
The InnerNet

Mid-October 2021

“Stewardship is about good priorities,” says Pastor Rob Blezard.

Jesus taught, “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” - **Luke 12:32**

The Bible makes it clear that God has given us all that we have and all that we are. This includes not just our money and possessions, but also our relationships, character strengths, time, intelligence, the special talents and skills we may possess, and so much more. Biblical stewardship invites us to use all these gifts in God-pleasing ways -- not for God’s benefit, but for ours. We are the ones who benefit when we invest ourselves, our time and our possessions in ways that are in sync with God’s purposes. The more we align our lives with God’s purposes, the happier and more fulfilled we become. And why not? We are learning to live more fully as disciples of Jesus, approaching more fully the abundant life he promised us. We grow in awareness and set new priorities that bring us closer to God.

If that sounds appealing to you, why not begin? Pick an area of your life that you’d like to align with God’s purposes. Relationships? Your money? How about time? Then honestly and prayerfully consider: How am I using that gift? Talk it over with God, and ask God to give you insight and to reveal your blind spots. Pray for guidance on how you can better use your gifts. It takes time, but it’s so worth it. When our priorities are in sync with God’s purposes, we are not only stewarding our lives well, but also opening the door to greater personal fulfillment and joy. © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard

October begins our annual stewardship effort to guide the finances of the upcoming year. We also have a Challenge Giving opportunity in front of us now as well. These times of giving are not about keeping the church budget balanced, rather they are about how ministry happens in this part of South Charlotte. We use the building, the grounds, and the staff to provide God’s gracious ministry to all. This includes the Preschool, the Scouting ministry, the care given to worship each week, the pastoral care offered to those in hospital, at home, by phone or in-person. All these ministries happen because we follow God’s priorities to love one another.

God’s priorities are most clearly expressed in the life and words of Jesus, who repeatedly teaches us to love everyone – friend, family, neighbor, even enemy. No exceptions! As church, we follow this as God’s and our highest priority. Have you ever considered that love for neighbor is a stewardship issue? It is, because we are appointed caretakers of all that God has entrusted to us, including community, relationships, and the welfare of others—“Stewarding the common good.” We haven’t done a great job of stewarding the common good because our culture teaches us to “look out for number one,” as opposed to looking out for everyone. Our thinking might be “what’s good for me,” rather than “what’s good for everybody.” That is where aligning our priorities with God’s is most valuable. God invites us to love, and share as we care for each other. God invites you to share for our common good., I invite you to share with me how life is these days.

Love in Christ, Pastor Angela

GATHERING @ THE TABLE

God wants to bless the world! God wants to use the Church to be part of that blessing mission. God wants to be known and for people to know God, love and be loved, to be healed and given hope. God asks the church to do that—yet the truth is, many have been hurt by the church and do not equate God with Church. Yet our call from God is to be God’s voice of hope in this world.

A small group of dreamers have gotten together and are working to bring a new and unique way of gathering people inside the building so that connections, community, and spirituality can flourish. We dreamers want to create with God a Gathering. We want to nourish the body with a good meal, and the soul with a different experience of gathering as God’s people.

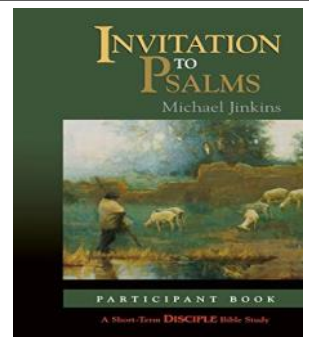
Gathering@theTable launches on Thursday night October 28 in the fellowship hall for those who are disillusioned by traditional church, de-churched altogether, or have not ever been in a church. This Gathering will happen around the table with a meal, breaking of bread and the lifting of the cup of blessing. We will talk about life and scripture, practice new ways of experiencing God’s presence, and pray. We might even sing!

This is a meal, a gathering to form community, a gathering to nourish body and soul. All are welcome. Let Ruth know if you plan to come by 9/25/21.

Bible Study!

Friendship, Laughter, Study, Deepening Faith Wednesdays at 10AM

A new Bible Study will be starting on Sept. 29th at 10AM in the Fellowship Hall. The book they will be using is "Invitation to Psalms" by Michael Jenkins. If you have any questions, please contact Janet Mayer at 704-562-8695 or janetmayer@bellsouth.net.



Financial Results for August 2021 Month End

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

While we are not currently in a financial deficit, please do realize that a number of parishioners pre-pay their pledges and we have received their gifts for the year. We are holding a very tight line on expenses as well, and pray for God’s continued grace through your generous gifts of thanks to God.

Thank you for your generosity.

| General Fund 01 | Actual |
|--|----------|
| Contributions, etc. | 244,874 |
| Expenses and Transfers | 220,237 |
| Net Contributions less Expenses/Tranfers | 24,637 |
| Facilities Fund 02-3241-442 | |
| Beginning Balance | 83,822 |
| Transfers from General Fund | 5,833 |
| Contributions | 3,515 |
| Expenditures - H&S Roofing | (24,692) |
| Expenditures - Adams Heating | (4,197) |
| Ending Balance | 64,282 |

THRIVENT OPPORTUNITY!

The Thrivent Member Network



-Southeast Region is providing a unique Thrivent Action Team opportunity in partnership with "Wine To Water." Join us for a meaningful, hands-on experience that will impact communities around the world with clean water and allow our clients to connect virtually and give back easily through the use of Thrivent Action Cards that are currently unplanned for use.



"Wine To Water" is a Boone N.C. based organization seeking to transform lives around the world by providing readily available sources of clean water. through the use of a water filter. Each water filter can provide clean water for 10 people for 10 years. Assembled kits will be distributed in places like Pakistan where monsoon flooding contaminated local water sources, the American Southwest where lead and other chemicals have contaminated Native American water systems and Africa where water based disease is the leading cause of infant death. For more information on Wine to Water, visit <https://www.winetowater.org/>

If you are a Thrivent member and interested in a filter build or simply ordering kits for someone else to assemble, please contact Brian Powell, 704-779-3631. Thrivent members are able to apply for an Action Team which would provide the materials for 3 filter kits. Kits can be assembled individually or this would be a great activity to do as a group, either in person or online. No tools are required. Each filter can be assembled in 10 minutes or less.

Opportunities for Worship at Living Saviour!

10:30 a.m. in-person
MASKS required

LIVE-STREAM 10:30 a.m. each Sunday
on our YouTube channel



Due to a scheduling error, we will not be holding a blood drive on October 24, but December 19. If you typically donate life-giving blood regularly, you might want to donate soon, so you can participate again in December.

There is a critical shortage of blood products right now, consider donating soon!

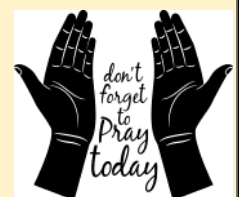


Remember the Walking Challenge 9000 total congregational minutes of walking over the next 4 weeks Getting fit in body and getting fit in soul as we walk and pray together.

H/W Health and Wholeness ministry sponsored event.

Praying for Possibilities!

10/10-10/17 Ray and Ken Kilminster
10/17-10/24 Rev. Jim and Maxine Christ
10/24-10/31 Cathy Lyall and Laura Michael



OCTOBER 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---|--|---|------------------------------------|----------|
| 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed | 4 | 5 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom) 6:45 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice | 6 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal | 7 | 1/8 10:00 a.m. Caring & Sharing | 2/9 |
| 10 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 3:00 p.m. Council Meeting (in person) | 11 | 12 Columbus/ Indigenous Persons Day 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom) 6:45 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice | 13 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal | 14 7:30 p.m. ELCA World Hunger Benefit (Zoom Webinar) | 15 | 16 |
| 17 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 3:00 p.m. Josh's service | 18 | 19 6:45 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice | 20 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed | 25 | 26 6:45 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice | 27 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal | 28 6:15 Gathering@theTable | 29 | 30 |
| 31 Reformation Sunday 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed | | Stay Safe! 3 W's: Wear a Mask, Wash your hands, Wait away from others. | |  | | |
| October Birthdays 10/01 Donna Loges 10/02 Cooper Thom 10/03 Georgia Miller 10/04 Stephen Allen 10/06 William Charnock, Marty Jenkins, Lynn Stephens 10/07 Jean Dunne, Julie Farris 10/10 Jerry Littlejohn 10/11 Frank DeLoache 10/12 Sarah Gist 10/16 Glenda Kilminster 10/18 Nolan Huber, Henry Schwab 10/19 Geraldine Harbinson, Ian Schwab 10/22 Beth Hawley 10/25 Don Huff, Steve Miller 10/26 Sandra Sample 10/27 Fred Hunsinger 10/28 Reid Huber, Alice Jenkins 10/31 Jan Sundberg | |  | |  | | |
| | | | | October Anniversaries 10/04 Jim and Alicia Cook 10/09 Laura and Mike Michael 10/12 Jean and F. William Dunne 10/14 Don and Anna Pearce 10/19 John and Patricia Maisel 10/22 Stephen and Emma Allen 10/26 Pat and Robert Snodgrass | | |