



The InnerNet

September 2026

Happy back-to-school season!

Given the time of year, I thought a little reminder of the basics from *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* by Robert Fulghum might be good:

Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Don't take things that aren't yours. Clean up your own mess. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hands before you eat. Flush. Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.

I mean, I know there are other things that are important to know, but these are things we **all** do to fulfill our shared calling as members of the Body of Christ, right?

That said, there are some things that are particular to each person and the unique calling or vocation they have, and in last year's stewardship drive: *Celebration of God's Generosity*, one of the categories that was lifted up had to do with **Sustaining and Growing in Ministry Excellence**. In order to do that, your staff and leadership have and will continue to learn. This "back-to-school" season seems like a good time to let you know some of the ways we have done that. Over the past year:

Don and Nancy participated in the Augsburg Fortress Summer Workshop in Columbia, SC. Laura took a course to help her navigate the transition from Microsoft Publisher to Affinity (I don't really know what that means other than the platform we had been using to publish things is going away and she had to learn how to do it a different way.).

Amanda has already plugged in to the NC Synod Children, Youth and Family Network which offers resources and opportunities to connect with other leaders who share "best-practices." She has also connected with congregations nearby with the hope of forming partnering/learning relationships. And, over this year, I have taken courses titled "Effective Staff Leadership for Pastors," "Stewardship: The effective pastoral leader" and, along with others, I attended a seminar having to do with planned giving. I have participated (and continue to participate) in *Faith In Us* seminars (a national interfaith clergy initiative). I have participated in *NC Synod Boundaries Training: Establishing and Maintaining Healthy Boundaries* and the *NC Synod Pastors and Rostered Leaders Convocation*. I also participate regularly in pericope studies as well as ongoing learning around the dynamics and navigation of systems, and theology and practice.

Not only that, but your congregation council also spends time on retreat together in order to be able to listen closely and discern where it is God is calling us and how we can best respond.

All of this continuing education is one of the ways we **sustain and grow in ministry excellence**, and your ongoing generosity helps cover mileage, housing, registration fees, etc.

Learning is lifelong...Thank you for helping us fulfill our obligations and callings.

God's peace and much love (and remember, warm cookies & cold milk are good for you) ~
+ Pr. Sara

Worship Service Live Streaming:
<https://www.youtube.com/@livingsaviourlutheranchurch/streams>
or through our website: www.livingsaviourlc.org.

SEPTEMBER NOISY OFFERING

Our September Noisy Offering will go to **Lutheran Disaster Response** where it will be used to help communities in Nepal who are facing catastrophic loss after deadly, devastating floods. LDR has long standing relationships with trusted partners throughout Nepal and our donation will go to supporting emergency relief and long-term recovery through established partners who know their communities best.

You can learn more on their website: [Lutheran Disaster Response](#)

BUSY SCHEDULE? HERE'S A WAY TO SERVE!

Are you looking for a meaningful way to serve the church that fits into a busy schedule? Consider joining the LSLC Endowment Committee! This committee meets virtually just four times a year, with meetings typically lasting only 30-45 minutes. Very little time is required outside of those meetings. The best part? We have the joy and privilege of reviewing grant requests and helping distribute funds to worthwhile organizations that make a positive impact in our community and beyond. It's a rewarding opportunity to help steward the gifts entrusted to our church and support important ministries and missions.

Didn't know we had an Endowment Fund, visit our website or click [here](#) to learn more.

CYF NEWS!

BOLO!! (Be On the Look Out)

Living Saviour has a new Children, Youth and Family (CYF) Ministry! I am so excited to partner with such a great ministry team at Living Saviour! My name is Amanda Thom and I have recently begun leading the CYF Ministry at LSLC. I have been a member of Living Saviour for my entire life and have a background in education. I spent 15 years teaching early childhood in the public schools in Charlotte and Indian Land. As CYF Director, I plan to hold events for families with children ages birth through high school. Monthly newsletters will have all kinds of fun information and events at your fingertips. If you aren't receiving the newsletters, but would like to, please contact me!

Questions? Text/call 704.488.3285 or Email amanda@lslc.church

FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND ADULTS

ADULTS—Class will resume meeting again on September 13th at 9:15am in the Education Wing. We will begin discussions using the David J. Lose book, ***Making Sense of the Christian Faith***. We meet in the Education Wing - middle room on the left. Please make a plan to join our discussions!!

CHILDREN—Class meets at 9:15am downstairs. Classes will resume on September 13th.

- Children (ages 2 years through 3rd grade) will have Bible stories and hands-on experiences that support the story. Parents are welcome to join in the class!
- Upper Elementary (4th-5th) will be exposed to relevant subjects (pop culture, trending topics and fascinating events) that will help them recognize how God's Word relates to them here and now.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLERS (6th-12th) - Class will meet weekly at 9:30am in the Youth Room beginning September 20th. We will have relevant cultural discussions and fellowship.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE/BOOK STUDY

We will meet each **Wednesday at 10:00am**
in the conference room.

We are reading *Matthew for Everyone* by N. T. Wright. We will resume at Chapter 8 (be sure to order the 20th Anniversary Edition). The book is available online at Amazon and your favorite bookstore. Come join us as we learn more about this book of the Bible.

G@THERING AT THE TABLE BIBLE STUDY

G@thering at the Table meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays and takes a look at the gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday. We will meet on September 10th and 24th at 6:15pm. Please bring your own dinner.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

At the end of July, LSLC completed the first half of the current budget year (Feb–July). We are grateful for the continued faithfulness shown through offerings and donations.

It is amazing what those moneys have enabled the church to offer:

- 5th Sunday Potluck luncheons
- Hosting a traveling Youth trip from Divinity Lutheran Church, OH
- Quilting & Prayer Shawl Ministries
- First Communion instruction
- Children and Adult Sunday School
- First Tuesday Coffee
- Living Saviour Preschool
- Boy Scout and Cub Scout meetings
- 7 yoga exercise classes weekly

And so much more!!! (Lutheroad, Worship-in person and online, Lenten soup/study, Room in the Inn, etc.)

As always, THANK YOU for your generosity!

INCOME (Feb - July)	\$209,762
EXPENSES (Feb - July)	<u>\$218,248</u>
Difference	-\$8,486

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 the church office.

OFFERINGS

Contribute directly to the church through link on the website, using the QR code or by mail to:

Living Saviour
6817 Carmel Road
Charlotte, NC 28226

Thank you for your generosity.



Congregation Acknowledgements

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES!

9/3 - Katy & Morgan Parham (9)
9/6 - Kristen & Jeff Haigler (18)
9/11 - Julie & Mark Brennan (34)
9/15 - Linda & Chuck Lyle (20)
9/19 - Laura & Mike Schwab (11)



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

9/3 - Jackson Thom
9/7 - Emelia Allen
9/10 - Andrew Church
9/16 - Mary Ann Eller
9/16 - Heather Stivender
9/17 - Piper Zeis
9/20 - Ginger Kern, Luke Quinlan
9/21 - Pastor Jay Harbinson,
Kathy Sullivan
9/22 - Katy Parham
9/28 - Mark Brennan
9/29 - Margaret Conrad



HEALTH & WHOLENESS MINISTRY

The September theme is financial well-being.

Financial well-being is an integral component of the Portico Wholeness Wheel, which in itself is part of the overall spiritual well-being. "In all aspects of well-being we are called to be stewards. Good financial stewards make decisions based on their values, which is evident in the way they save, spend and share. This understanding of stewardship embraces resilience, sustainability and generosity. "

"Being financially well involves making decisions based on our values, as reflected in the way we save, spend, and share. Tending to one's financial well-being in this way requires us to be resilient, generous, and focused on sustainability. "

Hebrews 13:5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, for God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

Active Exercise Opportunities:

- ◆ Yoga 4 You:
 - ◆ Mondays - 6:15pm
 - ◆ Tuesdays - 9:30am
 - ◆ Thursdays - 9:30am and 6:15pm
 - ◆ Saturdays - 10:00am
- ◆ Chair Yoga
 - ◆ Thursdays - 11:00am



Please reach out to the instructor prior to your first class.

Yoga 4 You with Lori: <https://Ready4Yoga.com/>

Chair Yoga with Debbie: www.feelgoodyogagirl.com

Our sincere thanks to Pastor Sara, the Prayer Chain, and our very kind friends at Living Saviour. Your prayers, your calls, and your cards meant so much to us during Tony's recent hospital and rehab adventure. God bless you all!

Thank you so much,
Tony & Mary Ann Eller





God's Work. *Our Hands.*

WE SERVE TOGETHER ♥ WE BLESS OTHERS ♥ WE GROW IN FAITH

When we work together in love,
amazing things happen!

Join us as we care for our church,
our community, and each other
through acts of service.

*Many Hands. One Heart.
Making a Difference.* ♥

⇒ *Sunday*, **SEPT 13, 2026** ⇒



KITCHEN CLEAN UP

Let's work together to
clean, organize and refresh
our kitchen for ministry
and fellowship.



QUILT MINISTRY

Sharing God's love,
one stitch at a time.
We *sew* quilts for comfort,
care and hope.



GROUNDS CLEANUP

Let's care for God's creation
by cleaning up, trimming,
and beautifying our church
grounds.



GETTING READY FOR SHELTERING OUR HOMELESS NEIGHBORS

In anticipation of Living Saviour serving as a shelter for our homeless neighbors on Sunday nights in January and February, these are the areas where volunteers will be needed. Please find an area or two that speaks to you as a way to support this meaningful, hands-on ministry to "the least of these". Volunteers are needed in all areas!

- **VAN DRIVER**
- **LUGGAGE CAR**
- **EVENING MEAL PREP/SERVE**
- **BAG LUNCHES PROVIDERS**
- **LAUNDRY TEAM**
- **MONDAY MORNING CLEAN UP**
- **OVERNIGHT HOSTS**

Sign-up sheets will be available starting in November so we can set up the schedule for **Sundays in January and February.**

♪ MUSIC NOTES ♪

We are always eager to welcome newcomers to leadership roles in the music ministry. Fall is a perfect time to join since the musical season is beginning anew.

Opportunity for serving is available in several areas:

FESTIVAL CHOIR

- For folks who just can't make a weekly commitment but would like to sing occasionally
- You choose when you want to sing: Reformation, Advent, Christmas Concert, Christmas Eve, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, just to name a few.
- Festival Choir participants augment our Chancel Choir

CHANCEL CHOIR

- Rehearses on Wednesdays, beginning September 2nd at 6:30pm, and again on Sundays at 9:15am
- Leads worship each Sunday as well as special seasonal worship services
- No experience required. We'll teach you!

ALLELUIA RINGERS (HANDBELLS)

- Rehearses on Sunday mornings before or after worship as announced.
- Ring for worship approximately every 5 weeks and other announced times.
- Experience—NONE required. We'll teach you!

INSTRUMENTALIST

- We love to have people play instruments during worship. Sometimes during prelude or communion times. Sometimes to accompany service music or the choir. Let us know what your instrument is and we'll put you to work!!!

We always, always welcome newcomers to these opportunities. Consider being a part of the music ministry team. Oftentimes, music speaks to people in ways that mere words do not. It is a powerful gift from God.

As a leader in music ministry, you will be a blessing to those you serve and I guarantee that that blessing will be returned to you in huge measure! And you will enjoy fun and fellowship with a welcoming group of people. Please speak with Don to explore the possibilities.

SDG (solo Deo gloria—to God alone be glory)
Don

QUILT MINISTRY

The Quilt Ministry at Living Saviour will resume monthly workshops after our summer break. We will gather on the first Tuesday of each month and our next gathering is set for **September 1st at 10:00am** in the Fellowship Hall.

If you are unfamiliar with this ministry, we create three layered, pieced and tied quilts of a specified size for Lutheran World Relief. These quilts are sent to areas in crisis around the world.

While we have plenty of fabric to create the quilts, we are in need of three things for the success of this ministry...

- New or gently used twin flat sheets, preferably darker colors or prints. These are the perfect size to serve as the backing fabric for the quilts.
- At-home sewing participants to sew quilt squares together for the quilt tops and for the final straight-line border stitching to complete the quilts.
- Additional workshop participants! No experience needed and all supplies are provided.

Interested? Contact Alice Jenkins at jenkinsalice2019@gmail.com, or just come to a workshop!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will resume our meetings on **September 8th at 10:00am** in the conference room. We will continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month. 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.

SPACE RENTALS

Are you part of an organization that needs meeting space? Does your company have a need for special meeting space or employee recognition luncheons? How about a cooking or sewing or artistic class?

Our facility is a great space to recommend for outside businesses and organizations to rent out. Building Use is a category of income that in the past has contributed greatly to our bottom line. YOU are our biggest advertisement source, so spread the word!! Reservations are made through the church office and different spaces have various rental fees. Please see Laura in the church office with questions.

Church Information!!

2026	LIVING SAVIOUR CHURCH LEADERSHIP
Name	Council Position
Rev. Linda Hatcher	President/Lay Care
Debby Borrelli	Vice President/Finance
Pat Snodgrass	Secretary/Worship & Music
Aliah Church	Faith Formation/Youth
Linda Frixen	Stewardship
Laura Michael	Health & Wholeness
Ken Leaser	Property
Margie Peters	Fellowship
Paul Sullivan	Communications
Donna Thomas	Outreach
Kay Zimmerman	Technology
Susan Hall	Treasurer
Janet Axtman	Property
Pr. Sara Ilderton	Pastor

The next Council Meeting will be held on September 20, 2026

LIVING SAVIOUR CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Sara Ilderton , Pastor	pastorsara@livingsaviourlc.org
Don Huff , Minister of Worship and Music	dhuff@livingsaviourlc.org
Nancy Mersereau , Organist and Music Assistant	nancyqqq@aol.com
Laura Schwab , Office Administrator	office@lslc.church
Amanda Thom , Director, Children, Youth & Families	amanda@lslc.church
Susan Hall , Treasurer	finance@livingsaviourlc.org
Carla Gearheart , Childcare Provider	carla.gearheart@yahoo.com
Elsie Davis , Preschool Director	preschool@lslc.church

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETING ON AUGUST 16 2026

The changes to our constitution, recommended by the Synod, have been completed and are awaiting approval by the Synod council. Then the constitution will be returned to LSLC for council approval and then a called congregational meeting will be held for the congregation to approve the constitution.

Deacon Wendy Roberts has agreed to be the home communion coordinator and will team up with Millie McWilliams.

Pastor Charlie gave the council a briefing on the ELCA's Congregational Vitality Survey. As soon as details are worked out, the congregation will be informed about how the survey will work and what we hope to learn from the results.

The Charlotte Lyric Theater is a non-profit that focuses on classical music, and they have inquired about using one of our classrooms and the fellowship hall for auditions and rehearsals. Hopefully, we will be able to work out a schedule and provide space for them.

Council members were asked to submit their budget requests for the next fiscal year to the finance committee by the end of August.

WORSHIP AT THE PINES

In July, we began conducting Sunday Worship Services at The Pines on Carmel Road on the second and fourth Sundays each month at 2pm. Please prayerfully consider volunteering. We are sure you will gain so much from the effort you put in and from the residents. If you have questions, please contact Steve Vick.

PRAYING FOR POSSIBILITIES

8/31-9/7 - Jeanne Davis & Janet Mayer
9/7-9/14 - Joyce Godwin & Glenda Kilminster
9/14-9/21 - Linda Hatcher & Anita Mitchell
9/21-9/28 - Marty Jenkins & Don Huff
9/28-10/5 - Julie Brennan & God!



SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30 a.m. Coffee for Carmel Chase 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. Quilt Ministry 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265	2 10:00 a.m. Bible Study	3 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga	4	5 10:00 a.m. Yoga
6 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed	7 Labor Day - Church Office Closed	8 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265	9 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	10 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. G@thering at the Table 6:15 p.m. Yoga	11 bRidge Retreat at Lutheridge	12 bRidge Retreat at Lutheridge 10:00 a.m. Yoga
13 bRidge Retreat at Lutheridge 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed 11:30 a.m. God's Work. Our Hands. 2:00 p.m. Worship at The Pines	14 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	15 9:30 a.m. Yoga 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265	16 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	17 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga	18 10:00 a.m. Choir Retreat	19 9:00 a.m. Choir Retreat
20 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. MS & HS Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed 11:30 a.m. Monthly Council Meeting	21 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	22 9:30 a.m. Yoga 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265	23 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	24 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. G@thering at the Table	25	26
27 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. MS & HS Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed 2:00 p.m. Worship at the Pines	28 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	29 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265	30 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice			