

# ***THE GRAPEVINE***

***THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH***

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Melodie Capole—Handbell Director

## **Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ!**

There used to be an adage—to be polite, never talk about religion or politics. That’s pretty much gone by the wayside. As a culture, we discuss things in a political vein ALL. THE. TIME. There is not a topic today that cannot politicized—vaccinations to drinking straws to collegiate swim teams. There is no escape from it. I cannot withdraw cash from the ATM without Wells Fargo telling me to remember that this month is “dedicated” to some demographic of the population. We have completely disregarded the adage of a prohibition on talking about politics in favor of talking about it nonstop.

The prohibition against talking about religion seems to be alive and thriving. I recently saw a map of Europe reporting “Belief in God” by percent of population. The cradles of Lutheranism—Germany and Scandinavia—mostly reported less than 20% “Belief in God”. (Finland was an exception at 23%. Finn Power!) Historically Roman Catholic nations like Ireland, Italy and Spain were notably around 25%. Oddly, much of the former Eastern Bloc nations reported higher percentages. These are not places where religion is being discussed.

*cont'd on page 3-->*

# OSLC NEWS & NOTES



## LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

Lutheran Men in Mission will be getting together for lunch at Shealy's in Leesville at 1 pm on Tuesday, August 16, 2022. The women of the congregation are invited to join us.

## RAZBERRIES

Mel and David Amick are scheduled to host Razberries, August 13. More details to follow.

## CELEBRATE AMERICA

On Sunday, July 3, gathered in the Fellowship Hall for worship, followed by a BBQ lunch, music and activities for all ages. This event was hosted by the Lydia Circle. We had 85 people join us for the day!

Throughout this newsletter there are various pictures from that day. Thank you to all who worked so hard and creatively to make this a special day.

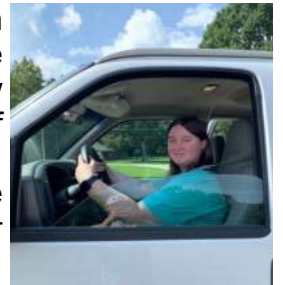


## YOUNG ADULT/YOUTH NEWS

Two of our very own young adults are spending their summer with youth at The Solid Rock Day Camp program. Luke DeMers is representing OSLC as a camp counselor, and Hannah Havens is serving as the Area Director for all counselors. They are spending the summer traveling and building Christian relationships with counselor friends and leaders. Their days are filled with leading fun activities, devotions, and crafts with kids. Here are what they are saying...



"I have learned so much about myself and have learned more about how God shows himself through the activities I do. Additionally, I have become an epic van driver that's for sure!" - Hannah



"I've never worked with kids so young. This summer has been a life changing experience!" - Luke



cont'd from page 1-->

Why is this important? Because the US is trending in this direction. A recent Gallup poll reported that belief in God in America was at an all-time low of about 80%. That's not even just Christianity being discussed. That is ANY belief in God. So that decreasing number includes all American Muslims, Mormons, Hindus, general "Deists" as well as Evangelical, Catholic, and Mainline Christians. Things have been trending this way for a while, and I believe the COVID crisis merely served as a catalyst to hasten the trend. Maybe a particular congregation will show growth, but overall pattern is undeniable. American churches are not going to be filling up anytime soon.

What can you as a reader do about it? Peter wrote to the churches in 1 Peter 3:15-16a "...but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you yet do it with gentleness and respect." A three-step process—sanctify Christ in your heart, be ready to defend the hope that is in you, don't be a jerk about it.

I predict you might get the opportunity to have one of these conversations soon. Our ELCA triennial Churchwide Assembly will be held this month. While plenty of faithful things will be said and declared, something undoubtedly political will also be said. It will grab a headline because it will be about sexuality, immigration, or Roe v. Wade. Sadly, it seems to be the only time the ELCA makes the national news (see paragraph one). And your neighbor will ask you about it. Don't take the bait, instead, follow that three-step strategy from Peter and turn the opportunity into a discussion about Jesus.

Peace in Christ,  
Pastor Lance

## AUGUST MINISTRIES

### FLOWERS

Aug 7 *Dan & Pam  
Hanfland*

14 *David & Linda  
Griffith*

24 *Jim & Theresa  
Garner*

28 *Linda Hill*

### GREETERS

*Isma Boland*

*\*Need Volunteer*

*Frank Yonce*

*Virginia Morris*

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Aug 7 *Virginia Morris*

14 *Charles Nicholson*

24 *Gail Marcum*

28 *Melba Murphy*

### LECTORS

*Pam Hanfland*

*Charles Nicholson*

*Melba Murphy*

*Virginia Morris*

### AUGUST

#### USHERS

*Chief Isma Boland*

*Gail Marcum*

*Bill Aull*

*Wayne Lybrand*

#### ALTAR GUILD

*Gail Marcum &  
Linda Griffith*

*Rebecca Fingerlin  
& Kay Black*

#### OFFERING PICKUP

*Isma Boland*

*Mark Satterwhite*

#### TELLERS

*Linda Griffith &  
Gail Marcum*

*Linda Griffith &  
Loletta Keitt*

#### PROPERTY COMMITTEE

*Herman Shealy*

*Mark Satterwhite*



## 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.



**August 14**  
**Maximilian Kolbe, martyr**  
**(1894-1941)**

Son of poor Catholic parents in Russian-occupied Poland, Raymond Kolbe entered a Franciscan seminary at age sixteen and took the name Maximilian. Further studies in Rome led to his ordination as a priest in 1918. Father Kolbe returned to Poland to teach at a seminary, and in 1927 he founded a monastery near Warsaw on land donated by a Polish prince. In the 1930s Father Kolbe established another monastery in Nagasaki, Japan, which survived World War II and still serves as a Franciscan center. After the Nazi invasion of Poland, Father Kolbe and his fellow Franciscans sheltered refugees, many of them Jews. The Nazis arrested Father Kolbe in 1941, imprisoned him in Warsaw, and later moved him to Auschwitz. Following a prisoner's escape in July, 1941, the concentration camp authorities ordered ten men to be starved to death in retaliation. When one of those, a married man with children, pleaded for mercy, Father Kolbe volunteered to take his place among the ten. After several weeks of starvation, he was executed by lethal injection. Pope John Paul II's official declaration of Father Kolbe's sainthood was witnessed by the man whose life he had saved at Auschwitz.

**August 14**  
**Kaj Munk, martyr**  
**(1898-1944)**

Orphaned at age six, Kaj Munk was adopted by Christians who made sure that

he got a good education. He became a Danish Lutheran pastor and served a very small parish, but his influence spread throughout Scandinavia. In his plays, sermons, and patriotic writings, Munk predicted the victory of Christian faith over adversity. The Danish resistance movement circulated his writings to encourage opposition to Hitler. The Nazis arrested Munk in 1944, and he was found shot to death soon after. His martyrdom only added to the determination of those resisting German aggression.

**August 28**  
**Augustine, Bishop of Hippo**  
**(364-430)**

Born in North Africa, educated in Carthage, Augustine taught rhetoric and lived a less than pious life until Bishop Ambrose of Milan converted him and baptized him in 387. By 396, Augustine was not only a priest but also a bishop. The monastic order he founded has drawn many, including Martin Luther, to its precepts. Augustine's writings bear witness to his stature as one of Western Christianity's greatest theologians.

**August 28**  
**Moses the Black, monk, martyr**  
**(c. 330-c. 400)**

An Ethiopian of rough character and great physical strength, Moses went from leading a gang of thieves to joining a community of monks in the desert at Skete. No one knows how his conversion took place. Moses was so changed, though, that before long he was ordained a priest. This impressed many of his fellow Ethiopians. Moses' life ended tragically when Berber tribesmen raided the monastery where he lived and worked.

### AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

*June 26-July 24*

*WORSHIP—51*



**2022 OSLC-WELCA OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President — Linda Griffith  
(803-920-3975, [lindagriffith2@aol.com](mailto:lindagriffith2@aol.com))  
Vice President—Isma Boland  
(803-760-5545, [ilbright@bellsouth.net](mailto:ilbright@bellsouth.net))  
Treasurer — Ann Satterwhite  
(803-254-9934, [annsatterwhite2@gmail.com](mailto:annsatterwhite2@gmail.com))  
Secretary — (to be appointed as needed)  
Advisor — Sandra Hughes  
(803-796-9016, [smhughes@sc.rr.com](mailto:smhughes@sc.rr.com))

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

**Lydia**—Caroline Raszewski (Leader),  
Beverly Nivens (Recorder)

**Rebekah** — Loleta Keitt (Leader)  
Linda Hill (Treasurer)  
Linda Griffith (Recorder)



**Please remember to MARK YOUR CALENDARS with the following dates:**

**(DUE TO COVID 19-CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITH LOCATIONS/DETAILS TBA)**

July-August-September — watch for date for a called meeting for nominations for officers for 2023.

September TBA — Fall 2022 SCWELCA Saxe Gotha Conference Meeting ([www.scwelca.org](http://www.scwelca.org))-Mt. Tabor

October 2 — 3-5 PM (Sunday) Joint OSLC WELCA Meeting (2023 officer election)  
Devotional/Prayer - Rebekah  
Refreshments – Lydia

November 6 — DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

December 4 — **Immediately following Worship Service** – WELCA Executive Meeting (circle leaders w/unit officers)  
Opening Prayer: Ann Satterwhite

**September 22-24, 2023**— WELCA Triennial Convention & Gathering, Phoenix, AZ



**ELCA PRESS RELEASES**

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

- 6/24 Bishop Eaton issues pastoral message on SCOTUS ruling regarding Roe v. Wade
- 6/25 Sierra Pacific Synod appoints Rev. Claire S.. Burkat as Interim Bishop
- 6/27 Craig Miller elected bishop of ELCA Upper Susquehanna Synod
- 6/30 ELCA hosts “Embody te Word” onlie Bible study series
- 7/15 A statement on the killing of Jayland Walker
- 7/18 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly meets under the theme “Embody the Word”



# GRAPEVINE QUIZ

(answers on page 7)

August is National Back-to-School Month. Lots in the Bible about learning! Let's have a quiz!

1. A famous passage in Deuteronomy 6 is called the shema—the Hebrew word for “listen”. The passage encourages parents to teach children these words. What are they?
  - a. The LORD is our God, the LORD alone You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.
  - b. The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
  - c. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
  - d. Hickory dickory dock. The mouse ran up the clock.
2. In Proverbs 5, Solomon is trying to teach a young person to stay away from temptations. What does he compare temptations to?
  - a. The forbidden fruit of Eden
  - b. Piles of gold
  - c. A loose woman
  - d. The tv game show Wheel of Fortune
3. The teacher in Ecclesiastes 12 warns that “Of the making of many books there is \_\_\_\_.” What is it?
  - a. Undue pride
  - b. No end
  - c. Money wasted
  - d. Copyright issues
4. In Luke 4, Jesus reads from a scroll and then tells the people of the synagogue that “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” What was he reading from?
  - a. The prophet Jeremiah
  - b. The prophet Amos
  - c. The prophet Isaiah
  - d. The Wall Street Journal

5. The gospel writer John gives a parenthetic Hebrew lesson in his first chapter saying “which translated means ‘teacher’”. This is written after two of John the Baptist's disciples call Jesus this Hebrew term. What is it?
  - a. Emmanuel
  - b. Midrash
  - c. Rabbi
  - d. Mr. Chips

BONUS: What was the name of the University where Martin Luther spent his academic career?





# 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  
Linda Crapps  
Katie Doble  
Don Ford  
Dolores Hopkins*

*Ann Moye  
Willette Satterwhite  
Marie Shealy (Morningside Ret Ctr., Apt. 131)  
Mary Stocker  
DeLeon Wallace*

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Kelly Heid	8/06
Jane Wallace	8/09
Robin Blocker	8/10
Herman Shealy	8/17
Gail Marcum	8/18
David Griffith	8/23
Marie Shealy	8/23
Loleta Keitt	8/28
Dolores Hopkins	8/31

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Theresa Garner	8/04
Steve & Beverly Nivens	8/05
Don & Patsy Horton	8/08
Chris & Beth Boland	8/10
David & Linda Griffith	8/11
Howard & Sandra Hughes	8/13

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 by **Monday, August 22.**



ANSWERS: 1, a. The LORD is our God, the LORD alone You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might; 2, b. A loose woman; 3, b. No end; 4, c. The prophet Isaiah; 5, c. Rabbi; BONUS Wittenberg

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



*living in the light  
of our Saviour*



School is just around the corner — literally, the Saluda River Academy for the Arts is just one block behind Our Saviour and the beginning of school is less than 45 days away.

Rather than have donations brought to the church for delivery to the school, the school has requested that we order items

online and have them delivered directly to them. This has worked out quite well as the Elderberries have placed two orders this way.

Donations are welcome and we are asking that checks be made out to OSLC and *SRAA Snacks/Supplies* be written in the Notes Line. Your donations will be recorded and reported on your financial statements.

For more information, please contact Linda Hill or Linda Griffith.