



The InnerNet

December 2024

Grace to you and peace.

When we graduated from seminary, my friend and classmate, Pam, gave me a book titled Sing Out New Visions: Prayers, poems and reflections by women. It was published in 1998. We graduated in 1999, so it was “hot off the presses” when she gifted it to me. For twenty-five years, I have reached into that book (and its now coffee-stained pages) for encouragement when I needed words I couldn’t find on my own. Over the years, Pam and I eventually lost track of each other. Then, out of the blue, a few weeks ago she sent me a text. A picture of the two of us at my ordination. I’m not sure what the impetus was for her reaching out, and I didn’t ask...Maybe just the craziness of the world. The tumult and conflict and uncertainty. Maybe she remembered that I had some tumultuous times during seminary. But Pam was steady throughout. Maybe she knew that I needed to be reminded of steady things. Things that deliver us from ourselves and our fears.

This Advent prayer reminds me of God’s steadiness. It comes from the book Pam gave me. It was written by Janet Morley.

Advent is the time to remember that the birth of love-made-flesh happens over and over and over again...And that the one who comes is steady//unshakeable – even as his embodied love shakes the world. May each of us be bearers of that steady, yet foundation-shaking, love.

God our Deliverer
whose approaching birth
still shakes the foundations of our world:
may we so wait for your coming with eagerness and
hope that we embrace without terror
the labor pangs of the new age
through Jesus Christ, Amen.

Advent blessings of peace & joy,
+ Pr. Sara

Mid-Week Wednesday Advent Service –December 4,11,18

- **11:15–Soup lunch served in the fellowship hall**
- **12 noon–Worship in sanctuary**

Worship Service Live Streaming: on-line https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuMJ5vxpQpMZLB8638JxE_w or through our website: www.livingsaviourlc.org.

Congregation Acknowledgements!!

December Anniversaries

Russell and Lillian Stephens (34)

Tim and Cindy Meadows (55)

Eddie and Pat Sipe (61)

David and Linda Frixen (41)



December Birthdays

12/02 Barbara Avard, Lisa Krause

12/03 Dawn Gibson

12/06 Gordon Hann, Sr.

12/07 Ryan Huber

12/08 Maxine Christ

12/09 Millie McWilliams, Emily Zeis

12/11 Larry Wagstaff

12/13 Matthew VanSandt

12/15 Bob Flelischacker

12/16 Susan Phipps

12/20 Karen Kaufeld

12/21 Morgan Parham, Rebecca VanSandt

12/23 Ken Kilminster, Ray Kilminster, Justin Krause

12/26 Polly Farris

12/29 Cliff Ilderton

12/31 Joy Forster



Church Information!!

2024 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Steven Vick	Co-President/Worship & Music
Rev. Linda Hatcher	Co-President/Lay Care
Janet Axtman	Co-Vice President/Property
Debby Borrelli	Co-Vice President/Christian Education
Gregg Mitchell	Secretary
Laura Schwab	Financial Secretary
Linda Frixen	Outreach
Laura Michael	Health & Wholeness
Pat Sipe	Lay Care

The next Council Meeting will be on **Sunday, November 17, 2024**
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

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will not meet in December. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room.

Contact Jeanne Davis at jeannedavis88@att.net with questions.

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



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.

BAKE SALE COMING UP SOON!

December 7 is the date for the annual Craft Fair at LSLC. As part of the Fair, WELCA hosts a Bake Sale table to raise funds for the projects, activities and ministries of the Women of the ELCA. We rely on our generous congregation members to supply home baked items for the table. We love to display your baked items, jams, breads, brownies, etc.! They fly off the table every year!

WELCA uses the profits from this day to support a child through Compassion International (annual cost - \$500), purchase special books at infant baptism, sponsor the Quilt Ministry, send money to WELCA state ministries at Spring and Fall Gatherings, and fill in as needed for LSLC needs.

Additionally, from these funds, we support a different local Charlotte ministry each year, we send money to Living Waters Lutheran Church in Cherokee and nationally, we support Lutheran World Relief.

So, please get your aprons on and find a favorite goody to add to our table!

GETTING READY FOR SHELTERING OUR NEIGHBORS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

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”.

VAN DRIVER – Drive 15 passenger van from church to Roof Above (945 N College St.) on Sunday evening Timeframe -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 starting in November so we can set up the schedule for **Sundays in January and February**.

Praying for Possibilities!

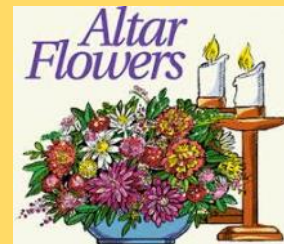
11/24-12/01 Mary Ann Eller and Janet Axtman
12/01-12/08 Marty Jenkins and Maxine Christ
12/08-12/15 Pastor Charlie and Kay Zimmerman
12/15-12/22 Frank DeLoache and Mike Roser
12/22-12/29 Janet Wagstaff and Jeane Dunne
12/29-01/04 Patricia and John Maisel



2025 ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

The 2025 Altar Flowers online chart is now available at:

- ◆ <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoC4CACAC29A6F4C16-50072720-2025#/>



WE NEED COUNTERS – CAN YOU HELP?

If you are interested in assisting with counting contributions after service, please contact Laura Schwab (980-229-3900 or laboatwright@gmail.com). The task can usually be completed in less than 30 minutes.

Summary of LSLC Council Meeting

17 November 2024

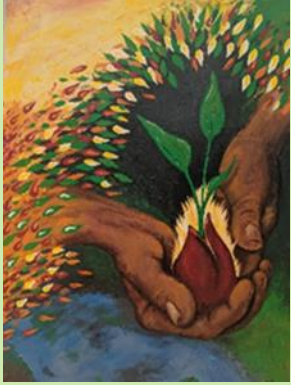
The Council got a financial update and an update on the stewardship drive. There will be a temple talk on 24 November and then on 1 December there will be an update to the congregation on how the many pledges and Time and Talent forms have been received.

The three members who have agreed to run for council to replace Steve Vick, Janet Axtman, and Pat Sipe, whose terms end in January, will provide Council with photos and bios for the 26 January 2025 annual meeting. Council members were reminded to submit their annual reports to Ruth so that the Congregational Annual Report can be presented at the January meeting. The finance committee is working on the 2025-2026 budget to be presented at the Annual Meeting.

The Council will hold a retreat on Saturday 8 February 2025 with a representative from the NC Synod to discuss our core values.

New members will be introduced on Sunday 15 December 2024.

Photos and bios for our new treasurer, Susan Hall, and our financial secretary, Laura Schwab will be included in the January Newsletter.



Ministry of Health and Wholeness December 2024

Focus: Be The Gift

Generous persons will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed. Proverbs 11:25

Respiratory illnesses are likely to increase during the next few months due to increased indoor gatherings. The CDC says to stay home and away from others if you have respiratory virus symptoms that aren't explained by another cause. These symptoms include fever, chills, runny nose and headache. You can resume normal activities when you have been fever free for 24 hours and symptoms are getting better. For the next five days use masks, good hand washing and/or testing. Free covid test kits can be ordered from-[COVIDTests.gov](https://www.COVIDTests.gov). Have happy healthy holidays from the Health and Wholeness Ministry!

Active Exercise Opportunities:

- ◆ Yoga For You:
 - ◆ Mondays - 6:15 p.m.
 - ◆ Tuesdays - 9:30 a.m.
 - ◆ Thursdays - 9:30 a.m. and 6:15 p.m. (Not meeting on Thanksgiving Day)
 - ◆ Saturdays - 11:00 a.m.
- ◆ Chair Yoga - Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. (Not meeting on Thanksgiving Day)
- ◆ Strength and Stamina - Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

FAITH FORMATION!!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH ASSISTANTS AND ADULTS:

ADULTS - 9:15 am in the Education Wing

CHILDREN - 9:30 am Downstairs

Adult Sunday School is discussing *Love Without Limits: Jesus' Radical Vision for Love with No Exceptions* by Jacqueline Bussie. Please join us in the Education Wing!!

Discussion Schedule:

Dec. 1 - Ch. 4
Dec. 8 - Ch. 5
Dec. 15 - Ch 6
Dec. 22 - Merry Christmas – no class
Dec. 29 - Happy New Year – no class
Jan. 5 - Ch. 7
Jan. 12 - Ch. 8
Jan. 19 - Ch. 9
Jan. 26 - Ch. 10
Feb. 2 - Recap

Children (ages 2 years through 5th grade) will have Bible stories and hands-on experiences that support the story. Parent(s) are welcome to join in the class!

Strive ~ AOB

**4th Sunday of each month
from 11:45 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE FOR The First Advent in Palestine:

Nov, 28 **HAPPY THANKSGIVING:** No class on Nov, 27
Dec. 4. Chapter 4
Dec. 11. Chapter 5
Dec. 18. **No Class**
Dec. 25. **MERRY CHRISTMAS:** No class
Jan. 1. **HAPPY NEW YEAR:** No class
Jan. 8. Chapter 6
Jan. 15 Chapter 7
Jan. 22. Chapter 8
Jan. 29. Chapter 9

GATHERING@theTable

Gathering@theTable will be held on the 5th and 19th of December.



LDR Carolinas

CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

Several individuals and congregations have asked how we can help provide some Christmas cheer for families impacted by Hurricane Helene in western North Carolina. We had an idea, but wanted to follow our own advice to not just send stuff without determining what was actually needed. So we reached out to the ELCA pastors from Hendersonville to Boone for information about how we could best support families in their communities.

We learned that our idea of sending gift cards would work well in some areas, but not as well in others. Some congregations are already planning to work with social ministry programs in their communities, and a partner organization has plans to provide special parties at local schools. As a result, we are offering multiple suggestions about how we can all work together to help provide Christmas gifts to others who are struggling after the storm, in both North and South Carolina.

- ◆ Provide gift cards (\$25 per card) that can be used to purchase food, fuel, tools or home repair supplies, or other gift items. Suggested retailers include Ingles, Aldi's, or Food Lion; Speedway or Shell; Lowes or Home Depot; Walmart or Target; or Visa gift cards.
- ◆ Make financial donations to LDR Carolinas (designated for Christmas). These donations will be distributed to congregations to assist community organizations already planning Angel Trees, Blessing Bags, or other programs in their local communities.
- ◆ While we already have several hundred Children's Comfort Kits on hand, one of our NCVOAD (North Carolina Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) partners would like to distribute them at several school events in December, so we can use even more.

Please let us know if you plan to participate in one of these ways. Whatever you choose, please make sure your gift or donation will arrive by Friday, December 13.

You can make donations [online here](#).

Send checks or gift cards to LDR Carolinas at the NC Synod office (1988 Lutheran Synod Drive, Salisbury NC 28144) for distribution.

Deliver Children's Comfort Kits to the NC Synod office or one of these congregations which are serving as collection points:

Good Shepherd, Raleigh NC
Zion, Hickory NC
Zion, Lexington SC

SAVE THE DATE!!

Please keep these special dates on your calendars, and watch for more information!

⇒ Saturday, December 2nd—Annual Christmas Bazaar



⇒ Saturday, December 9th—Breakfast With Santa



⇒ Sunday, December 10th—Christmas Concert at 3:00 p.m.



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

CHILDREN'S SERVICE

3:00 PM

TRADITIONAL SERVICE

6:00 PM



DECEMBER 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Advent 1 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed 12:00 p.m. Walking Group 2:45 Ukrainian Group	2 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	3 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. Quilt Ministry 6:00 p.m. Scout Troop 265	4 10:00 am. Bible Study 11:15 a.m., Advent mid-week 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers	5 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	6 Craft Fair Set-up	7 9:00 a.m. Craft Fair
8 Advent 2 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed 3:00 p.m. Choir Concert	9 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	10 9:30 a.m. Yoga 6:00 p.m. Scout Troop 265	11 10:00 am. Bible Study 11:15 a.m., Advent mid-week 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers	12 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga	13 Breakfast with Santa Set-up	14 9:00 a.m. Breakfast with Santa 9:30 a.m. Strength & Stamina 10:00 a.m. Yoga 4 You
15 Advent 3 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed 12:00 p.m. Monthly Council Meeting	16 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	17 9:30 a.m. Yoga 6:00 p.m. Scout Troop 265	18 11:15 a.m., Advent mid-week 5:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 p.m. Alleluia Ringers	19 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	20	21 9:30 a.m. Strength & Stamina 10:00 a.m. Yoga 4 You
22 Advent 4 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed 11:45 Strive ~	23 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	24 Christmas Eve 3:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Service 6:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Service	25 Christmas Day Church office closed	26 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga	27	28 9:30 a.m. Strength & Stamina 10:00 a.m. Yoga 4 You
29 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. Worship Live Streamed	30 6:15 p.m. Yoga 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 165	31 New Years Eve				