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# The InnerNet

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March 2024

Grace and peace to you LSLC Family of Faith ~

Six months...During the first week of March we will have been doing this journey together, as pastor and faith community, for six months! During that time, I have witnessed your acts of kindness, not only toward me and my family, but toward one another and those who come into this facility for rest and rejuvenation. The intentionality of hospitality that you embody is remarkable.

Over these six months, we have begun to get to know one another. We have laughed together and given each other grace to learn and grow and "try." We have cried and prayed and held hands. We have begun to imagine and ask "I wonder if we could...?" questions of vision (note the newly re-started Confirmation program).

That said, all of this transitioning can still be nerve-wracking. And I want you to know how very much your grace toward me, as I have asked the same questions over and over and as I have tripped and floundered and forgotten names, means (and will continue to mean as I continue to learn).

The transitions carry over to your congregation council, as we welcome Laura Schwab who will be serving as Financial Secretary and will work with Barbara Avard (Treasurer). Additionally, I have asked that the President and Vice-president – (with the unanimous support of the entirety of the council) to work in "pairs" for this upcoming year. This allows me some continuity of Lay Leadership (with Steve Vick as President and Janet Axtman as VP) and also puts in place a kind of "succession" plan. What that means is that Steve will continue serving as President of the Congregation along with Rev. Linda Hatcher as "co-president." And Janet will serve as Vice President along with Debby Borrelli as "co-VP." The hope/plan is that both Pr. Linda and Debby will remain on council in Executive Committee roles after Steve and Janet have rotated off. Confused?

Of course, life happens and plans do not always go as smoothly as we imagine – but, this allows for some more "learning time" for me as we move into this time of new life and forward-looking vision.

As we continue to grow together, I want you to know how very much I appreciate your trust.

Blessings, + Pr. Sara

## Congregation Acknowledgements!!

### March Anniversaries

03/07 Bob and Donna Loges (61)  
03/11 Marty and Alice Jenkins (57)



### March Birthdays

03/03 Nicholas Sample  
03/05 Bailey Biggs, John Farris  
03/07 Linda Lyle  
03/09 Cardon Hawley  
03/13 Kenneth Cochran, John Williams  
03/14 Marjorie Sahr  
03/18 Eric Forster  
03/20 Joyce Godwin  
03/21 Linda Hatcher, Deb Borley  
03/24 Dominique Greve  
03/26 Wendi Mayer  
03/27 Jerry Putnam  
03/28 Carla Gearheart  
03/31 Aaliah Rogers



### Praying for Possibilities!

02/24-03/03 GOD and Janet Mayer  
03/03-03/10 Mary Ann Eller and Janet Axtman  
03/10-03/17 GOD and Maxine Christ  
03/17/03/24 Glenda Kilminster and Joyce Godwin  
03/24-03/31 Frank DeLoache and Bruce Melosh  
03/31-04/07 Sherry Wooldridge and Don Huff



## 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.

### 2024 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Steven Vick	Co-President
Janet Axtman	Co-Vice President
Gregg Mitchell	Secretary
Barbara Avard	Treasurer
Debby Borrelli	Co-Vice President
Linda Frixen	
Rev. Linda Hatcher	Co-President
Laura Michael	
Pat Sipe	
Laura Schwab	Financial Secretary

The next Council Meeting will be on **Sunday, February 18, 2024** at 12:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

**FESTIVAL CHOIR FOR EASTER.** If you cannot participate in choir regularly, but would like to sing on Easter Sunday and / or during Holy week, the opportunity awaits you! We'd love to augment our fine choir with additional singers Please feel free to speak to Don Huff about this opportunity.

## Group Activities!!

### Wednesday Morning Bible Study

We are doing a study entitled - "Finding Jesus in the Psalms - A Lenten Journey" by Barb Roose.

- Feb. 21 - Finding Jesus With Us In our Hard places - Psalm 16.
  - Feb. 28 - Finding Jesus As Our Shepherd - Psalm 23.
  - March 6 - Finding Jesus As Our Hope - Psalm 110, Psalm 100.
  - March 13 - Finding Jesus As Our Strength - Psalm 69.
  - March 20 - Finding Jesus As Our Savior - Psalm 22.
- No Class March 27 and April 3, 2024.

We encourage everyone to join us in the conference room on Wednesday at 10AM.

### *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Tuesday, March 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.

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](mailto:jeannedavis88@att.net) with questions.



## Save the Date: Synod Gathering 2024

Mark your calendars and save the date: Synod Gathering is coming in May! From **Thursday to Saturday, May 30, 31 and June 1**, at Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, lay people, pastors, and deacons from across the synod will gather to develop community, grow in faith, and grow skills for building God's church. All are invited! *You are invited!* Stay tuned for details and registration information.



Do you know a teen (rising 9th-12th grade) who may be interested in attending the 2024 **ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans** (July 16-20, 2024)? If so, we need to be in touch with them ASAP!

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### Lord, Lord, Open Unto Me

Open unto me, light for my darkness  
Open unto me, courage for my fear  
Open unto me, hope for my despair  
Open unto me, peace for my turmoil  
Open unto me, joy for my sorrow  
Open unto me, strength for my weakness  
Open unto me, wisdom for my confusion  
Open unto me, forgiveness for my sins  
Open unto me, tenderness for my toughness  
Open unto me, love for my hates  
Open unto me, Thy Self for myself  
Lord, Lord, open unto me!  
- Howard Thurman, from "Meditations of the Heart"



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is

### Joys and Cares Greeting Cards

Did you know that we have a lovely selection of greeting cards for many occasions on the wall display in the Fellowship Hall? These cards are available for a \$1 donation per card that can be left in the box on the display. These funds become contributions to the church. If you have questions please contact Dawn Gibson at ([fourleafclovertwc.com](http://fourleafclovertwc.com))

## PRESCHOOL INFORMATION

The Living Saviour Lutheran Preschool is now accepting Enrollment Applications for the Fall. The \$150 Enrollment Fee is waived for all LSLC members. You can find our Enrollment Application on our website [www.lslpreschool.com](http://www.lslpreschool.com)

## GATHERING@theTable

Gathering@theTable weekly at 6:15 p.m. on Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall.

Note: No Gathering@theTable on Maundy Thursday, March 28th.

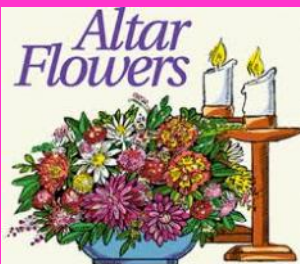
Dearest Living Saviour,

I am so appreciative of the presents, texts, well wishes, donations to non-profit organizations and wonderful birthday song you gifted me with on my birthday!

I thoroughly enjoy seeing you every week. You have blessed me many times over!

Blessings, Nancy Mersereau

## 2024 ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS



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

## FAITH FORMATION

- Do you know a teen (rising 9th-12th grade) who may be interested in attending the 2024 **ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans** (July 16-20, 2024)? If so, we need to be in touch with them ASAP!
- Learn more about the Gathering here: <https://www.elca.church/gathering>

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH ASSISTANTS AND ADULTS:**

9:15 am Adults in the Education Wing Triple Room

9:30 am Children - ages 3 years through 5th grade (parents[s] welcome) downstairs in a preschool classroom.

Schedule for the Adult class study of **Do I Stay Christian** (Brian McLaren)

March 3 -Chapters 16-18

March 10 - Chapters 19-21

March 17 - Chapters 22-24

March 24 - Chapters 25-27

March 31 - Easter Sunday - no Sunday School

April 7 - Chapter 28 and Appendix III

April 14 and 21 - informal discussion

April 28 - Conclusion and wrap up

You are invited to participate either in-person or remotely via Zoom in our book study. We'll be meeting in the Adult education room.

Topic: Do I Stay Christian?

Time: Jan 7, 2024 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88053906186?pwd=cjdTcWZrek5MZY9KdWhtR1hBcnlDQT09>

Meeting ID: 880 5390 6186

Passcode: 397043

- **March 24th—Confirmation Class 12:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m. (lunch provided)**

## LIVING SAVIOUR CHURCH STAFF

**The Reverend Sara Ilderton**—Pastor

[pastorsara@livingsaviourlc.org](mailto:pastorsara@livingsaviourlc.org)

**Don Huff**, Minister of Worship and Music

[dhuff@livingsaviourlc.org](mailto:dhuff@livingsaviourlc.org)

**Ruth Mayes**, Administrative Assistant

[ruth@livingsaviourlc.org](mailto:ruth@livingsaviourlc.org)

**Nancy Mersereau**, Organist and Music Assistant

[nancyqqq@aol.com](mailto:nancyqqq@aol.com)

**Carla Gearheart**, Childcare Provider

[carla.gearheart@yahoo.com](mailto:carla.gearheart@yahoo.com)



**IT'S A NEW YEAR - WE NEED TELLERS – CAN YOU HELP?**

It's a new budget year, exciting things are happening at church and we need help with counting the weekly contributions. This takes only about 30-45 minutes after worship and someone will be there with you for help and support. If you can do a month or only a few weeks sometime during the year it will be appreciated!



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

P.S. You will NOT be asked to help count the Noisy Collection!

**Financial Results for the Fiscal Year ending January 2024 through December, 2023**

<b>General Fund 01</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Contributions & Other Income	\$354,160	\$325,773
Expenses	\$392,222	\$311,165
Net Income less Expenses		\$14,608
<b>Facilities Reserve 02-3241 Balance</b>		\$37,895
<b>Shabla Gift Fund 02-3271 Balance</b>		\$35,910

As previously reported, your Church Council is taking every opportunity to monitor church expenses.

Your generosity and dedication to Living Saviour, it's mission and ministries, is very much appreciated and reflected in the many activities during the past months and those yet to come this year.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Avard, Treasurer/Financial Secretary



## **LSLC Council Meeting 18 February 2024**

At this meeting, council elected its officers for the upcoming year. Pastor Sara wanted to pair the presidents and vice presidents for the 2024 year with someone who will still be on council in 2025 so that there is a continuity in these important positions. Nominated for president of council was Steve Vick, who will team up with Pastor Linda Hatcher. Nominated for vice president is Janet Axtman, who will pair up with Debby Borrelli. Laura Schwab is appointed as financial secretary, and will team up with Barbara Avard, who will continue as treasurer. Nominated for secretary is Gregg Mitchell.

The nominations were seconded and approved by voice vote. The appointments of Laura and Barbara were approved by voice vote.

Health and Wholeness will have a proposal for council for a fire drill by next month's meeting. There is going to be a seminar by the Alzheimer's Association on Saturday 20 April 2024 from 1-5pm. This is a community wide presentation and will feature 15-20 vendors.

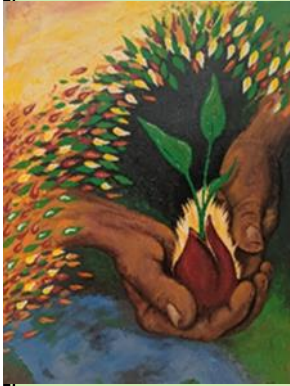
Barbara presented her monthly financial report and we finished the year with at \$4,300 surplus, which will go into operating reserves. The Endowment Committee met and approved \$3,000 in grants. Barbara had a handout on how we will finance this year's Lutheroad day camp. The council would like to thank Barbara for all the time and effort she puts in preparing the financial reports and explaining any questions council members have.

Pastor Sara is planning to install the seven youths who are attending confirmation classes. Linda Frixen will be heading up our youth program.

There was discussion on whether to have an Easter egg hunt and/or an Easter breakfast. Last year we handed out bags of goodies to the youth after worship service and it was decided that we would do that again this year. We will do breakfast on Easter Sunday beginning at 9am.

There was a report from the executive committee on facility use, which includes how to schedule an event, which events take priority, and who will resolve conflicts in scheduling.

The next council meeting will be on Sunday 17 March 2024 after worship service.



**Ministry of Health and Wholeness**  
**March 2024**  
**Focus: Forgiveness—Healing the Spirit**

*Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32*

Forgiveness is a choice. People who practice forgiveness tend to be more satisfied with their lives, have less depression, anxiety, anger and unhappiness. People who hold on to a grudge are more likely to experience severe depression and recurring post-traumatic stress syndrome as well as other health problems.

**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.
- Exercise Opportunities - Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

***SAVE THE DATE! 2024 Lutheroad!***

*The 2024 Lutheroad Day Camp has been scheduled!*

*This year it will be July 29-August 4th.*

*Please keep an eye out for more information coming soon!!*

## **Shelter Ministry/Room In The Inn**

Thank you Living Saviour for making it possible to host 86 homeless neighbors over the course of eight Sunday nights in January and February! Those neighbors included men, women, young teen boys on their own and several families with young children. One family spoke no English (our hosts and meal providers used Google Translate!), another family included a baby needing middle of the night care by an overnight host so the mom could get some well needed sleep. Some neighbors were here more than once and had asked to be assigned to our site.

It takes a real village every year to fill all the volunteer slots needed to support this ministry! Every Sunday/Monday we needed:

- Beds Set Up
- Van driver (evening & morning)
- Luggage car driver (evening & morning)
- Dinner Meal Providers
- Overnight Hosts
- Bag Lunches Providers
- Monday Clean Up
- Laundry
- Weekly Supplies Refresh

That list means at least 16 people every week were needed...and that number does not even include the Sunday morning congregation helpers that showed up to put sheets/blankets on the beds! Now, many people filled multiple roles or served more than once, but at least 60 different individuals filled the needed positions! Congratulations on being a congregation that cares, shows up for service and acts on the belief that we are our neighbors' keepers. Alice Jenkins

# MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
3 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	4 6:15 p.m. Yoga	<b>5 Primary Election</b> 6:00 a.m. First Tuesday coffee 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group 10:00 a.m. Quilt Ministry	6 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Soup & Bread 6:30 p.m. Service 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	7 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers	8	9 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 9:30 a.m. Bonsai Club 10:00 a.m. Yoga
10 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed Ukrainian Group	11 6:15 p.m. Yoga	12 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry	13 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Soup & Bread 6:30 p.m. Service 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	14 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers	15	16 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
17 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Monthly Council meeting	18 6:15 p.m. Yoga	19 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group	20 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 5:45 p.m. Soup & Bread 6:30 p.m. Service 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	21 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 1:15 p.m. LSLC Staff Meeting 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable 6:30 p.m. Alleluia RRingers	22	23 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
<b>24 Palm Sunday</b> 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 12:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	25 6:15 p.m. Yoga	26 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group	27 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	28 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 1:15 p.m. LSLC Staff Meeting 6:15 p.m. Yoga <b>6:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service</b>	29 <b>6:00 p.m. Good Friday Service</b>	30
<b>31 Easter Sunday</b> 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	<b>April 1 Easter Monday Church Office Closed</b>					