



Our Saviour Lutheran Church
 725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
 Post Office Box 457
 Dallas, North Carolina 28034
 Phone: 705-922-4648 Email: oslcdallas@aol.com



Our Saviour's Good News

Volume XV, Issue X

October 2020

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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Martin Luther

Martin Luther (1483-1546) stands in history as one of those unique forces, an individual who by force of will and by his ideas changed the world fundamentally. There are several ironies incumbent on Luther's pivotal role in history: 1) he doesn't really represent a break with the past, but rather a flash point where ideas and trends which had been smoldering in Europe for several centuries suddenly blazed aflame; 2) Luther initially saw himself as a great reformer of the Catholic church, a simple monk who thought the force of his ideas would single-handedly redirect the Leviathan of the church; in the end, however, he divided Christianity into two separate churches and that second division, Protestantism, would divide over the next four centuries into a near infinity of separate churches; 3) finally, Luther (and all the other reformers) saw themselves as returning Christianity to its roots, they believed that they were setting the clock back; in reality, their ideas irreparably changed the world and pushed it kicking and screaming, not into some ideal past, but into the modern era.

Luther was not a person you would want to have dinner with; he was temperamental, peevish, egomaniacal, and argumentative. But this single-mindedness, this enormous self-confidence and strident belief in the rightness of his arguments, allowed him to stand against opposition, indeed, to harden his position in the face of death by fire, the usual punishment for heretics. Luther became an Augustinian monk in 1505, disappointing his equally strong-willed father, who wished him to become a lawyer. He earned a doctorate in theology from the University of Wittenberg, but instead of settling down to a placid and scholarly monkish life or an uneventful univer-

sity career teaching theology, he began to develop his own personal theology, which erupted into outright blasphemy when he protested the use of indulgences in his **95 Theses**.

Indulgences, which were granted by the pope, forgave individual sinners not their sins, but the temporal punishment applied to those sins. These indulgences had become big business in much the same way pledge drives have become big business for public television in modern America. Luther's Theses, which outlined his theological argument against the use of indulgences, were based on the notion that Christianity is fundamentally a phenomenon of the inner world of human beings and had little or nothing to do with the outer world, such as temporal punishments. It is this fundamental argument, not the controversy of the indulgences themselves, that most people in the church disapproved of and that led to Luther's being hauled into court in 1518 to defend his arguments against the cardinal Cajetan. When the interview focused on the spiritual value of "good works," that is, the actions that people do in this world to benefit others and to pay off the debts they've incurred against God by sinning, Cajetan lost his temper and demanded that Luther recant. Luther ran, and his steady scission from the church was set in motion. The Northern Humanists, however, embraced Luther and his ideas.

Luther's first writing was **The Sermon on Good Works**, in which he argued that good works do not benefit the soul; only faith could do that. Things took a turn for the worse: Pope Leo declared 41 articles of Luther's teachings as heretical teachings, and Luther's books were publicly burned in Rome. Luther became more passionate in his effort to reform the church. His treatise, "Address to the Christian Nobility of Germany," pressed for the German nation to use military means to force the church to discuss grievances and reform; "A Prelude concerning the Babylonish Captivity of the Church" literally called for clergy in the church to openly revolt against Rome.

In 1521, the Holy Roman Emperor, Charles V, demanded that Luther appear before the diet of the Holy Roman Empire at Worms. Luther was asked to explain his views and Charles ordered him to recant. (Luther *Cont'd on page 2*)

(Luther cont'd from page 1)

Luther refused and he was placed under an imperial ban as an outlaw. He managed to escape, however, and he was hidden away in a castle in Wartburg where he continued to develop his new church.

In a more conciliatory effort, Luther wrote a letter to Pope Leo explaining the substance of his ideas, *Von der Freiheit des Christenmenschen*, "On the Freedom of the Christian," from which your readings have been selected. This conciliation didn't work (the treatise is not, in fact, very conciliatory, but somewhat arrogant), and Luther was excommunicated from the church in 1521. What had started as a furious attempt to reform the church overnight turned into a project of building a new church independent of the Catholic church. Nevertheless, this small work, "The Freedom of the Christian," is the theological and ideological core of Luther's thinking; the fundamental term of value, that center around which every other aspect of his thought rotates, is the concept of **Freiheit**, "freedom," or "liberty." This is not our concept of freedom, but in the eventual turn of time it will give rise to the notion of "individual freedom," and later "political freedom," and later "economic freedom." Most of the European Enlightenment revolves around freedom and the project of "liberating" people: liberating them from false beliefs, from false religion, from arbitrary authority, etc.--that is, what we will be calling "liberation discourse." Westerners still participate in this Enlightenment project today. This idea of "liberating" people, so common to the international politics of our own period, comes out of Luther's idea of "freedom."



2020 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, 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**



Martin Luther's Seal

"From the wilderness of Koburg Castle" 8 July 1530

Honorable, kind, dear Sir and Friend!

Grace and Peace in Christ!

Since you ask whether my seal has come out correctly, I shall answer most amiably and tell you of those thoughts which now come to my mind about my seal as a symbol of my theology. There is first to be a cross, black, and placed in a heart, which should be of its natural color (red), to put me in mind that faith in Christ crucified saved us. For if one believes from the heart, he will be justified. ["For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved." --Romans 10:10] Even though it is a black cross, which mortifies and which also should hurt us, yet it leaves the heart in its natural color and does not ruin nature...that is, the cross does not kill, but keeps man alive. For the just shall live by faith, by faith in the Savior. ["This Good News tells us how God makes us right in His sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, 'It is through faith that a righteous person has life.'" --Romans 1:17]

Such a heart is to be in the midst of a white rose, to symbolize that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace. In a word, it places the believer into a white joyful rose, for this faith does not give peace and joy as the world gives. ["I am leaving you with a gift--peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give isn't like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid." --John 14:27] Therefore, the rose is to be white, not red, for white is the color of the spirits and of all angels. ["..an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and rolled aside the stone and sat on it. His face shone like lightening, and his clothing was as white as snow." --Matthew 28:2b-3 and "She saw two white-robed angels sitting at the head and foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying." --John 20:12]

This rose, moreover, is fixed in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that such joy in the Spirit and in faith is a beginning of the future heavenly joy. It is already a part of faith, and is grasped through hope, even though not yet manifest.

And around this field is a golden ring, to signify that such bliss in heaven is endless, and more precious than all joys and goods, just as gold is the most valuable and precious metal.

"May Christ, our dear Lord, be with your spirit until the life to come. Amen."



[Luther's Works - American Edition - Volume 49, pp. 356-359]

Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Anna Lowery, President
August 17, 2020 Council Minutes



Devotions: Alice Vlaservich

Meeting called to order by President, Anna Lowery

Members present: Alice Vlaservich, Anna Lowery, Melinda White, Robbie Wooten, Jeff White, Teri Trudnak;

Members Absent: Joe Finger, Denise Traveria, Becky Messick.

Minutes: July 2020 minutes were reviewed.; Anna Lowery made the motion to approve the minutes and Alice Vlaservich seconded the motion.

Reception of Petitions and Communications: Crisis Pregnancy Center will have their annual Walk for Life. OSLC will support by individual donations and prayer.

Report of the Pastor: No report available.

Report of the Treasurer: Report was reviewed, and a motion was made by Melinda White to accept the Treasurer Report and seconded by Teri Trudnak.

Report of the Ministries:

- Property:** Planning to clean gutters at activity building
- Stewardship and Finance:** No report
- Worship & Music:** No report
- Youth Team:** No report this month
- Witness:** Cards and prayers continue to be sent to shut in's
- Christian Education Team:** No report

Report of Auxiliaries: Met at the home of Marie Robinson on 8/24/2020. The Prayer Group will continue to meet the third Tuesday of each month at 1 pm.

Old and/or Unfinished Business:

- Discussed the roof problem. We will be getting several estimates and reviews for the repair.
- Workday to be schedule soon for church grounds.

New Business:

- LCMC annual Gathering and Convention is 10/5/2020. Please remember in prayer.
- The Council discussed having the Activity Building thoroughly cleaned. Bill Trudnak will get an estimate.

General Information:

- Attendance
- Laszlo Mission (Kids International) Report
- JAARS

The Council meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is September 21, 2020 at 7pm
 Devotion for September: Joe Finger



2020
16th Dallas - North Gaston Area
CROP WALK
has been cancelled until December 31

Thanks to cooperative efforts of the *Dallas Ministerial Association*, the *Dallas / High Shoals Christian Social Ministry Board*, the *Dallas Area Churches* and the *CROP Walk Steering Committee*, plans are underway in preparation for the *Twelfth Annual Dallas / North Gaston Area CROP Walk* which will be held on Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019. Registration will begin at 1:00 PM in the Dennis Franklin Gym in Dallas. The walk will begin at 2:00 PM at Cloninger Park track in Dallas and participants will walk the track approximately six miles or as long as they can walk. We walk 6 miles because this is the average distance a person in most underdeveloped countries of the world must walk each day to provide water for their family.

In 2018, 82 participants walked in the Gaston Area CROP Walk and yielded \$5,447.90 (which is down over 2017) to help address the scourge of hunger at home and around the world. We need more participants this year and hope you can make a difference.

We join with the Whole Church in Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession for your willingness to WALK and SERVE so others can share in the abundance of life that God desires for all people as revealed most clearly in *Jesus - The Christ*.

In thanksgiving and servanthood,

The 2020 Dallas - North Gaston
 CROP Walk Steering Committee



EARLY VOTING BEGINS OCTOBR 14
This election will determine which direction
our county will go.



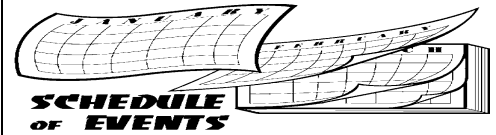
OCTOBER 2019



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

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|----|----|----|--------------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 World Communion Sunday | 5 Team Mtg. LCMC Gathering | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 19 th Sun Pentecost | 12 Columbus Day | 13 Prayer Group | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 20 th Sun Pentecost | 19 Board Mtg. | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Reformation Sunday | 26 CLW/Rachel Group | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 Reformation Day |



- **October 4**— 18th Sunday after Pentecost
World Holy Communion Day
Life Chain of Gaston (see p.6)
Pastor Appreciation Day
Pro-Life "Prayer and Witness"
- **October 5**— Team Meeting at 7:00 pm
20th Annual Gathering LCMC
- **October 11**— 19th Sunday after Pentecost
- **October 12**— Columbus Day
- **October 13**— Prayer Group will meet at Home of Shirlee Marazza at 1:00 pm
- **October 17**— The Catalinas Concert
- **October 18**— 20th Sunday after Pentecost
- **October 25**— Reformation Sunday
- **October 26**— CLW/Rachel Group TBA
- **October 31**— Reformation Day

Holy Communion Schedule:



ALL SUNDAYS

FOOD FOR THE MONTH: Soup,
Mac & Chesse,
Lima Beans

Worship Service Assistance:

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



CHOIR PRATICE
Wednesday at 5:00 pm

Birthdays



- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 3 Denise Traveria | Morgan Dawson |
| 4 Chase Messick | Nation Finger |
| Allie Trudnak | Alice Vlaservich |
| 5 Christian Clemmer | Nora Cole |
| 20 Jean Huffstetler | Bryten Cole |
| 21 Jeff Lineberger | |

Devotions: Jeff White
Collection: Teri Trudnak



15th Tony & Kathy Trudnak

FLOWERS

Flower Schedule:

- October 4 Nick Vlaservich
- October 11 Open
- October 18 Open
- October 25 Brady Ratchford



History of Halloween



The Word on Hallows Eve

The word Halloween comes from the phrase 'All Hallows Eve.' It is the evening before the Catholic Church holiday on November 1st known as, All Hallows Day, All Saint's Day, All Souls Day, or All Hallowmas Day. In Old English, Hallow means sanctify. In the past on November 1st, Catholics honored all saints while Romans prayed for the dead *and* honored saints. Halloween, the night before this, has many different customs and origins attached to its history.

Perhaps the oldest recordings of a celebration on Halloween are that of a druidic fire festival called Samhain. This was celebrated by the Celts (people who now live in Great Britain and Northern France), in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. It meant the closing of a harvest and the beginning of winter. After the Romans conquered most of that territory, they combined two of their own festivals with the traditional Celtic ritual of Samhain. The first Roman festival was called Feralia. This was a day in late October set aside to commemorate the passing of the dead. The second Roman festival was to honor Pomona, the Roman goddess of the harvest or fruit and trees. Her symbol was the apple, which could be the reason we bob for apples on Halloween.

Trick or Treat for Prayers?

As with the history of Halloween, there are many different ways the act of trick or treating came about. One is from the 19th century custom called souling. This means Christians would walk from town to town on Halloween night, begging for soul cakes. The soul cakes were actually square pieces of bread made with currants. The more soul cakes people received, the more prayers they had to say for the dead family members of the donors. During this time, people believed the dead remained in limbo for a while after death. They also thought that prayer, even by strangers, could speed up a soul's passage to heaven.

There was another recording of the handing out of souls cakes, this time to *poor* citizens. It was also in exchange for prayers for the family's dead relatives. The church encouraged this as a way to replace the practice of leaving food and wine on doorsteps for roaming spirits.

Europeans and Celts believed that to avoid the spirits, they should wear masks when they left their homes. The Celts also believed that on Halloween, the disembodied spirits of everyone who had died that past year, would come back to search for bodies to possess. So the people put out all their fires and disguised themselves with masks and costumes and marched around town trying to ward off the spirits.

Today, families can avoid having tricks played on them if they give the kids who wander door-to-door, Halloween treats.

Party Time

Eventually, the customs of European immigrants combined with American and American Indian customs. Although annual autumnal festivals were common, the very first American Halloween celebrations were called 'play parties.' At these public events people celebrated the harvest, shared stories of the

dead, told each other's fortunes, danced, sang, and told ghost stories. During the second half of the 19th century, a new flood of millions of immigrants fleeing the Ireland potato famine of 1846 came to America. This created the meshing of Irish and English Halloween traditions, and people began dressing up in costumes and going house to house for visits. In the 1800's there was a push to make Halloween more of a community-based event, and anything scary and gross was forbidden. In the 20th century, because of the 1950's baby boom, there were a lot of children. Vandalism increased during the celebration of Halloween.

Traditions or Trade-Offs?

As told before, the idea of bobbing for apples could have come from the Roman goddess of the harvest and her scared fruit of apples.

The name 'witch' comes from the Saxon Wicca meaning 'wise one.' A sacred ointment was rubbed on the skin of the which, to give them a feeling of flying.

The use of Jack-O-Lanterns perhaps comes from when children used to carve out potatoes or turnips and light them for Halloween gatherings. The name Jack most likely comes from a story of 'Jack the Irish Villain.' It was about a man rejected by good and evil, who wandered the world forever looking for a place to rest. His only warmth came from a small candle in a rotten potato. With the Irish potato famine from 1845-50, almost 700,000 people immigrated to the Americas. They brought with them the Jack-O-Lantern tradition but turnips were scarce. The pumpkin became a good replacement because there were a lot of them around.

Masks were worn to scare off demons and evil spirits and to keep people from being recognized.



WALK FOR LIFE report

The Walk for Life was sponsored by Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, Inc. on September 11, 2020 Our church raised \$650.00. Several members contributed time, money, and prayer. Thanks to all who gave. From all over Gaston County, church members joined in this Walk for Life and have raised over \$71,294.33 as of 9/25 and funds are still coming in to reach our goal.

The mission statement of Crisis Pregnancy Center is:

The Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County, Inc. affirms the value of life by compassionately sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ and providing the following services: Pregnancy Counseling, Abstinence Education, Limited Ultrasounds and various other Medical Services, Adolescent Parenting Programs, Post Abortion Counseling to women, men, and families affected by crisis pregnancy situations, with the hope of changing lives. Phone number 704-868-4636. Address: 800 Robinson Road Gastonia, NC, 28056, website: www.cpcgaston.org



725 Gastonia Technology Parkway
Post Office Box 457
Dallas, North Carolina 28034
Phone: 705-922-4648 Email: oslcdallas@aol.com

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

Web site: www.NovusWay.com



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 – 3:30 PM**. We are thrilled to have three locations in Gaston County: Belmont, Gastonia and Mount Holly! See **Event Details** for more information about the sites.

How it Works: Participants arrive early to park and pick up a sign and then space themselves 10- 15 feet apart on the sidewalk. At 2:00 PM we join the rest of the Life Chains across the United States and Canada and, for just one hour, pray quietly for the unborn and for a conversion of our nation on the issue of abortion. The reverse side of the signs are printed with prayers and hymns to aid your prayer but feel free to bring or say your own prayers. **Everyone is welcome and no RSVP is necessary. Just show up at your preferred location on the day of the event! Signs will be provided.**

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

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOE BOX) IS COMING!

What is Operation Christmas Child?

This annual project enables caring individuals, families, schools, churches, businesses, and other organizations to fill ordinary shoe boxes with small toys, school supplies, sweets, and other gifts for needy children around the world.

Operation Christmas Child sends a message of hope to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes.



Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project. Since 1990 the project has brought the joy of Christmas to more than 47 million boys and girls throughout the world. Last year we sent 1.24 million shoe boxes from the UK to children in hospitals, orphanages, Internally Displaced Persons camps, homeless shelters and impoverished neighborhoods. With your help we want to reach even more children in the poorest parts of the world in 2018.

Your gift is powerful!

Your shoe box will make a child feel special and valued, and let them know that you care about them. Choosing gifts and then wrapping and filling a shoe box is a fun and rewarding activity for all the family – especially when you know these gifts are going to be used and treasured.

From you to a child in need.

Your shoe box will be hand delivered to a child in need, asking nothing from them in return. All boxes are given to the neediest children regardless of nationality, political background or religious beliefs. Operation Christmas Child empowers local overseas partners to ensure that your shoe boxes are delivered with the highest levels of integrity and respect. Where appropriate and in culturally sensitive ways, our local overseas partners will make available a booklet of Bible stories, which gives a message of hope and includes an explanation of the true meaning of Christmas – God's gift of His Son, Jesus

A Stewardship Minute

One day, a wise old grandfather clock, feeling weary, began to consider just how many times it was ticking annually. It figured it ticked two times a second, 120 times a minute, 7200 times an hour, 172,800 times a day, 63,072,000 times a year. Imagine that ... over 63 million ticks a year! Exasperated at how hard the clock had to work, it wanted to quit ticking: "I'll sit down and quit. That's too much ticking for me."

Sometimes life feels that way for many of us. If we over-think the time and energy we spend on every little thing ... it can be overwhelming. We

need to learn to expend our efforts wisely, taking one step at a time. Moving forward with steady determination, we can accomplish a great amount.

In our service to and worship of God we must steadfastly continue, or else Christianity would wither away. An article in this month's *Stewardship* suggests that we exercise our stewardship steadily ... a bit at a time ... week by week, year by year. Faithfully and steadily.

Jesus talked about a woman taking a bit of yeast then mixing it in flour. It took a while, but in time the risen dough was ready to bake. A lit-

tle expanded into a lot. (Luke 13:20-21) Just so, our daily stewardship in time builds a refuge for orphan children, aid for a missionary in Africa or Asia, medical help for those dying of malaria or Aids, or a wonderful church, such as we have ourselves. Bit by bit, our stewardship, with God's help, will always work miracles.

Prayer: Do not, O Lord, allow us to grow weary in well-doing. Stir us up to exercise our total stewardship, that our efforts may always please you. **Amen**



OCTOBER

It's in **OCTOBER** that we give thanks and celebrate the reform of the church, that we commemorate St. Mark the physician. We remember St. James, the brother of Jesus and a martyr, and we remember Simon and Jude who were apostles. It's also the month our children and grandchildren transform into ghouls and goons and goblins and all manner of outrageous things. They stalk around the neighborhoods shrieking and snarling like wild animals (even the little princesses have been seen joining in). They roam from door to door claiming what is theirs laughing and slinking away. They do all this at night. In an atmosphere of shadows and superstition about what is over there, and above that, and (shuttering) below here, they brood. Following them through the terrifying maze of pumpkin heads and ghosts are large, plan looking, somewhat disengaged 'adult'. You can hear steady murmuring from them with the rotating refrain from among them, "Remember to say thank you!" Those two words said together—thank you—take all the strange potentials, all the odd possibilities, all the awkward occurrences, and paint smiles across the faces of ghouls and plain looking parents and grandparents alike. It's a parade of unlikely encounters with the stated possibility of "trick" or "treat". It is an exercise in the choice of hospitality to the very different and a chance to remember to say thank you. As we remember the Saints of the church and the reform Luther began let us ask the Lord to give us the gracious hospitality and thankfulness that mark us as His children.



Reformation Day

HISTORY OF U.S. STEEPED IN THE WORD OF GOD

My Answer by Billy Graham (9/26/2020)

The history of the United States is steeped in the Work of God. This is greatly debated today, but nevertheless true. Today the Bible has been taken out of the schools, collects dust in many homes, and "feel goo sermons" have replaced the study of God's Word in many pulpits.

We must get reacquainted with the Bible. It is the ultimate authority and a compass for mankind.

In a letter to a friend, Abraham Lincoln said, "I am profitably engaged in readings the Bible. Take all of this Book upon reason that you can and the upon faith, and you will live and die a better man," Coleridge said he believed the Bible to be the word of God because, as he put it, "It finds me." "If you want encouragement." John Bunyan wrote, "entertain the promises." Martin Luther said, "In Scriptures, even the little daisy becomes a meadow."

The Bible is our one sure guide in the unsure world. Many great leaders have made it their chief Book and their reliable guide. Herbert J. Taylor, formerly international president of Rotary, began each day by reading the Sermon on the Mount aloud. President Ronald Reagan revered the Bible so much that her proclaimed 1984 the "Year of the Bible."

We should begin the day with the Book, and as it come to a close let the Word speak its wisdom to our souls. Let it be the firm foundation upon which our hope is built. Let it be the Staff of Life upon which your spirit is nourished. Let it be the Sword of the Spirit, which cut away the evil of our lives and fashions us in His image and likeness.

"Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105).

Church News



GASTON TOGETHER'S CLERGY & CITIZENS COALITION
 October 8, 2018
 8:30 to 10:00 am
 Clinton Room, Gaston Memorial Hospital

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.

Jerri Presley

2604 Ole Home Trail, Dallas

(If others, please let the church office know)

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



NEEDED

FOR

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Be a servant of the Lord

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 BE MEETING AT THE HOME OF TBA
ON OCTOBER 26 AT 1:00 PM



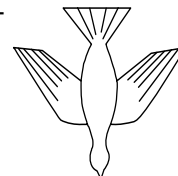
PRAYER GROUP

WILL MEET AT THE HOME OF SHIRLEE MARAZZA
ON OCTOBER 13 AT 1:30 PM



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

PRAYER CONCERNS: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, SYLVIA Cloninger (friend of Nick Vlaservich), 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), MELINDA and JEFF White, NANCY Wil-



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.

OCTOBER

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | <i>1</i> <i>Ezek 29</i> <i>Ps. 90</i> <i>Heb 3:12-29</i> | <i>2</i> <i>Ezek 30</i> <i>Ps. 91</i> <i>Heb 4:1-13</i> | <i>3</i> <i>Ezek 31</i> <i>Ps. 92</i> <i>Heb 4:14-5:10</i> |
| <i>4</i> <i>Ezek 32</i> <i>Ps. 93</i> <i>Heb 5:11-6:8</i> | <i>5</i> <i>Ezek 33</i> <i>Ps. 94</i> <i>Heb 6:9-20</i> | <i>8</i> <i>Ezek 34</i> <i>Ps. 95</i> <i>Heb 7:1-10</i> | <i>7</i> <i>Ezek 35</i> <i>Ps. 96</i> <i>Heb 7:11-28</i> | <i>8</i> <i>Ezek 6</i> <i>Ps. 97</i> <i>Heb 8:1-13</i> | <i>9</i> <i>Ezek 37</i> <i>Ps. 98</i> <i>Heb 9:1-10</i> | <i>10</i> <i>Ezek 38</i> <i>Ps. 99</i> <i>Heb 9:11-28</i> |
| <i>11</i> <i>Ezek 39</i> <i>Ps. 100</i> <i>Heb 10:1-10</i> | <i>12</i> <i>Ezek 40</i> <i>Ps. 101</i> <i>Heb 10:11-18</i> | <i>13</i> <i>Ezek 41</i> <i>Ps. 102</i> <i>Heb 10:19-31</i> | <i>14</i> <i>Ezek 42</i> <i>Ps. 103</i> <i>Heb 10:32-39</i> | <i>15</i> <i>Ezek 43</i> <i>Ps. 104:1-18</i> <i>Heb 11:1-12</i> | <i>16</i> <i>Ezek 44</i> <i>Ps. 104:19-35</i> <i>Heb 11:13-28</i> | <i>17</i> <i>Ezek 45</i> <i>Ps. 105:1-22</i> <i>Heb 11:29-40</i> |
| <i>18</i> <i>Ezek 46</i> <i>Ps. 105:23-45</i> <i>Heb 12:1-6</i> | <i>19</i> <i>Ezek 47</i> <i>Ps. 106:1-2</i> <i>Heb 12:7-17</i> | <i>20</i> <i>Ezek 48</i> <i>Ps. 106:24-48</i> <i>Heb 12:18-29</i> | <i>21</i> <i>Ezra 1</i> <i>Ps. 107:1-22</i> <i>Heb 13:1-13</i> | <i>22</i> <i>Ezra 2</i> <i>Ps. 107:23-43</i> <i>Heb 13:17-24</i> | <i>23</i> <i>Ezra 3</i> <i>Ps. 108</i> <i>James 1:18</i> | <i>24</i> <i>Ezra 4:1-16</i> <i>Ps. 109:1-20</i> <i>James 1:19-27</i> |
| <i>25</i> <i>Ezra 4:17-5:5</i> <i>Ps. 109:21-31</i> <i>James 2:1-13</i> | <i>26</i> <i>Ezra 5:6-6:12</i> <i>Ps. 110</i> <i>James 2:14-26</i> | <i>27</i> <i>Ezra 6:13-22</i> <i>Ps. 111</i> <i>James 3:1-18</i> | <i>28</i> <i>Ezra 7:1-10</i> <i>Ps. 112</i> <i>James 4:1-13</i> | <i>29</i> <i>Ezra. 7:11-28</i> <i>Ps. 113</i> <i>James 5:1-19</i> | <i>30</i> <i>Ezra. 8:1-23</i> <i>Ps. 114</i> <i>1 Peter 1:1-12</i> | <i>31 Reformation</i> <i>Rev. 14:6-7</i> <i>Ps. 46</i> <i>Rom. 3:19-28</i> <i>John 8:31-36</i> |

Halloween is celebrated on the 31st of October night. It is common among children to dress up in scary costumes and move from door-to-door collecting sweets and gifts. They shout at each door, "trick or treat!" before their sacks are filled with treats. Watching horror movies, visiting haunted houses and enjoying some haunted hayrides form a part of the traditional celebrations.

Anoka, Minnesota is the Halloween capital of the world. The history of Halloween dates back to 1920, where the festivities originated in Anoka in an attempt to keep younger people away from vandalism. At that time Halloween was known as "Samhain" and was a pagan festival among the Celts of Ireland and Great Britain. Other western countries have embraced Halloween as part of American pop culture later.

Countries like United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, United Kingdom, Peru, Australia and others also celebrate Halloween. Some parts in Western Europe also are celebrating it recently.

Halloween is the shortened name for All-hallow-even as it is on the eve of All Saints Day. It is also called Pooky Night in some parts of Ireland, named after a mischievous spirit. However, there are some fascinating symbols, which make the Halloween celebrations all the more exciting, like:

The Carved Pumpkin

Many families carve out a scary or a comical face onto a pumpkin and place a candle inside it to illuminate the carved out features. They leave it on their doorstep after dark. Legend has it that a stingy, greedy and drunkard old farmer tricked a devil into climbing a tree and trapped him there by carving a cross on the tree trunk. The devil curses Jack to wander on the Earth seeking Eternity. The carved pumpkin basically symbolizes this event.



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)



About the CROP Hunger Walk and CWS

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.

Why should I register?

Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn't have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible, and it is possible in our lifetime. You can help make it happen.

For nearly half a century, CROP Hunger Walks have ensured that more people worldwide have access to nutritious, sustainable food sources. From combating droughts in Nicaragua to providing agricultural training in Indonesia to stocking shelves in hundreds of food pantries across the United States, CROP Hunger Walks help end hunger by raising funds to support local food programs and the international anti-hunger work of Church World Service.

Stand with neighbors in your community who rely on food assistance programs. Partner with parents worldwide as they ensure a bright future for their children. Support those struggling in the face of grinding poverty and open up new doors of opportunity for them.

Tens of thousands of CROP Hunger Walkers are committed to building a hunger-free world. Join the movement!

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 70 years of working in partnership around the world.

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 1000 communities across the U.S. join in more than 800 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 inter-faith hunger education and fundraising events sponsored,

DUE TO THE COVID19 THE WALK HAS BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL December 31

NORTH GASTON AREA CROP WALK

Thursday, December 31



**Come join us
for this
life-saving
event!**

LIFE CHAIN OF GASTON COUNTY

PRO-LIFE PRAYER & WITNESS



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH | 2-3 PM
BELMONT | GASTONIA | MT HOLLY | STANLEY

Sign up or more info: Linda (704) 589-3930



2020 Mission Emphasis for October :

SAMARITAN'S PURSE

ABOUT US

After sharing the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus said "Go and do likewise." That is the mission of Samaritan's Purse—to follow the example of Christ by helping those in need and proclaiming the hope of the Gospel.

Mission Statement

Samaritan's Purse is a nondenominational evangelical Christian organization providing spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world. Since 1970, Samaritan's Purse has helped meet needs of people who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease, and famine with the purpose of sharing God's love through His Son, Jesus Christ.

The organization serves the Church worldwide to promote the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

SHOE BOX STORY

Yuliya received a shoebox at age 9 in a Central Asian country.

When I lifted the lid on my purple plastic shoebox, the first thing I saw was a stuffed dog. I was filled with exuberant joy! I just remember hugging it.

Even though I had toys growing up, the dog was an item you couldn't find in my country. It was really soft and had puppy eyes. *"It was my new best friend, my newfound treasure."*

My second favorite item was bubble gum-flavored toothpaste that came in a pink tube. We didn't know such a thing existed. We would squeeze out a bit the size of the tip of a match so we could get a little bit of flavor and make it last as long as possible.

Word traveled fast. My friends would line up in our bathroom and my sister and I would squeeze out a tiny amount on their toothbrushes. I think we made it last about two years.

My third favorite item was an Etch A Sketch. At first we had no idea what it was. We kept pushing down on the buttons and asking, "Why is it not working?"

After having it displayed on a shelf for a couple of months, my sister was dusting and she turned the knobs. When she saw the line going up and down on the screen she was so excited. The item we thought was broken was drawing!

The toys were the most important things. "Here was someone I'd never met ... to me as a 9-year-old it also stood

out that the letter in the box said, *"I am praying for you."* As time went on, I realized why she was still praying for me."

We became pen pals and she would always close her letters, "I am praying for you." I always wondered, "Why is she praying for me?" The impact hit me more than seven years later after I became a Christian. She was showing me the love of Christ all along, starting with the shoebox and continuing in her prayers. "She specifically chose that dog for me and wanted to use it to communicate God's love."

The shoebox was a seed. That's how the Lord works. He patiently knocks on the door of our heart and waits until we open the door. Sometimes you see fruit right away and other times it takes years for the seed to grow.

I still have my stuffed dog 14 years later. That's a glimpse of how much the shoebox meant to me because it was packed with love and prayer. It wasn't just any dog. I could tell she specifically chose that dog for me and wanted to use it to communicate God's love.

Shoebox stories is a 13-week series by shoebox recipients telling about the eternal impact of a simple gift.

Check back each Monday from www.samaritanspurse.org for the next installment

Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy to millions of children around the world through shoeboxes lovingly and prayerfully packed with gifts that will bring delight to a child. In the hands of local churches, every gift-filled shoebox is a powerful tool for evangelism and discipleship—transforming the lives of children and their families around the world through the Good News of Jesus Christ!

After receiving shoebox gifts, boys and girls are invited to enroll in The Greatest Journey, our 12-lesson discipleship program, where children learn what it means to faithfully follow Christ and share their faith with others.

The story of the Good Samaritan (Mark 10:30-37) gives a clear picture of God's desire for us to help those in desperate need wherever we find them.

After describing how the Samaritan rescued a hurting man whom others had passed by, Jesus told His hearers, "Go and do likewise."

For over 40 years, Samaritan's Purse has done our utmost to follow Christ's command by going to the aid of the world's poor, sick, and suffering. We are an effective means of reaching hurting people in countries around the world with food, medicine, and other assistance in the Name of Jesus Christ. This, in turn, earns us a hearing for the Gospel, the Good News of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

(Purse cont'd on p 15

(Purse cont'd from p 14)

As our teams work in crisis areas of the world, people often ask, "Why did you come?" The answer is always the same: "We have come to help you in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ."

In addition to Operation Christmas Child, they have many other expressions of God's Love. Very visible in the USA as well as overseas is International Crisis Response, helping those in emergency

As the Apostle Paul said, "For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake" (2 Corinthians 4:5, NIV).

HOW TO PACK A SHOEBOX**Find a cardboard or plastic shoebox.**

Decide who would receive it:

Boy or girl:

Ages: 2-4

5-9

10-14

Fill with gifts:

Select a "wow" toy, such as:

Soccer ball and pump, doll,

Stuffed animal, musical instrument, as harmonica,

Clothes, shoes

Other suggestions:

Yo-yo, jump rope, ball, toys that light up (with extra batteries,)

School supplies: pen pencils, sharpeners, markers, crayons, picture and coloring books, playing cards, scissors, stamps

Accessories: t-shirt, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlight (extra batteries)

Crafts that you make, such as:

Finger puppets, friendship bracelet

Hygiene items: toothbrush, and toothpaste, bar soap (in plastic bag), comb, brush

Things not to include:

Guns, knives, military figures,

Chocolate—hard candy

Liquids,

Medication or vitamins

Anything breakable such as:

Snow globes

Aerosol cans

*****You can pick up a card Shoebox in the hallway of the Ed Bldg. on October 4 or use a plastic box.

ONE MINUTE EACH NIGHT

This is the scariest election we as Christians have ever faced, and from the looks of the polls, the Christians aren't voting Christian values. We all need to be on our knees.

Do you believe we can take God at His word? Call upon His name, then stand back and watch His wonders unfold. This scripture gives us, as Christians, ownership of this land and the ability to call upon God to heal it. I challenge you to do that. We have never been more desperate than now for God to heal our land.

This election is the scariest I remember in my lifetime. 2 Chronicles 7:14. 'If my people, which are called by my name shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.'

During WWII, there was an advisor to Churchill, who organized a group of people who dropped what they were doing every night at a prescribed hour for one minute, to collectively pray for the safety of England, its people and peace. This had an amazing effect, as bombing stopped.

Now is the time that we pray that God will open the eyes and ears of the people in the United States so that they might follow His path. So spend one minute praying for the safety of the United States, our troops, our citizens, for peace in the world, the upcoming election, that the Bible will remain the basis for the laws governing our land, and that Christianity will grow in the U.S.



Urgent
Prayer Needs

Men of the



NALC

September 8, 2020

Rev. Peter Feige
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
725 Gastonia Technology Pkwy.
Dallas NC 28034

Dear Rev. Feige,

My name is Bruce Zander, and I am a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Gastonia, NC. I am starting a Men's Ministry within the NALC, beginning in the Southern Piedmont Mission District and would like your support.

Look at our world today. Men are looking for places where they can gather with other good men to share experiences, and learn more about the way Christ wants us to live.

So where are we going and what is our goal in men's ministry? We need to develop **Men of Integrity**. The word integrity come from the Hebrew word for whole, sound, or unimpaired. It means to possess a genuine heart. A man of integrity is true to his word.

We need to develop **Men of Intimacy**. Intimacy comes form the Latin word intus, which means "within." It is a sharing of life with another. It is allowing others into our hearts, and it is getting into their hearts.

We need **Men of identity**. The biblical man is balanced. He is complete, and he is certain of his identity. There are four biblical principles we can remind our men of:

1. We have been created by God for God.
2. Christ loved us so much He died for us.
3. Christ lives in each man.
4. The masculinity of Jesus is our mode.

We need **Men of Influence**. The man who won't settle for the status quo. A man who won't just go through the motions, A man who will leave his comfort zone and say "I want to stand up. I want to be counted. I want to be a part of God's doing." That's the man who will get things going. That's a man of influence.

We need to build our ministries around Proverbs 27:12 "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

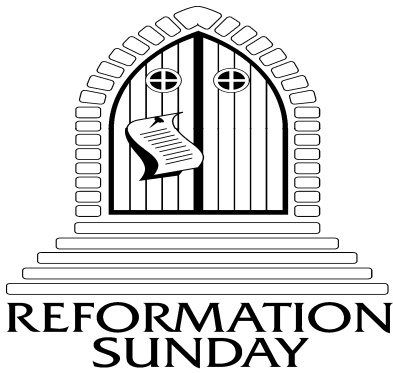
I will be in contact with you in the near future to schedule a meeting with you and a few of your key men in your congregation to discuss Men's Ministry in the NALC.

Yours in Christ,

Bruce Zander
Email: bzander5@att.net
Phone: 704-747-3066



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



October 2020

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