



Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XIV, Issue IX

September 2019

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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This is as good as it gets!

God bless everyone who reads this and passes it on.

I find it interesting that a High School Principal can see the problem, but our society cannot.

At a Tennessee **Football** this is a statement that was read over the PA system at the football game at Roane County High School, Kingston, Tennessee by school Principal, Jody McLeod

"It has always been the custom at Roane County High School football games, to say a prayer and play the National Anthem, to honor God and Country."

Due to a recent ruling by the Supreme Court, I am told that saying a Prayer is a violation of Federal Case Law. As I understand the law at this time, I can use this public facility to approve of sexual perversion and call it "an alternate life style," and if someone is offended, that's OK.

I can use it to condone sexual promiscuity, by dispensing condoms and calling it, "safe sex." If someone is offended, that's OK.

I can even use this public facility to present the merits of killing an unborn baby as a "viable" Means of birth control." If someone is offended, no problem...

I can designate a school day as "Earth Day" and involve students in activities to worship religiously and praise the goddess "Mother Earth" and call it "ecology.."

I can use literature, videos and presentations in the classroom that depicts people with strong, traditional Christian convictions as "simple minded" and "ignorant" and call it "enlightenment.."

However, if anyone uses this facility to honor GOD and to ask HIM to Bless this event with safety and good sportsmanship, then Federal Case Law is violated.

This appears to be inconsistent at best, and at worst, diabolical. Apparently, we are to be tolerant of everything and anyone, except GOD and HIS Commandments.

Nevertheless, as a school principal, I frequently ask staff and students to abide by rules with which they do not necessarily agree. For me to do otherwise would be inconsistent at best, and at worst, hypocritical. I suffer from that affliction enough unintentionally. I certainly do not need to add an intentional transgression.

For this reason, I shall "Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's," and refrain from praying at this time.

"However, if you feel inspired to honor, praise and thank GOD and ask HIM, in the name of JESUS, to Bless this event, please feel free to do so.. As far as I know, that's not against the law--yet."

One by one, the people in the stands bowed their heads, held hands with one another and began to pray.

(Prayer cont'd on page 3)

Child's explanation of God

It was written by an 8-year-old named Danny Dutton, who lives in Chula Vista , CA . He wrote it for his third grade homework assignment, to ***"explain God."*** I wonder if any of us could have done as well? [... and he had such an assignment, in California , and someone published it, I guess miracles do happen ! ...]

EXPLANATION OF GOD:

One of God's main jobs is making people.. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.

God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.

God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.

Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista . At least there aren't any who come to our church.

Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God.. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.

His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.

You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time. You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God!

Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.

If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.

But...you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases.

And...that's why I believe in God.'



Carolinas Lutheran Women



EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION

*"Greater love has no one than this,
that someone lay down his life for his friends." John 15: 13*



"Sisters in Christ: Sweet Spirits"

SATURDAY—SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

Concordia Lutheran Church

185 Concordia Church Rd., China Grove, NC 28023

\$8.00 REGISTRATION includes LUNCH

Registration begins @ 9:30 am

Convocation begins @ 10:00 am

Deadline for Registration September 18

CHECK THE CLW website: www.carolinaslutheranwomen.org or thru our Church's website for letter concerning the Convocation. (see Marie Robinson for registration form)



(Prayer cont'd on page 3)

They prayed in the stands. They prayed in the team huddles. They prayed at the concession stand and they prayed in the Announcer's Box! The only place they didn't pray was in the Supreme Court of the United States of America- the Seat of "Justice" in the "one nation, under GOD."

Somehow, Kingston, Tennessee remembered what so many have forgotten. We are given the Freedom **OF** Religion, not

Our Saviour Lutheran Church Bill Trudnak, President July 15, 2019 Council Minutes

Devotions: Teri Trudnak

Meeting called to order by President Bill Trudnak

Members present: Bill Trudnak, Melinda White, Joe Finger, Robbie Wooten, Teri Trudnak, Jeff White, Steve Digh and Denise Traveria

Members Absent: Betty Ratchford and Alice Vlaservich

Minutes: June 24, 2019 minutes were reviewed. Melinda White made the motion to approve the minutes and Teri Trudnak seconded the motion.

Reception of Petitions and Communications:

None to report.

Report of the Pastor: Report was reviewed. A motion was made by Robbie Wooten to accept the Pastor's report and Denise Traveria seconded that motion.

Report of the Treasurer: Motion by Steve Digh to accept the Treasurer Report and seconded by Jeff White.

Report of the Ministries:

- a. Property: No report this month
- b. Stewardship and Finance: No report this month
- c. Worship & Music: No report this month
- d. Youth Team: No report this month
- e. Witness: Cards and prayers continue to be sent to shut-ins
- f. Christian Education Team: No report this month

Report of Auxiliaries: Rachel Circle will not meet during the summer.

Old and/or Unfinished Business:

None to report

New Business:

- a. Sharps and Flats, Shirleen Hoke, request permission to use the church in March 2020 for an annual concert. Robbie Wooten made a motion we accept this request and Steve Digh gave the second on the motion.

General Information:

- a. Attendance

Adjourned with Lord's Prayer
Next Meeting: August 19, 2019
Devotions: Steve Digh



NEEDED

FOR

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Be a servant of the Lord

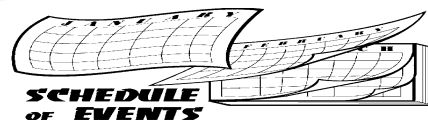
Sign Up



September 2019



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



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

- **Sept. 1**—12th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion
- **Sept. 2**—Labor Day (see p 9)
- **Sept. 7**—29th Walk for Life (see p 9 & 11)
- **Sept. 8**—Court Square Summer Concert
(see p8)
- **Sept. 8**—13th Sunday after Pentecost
Grandparent Day (see p 10)
- **Sept. 9**—Team Meetings:
Youth 6:30 pm
Others 7:00 pm
- **Sept. 11**—Patriot Day—9/11 (see p 7)
Gaston Together (see p 8)
- **Sept. 14**—Court Square Concert (see p 8)
- **Sept. 15**—14th Sunday after Pentecost
- **Sept. 16**—Council Meeting
- **Sept. 17**—"Prayer" Group will meet at
the home of Shirlee Marazza @ 1:30 pm
- **Sept. 22**—15th Sunday after Pentecost
- **Sept. 23**—FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN
- **Sept. 28**—CLW Convocation (see p3)
- **Sept. 29-Oct. 2**—LMIN Convention (p 9)
- **Sept. 29**—16th Sunday of Pentecost
Hunger Sunday



FOOD FOR THE MONTH:
**Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce,
Corn**



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



17thSteve & Julie Digh



Holy Communion Schedule:
ALL SUNDAYS

Worship Service Assistance:

Acolyte: Nick Vlaservich
Communion
Asst: OSLC Member
Lay Reader: Marie Robinson
Worship Asst: NONE
Greeters: OSLC Members
Ushers: OSLC Members

Collection: Melinda White

Council Devotion: Sep. 16.
Melinda White



Choir Practice
on Wed. 5:00 pm

FLOWERS

Flower Schedule:

September 1 Nick Vlaservich
September 8 Betty Ratchford
September 15 Nancy Wilson
September 22 Keenan Gordy
September 29 Open

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

Four (4) 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
Phone: 705-922-4648 Email: oslcdallas@aol.com
Website: oslc-nc.org

EVENTS for:

Agrape/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

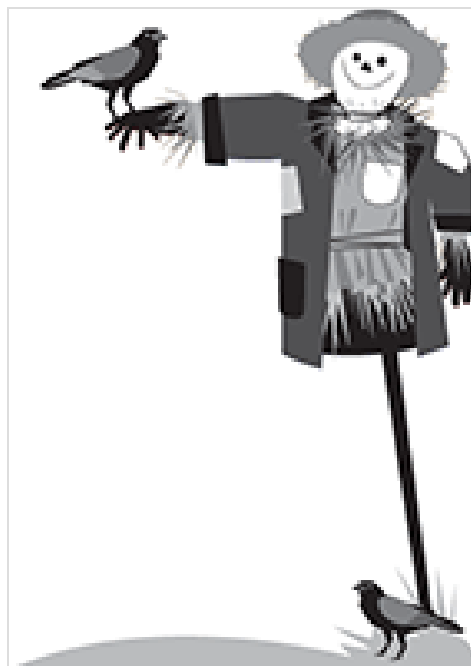
Directions to Camp Agapé are on the web site.

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 23



"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 2018 National Life Chain will be held on **Sunday, October 6, 2019 from 2:00 – 3:00 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.

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
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER

Be a servant of the Lord

A Stewardship Minute

We are dependent on earth for all of the necessities of life. Sadly, too many humans are being greedy regarding the earth, which does not really belong to us. As Psalm 24:1 puts it: "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." In Psalm 50:7-12 God says: "Every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle of a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains; and the wild beasts of the field are mine ... for the world is mine, and the fullness thereof." Everything on the planet exists because of the goodness of our loving Creator.

Therefore, we are expected to manage the earth and all that exists

on it in a caring, responsible manner. Not to do so is an affront to God. To pollute the air, water or land is wrong. To destroy forests without replanting trees and plants is an insult to God.

An article in this month's *Stewardship* points out that most of the seven billion people on earth are not well-fed, well-clothed, well-sheltered, or well in health or in spirit. Yet, each year almost a hundred million people are added to those already here. We must decide now to clean up our environment, plant trees and gardens, use wind and solar power, recycle whatever is recyclable, and provide for the poor and hungry, and so on. We must be aware that this is God's earth and remind others that we are to care for

our Creator's world.

Prayer: Lord of heaven, earth, and sea give us the knowledge, will and strength to take care of this beautiful world as you would have us do. **Amen.**



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.

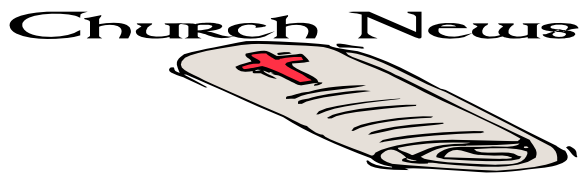
Background

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.



GASTON TOGETHER'S CLERGY & CITIZENS COALITION ,

September 3, 2019

8:30 to Noon

Clinton Room, Gaston Memorial Hospital

Breakfast before meeting , if you wish

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## 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.

#### Marilyn Finger

1150 Meadow Way Dr., Dallas

#### Jerri Presley\*

2604 Ole Home Trail, Dallas

(If others, please let the church office know)



## 2018 Court Square Summer Concert

(presented by the Town of Dallas)

Held on the Dallas Historic Court Square, from 6:00—8:30 pm, each FREE concert will feature amazing talent (rain or shine). Enjoy the car show along Main Street and local craft beverage from Ole Dallas Brewer,

- ♦ **Saturday, September 14**—Cruise-in and Concert with **20 Ride America's #1 Zac Brown Tribute** —7:00 pm—10:00 pm—

Dallas  
Court  
Square



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



### CLW/RACHEL GROUP

Will not meet but you are invited to attend

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual CLW Convocation on Sept. 28

(see page 3)



**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)



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, MIKE Coffey (Robbie Wooten's uncle), EASTON Finger (Aboard Abraham Lincoln Aircraft Carrier in Persian Gulf) DON Greene (cancer-friend of Teri & Melinda), HARDY Feige (Pete's dad – chronic back pain), JASON Hames (friend of the White's) DANA Kirshman (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), CHRIS Messick (intestinal blockage), GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), MARY O'Shea (co-worker of Melinda White's), JANICE and JOHNNY Pendleton (grandparents of Raygan Carpenter – Janice has strokes), SONDRRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White), JERRIE Presley, BETTY Ratchford, RONNIE Shiles (shingles w/complications), TONY Trudnak (cancer), GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), KELLY Walters (mother of Brie Murray), ANNE White (niece of Betty Ratchford-breast cancer), MARY Wooten (Sara's great-grandmother and Rosalee's great-great grandmother)



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. . .



## 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 29<sup>th</sup> WALK FOR LIFE

Friday, September 6, 2019~ 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 11)



## LCMC 19th Annual Gathering and Convention

SEPTEMBER 29—OCTOBER 2, 2019

CHI HEALTH CENTER OMAHA, 455 NORTH 10<sup>TH</sup> STREET, OMAHA NE 68102

*"Listen Up"* is the theme of our next Annual Gathering, and we've invited Greg Finke and Grace



Johnson will take the stage as our keynote speakers this year to help us better understand how we can "Listen Up!" to God's calling on our lives, his calling on the people around us, and the callings and challenges that face us across generations.

(For more information about registration go to: [www.LCMC.net](http://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*



## Dan Selbo elected NALC bishop



The Rev. Dr. Dan Selbo was elected bishop of the North American Lutheran Church by the 2019 NALC Convocation on Friday, August 9, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Bishop Selbo currently serves as pastor of St. Timothy's Lutheran Church in San Jose, California. He holds Masters of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Bishop Selbo was elected on the fourth ballot over the Rev. Dr. Eric Riesen, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Ashland, Ohio. The Convocation narrowed the list of candidates from 14 nominees to four on the first ballot on Thursday. The four finalists were Pastor Riesen, the Rev. Dr. David Wendel of Jacksonville, Florida, Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry and Ecumenism, and the Rev. Dr. Amy Schiffrin, President of the North American Lutheran Seminary in Ambridge, Pennsylvania.



## 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. infinitum, 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.

## **2019 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 6 4-8 pm.** Last Sunday to contribute to Walk for Life is September 1. 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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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 refugee 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.

## A Good Thought On Prayer

by  
Billy Graham

**Q:** If God sometimes says “no” to our prayers, then why bother to pray? I admit I have a hard time trying to figure out when to pray and when to just keep quiet—although if something looks hopeless, I really don’t see any reason to pray about it. — C.D.F

**A:** One reason we pray is because God has commanded us to pray—and we ought to take that command very seriously. We may not know what the outcome will be or we don’t need to know. All we need to do is obey His command to pray. The Bible says, “Pray continually.” (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

And this includes praying even about seemingly hopeless situations! After all, God is all-powerful, and He is able to do far, far more than we can even imagine. Why, then, should we limit Him by refusing to pray about something that seems impossible to us? The Bible reminds us that God “is able to do immeasurable more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power” (Ephesians 3:20).

Does this mean God always answers our prayers in the way we wish He would, or the way we think He should? No, He doesn’t—and sometimes this is hard for us to accept or understand. But remember: We see only part of the picture, while God sees the whole. He knows what is best for us, and he can be trusted to do what is right, even if we can’t understand.

Prayer is a great privilege—and it is possible only because Jesus Christ tore down the barriers between us and God when He died on the cross for our sins. He did this because God loves us—and because He hears us when we pray.

(article was taken from the Gaston Gazette)



## **Putting Our Country Back Together. So Simple.**

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by his little girl. She wanted to know what the United States looked like. Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine on which was printed the map of the country.

Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it to her and said, “Go into the other room and see if you can put this together.”

After a few minutes, she returned and handed him the map, correctly fitted and taped together.

The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly.. “Oh,” she said, “on the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got all of Jesus back where He belonged, then our country just came together.”

Sooo.....

When we get Jesus back where He belongs— Our country will come together!



## Daily Bible reading guide from NALC, LCMS and LCC

*Reading the Word of God*, a daily Bible reading guide, has been prepared for Lutherans to use over the next three years.

The North American Lutheran Church has joined with the Lutheran Church-Canada and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to compile a three-year plan of *daily* Bible readings and a year-long series of *weekly* readings on Martin Luther's approach to the Scriptures.

### Daily readings

The daily readings are listed on calendars for **2019** and **2020**. The plan provides a guide that will take the reader through the entire Old Testament one time in three years, with the exception of Psalms, which are read twice each year. The New Testament will be read twice in the three years.

A reading from the Old Testament, a psalm (or portion of a psalm) and a reading from the New Testament are assigned for each day. Certain church festivals - Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and so forth - have readings appointed for the specific occasion.

# SEPTEMBER

| Sun                                                                           | Mon                                                                      | Tue                                                                      | Wed                                                                        | Thu                                                                        | Fri                                                                      | Sat                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br><i>2 Kings 25:22-30</i><br><i>Ps. 61</i><br><i>Matt. 27:32-56</i> | <b>2</b><br><i>Jonah 1</i><br><i>Ps. 62</i><br><i>Matt. 27:57-66</i>     | <b>3</b><br><i>Jonah 2</i><br><i>Ps. 63</i><br><i>Matt. 28:1-20</i>      | <b>4</b><br><i>Jonah 3</i><br><i>Ps. 64</i><br><i>Rom. 1:17</i>            | <b>5</b><br><i>Jonah 4</i><br><i>Ps. 65</i><br><i>Rom. 1:18-32</i>         | <b>6</b><br><i>Hos. 1</i><br><i>Ps. 66</i><br><i>Rom. 2:1-29</i>         | <b>7</b><br><i>Hos. 2</i><br><i>Ps. 67</i><br><i>Rom. 3:1-20</i>          |
| <b>8</b><br><i>Hos. 3</i><br><i>Ps. 68</i><br><i>Rom. 3:21-12</i>             | <b>9</b><br><i>Hos. 4</i><br><i>Ps. 69</i><br><i>Rom. 4:13-25</i>        | <b>10</b><br><i>Hos. 5</i><br><i>Ps. 70</i><br><i>Rom. 5:1-21</i>        | <b>11</b><br><i>Hos. 6</i><br><i>Ps. 71</i><br><i>Rom. 6:1-14</i>          | <b>12</b><br><i>Hos. 7</i><br><i>Ps. 72</i><br><i>Rom. 6:15-23</i>         | <b>13</b><br><i>Hos. 8</i><br><i>Ps. 73</i><br><i>Rom. 7:1-6</i>         | <b>14</b><br><i>Hos. 9</i><br><i>Ps. 74</i><br><i>Rom. 7:7-25</i>         |
| <b>15</b><br><i>Hos. 10</i><br><i>Ps. 75</i><br><i>Rom. 8:1-17</i>            | <b>16</b><br><i>Hos. 11</i><br><i>Ps. 76</i><br><i>Rom. 8:18-39</i>      | <b>17</b><br><i>Hos. 12</i><br><i>Ps. 77</i><br><i>Rom. 9:1-26</i>       | <b>18</b><br><i>Hos. 13</i><br><i>Ps. 78:1-35</i><br><i>Rom. 9:27-10:4</i> | <b>19</b><br><i>Hos. 14</i><br><i>Ps. 78:36-72</i><br><i>Rom. 10:5-21</i>  | <b>20</b><br><i>Joel 1:1-12</i><br><i>Ps. 79</i><br><i>Rom. 11:1-10</i>  | <b>21</b><br><i>Joel 1:13-20</i><br><i>Ps. 80</i><br><i>Rom. 11:11-24</i> |
| <b>22</b><br><i>Joel 2:1-11</i><br><i>Ps. 81</i><br><i>Rom. 11:25-36</i>      | <b>23</b><br><i>Joel 2:12-17</i><br><i>Ps. 82</i><br><i>Rom. 12:1-21</i> | <b>24</b><br><i>Joel 2:18-27</i><br><i>Ps. 83</i><br><i>Rom. 13:1-14</i> | <b>25</b><br><i>Joel 2:28-3:3</i><br><i>Ps. 84</i><br><i>Rom. 14:1-12</i>  | <b>26</b><br><i>Joel 3:4-16</i><br><i>Ps. 85</i><br><i>Rom. 14:13-15:7</i> | <b>27</b><br><i>Joel 3:17-21</i><br><i>Ps. 86</i><br><i>Rom. 15:8-21</i> | <b>28</b><br><i>Amos 1:1-12</i><br><i>Ps. 87</i><br><i>Rom. 15:22-33</i>  |
| <b>29</b><br><i>Amos 1:13-2:5</i><br><i>Ps. 88</i><br><i>Rom. 16:1-16</i>     | <b>30</b><br><i>Amos 2:6-16</i><br><i>Ps. 89</i><br><i>Rom. 16:17-27</i> |                                                                          |                                                                            |                                                                            |                                                                          |                                                                           |
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Our Saviour Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 457  
725 Gastonia Technology Parkway  
Dallas, NC 28034



**NALC**  
North American Lutheran Church



**lcmc**  
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

September 2019



**Grandparents Day**

**SEPTEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>**