



# The InnerNet

Early April 2021—*Special Edition!*

*"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life." – Romans 6:3-11*

Happy Easter, beloved ones in Christ! I am so excited about entering into this lovely time of the church year, the season of Easter. The temperatures are warming up, the grass is green, and the trees and flowers are popping out with color. There is nothing like the returning beauty of spring in the Carolinas to remind us of the beauty of Easter.

Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb on the third day after his crucifixion. Easter is the fulfilled prophecy of the Messiah who would be persecuted, die for our sins, and rise on the third day, originally written in Isaiah 53. Remembering the resurrection of Jesus is a way to renew daily hope that we have victory over sin, death and the devil. Easter is the crux, or foundation, of our Christian faith. Jesus, the Son of God, fulfilled prophecy and through his death, and resurrection has given the gift of eternal life to those who believe.

I chose Paul's writing found in the Book to the Roman's as a reminder that we too are given the same promise of rising from the dead, just as Jesus did. That divine gift given to Him awaits us – we too shall rise after we leave this life and enter into the next. This gift of grace, this act of compassion, and this gift of promise comes to us from a Creator God that loves us so much that it is beyond our comprehension. We too share in this life eternal with our Lord.

As we continue as an Easter people, that is...we know the story and beauty of the Resurrection...let us also continue in raising up our faith.

We are called to continually return to the Lord our God, recognize the sins and self-indulgence that separate us from one another and from God, and admit to God that we need God's steadfast love and the mercy of forgiveness. We can then share in the joy of the sacrifice of the cross and know that our sins are indeed forgiven. We have such great things to be thankful for, and the empty tomb and the resurrected Lord tells us that truth. We can also share the joy of reconciliation with each other, as we live into Easter's hope.

Welcome to Easter, and the season that follows my beloved family and friends. May it find you "in-joy" and in hope as you enjoy the beauty of spring. I'll see you in worship (beginning April 18), or in Zoom, or on-line.

Blessings and love in Christ. Pastor Angela

## Joyful, Joyful News!

April 18, 2021 will see us re-open our doors for worship. Watch the E-News for information regarding how to sign up.

**Masks** will be required, as will **Reservations**. Singing will be limited to music leaders, though spoken responses will be allowed.

Everyone will need to decide for themselves if they are comfortable gathering with about 40 others in the sanctuary. Also, we hope you are vaccinated before being present, but if not, you are still welcome. There is no nursery. Children are welcome, and it may be noisy. But what a joyous noise!

If anyone is ill, or has a family member with an illness, we'd ask you to stay home, even if you have a reservation. Better to be safe than spreading anything, even a cold.

April 18 and following, we will also Live Stream, so not to worry if you are unable to be present, you can still worship with us.

## A Story of Faith in Action from the ELCA website



*Anthony Stephens, an ELCA pastor and Army chaplain, ministered to some 700 National Guard and Army troops during New York City's severe COVID-19 outbreak.*

### **CHAPLAIN ON THE FRONT LINE**

Ministering to some 700 National Guard and Army troops during New York City's severe COVID-19 outbreak might seem daunting. But not to Anthony Stephens, an ELCA pastor and an Army chaplain.

Since 2016, Stephens has served as senior chaplain to Joint Task Force Empire Shield, part of the New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs. The task force protects the city's bridges, airports, tunnels and train stations from security threats, and has also responded to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Stephens helped troops deal with their anxiety over serving on the front lines and possibly contracting the virus. He also counseled those with family members or friends who were sick, jobless or challenged by other hardships.

"In many ways, there's a feeling of defenselessness against this virus," Stephens said. "We were all exposed before social distancing, and we can't escape that. There's a sense that you can wash your hands just so many times; that we're in God's hands now."

With a Master of Divinity from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Stephens maintains a private counseling practice and, as a pastor, chaplain and counselor, has ministered to people in parishes, prisons, hospitals, counseling centers and the military.

Of all his assignments, the closest to his heart is his current role as a New York Army National Guard chaplain, where he holds the rank of major. "Back in seminary, a Navy recruiter showed up and we talked and prayed," Stephens said. "I knew I'd be called someday to military chaplaincy." Mission Support funds contribute to ELCA chaplain ministry.

His diverse ministry experiences have equipped him to address the troops' spiritual needs. "Nothing that I've done in my life has been wasted. My experiences have been used in sermons, to be less judgmental and to give me perspective."

To learn more about your Mission Support gifts at work in the various ministries of the church, visit the synod's website: [Stories of Faith in Action - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America \(elca.org\)](https://www.elca.org/stories-of-faith-in-action)

# 2020 Mission Support Thank you!

to the members of  
**Living Saviour**  
of the North Carolina Synod  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

in grateful appreciation for giving  
**\$30,276.00**  
for Mission Support beyond the congregation  
for synod and churchwide ministries of the ELCA



Bishop, North Carolina Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



## Thank you from the North Carolina Synod

Thank you for the generous Mission Support that your congregation—along with congregations across the NC Synod—provided for our shared work together, even during a pandemic.

Your generosity started a new faith community among those experiencing homelessness in downtown Winston-Salem, made sustaining gifts to our camping ministries which were so hard hit by the cancellation of regular programming, invested in leaders preparing for professional ministry, and made eight socially-distant ordinations possible.

Thank you for all you do as Christ's church  
in the North Carolina Synod!

*May you know & grow in the joys of generosity -  
for the sake of the world! A - Carissa Abraham*

### Your Offerings: Gracious generosity continues!

Thank you to all who support the ministry of LSLC. It is deeply appreciated and used to care for all God has given us.  
You can mail you offering to the office, drop it off, or use the Simply Giving platform. We also have an on-line giving option on our website. As you give, thank God for our congregation and its ministry work.

### Financial Results for February 2021 Month End

Note: The General Fund Contributions included prepaid pledges of \$27,159 from 2020. In addition, there were multiple annual pledges.

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General Fund 01	Actual
Contributions, etc.	62,932
Expenses and Transfers	31,308
Net Contributions less Expenses/Tranfers	31,624
<b>Facilities Fund 02-3241-442</b>	
Beginning Balance	83,822
Transfers from General Fund	833
Contributions	225
Expenditures	-
Ending Balance	84,881

#### Vanguard Account

The church has set up an account at Vanguard. If you wish to contribute mutual funds, ETFs or stocks that have an appreciated value, you can contribute these to Living Saviour's Vanguard account. By doing so, you can avoid capital gains taxes. If you have any questions, please contact Don Hathcock or Timothy Goldbach.





# WHERE DOES MY OFFERING GO?



ELCA members in more than 9,300 congregations in the United States and Caribbean give approximately **\$1.75 billion** in regular offering to support ELCA ministries in their local communities and worldwide. When members give through their **congregations**, a percentage of that money is then shared with the local **synod** and the national **churchwide organization**.

This unrestricted giving, called Mission Support, gives us both the foundation and the fuel to do God's work in the world and a portion of the gifts circle back to support ministries in synods and local congregations. Of these unrestricted gifts, the churchwide organization receives around 2.6 percent. This represents the largest portion of the ELCA churchwide organization's operating budget.

**Your Mission Support helps fund the following churchwide ministries:**

## Grow the ELCA in the United States



**Plant and support**  
357 new congregations.

- **Enable congregations to renew their ministries** and reach out to their surrounding communities.
- **Work together** with our African Descent, American Indian and Alaska Native, Arab and Middle Eastern, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Latino/Latina members to develop networks and resources for ministry.
- **Develop and share resources** for faith, discipleship, prayer and worship.

## Grow the Lutheran church around the world



**Send 230 missionaries** in more than 48 countries, and more than 84 Young Adults in Global Mission in 11 country programs.

- **As a member of The Lutheran World Federation, we're in communion with 145 member churches** and directly connected to 85 companion churches in other countries.
- **Accompany new Lutheran churches**, expand ministries, and train leaders and evangelists.

## Provide coordination and support for churchwide ministries



**Maintain constituent database**, including 1.1 million records of rostered and lay leaders, members, donors and congregations.

- **Preserve and maintain archives and historic records** of the ELCA and its predecessor bodies.
- **Provide office space, equipment and human resources** for staff and operations.
- **Process 150,000 gifts** to ELCA ministries.
- **Equip congregations and synods** with resources to assist in risk management and legal matters.

## Support and develop current and future leaders in the ELCA



**Recruit, prepare and implement a system** for the assignment of 9,900 rostered ministers.

- **Support the work** of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 colleges and universities.
- **Identify, connect and provide** ministry resources and opportunities for networking for lay leaders.
- **Offer events and leadership opportunities** for youth and young adults.

## Invest in **technology** and **communications**



**Design and maintain communications tools** to strengthen our Lutheran identity and grow awareness of our church and its mission and ministries.

- **Connect members with one another** through new technology and systems.

## Provide **governance** and **leadership**



**65**  
**Coordinate meetings and support** for 65 synodical bishops.

- **Organize lay and clergy leaders from across the church to serve** on the governance boards and committees that provide guidance and oversight for ELCA ministries.

## Grow and sustain financial resources



**Develop and promote** efforts related to stewardship education, financial literacy, mission interpretation and growth in giving to all church ministries.

## Address social issues and **work for justice**



**1 in 50**

**Support** social ministry organizations, such as Lutheran Services in America, to impact the lives of **1 in 50** Americans.

- **Engage** in churchwide study and deliberation to create social statements and resources that address social, political, environmental and other public issues.
- **Equip** members and leaders to advocate with lawmakers in order to support policies that promote justice and peace.

*Your designated gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response provide additional funds annually to address hunger, poverty and suffering around the world.*

## Engage in **research** and **strategic planning**



**Research and analyze trends that impact the ELCA and develop innovative strategies** to improve mission and ministry in the 21st century.

## Sustain **ecumenical** and **interfaith relationships**



**Facilitate dialogue and common action among communities of other faiths**, including the development of resources and communications for ELCA congregations.

- **Seek unity in faith and life** with all Lutherans and six full communion partners.

## **Opportunities for Worship at Living Saviour!**

### **ZOOM HOLY COMMUNION**

Holy Communion via Zoom is offered on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month: April 11 and 14

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83925826730?pwd=MGdnd3MvcE1qanlnZk40OWkrQ2ZBdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 2582 6730 Passcode: 842543

### **9:15 WORSHIP CASUAL ZOOM STYLE**

Each week Worship via Zoom where you can see and speak to others, follow the liturgy, respond and sing together. This service includes Holy Communion each week. Click the link below to participate.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84896972877?pwd=YlhMekJoUWJ0MIRXdHpHVWtXT3pvZz09>

Dial by Phone +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 848 9697 2877 Passcode: 746523

### **LIVE-STREAMED TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

10:30 a.m. each Sunday on our YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com>

### **SPECIAL HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

#### **Maundy Thursday worship opportunities**

11:30 a.m. via Zoom. Bring your lunch and join Pastor as we remember the last meal of Jesus' life; Holy Communion will be celebrated.

7:00 p.m. Traditional Maundy Thursday worship, Live Stream from Sanctuary (Holy Communion with pre-consecrated elements will be celebrated)

#### **Maundy Thursday via Zoom**

Apr 1, 2021 11:30 AM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83758284781?pwd=TGx6YzRwT0xpeEdWKzhUc3puWGpWQT09>

Meeting ID: 837 5828 4781 Passcode: 869266

#### **Good Friday worship opportunities**

11:30 a.m. via Zoom. A solemn service of reading and remembering Jesus suffering, crucifixion, and death on the cross.

7:00 p.m. Live Stream service of solemn remembrance of the final day of Jesus' life.

#### **Good Friday via Zoom**

Apr 2, 2021 11:30 AM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83463099333?pwd=bUpINGNjUVIXWVNWSkNyQ1RKb0ZJdz09>

Meeting ID: 834 6309 9333 Passcode: 075913





## OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDY AND MINISTRY

### WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

10:00 a.m., via Zoom. "Ten Men of the Bible" continues. We will look at Lazarus next and then at Peter. Please join us when you can. Contact Janet Mayer with questions ([janetmayer@bellsouth.net](mailto:janetmayer@bellsouth.net))

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81907545777?pwd=c0RVTGQ3VWd1UFIVVEhOTDc3L1hOQT09>

Meeting ID: 819 0754 5777 Passcode: 641388

### Bread Pickup Ministry!

Just giving a quick reminder that the Bread Pickup Ministry has maintained their deliveries throughout the Pandemic! Deliveries are made to the Uptown Men's Shelter every Saturday and Sunday. New volunteers are always welcome! Please contact Frank DeLoache, 704-245-2985 if you'd like to join in this awesome opportunity for outreach!

### Praying for Possibilities!

**Prayer for our congregation, preschool, and staff are critically important in these days of closure and social distance.**

**04/04-04/11** Jan Sundberg, Corky Carver and Shallon Gordon

**04/11-04/18** Glenda and Marry Anne Eller

**04/18-04/25** Joe Kern and Ray Kilminster

**04/25-05/02** CD and Don Huff

You can pray in person, or together by phone. Let us know if we can help by providing a new prayer booklet.



**Altar Flowers Sign Up made easy!** Call the church office, or use signupgenius option. Click on "Submit & Sign Up" at the bottom of the page; enter your dedication. Fill in your name and email address. The cost is \$50.00; checks payable to LSLC with "Altar Flowers" on the memo line; mail or drop off.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/o/10C0C4CACAC29A6F4C16-2021>

### SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY!

#### PASSION PLAY, OBERAMMERGAU, GERMANY 2022

The world-famous **Passion Play** was rescheduled to 2022 due to the COVID Pandemic. Historically performed every ten years since the Middle Ages, this is only the second time this moving event has had to be rescheduled.

The Living Saviour trip has also been rescheduled and will take place September 1-12, 2022. **Pastor Angela** will be the Host of the trip and welcomes Living Saviour members, family and friends to make this trip to Germany to include a performance of the Passion Play. Reservations are being taken at this time.

For more information you may contact Barbara Avard ([bj1949@bellsouth.net](mailto:bj1949@bellsouth.net)) or go to [www.reformationtours.com](http://www.reformationtours.com) click on Current Tours and scroll down to the tour :

**Renewed in Faith: Luther, Oberammergau and You**



# APRIL 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 MAUNDY THURSDAY 11:30 a.m. via Zoom 7:00 p.m. Live Streamed	2 GOOD FRIDAY 11:30 a.m. via Zoom 7:00 p.m. Live Streamed	3 HOLY SATURDAY
4 EASTER SUNDAY 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	5 Easter Monday <b>Church Office Closed</b>	6 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom) 6:45 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	7 10:00 a.m. "Ten Men of the Bible" Study via Zoom	8	9 10:00 a.m. Caring and Sharing (Zoom)	10
11 9:15 a.m. Zoom Worship 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live 11:45 Zoom Holy Communion only	12	13 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom) 6:45 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	14 10:00 a.m. "Ten Men of the Bible" Study via Zoom 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal	15	16	27
18 9:15 a.m. Zoom Worship 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 11:30 Congregation Meeting	19	20 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom) 6:45 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	21 10:00 a.m. "Ten Men of the Bible" Study via Zoom 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal	22	23	24
25 9:15 a.m. Zoom Worship 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 11:45 Zoom Holy Communion only	26	27 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom) 6:45 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	28 10:00 a.m. "Ten Men of the Bible" Study via Zoom 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal	29	30	
<div>  <div> <h3>April Birthdays</h3> <p>04/02 Jennifer Noonkester 04/03 Laura Schwab 04/06 Chuck Lyle, Cindy Quinlan 04/09 Elisabeth Forster, Andy Williams 04/10 Steve Vick 04/11 Tony Eller 04/12 Jim Christ, Anita Mitchell 04/16 Richard Tarr 04/17 Neil Mitchell, Russell Stephens 04/20 Cynthia Karim 04/21 Caren Ballantine, Kristen Haigler 04/22 Eric Greve, Samantha Merritt 04/25 Glenn Stirewalt 04/26 Lorene Thom 04/28 Sara Melosh 04/29 Gregg Mitchell, Jennifer Thompson 04/30 Alina Krantz</p> </div> </div>						

## April Anniversaries

04/04 Matt and Becky VanSandt (6)  
04/12 Don and Barbara Ferriss (52)  
04/18 Cathy and Kevin Lyall (23)  
04/22 Luke and Cindy Quinlan (26)  
04/23 Patti and Ed Garrison (28)  
04/24 Ken Leaser and Karen Kaufeld (22)

