

THE GRAPEVINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 2018

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The Grapevine is a monthly newsletter published by the staff & members of

Our Saviour Lutheran Church
1500 Sunset Blvd
West Columbia, SC 29169
Phone: 803.794.8180
E-mail: oslc1957@sc.rr.com
Website: www.oursaviour.net

The Rev. Lance Henderson—Pastor
Brent Holcomb—Organist/Choirmaster
Melodie Capole—Handbell Director

Grace and Peace to You from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Advent is the beginning of the church year, so it is a good time to reflect back and look forward. 2018 was a big year for OSLC. We tried new things and broke records. We started the year with a record breaking Souper Bowl raising over \$1400 for God's Helping Hands. In February, we hired our new Handbell Choir Director, Melodie Capole. What an impact she has made! We also held our first Council Retreat for the first time in years. It was a wildly productive, but exhausting day. In Lent, we joined Mt Tabor and Faith Lutheran in a pulpit swap for Midweek Lenten Services. The summertime was just as busy with the Conference Room remodel and three youth and three adults heading off to Houston for the ELCA Youth Gathering. Also, we joined forces with Mt. Tabor and Faith for amazing VBS. In Autumn we began participating in the Farming Church process with 5 other churches. This process based on Jesus' parable of *The Seed Growing Secretly* (Mark 4:26-29) is a two year process that will make us more responsive as the Spirit moves here at OSLC. We also had our first Trunk or Treat reaching out to the neighborhood and sent out invitations throughout the neighborhood for our first Welcome/Welcome Home Sunday. And that is just SOME of the ministry we did.



cont'd on page 3—>

OSLC NEWS & NOTES



LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Christmas can be a painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a loved family member; it may be a time that has always been difficult.

The constant refrain on the radio and television, in shopping malls and churches, about the happiness of the season, about getting together with family and friends, reminds many people of what they have lost or have never had. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation—all these can make us feel very alone in the midst of celebrating and spending. We need the space and time to acknowledge our sadness and concern; we need to know that we are not alone.

For these reasons, Our Saviour, Mt. Hermon, Mt. Tabor, and Faith are offering a special “Longest Night” service on December 21 at 4:00 pm at Our Saviour Lutheran Church.

Come and join us for a service of Scripture, music, communion and prayers for healing that acknowledge that God’s presence is for those who mourn, for those who struggle—and that God’s Word comes to shine light into our darkness.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

We welcome Jim Garner, David Griffith, Beverly Nivens, and Elizabeth Shealy to Church Council. We also give thanks to Bill Aull, Pam Hanfland, Charles Nicholson, and Steve Nivens for their faithful service.

MEMORIALS & GIFTS LIST

Below is an updated list of the needs/wishes of the Church to assist families with memorial/gift donations in memory/honor of loved ones.

- **Commercial stainless steel sink for kitchen
- **Artwork for Conference Room
- Digital, programmable outdoor sign
- Better storage for fellowship hall tablecloths
- Better storage for superfrontal paraments
- Parlor furniture
- Artwork above the upholstered chairs in the Narthex
- Hallway lighting fixtures
- Playground expansion and soccer goals
- Shower facilities installed for OSLC to qualify for an emergency shelter site

Additional suggestions are welcome and should be given to Marie Lybrand to share with the M&G Team.

** Project is currently in progress

MEMORIAL DONATION

Last month, we received a designated gift from the Joyce Fingerlin Memorial Fund for the purchase of reserved pew signs. Together, with the consent of our congregational council and the Fingerlin family, we give thanks to God and to the memory of Joyce Fingerlin for this gift.

2019 CHURCH DIRECTORY

Please take a moment to sign up for the 2019 ministries you would like to serve. Don’t forget to check the church directory membership to make sure the information for your family is accurate. Contact Pam Hanfland if you have a picture that you would like to use or would like us to have a new photo taken. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact Pam Hanfland.

So what does 2019 hold? We shall see, but I expect our Farming Church work will help the new council get off to a smooth start. We are on hiatus for the holidays, but when we return, we will begin working on "Vision" for several months. I would expect things for 2019 should appear clearer by then. Also, I expect we will be working even more closely with Mt. Tabor, Faith and Mt. Hermon Lutheran Churches. But I'm excited to see what is in store!

We have had an amazing year. And so much of it is the result of your prayers and your generosity. Advent is all about the anticipation of Christ coming. Take time this Advent to intentionally pray for this congregation in 2019. Pray that we might see Christ in new ways and places and that also we might be Christ to our community in new ways and places.

Blessings to you and yours
this Advent and Merry
Christmas,
Pastor Lance+



DECEMBER MINISTRIES

FLOWERS

- Dec 2 *Meredith & Beth Cleland*
9 **Available*
16 *DeLeon & Jane Wallace*
23 *Pastor & Robin Henderson*
30 **Available*

GREETERS

- Heyward & Doris Wessinger*
Wayne & Marie Lybrand
Jim & Theresa Garner
Barney & Loleta Keitt
Robin & Henry Henderson

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

- Dec 2 *Isma Boland*
9 *Gail Marcum*
16 *Virginia Morris*
23 *Loleta Keitt*
30 **Need Volunteer*

LAY READERS

- Sylvia Ford*
Wayne Lybrand
Virginia Morris
Loleta Keitt
Ben Lemons

DECEMBER

JANUARY

S.S. SUPERINTENDENT

Isma Boland *Bill Hill*

NURSERY MONITOR

Isma Boland *Kay Black*

USHERS

Chief **Need Volunteer* *Howard Hughes*
Wayne Lybrand *Bill Hill*
**Need Volunteer* *Wayne Lybrand*

ALTAR GUILD

Melba Murphy & Isma Boland *Kelly Heid & Beverly Nivens*

ACOLYTE

Adam Fingerlin *Henry Henderson*

CRUCIFER

Claire Fingerlin **Need Volunteer*

OFFERING PICKUP

Isma Boland *Howard Hughes*

TELLERS

Beth Cleland & Theresa Garner, Melodie Capole *Howard Hughes and *Need Volunteers*

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Bill Hill *Bill Hill*

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Kelly Heid, Council Secretary
NOVEMBER 2018

- OSLC is partnering with Mt. Tabor to participate in a Habitat for Humanity project on Saturday, December 1.
- The Fellowship Team will assist the Rebecca Circle with refreshments for the Christmas program on December 9 at 5 pm.
- Sermons will be recorded and placed on church website by Pastor Lance.
- New council members and Secretary are invited to attend the December 9 council meeting at 8 am.
- Gift cards are being mailed to college students before end-of- semester exams.
- December dates to remember:
 - 10th - Lutheran Men Christmas program at 7 pm
 - 21st - Longest Night Service at 4 pm at OSLC (joint service with Mt. Tabor and Faith)
 - 24th - Christmas Eve service at 5 pm
 - 30th - 5th Sunday service in Fellowship Hall - Lessons and Carols

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

From November 4-November 25

Sunday School— Not recorded

Sunday Worship—72

2019 WELCA RETREAT

WHERE: Coastal Retreat Center
Isle of Palms, SC

DATES: May 3-5, 2019

WHO: All ladies of Our Saviour and guests are invited to attend

The Lydia Circle will be hosting the 2019 Retreat. All ladies of the Church and their family/friends are welcome and encouraged to attend. The first deposit of \$50 will be due on November 4, 2018. Please make your check payable to OSLC-WELCA and mark for the 2019 WELCA Retreat. Marie Lybrand will be taking your reservation.

The Lydia Circle hostesses will be providing transportation for those of you who would like to ride with someone. We will be your "Uber" for the weekend.

More details will follow but wanted you to get the dates on your calendar for 2019 and get started on our payment schedule. Should you have any questions, contact Marie Lybrand or Ann Satterwhite.



President — Linda Griffith
(920-3975 lindagriffith2@aol.com)

Vice President/Advisor — Pam Hanfland
(348-2820 phanfland@gmail.com)

Treasurer — Ann Satterwhite
(254-9934 asatterwhite@earthlink.net)

Secretary — Kelly Heid
(356-6705 kheid@sc.rr.com)



2019 Circle Meeting/Contact Information

Lydia Circle — meets 2nd Monday at 6 pm
Contact: Caroline Raszewski
(490-1471 razcaroline@gmail.com)

Cameron Circle — meets 2nd Monday at 10 am
Contact: Isma Boland
(760-6645 ilbright@bellsouth.net)

Rebekah Circle — Beginning in 2019, will begin meeting on the first Monday at the Church at 10 am
Contacts: Sandra Hughes
(796-9016 smhughes@sc.rr.com)
Linda Griffith
(359-1278 lindagriffith2@aol.com)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR....



December 2—11:45 am –
WELCA Executive Committee Meeting immediately following the Worship Service in the Conference Room
Opening Prayer: Lydia Circle member

December 9— 5:00 am
OSLC-WELCA Entertainment — Christmas Program (hosted by Rebekah Circle)

The busiest time of the year is upon us. Before you know it, 2019 will be ringing in. Lots of shopping and parties are all going on now — barely as we put away the Thanksgiving dinner. Next year OSLC WELCA will see some changes in our organizational make-up; but, all in all, we will still be serving the Lord.

One change, or addition, for the duties is that the bags in the Narthex that have the 'busy items' for kids during the sermon will be kept up by the Growth Committee which is the responsibility of the Cameron Circle. In recent months, some reference to the bags not containing clean sheets for the kids was noticed. All has been taken care of now; however, to clarify who will be responsible for the bags, it is the Growth Committee along with the Nursery duties.

As a reminder, all women of the church are members of WELCA; therefore, we would like to encourage you to attend a circle of your choice.



Thank you to everyone for a wonderful year!

COMMEMORATION PROFILES

Ruth Nicholson

The Lutheran Church, as part of its worship, celebrates the lives of notable Christians of the past. Our hymnal provides a calendar (pp. 15–17) for us to follow which recognizes these individuals on the anniversary of their deaths.



December 4
John of Damascus
Theologian and Hymnwriter
(c. 675-749)

John was a Syrian Christian whose father worked for the Muslim bureaucracy. In about 715, John began studying at a monastery near Jerusalem. He was ordained a priest and lived there for the rest of his life. When Byzantine Emperor Leo III sought to ban religious images, calling them idols, John became a leading advocate for them. He argued that Christ had taken bodily form, the Eucharist depended on concrete elements, and icons were useful in the Christian education of illiterate people. In addition to many influential theological treatises, John of Damascus contributed to Christian hymnody. The ELW contains two Easter hymns (361 and 363) written by him.

December 7
Ambrose, Bishop of Milan
(c. 339-397)

Son of a Roman official, Ambrose began his professional life in government. His steadiness, modesty, and skill in public speaking made him popular with his subjects. When the local Christian bishop died in 374, the people of Milan requested Ambrose as his successor. Even though he was only a catechumen at the time, Ambrose agreed; his baptism, ordination, and consecration (on December 7) soon followed. As bishop, Ambrose faced

heresies as well as a flood of recent converts needing instruction. He was a skillful preacher, teacher, and hymn writer (see ELW 263, 559, 571) and possibly the author of the Athanasian Creed.

December 14
John of the Cross
Renewer of the church
(1542-1591)

John was born into a poor family with roots in nobility. He joined a Carmelite monastery and became a priest in 1567. Because he favored stricter adherence to the rules of the order, John urged reform similar to that being undertaken with the women of the order by Teresa of Avila. His superiors had him imprisoned, but he escaped. John is remembered as a founder of the reformed Carmelites and also as a poet and Christian mystic



CHRISTMAS PEDDLER

Mark your calendars! The sights and delights of the season will be at the Tri-Center Leisure Center Saturday, December 8 from 9 am-3 pm. Last minute shoppers will not be disappointed with the selection of hand made gift items and decorations offered by more than 50 regional crafters. Requested admission is a canned good donation to benefit the Lexington County Aging Program's Food Pantry. Be sure to register for door prizes. Also Santa Claus and his Elf will drop in for a visit.

For more information, call Darius at 939-9309. A flyer with the information has been posted on the bulletin board in the Cameron Hallway.

GRAPEVINE QUIZ

(Answers on page 10)

Shepherds and Angels. That sounds like good topics for this month's quiz!

1. In Genesis 3, God places these angels at the entrance to Eden to keep humans out. What are they? By the way, they are fearsome, not pudgy toddlers.

- A. Seraphim
- B. Archangels
- C. Cherubim
- D. Kewpies

2. In Genesis 37, Joseph is sent to his brothers who are out shepherding. It is then when they plot his demise. Why was Joseph sent?

- A. To see how it's going for them.
- B. To bring them food.
- C. To tell them of his latest dream
- D. To show of his matching amazing technicolor dreamants

3. In Isaiah 6, Isaiah sees angels with six wings. Two are used for flying, two cover their feet. What is the last pair of wings doing?

- A. Keeping Isaiah from seeing God's face
- B. Cover their own faces
- C. Lifting the Ark of the Covenant
- D. Building a nest

4. In 1 Samuel 16, David is out in the fields shepherding when this prophet comes and anoints him to be the future king. Who is it?

- A. Jesse
- B. Elijah
- C. Samuel
- D. Nostrodamus

5. In Revelation 8, angels play musical instruments. What instruments are they?

- A. Trumpets
- B. Harps
- C. Flutes
- D. Kazoos & Jawharps

BONUS: Although Jewish and Christian traditions have names for many angels, only 3 are mentioned by name in the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments. One is Abaddon in Revelation 9. Who are the other two mentioned by name?

ELCA PRESS RELEASES



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

- 10/27 ELCA presiding bishop responds to Pittsburgh synagogue shooting
- 11/01 ELCA, Episcopal and Catholic Church leaders issue statement on East Jerusalem hospitals
- 11/13 Philip Hirsch elected executive director of ELCA Domestic Mission
- 11/19 ELCA Church Council meets, addresses well-governed and sustainable church
- 11/21 ELCA Presiding Bishop, Christian leaders issue statement on current U.S. policy toward Israel and Palestine

THANK YOU

GOD'S HELPING HANDS PROJECT SHARE

Thanks, Thanks & Blessings

God is good and great in all his works and so are the member of Our Saviour!

Pizza and shoeboxes go together like kids and toys?! Wow!! What an awesome turnout we had for the packing party. Mary, Pastor Lance, and I wish to thank each one that came out and prayed, sorted, and packed 100 shoeboxes. Thanks to each of you for the time you shared to give "a child a smile" when they receive this precious gift.

Thanks to all who donated items and money for the project. Without your gifts, this project could not happen.

Thanks to each of who contributed to the "noisy offering" to help defray the cost of shipping. Do know how much it cost to ship each box? \$9.00 for each box. Now I ask that as you open our gifts on Christmas morning, please pray for the children that are less fortunate than we are and that they may come to know Christ as their Lord and Savior.

Loleta Keitt

At God's Helping Hands our number one request is for utility bill assistance. Currently, we have only been able to pay a portion of a client's bill. \$200.00 has been the maximum allowance for heating bills. This forces our clients to try and find other sources of income in order to keep their service on.

So our Christmas project this year will be PROJECT SHARE. The intent of this project is to provide additional assistance to clients with their heating bills. The funds from this project will be added to the financial contribution of God's Helping Hands to pay a client's heating bills to a maximum of \$400.00. PROJECT SHARE monies will be held in a separate account. They will not go into the regular budget of God's Helping Hands.

Envelopes are available in the narthex for those who wish to contribute to PROJECT SHARE. All donations are tax deductible.



Dear Members of OSLC,

We packed 100 boxes for Operation Christmas Child this year! Thanks to all who contributed items, gave monetary donations, and helped pack the boxes. It is amazing how many gifts one can pack in one shoebox. Even more amazing, is the difference that our actions will make in the lives of 100 children this Christmas season.

Mary Havens

MORE OSLC NEWS & NOTES



OSLC CHRISTMAS CARD POST OFFICE

The Our Saviour Post Office is open for business from Sunday December 2 to Sunday December 23. Bring your Christmas cards for members of Our Savior and place the cards in the appropriate boxes in the narthex. Please include the first and last name of the recipient on the envelope. No stamp required!

Merry **CHRIST**mas!

ELDERBERRIES

The 2019 Signup Sheet has been posted on the Bulletin Board in the Cameron Hallway. Based on last year's schedule, meetings will be planned for January (plans for the year), February, March, May and September. Please try to sign up before December 4 so we can have published in Directory. We normally meet on the third Thursday; however, it is at the pleasure of the person(s) signing up to be hosts/hostesses.

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

Lutheran Men in Mission will have their annual Christmas party at 7 pm on Monday, December 10. There will be a catered meal and a performance by the Called Quartet of Lexington Baptist Church. Tickets are \$25 per couple and \$15 single and may be purchased from Charles Nicholson.

BOOK FAIR

Check out the "Book Fair" that is set up in the Cameron Hallway! This is a unique opportunity for us to purchase books from 1517 Media, formerly Augsburg Fortress Publishing. The books are offered for purchase at a reduced price.

There are two categories of books being offered.

Adult Wellness Books

featuring books on healing, growing, and thriving.

Children's Books featuring Christmas books, Bibles, Devotionals, and Activity books.

To order books, pick up the appropriate order form on the Book Fair table, fill it out, put it in an envelope with your check (made out to OSLC with books in the "memo line"), and place under the office door.

Orders will be taken from now until Sunday, December 11th.

RAZBERRIES

The Fingerlins will be hosting the Razberries on Saturday, December 8. More details will be forthcoming.

GOD'S HELPING HANDS

God's Helping Hands has a desperate need for *jello, *peanut butter, and *crackers. In addition there is a need for sugar, canned peas, juice, and toothpaste. Items may be brought to the church and placed in the boxes which are located in the Cameron Hallway.

*Need is urgent

PRAYER REQUESTS

Those listed below have special prayers needs at this time. We keep the entire congregation in our prayers at all times, but sometimes special prayers are needed. If your name is on the list or you have added someone's name and they no longer need to be on the list, please contact the church secretary so the name can be removed.

Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Mickey Golden
(cousin of Linda Yonce)
Ted Hanfland
(brother of Dan Hanfland)
Dolores Hopkins
Merna Long

(Still Homes Rehab)
Joan Redman
(friend of the Heids)
Marie Shealy
(Morningside Ret Ctr., Apt. 131)
Jean Vasquez

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Jennifer Gossett	12/03
Lisa Sawyer	12/07
Wayne Lybrand	12/08
Kay Black	12/16
Sonya Urban	12/29
Linda Hill	12/31

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Matt & McKenzie Erb	12/12
Lance & Robin Henderson	12/19
Cody & Meredith Jones	12/19
Francis & Rebecca Fingerlin	12/28

Please Note: if there are any errors or omissions in birthdays or anniversaries, notify the church office. We want to make sure our records are correct.

GRAPEVINE ARTICLES

If you have articles, reports and/or pictures that you or your group would like printed in the next Grapevine, please send them to the Church Office on or before December 18.



Answers: 1., C. Cherubim; 2., A. To see how it's going for them; 3., B. Cover their own faces; 4. C. Samuel; 5. A. Trumpets; BONUS Michael & Gabriel

NOVEMBER PICTURES



Operation Christmas Child Packers



Elderberries enjoyed a Thanksgiving meal at Transfiguration



OSLC Stewardship Sunday



X
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
1500 Sunset Blvd.
West Columbia, SC 29169

Address Service Requested



*living in the light
of our Saviour*

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COLUMBIA, SC 29292
PERMIT NO. 160

X

X



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SUNDAY , DECEMBER 9, 2018 AT 5 PM

OSLC WELCA/Rebekah Circle invites you to attend the OSLC Christmas Program. We hope you'll join in some fun, singing, and refreshments.

"An Illustrative Sermon."

A biblical performance taken from Old Testament Scriptures, I Kings & II Kings. The skit is very informative, engaging and exciting. *Hold on to your seats!!* Pastor Jackie Utley will be our illustrator.

