



THE GRAPEVINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2020

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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 wonder what Pastor Lance does these days?”

No one has asked me that directly, but it IS a valid question a congregation should ask of its pastor during these weird times. Of course, I’m spending a LOT of time working on online work. If you have been getting your Grapevine issues over the past few months, you should know that. But a second question is—is it worth it?

Well, let’s look at some numbers. For a few decades, the media and academy around the church has been pretty dim on the notion of numbers. They have said things like “American churches are too focused on the number of rumps they are putting in the pews and how many bucks are going in the offering plate. They OUGHT to be focusing on _____!” You can fill in the blank with a thousand different things—social justice, discipleship, you name it.

But I’ll disagree. As Pastor Mel from the bishop’s office told a bunch of us seminarians heading out to calls. “Numbers ARE important. So important that God named a book of the Bible after them!” Cute, but also true. Numbers aren’t the be all, end all. But they tell us important things. Would you be impressed if the name of the story“ was Jesus feeds a bunch of people” rather than “Jesus feeds the 5000”? Why does Luke write that after Peter preached three thousand were baptized (Acts 2) and that about 5000 came to believe some time later (Acts 4)? Numbers are important in telling a story.

MEET EMILY SAVAGE, DIRECTOR OF CLASSICAL CONVERSATIONS



We sat down with Mrs. Emily Savage to find out more about Classical Conversations, one of our partners in ministry, and what makes her tick.

GV: What drew you to the Classical Conversations program in general?

ES: What makes Classical Conversations, CC, unique is that it combines a Christian worldview with a traditional classical education. Families in our community come from many Christian backgrounds -- Baptist, Presbyterian, military, international, LDS -- but we are all united under the banner of the body of Christ. Kids at our community, ages 4k-6th grade, are led by parent volunteers in memorizing God's truths about history, geography, science, English, Latin, math, while having biblical discussions. We are currently focusing on the American Revolution and Human Anatomy. Next time you meet a CC student, ask them to perform a portion of "the timeline song" and you'll be blown away by their firm grasp on human history!

For me personally, CC adds just the right balance of structure and flexibility to our homeschool routine. Though we choose to

spend a lot of time at home reading good books and caring for our goats and chickens, many students in our community are busy with sports or travel. Either way, children get the flexibility to *be kids* while receiving a top notch education which will prepare them to be good stewards of their faith, family, community, and further rigorous education. But what I love most about CC is the families in our community. The parents quickly become as close friends as the students in our classrooms while we labor side-by-side to raise children unto the Lord.

GV: What has been a challenge in your new role?

ES: COVID threw a lot of unexpected wrenches into the whole process! We are just grateful to be able to meet in person at a WONDERFUL location. We couldn't be more grateful for OSLC!

GV: What has been a surprise in your new role?

ES: I have been blown away by the willingness of parents to step up and volunteer. We have 8 classrooms, 1 nursery, and an afternoon play-school. That's a lot of jobs to fill! But Wednesdays continue to be our favorite day of the week because everyone pitches in to lead lessons, tidy up crafts, take out the trash, make the coffee, disinfect surfaces, and care for younger children. Homeschooling is a demanding job, but having a community of like-minded Christians makes all the difference.

GV: Tell us a little about yourself.

ES: I am a mother of four children, ages 4-10. I studied Mechanical Engineering at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. My husband, Jeff, is a business professor at the Darla Moore School of Business at USC. We have lived in Lexington for 4 years, and though our extended families all live out west, we hope to make South Carolina our forever home! Jeff and I were raised in Christian homes where we learned to love the Lord at a tender age. We joined CC in 2017 and I became director in 2020.

So let us consider the story of this congregation and how it touches the hearts and minds of people in our proclamation of the Good News. And let's roll the clocks back to this time last year in 2019 or even 2018.

Avg Worship attendance per week = 60
Avg Bible Study attendance per week = 12

Now let us say (even though we know there is some overlap in the actual people) that those events are called "touches". So this congregation was making an average of 72 touches per week.

Now let's come up to date. September of 2020—yikes, the COVID Crisis Era!

Avg Worship attendance = 35 per week
Avg number of listeners to PL's sermon on Soundcloud = 12 per week
Avg number of people watching OSLC's worship (live or recorded) = 33 per week
Avg number watching Daily Prayer with Pastor Lance = 100 per week (5 days, ~20 per day)

That is a number of weekly touches that totals 180. And that...is an increase of 150% in just 6 months. That is enormous. A 150% increase in six months means that—right about the time of Holy Week 2021—we would (could? will? be making 450 touches a week!

Is this the work of the Kingdom of God? Maybe. I remember some guy telling his disciples about the Kingdom of God being like a mustard seed.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lance



OCTOBER MINISTRIES

FLOWERS

Oct 4 *Albert & Sue
Drafts*
11 *Ben Lemons*
18 *Howard &
Sandra Hughes*
25 *Mark & Ann
Satterwhite*

GREETERS

*Jim & Theresa
Garner*
**Need Volunteer*
Gail Marcum
*Herman & Elizabeth
Shealy*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Oct 4 *Melba Murphy*
11 **Need Volunteer*
18 *Marie Lybrand*
25 *Elizabeth Shealy*

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

USHERS

Chief Barney Keitt *Mark Satterwhite*
Gail Marcum *Steve Nivens*

ALTAR GUILD

Melba Murphy **Need Volunteers*

OFFERING PICKUP

Frank Yonce *Horace Meetze*

TELLERS

*Linda Griffith & Beth Cleland &
Theresa Garner Linda Hill*

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Barney Keitt **Need Volunteer*

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.



October 4
Francis of Assisi,
renewer of the church
(1182-1226)

One of the best-known and best-loved saints, Francis was born into wealth and privilege. It was only after wartime imprisonment and subsequent illness that he grew dissatisfied with worldly ways. Francis turned to a simple life of prayer and charitable service. He attracted a group of followers who joined him in extensive travel and preaching. The pope made Francis a deacon to formally approve his ministry. The order of friars founded by Francis (Franciscans) established a branch for women, called the Poor Clares, in 1212. In 1221, these were joined by a society for laypeople, known as The Third Order.

October 4
Theodor Fliedner,
renewer of society
(1800-1864)

Fliedner was a German pastor who revived the deaconess system there and caused it to flourish and spread to other countries, including the United States. In addition to ministry among the German congregations, deaconesses were called as nurses in public hospitals. Training schools for women teachers were an outgrowth of the deaconess movement. Schools for parish workers, a home for unwed mothers, and the first German nursery school were also

products of Fliedner's devoted service in his homeland. His efforts did much to meet society's needs while also providing women with opportunities for significant service.

October 15
Teresa of Avila,
teacher, renewer of the church
(1515-1582)

Daughter of an old Spanish family, Teresa entered a Carmelite convent at about age twenty. She was not enthusiastic about her life there until a mystical conversion experience changed her mind. Teresa resolved to return her order to a more disciplined observance of its rules. She founded St. Joseph's Convent near Avila and then sixteen more across Spain. Her reforms spread to Carmelite monks, chiefly through the leadership of John of the Cross. Like John, Teresa left behind writings that show an interest in mystical thought, and additionally, several volumes of practical instruction and autobiography.



GOD'S HELPING HANDS

God's helping hands needs are for canned sweet peas, corn and fruit. Please place donations in the provided box in the Cameron Hallway.

MORE OSLC NEWS & NOTES



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 30th MEETING

Accepted with much thanks and gratitude the offer to make 20 beautiful burgundy sashes to be donated by Bobby and Kelly Heid to be used in the pews in place of the blue painters tape marking where worshipers sit.

Agreed to continue indoor worship in the Sanctuary for September. Average attendance has been 25-30.

Approved increased charges for internet broadband for live streaming of the Sunday Worship Services

SEPTEMBER 2020

Approved looking at possibility of reducing expense for publishing and bulk mailing of the Grapevine by using a combination of e-mail to most members and first class postal delivery to a smaller number.

Approved proposal by Memorials and Gifts and Property Committees to purchase new park benches for the playground area not to exceed \$1,000.

Approved Council to serve as Nominating Committee for new council members.

Approved November 22nd as the date of the Annual Congregational Meeting to elect new council members and approve a new budget.

LUTHERAN MEN

All the Lutheran Men are ask to stay after the church service on October 11, 2020 to talk about next year 2021 meeting the officers need ask some questions? If you can not come please call Barney Keitt at home one night after 7:30 pm. Hope to see you in church.

Thanks,
Officers of Lutheran Church Men.

RAZBERRIES

In order to adhere to the Church Covid policy, Razberries will be cancelled for October.

Peace be with you all.
Wayne and Marie Lybrand

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY NOVEMBER 1, 2020

All Saints' Sunday will be observed on November 1, 2020. If you had a loved one pass into the Church Triumphant after November 3, 2019 and would like them remembered during this year's All Saints' Day worship please notify the Church office.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOVEMBER 22, 2020

The Annual Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 22. Elections will be held right before the service. Other business, including general budget approval, will be held after the service.

GRAPEVINE QUIZ

(Answers on page 7)

"In 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue". Yes, Columbus Day is much maligned these days. (Personally, we took an office poll and are pretty happy that Columbus tried to take a short cut to Asia and stumbled over North America on the way.) But let's quiz about sailing!

1. Proverbs 30 says there are three things "too wonderful"—an eagle in the sky, a snake moving along the ground and this in the seas.

a. A great fish
b. A ship
c. A school of fish
d. A Jet-Ski
2. Ezekiel 27 compares the nation of Tyre to a finely built boat. What part of this fine boat is from Egypt?

a. The sails
b. The rudder
c. The deck
d. The diesel engines
3. When a storm is swamping the disciples' boat in Matthew 8, what is Jesus doing?

a. Eating
b. Praying
c. Sleeping
d. Fighting motion sickness
4. In John 21, when Peter hears that Jesus is on shore, what is noticeable to us today about Peter's condition?

a. He's been fishing
b. He's been fishing naked
c. He's been crying
d. He's wearing floaties on his arms

5. In Acts, Paul's ship wrecks. Chapter 28 tells us which Mediterranean island he and his party make it too safely. What is it?

a. Sicily
b. Crete
c. Malta
d. Gilligan's

BONUS: This part of a church's architecture is named after the Latin term for ship. What is it? (Hint: this is where the congregation sits)



ELCA PRESS RELEASES



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

- 9/11 ELCA congregations participate in annual day of service
- 9/12 Survey to assess pastoral needs for ministry in a multireligious world
- 9/16 Laura Barbins elected bishop of the EL:CA Northeastern Ohio Synod
- 9/18 Presiding Bishop responds to gross disregard for human life and dignity at private detention facility
- 9/21 Bishop Eaton and Rick Steves host ELCA World Hunger virtual fundraiser
- 9/24 A Pastoral Word on the Grand Jury Decision in Louisville

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.

Carson Ayres
(great nephew of Elizabeth Shealy)
Anne Ballinger
(cousin of Ruth Nicholson)
Inez Black
Isma Boland
Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Linda Crapps
Don Ford
Bill Hill
Dolores Hopkins

Don Horton
Merna Long
Betty Meetze
Anne Moye
Cheryl Rowe
(friend of Linda Crapps)
Willette Satterwhite
Marie Shealy
(Morningside Ret Ctr., Apt. 131)
Mary Stocker
Jane Wallace

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Melissa Vagts	10/01
Rhett Chapman	10/02
William Gregory	10/03
Francis Fingerlin	10/04
Bobby Heid	10/05
Bobby Manos	10/11
Pam Hanfland	10/15
Charles Bush	10/17
Charles Nicholson	10/20
Chris Boland	10/22
Sylvia Ford	10/22
Deklan Lybrand	10/22
Stone Lybrand	10/22
Beverly Nivens	10/27
Barbara Hunter	10/28
Marie Lybrand	10/29

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Parker & Elizabet Johnson	10/26
Mark & Ann Satterwhite	10/29

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 **before Thursday October 15, 2020.**

ANSWERS: 1, b. a ship; 2, a. the sails; 3, c. sleeping; 4, b. he's been fishing naked; 5, c. Malta; BONUS: the nave

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

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of our Saviour*

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ELDERBERRIES PROJECT FOR SRAA



THANK YOU OUR SAVIOUR & FRIENDS

Donations for all the items were received in addition to some 80 water bottles that were a last minute request. Cameron's car was full — front seat, back seat, and trunk!

Again, thank you for your support of this project.

THE KIDS THANK YOU!

A request came in just as this article is going to print.....the kids actually LOVE the water bottles — so a request for more has been received.