
The InnerNet

Early May 2022

Easter Surprise!

Each Easter, we hear the same story of shock and surprise of the empty tomb and the appearance of the Risen Christ. The surprise that changed the lives of the first disciples, and changes our lives. The surprise of God's grace, God's love given to us and for us, both here and now and for all eternity. No other surprise can be so transformative.

Surprises can be fun—que the birthday party music or baby reveal! Surprises can also be not so fun—sudden death, car accidents, or diagnosis. By their very nature surprises catch us unaware and often unprepared. Our truth as followers of Jesus: God is with us. Just as God was with Christ on the cross, in the tomb, and in the Resurrection.

Easter caught those first disciples unaware, and changed them forever. God gave them new vocations, new ways of living life in community, and empowered them to be open to God's leading and guiding as they told the story of Jesus to all they met. They developed the spiritual habit of welcoming the unpredictable and surprising God, and wrestled with the promptings of the Spirit which changed their understanding of their religion and how it was lived out.

We too as disciples of Jesus have been transformed by God's mighty acts of surprise. Our lives are different because we have met the risen Christ in the water of baptism, in the bread and wine of holy communion. We too can cultivate the spiritual practice and habit of welcoming the unpredictable and surprising God, and wrestling with the changes the Holy Spirit prompts in us and our faith community.

In this Easter season I challenge you to undertake doing some acts of love and surprise in the world. You might pay for a stranger's lunch or treat a friend to a surprise dinner out. Invite someone you do not know well to join you for a walk on the greenway to find out more. If you see a first responder out in public, thank them for the job they do. Thank a teacher, a medical professional, your mail carrier, or the garbage man for the job they do, surprise them with a small treat.

Most of all though, listen for God and all the many ways God surprises us with love, grace, and peace. Give thanks daily for those small or large surprises.

In Christ's love, Pastor Angela

Gathering@theTable on Thursday nights at 6:15 p.m. Come and join us as we have a light dinner, share conversation, break bread and share Holy Communion around the table. All are welcome, gathering about 6:15, dinner at 6:30, depart about 7:30. Free meal, lend a hand cleaning up if you can.

Caring & Sharing Group: Celebration May 13 at 11:30am

Friendship Celebration -Trio's Restaurant. RSVP BY MAY 11: Betty Reynolds (704-287-5724) or CoachBettyR@gmail.com

If you are seeking a safe place to share worries and find strategies for coping with the challenges of caregiving, loss or aging, this small group may be for you. Through our informal conversations, we bring solace and friendship as we support, pray and laugh with one another through our struggles, joys and isolation. All are welcome - church members, friends and neighbors.

Volunteers Needed Election Coffee Hospitality Table:

Tuesday, May 17th is Primary Day, and as usual, Living Saviour is pleased to be one of the polling places. As we continue returning to "normal" activities, LSLC will again be offering refreshments to those who come to vote. Frank DeLoache is requesting volunteers to help with this outreach project for the community. He is looking for folks to help in 2-hour shifts, from 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m., plus breakdown and clean up. If you are interested in volunteering, you may do so on SignUpGenius - the link is here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4CACAC29A6F4C16-election>

You may also contact Frank at frank.deloache@yahoo.com or let the church office know and Ruth will forward the information on to him. Thank you!

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

We will finish "Surprised By Hope" by N.T. Wright this month. "The Hope of Salvation" and "The Hope of the Church" will be interesting studies. His lectures on DVD are a bit surprising at times but we enjoy his British wit & humor.

Join us this month whenever you can on Wednesdays at 10AM in the Fellowship Hall. We will take a break for a few weeks during the summer. **If you have any questions, please contact Janet Mayer at 704-562-8695 or janetmayer@bellsouth.net.**

TELLERS NEEDED

Now that our lives are returning to some kind of "normal", church is open and we are welcoming all back to in-person worship, we can use some help with the weekly counting of contributions. This takes only about 30-45 minutes after worship and Barbara Avard or George Shabla will be there with you for help and support.

Contact Barbara (bj1949@bellsouth.net) if you are willing to consider giving some of your time and talent to help with this important administrative support duty.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Tuesday, May 10, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue having our meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

This ministry makes prayer shawls for church members and others who are in need of prayer and comfort. If you knit or crochet and would like to participate in this ministry, please join us or contact Jeanne Davis at jeannedavis88@att.net with questions



Your Offerings:

Contribute directly to the church through the on-line button on the website, using the QR code or by mail to

Living Saviour
6817 Carmel Road
Charlotte NC 28226



Thank you for your generosity.

Financial Results for FEBRUARY 2022 Month End

Feb-22	Actual
General Fund 01	
Contributions, Budget	33,761
Expenses and Transfers	35,384
Net Contributions less Expenses/Transfers	(1,623)
Facilities Fund 02-3241-442	
Beginning Balance	29,972
Transfers from General Fund	1,352
Transfer From Mtg Reserves	38,280
Contributions	100
Expenditures - Adams Heating	(27,909)
Ending Balance	41,796

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 Barbara Avard.

Quilt Ministry News!

The next Quilt Ministry workshop will be on Tuesday, May 3rd at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to come help assemble and tie quilt layers to create cozy quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

All supplies are here and waiting for volunteers to arrive. No actual "quilting" is needed for these quilts destined for people in crisis around the world, due to weather, war, famine, etc.



Do you miss gathering with other Lutherans to laugh and worship?
Do you wish to learn about the ELCA and the NC Synod?

Interested in a variety of learning workshops?
Want a FREE Lunch (on Friday!)
Check out this opportunity!
Nearby in Hickory NC June 2-4, 2022.
Register for one day, or all days; your choice.
Register for the first ever NC Synod Gathering today!
Early registration ends April 26. <https://www.nclutheran.org/event/2022-synod-gathering>



Heartfelt thanks to Tom Chriske for his beautiful presentation last Sunday about the amazing monarch butterflies! You can help preserve these butterflies by planting native milkweed. Tom emphasized that tropical milkweed should not be planted as it gives monarchs parasites.

Order free native milkweed seeds at www.scwf.org/monarchs-milkweed.

For more Information: www.scwf.org

April 2022

*Dear Living Saviour Family,
I am beyond grateful for all
the support you have shown me
throughout this time of grief.
I cannot "Thank you"
enough.*

*Blessings to all,
Margaret Conrad*

Praying for Possibilities!

- 04/24-05/01 Patricia and John Maisel
- 05/01-05/08 Traci Anderson and William Charnock
- 05/05-05/15 Lillian Stephens and Nancy Mersereau
- 05/15-05/22 Sherry Wooldridge and Glenda Kilminster
- 05/22-05/29 Anita Mitchell and Glenda Kilminster
- 05/29-06/05 Janet Wagstaff and Jean Dunne

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 be rescheduled.



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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) or go to www.reformationtours.com click on Current Tours and scroll down to the tour **Renewed in Faith: Luther, Oberammergau and You**



Ministry of Health and Wholeness May's Health and Wholeness focus: Emotional Wellbeing

"So then, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; what is old has passed away" 2 Corinthians 5:17

- During Mental Health Month check the dividers in the Fellowship Hall for additional information regarding Mental Health. Are you surprised that the **same 5 Core Lifestyle Choices** also apply to maintaining Mental Health Wellbeing? **G.R.A.C.E.** (Nutrition-Grains/Greens, Rest, Activity, Cease Smoking/Control Alcohol, Emotional Balance through centering contemplation)
- Consider taking a Mental Health Assessment: <https://screening.mhanational.org/screening-tools/> Contact Health and Wholeness with any questions.
- On 4/26/222, Bob's oncologist advised it is still wise for older folks and those with vulnerabilities continue to mask for indoor gatherings such as church worship or public transportation.
- **Earth Day Follow-up**—If you have not done so consider going to *Lutherans Restoring Creation Website* and make a **Personal Covenant with Creation** to pledge personal actions you are willing to take to care for creation.
<https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/personal-discipleship/personal-covenant-with-creation/>
- **Gentle Exercises Class Thursday Mornings 11:00 in the Fellowship Hall.** The first session is free. If you are not already in a regular exercise program, consider joining us for this important life affirming activity. Exercise is one of the 5 essential lifestyle choices to support wellbeing. Men and Women of all ages are welcome! Dress comfortably. Together this could be fun!
- **Second Sunday Sacred Practice May 8 Immediately following worship in the Prayer Room.** This will be a 30 minute group contemplative spiritual practice and is an opportunity to follow up on the Lenten series. Contemplative Practice is one of the 5 essential core lifestyle choices to support wellbeing. All are welcome.

New LIDL Store!

On Wednesday, May 11th, the new LIDL store down the street from Living Saviour will be holding their Grand Opening. !

Special Item to note!

On May 8, 2022, which is the Second Sunday Sacred Time, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service there will be a 30-minute Contemplative Practice session in the Prayer Room.

MAY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	2	2	4	5	6	7 4:00 p.m. Macron Masterclass
8 9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 11:30 Contemplative Practice Session	9	10 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	11 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	12 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	13 10:00 a.m. Caring and Sharing (Zoom)	14 11:00 a.m. Jim Christ Memorial Service
15 9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 3:00 p.m. Council Meeting	16	17 10:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	18 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	19	20	21
22 9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	23	24 10:00 a.m. Quilting Group 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	25 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	26 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	27	28
29 9:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	30 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	31 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)				

May Birthdays

05/05 Lori Davis
 05/07 Indra Persaud
 05/09 Lottie and Maggie Williams
 05/13 Lyn Addy
 05/15 Traci Anderson, Susan Hunsinger
 05/17 Sally Ganz, Robin LaFollette
 05/19 James Cook
 05/22 Bill Larsen
 05/27 Emma Allen, Rufus Gregory
 05/28 Betty Eissfeldt
 05/30 Judy Gribble
 05/31 Melissa Krantz

May Anniversaries

05/11 Charles and Judy Gribble (59)
 05/16 Eric and Joy Forster (30)
 05/17 Eric and Melissa Krantz (8)
 05/18 John and Pam Williams (48)
 05/20 Larry and Janet Wagstaff (44)
 05/24 Gary and Deb Borley (47)
 05/25 Ryan and Jennifer Huber (14)