LIVING SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

The InnerNet

November 2026

Grace to you and peace ~

Along with Holy Week, All Saints' Sunday is one of my absolute favorites. It offers a very clear opportunity to consider the saints in our lives. Which, depending on how you understand "sainthood," may seem an odd thing to think about.

In his book *The Remarkable Ordinary: How to stop, look and listen*, Fred Buechner (who is one of my favorite writers and who was also a preacher, theologian and ordained Presbyterian pastor) writes:

> We've all had saints in our lives, by which I mean not plaster saints, not moral exemplars setting for us a kind of suffocating good example, but I mean saints in the sense of life givers. People through knowing whom we become more alive.

And, originally published in *Wishful Thinking* (and later in *Beyond Words*) he writes:

> In his holy flirtation with the world, God occasionally drops a pocket handkerchief. These handkerchiefs are called saints...Many people think of saints as men and women of such paralyzing virtue that they never thought a [bad] thought or did an evil deed their whole lives long. As far as I know, real saints never even come close to characterizing themselves that way. On the contrary, no less a saint than Saint Paul wrote to Timothy, "I am foremost among sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15)...In other words, the feet of saints are as much of clay as everybody else's, and their sainthood consists less of what they have done than of what God has for some reason chosen to do through them.

And in a sermon titled "To be a Saint" and published in *The Magnificent Defeat* (1966), he says:

> To be a saint is to live with hands stretched out both to give and to receive with gladness. To be a saint is to work and weep for the broken and suffering of the world, but it is also to be strangely light of heart in the knowledge that there is something greater than the world that mends and renews. Maybe more than anything else, to be a saint is to know joy. Not happiness that comes and goes with the moments that occasion it, but joy that is always there like an underground spring no matter how dark and terrible the night...It is to live a life that is always giving itself away and yet is always full.

I give thanks for each one of you saints who take seriously our mission to live and love like Jesus, as we eagerly welcome all and work to bring healing, help and hope to the world. It is a privilege to work alongside you to this end.

God's peace and much love ~
+ Pr. Sara

6817 Carmel Road | Charlotte, NC 28226 | (704) 542-3626

ELCA NC Synod ELCA

NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS!



11/9 - Gregg & Anita Mitchell (52)
11/19 - Jeanne & Brook Davis (60)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Preschool International Lunch will be held on Thursday, November 19 at 10:30am. All are welcome!
- Fifth Sunday Potluck & AdventFest will be held after worship on November 29.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

It's that time! Order forms are on the entry table or contact the church office. Cost is $12/plant and orders must be in no later than Sunday, November 15!

NOVEMBER NOISY OFFERING

Our November Noisy offering will go to **Diaper Bank of NC**. Their mission is to increase awareness of and access to essential hygiene items to promote dignity, health, and quality of life for the people of North Carolina. And they don't stop with diapers - they also assist with period products, adult incontinence supplies and formula.

You can learn more on their website:
https://www.ncdiaperbank.org/



11/4 - Corky Carver, Amanda Thom
11/5 - Tom Tobin
11/8 - Barb Tobin
11/11 - Karter Haigler, Maria Levine
11/15 - Cindy Meadows, Cole Plunkett
11/19 - Debby Borrelli, Margaret Krause, Nadia Levine, Nicholas Levine
11/20 - Kathy DeLoache
11/21 - Paul Sullivan
11/26 - Benjamin Thom
11/28 - Ainsley Sullivan
11/29 - Charlie Parham

CYF EVENTS

- Confirmation Class will meet on Saturday, November 7 at 3pm.
- Our monthly bRidge meeting will be on Sunday, November 15 at 5:30pm.

CHARLOTTE LYRIC THEATRE

Charlotte Lyric Theatre will be using space here at LSLC from 11/2-11/16 to hold their rehearsals for Don Giovanni (Mozart - in English). The show will be held on November 21 & 22 at Queens University.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

On Sunday, November 15, Pr. Sara will be meeting with children and their parents who are interested in learning more about receiving Holy Communion. Join her in the Conference Room at 9:15am.

FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & ADULTS

ADULTS - Class meets at 9:15am in the Education Wing. Our current discussions are using the David J. Lose book ***Making Sense of the Christian Faith.*** We would love you to join us!

CHILDREN - Class meets downstairs at 9:15am.

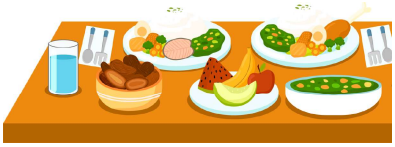
- Children (ages 2 through 3rd grade) will have Bible stories and hands on experiences that support the story. Parents are welcome to join!
  - Each Sunday we say the Lord's Prayers using motions and review the ELCA Liturgical Calendar to know what colors to look for in the sanctuary. Our current theme is 'What Would Jesus Do'. The Big Idea is Jesus helps me make the right decisions. Our lessons are about Put God First, Do Things for Others, Honor Parents and Stand Up for What's Right. Our next unit will be on Giving Thanks.
- 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.
  - Each Sunday we hear the Lord's Prayer in a different language and review ELCA Liturgical Calendar. We also have a "Did You Know" infomercial along with trivia questions at the end of our lesson. Our current unit is Unbreakable. The lessons show the power of Christian character and will help kids develop resilient faith that can stand the test in hard times. The lessons include: Do the Right Thing, Give from the Heart, Speak Up! and Never Give Up.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL - Class meets in the Youth Room at 9:30am.

- 6th through 12th grade will have relevant curltural discussions and fellowship.

G@THERING AT THE TABLE

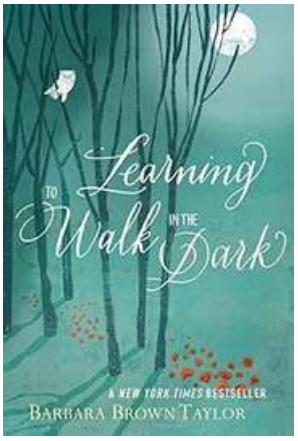
G@thering at the Table meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month and takes a look at the gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday. We will only meet once in November on the 12th due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Please bring your own dinner.





BIBLE/BOOK STUDY

Join us on Wednesdays at 10:00am in the conference room. We have begun a new book, Learning to Walk in the Dark, by Barbara Brown Taylor. We will continue with this study through December 16. Come join us as we learn about the "spirituality of nighttime". The book is available online at Amazon and at your favorite bookstore.



CYF NEWS!

What are you grateful for?

Our Children, Youth and Family <inistry has been hard at work on our **Grateful poster**! Have you seen it yet? Make sure you take a walk through the education wing to see what we have been up to, and to add your piece to our poster!

During October, our **Confirmation Class** experienced our first at-home learning class. That means that even when we can't find a time to meet that works for everyone, we still get to learn about our faith! I have created a Google Classroom and have material posted for our students to keep working on their own time. We can't wait to meet again in November (this time in person)!

Have you seen?

CYF also has a Little Library! If you have any gently used children's books (birth through high school levels), feel free to donate a few! Also, feel free to take a few too! Gift them to neighbors, grandchildren, or other children who would love to give new life to books LSLC families have outgrown.

Our **bRidge Program** is well underway! Check out the awesome adventures in the photos below! Want to be involved? We need meals! Here is a link to the information: bRidge Meal Sign Up







There is also an **Amazon wish list for CYF Ministry**. This is a great way to contribute! On the list are materials that will be used for education, recreation materials for games, and snacks for our kiddos! Kids love to eat!! CYF Wish List

Thank you so much for your support!

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

PRAYING FOR POSSIBILITIES

10/26-11/2 - Pastor Linda Hatcher & Anita Mitchell
11/2-11/9 - Pastor Sara & Corky Carver
11/9-11/16 - Sue Hunsinger & Michele Sullivan
11/16-11/23 - Lillian Stephens & Nancy Mersereau
11/23-11/30 - Carla Gearhart & Sherry Wooldridge
11/30-12/7 - Pat & John Maisel



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.

OFFERINGS

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

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 the church office.

SAVE THE DATES!!

WELCA Christmas Party - Christmas is Coming! Ladies, mark your calendars for our annual Women of the ELCA Christmas party on Saturday, December 19, at 2:00. More details to follow!

Craft Fair - December 5, 2026 - 9am-2pm

Breakfast with Santa - December 12, 2026 9am-11am

Christmas Concert - December 13, 2026 - 3pm Cantata will be held after

Wild Women's Weekend at Lutheridge will be March 5-7, 2027. A weekend for women to step away, with camp-style Bible study and worship, workshops, and time with other women. LSLC has made a group reservation! If you are interested in registering, please reach out to Amanda Thom or Pastor Sara for more info.

QUILT MINISTRY

The Quilt Ministry at Living Saviour hosts monthly workshops on the first Tuesday of each month. Due to Election Day, our next gathering is set for November 17th at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

This ministry creates 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 meet on November 10th at 10:00am in the conference room. We will continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month.

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.



SMITHFIELD MINISTRY

With the holidays quickly approaching, Smithfield needs our help to stock their food pantry. Smithfield sends home food for weekends and holidays for students in need. Some of the biggest needs are boxed milk, canned meats and hearty soups!





SHELTER MINISTRY

In anticipation of Living Saviour serving as a shelter for our neighbors experiencing homelessness 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 - Drive 15 passenger van from church to Roof Above on Sunday evening (4:30-6:00pm) and/or on Monday morning, drive neighbors to Transit Center (5:45-6:45am)

LUGGAGE CAR - accompany van in order to carry neighbors’ luggage (van has no storage for twelve neighbors’ belongings) Same time as van.

EVENING MEAL PREP/SERVE - Prepare/purchase dinner items to serve 12 neighbors, 2 hosts, you and your team.

BAG LUNCHES PROVIDERS - Prepare a bag lunch for each neighbor to take with them in the morning.

LAUNDRY TEAM - Work with a partner or alone to launder sheets used on Sunday night. Laundry kits are provided. May be done at home or laundromat.

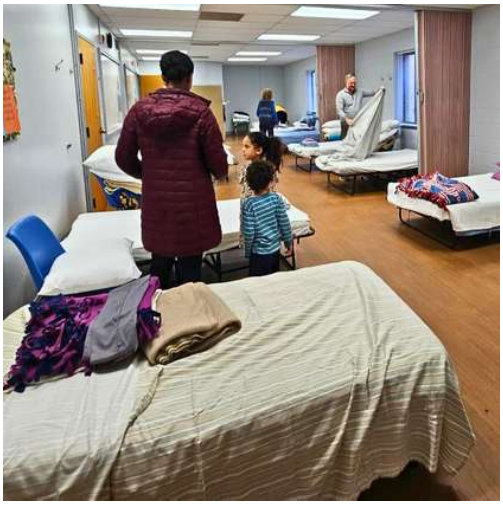
MONDAY MORNING CLEAN UP - Remove trash, dustmop floors, refresh bathrooms/showers.

AND MOST IMPORTANT...

OVERNIGHT HOSTS - Welcome neighbors, explain evening’s protocol, share a meal, lights out at 10:00, wake up at 5:00 (sleeping quarters are separate from neighbors’), set out breakfast, start laundry of towels, return cots to storage place.

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





HEALTH & WHOLENESS MINISTRY

The November theme is Suicide Prevention.

Tip #1: Identify and provide help to persons at risk. They may talk about being a burden, wanting to die or commit suicide, or about unbearable physical or emotional pain. You may see increased anxiety, agitation or rage. They may increase alcohol intake. Withdrawal from family and community, changes in sleep patterns, and extreme mood swings may also be present. If you are concerned about someone and observe these warning signs, immediately connect the person with professional help, such as calling or texting 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

Psalm 34:17-18 The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the broken hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

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



Common Warning Signs of Suicide

Talking about:

- Attempting suicide
- Feeling unbearable pain
- Death or a recent fascination with death
- Feeling hopeless, worthless, or "trapped"
- Feeling guilt, shame, or anger
- Feeling like they are a burden to others

How to respond if you observe warning signs:

- Let the person know you are concerned and ask if they are ok.
- Ask the person if they are having thoughts of suicide.
- Listen attentively and without judgment.
- Let the person know you care about them and support them.
- Offer to help connect them with professional help.

Changes in behavior or mood:

- Recent suicide attempt
- Planning a suicide attempt
- Increased alcohol or drug use
- Losing interest in personal appearance or hygiene
- Withdrawing from family, friends, or community
- Saying goodbye to friends and family
- Giving away prized possessions
- A recent episode of depression, emotional distress, and/or anxiety
- Changes in eating patterns
- Changes in sleep patterns
- Becoming violent or being a victim of violence
- Expressing rage
- Recklessness

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETING - OCTOBER 18, 2026

- The executive committee will work on a policy for displaying banners outside. The goal is to have banners with similar appearances. The city will be consulted about easements, if necessary.
- A small group of people will visit Morningstar on election day to observe their art (for our upcoming Fellowship Corridor Art Display).
- The stewardship committee recommends a book study for council (Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity by Michael R. Ward) and that the study be a part of the council retreat as well as throughout the year during council meetings.
- Confirmation classes are underway. Congregational support is needed for providing meals for each bRidge session. Middle and high school students will meet for lunch at the Rusty Onion on Dec. 6.
- Two giving trees will be erected, one for Lutheran Disaster Relief (during Advent) and ABA (during Lent). More on that to come!
- An AdventFest is planned for the fifth Sunday potluck on Nov. 29. Children and teens will work on crafts, while adults will decorate the tree and sanctuary.
- The preschool is looking to update their sign on Carmel Road. The church will remove the dying tree that is blocking its view. Design will be submitted to the property chair and then to the executive committee.

DECEMBER EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



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2026 LSLC 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 Leeser	Property
Margie Peters	Fellowship
Paul Sullivan	Communications
Donna Thomas	Outreach
Kay Zimmerman	Technology

The next council meeting will be held on November 15, 2026.

LSLC Staff	
The Reverend Sara Ilderton, Pastor	pastorsara@livingsaviourlc.org
Don Huff, Minister of Worship & Music	dhuff@livingsaviourlc.org
Nancy Mersereau, Organist & Assitant Musician	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

NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. MS/HS Hang Out 10:30 a.m. Worship	2 10:00 a.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	3 – Election Day 6:30 a.m. Coffee for Carmel Chase 9:30 a.m. Yoga 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265	4 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	5 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 1:00 p.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre 6:15 p.m. Yoga	6 11:00 a.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre	7 10:00 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 2:00 p.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre 3:00 p.m. Confirmation Class
8 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. MS/HS Hang Out 10:30 a.m. Worship 2:00 p.m. Worship at The Pines	9 10:00 a.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre 6:15 p.m. Yoga	10 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265	11 - **Veterans' Day – Church Office Closed** 10:00 a.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	12 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 1:00 p.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre 6:15 p.m. G@thering at the Table 6:15 p.m. Yoga	13 11:00 a.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre	14 10:00 a.m. Yoga 12:00 p.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre
15 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. MS/HS Hang Out 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Monthly Council Meeting 5:30 p.m. Monthly bRidge Meeting	16 10:00 a.m. Charlotte Lyric Theatre 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	17 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. Quilt Ministry 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265	18 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice	19 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:30 a.m. Preschool International Lunch 6:15 p.m. Yoga	20	21 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:00 a.m. Yoga
22 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. MS/HS Hang Out 10:30 a.m. Worship 2:00 p.m. Worship at The Pines	23 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	24 9:30 a.m. Yoga 6:45 p.m. Cub Scout Pack 265	25	26 – **Thanksgiving Day** **Church Office Closed**	27 – **Church Office Closed**	28 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:00 a.m. Yoga
29 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation & Children's Sunday School 9:30 a.m. MS/HS Hang Out 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. 5th Sunday Potluck & AdventFest	30 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165					