
The InnerNet

October 2022

The Choices we Make

The group of pilgrims who traveled to Germany had a fantastic trip! So very many things to see and do, all of which make an impact on our lives. To walk in the places of Martin Luther, the reformer who woke up the Roman Catholic Church and confronted the issues of the use of Scriptures, Indulgences, Repentance and Purgatory, simply amazing! To stand at the altars Luther presided over the Mass, to be in the places Luther defended his 95 Theses, to walk the streets he walked connected this Lutheran pastor to the heritage of courage, the wise choosing between following God or not.

Our trip began in Munich where we gained an appreciation for the ancient cities of Germany, with buildings 100's of years old, if not even a thousand. Castles, fortresses, palaces, city walls, and simple homes and shops lining town streets of cobblestone, everything I'd imagine and even more. Onto Oberammergau, a town that has held a Passion Play since the 1600's as a covenant to God for saving their town from the Black Plague. Though in German, it was moving to hear and see the disciples, apostles, Pharisees, Romans, and Jesus with emotions expressing the turmoil of the times. One particular phrase caught my attention, uttered by Joseph of Arimathea, who was forced to choose—obey God or obey human laws and voices. That choice echoed with me during the trip. Jesus had to choose in the Garden, the apostles had to choose, the Jews, the Gentiles, and on throughout history—until Martin Luther. He too was forced to choose who to listen to—God's voice or the Roman Catholic Church. Luther's passion and love for God's word and God's people meant he could only obey God's voice, regardless of the personal cost. At the time of Luther, people, even priests, did not have access to scriptures. It didn't exist. The stained glass windows were the only bible stories available. It was as if the bible didn't exist or matter when it came to living daily life. Educating adults and children so they could read the bible for themselves, could learn the Creed, prayers, and 10 Commandments, was paramount to Luther. It took him a lifetime to do the work he was called by God to do. Even in the days before his death, he continued to preach and teach.

As our trip unfolded, this choice to "Obey God or Humans" was clearly seen in the history of Germany as we ended our trip in Berlin. We toured Dietrich Bonhoeffer's family home, learning more about his decision to participate against the Nazi regime and ultimately being executed for that choice. We learned of those who helped Jews escape the death camps, sheltering them and transporting them to safety. We saw the aftermath of WW 2 and the destruction, the division into East and West, and the choices some made to try to escape, ending with their deaths.

From Jesus and even before, to this very day, God's people are called to choose each day who and what we will follow. As you pray each day, seek God's strength and the help of the Holy Spirit to grow in faith that you may choose wisely what path to follow .

In Christ's Love, Pastor Angela

Congregation Acknowledgements!!

October Birthdays

10/01 Donna Loges
10/02 Cooper Thom
10/04 Stephen Allen
10/06 William Charnock, Marty Jenkins, Lynn Stephens
10/07 Jean Dunne, Julie Farris
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
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 (19)
10/09 Laura and Mike Michael (46)
10/14 Don and Anna Pearce (27)
10/19 John and Patricia Maisel (48)
10/22 Stephen and Emma Allen (6)
10/26 Pat and Robert Snodgrass (49)



Praying for Possibilities!

10/02-10/09 Anita Mitchell & Glenda Kilminster
10/09-10/16 Bob & Judy Hughes
10/16-10/30 Cathy Lyall & Laura Michael
10/30-11/06 Pastor Angela & Dawn Gibson



Church Information!!

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.

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.

REMEMBER

Sunday Morning at 10:30 is available by Live Stream. Find a link on the website. www.livingsaviourlc.org

You can also find past Sunday worship stored on our YouTube channel.- Living Saviour Lutheran Church

SUNDAY AT 9:30 AM

We are pleased to announce a wonderful opportunity for your child to learn about **God**, the **Bible**, **Important People** in the **Bible**, and the **liturgy** of the **Lutheran Church**. Your child will experience lessons in **learning, music, arts and crafts**. This will be led by Cathy Shabla and Russell Hinson.

CHOIR REHEARSALS

- ⇒ Alleluia Handbell Ringers (high school age and up) 6:00–6:45 PM
- ⇒ Chancel Choir (high school age and up) 7:00–8:30

Adult Sunday Morning Faith Formation/Faith Forum meets at 9:15 in the Ed. Wing. All are Welcome!

5th Sunday Potluck!

Sunday, October 30, following the 10:30 Service.

MASK UPDATE

Based on declining COVID-19 rates the congregational council and the pastor suggest that you be cautious if your health warrants it, wearing a mask if it makes sense for you. Mecklenburg County is in LOW risk for community spread right now. As always, stay home if you feel unwell.

Group Activities!!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Tuesday, October 11th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue having our meetings on the second Tuesday of the 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.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Freeing Jesus - September-October, 2022

The Bible Study Group meets on Wednesdays at 10:00. Robert and Judy Hughes will be serving as facilitators in order to give Janet Mayer a much-needed break. The current plan is to engage in a book study of Freeing Jesus by Dr. Diana Butler Bass, a noted church historian and popular speaker. We hope to hear from our Luther Land pilgrims on October 5. These sessions will enable those who wish to obtain a copy of Freeing Jesus from their favorite provider.

On October 12 we will consider the introduction and first chapter of Freeing Jesus - "Jesus as Friend". New participants are always welcome in this ongoing study group. For questions contact Robert or Judy Hughes at 980-339-7551 or hughesbj4339@gmail.com.

Caring & Sharing Group: Next Meeting October 14

We encourage you to stay in touch with one another by email, text, phone call or getting together for coffee. A friendly voice or message can really brighten someone's day. For more information, please contact Pat Sipe at psgsipe@gmail.com.

Quilt Ministry News!

Quilt Ministry on Tuesday, beginning at 10:00. We will be assembling, pinning and tying quilt layers together. 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.

Ministry of Health and Wholeness
October 2022 Health and Wholeness focus: Recovering from Loss and Grief



"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:4

The Health and Wholeness Ministry Team is excited to be offering many opportunities for supporting wellbeing and service:

NEW OFFERING: Tuesdays beginning October 18, 2022 at 10:00 AM – 12 Steps to Recovery of Peace and Joy. Living Saviour is blessed to have the assistance of Kurt K., with 30 years of experience with the 12 Steps, to assist us with a study of the 12 Step Program. **Please read on—this could be surprising!!**

The basis of the 12 Step Program was developed in the 1920s by a Lutheran Clergyman, Frank Buckman, when he founded the Oxford Group. The Oxford Group was simply a group of people from all walks of life who have surrendered their lives to God. Their endeavor was to lead a spiritual life under God's Guidance and their purpose was to carry their message so others could do the same. The Oxford Group grew rapidly because their joy and zest for life was contagious. (**Read more: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxford_Group**)

4 Points of the Oxford Group:

- Absolute Honesty
- Absolute Purity
- Absolute Unselfishness
- Absolute Love

To live by these 4 points spiritual activities were suggested: (Sound familiar)

Sharing our moral inventory with God and another person whose life has been given to God (Confession)

Carrying the message to others (Service)

Surrender our lives to God's keeping and direction (Surrender)

Restitution to those whom we have wronged directly or indirectly (Making Amends)

Relying on God or another fellow member's guidance in what we say and do (Discernment)

The Oxford Group was popular among Princes (Princesses) and Paupers, prominent political figures and corporate executives, addicts and those just seeking greater joy and satisfaction in life. The work of this group was so successful with Dr. Bob and Bill W in their recovery from alcohol addiction that they decided to use these same principles to carry the message specifically to those suffering with alcohol addiction—thus the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). The Oxford Group continued for others.

Research repeatedly confirms the 12 Step Program still provides the most successful and lasting outcomes for chemical addictions recovery,

Many believe the 12 Steps to be based on the Beatitudes of Jesus

The 12 Steps are relevant to all seeking greater peace and joy in life. Many would argue we are all addicted to something which impairs our full joy—cell phones, television, sugar, speeding when driving, people pleasing, arguing, seeing the negative, being judgmental, etc. and yes even alcohol or other substances, Carl Jung reportedly said, "You are in the Oxford Group; so long as you are there, you settle your affair with the Oxford Group. I can't do it better than Jesus."

"Whatever your reason, even just curiosity, you are invited to explore with Kurt on Tuesdays the life changing practices of the 12 Step Program. Spread the word and bring a friend.

NEW OFFERING: Sunday October 23, 12:00 Noon following worship-Recovery from Loss and Grief presentation by Holly Gainsboro. (More information: <https://goldenheartgrief.com/>)

Holly is a Certified Grief Recovery Method Specialist. The Grief Recovery Method is the only evidenced based approach to recovery from Loss and Grief. A light snack of fruit, breads and spreads will be available after worship prior to Holly's presentation. You are invited to the journey of mending the heart following the experience of Loss and Grief.

Christmas Craft Fair!!!



MARK THE DATE NOW!

It's Coming!

Living Saviour Lutheran Church Christmas

Craft & Gift Bazaar

December 3, 2022 9 am—2pm

For information, contact:

Anita Mitchell

kittygirlfriends@gmail.com



Smithfield Elementary School Help!!!

Smithfield Elementary School is asking for food for their backpack program.

Food is needed for low income students at Smithfield Elementary School. The school sends 75 food-filled backpacks home with these children on weekends to ensure they have nourishing food to eat. Families in need have more than doubled at Smithfield since last school year. You can help by bringing the following foods to our church Fellowship Hall and placing in the red collection boxes. Keep in mind that lower sugar and sodium foods provide better nutrition.

Thank you for your loving care!

Canned chicken, Canned soups/chili, Spaghetti O's/ canned ravioli , Fruit cups (preferably not cans), Applesauce cups or squeezable (not jars), Packs of crackers(individual), Granola bars (breakfast bars, protein bars), Raisins, Individual packs of trail mix or individual snack items, Boxed individually packaged grits, oatmeal, Canned/ packed tuna, Easy Mac

Join the Fall 2022 Book Study — They Are Us: Lutherans and Immigration

The NC Synod Immigration & Refugee Ministry Team invites all to join this synod wide book study!

They Are Us offers "a thoughtful and timely look at the Christian calling to Welcome the Stranger" and will compliment the work of congregations engaging in the Bishop's Challenge!

Five Zoom sessions are scheduled on Thursdays from 7:00-8:15p:

- October 20 = Kick-Off: Introduction & Chapter 1 with author Stephen Bouman
- October 27 = Chapters 2 & 3
- November 3 = Chapters 4 & 6 with special guest
- November 10 = Chapters 5 & 7
- November 17 = Chapter 8 + Q&A with author Stephen Bouman
- Zoom Webinar Links will be emailed to registered participants.

Order They Are Us from Fortress Press or other sellers.

For more information, email Carissa Abraham at cabraham@nclutheran.org.

Register by going to the NC Lutheran Synod website

Nclutheran.org

Gathering@theTable meets each Thursday and you are invited to join us for dinner. Pastor and anyone else interested will gather in the conference room to view the weekly Zoom and to meet in community.

Participate together here at the church on Thursday night, or on your own.

Tuesday Zoom Lectionary Study

Tuesdays 2-3 pm Pastor and others "zoom" together to share Sunday readings and to explore together what God might be saying to us through the Sunday scriptures. Click the link below.

All are welcome. [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81498057510?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81498057510?pwd=VHpkYmVlQ0wwVHY1ZlJMVVJQZENoZz09)

[pwd=VHpkYmVlQ0wwVHY1ZlJMVVJQZENoZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81498057510?pwd=VHpkYmVlQ0wwVHY1ZlJMVVJQZENoZz09)

OCTOBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities
2 9:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Children/ Youth Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	3	4 10:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	5 11:30 Gentle Exercise 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	6 11:00 Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	7	8 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 12:00 p.m. Mark Conrad Service
9 9:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Children/ Youth Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	10	11 10:00 a.m. Quilting Group 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	12 11:30 Gentle Exercise 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	13 11:00 Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	14	15 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities
16 9:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Children/ Youth Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 11:45 a.m. Council Meeting	17	18 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	19 11:30 Gentle Exercise 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	20 11:00 Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	21	22 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities
23/30 9:15 a.m. Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Children/ Youth Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 23: 11:30 Health & Wholeness Grief presentation 30 11:30 5th Sunday Potluck	24/31	25 2:00 p.m. Lectionary Study Group (Zoom)	26 11:30 Gentle Exercise 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice	27 11:00 Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	28	29 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities

More Ways to Help our Community!!

You are encouraged to donate blood to One Blood Community Blood Center



CRISIS ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

Living Saviour supports these agencies who help our neighbors. We ask you to help