



The InnerNet

May 2024

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Yep, that's right...we are still in the season of Easter – but before we know it, the long season of Pentecost will be upon us. If I'm being honest I have mixed-feelings about the season of Pentecost. On the one hand, it goes on for sooooo many weeks, and it is so very "ordinary" (one of the reasons it is part of what the church calls "ordinary time"). On the other hand, it goes on for sooooo many weeks, and it is so very ordinary. Mundane even. In a sense that is, at one time, the challenge and the joy of it all.

The Spirit (which is what we "celebrate" on Pentecost Sunday and which, according to the telling of its coming in Acts, causes all to speak in languages that each can understand...kind of the un-doing of the Tower of Babel) is present in and through it all. The extra-ordinary and the plain old ordinary. In the times of great joy and deep sorrow...and in the times of "every day." Therein is the great thanksgiving of it all. Never are we away from the Spirit. Never.

That said, we can (and often do) only "feel" the Spirit's presence when we gather for festival worship with all of the proverbial smells and bells. When we pull out all of the stops. Don't get me wrong, I LOVE smells and bells. But even when those things are absent, even in the silence, even outside of the sanctuary, even when we don't *feel* it, the Spirit is present in and through and among us. Equipping us to communicate...To listen. To look. To ask questions. To work toward understanding. To be still even. And that takes time – sooooo many weeks, and it can feel interminably long and boring. But always, God the Spirit is working in and among us, moving us toward growth...Which is why the color of Pentecost season is green (green things remind us of growth). And it is good to be reminded that growth takes time.

Luther said this:

"This life therefore is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness, not health, but healing, not being but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it, the process is not yet finished, but it is going on, this is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified."

You are each a blessing to me, traveling companions (so to speak) as we continue our journey (at times joyous and at times laborious) in growth.

Peace and much love ~
+ Pr. Sara

Congregation Acknowledgements!!

May Anniversaries

05/11 Charles and Judy Gribble (61)
05/16 Eric and Joy Forster (32)
05/17 Eric and Melissa Krantz (10)
05/18 John and Pam Williams (50)
05/20 Larry and Janet Wagstaff (46)
05/24 Gary and Deb Borley (49)
05/25 Ryan and Jennifer Huber (16)



May Birthdays

05/05 Lori Davis
05/07 Indra Persaud
05/09 Lottie Williams, Maggie Williams
05/13 Lyn Addy, Henry Ilderton
05/15 Traci Anderson, Susan Hunsinger
05/17 Sally Ganz
05/18 Jackson Mitchell
05/22 Bill Larsen
05/25 Henry Borrelli
05/27 Emma Allen
05/30 Judy Gribble
05/31 Melissa Krantz



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 Avar.

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
Barbara Avar	Treasurer
Laura Schwab	Financial Secretary
Linda Frixen	Outreach
Laura Michael	Health & Wholeness
Pat Sipe	Lay Care

The next Council Meeting will be on **Sunday, May 19, 2024** at 12:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

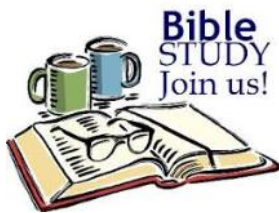
Group Activities!!

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Bible study meets on Wednesday mornings at 10 AM and will continue for six weeks (until May 15).

Pastor Linda Hatcher and Pat Snodgrass will be teaching using the book *The Gospel of Mark: A Beginner's Guide to the Good News* by Amy Jill-Levine.

The book is available on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) as well as other bookstores online.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Tuesday, May 14th, 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.



The Confirmation Class attended a **Faith Alive Weekend** at Lutheridge - April 19-21.

The theme for the weekend was to prepare for the promises that youth make as they affirm their baptism:

To **LIVE** among God's faithful people

To **HEAR** the word of God and **SHARE** in the Lord's supper

The youth played games, did rope lines, heard scripture, explored ability limits, sang songs, made bread and served communion to each other. They had talent contests, watched their counsellors put on skits and listened-for-sought-out the word of God in nature.

The plan is that this class will attend upcoming Faith Alive weekends in the fall and following spring! **If you would like to help support the cost of attending the camps, please designate donations for "YOUTH"**



GATHERING@theTable

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

Praying for Possibilities!

04/28-05/05 Pastor Sara and Corky Carver

05/05-05/12 Jeanne Dunne and Janet Wagstaff

05/12-05/19 Linda Hatcher and Glenda Kilminster

05/19-05/26 Jeanne Davis and Janet Mayer

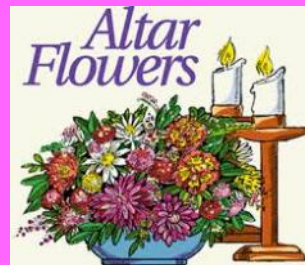
05/26-06/02 Anita Mitchell and Glenda Kilminster



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

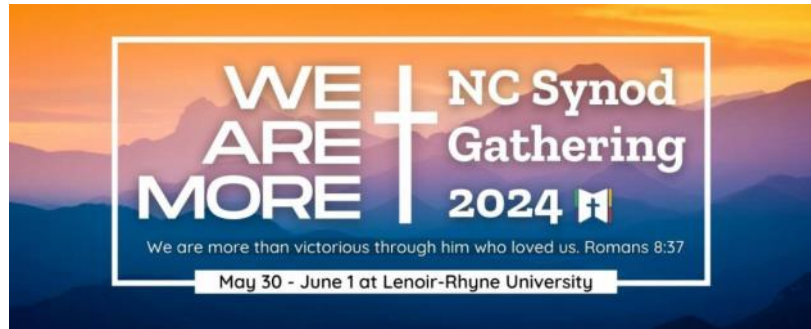
9:30 am Children - ages 3 years through 5th grade (parents[s] welcome) downstairs in a preschool classroom.

The Adult Sunday School class will continue meeting into the summer to discuss Amy-Jill Levine's book, **The Bible With and Without Jesus: How Jews and Christians Read the Same Stories Differently**. The discussions will begin on May 4 @ 9:15 am in the Education Wing Room 6. PLEASE join us!!

Esteemed Bible scholars and teachers Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Z. Brettler take readers on a guided tour of the most popular Hebrew Bible passages quoted in the New Testament to show what the texts meant in their original contexts and then how Jews and Christians, over time, understood those same texts. Passages include the creation of the world, the role of Adam and Eve, the Suffering Servant of Isaiah, the book of Jonah, and Psalm 22, whose words, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me," Jesus quotes as he dies on the cross.

Comparing various interpretations – historical, literary, and theological - of each ancient text, Levine and Brettler offer deeper understandings of the original narratives and their many afterlives. They show how the text speaks to different generations under changed circumstances, and so illuminate the Bible's ongoing significance. By understanding the depth and variety by which these passages have been, and can be, understood, *The Bible With and Without Jesus* does more than enhance our religious understandings, it helps us to see the Bible as a source of inspiration for any and all readers.

- **May 26th—Confirmation Class 12:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m. (lunch provided)**



Come One, Come All!

Dear People of God of the North Carolina Synod,

The synod staff and I are excited to invite you to the 2024 NC Synod Gathering—**Thursday, May 30, through Saturday, June 1.**

The Details at a Glance

- ◆ **DATES:** Thursday, May 30, through Saturday, June 1
- ◆ **LOCATION:** Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory
- ◆ **REGISTRATION OPTIONS:** Each day is a stand-alone day—come for one, two, or all three days!
- ◆ **KEY REGISTRATION DATES:** Early-Bird Pricing Ends April 1; Final Registration Deadline Is May 8.
- ◆ **HOUSING:** On-campus housing or you may choose to arrange your own accommodations at a Hickory area hotel.
- ◆ **FEATURED OPPORTUNITIES:** Worship, Keynote, Workshops, Fellowship, Service Event, Address from Bishop Tim, Affinity Groups, Celebration of Anniversaries, Installation of Lay Preachers, Blessing of NovusWay Summer Camp Counselors, Commissioning for NC Synod Youth Attending the ELCA Youth Gathering!
- ◆ **KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** ELCA Executive Director for Innovation, Iain Chester
- ◆ **WHO IS INVITED?** Lay* people and pastors & deacons—come one, come all! (**lay is a way to refer to someone connected to church who is not ordained.*)

Registration Is Now Open!

Registration is open NOW for Synod Gathering and will be open through **Wednesday, May 15.** Grab a group of friends and come! [2024 Synod Gathering Registration \(jotform.com\)](https://2024SynodGatheringRegistration.jotform.com)

2024 LUTHEROAD REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Registration and Health forms for the 2024 Lutheroad Day Camp are now available, either on the 'Greeters' table in the lobby or they may be downloaded online from our website at: [Living Saviour Lutheran Church » Lutheroad 2024 \(livingsaviourlc.org\)](https://livingsaviourlc.org) .

The 2024 Day Camp will run from July 29-Aug. 2, 2024, 9:00 am-4:00 pm Monday-Thursday and 9:00 am-Noon on Friday.

Cost: Church member \$80 Non-member \$110.

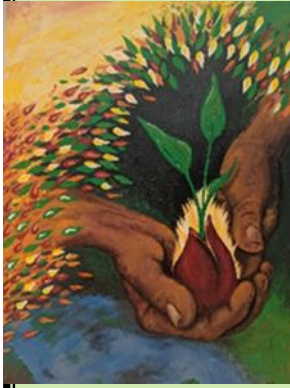
Before & after care is available at \$75 for the week.

Care hours are:

7:00—9:00 am & 4:00—6:00 pm Mon – Thurs

7:00—9:00 am & Noon—6:00 pm Friday

Please contact our awesome LSLC Coordinator, Russell Hinson, for any questions and/or more information.



Ministry of Health and Wholeness May 2024 Focus: Eating to Prevent Disease

The Lord will guide you continually, watering your life when you are dry and keeping you healthy too. You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring. Isaiah 58:11

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.

Join a free webinar offered by our NC Synod ministry partner, PRC—Practical Resources for Churches—on **Tuesday, May 14**, from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., *Practical Practices for Faith in Families*.

Learn about simple, powerful practices to help families grow in faith with two of the most innovative and trusted practitioners we know: Elizabeth Christie and Johannah Myers.

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)



**FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
THROUGH THE MONTH OF MARCH**

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Contributions and Other Income	\$85,425	\$391,830
Expenses	<u>\$63,202</u>	<u>\$423,094</u>
Net Income over Expenses	\$22,223	\$ (31,264)

The following are the balances as of the end of March for:

Facilities Reserve	\$38,129
Shabla Gift Fund	\$31,621

We thank you as always for your generous gifts of money, time and talent to support Living Saviour's mission and ministries.

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

MAY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	2 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga	3 11:15 a.m. Preschool Concert	4 9:00 a.m. WELCA Spring Gathering 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
5 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	6 6:15 p.m. Yoga	7 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group (Zoom) 10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry	8 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	9 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	10	11 9:00 a.m. Bonsai Group 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
12 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed	13 6:15 p.m. Yoga	14 Secondary Election 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group (Zoom) 10:00 a.m. Quilt Ministry	15 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	16 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 1:115 a.m. LSLC Staff Meeting 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	17 12:30 p.m. Recital Rehearsals	18 8:30 a.m. Recital Rehearsals 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
19 Day of Pentecost 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Baptism of Emilia Allen 12:00 p.m. Monthly Council meeting 2:30 p.m. Recital	20 6:15 p.m. Yoga	21 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group (Zoom)	22 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	23 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 11:15 a.m. Preschool Graduation 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	24	25 9:30 a.m. Exercise Opportunities 10:00 a.m. Yoga
26 Trinity Sunday 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Live Streamed 12:00 p.m. Confirmation Class	27 Memorial Day Church Office Closed 6:15 p.m. Yoga	28 9:30 a.m. Yoga 10:00 a.m. STEPP Group (Zoom)	29 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Alleluia Ringers 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	30 9:30 a.m. Yoga 11:00 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:15 p.m. Yoga 6:15 p.m. Gathering@theTable	31 Synod Spring Gathering (until June 2nd)	