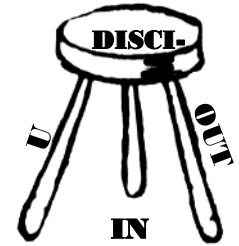

The InnerNet

Early July 2021

Whose Image is in You?

The Lion King is a Disney movie released a number of years ago, made into a Broadway play, and a story that continues to resonate with spiritual value. I recommend watching it if you have not, seeking to see with “theological eyes” that is, seeing it with an eye toward how it reflects a life lived in Christ.



The opening sequence where the newborn lion cub is presented to the entire community reminds me of baptism, and how the newly baptized are presented to the community to great joy. From this beginning Simba seeks to live into the image of his father Mufasa —modeling his life on the ways he ruled and lived.

Much later in the story, Simba has turned away from his calling to lead the lion pride, and wants nothing to do with it. Living far away and enjoying life too much. Eventually, found by old Rafiki who seeks to convince him he is created to be the king. At a poignant moment, Rafiki says, “I know who you are, you are Mufasa’s boy.” Rafiki also says he knows where Simba’s father is and that he’s still living. With that enticement, Rafiki leads Simba to the edge of a reflecting pool. Simba looks in the pool hoping to see his father and becomes angry, proclaiming, “That’s not my father. It’s just my own reflection.” “Look harder,” Rafiki counsels, “and you’ll see.” Simba does look harder and sees his father’s reflection radiating from his own face, and hears his father’s voice as Rafiki declares, “He lives in you.” Mufasa tells his son that he is more than he has become, “Remember, you are my son and the one true king.”

This is a holy moment, and one in which I remind you, “Remember who you are— God’s own child who bears inside the *Imago Dei*, the image of God, with the capacity to grow in likeness to God.” Gary Moon, in his book Apprenticeship with Jesus, reminds us that this “God-seed-God image” planted inside is ready to grow, and continues to grow as it is nurtured. Our true identity as God’s child, bearing the image of God, is often veiled by life. To uncover, reclaim, remember our True Identity, our call is to live in relationship to Jesus. We do this through prayer, reading the words of Jesus, worshipping with our whole heart as we use song, Psalms, thanksgivings, and confession to grow in our UP relationship to God, Father, Son, Holy Spirit. As we grow in our identity, we can grow in seeing the *Imago Dei* in others. We can grow more compassionate and caring when we see those inside our faith family and our communities as “God created.” Building our Up relationship, strengthens our In relationships, creating a stronger congregation.

You are God’s Beloved. You are created in the Image of God. You are invited to live as God’s own child, and model your life after God’s son, Jesus. —Pastor Angela

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

A huge thank you to the volunteers who made our Lutheroad Day Camp awesome! You are the best! You showed what the kingdom of God is like to the community children and the children of our own congregation.

To those who did sign in/carpool duty

To those who cleaned up each afternoon

To those who helped with snack

To those who helped with the Carnival

To those who provided financially

To those who provided food for the counselors (and volunteers)

To those who made the Sunday Dinner Meet and Greet happen

To those who helped prepare our space to host the counselors overnight.

You all made a difference to the 21 campers and 4 staff from Lutheridge, who all had a fabulous time, learning and growing in faith.

Thank you, sincerely, for creating a week of memories, love, and grace for all.

Pastor Angela and Ms. Annette Downey

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>

Praying for Possibilities!

Prayer for our congregation, preschool, and staff are important as we pray for renewal

06/28-07-05 Traci Anderson and William Charnock

07/05-07/12 Lillian Stephens and Nancy Mersereau

07/12-07/19 Jeanne Dunne and Janet Wagstaff

07/19-07/26 Art Lange and Frank DeLoache

07/26-08/02 Anne Chriske and Janet Mayer

Sunday July 11, following worship at 10:30, we will have a small reception to wish Jim and Jane Huddle Farewell and Godspeed. All are welcome to attend.

Jim has served for 20 years in a variety of capacities, most recently as the Treasurer and Financial Secretary. He has been a choir member and brought his best to God and to this congregation. He and Jane are moving to Richmond to be near their grandchildren.

Financial Results for May 2021

Month End

You can contribute directly to the church through the on-line button on the website, or by mail to Living Saviour
6817 Carmel Road
Charlotte NC 28226

Thank you for your generosity.

General Fund 01	Actual
Contributions, etc.	149,199
Expenses and Transfers	122,613
Net Contributions less Expenses/Tranfers	26,586
Facilities Fund 02-3241-442	
Beginning Balance	83,822
Transfers from General Fund	3,333
Contributions	2,940
Expenditures - H&S Roofing	(24,692)
Expenditures - Adams Heating	(4,197)
Ending Balance	61,207

Opportunities for Worship at Living Saviour!

July 4, 2021 Both 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in person No Zoom available

July 11, 18, 25, 10:30 a.m. only No 9 a.m. service



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

Caring & Sharing Group

Friendship, support, and caregiving don't take a summer break and neither will our Caring & Sharing Group! We continue meeting at church throughout the summer on the second Friday of every month at 10a.m.

Our next meeting will be on **Friday, July 9**. All are welcome – church members, friends and neighbors - who seek friendship, support, and resource information to help care for others or themselves during illness, loss or the challenges of aging. For more information, please contact Betty Reynolds at 704-287-5724 or CoachBettyR@gmail.com.

Faith Community Health Ministry Information Session

Sunday, July 18, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall., Laura Michael of Living Saviour, and Judy Hughes, Faith Congregational Nurse with Cross and Crown Lutheran, trained through Atrium Health will offer information about this unique and needed ministry. Health professionals and those interested in promoting wellness are invited to attend this brief and informative presentation. For questions, please contact Laura Michael (980) 214-7171 or lmichael9901@gmail.com.

July Birthdays

07/01 Susan Goldbach
07/02 Ron Gordon
07/03 Abigail Huber, Chuck Malinowski
07/04 Logan VanSandt
07/06 Russell Hinson
07/07 Shirley Fitts, Rachel Powell, Billy Sample
07/09 Russ Krause
07/10 Steve Aberle
07/11 Nora Cook, Pastor Angela Powell
07/15 Erin Malinowski
07/18 Chuck Moore
07/20 Riley Karim, Cathy Shabla
07/22 Terry Godwin
07/23 Laura Michael
07/24 Julie Brennan
07/26 Betty Kuhn
07/27 Zolene Kale
07/30 Art Lange



July Anniversaries

07/11 Thomas and Jeanette Schick (51)
07/18 Terry and Joyce Godwin (45)
07/30 Ron and Kathy Biggs (17)



JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Independence Day 9:00 a.m. Zoom Traditional 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	5 Independence Day (Observed) Church office closed	6 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	7 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal	8	9 10:00 a.m. Caring & Sharing	10
11 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed Reception for the Huddle's	12	13 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	14 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal	15	16	17
18 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	19	20 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	21 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal	22	23	24
25 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	26	27 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	28 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal	29	30	31

On **Sunday, Sept. 12**, congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will come together for **"God's work. Our hands." Sunday**.

Our church — and our world — continue to live through the COVID-19 pandemic. But the good news is that we are beginning to experience a slow return to physical community as more people become vaccinated. We look forward to gathering with family and friends once again to share God's love in person.

Amid this ongoing situation, we continue to be **church together**. Across the ELCA we are witnessing the love and concern God's people have for one another. During this time, our congregations continue to support ministries that assist vulnerable people in their communities. As church, we are guided by our life in Christ to share the love of Jesus and serve our neighbors — even if these acts of service take place from our homes or from a safe distance. Sharing the love of Christ through service to our neighbors is work you do every day.



We look forward to **"God's work. Our hands." Sunday** and doing this work together again this year.