

The Grapevine
The Newsletter of Our Saviour Lutheran Church
November 2026

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Pastor's Ponderings: Following, Caring, Growing

There's a lot of our life together tucked into the conversations we have at church. One of the things that makes Our Saviour feel like Our Saviour is the way we gather at the door and in the narthex before worship. That space is full of conversation as people arrive and catch up with one another. At Bible study, checking in about how our week is going is part of our time together. As we talk and listen, we get to know one another better, and our faith has room to grow. Those conversations are part of how we tell the story of Our Saviour. They help us recognize what God is doing among us and share that story beyond our doors. Our shared values find expression in these words:

following Jesus, growing in God's love, and caring for our neighbors.

Jesus gathers us into this shared life and meets us with grace. The love we receive from him shapes how we speak to one another and how we listen. Around the Bible study table, another person's words can help us hear Scripture in a way we hadn't before. That faith takes shape in our care for a neighbor who comes to the door, where listening helps us understand how we might help. Partners like God's Helping Hands give us ways to respond.

This November, some of our conversations will turn toward the coming year. At the called meeting on **November 1**, we'll talk about how our building supports hospitality and vote on a proposal from the property team and council concerning the heating and air conditioning in the Fellowship Hall.

Heating and cooling may seem like an unlikely subject for a pastor's newsletter article! But when I think about the Fellowship Hall, I think about the people

gathered around those tables. Sometimes a conversation continues long after a meal because someone needs a listening ear. Taking care of that room helps us welcome the people who gather there. Our congregational meeting on **November 15** will include consideration of a ministry budget and the election of council members. Those decisions also help make our ministry possible, giving us a way to plan for the work we share.

As we prepare for these meetings, I invite you to hold our mission in prayer and think about how you've seen it taking shape here. What might those experiences help us understand about where Jesus is leading us next?

I hope you'll come and take part in the conversation. Your experience of this congregation matters. Someone else may help you see something you've missed, and you may have something to share that the rest of us need to hear. The way we speak and listen matters because it points to who we are. Even when we see things differently, we can offer words that encourage one another and help us move forward together. In those conversations, we tell something of God's love for us and for the world.

In this season of thanksgiving, I'm grateful for the care you offer. Hearing about that care helps us recognize God's love at work among us. It's a story worth sharing, and by God's grace, it's still unfolding.

With gratitude,
Pastor Joanna

OSLC News & Notes

October Council Highlights

Pastor Joanna is preparing a referral letter to God's Helping Hands for people coming to the church for help. This will connect these people with support and help us understand where and how we can help. Preparations continue for the Treasure Finds and Fall Fest on November 14.

The proposed budget for 2027 was prepared and is included in this Grapevine.
Submitted by Charles Nicholson

Congregational Meetings

A **Called Congregational Meeting** will be held immediately following the Worship Service on **November 1** to consider and approve an expenditure of up to \$15,000 for the replacement of one of the four Fellowship Hall HVAC systems.

Congregational Meeting – Sunday, November 15, 2026

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday November 15, 2026 for consideration of the 2027 budget and to elect new council members.

Nominees for the 2-year terms on church council beginning 2027 are Wayne Lybrand, Gail Marcum, Steve Nivens, and Mark Satterwhite. Additional nominations can be submitted from the floor during the congregational meeting; please make sure you have the candidate's approval prior to nominating

October Razberries

The October Razberries was hosted by Wayne & Marie Lybrand at Julia's German Stammtisch. Always enjoy their tasty German meals. We were all stuffed on schnitzel !



November Razberries

Please join Ann and Mark Satterwhite at their home for a lasagna dinner on Friday, November 6th at 6pm. RSVP to Ann by November 3rd at [803-530-6249](tel:803-530-6249). All are welcome!

Lutheran Men

Lutheran Men's next monthly breakfast will be on Monday, November 16th at 9 a.m. at Lizard's Thicket on Augusta Road. All men of the congregation are invited!

Worship Leadership Opportunities

As we continue expanding opportunities for people to serve, you are invited to participate in one or more of the following ways: assist with communion, lead the creed and prayers, or serve in both roles if you feel called to do so. If you are interested, please sign up in the narthex or speak with Pastor Joanna.

Veteran's Day Parade

ALL VETERANS – Saluda River Academy is having a Veteran's Day Parade on 11/11 from 8:45 – 9:15. If you would like to participate, please see Pastor Joanna for a form.

Wild Women Weekend

A Retreat For Women!

Embrace the confidence and courage of following Jesus with your whole life through this retreat that empowers, inspires, and renews hundreds of Wild Women each year!

You will enjoy being surrounded by an uplifting community of women, making new friends, and deepening your faith. At this special “place apart,” you will be spiritually renewed through self-reflection, conversations with other women, and dwelling in God’s Word. Nurture your faith through a camp-style Bible study and worship experience that is engaging, participatory, relational and fun!

<https://share.google/3VhoZ6fDMZXbBG8RR>

2027 Church Directory

As we approach the coming new year keep an eye out in the Narthex for the sign-up sheets for the teams and the ministries at OSLC. Please take a moment to sign up for all those you are interested in. Don’t forget to check the church directory membership to make sure the information for your family is accurate.

Mt. Hermon’s Scooter Scott Project

Charlene Corley collected bed linens
for Mt. Hermon’s Scooter
Scott Project.

Thank you to everyone who donated
and helped provide linens
for children and their families!



Photo credit: Linda Hill

Evening of Music

Looking for an evening of music? Join St. David’s Lutheran Church (132 St. David’s Church Road, West Columbia, SC 29169) on Saturday, November 14th at 7:00 PM. **The internationally acclaimed RALEIGH RINGERS are featured!** Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 15. Questions should be directed to Charlie Compton at charliecompton9@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

11/22: Horace & Betty Meetze

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/3: Theresa Garner 11/19: Padget Spilman
11/16: Linda Crapps 11/29: Dan Hanfland

Average Worship Attendance in September – 33



ELCA Press Releases

9/28: **All Together in One Place: Celebrating Our Diversity**

Presiding Bishop Curry issues his fifth in a series of monthly messages that continue through the end of this year, titled "All Together in One Place." Each message will share a pastoral word, rooted in Scripture, that witnesses to God's presence today, our rich theological tradition and the social teaching that connects us.

ELCA and Vanco ACS Technologies Expand Partnership

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and ACS Technologies, powered by Vanco, announce the expansion of their strategic relationship to provide congregations with an integrated ministry platform that combines church management and digital giving into one connected experience.

10/6: **ELCA Conference of Bishops Welcomes Six New Bishops**

The Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) met Sept. 22-26 at the Lutheran Center in Chicago. The conference, an advisory body of the ELCA, welcomed six new bishops elected this year.

As part of the ELCA we share in a wider ministry at work in the world. The bishop of the ELCA and the office of the bishop make statements that are a part of the faithful conversation. Please also see scsynod.com for your South Carolina Synod's news; scsynod.com

Our Saviour Lutheran Church Proposed Budget, 2027

	BUDGET 2026	INCREASE/DECREASE	BUDGET 2027
CHARITABLE & SERVICE WORKS TEAM			
Social Ministry (Supplies)	\$200		\$200
Community Lunch	\$500		\$500
Camp Kinard	\$1,000		\$1,000
God's Helping Hands	\$1,500		\$1,500
Lutheran Services Carolina	\$500		\$500
Disaster Rel ef	\$1,000		\$1,000
Synodical Apportionment	\$5,000		\$5,000
Sub Total	\$9,700	\$0	\$9,700
EDUCATION TEAM			
<u>Christian Education</u>			
Bible Study	\$200		\$200
College Students	\$300	-\$100	\$200
Sunday School	\$600	-\$300	\$300
Vacation Bible School	\$400	-\$100	\$300
Sub Total	\$1,500	-\$500	\$1,000
EVANGELISM TEAM			
<u>Communication</u>			
Calling Post	\$100		\$100
Website	\$45	\$10	\$55
Evangelism	\$500		\$500
Sub Total	\$645	\$10	\$655
FELLOWSHIP TEAM			
<u>Kitchen and Fellowship</u>			
Hospitality Groups	\$200		\$200
Meals	\$1,300	\$75	\$1,375
Youth/Souper Bowl	\$300	\$100	\$400
Sub Total	\$1,800	\$175	\$1,975
STEWARDSHIP TEAM			
<u>Administration</u>			
Maintenance/Agreements			
Power Church Yearly Fee	\$445		\$445
Copier Agreement	\$2,400		\$2,400
Custodial Agreement	\$8,800		\$8,800
Grounds/Landscaping	\$5,000		\$5,000
Insurance	\$10,000		\$10,000
Utilities			
Elec/Gas/Water	\$15,000		\$15,000
Garbage/Waste Service	\$1,000		\$1,000
Telephone/Internet Service	\$1,500		\$1,500

Office Supplies	\$6,000		\$6,000
Offering Envelopes/Stewardship	\$500		\$500
Off-Site Record Storage	\$100	\$30	\$130
Postage	\$500	\$50	\$550
Sub Total	\$51,245	\$80	\$51,325
SALARIES/BENEFITS			
<u>Staff Salaries/Benefits</u>			
Handbell Choir Director	\$5,000		\$5,000
Organist/Choirmaster	\$11,670		\$11,670
Pastor Supply	\$800		\$800
Social Security (Staff)	\$821	-\$821	\$0
Secretary	\$13,728		\$13,728
Sub Total	\$32,019	-\$821	\$31,198
<u>Pastor Salary/Benefits</u>			
Pastor	\$46,038	-\$9,113	\$36,925
Housing (Pastor)	\$13,812	\$10,908	\$24,720
Pension & Insurance (Pastor)	\$32,063	\$0	\$32,063
Professional Expense	\$1,000		\$1,000
Social Security (Pastor)	\$9,851		\$9,851
Sub Total	\$102,764	\$1,795	\$104,559
Car/Travel Mileage Allowance	\$1,500		\$1,500
Synod Convention Expense	\$0		\$0
Sub Total	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
WORSHIP TEAM			
Handbell Music Supplies	\$100		\$100
Choir Music Supplies	\$100	-\$200	\$100
Guest Musicians	\$1,200	\$200	\$1,000
Devotional/Publication Materials	\$400	\$0	\$600
<u>Altar Guild</u>			
Communion/Paraments/Flowers (Supplies)	\$2,500	\$100	\$2,600
Sub Total	\$4,300	\$100	\$4,400
MISCELLANEOUS	\$3,000		\$3,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$208,473		\$209,312
BUILDING MAINTENANCE			
PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT FUND	\$30,000		\$30,000
TOTAL BUDGET	\$238,473	\$839	\$239,312

NOVEMBER MINISTRIES

Date	Flowers	Greeters	Worship Assistant	Lector
11/1	Charles & Ruth Nicholson	<i>*need volunteer</i>	Charles Nicholson	Charles Nicholson
11/8	<i>*need volunteer</i>	Steve & Beverly Nivens	Beverly Nivens	Pam Hanfland
11/15	<i>*need volunteer</i>	Isma Boland	Marie Lybrand	Marie Lybrand
11/22	Horace & Betty Meetze	<i>*need volunteer</i>	Gail Marcum	Beverly Nivens
11/29	<i>*need volunteer</i>	Mark & Ann Satterwhite	Ann Satterwhite	Ann Satterwhite
Role		October	November	
Usher		Steve Nivens, Chief	Jim Garner, Chief	
Usher		Mark Satterwhite	Wayne Lybrand	
Altar Guild		Steve & Beverly Nivens		
Offering Pickup		Steve Nivens	Wayne Lybrand	
Tellers		Beth Cleland/Melba Murphy	Pam Hanfland & Linda Griffith Caroline Raszewski	
Property		Steve Nivens	Jim Garner	

COMMEMORATION PROFILES

Submitted by Ruth Nicholson

November 3 - Martin de Porres, renewer of society (1579-1639)

Son of a Spanish knight and a freed slave from Panama, Martin apprenticed himself to a barber-surgeon in his hometown of Lima, Peru. While still a young man, Martin was accepted as a laybrother at a Dominican friary, where he continued to use his knowledge as a healer of the sick. Martin helped the poor, regardless of their race, and he had a deep love for animals. He founded an orphanage, a hospital, and a clinic for dogs and cats. For Catholics in the United States, Martin de Porres is considered the patron saint of work for interracial understanding and justice. On Hampton Street in Columbia there is a Catholic church/school complex which bears his name.

November 11 - Martin, Bishop of Tours (c. 316-397)

Martin of Tours was born into a pagan family in what is now Hungary. At age ten, he decided to study Christianity. During his time as a soldier of the Roman Empire, he found that he could not reconcile military life with his new religion. Martin left the army and joined a monastic community at Poitiers. He was consecrated Bishop of Tours in 371. He led a very active missionary life, converting many non-believers and founding monasteries. Martin was one of the first non-martyrs to be granted sainthood. Martin Luther was baptized on St. Martin's Day and given the saint's name as his own first name.

November 11 - Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher (1813-1855)

Born into a wealthy Danish Lutheran family, Søren Kierkegaard was free from the necessity of earning a living. He elected to study philosophy and theology but did not seek ordination. He wrote brilliant essays which qualify him, in many scholars' minds, as the father of existentialist philosophy and theology. Kierkegaard loved the church but accused it of being hypocritical and straying from true Christianity. Like Martin Luther, Kierkegaard did not propose a new religious system; rather, he favored correction of the existing one.



There has been a lot of activity with our WELCA since the October Grapevine. Circles are busy getting ready for the close of 2026 and planning for 2027. Below are the highlights of the 2026 October Joint Meeting and other upcoming information.

Joint meeting was held on Oct. 18th at 3:00 PM. Nine members were present. Judy Shotts gave a devotional about teamwork and shared benefits. God designed us to work in unity and share our gifts and talents. Together, with prayer, we can form a Tapestry.

The updated Treasurer's Report since April 2026 was discussed and approved. Ann Satterwhite, Treasurer, presented the Proposed 2027 Budget. After much review and discussion, it was voted to delete three-line items from next year's budget: Synodical Convention Joy Offering, WELCA Sunday, and the Annual Retreat. It was the consensus that we can't continue doing things the same as in the past with less resources. We will, of course, continue to spread God's word and carry out the mission of WELCA in our congregation, community, and other projects as requested and approved. There will be a Called Meeting announced soon to answer any questions. In the meantime, feel free to contact Ann or Marie.

The 2026 Officers agreed to serve another term for 2027: President, Marie Lybrand; Vice - President, Linda Griffith; Treasurer, Ann Satterwhite, and Secretary, Caroline Raszewski.

From this year forward, WELCA will oversee the Congregation Christmas Party. The Lutheran Men have decided to cease their official group due to lack of participants but will continue to meet informally. They have closed their bank account and donated their funds to OSLC WELCA. Thank you to our Lutheran Church Men's Group for your donation, service, and dedication to our congregation for many, many years!

The Hospitality Team sent a total of 65 cards and five meals/gift cards to date for 2026.

The SC Synodical Convention was discussed, and a letter was read from the Heartland Conference that was sent to the Bishop, Churchwide and the SC Synodical officers regarding some attendees disagreement with a guest speaker. If you would like to receive a copy, contact Marie.

The Rebekah Circle finalized their Nehemiah Project with Scooter Scott collecting over 40 sets of bed linens for needy children. The Mt. Hebron Lutheran Men built the beds. What a wonderful service project and think about all those kids who will have a warm bed this winter. Many thanks to all that contributed in any way.

God's Work, Our Hands.

The Saxe Gotha District Meeting will be held at OSLC on March 14, 2027. Due to Easter being in March, the traditional meeting date may be rescheduled. Updates forthcoming.

UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

November 2 @ 10:30 AM—Rebekah/Cameron Circles, Church Fellowship Hall, Linda Griffith

November 9 @ 6:00 PM--Home of Rebecca Fingerlin; Program, Beverly Nivens

November 14 @ 8:00 AM—Treasurer Finds and Fall Festival

November 15 @ following worship service—Congregational Meeting

November 25 @ 12:00 PM—Community Lunch

December 14 @ 6:00 PM—Congregation Christmas Dinner

PRAYER REQUESTS

In our prayers, we commend the following individuals to God's gracious care. If a name belongs to someone outside our congregation, please let the office know your connections. If there are any names to update, please also let us know additions or changes.

*Melanie Amick
Gerald Bush (Friend of Sandra Hughes)
Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Virginia M. Cromer
Katie Doble
Jerry Hite
Dolores Hopkins
Steve Rucker
Herman & Elizabeth Shealy
The Shealy family as they grieve the loss of their dear Marie*

GOD'S HELPING HANDS

God's Helping Hands current needs as of October 1st are: miscellaneous canned vegetables, canned meats, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, crackers, canned fruit and Jiffy cornbread mix. Please place donations in the container in the Cameron Hallway.

BLESSING BOX NEEDS

Thank you for continuing to support the Blessing Box. The need for food and basic supplies remains strong. The Blessing Box is a simple ministry of mercy. It allows neighbors to receive what they need with dignity, and it gives our congregation a practical way to care for the community around us. Thank you for helping keep it stocked!

Helpful items include:

Peanut butter crackers, canned meats, canned pasta, canned fruit, soup, cereal, shelf-stable milk, granola bars, rice or pasta sides, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant. *Please choose items that can handle SC heat and do not require refrigeration. Pop-top cans are especially helpful.*



OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

YARD SALE FOR SELLER OR VENDOR SIGN-UP
20 SPOTS AVAILABLE | \$20 PER SPOT
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- FULL NAME:
- PHONE NUMBER:
- EMAIL ADDRESS:
- HOW MANY SPOTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO RESERVE?

SELLER OR VENDOR GUIDELINES

- COST: \$20 PER SPOT
- ONLY 20 SPOTS AVAILABLE. RESERVATIONS ARE FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.
- REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6
- **PACK IN, PACK OUT:** PLEASE TAKE ALL UNSOLD ITEMS, BOXES, AND TRASH WITH YOU WHEN YOU LEAVE.
 - SELLERS SET THEIR OWN PRICES AND HANDLE THEIR OWN SALES.
 - SELLERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING THEIR OWN CASH AND CHANGE.
 - EVENT ORGANIZERS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST, STOLEN, OR DAMAGED ITEMS.
- EMAIL THIS COMPLETE FORM TO OSLCEVENTS26@GMAIL.COM
- CONFIRMATION AND SETUP DETAILS WILL BE EMAILED ONCE YOUR SPOT HAS BEEN RESERVED

SIGNATURE (OR ACKNOWLEDGMENT): _____

DATE: _____

QUESTIONS?

EMAIL: OSLCEVENTS26@GMAIL.COM

FOR A QUICKER RESPONSE, YOU MAY TEXT THE EVENT ORGANIZER AT
[803-719-3569]