



The InnerNet

September 2023

Summary of 20 August 2023 Congregation Council Meeting

The August Congregational Council Meeting was held on 20 August 2023.

Topics discussed at the meeting for finances were: Financial report/Mid-year Stewardship Appeal, Stewardship plans and team, a Temple Talk about the Ukrainian refugees, and a Resolution for Pastor Sara's Housing. The stewardship campaign began with 104 letters to the congregation mailed the first week of July and as of today, 40 responses have been received. Total additional funds committed/pledged for the remainder of Fiscal 2024 is \$55,800 (rounded), and approximately \$9,800 in increased periodic gifts for the current fiscal year have been pledged.

The report from Faith Formation covered the First Communion orientation class held on 23 July 2023, a review of our Lutheroad Day Camp, and the upcoming Sunday School program for both youth and adults.

A farewell for Pastors Charlie and Brook and a thank you to Pastor Linda for all they did for Living Saviour during our interim period is planned for next Sunday (Pastor Brook's last Sunday service). Pastor Charlie's last service will be 3 September.

Health and Wholeness gave a report about fire safety and the plans for having a fire drill in October, which is fire safety month. There is also a second yoga instructor who will be having classes both in the morning and night. These are more traditional yoga classes.

The Congregation wishes to thank the Interim Ministry team of Pastor Charlie, Pastor Brook and Pastor Linda for leading us during the Call Process.



Congregation of Living Saviour

Thank you for your support of the ministry at Living Saviour.

We are grateful for partners like you who make it possible for us to continue to serve those from our community who come seeking relief.

Blessings

Living Saviour Lutheran

Congregation Acknowledgements!!

September Anniversaries

09/06 Jeff and Kristen Haigler (15)

09/11 Mark and Julie Brennan (31)

09/15 Ken and Carol Cochran (33); Chuck and Linda Lyle (17)

09/19 Laura and Michael Schwab (8)

09/25 John and Polly Farris (52)



September Birthdays

09/03 Robert Hughes, Jackson Thom

09/10 Elizabeth Garrison

09/11 Nicole Krause

09/16 Mary Ann Eller, Heather Stivender

09/17 Piper Zeis

09/20 Katherine Cochran, Trudy Haseley, Ginger Kern,
Luke Quinlan

09/21 Jay Harbinson, Kathy Sullivan

09/25 Kyle Greve

09/28 Mark Brennan

09/29 Margaret Conrad

09/30 Pete Greve



Praying for Possibilities!

09/01-09/08 Lillian Stephens and Nancy Mersereau

09/08-09-15 Sherry Wooldridge and Don Huff

09/15-09/22 Jeanne Dunne and Janet Wagstaff

09/22-09-29 Frank DeLoache and Marty Jenkins

09/19-10-06 Anita Mitchell and Glenda Kilminster



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.

Financial Results for the Fiscal Year Ending January 2024 as of July 31, 2023	Budget	Actual
General Fund 01		
Contributions & Other Income	354,160	198,011
Expenses *	392,222	146,166
Net Income less Expenses		51,845
Facilities Fund 02-3241-442 Balance		33,791
* Savings to date for Pastor Salary and related accounts	94,791	86,395

Notes:

These figures reflect results for the General Fund at the mid-year point of our budget year that will end January 31, 2024. As expected, the savings in the Pastor Salary and Related Expenses as the result of the vacancy has been significant for the first half of the year. Expenses for Interim and Supply Pastors during this period has been \$8,236.

As information, the Church Council authorized the Treasurer to purchase a \$100,000 CD in January, 2023 with funds from the Savings account. Due to interest rate increases these past months, this CD will generate a rate of 4.25% during the 9-month period. The remaining funds in the Savings account are also generating more interest. We are taking every opportunity to increase income while maintaining safety of the church's funds.

Church expenses are carefully watched and every effort is made to manage them.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Avard, Treasurer/Financial Secretary

Group Activities!!

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

We will resume meeting Wednesday Sept. 13th at 10 AM.

We will be reading "The Red Sea Rules" by Robert J. Morgan. You can purchase the book at Amazon, <http://www.redsearules.com> or the Robert J. Morgan website. It has 10 sessions & each session is interesting & thought provoking.

Everyone is welcome. Come to laugh and learn. See you on Wednesday Sept. 13th at 10AM.

QUILT MINISTRY NEWS!

There will be no meeting for a quilt workshop in September. We will resume on Tuesday, October 3rd at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Tuesday, September 12th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. We will continue having our meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Looking forward to resuming our time together.

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.

GATHERING@theTable

For our next Gathering@theTable meeting on September 21, people should bring their own meal. Note: dessert and beverages will be provided.

We will return to weekly gatherings in October.

Sunday School Update!!

Sunday School for children and adults will begin on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023 at 9:30 am. Children (and parents) will meet in the Education wing multi-use room. Adults will meet in the Health and Wholeness room.

Adult Sunday School Study – A six-week study of Civil Life and Faith will begin Sept. 17 at 9:30 am, in the Health and Wholeness Room. Debby Borrelli will facilitate the discussions.

(From the curriculum): We are disciples of Jesus Christ who happen to live in a democracy, although God's people have lived under every kind of government. Whatever the type, followers of Christ have had to figure out how to serve God, our highest authority, within that society. Being civically engaged is vital for disciples because through government many of the needs of our neighbors are met—or ignored.

SIMPLY GIVING - WHAT IS IT AND HOW CAN I USE IT?

Living Saviour has used the electronic services of SIMPLY GIVING for many years. Quite a number of our congregation members and visitors use the system.

This secure system can be used to make monetary gifts to the church on a one-time, weekly or monthly basis. To access the system, go to Living Saviour's website (livingsaviourlc.org) and click on the button in the top right corner. This will take you to the Simply Giving site. You can set up a profile with a secure user name and password or you can use the system as a Guest.

It's very simple to set up a one-time or periodic payment and it can be used for various types of gifts. The "Where Needed Most" is for the church's General Fund Operating Budget. You can also use the system for "Flowers" and other types of payments that can be specified under "Other". If you set up a periodic gift you can change it at any time by going to the website in advance of the next scheduled processing.

You also choose the source of the funds to be given (checking account, credit card) and you can change this at any time. There is no fee charged for use of Simply Giving. This may differ from using your bank through a "bill pay" system that may include a service fee.

If you have questions or like help setting up your account or a one-time gift please contact Barbara Avard, Treasurer/Financial Secretary at bj1949@bellsouth.net or by cell at 704-650-9093.

We thank all of you who have been using Simply Giving over the years to support Living Saviour's mission and ministries. You are a Blessing!



A Breath of Fresh Air: Breathe in the Breath of God

“The LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and the man became a living creature.” Genesis 2:7

“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. And when he said this he breathed on them, and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”

John 20:21



SEPTEMBER Focus:

Perhaps influenced largely by the start of a new school year and the winding down of summer vacations, September often feels like the start of a new year—particularly true this year as we put the toxic pollution of the summer wildfires behind us, welcome the ministry of Pastor Sarah Ilderton and celebrate with unleashed enthusiasm the launching of a new chapter at Living Saviour. In such transitions it is always beneficial to create A PAUSE, where we take time to BREATHE DEEPLY, and consent to the work of the Holy Spirit within and among us to prepare our hearts, minds and bodies for the anticipated journey ahead. Science is confirming at exponential speed just how LITERALLY true this phrase is. Be sure to pick up a September Health Newsletter for more information regarding the health benefits of intentional breathwork as well as a reminder of the spiritual benefits. Note and mark your calendars for the short Seminar scheduled below on BREATHWORK and the HOLY SPIRIT.

NEW EVENT- BREATHWORK and the HOLY SPIRIT Seminar- Sunday October 8th - 11:45 immediately following worship.

Seminar led by Nan Vuncannon, Certified Teacher and Practitioner in Holy Breathwork. Learn to breathe for the restoration of body, mind, and spirit. Breathing is a powerful healing tool.

HELP REQUESTED: Pastor Adrienne Martin is completing a research project as part of her STM thesis at United Lutheran Seminary. The thesis explores the connection between the work of the Holy Spirit and intentional breathwork. The research component is a 3-minute survey. Your help is greatly appreciated! **Take the survey today.**

ONGOING OFFERINGS: (Space made available by Living Saviour for Community Health and Wholeness Programming)

- ◆ **Monday 6:30 PM – Beginner/Intermediate Yoga Class provided by Lori Walker of Yoga for You Studios**
- ◆ **Tuesdays 9:30 AM- Beginner/Intermediate Yoga Class provided by Lori Walker of Yoga for You Studios**
- ◆ **Tuesdays 10:30 AM –STEPPS to Wellbeing: Start to Experience Peace, Potential and Serenity Peer Support**
Develop a practice described by Jesus in the Beatitudes, modeled in his ministry, practiced by the early church, developed by Native Americans, and most recently promoted by the 12 Steps of AA—a peer support practice that guarantees a life abundant in the Fruit of the Spirit. A valuable resource for those dealing with depression, grief, anxiety, medical recovery or seeking a deeper spiritual connection. A brochure can be picked up from the tea cart. All are welcome.
- ◆ **Thursdays 9:30 AM- Beginner/Intermediate Yoga Class provided by Lori Walker of Yoga for You Studios**
- ◆ **Thursdays at 11:00 AM Chair Yoga Class provided by Debbie Mangeney of Feel Good Yoga Girl**
- ◆ **Saturdays at 9:30 AM Aerobic Exercise Class provided by Lyn Addy, Certified Group Fitness Instructor and Health Coach.**
Another inspiring exercise group of all ages with an excellent opportunity to get that heart rate up, build some muscle strength and receive supportive meaningful coaching from a talented instructor.
- ◆ **Saturdays 10:00 AM- Beginner/Intermediate Yoga Class provided by Lori Walker of Yoga for You Studios**

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

CHANCEL CHOIR

- Rehearsals begin Sept 13
- Rehearses and serves weekly during choir season (Sept.-May)
- Ages high school through “mature” adulthood
- Offers musical training, a sense of satisfaction knowing that you are serving our Lord and his church in worship leadership
- A great opportunity for fellowship and being a part of a terrific group who are not only talented, but caring and just plain fun!



ALLELUIA RINGERS

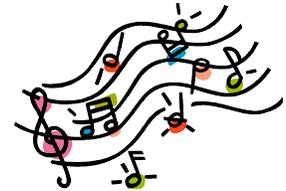


- Rehearsals begin Sept 13
- Rehearses weekly during the choir season (Sept.-May)
- Ages high school through “mature” adulthood
- No prior ringing experience necessary
- A very fundamental knowledge of music reading is helpful, such as being able to tell a line from a space on the music page, counting to four, etc. See bullets 4 and 5 above!

FESTIVAL SINGERS

Opportunities are offered for those who would like to sing in the choir, but whose schedule does not permit regular participation. Such opportunities this fall include:

- Reformation Sunday (Oct 29)
- Advent and Christmas (First Sunday of Advent is December 3)
- Christmas Concert (December 10)



JOY CHILDREN'S CHOIR

- At the time of this writing, details are in planning stages.
- Target date for beginning rehearsals is end of September
- Please watch weekly eblast for further information and updates

If interested in any of the above opportunities, Don Huff would love to speak with you!

Thank you from Tanner Axtman. The project was funded by the Shabla gift.



Dear Living Senior,
Thank you guys so much for allowing me to do my eagle project at the church it really means alot. Yall have been such a corner stone in my life and I am very proud to say I am a Member.

I have met so many great people with great stories and advice and will take that with me to college.

Thanks,

Tanner Axtman

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 1:00 p.m. Michael Badawi Funeral
3 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	4 Labor Day Church Office Closed	5 10:00 a.m. 12-Step Discussion Group	6 Pastor Sara starts 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	7 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga	8	9 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities
10 Pastor Sara first Sunday 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	11	12 10:00 a.m. 12-Step Discussion Group 10:00 a.m. Quilt Ministry	13 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Ringers bell choir practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	14 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	15	16 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities
17 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Monthly Council meeting	18	19 10:00 a.m. 12-Step Discussion Group	20 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	21 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	22	23 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities
24 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	25	26 10:00 a.m. 12-Step Discussion Group	27 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	28 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga	29	30 10:00 a.m. Exercise Opportunities

Coming soon!

Information on ordering Christmas Poinsettias!

