

THE GRAPEVINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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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!

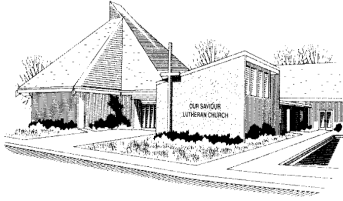
I realize that the expectation for my article for the December Newsletter would have something to do with Christmas. As in years past, I will disappoint you, dear reader. BUT! I will not make this article another almost fruitless attempt in asking you to consider Advent. As I write, it is still not yet Thanksgiving Day so I have gratitude on my mind. So I will write some personal thanks I have to give.

Our Staff---Brent Holcomb, Mary Havens and Melodie Capole. Brent and I had some strange Sundays alone in the Sanctuary. Mary and I have had some great laughs in the office, and Melodie just keeps thinking up new things and inviting new people. You all are a great staff! Thank you all!

Our Leadership—There has not been as many decisions during the COVID era for council to make, but there have been some mightily important ones. We have benefited from a thoughtful, faithful, and concerned leadership, and it has really been beneficial to have a Council President who is also a nurse manager at Lexington Medical Center with eyes on the daily COVID unit census. You can add that your leadership has remained at the helm into its third consecutive year. I truly appreciate not having to change horses midstream in a time like this.

cont'd on page 3-->

OSLC NEWS & NOTES



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Linda Griffith, Secretary
Recorded by Ruth Nicholsson

NOVEMBER 2021

Treasurer reports a fairly good month in October and hopes that December will provide sufficient income to carry over into early 2022.

Pastor reports that Classical Conversations' term is over, but their Christmas party/show will take place at the church on December 8.

Worship Team is planning to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas on Saturday, December 11. Poinsettias will be in place by Sunday, December 19. Council, with Worship Team input, voted to remove distancing instruction signs from the communion rail and pews and to allow all verses of hymns to be sung, beginning on November 28. Going forward, mask wearing will still be strongly encouraged, and pew seating will still skip every other pew. Safety protocols will be revisited at the January council meeting.

Property Team is pursuing quotes for yearly heating/air conditioning maintenance. New pinestraw has been placed by the landscaping crew, and fire ant mounds will be dealt with. The new heating/AC units in the Fellowship Hall have been installed.

Stewardship Team plans to make use in 2022 of a computer program to track financial data related to the church budget. Online giving currently totals about \$1500 per month.

Communication Team has provided sign-up sheets in the narthex for 2022 teams and ministries.

Christmas Post Office will take place again, with recycled cards available beginning on November 28. Card exchange will conclude on Christmas Eve.

The **next council meeting** is scheduled for December 12, 2021, immediately following the worship service.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Linda Griffith, Secretary

November 21, 2021

- Congregation re-elected four council members: Isma Boland, Beth Cleland, Rebecca Fingerlin, Charles Nicholson.
- Congregation, after discussion and inquiries, approved the 2022 Budget totaling \$214,603 – a \$2,085 increase.

OSLC POST OFFICE

The Our Saviour Lutheran Church Post Office is back for 2021! Sets of recycled cards (thanks to you!) will be available for each household. The post office will be open for business on December 5th. Last day to submit cards will be Christmas Eve. Thank you for participating....and Merry Christmas!

RAZBERRIES

Razberries Christmas outing will be held at the home of Francis and Rebecca Fingerlin. Please bring your favorite hors d'oeuvre to share and your beverage of choice.

When: Dec. 11, 2021

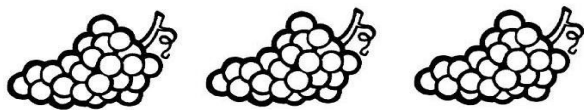
Time: 6pm

Where: The Fingerlin's
150 Manning Drive, W. Cola.

cont'd from page 1-->

Your Faithfulness—We have had to try new things. We have had to quit some things. We have had to not be here. We have had to be here. We have had to take some punches, but you all have rolled with them all. You have shown your faithfulness in your generosity, your willingness to be patient, and your wisdom in your steadfastness. Thank you. And thanks be to God for you.

Peace in Christ, Blessed
Advent, and Merry
Christmas,
Pastor Lance



NEW COVID POLICIES

Council agreed on new guidelines for Worship at the November 14 meeting for implementation on November 28.

- Cordons will remain in place to facilitate social distancing.
- All signage will be removed and Holy Communion practices will look more similar to the pre-COVID. Pastor and Worship assistants will remain masked during distribution.
- All verses of hymns will be sung except for particularly long hymns .

Awaiting evaluation of post-holiday COVID case numbers, use of masks during worship remain **STRONGLY** advised despite vaccination status. Signage will remain.

DECEMBER MINISTRIES

FLOWERS		GREETERS
Dec 5	<i>*Need Volunteer</i>	<i>Sylvia Ford</i>
12	<i>Gail Marcum</i>	<i>Wayne & Marie Lybrand</i>
19	<i>Poinsettia</i>	<i>*Need Volunteer</i>
24	<i>Poinsettia</i>	<i>Isma Boland</i>
26	<i>Poinsettia</i>	<i>*Need Volunteer</i>

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS		LECTORS
Dec 5	<i>*Need Volunteer</i>	<i>Wayne Lybrand</i>
12	<i>Gail Marcum</i>	<i>Sylvia Ford</i>
19	<i>Marie Lybrand</i>	<i>Marie Lybrand</i>
24	<i>Isma Boland</i>	<i>*Need Volunteer</i>
26	<i>*Need Volunteer</i>	<i>*Need Volunteer</i>

<u>DECEMBER</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>
USHERS	
<i>Chief Wayne Lybrand</i>	<i>*Need Volunteer</i>
<i>*Need Volunteer</i>	<i>*Need Volunteer</i>
ALTAR GUILD	
<i>Need Volunteers</i>	<i>Beverly Nivens & Kelly Heid</i>
OFFERING PICKUP	
<i>Wayne Lybrand</i>	<i>Bill Aull</i>
TELLERS	
<i>Beth Cleland & Melodie Capole</i>	<i>Linda Griffith & Sylvia Ford</i>
PROPERTY COMMITTEE	
<i>Gary Black</i>	<i>Barney Keitt</i>

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

October 31-November 21

WORSHIP—45

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 3 Francis Xavier, Missionary to Asia (1506-1552)

Francis Xavier has been called the Apostle of the Indies and Japan. He was born into a prosperous Spanish-Basque family and studied in Paris. In 1534 Xavier, Ignatius Loyola, and five others took vows of poverty and chastity, dedicating themselves to preaching to non-Christian peoples. These men formed the nucleus of the new Jesuit order. After his ordination, Xavier traveled to India and preached there and in Ceylon (now called Sri Lanka) for seven years. In 1549 he went to Japan to set up missions. He fell ill and died before he could enter mainland China on yet another missionary journey. In all his evangelizing endeavors, Xavier's attention to local languages and customs contributed to his success in making converts, as did his efforts to train native clergy.

December 7 Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (ca. 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 also 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.



Cards from *Classical Conversations*.



ELCA PRESS RELEASES

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

- 11/01 ELCA Foundation announces launch of Ministry Growth Fund
- 11/09 Churches Beyond Borders releases devotional inspired by United Nations anti-violence efforts
- 11/18 ELCA Church Council expresses gratitude for the leadership of Bill Horne
- 11/19 A pastoral message on the Rittenhouse acquittal



2021 OSLC-WELCA OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President — Linda Griffith

(803-920-3975, lindagriffith2@aol.com)

Vice President—Isma Boland

(803-760-5545, ilbright@bellsouth.net)

Treasurer — Ann Satterwhite

(803-254-9934, annsatterwhite2@gmail.com)

Secretary — (to be appointed as needed)

Advisor — Sandra Hughes

(803-796-9016, smhughes@sc.rr.com)

Cameron — Isma Boland (Leader),
volunteer (Recorder)

Lydia—Marie Lybrand (Leader),
Beverly Nivens (Recorder)

Rebekah — Linda Griffith (Leader/Recorder)
Linda Hill (Leader/Treasurer)

Your president does not have anything to report other than we do need to have one more meeting before the end of the year to confirm the election of officers and the budget for 2022.

Circle Updates

(Growth) Cameron OSLC-WELCA President, Linda Griffith has been informed by SC-WELCA President Rise Snelgrove that Our Saviour will be hosting the Spring Saxe Gotha Meeting and that information will be forthcoming. A new Conference Coordinator is being sought. Is anyone at OSLC interested?

(Action) Lydia is still handling the hospitality duties which will end on January 31st. No new plans to release at this time.

(Community) Rebekah met on November 15 to complete *Project Friendship*. A Thrivent Action Team card was used to purchase a great many items with member donations from church members. On November 15, circle members gathered around to stuff 19 bags. Extra bags were made in case the need arises

for another. These bags are being delivered by Rebekah Circle members prior to Thanksgiving. Thanks to everyone who helped with the *Fun, Food, and Friendship Luncheon* coordinated by the Fellowship Committee with Rebekah Circle providing the entertainment. A great big thank you to Melanie Tieman (pianist) and Madeline Corvin (viola). A special thank you to Melody Capole for arranging the entertainment. The decorations and entertainment were very impressive as were the servers! If you missed the event, you missed an exciting and joyful event. It was noted that the congregation had not met socially since Shrove Tuesday in February 2020. The Project and Entertainment were Rebekah Circle's last duties as part of *Action* for 2021. Moving forward for 2022, a date has been set for the WELCA Retreat in 2022; however, the Circle needs to meet to confirm a few other duties; i.e., speaker, etc. Look for the big announcement in January.

WELCA MEETING DECEMBER 5, 2021

A meeting for all WELCA members will be held immediately following Worship today in the Fellowship Hall. We need to approve the election of officers and the 2022 Budget.



"Servers" at the Congregational Dinner

GRAPEVINE QUIZ

(answers on page 10)

In 2012 and 2018, the Quiz topic was "Shepherds and Angels". We are going with half the same this year... just Angels in the Scriptures this time. And no repeated questions!

1. According to Genesis 19, how many angels show up to warn Lot of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah?
 - a. One
 - b. Two
 - c. Three
 - d. 40... It's always 40 in the Bible
2. According to Judges 6, where is the Angel who meets Gideon?
 - a. In the winepress
 - b. On the threshing floor
 - c. Under the oak at Ophrah*
 - d. Driving for DoorDash
3. When tempting Jesus in Matthew, the devil is quoting Scripture when he says, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone." Where is that in the Scriptures?
 - a. Genesis 28
 - b. Job 1
 - c. Psalm 91
 - d. It doesn't. The devil lies.
4. The temptation accounts in Matthew and Luke are quite similar. Characteristically, Mark's telling is sparse. But one detail is shared by all three—after the temptation, angels come to Jesus and do this for him. What is it?
 - a. Attend to him
 - b. Praise him
 - c. Exalt him
 - d. Give him some sandals because the wilderness sand is HOT

5. In Revelation 1, seven angels are represented in a vision by:

- a. Seven churches
- b. Seven stars
- c. Seven lampstands
- d. Seven salamis

BONUS: Biblical sources and extra-Biblical sources give the names of several Archangels e.g. Gabriel, Michael, Rafael. They all contain the syllable "el". What does "el" mean in Hebrew?

*Fun fact! Oprah Winfrey's mother tried to name her daughter after this location, but misspelled it.

THANK YOU

Pastor Lance & OSLC Family,

Thanksgiving is a time when our thoughts are of the many blessings of life we are offered. Our family, for many reasons, find this one special. The gifts of love and concern, calls, cards, visits, delicious food and prayers, we will never forget. Thanks to all of you very much. We miss you and wish for each of you a Blessed Thanksgiving.

Heyward & Doris

Dear OSLC Family,

Thank you to everyone who prayed, called, sent cards, and food to us while I am recuperating from surgery. We appreciated Pastor Lance's visits and being at the hospital prior to my surgery. You really do not know what a loving and caring congregation we really have until you are down and need help. Thank you all for your love and concern. David and I really appreciate our church family.

Love,
Linda and David

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.

Inez Black
Chris Boland
Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Linda Crapps
Katie Doble
Don Ford
Dolores Hopkins

Kerry Leigh Morawietz (friend of Pastor Lance)
Anne Moyer
Willette Satterwhite
Marie Shealy (Morningside Ret Ctr., Apt. 131)
Mary Stocker
DeLeon Wallace
Jane Wallace
Heyward Wessinger

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Hampton & Nicole Lybrand	12/03
Matt & Mackezie Erb	12/12
Lance & Robin Henderson	12/19
Francis & Rebecca Fingerlin	12/28

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 by Monday December 20.



Pictures from Congregational Luncheon after Annual Congregational Meeting



ANSWERS: 1. b. two; 2. c. Under the oak at Ophrah*; 3. c. Psalm 91; 4. a. Attend to him; 5. b. seven stars
 BONUS: "El" is the Hebrew for "God", Gabriel means "God is a mighty warrior", Michael means "Who is like God?", and Rafael means "God is a great healer".

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

Address Service Requested



*living in the light
of our Saviour*



POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

The *Worship and Music Committee* would like to request your assistance this year by asking you to lend a poinsettia for our Christmas Services at a cost of **\$13.00 (includes tax)**. Your check should be made payable to the church and marked for POINSETTIA. Please indicate in the space below the information you would want printed in the Christmas bulletin. Please place in offering plate or mail to the church with your check **BEFORE Sunday, DECEMBER 5.**

I desire the Worship and Music Committee to order _____ poinsettia(s).

I desire the following information printed in the bulletin:

Given _____ IN MEMORY OF _____ or _____ IN HONOR OF _____ or _____ OTHER _____

By _____

Please attach check.