY at the Center.
- \$ 30 per month = \$360 annually. I would like to become (continue as) a PARTNER PLUS!
- \$ 20 per month = \$240 annually. I would like to become (continue as) a PARTNER!
- \$ 15 per month = \$180 annually
- Other \$ _____
- With God's help I will give what I gave last year. \$ _____

OFFICE USE: _____ Amount Received:

In the box below, please write in your intended giving for the coming year (combine 1 + 2)

My Total Annual Gift:	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Me	<input type="checkbox"/> Check # <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> PayPal	<input type="checkbox"/> Bank Draft
		(Enclosed) Make checks out to: CPC of Gaston County	(at cpcgaston.com)	Bank Draft will continue on the 10 th of the month until you contact us. Please include a cancelled/voided check.
\$ <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> , <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> . <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>				