



Our Saviour Lutheran Church
 725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
 Post Office Box 457
 Dallas, North Carolina 28034



Phone: 705-922-4648 Email: olscdallas@aol.com, Website: olsc-nc.org

Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XVI, Issue IX

September 2021

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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See Inserts:

Invention to *"King's Cadence Concert"*

2021 NALC Convocation Report

In Perilous Times Be Faithful and Bold by

Jonathan Cahn
(Decision Magazine)

In the past year and a half, we have witnessed events unlike anything we have seen in living memory. A plague sweeping through the world, taking millions and irrevocably altering our lives. We have spent much of that time living behind masks and closed doors. We watch our cities ablaze as businesses are boarded up and lawlessness and violence prevail. Never since the Civil War have we witnessed America as bitterly divided as it is now, society seemingly separated into warring camps.

And beyond our borders the threat of war and destruction looms ever larger, from Moscow to Kiev, from Beijing to Taipei, from the missile silos of Tehran to Pyongyang. Even as I write, the sound of violence and the drums of war beat loudly concerning Jerusalem. Clearly, there are "wars and rumors of wars" (Matthew 24:6). And all this, as signs of American decline and the end of the American-led world order become all the more manifest.

And then there's a war over hearts and minds. Hardly a day goes by without hearing of yet another step in our culture's descent into moral degradation and spiritual apostasy. And it comes not from just one sector of society but from nearly all corners. Those who uphold Biblical values find themselves increasingly stigmatized, castigated, marginalized, vilified, censored, canceled, silenced—as the shadow of persecution looms over the horizon.

Are we seeing the signs of God's judgment? At the end of 2019, I had a strong sense that the coming year would be one of great shakings and a train of dark events that would constitute the progression of the judgment template I first wrote about in my first book. Two months after I began writing the sequel "The Harbinger II," the "shakings" began. It was decades ago that Ruth Graham made the statement: "If God doesn't punish America, He'll have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah." If that was true then, how much more is it true now?

If America was consciously trying to provoke God's judgment, it could hardly do more than it is doing now. Some of the signs in the Biblical template of a nation heading to judgment include societal division, civil unrest, disorder, sexual immorality, violence, the overturning of its moral foundation, the

But beyond judgment, are we witnessing in these perilous days something else—times of prophecy being fulfilled? What was it that the Word of God told us we would see in the last days?

In Matthew 24, Jesus lays out for His disciples a sobering description of the woes that would take place before the end of the age. In addition to wars, there would be famines and pestilences (as in a plague, a virus, a pandemic) (Matthew 24:7). Knowledge would increase (Daniel 12:4), but so would immorality. And the love of many would grow cold (Matthew 24:12). Men would become despisers of the faith, and believers would be persecuted (Matthew 24:9). The Apostle Paul wrote that men would be "lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, ... lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God" (2 Timothy 3:2, 4). And he describes in 2 Thessalonians 2:3 a great "falling away." All these things are now coming to pass. We are living in the days of prophecy.

Is this cause to fear? Just the opposite—it is cause for encouragement and power. The very fact that God told us of these things before they occurred tells us that God is still very much in control and very much on the throne. It tells us that there is no power on earth to stop the purposes of God. For look what else the Word of God prophesies concerning the end-times: God will gather the Jewish people from the ends of the earth back to their ancient homeland and Israel will reappear in the world. The Jewish people will again possess Jerusalem and the nations will rage against them. This has all come to pass in the last 73 years.

And what else did God say? The Gospel will be proclaimed to all nations (Matthew 24:14), and He will pour out His Spirit upon all flesh (Joel 2:28). Thus, we are not to fear but to live all the more assured, more bold and more strengthened. Some of you have wished you could have lived in Biblical times. Congratulations, you're there. And if the dark is getting darker, then it is time for you, the lights of God, to shine even more brightly. For the light that shines at night illuminates the world. And if the world is going from bad to worse, then it is time for you, the children of God, to go from good to great. For these are the days that bring forth greatness in those who will hold true for God.

And for those who wonder where they stand with God, today is the day of salvation! Turn now in faith to Jesus, Yeshua, Messiah, the Son of God, for the forgiveness of your sins and the promise of eter-

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day in United States

Constitution Day and Citizenship Day is a combined event that is annually observed in the United States on September 17. This event commemorates the formation and signing of the Constitution of the United States on September 17, 1787. It also recognizes all who, by coming of age or by naturalization, have become US citizens.

What do people do?

The United States president may issue each year a proclamation calling on government officials within the nation to display the country's flag on government buildings on Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, as well as inviting the people to observe this event in schools, churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies.

Various civil and educational authorities and individuals throughout the United States observe Constitution Day and Citizenship Day through a range of events and activities each year. For example, the Center for Civic Education provides lesson topics on Constitution Day and Citizenship Day for students at different levels. The US Department of Education provides various resources on the event as the department is responsible for implementing Constitution Day legislated mandates. Among these is the requirement for educational institutions that receive federal funds to hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on September 17 each year.

Public life

It is not a public holiday on Constitution Day and Citizenship Day in the United States so public life is not affected.

Background

On Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, an event which falls during Constitution Week, many people in the United States recognize the anniversary of the nation's constitution and the efforts and responsibilities of all citizens. With regard to the nation's constitution, in the summer of 1787 delegates convened in Philadelphia to create "a more perfect union" and to craft the country's constitution. They worked to develop a framework that would provide balance and freedom, taking into account federal and state interests, as well as individual human rights. The delegates signed the Constitution of the United States on September 17 that year. By June 21, 1788, the constitution was effective, having been approved by nine of the 13 states.

With regard to recognizing citizens, newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst advocated a day to celebrate US Citizenship in 1939. In 1940 the Congress created "I Am an American Day" to be celebrated in the third Sunday in May. On February 29, 1952, President Harry Truman signed into law "Citizenship Day". It was established to replace I am an American Day. On August 2, 1956, the Congress requested that the president proclaim the week beginning September 17 and ending September 23 of each year as "Constitution Week". One more change was made to the event when a federal law enacted in December 2004 designated September 17 as "Constitution Day and Citizenship Day".

When Constitution Day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or on another holiday, the day must be held on a weekday during the preceding or following week. This was the case in 2005, when Constitution Day was generally observed on Friday, September 16, and 2006 when the holiday was observed on Monday, September 18.

Symbols

Positive images of United States citizens of all backgrounds have been used to promote the "Citizenship" element of Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. The colors (red, white and blue) of the United States flag, as well as images of the flag, have also been used in artwork for promotional material for the day. Painted images of the constitution's founders are also used to illustrate the importance of the meaning behind the day and the words "We the People", which are written in the constitution, have been highlighted in promotional material to symbolize unity and cooperation within the nation.



(Perilous - con't from page 1)

The truth is, it is the greatest privilege and highest honor to have been chosen to witness these things and to live in such a time as this. Let us live in a manner worthy of such a high honor: Be strong and of good courage, go all out for God—faithful, immovable, bold and strong in the power of His might. What time is it? It's your time to stand. Now go and light up the world!

Jonathan Cahn is the bestselling author of books such as "The Harbinger" and "The Book of Mysteries." He is the president of Hope of the World Ministries and leader of Beth Israel at the Jerusalem Center in Wayne, New Jersey.

Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Anna Lowery, President
July 19, 2021 Council Minutes



Devotions: Robbie Wooten

Meeting called to order by President, Anna Lowery

Members present: Alice Vlaservich, Melinda White, Anna Lowery, Becky Messick, Robbie Wooten

Members Absent: Jeff White, Teri Trudnak, Denise Traveria, Joe Finger

Minutes: June 2021 minutes were reviewed.; Alice Vlaservich made the motion to approve the minutes and Robbie Wooten seconded the motion.

Reception of Petitions and Communications: None available.

Report of the Pastor: None

Report of the Treasurer: Report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Robbie Wooten to accept the Treasurer Report and seconded by Alice Vlaservich.

Report of the Ministries:

- a. Property: Another workday at the Activity Building is scheduled for 7/24/2021 at 8 am.
- b. Stewardship and Finance: No report
- c. Worship & Music: No report
- d. Youth Team: No report this month
- e. Witness: Cards and prayers continue to be sent to shut ins. Alice is also sending bulletins to those unable to come to worship service.
- f. Christian Education Team: No report this month

Report of Auxiliaries: Rachel group did not meet this month.

Old and/or Unfinished Business:

- a. Water leak at the Activity Building still needs to be addressed
- b. Follow up on NALC symbol for outdoor church sign

New Business:

- a. Need to send a letter to the Gastonia City Manager, Michael C. Peoples and copy to Mayor Walter E. Reid, III requesting that the road in front of the church entrance be repaired. (P.O. Box 1748, Gastonia, NC 28043-1748). Nick/Alice to compose letter and Anna review, sign and send.

General Information:

- a. Attendance: BRING A FRIEND!!
- b. Laszlo Mission (Kids International) Report

The Council meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is August 16, 2021 at 7pm
 Teri Trudnak will have devotions



NEEDED

FOR

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Be a servant of the Lord

Sign Up

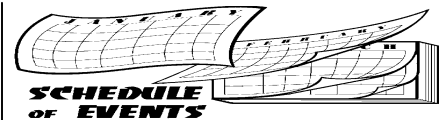


September 2021



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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 15 th Sun of Pentecost	6 	7	8	9	10 31st Walk for Life	11
12 16 th Sun of Pentecost	13 Team Mtg	14	15	16	17 Constitution Day	18 King's Cadence Concert
19 17 th Sun of Pentecost	20 Council Mtg. 	21	22 	23	24	25
26 18 th Sun of Pentecost	27	28	29	30		



LCMC Gathering (see p 9)
CLW Convocation (see p10)

- **Sept. 5**— 15th Sunday after Pentecost
- **Sept. 6**—Labor Day (see p 9)
- **Sept. 10**—31st Walk for Life (see p 8, 9, 11)
- **Sept. 11**—Patriot Day—9/11 (see p 6)
Remembrance of 9/11 (see p 7)
- **Sept. 11**—Court Square Summer Concert (see p 7)
- **Sept. 12**—16th Sunday after Pentecost
Grandparent Day (see p 10)
- **Sept. 13**—Team Meeting 7:00 pm
- **Sept. 17**—Constitution Day
- **Sept. 18**— King's Cadence Concert (see insert)
- **Sept. 19**—17th Sunday after Pentecost
- **Sept. 20**—"Prayer" Group will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza @ 1:00 pm
- **Sept. 20**—Council Meeting
- **Sept. 22**—FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN
- **Sept. 26**—18th Sunday of Pentecost
- **Oct. 2-6**—LMIN Convention (p 9)
- **Oct. 2**—CLW Convocation (p 10)



FOOD FOR THE MONTH:
Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce, Corn



Holy Communion Schedule:
ALL SUNDAYS



Choir Practice
on Wed. 5:00 pm

- 3 Brady Ratchford
- 6 Carlos Traveria
- 13 Jacob Finger
- 14 Cara Feige
- 16 Kellie Marr
- 17 Ben Trudnak
- 19 Robbie Wooten
- 19 Easton Finger
- 20 Stephen Lowery
- Keenan Gordy
- 21 Scott Finger
- 28 Bill Trudnak

- Libby Bickley
- Wayne Ann Penley
- Stephen Digh

Worship Service Assistance:

- Acolyte:** OSLC Member
- Communion Asst:** OSLC Member
- Lay Reader:**
- Worship Asst:** OSLC Member
- Greeters:** OSLC Members
- Ushers:** OSLC Members

Collection: Melinda White

Council Devotion: Sep. 20 .
Melinda White



17thSteve & Julie Digh

FLOWERS

Flower Schedule:

- September 5 Brady Ratchford
- September 12 Alice Vlaservich
- September 19 Keenan Gordy
- September 26 OPEN

Please sign up to place flowers on the altar
in the glory of God
and

in honor or memory of your love ones.

Seven (7) openings
Decorate the altar of our Lord
And then take home to decorate your home
of give to a love one of shut-in



725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
 Post Office Box 475
 Dallas, North Carolina 28034
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EVENTS for:

Agape/Kure Beach

Contact Camp Agapé:
 Telephone: 919-552-9421

e-mail: agape@agapekurebeach.org

Contact Kure Beach Lutheran:
 Telephone 910-458-0783

e-mail: kurebreach@agapekurebeach.org

Web site: www.agapekurebeach.org

Directions to Camp Agapé are on the web site.

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

Events for:

Lutheridge -Lutherock-Lutherspring- Lutheranch

**First Day of Fall
 September 22**



"I have set before you
 LIFE and DEATH
 CHOOSE LIFE so that
 you and your descendants may live."
Deuteronomy 30:19, NRSV

Life Chain, a one-hour, pro-life prayer and witness event, has been held annually since 1987, in thousands of cities and towns across the United States and Canada. The 2020 National Life Chain will be held on **Sunday, October 3, 2021 from 2:00 – 3:30 PM**. We are thrilled to have three locations in Gaston County: Belmont, Gastonia and Mount Holly! See **Event Details** for more information about the sites. **How it Works:** Participants arrive early to park and pick up a sign and then space themselves 10- 15 feet apart on the sidewalk. At 2:00 PM we join

the rest of the Life Chains across the United States and Canada and, for just one hour, pray quietly for the unborn and for a conversion of our nation on the issue of abortion. The reverse side of the signs are printed with prayers and hymns to aid your prayer but feel free to bring or say your own prayers. **Everyone is welcome and no RSVP is necessary. Just show up at your preferred location on the day of the event! Signs will be provided. GO TO "LIFE CHAIN OF GASTON COUNTY"**

Gastonia

Location: Sidewalks of E. Garrison Blvd from Union Rd to New Hope Rd
Parking: Parkwood Baptist Church, Grier Middle School, East Garrison Baptist Church, Public Library or Lineberger Park
Sign Pick Up: Along the sidewalks of the route



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**NEED
 FOR
 SEPTEMBER
 OCTOBER
 NOVEMBER
 DECEMBER**

A Stewardship Minute

So often, when we begin to think that church leaders stress money matters too often, we do not consider the great ministries of the church. Ask any pastor or leading lay people in any church: How is their congregation helping to meet the needs of those who are suffering?

The answer given will inevitably point to money given to provide food, clothing, counseling, housing, medical care, and so forth for the poor. Giving help to those in desperate need is a mandate Christ has given us. If we neglect the poor, the sick, the hungry, the ignorant, those in rags, those treated unjustly, we will have failed Christ.

Christian stewardship involves far more than worship; it involves service. It involves doing something positive to help those in desperate need. It calls for sharing all that God has given us!

In the 25th chapter of Matthew, Christ recites a list of what is expected of his followers, and ends his talk with these words: "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." (Matthew 25:45)

My friends, let's do it!

Prayer: Loving and just Lord, stir us up to service on your behalf, that we may hear you say at the last: "Come,

you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world..." (Matthew 25:34) **Amen**



Whoever posed this question has good insight into the ironic double standards of modern society.

The Judges who said we don't need to stand up for the National Anthem expect us to stand up when they enter the room.

What do you suppose would happen if the Judge came into the courtroom and everyone "took a knee"?

Just asking. . .



Patriot Day is an annual observance on September 11 to remember those who were injured or died (nearly 3,000) during the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001. Many Americans refer Patriot Day as 9/11 or September 11.

What do people do?

On the direction of the President, the flag of the United States of America should be displayed on the homes of Americans, the White House and all United States government buildings in the whole world. The flag should be flown at half-mast as a mark of respect to those who died on September 11, 2001. Many people observe a moment of silence at 8:46 AM (Eastern Daylight Time). This marks the time that the first plane flew into the World Trade Center. Some communities, particularly in the areas directly affected by the attacks, hold special church services or prayer meetings. People who personally experienced the events in 2001 or lost loved ones in them, may lay flowers or visit memorials.

Public life

Patriot Day is not a federal holiday and schools and businesses do not close. Public transit systems run on their regular schedules. Some people and organizations may take some time out to hold prayers for the victims of the attacks, but these do not usually affect public life for more than a few minutes.

Background

On September 11, 2001, four planes were hijacked. The hijackers then deliberately flew three of the planes into two important buildings, the Pentagon in Washington DC and the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York. The fourth crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The loss of life and damage that these hijackings caused form the biggest act of terrorism ever on United States soil. Nearly 3000 people died in the attacks and the economic impact was immense. The attacks have greatly increased attention to national security in the United States. This has had huge implications for United States national and international politics. This is particularly true for the relationships between the United States and Islamic countries in the Middle East.

Symbols

The most potent symbol of the events that happened on September 11, 2001 are pictures and videos of planes flying into buildings, of the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center engulfed in smoke and later collapsing and of people falling from buildings. Pictures taken of damaged buildings and relatives looking for loved ones in the days and weeks after the attacks are also often shown. The flag of the United States is often displayed around images of the events on September 11, 2001. This is to remind Americans that their country remained strong in the face of massive terrorist attacks.

Patriot Day should not be confused with Patriot's Day, also known as Patriots Day, which commemorates the battles of Lexington and Concord in 1775, which were two of the earliest battles in the American Revolutionary War.



**OUTREACH MISSION
SHUT-INS
NURSING HOME RESIDENTS**

Please remember our church members who are shut-ins or reside in a nursing home* and visit them.

Jill Petzold*

Brookside Senior Living Rm 44
1680 S. New Hope Rd
Gastonia, NC 328054

(If others, please let the church office know)



**2021 Court Square Summer Concert and
Cruise-In Series**

(presented by the Town of Dallas)

Held on the Dallas Historic Court Square, from 6:30—10:00 pm, each FREE concert will feature amazing talent (rain or shine). Enjoy the car show along Main Street and the concert



Saturday, September 11

Dallas will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, with a special ceremony on the town square the evening of Saturday, September 11, at 6:30 pm.

The ceremony has a dual purpose.

1. Remembrance of those who lost their lives on that day.
2. Honor the courage of the firemen, the police officers, and the first responders who risked their live doing their duty.

During the ceremony, each Dallas police officer, fire department members, and first responders will be given a commemorative coin. (see bottom right of page) These coins will be available for the public to purchase. All the profits of the cion will go to fund future 9-11 remembrances.

At the conclusion, the mood will be lighten with a free concert presented by the **Chairman of Board**

If you need a Pastor,
please contact Pastor Pete Feige at 704-516-2805
or our office at 704-922-4648.



PRAYER GROUP

will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza
on September 20 at 1:00 pm



CLWRACHEL GROUP

Will meet in October and place will be announced later.

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)



MARGARET Addington, SUSAN Aderholt, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penley’s), MARVIS Anderson, WHITNEY Auten (breast cancer), KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), BRAXTON Bearden (friend of the Locketts), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease’s), KATHY Bohanan (cancer) , KAREN Brady, JACKIE Carpenter (friend of Alice Vlaservich-liver cancer), SYLVIA Cloninger (friend of Nick Vlaservich), MIKE Coffey (Robbie Wooten’s uncle), STEVE Cloninger (friend of Brady Ratchford-cancer), BEVERLY Copeland (friend of Robbie’s-cancer), STEVE Digh (cancer), HARDY Feige (Pete’s dad – chronic back pain), NANCY Friday, JAMES Goudelock (cancer), JASON Hames (friend of the White’s), GRACE Harbin (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), JEFF Lineberger (stroke), JOYCE in Morganton (Nick & Alice Vlaservich’s acquaintance-cancer), DANA Kirshman (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), MARINA Marazza (Shirlee Marazza’s granddaughter-Covid19), SAM Marr (Heart), BO Messick (foot), FRANCIS McAllister (broken hip), CHRIS Messick (recovering back surgery), JASON, ALLISON & LEX Murray, MARSHA & JOHN Patton, ELLEN & ED Pfeiffer (Keenan Gordy’s Parents – Heart issues), GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), SONDRRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White), GWEN Ratchford (Brady Ratchford’s sister-in-law-cancer), MARTHA Surret (friend of Alice Vlaservich-Cancer), TERI Trudnak, TONY Trudnak (cancer reoccurring), GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), HAL



Walk For Life

9/10/2021

(see page 9)



Our History

Roe vs. Wade in 1973 had gone unanswered in Gaston County, until on November 13, 1985, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. an initial meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the law offices of Cherry, Bekaert, & Holland here in Gastonia.

Seven men and women came together as God had encouraged their hearts to respond compassionately to the needs of those facing unplanned pregnancies. They gathered to initiate a ministry that would upon opening their doors for clients in September of 1986 have an immediate impact.

- No longer would words be heard without matching deeds and actions that gave a visible expression of our concern for the abortion issue.
- No longer would someone who could not afford a pregnancy test be denied one.
- No longer would the longing for a listening ear, a compassionate, caring counselor when the crisis of pregnancy came about be denied.
- No longer would the everyday needs of material assistance and crisis calls from clients of needing a listening ear, go unanswered.

On that day, this Board of Directors, composed of Dale Chase, Rev. Marion Clark, Audrue McMahan, David Ward, Rev. Marlin Mull, Peter Caprise, Rachel Pichet and Cathy Epperson nominated officers, set meeting times, elected an Executive Director, and voted to request information from a sister CPC. Other Board members unable to attend that day were: Steve Baker, Laura C. Atkins, Rev. M.O. Owens, Dr. Glenn Phoenix and Dr. Thomas Will.

From that humble beginning, the Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County has been in three pivotal rental locations and finally was able to purchase property and a home in July 1996. The journey from those initial days included leadership from diversely skilled Board of Director Members, to Executive Directors, to multi-talented staff, to service by Volunteers that utilized the gifts of individuals as well as the strengths of an interdenominational ecumenical corporate body working for the cause of the unborn.

The history of the Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, Inc. has included immeasurable faith, the development of a support base that transcends race, gender and religion. The experience of serving in this setting allows women, men and their families to see the efforts of all combined to meet the needs of one. It is an awesome testimony to see so many varied agencies, individuals, and churches tackling this single issue.

From its inception, the Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, Inc. has now served 20,000+ clients, been blessed by faithful volunteers, trusted God for budget needs numerous times, and made an impact in this County that is now indelible and indispensable.

Over the years, an expanding staff, a diversified Board, Abstinence emphasis, ultrasound/medical clinic, seasoned and well trained volunteers, public presentations, our annual fund-raisers, ad. in fitnitum, are making the future as bright as God's genius and calling.

Eighteen years later those actions are bearing much fruit,

- Now, Shepherds, within the church of our Lord, the Body of Christ, can strongly affirm Biblical Sanctity of life from conception to natural death and point them to a place in Gaston County that ministers without manipulation;
- Now, those who have hidden the guilt of past abortions can have a place of healing, experiencing first hand, God's unconditional love,

Now, the pro-life constituency can prayerfully point to a place of refuge that will meet not only physical needs but will unashamedly present the gospel of Jesus Christ as the ultimate answer.

LABOR DAY]

Why we celebrate Labor Day?

For a lot of people, Labor Day means two things: a day off and the end of summer. But why is it called **Labor Day**? Labor Day is a day set aside to pay tribute to working men and women. It has been celebrated as a national holiday in the United States since 1894.

Labor unions themselves celebrated the first labor days in the United States, although there's some speculation as to exactly who came up with the idea. Most historians credit Why we celebrate Labor Day?

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CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER OF GASTON COUNTY

THE ANNUAL 31th WALK FOR LIFE
Friday, September 10, 2021~ 3:30-8:00 p.m.

The Field between 700- 800 Robinson Road, Gastonia, NC

Afternoon activities: Hot Air Tethered Balloon (6-8 pm), Rock Climbing Wall, Slide, Moon Bounce, Face-Painting, Craft Activities, Free Refreshments

4:00 pm until 7:30 pm

Evening Activities: Praise and Worship by local church ministries—6:00 pm until 7:30 pm

Also information about the Center: services available, positive results, volunteer possibilities, opportunities for donations to save lives, T shirts for walkers

Consider taking part in this WALK for LIFE on the first Friday in September.....,This is a reliable organization working to save lives.

**If you are interested in participating, please contact Marie Robinson.
 Also see bulletin board.**

For more information call—(704) 867-3706

(See page 8)



LCMC 21st Annual Gathering and Convention

OCTOBER 3-6, 2021

UPPER ARLINGTON LUTHERAN CHURCH

HILLIARD, OH

Join together with fellow pastors, church leaders, and congregation members at Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ's 21st Annual Gathering & Convention, which takes place October 3-6, 2021 at Upper Arlington Lutheran Church in Hilliard, Ohio.

“Speak It, Live It, Share It” is the theme of this year’s event, and keynote speakers Jeremy King, Nathan Hoff, Jenn Alexander, Julie Smith, Andrea Taphorn, and Mike Bradley will help us uncover some practical ways in which we can speak, live, and share the Gospel in our everyday lives, as well as how the association can support our congregations to do so.

(For more information about registration go to: www.LCMC.net)



Grandparents Day is always celebrated on the first Sunday after Labor Day. As its name suggests, Grandparents Day honors the nation's grandparents, who play an important role in the lives of many young people and their families.

The history of Grandparents Day can be traced back to 1961 with the efforts of Mrs. Hermine Beckett Hanna. Hermine made it her goal to educate the young in the community to the important contributions senior citizens have made, and to the important contributions they are willing to make if asked. She also urged the young to adopt a grandparent, not for 1 day a year, not for material giving, but for a lifetime of experience and caring just waiting to be shared with others.

Marian McQuade of Oak Hill, W.V. is credited with lobbying for a national observance of Grandparents Day. Her goal was realized in 1979 when President Jimmy Carter signed Public Law 96-62 designating the first Sunday after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day. The statute cites the day's purpose as: "... to honor grandparents, to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children, and to help children become aware of strength, information, and guidance older people can offer."

*Grandparents
Are a Gift*



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

INTERESTED IN GOING—CONTACT MARIE ROBINSON

2021 CAROLINAS LUTHERAN WOMEN ANNUAL CONVOCATION



*"Coffee Break -
Time With God"*

*Please Join Us
Saturday - October 2, 2021*

 **TIME:**

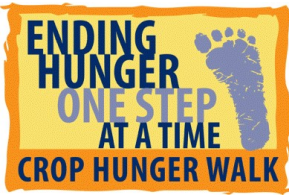
Registration from 8:45-9:30
Meeting begins at 9:30
\$8.00 Registration (includes lunch)

WHERE: 

CHANGE OF VENUE

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
205 S Main St.
Faith, NC 28041

2021 SEPTEMBER MISSION EMPHASIS ~ CROP Walk



For the next several months, the mission emphasis for one month will overlap into the next month. August Mission Emphasis will overlap into September with **WALK FOR LIFE being September 10 4-8 pm.** Last Sunday to contribute to Walk for Life is September 6. Thanks to those who have given to Crisis Pregnancy Center for the Walk for Life. Our September Mission Emphasis will overlap into October with the **CROP WALK usually being the third Sunday afternoon in October.** Note the October newsletter and upcoming bulletins. CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world.

CROP WALK is an organization held in our community in October. Pray for those who have little food or water that funds may be raised to support this organization. Also pray for those who are organizing our local walk, and those who will walk and those who will give. May we be faithful workers in God's kingdom.

CROP WALK Background

With its inception in 1969, CROP Hunger Walks are "viewed by many as the granddaddy of charity walks," notes the Los Angeles Times (Oct. 26, 2009). On October 17, 1969, a thousand people in Bismarck, ND, walked in what may have been the start of the hunger walks related to CROP – and raised \$25,000 to help stop hunger. As far as we know, York County, Penn., was the first walk officially called the CROP Walk for the Hungry – and that event has been continuous since 1970. Several other CROP Hunger Walks occurred soon thereafter, and before long there were hundreds of Walks each year in communities nationwide. Currently, well over 2,000 communities across the U.S. join in more than 1,300 CROP Hunger Walks each year. More than five million CROP Hunger Walkers have participated in more than 36,000 CROP Hunger Walks in the last two decades alone.

What does CROP stand for?

When CROP began in 1947 (under the wing of Church World Service, which was founded in 1946), CROP was an acronym for the Christian Rural Overseas Program. Its primary mission was to help Midwest farm families to share their grain with hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia. Today, we've outgrown the acronym but we retain it as the historic name of the program. CROP Hunger Walks are interfaith hunger education and fundraising events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by CWS local offices across the U.S.

Where do CROP Hunger Walk funds go?

CROP Hunger Walks help to support the overall ministry of Church World Service, especially grassroots, hunger-fighting development efforts around the world. In addition, each local CROP Hunger Walk can choose to return up to 25 percent of the funds it raises to hunger-fighting programs in its own community. CROP Hunger Walks help to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs. From seeds and tools, to wells and water systems, to technical training and micro-enterprise loans, the key is people working together to identify their own development priorities, their strengths and their needs something CWS has learned through some 68 years of working in partnership around the world.

HISTORY OF CHURCH WORLD SERVICE (CROP WALK began here)

Church World Service was born in 1946, in the aftermath of World War II. Seventeen denominations came together to form an agency "to do in partnership what none of us could hope to do as well alone." The mission: Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, comfort the aged, shelter the homeless

More than 68 years later the mission remains, though where and how we accomplish it has changed dramatically. In 1946-47, U.S. churches opened their hearts and provided more than 11 million pounds of food, clothing, and medical supplies to war-torn Europe and Asia. Protestants and Catholics pooled talent and resources to meet a staggering refugee crisis. Today the Immigration and Refugee Program of CWS is a vital, internationally-recognized operation, having resettled nearly half a million refugees since its inception. Also in 1947, CWS, Lutheran World Relief, and the National Catholic Welfare Program created a joint community hunger appeal, the Christian Rural Overseas Program, also known as CROP. The acronym is gone but the name and life-saving work remains as CROP Hunger Walks in some 1,500 communities across the United States.

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That early CROP initiative captured the imagination of America's heartland. Soon "Friendship Trains" roared across the country, picking up commodities such as corn, wheat, rice, and beans to be shared around the world. The experience of the trains led to "Friendship Food Ships." And, a multi-denominational program called One Great Hour of Sharing was formed to raise in-church gifts to help fill these ships. CWS continued to provide community-wide opportunities for sharing.

In the 1950s and 60s, CWS expanded its reach across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. As the '60s dawned, CWS began to augment its emergency assistance work with support for long-range, problem-solving efforts – what came to be known as development. Development begins at the grassroots. CWS recognized early on that to be successful projects and programs must come from the people themselves, not be imposed by others.

CWS sought out local agencies who share this vision of empowering self-help and long-standing partnerships were forged. Over the years the success stories have been many. One of the first was in Algeria, in North Africa. Over four years, using more than 5 million human-days of volunteer labor, some 20 million forest and fruit trees were planted to anchor the soil against nature's persistent erosion.

In India, CWS helped countless villages construct reservoirs, dig wells, and lay irrigation systems. The result: "drought insurance" and improved food production. The same partnerships that enhanced our development efforts have enabled CWS to maximize our response to disasters.

In the 1970s CWS work evolved in significant ways. Our work in grassroots development inspired a deeper analysis of the root causes of hunger and poverty. As a result, in 1974 CWS - in collaboration with Lutheran World Relief - established the Development Policy Office in Washington, D.C. to represent CWS concerns about hunger to U.S. government bodies. The importance of this work was further ratified in 1978 by the findings of the Presidential Commission on World Hunger, which noted that the primary cause of hunger was poverty, i.e. human-made. Thus what was missing to end hunger was the political will to do so. The Report also called for a concerted effort to increase education on hunger and its causes. Staff from the CWS Development Policy office served on this Commission. In 1976, in order to provide greater support to refugees and their sponsors in the USA, CWS established refugee resettlement offices in various parts of the U.S. They played a pivotal role in supporting the growing number of refugees from Southeast Asia who were resettled to the United States in the years after the Vietnam War. While the number of offices ebbs and flows with refugee admissions, they continue to form the foundation for CWS work in resettling refugees in the US. It was also in the 1970s that CWS first began responding to U.S. disasters at the request of its member churches.

CWS work in international emergency response and development through the 1970s and 1980s focused on working in partnership with other NGO's and with local groups. In some instances this led to the creation of new, independent organizations such as the Middle East Council of Churches, the Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh or CEPAD in Nicaragua. Working in partnership remains one of the hallmarks of CWS work. These groups remain valued partners to CWS.

More recently, CWS was one of the founding members of a global partnership of faith-based humanitarian agencies, ACT Alliance, with members in 140 countries. With 130 member organizations, ACT Alliance provides a dynamic environment for collaboration in responding to human needs around the world. By working together agencies can maximize their impact.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOE BOX) IS COMING!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Since 1993, more than 100 million boys and girls in over 130 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from donations to Operation Christmas Child. Samaritan's Purse works with local churches and ministry partners to deliver the gifts and share the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ.

HOW CAN I HELP?

In October, the boxes will be passed out at Our Saviour congregation for you to fill and bring back to be collected and turned over to Samaritan's Purse staff.

WALK! FOR LIFE MATTERS

CRISIS
PREGNANCY
CENTER
OF GASTON COUNTY, INC.

"The God who made the world and everything that is in it,
... since He Himself gives to all *people* life and breath and
all things; ... for in Him we live and move and exist, ..."
Acts 17:24, 28 NASB

Crisis Pregnancy Center 31st Annual WALK for LIFE Friday, September 10, 2021

Location: Crisis Pregnancy Center 700 Robinson Road, Gastonia

Walk is Friday, September 10th, 2021

Registration: All Day
Walk Times: 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Fun & Fellowship: 4:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Worship Time: 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
 Key Activities: Food, Fellowship and other family-friendly activities.
 Praise & Worship led by local church ministries in Gaston County.

Critical Information:

Family Fun Events include rock-climbing wall, crafts table, face painting, and free food.
Pledges are for a 3-mile flat rate. Collect all money less than \$15.00. We will be happy to bill all sponsors pledging \$15.00 or more. Please make sure sponsor's address is legible.
Tax receipts are available for sponsors paying cash and can be filled out by the walker before the event. Notation on the form is required.
All checks will be receipted. Checks should be made payable to CPC of Gaston County.
PayPal may also be used for amounts larger than \$15.00.
Except for those sight-impaired walkers in need of their furry companions, we ask that no one bring their pets to the Walk this year. This is also an insurance concern!

For more WALK information call (704)867-3706.



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



NALC
North American Lutheran Church



lcmc
Lutheran Community Ministries of America

September 2021



Grandparents Day

SEPTEMBER 12th