

THE GRAPEVINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 2021 **In This Issue**

Birthdays/Anniversaries.....	5
Commemoration Profiles	4
OSLC News.....	2
Prayer Requests.....	5



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!

There is an old joke about pastors—“the riskiest question you can ask your pastor is this, ‘Pastor, can you say a few words about....’” One thing that many, many pastors share is the absolute joy we have listening to the sounds of our own voices. And so the humor of the joke is that just about every pastor I know (including me) is more likely to say 1000 words than “just a few”. The amazing thing is that the topic does not even have to be one we particularly know a whole lot about! Give 15 minutes of your attention on Sunday mornings to a man* who talks about God and the scriptures, suddenly he imagines people want to hear from him on many things anytime. But the jig was up; it had to end. And so COVID-19 has claimed another victim—the self-delusion that my so-thought wise, important and plentiful words were beneficial.

I say this only because, for over a month now, about the only words I think or say seem to be “I don’t know.” I suppose the good thing might be that they are honest words. I really do not know. I suppose I got lucky last month when I predicted that the first part of 2021 was going to be a whole lot like most of 2020. Little did I know that we were headed to another worship shut down.

If your main contact with the goings-on of Our Saviour Lutheran Church is *The Grapevine*, you may not know that we have stopped in-person worship until February 28. And really, that is the earliest date. Council will re-evaluate at our mid-February meeting whether we will resume on the 28th or extend

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Linda Griffith, Secretary

December 2020

- Approved Treasurer Report for November along with the Secretary Minutes for Council's November 9th meeting and the Congregational Meeting on November 22nd.
- Reminder to Team Leaders to make sure their ministry sheets have volunteers who agree to serve on their committee for 2021. Information will appear in the Church Directory.
- Thanked all council members for their continued service and dedication and thanked outgoing council member, Jim Garner, for his dedicated service. Welcomed new council member, Bill Aull, who will serve as Property Team Leader. All other team leaders will remain the same.
- Voted to keep the same officers for council for 2021 with installation of all members on January 10, 2021:
 - President – Rebecca Fingerlin
 - Vice President – Charles Nicholson
 - Treasurer – Meredith Cleland
 - Secretary – Linda Griffith
 - Executive Rep. –David Griffith
- Agreed to implement a plan should the Pastor contract COVID.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

January 2021

- Treasurer indicated that December was a great month for contributions with no unusual expenses.
- Pastor complimented those who decorated the church for Christmas and said that the Sanctuary looked exceptionally good.
- Council voted to suspend in-house services for six weeks thru February 21st due to spike in COVID numbers in our area. Virtual services will continue at 9:30 AM on Sunday. Council to review this issue at next meeting.

- Agreed to have cost of zooming for Council Meetings come from Church Office Supplies at a total cost for the year of \$149.90.
- Noted that website is to be updated weekly to include the virtual services and announcements at <https://www.oursaviour.net>.
- Agreed that Stewardship training for tellers be delayed with handouts being distributed to volunteers.
- Next Council meeting will be Sunday, February 14th at 6 PM via Zoom.

TREASURER REPORT

December 2020

	GEN. FUND	BLD. FUND	OTHER
Received	25,876.00	1,660.00	189.00
Disbursed	20,121.81	2,034.64	3,824.23

RAZBERRIES

The Razberries will meet virtually on Zoom Saturday, February 13 at 6:30pm.

MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Please pick up your copy of the *2021 Ministry Directory* and *Constitution, Policies, and Procedures* from the table in the Cameron Hallway.

it later into the spring. And just as mysterious as infection rates, vaccination supplies, truthfulness in media and everything else are, the goings-on at OSLC for the Lenten season are every bit a mystery.

- Are we having Lenten Services? I don't know.
- What about Holy Week? I don't know.
- Surely something for Ash Wednesday, right? Yeah, probably. I don't know what.
- What's this mean for our fellowship groups? I don't know.
- How long are you going to go with this list of examples, Pastor? I don't know.

I think you're getting the point by now.

Despite the seemingly negative tone of this article, I'm not without hope. Viruses come and go. Vaccines get distributed and they don't. Political parties trade power like a kindergarten trades the common cold. And, yet, we know that Hebrews 3:18 tells us "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." It's something to really mull over in our world today. What exactly should you take from that? I don't know. But I sounds awfully important for me to hear, too.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lance



GRAPEVINE QUIZ

(answers on page 5)

February is National Fasting Month. Sure, fasting is a time honored Lenten tradition. And lately, intermittent fasting is being lauded for its many health benefits. So why not a quiz about fasting?

1. In Judges 20, eleven tribes of Israel suffer defeat at the hands of this one tribe of Israel in an inter-tribe war. This leads those tribes to fast and offer sacrifice. Which tribe beat the other tribes that badly?
 - a. Judah
 - b. Dan
 - c. Benjamin
 - d. The Comanches
2. In 2 Samuel 12, David asks "Why should I fast?" implying it is too late for fasting to have any benefit. What happened?
 - a. Bathsheba's husband has been killed at David's secret request
 - b. His son with Bathsheba has died.
 - c. Saul wants him dead
 - d. The weight he wanted to lose came off with cardio
3. In Isaiah 58, the Lord speaks critically of Israel's fasting saying that this would be better than fasting.
 - a. Loose the bonds of injustice
 - b. Share bread with the hungry
 - c. Bring the homeless into Israel's homes
 - d. All the above
4. According to Jesus in Matthew 6, who looks gloomy or dismal when they fast?
 - a. The righteous
 - b. The Holy
 - c. Hypocrites
 - d. Foodies
5. In Acts 13, Saul and Barnabas are being set apart for a special ministry. Leaders gathered around them, fasted, prayed before doing what to them?
 - a. Anointing them with oil
 - b. Laying hands on them
 - c. Baptizing them
 - d. Giving them their new name tags.

BONUS: This founder of Methodism fasted weekly, sometimes twice weekly. His Friday fast began at sundown on Thursday to 3 pm on Friday. What is his name?

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.



February 3

**Ansgar, Archbishop of Hamburg,
Missionary to Denmark and Sweden
(801-865)**

Ansgar was born near Amiens, France. After his mother's early death, he was sent to join a monastery. In his subsequent life as a monk, Ansgar became the first Christian missionary to Scandinavia. His appointment as an archbishop gave him much-needed funding and a base of operations for his difficult work. Just before his death, Ansgar asked his friends not to abandon the mission to Nordic countries, but two centuries passed before Christianity was able to gain ground there. Today's Swedish Lutherans, in particular, hold Ansgar in high regard.

February 14

**Cyril, monk (826-869) and
Methodius, bishop (c. 815-885),
Missionaries to the Slavs**

Cyril and Methodius were brothers from a noble family in Greece. In 860, Cyril resigned a job in Constantinople to join his brother on missionary trips to the Khazars and Bulgarians. Two years later, Emperor Michael the Third sent them to Moravia to preach the Gospel. Instead of using the Latin liturgy, these brothers used the Slavonic vernacular, now called Old Church Slavonic. In addition, they developed a new alphabet in order to translate the Bible into the local language. Cyril's and Methodius's work had a sacred dimension, as they spread Christianity, and a secular one, as their linguistic contributions were valuable for the beginnings of Slavic literature.

**February 18
Martin Luther,
Renewer of the church
(1483-1546)**

Founder of the Protestant Reformation, Martin Luther formulated a new understanding of humanity's relationship with God. He recognized Jesus as the only mediator between mankind and God; he identified grace as the key element in forgiveness and salvation; and for him, word and sacrament were the key components of worship. Luther's translation of the Bible from churchly Latin into everyday German was a tremendous gift to Christianity and culture in Germany. His catechisms, tracts, letters, sermons and hymns remain powerful sources of education and inspiration for Christians around the world today.



ELCA PRESS RELEASES



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

1/08 ELCA presiding bishop joins NCC leaders
in letter to vice president, Cabinet, and

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)
Inez Black
Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Linda Crapps
Don Ford
Bill Hill
Dolores Hopkins
Patsy Horton
Elizabeth Davis Loman
(friend of the Keitts)

Anne Moye
Mary Riddle
(sister of Jeannie Chapman)
Willette Satterwhite
Marie Shealy
(Morningside Ret Ctr., Apt. 131)
Mary Stocker
Jane Wallace

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Robin Henderson	2/05
Jack Hopkins	2/08
Sadie Gregory	2/13
Betty Meetze	2/13
Karen Dawkins	2/14
Rebecca Kleckley	2/15
Willette Satterwhite	2/17
Bryson Raszewski	2//20
Don Horton	2/27

FEBRUARY MINISTRIES

FEBRUARY
TELLERS

Pam Hanfland

MARCH

*Beth Cleland &
 Barney Keitt*

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.



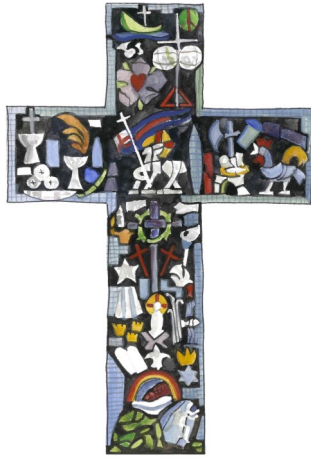
GRAPEVINE ARTICLES

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 Monday, February 22.

ANSWERS—1, c. Benjamin; 2, b. his son with
 Bathsheba has died; 3, d. All of the above; 4, c.
 Hypocrites; 5, b. Laying hands on them. BO-
 NUS: John Wesley

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

Address Service Requested



*living in the light
of our Saviour*

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
P-A-I-D
COLUMBIA, SC 29292
PERMIT NO. 160

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY



If you are reading this, we know one thing already for sure. YOU CAN READ! You are halfway there to becoming a guest lector on our YouTube channel in 5 episodes of Daily Prayer with Pastor Lance. The only other things we need is to either 1) have you come into the church and record that gorgeous voice of yours reading God's Holy Word or 2) make the recordings at home and email

the digital audio files to me.

What's in it for you?

Some of the Guest Lector's on Daily Prayer with Pastor Lance have been recognized by entertainment talent scouts and have been awarded multi-million dollar contracts for voice-over work in commercials and audio books! Okay. That's a lie. You WILL get treasure in heaven and the satisfaction of helping OSLC in its internet ministries. You don't have to be a member of OSLC, just subscribing to *The Grapevine* has earned you an invitation!

Email me at oslcpastor@sc.rr.com to volunteer or ask a velvet-tongued friend who you know is good at stuff like reading to volunteer.