



# Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XV, Issue IX

September 2020

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

### Inside this issue:

• Constitution Day and Citizenship Day	2
• Minutes	3
• Worship Assistance Needed	
• Calendar & Events	4
• Worship Assistance	
• Flowers	
• Life Chain	5
• Agape/Kure Beach	
• Stewardship Minute	6
• Patriot day—9/11	
• Church News	7
• CLW/Rachel	
• Outreach (Shut Ins)	
• Court Square Summer Concert	
• 30 <sup>th</sup> Crisis Pregnancy (Walk for Life)	8
• Labor Day	9
• CPC	
• LCMC Convocation	
• Prayer, Praise, and Promises	10
• September Mission Emphasis	11
• Operation Christmas Child	12
• Incredible Things with Baking Soda	13
• Nothing is Too Difficult	14
• Daily Bible Reading	15

See Insert: Flyer for Walk for Life

## THE NEXT TIME YOU FEEL LIKE GOD CAN'T USE YOU,

just remember:

Noah was a drunk.  
Abraham was too old.  
Isaac was a daydreamer.  
Jacob was a liar.  
Leah was ugly.  
Joseph was abused.  
Moses had a stuttering problem.  
Gideon was afraid.  
Sampson had long hair and was a womanizer.  
Rehab was a prostitute.  
Jeremiah and Timothy were too young.  
David had an affair and was a murderer.  
Elijah was suicidal.  
Isaiah preached naked.  
Jonah ran from God.  
Naomi was a widow.  
Job went bankrupt.  
John the Baptist ate bugs.  
Peter denied Christ.  
The Disciples fell asleep while praying.  
Martha worried about everything.  
The Samaritan woman was divorced, more than once.  
Zaccheus was too small.  
Paul was too religious.  
Timothy had an ulcer....AND  
Lazarus was dead!

No more excuses now!! God can use you to your full potential! Besides your aren't the message, you are just the messenger.

Contributed by Norm and Jean Engelage,  
Wright City, MO



Carolinas Lutheran Women



**DUE TO COVID-19**

**ANNUAL CONVOCATION CANCELLED**

**2021 Carolinas Lutheran Women  
Annual Convocation**

Save the Date!

“Coffee Break – Time With God”

Saturday, October 2, 2021

Registration From 8:45-9:30

Meeting begins at 9:30

\$8.00 Registration includes lunch

Where:

St. Jacob's Lutheran Church,  
844 Columbia Ave.,  
Chapin, SC 29036



## 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.



## Our Saviour Lutheran Church Anna Lowery, President July 20, 2020 Council Minutes



**Devotions:** Becky Messick

Meeting called to order by President, Anna Lowery

**Members present:** Alice Vlaservich, Anna Lowery, Denise Traveria, Melinda White, Robbie Wooten, Becky Messick **Members Absent:** Jeff White, Joe Finger, Teri Trudnak

**Minutes:** June 2020 minutes were reviewed.; Robbie Wooten made the motion to approve the minutes and Anna Lowery seconded the motion.

**Reception of Petitions and Communications:** Sharps & Flats request to use the church for a concert on 5/17/2021. Alice Vlaservich made the motion to approve this request, seconded by Anna Lowery.

**Report of the Pastor:** Pastor's report was reviewed and discussed. Additional cameras were installed in the worship area. Door sensors were installed on the front two doors in the narthex and automatic lights in the sacristy to come on when movement is detected. Alice Vlaservich made a motion to accept the report and Robbie Wooten gave the second.

**Report of the Treasurer:** Report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Melinda White to accept the Treasurer Report and seconded by Anna Lowery.

### Report of the Ministries:

- a. Property: Nick trimmed shrubs at the activity building. Jeff sprayed the parking lot with round up.
- 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
- f. Christian Education Team: VBS has been cancelled this year due to Covid

**Report of Auxiliaries:** No meeting of the Rachel Group. The Prayer Group will meet on 7/21/2020 at 1pm at Shirlee Marazza's home. They meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

### Old and/or Unfinished Business:

- a. Discussed the roof problem. We will be getting several estimates and reviews for the repair. A roof fund has been started.

### New Business:

- a. A workday at the church is needed for gutter cleaning especially at the activity building. Bill Trudnak to assess the problems and report back to the Council.
- b. The Carolinas Mission Regions paid "stimulus money" to our church in the amount of \$160 to be used for mission work. The Council decided to use the money to purchase any equipment/supplies needed to spread the Word and provide sermons via video.

### General Information:

- a. Attendance
- b. Laszlo Mission (Kids International) Report
- c. JAARS
- d. Received check form insurance company for damage to the church.
- e. Steve Digh repaired our Paschal candle and its holder.



NEEDED

FOR

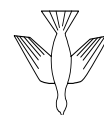
OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Be a servant of the Lord

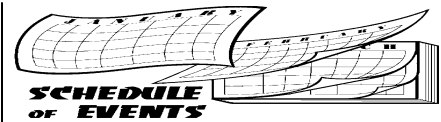
Sign Up







# September 2020



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



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

- **Sept. 6**—14th Sunday after Pentecost
- **Sept. 7**—Labor Day (see p 9)
- **Sept. 11**—30<sup>th</sup> Walk for Life (see p 8 & 9)
- **Sept. 11**—Patriot Day—9/11 (see p 6)
- **Sept. 12**—Court Square Summer Concert (see p7)
- **Sept. 13**—15th Sunday after Pentecost Grandparent Day (see p 10)
- **Sept. 14**—Team Meeting 7:00 pm
- **Sept. 15**—"Prayer" Group will meet at the home of Shirlee Marazza @ 1:30 pm
- **Sept. 17**—Constitution Day
- **Sept. 20**—16th Sunday after Pentecost
- **Sept. 21**—Council Meeting
- **Sept. 22**—FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN
- **Sept. 28**—CLW Convocation (see p3)
- **Sept. 29-Oct. 2**—LMIN Convention (p 9)
- **Sept. 27**—17th Sunday of Pentecost
- **Sept. 28**—CLW/Rachel Group (see p 7)

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



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



17<sup>th</sup> .....Steve & Julie Digh



**Holy Communion Schedule:**  
ALL SUNDAYS

**Worship Service Assistance:**

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

**Collection:** Melinda White

**Council Devotion:** Sep. 21.  
Joe Finger

## FLOWERS

**Flower Schedule:**

September 6 Nick Vlaservich  
September 13 OPEN  
September 20 Keenan Gordy  
September 27 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](mailto:oslcdallas@aol.com)  
Website: [oslc-nc.org](http://oslc-nc.org)

## EVENTS for:

### Agrape/Kure Beach

#### Contact Camp Agapé:

Telephone: 919-552-9421

e-mail: [agape@agapekurebeach.org](mailto:agape@agapekurebeach.org)

#### Contact Kure Beach Lutheran:

Telephone 910-458-0783

e-mail: [kurebreach@agapekurebeach.org](mailto:kurebreach@agapekurebeach.org)

Web site: [www.agapekurebeach.org](http://www.agapekurebeach.org)

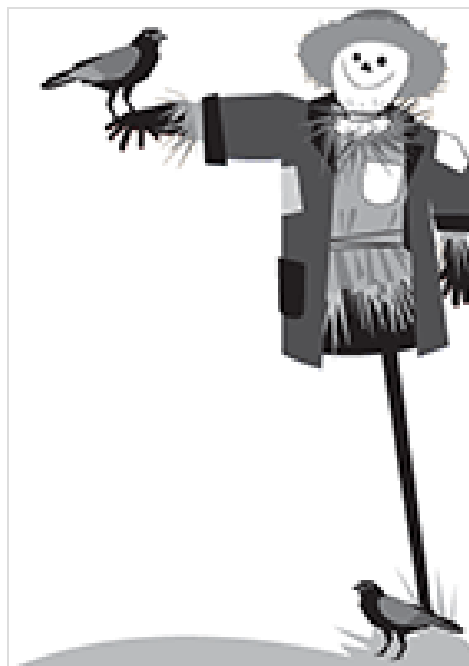
Directions to Camp Agapé are on the web site.

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 4, 2020 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. 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  
OCTOBER  
NOVEMBER  
DECEMBER  
Be a servant of the Lord

## A Stewardship Minute

Jesus gave us two great commandments: Love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength; and, love our neighbor as we love our self. Remember what the psalmist wrote in Psalm 24? He said "...the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it." (Ps. 24:1) It is logical therefore, that we are showing love and respect for God when we care for this beautiful earth that God has provided for us.

Stewardship of the earth ... keeping it beautiful, managing the land, waters and air properly so that they are clean, productive, healthy, and lovely ... is clearly showing love and

appreciation to our Creator. Consider, also, that loving one's neighbor sincerely involves respecting those traveling with us on planet earth. Taking care of our "home" is an important form of stewardship and is in line with Jesus' two commandments.

The September issue of *Stewardship* elaborates on this point and points out that stewardship of our earth is not just an environmental concept, but also a biblical one. As we give our heart-felt concern and respect to those who are using this earth with us, we can only conclude that maintaining it as best we can is in line with what Jesus commanded.

**Prayer:** Open our minds and hearts, dear Lord, that we may truly

be stewards of God's earth and those we are meant to help. **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

### **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

- ♦ **Saturday, September 12**—Cruise-in and Concert with **Chairmen of the Board**—7:00 pm-10:00 pm—Dallas Court Square
- ♦ **Saturday, September 26**—Cruise-in and Concert with **Image G Town and Next Level** —7:00 pm-10:00 pm—Dallas Court Square
- ♦ **Saturday, October 17**—Cruise-in and Concert with **The Catalinas**—7:00 pm-10:00 pm—Dallas Court Square

**\* Subject to change due to CoVid-19**

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 15 at 1:30 pm



### **CLW/RACHEL GROUP**

Will meet on September 28 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)



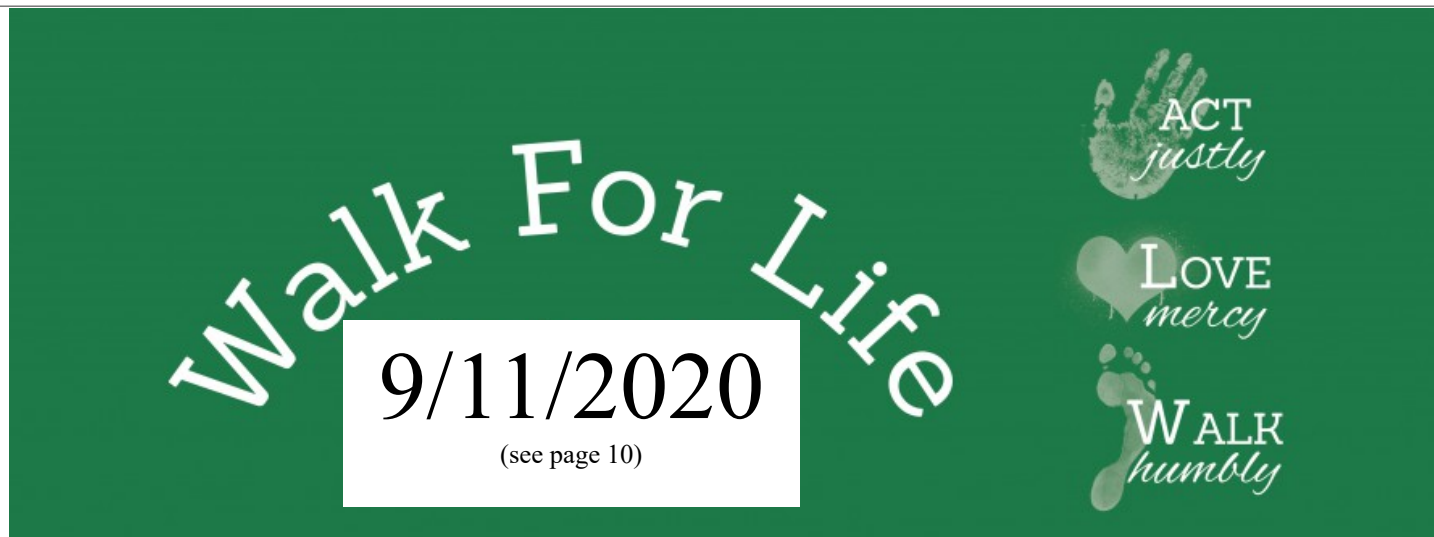
SUSAN Aderholt, SETH Alexander, AMANDA (friend of the Penlev's), MARVIS Anderson, WHITNEY Auten (breast cancer), KELLY Ballard (friend of Shana Dease), BRAXTON Bearden (friend of the Locketts), ADDISON Blanton (friend of Dease's), KATHY Bohanan (cancer), KAREN Brady, SYLVIA Cloninger (friend of Nick Vlaser-vich), MIKE Coffey (Robbie Wooten's uncle), RENEE Falkenberg (broken ribs), HARDY Feige (Pete's dad – chronic back pain), NANCY Friday, JASON Hames (friend of the White's), DANA Kirshman (friend of Robbie Wooten-cancer), FRANCIS McAllister (broken hip), CHRIS Messick (recovering back surgery), ELLEN & ED Pfeiffer (Keenan Gordy's Parents – Heart issues), GARY Neal, (friend of Caleb Dease), MARY O'Shea (co-worker of Melinda White's), SONDRRA Phillips (friend of Melinda White), JERRIE Presley, TERI Trudnak, GARY Turner (father of Jason Murray), ANNE White (niece of Betty Ratchford-breast cancer), JOE White (stroke), NANCY Wilson



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"?



## 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.



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

Friday, September 11, 2040~ 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 20th Annual Gathering and Convention

Our 20th Annual Gathering & Convention is going to happen,  
just not the way we have gathered in the past.

We will still be meeting at North Heights Lutheran Church in Arden Hills, Minnesota,  
but for one day only, on

**Monday, October 5th!**

(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*



### Prayer, Praise & Promises Daily Devotional

**Title: Light in the Darkness**

Author: Warren Wiersbe

Read **Psalm 88:13-18**

When nothing seems to go right, when people are neglecting you and God seems to have forgotten you, don't stop praying. This troubled psalmist did not cease to pray. "Lord, I have called daily upon You; I have stretched out my hands to You" (v. 9). Even though the light is not shining, don't stop praying, because God will answer.

Start each day with the Lord. "But to You I have cried out, O Lord, and in the morning my prayer comes before You" (v. 13). Always begin your day with the Lord, and He will give you the strength to finish it.

Look to God alone. We have a tendency to trust circumstances, ourselves and other people. Not the psalmist. He said, "I'm going to look to God alone. I'm going to trust the Lord of my salvation."

Yes, there are those dark, dismal, disappointing days. But God is still on the throne. Trust Him to see you through.

\* \* \*

How well do you fare when the days are dark? Follow the example of the psalmist. Start your day with God in prayer and draw strength from His Word. Keep your eyes on the Lord, not on your circumstances, and He will deliver you.



## **2020 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 11 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 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.

## Incredible Things You Can Do With Baking Soda

Baking soda is one of the most versatile products on the market. Plus, it's really, really cheap. Its official name is sodium bicarbonate, and it's great for neutralizing odors, cleaning, and deodorizing. And the best part is that it doesn't contain some of the toxic ingredients present in many of today's products.

Baking soda has dozens of uses. From clearing up skin rashes to removing offending smells and making flower blossoms last longer, it's surprising that more people don't take advantage of its properties. Check out some incredible uses for baking soda...

### Ease Insect Bites

Everyone hates bug bites. Not only are they unsightly, they can also be uncomfortable and itchy. If you forget to use bug spray and are suffering the consequences, simply mix baking soda and water together to create a paste. Then use it as a salve to treat the infected area and make it heal quicker.

This is a great home remedy if you are mosquito bait and want to get rid of the insect bites as quickly as possible. Plus, it takes very little effort to create the concoction.

### Clean Your Hairbrush

Admit it, you probably have a comb or hair brush in your bathroom that you haven't cleaned for years. It probably has some build up on it that is pretty gross. The good news is that baking soda is a great way to revive your brush and make it look brand new.

### Deodoize The Refrigerator

Stinky refrigerators can be disgusting. Perhaps it's due to some leftovers, or maybe you haven't cleaned it in a while. Regardless of the source, a foul smell can be a big turn off if it's embedded in your food. The solution is incredibly easy. Just open a box of baking soda and place it in the back of the appliance. This will neutralize any odors lurking inside. The only maintenance you need to do is replace the box with a new one every couple of months. It's as simple as that.

### Freshen Your Breath & Polish Your Teeth

No one likes having stinky breath. If you don't have a mint, simply add one teaspoon of baking soda to a glass of water. Swish the mixture in your mouth and then spit it out. Voila! Fresh breath.

### Baking soda is also good for your pearly whites.

Baking soda can also be used as a natural toothpaste. While some experts only recommend occasional use because it can be quite abrasive, the substance can give your choppers a nice, clean, polished look. Simply add it to your homemade toothpaste every few weeks.

### Clear Up Foggy Headlights

If your car's headlights have gotten foggy and/or yellowed over the years, there's a simple fix for it. You can restore those lights in just a few steps. First, use a soft microfiber cloth to thoroughly clean the headlights, being sure to get rid of any dust and dirt. Then, mix a tablespoon or two of liquid soap with enough water to make a very thin soapy solution. After cleaning the headlights with this solution and rinsing it off, mix one or two tablespoons of baking soda with white vinegar until you've made a thick paste. Apply it and polish the light gently using a dry cloth. Rinse and repeat as needed until your headlights are bright and clear again!

### Soften Your Feet

Our feet go through a lot on a daily basis. We walk and stand on them throughout the day, whether we're working, exercising, or spending time with family and friends. It's no wonder they get tired and sometimes hurt. Why not pamper them a bit? Create a solution with three tablespoons of baking soda and a small tub of warm water. Then soak your feet to soothe and soften them. This is a great way to unwind after a long day at the office or a harrowing day with your kids.

### Mop The Floor

No one likes cleaning, and mopping the floor can be a pain. But if you're out of cleaning fluid or want a more natural solution, simply pour 1/2-cup of baking soda into a bucket of warm water. Then mix the solution and mop and clean the floor. What's great about this is the solution is much less toxic than some other cleaners you find at the grocery store. Avoid bleach and other chemicals and use baking soda instead for a simple, carefree cleaning solution.

### Ward Off Ants

Ants can be annoying. They build ant hills in the yard, some of them bite, and many of them end up in the house, wandering around aimlessly looking for food. The good news is that there is a way to get rid of them off without investing in traps from Walmart.

First, mix equal parts baking soda and salt. Next, sprinkle the mixture in the area where you see the ants coming into your kitchen or another area of your home. This solution acts as a ward to keep the insects away.

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(Baking Soda cont'd on page 13)

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### Clean The Microwave

The microwave is one of the dirtiest areas in your kitchen. Somehow it easily accumulates food grime that we don't always clean right away. As a result, it gets stuck on the inside surface, creating an unsightly mess. Fortunately, a little baking soda and some elbow grease can go a long way. Simply pour some on a damp cloth and scrub the oven's interior to remove any residue. Not only does the baking soda clean the surface, it also deodorizes it. It's a super way to clean the appliance with very little effort.

### Polish Silverware

Polishing silverware is a thankless task. It can also be very time consuming and a little messy. For a simpler method, make a paste using three parts baking soda and one part water. Then rub the paste onto silver flatware using a cloth or sponge. Rinse and dry. The next time you receive a bunch of silverware for a wedding or other occasion, you don't have to worry because it's not as hard to keep clean as you would think. Baking soda can do wonders!

### Unclog A Sink

There are some homemaking tasks that are worse than others. Cleaning a clogged drain is one of them. If you don't have any Drano on hand, you can take care of the problem by mixing 1/2-cup of baking soda, one cup of vinegar, and some hot water together. Pour the solution into the clogged drain and wait. It won't take too long for the clog to dissipate. This is a clever solution to an annoying problem, and you can use it on both wash sinks and bathtub drains.

### Deodorize The Litter Box

Everyone loves kittens (unless you're a dog person). And while the furry felines can be our best friends, one of the worst parts of pet ownership is cleaning the litter box. Frankly, it's a stinky job. But you can make the task a little easier with baking soda. All you need to do is sprinkle the bottom of the litter box with baking soda, and then cover it with the litter itself. It will act as a deodorizing agent. In between litter changes, simply sprinkle some baking soda on top.

### Make Flowers Last Longer

Most women (and maybe some men) really enjoy getting a fresh bouquet of flowers. It's even better when they last a really long time. There is a way to make them more durable. Add a teaspoon of baking soda to the water in the vase, and they'll stay fresher much longer. So the next time your son or daughter brings you some flowers from the garden, or your significant other surprises you with a special bouquet, show them how much you appreciate the gesture by keeping the arrangement around as long as you can.

### Wash Your Fruits & Veggies

As you probably realize, produce can be really dirty. Everyone knows it's important to wash fruits and vegetables, but we often just do so in plain water. Instead, mix 1/4-cup of baking soda with a full sink of water. Gently wash the produce and then rinse it with clean water. This is a safe and effective way to ensure that your fruit and vegetables are as clean as possible before you eat them. It's just one step to make sure that the pears, apples, tomatoes, and other produce you consume is as healthy as it can be.

### *Nothing Is Too Difficult*

(Nothing is too difficult....continued)

When I am in despair  
And cares weigh heavy on my mind,  
And my problems overwhelm me,  
Their solutions I can't find;  
When it all seems so impossible  
The way I just can't see,  
A song spring from my spirit -  
"Nothing's too difficult for Thee.:  
It is then I am reminded  
Of God's awesomeness and power,  
How He formed the hills and mountains  
And made each and every flower;  
How He makes the sun both rise and set  
And causes birds to fly,  
And puts the sparkles in the stars  
All this for you and I.  
It's when I stop and think of these

And sing my spirit's song,  
I know that there is hope  
And I will surely get along.  
For my troubles and despair are small  
Compared to feats as these  
And they are not too difficult  
For One as such as He.  
No, there's nothing that's too difficult  
That God can't surely do,  
In your times of care and great despair  
It's God who'll see you through.

Gina Mazzullo Laurin



## 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 **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> <i>Esther 9</i> <i>Ps. 61</i> <i>1 Thess. 5:1-28</i>	<b>2</b> <i>Esther 10</i> <i>Ps. 62</i> <i>2 Thess. 1:1-12</i>	<b>3</b> <i>Ezek. 1</i> <i>Ps. 63</i> <i>2 Thess. 2:1-12</i>	<b>4</b> <i>Ezek. 2</i> <i>Ps. 64</i> <i>2 Thess 2:13-3:5</i>	<b>5</b> <i>Ezek. 3</i> <i>Ps. 65</i> <i>2 Thess 3:6-18</i>
<b>6</b> <i>Ezek. 4</i> <i>Ps. 66</i> <i>1 Tim. 1:1-11</i>	<b>7</b> <i>Ezek. 5</i> <i>Ps. 67</i> <i>1 Tim. 1:12-20</i>	<b>8</b> <i>Ezek. 6</i> <i>Ps. 68</i> <i>1 Tim. 2:1-15</i>	<b>9</b> <i>Ezek. 7</i> <i>Ps. 69</i> <i>1 Tim. 3:1-13</i>	<b>10</b> <i>Ezek. 8</i> <i>Ps. 70</i> <i>1 Tim. 3:14-3:16</i>	<b>11</b> <i>Ezek. 9</i> <i>Ps. 71</i> <i>1 Tim. 5:1-16</i>	<b>12</b> <i>Ezek. 10</i> <i>Ps. 72</i> <i>1 Tim. 5:17-2</i>
<b>13</b> <i>Ezek. 11</i> <i>Ps. 73</i> <i>1 Tim. 6:3-10</i>	<b>14</b> <i>Ezek. 12</i> <i>Ps. 74</i> <i>1 Tim. 6:11-21</i>	<b>15</b> <i>Ezek. 13</i> <i>Ps. 75</i> <i>2 Tim. 1:1-18</i>	<b>16</b> <i>Ezek. 14</i> <i>Ps. 76</i> <i>2 Tim. 2:1-13</i>	<b>17</b> <i>Ezek. 15</i> <i>Ps. 77</i> <i>2 Tim. 2:14-26</i>	<b>18</b> <i>Ezek. 16</i> <i>Ps. 78:1-35</i> <i>2 Tim. 3:1-9</i>	<b>19</b> <i>Ezek. 17</i> <i>Ps. 78:36-72</i> <i>2 Tim. 3:10-17</i>
<b>20</b> <i>Ezek. 18</i> <i>Ps. 79</i> <i>2 Tim. 4:1-8</i>	<b>21</b> <i>Ezek. 19</i> <i>Ps. 80</i> <i>2 Tim. 4:9-22</i>	<b>22</b> <i>Ezek. 20</i> <i>Ps. 81</i> <i>Titus 1:1-16</i>	<b>23</b> <i>Ezek. 21</i> <i>Ps. 82</i> <i>Titus 2:1-15</i>	<b>24</b> <i>Ezek. 22</i> <i>Ps. 83</i> <i>Titus 3:1-15</i>	<b>25</b> <i>Ezek. 23</i> <i>Ps. 84</i> <i>Philemon 1-25</i>	<b>26</b> <i>Ezek. 24</i> <i>Ps. 85</i> <i>Heb. 1:1-7</i>
<b>27</b> <i>Ezek. 25</i> <i>Ps. 86</i> <i>Heb. 1:8-14</i>	<b>28</b> <i>Ezek. 26</i> <i>Ps. 87</i> <i>Heb. 2:1-9</i>	<b>29</b> <i>Ezek. 27</i> <i>Ps. 88</i> <i>Heb. 2:10-18</i>	<b>30</b> <i>Ezek. 28</i> <i>Ps. 89</i> <i>Heb. 3:1-11</i>			



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**NALC**  
North American Lutheran Church



**lcmc**  
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

September 2019



**Grandparents Day**

**SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>**