



The InnerNet

January 2024

The staff at Living Saviour Lutheran church wish all of you a safe, happy and blessed New Year!!



ROOM IN THE INN

Room In The Inn starts Sunday, January 7, and continues on Sundays through the end of February. The 12 neighbors we host each Sunday night will find a warm, comfortable and friendly place to spend the night. They will be fed, and offered showers, TV time, conversation, and warm comfortable beds.

We have successfully filled all the regular volunteer positions, but have found a new one to fill. Adventure Vans, from whom we rent our van, no longer has the shuttle bus that we have used in the past. We now rent a 15-passenger van, which holds the neighbors and driver nicely, but lacks storage for all 12 neighbors' luggage. So we have implemented a plan to have a "luggage car" accompany the bus on Sunday evenings and Monday mornings.

If you have a vehicle with a good bit of storage capability (minivan, SUV, Jeep, Trailblazer, etc.) please let me know if you could accompany the van on Sunday evening (4:30pm) or on Monday mornings (5:45am).

Jenkinsalice2019@gmail.com

Congregation Acknowledgements!!

January Anniversaries

01/03 Bob and Judy Hughes (48)

01/17 Betty and Carl Reynolds (54)



January Birthdays

01/05 Kathy Biggs, Alexandra Leaser

01/07 Don Pearce, Rhys Plunkett, Penelope Zeis

01/13 Preston Hawley

01/15 John Sahr

01/17 Sarah Plunkett

01/18 Betty Reynolds

01/19 Pastor Sara Ilderton

01/21 Nancy Mersereau, Janet Wagstaff

01/24 Emily Malinowski, Townsend Noonkester

01/25 Jeanne Davis

01/26 Ken Leaser

01/29 Steve Axtman

01/30 Jennifer Huber



Praying for Possibilities!

01/01-01/08 Sherry Wooldridge and Don Huff

01/08-01/15 Lillian Stephens and Nancy Mersereau

01/15/01/22 Cathy Lyall and Laura Michael

01/22-01/29 Jean Dunne and Janet Wagstaff

01/29-02/03 Frank DeLoache and Marty Jenkins



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.

2023 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS and Areas of Responsibility

Steven Vick—President	Administrative/ Worship & Music
Janet Axtman—Vice President	Property
Gregg Mitchell—Secretary	Personnel & Admin
Barbara Avard	Financial Secretary & Treasurer
Debby Borrelli	Christian Education
Linda Frixen	Outreach
Rev. Linda Hatcher	Pastoral Care
Laura Michael	Health & Wholeness
Pat Sipe	Lay Care

The next Council Meeting will be on **Sunday, November 19, 2023** at 12:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

LIVING SAVIOUR CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Sara Ilderton—Pastor	pastorsara@livingsaviourlc.org
Don Huff , Minister of Worship and Music	dhuff@livingsaviourlc.org
Ruth Mayes , Administrative Assistant	ruth@livingsaviourlc.org
Nancy Mersereau , Organist and Music Assistant	nancyqqq@aol.com
Carla Gearheart , Childcare Provider	carla.gearheart@yahoo.com

*****NEW MEMBERS*****

We will receive new members into Living Saviour on Sunday, January 28. If you are interested in learning more – or know someone who may be – please reach out to Pr. Sara (pastorsara@livingsaviourlc.org)

Group Activities!!

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

The Bible Study group decided to take the month of January 2024 off. We will let everyone know when we will start again and what book we will be discussing.

Wishing everyone a Very Happy New Year and God's Blessings,
The Wednesday morning Bible study.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Tuesday, January 9th, 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.

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.



WELCA News

The annual Craft Fair (organized by Anita Mitchell) was a wonderful success, bringing in a variety of quality vendors, attracting a crowd of community shoppers, and presenting the WELCA treasury with \$2205! Additionally, the Hot Dog café (organized by Russell Hinson) brought in a profit of bit over \$200 which will go to this summer's Lutherroad experience.

Traditionally profits from the Craft Fair are divided in half, with half going to ministries outside our congregation and half staying at Living Saviour to support ministries and other needs here in our midst. To that end, this is how the money will be spent:

- \$275 to Crisis Assistance

- \$275 to Living Waters Lutheran in Cherokee towards their food pantry

- \$275 to Lutheran World Relief

- \$275 to Lutheran Good Gifts

The \$1100 that remains for use at LSLC will go to support the ministries of WELCA (most notably, the monthly support of Rhoda, a young girl in Ghana, through Compassion International), purchase of new lightweight tables for the fellowship hall and money towards Lutherroad for 2024.

Thanks to all in our congregation for their participation as vendors, shoppers, Bake Sale bakers, and Hot Dog eaters! You made Craft Fair 2023 a huge success!

More WELCA News!

December 3rd was the date for the return of a WELCA Christmas Gathering/Ornament Exchange, an annual event which had been interrupted by the Covid Pandemic. Fifteen Living Saviour women gathered for fellowship, savory and sweet snacks, and fun and games. As usual, the ornament exchange had a few "take aways" ...ask Pat Snodgrass how many ornaments passed through her hands before she finally got to keep one!

As part of the gathering, an offering was taken up. WELCA will send \$133 to Salvation Army Center of Hope because of theses ladies' generosity.

Financial Results for the Fiscal Year Ending January 2024	Budget	Actual
General Fund 01 Contributions & Other Income	\$354,160	\$257,232
Expenses	\$392,222	\$198,334
Net Income less Expenses		\$58,898
Facilities Fund 02-3241-442		\$33,895
Shabla Gift Fund 02-3271-379		\$66,564

Notes: The figures above reflect the General Fund results through three quarters of our fiscal year that will end January 31,2024. There will be substantial savings in the Pastor Salary & Related Expenses as the result of the vacancy during the first eight months of the year. Actual expenses for the interim and supply pastors during that same period was approximately \$10,000.

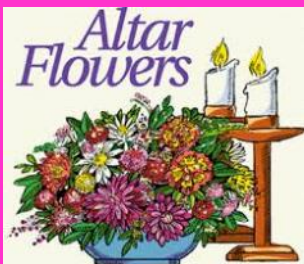
As previously reported, your Church Council is taking every opportunity to generate income while maintaining the safety of the church’s funds and in accordance with ELCA guidelines and recommendations. Church expenses are carefully monitored and managed.

Your generosity and dedication to Living Saviour are so appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Avard, Treasurer/Financial Secretary

2024 ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS



The 2024 Altar Flowers online chart is now available at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoC4CACAC29A6F4C16-46302964-2024>

**FAITH FORMATION
COMING SOON!!!!**

- Confirmation Interest & Information Meeting for parents and kids
- National Youth Gathering Interest & Information Meeting for rising 9th-12th graders and parents

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH ASSISTANTS AND ADULTS:

Sunday School will resume regular classes on Jan. 7th

Children's Sunday School: Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

Adult Sunday School Class (9:15 am):

Beginning **Sunday, January 7th**, Rev. Charlie Zimmerman will facilitate a discussion of Brian McLaren's book **Do I Stay Christian?** *All adults are invited and encouraged to join this difficult topic!!*

(Please contact Debby Borrelli or the church office if you need assistance to obtain the book)

IN-KIND GIVING TO LIVING SAVIOUR

We have many wonderful congregation members who regularly donate goods and items for various events and ministries during the year in addition to their gifts of money.

We give thanks to all who donate! If you would like contribution credit for such non-cash donations you can complete a pink form (found in the Workroom), attach your receipt(s) and leave in Barbara Avard's mailbox in the Workroom.

The church records these donations and the amount appears in our financial reports as well as on individual giving statements. This gives a snapshot of support for the many collections and generous donations for events and ministries held during the year. This can include food donations for Smithfield, Loaves & Fishes, lunch supplies for Room in the Inn and various other items.

If you would like more information about this please see Barbara.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AND FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Many of you braved the heavy rains to attend the Christmas Concert on Sunday Dec 10. I was happy to see a good attendance despite the weather The concert is on our youtube channel should you wish to check it out. It was by far a well “performed” well received concert. The Festival Choir and orchestra were at their best.

To each the musicians my deepest appreciation for the long hours they devoted in preparation. Special thanks to Nancy Mersereau for her superb accompaniment and assistance in preparing scores and the singers for the event.

To Sandra Sample we also say thanks for the accompaniment duet she and Nancy played together. As for the fellowship hour, it was filled with great food and lively conversation. For those who provided the food we thank you. Especially we are grateful to our hosts for the event: Mary Ann Eller, Alice Jenkins, Patricia Maisel, and Janet Axtman.

All in all the entire event was one to remember and it could not have been as meaningful and joy filled without the help and preparation of so many. My deepest gratitude. In Christ’s love, Don Huff

Breakfast With Santa!!



Congregation Council Meeting
17 December 2023

Health and Wholeness focus in January will be Moving Forward with Purpose, highlighting the benefits of exercise and how to fit it into your life. The team is preparing a short video and personal testimonials of our yoga and exercise classes to be presented on Sunday 14 January 2024. In April they are planning to present a seminar on Alzheimer's on a Saturday morning.

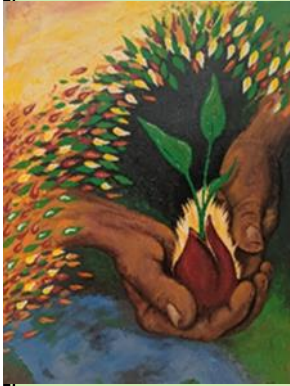
Council is preparing the annual report to be presented to the congregation prior to the annual meeting.

The council executive committee met with Jamie Graves about updating our technology and approved two projects for Jamie to begin working on. In the future he will be under contract on an as need basis to keep our technology updated and improved.

The annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday 28 January 2024 right after the church service. The congregation will be voting on new members for council and to approve the budget for 2024-2025. Notice for the meeting will begin two weeks prior to that Sunday.

Janet Axtman gave a report on facilities updates. The education wing painting and bathroom remodeling have been completed. Fluorescent fixtures and bulbs have been replaced with higher efficiency LED ballasts and bulbs. The fire system and panels were inspected per code. All passed except for a smoke detector in the Fellowship Hall, which will be replaced. The heating and air conditioning units received semi-annual inspections, preventative maintenance, and repairs.

Barbara Avard gave a financial report and discussion about the 2024-2025 budget proposal.



Ministry of Health and Wholeness January 2024 Moving Forward With Purpose

*"Commit your work to the Lord and your plans will be established."
Proverbs 16:3*

Exercising improves your blood pressure, heart health, balance and reduces your chances of developing illness. It also decreases depression and weight gain. What a bargain! H&W will offer a brief presentation on January 14 at the beginning of the worship service to show the benefits our members have enjoyed from exercise classes offered at our church. We hope you will be there!

Active Exercise Opportunities:

Physical Exercise:

- Yoga For You:
 - Mondays - 6:15 p.m.
 - Tuesdays - 9:30 a.m.
 - Thursdays - 9:30 a.m. and 6:15 p.m.
 - Saturdays - 10:00 a.m.
- Chair Yoga - Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. **(On break until January 11th)**
- Exercise Opportunities - Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

From Martha Hauser, Faith Community Nurse at New Beginnings Moravian Church:

NEW Session of GriefShare starts in early 2024 to help you move through the grief process.

Classes will be held on Wednesdays starting January 3rd at 10 a.m. Pre-registration required by December 20th (but may still be available) - go to griefshare.org and click on "Find A Group" and scroll for our church:

New Beginnings Moravian Church

Cost: \$10.00 -- covers all 13 sessions & class workbook, payable at first class

A GriefShare support group is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief.

Through this 13-week group, you'll discover what to expect in the days ahead and what's "normal" in grief. Since there are no neat, orderly stages of grief, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way.

Please connect with Martha Hauser:
hausermb033148@gmail.com

Giving Information and Practices

Dear Family and Friends of Living Saviour, thank you so much for your generous and dedicated gifts to support our church's mission and ministries. We are excited to look to the future with God's help and the guidance and support of Pastor Sara. We are resuming some of our practices that were put "on hold" for various reasons during the pandemic.

To that end, please note that we are now again passing the collection plate during Worship. Many of you give through the electronic system of Simply Giving or your own bank. In the past (prior to the pandemic) we began using a giving card that you could choose to place in the collection plate as it was passed as an outward symbol of your online gift.

Well, we have resurrected those cards and they are in the THANKFUL box just inside the entrance to the Sanctuary. On the reverse of the card is information about electronic giving and a QR code that can also be used. Please feel free to take a card as you enter to put in the collection plate. We will recycle these cards each week.

Also in this box are envelopes that can be used for miscellaneous or special gifts by check or cash. The label can be completed with information to insure giving credit to the correct account. Members and Visitors are welcome to use these as needed. If you have any questions or need assistance with your giving, please feel free to contact me.

Blessings to you!
Barbara Avard, Treasurer/Financial Secretary.



GATHERING@theTable

Gathering@theTable weekly at 6:15 p.m. on Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall. Come and join us! We will be taking the month of December off due to the holidays.

JANUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed	2	3 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	4 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga	5	6 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
7 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	8 6:15 p.m. Yoga	9 6:00 a.m. First Tuesday coffee 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group 10:00 a.m. Quilt Ministry	10 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	11 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga	12	13 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
14 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Church Office Closed 6:15 p.m. Yoga	16 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group	17 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Ringers bell choir practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	18 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga	19	20 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
21 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Monthly Council meeting	22 6:15 p.m. Yoga	23 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group	24 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 16:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	25 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 1:15 p.m. LSLC Staff Meeting 6:15 p.m. Yoga	26	27 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
28 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed ; New Members Received 11:30 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting	29 6:15 p.m. Yoga	30 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group	31 6:0031.m. Alleluia Ringers bell choir practice 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir			