September

2  Labor Day
8  Regular worship times and Christian Education classes resume
8  Single Women’s Ministry meeting
8-11  Preschool begins
14  Altar Guild Meeting

October

6  World Communion Sunday
12  Women’s Seminar
19  West Hills Zone Rally
26  Family Harvest Party
27  Reformation Sunday
27  Tualatin Valley Symphony Fall Concert

The Mission of Living Savior Lutheran Church:
Alive in Christ, we share the love of Jesus—we serve, care for, support and nourish each other, our community, and the world!

“A Note from the Pastor…

“To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Living Savior: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Portions of Philippians 1:1–6)

Paul always greets the reader with “Grace and peace”, which I think is an appropriate way to begin this, my first letter to you—“all the saints in Christ Jesus at Living Savior.” You may remember that this text was read at Pastor Brandt’s “Farewell and Godspeed” service on August 18th; it is a favorite text for Pastors as they think about the people of the congregations they serve. It certainly remains my point of reference as we serve each other and in so doing serve Jesus Christ our Lord.

I ask each of you to “Thank God in all your prayers for the joy of being partners in the gospel from the 1st day until now.” Pray with confidence knowing that “He who began a good work in you—sanctifying and growing each of us in the Holy Spirit’s gift of grace and faith and peace—will carry it on to completion until the day that our Lord returns or we go home to be with Him.

Pray for me. I will pray for you. Our mutual prayer should be that we “Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God’s people who are in need.” (Romans 12:10–13)

To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Living Savior: Grace and peace to you.
Amen.

Pastor Phil Alexander
Pastoral Call Committee

The Committee has now thoroughly studied the pastoral candidates whose names came from either the Northwest District or from members of our congregation. Interviews have been conducted with those deemed to be the best fit for our congregation. Three candidates have been interviewed personally here at Living Savior Lutheran which included question and answer meetings with the congregation. A congregational voter’s meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 8, where our next pastor may be selected for a call. This voter’s meeting will follow the second service and a light lunch will be served. Circle the date and plan on being there. We need full participation of the congregation in this process. Please pray for wisdom and guidance from the Holy Spirit as we enter this next and what may be the final phase.

Jon H.
Pastoral Call Committee Chair

Amazing Grays

The Amazing Grays meet on Thursday, September 5th at 1:00 pm. We will start our Fall Program called History of Our Neighboring Communities. This month’s program is focuses on Sherwood and St. Paul Lutheran Church. This Church is the oldest Church in our area. We have invited the senior group from St. Paul to come join our group for this informative gathering. See you there.

The Amazing Grays will be visiting the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge on Thursday, September 19th for a tour of the Visitor & Environmental Education Center, a presentation by the staff and a short guided walk on the trails. Join us to learn about this special place, the wildlife that lives there and the habitat that supports it. Lunch will follow at HopsnDrops Restaurant near Sherwood.

I’ll have more detailed info at the Amazing Grays meeting on Sept. 5th and will post a sign-up sheet soon. Please let me know if you have any questions.

- Mary F.

SEPTEMBER DEVOTION

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock.
Isaiah 26:4

One morning recently I woke up very early—too early actually—at least earlier than I wanted to be awake. After trying to get back to sleep for about half an hour, I gave up and got up and went into our office/computer room as is my custom to start the day with my devotions. One of the regular ones which show up in my inbox is a Mustard Seed/Daily Devotion from Lutheran Women in Mission. This particular day the title was “I Am Blessed” and was based on Proverbs 16:20: Whoever gives thought to the word will discover good, and blessed is he who trusts in the Lord.

The point of that devotion was that sometimes life just “becomes too much for us to handle.” Although we know we can trust in God’s word, and we know He will help us but when fear and discouragement come our way, our trust may become a little shaky especially when we want the problem solved in our time, not God’s. However, the Proverbs passage says, blessed is he who trusts. God’s blessings come from His Word as the gift of faith. We may receive these blessings through a friend, through scripture, through family circumstances, or perhaps as a monetary gift, a promotion or an escape from a near accident.

The devotion ended with a Point to Ponder: In what beautiful way has God already blessed me today? And my thought was, “Good grief! It is only 5:30am! How much blessing could I have already received today?”

But then I came to my senses—or perhaps the Holy Spirit gave me a nudge, and I began to mentally list all of the blessings I had experienced just that morning, from waking up—a sign that I have been given another day to walk upon this earth—to having a bed to sleep in, a husband to wake up next to and a house to call home. I have electricity which provided light, access to the internet and a computer which I was sitting in front of. We have hot and cold water available from a faucet for cleaning and making coffee, and plumbing which makes it unnecessary to use an outhouse. I have my faith and my Bible and opportunity to read because I have my eyesight. The fact that I have reading glasses to make reading easier is a bless. Oh my! I was just getting started.

How often do we take things for granted, either assuming they will always be available for us or just not thinking about them at all? So the next thing after thinking about our blessings is to recognize where they came from and to offer prayers of thanksgiving for them.

So combined with thankfulness for our blessings is the bonus of being able to trust the God who has provided so abundantly for us. Blessed is he who trusts in the Lord. So I ask myself, “For what do I need to trust the Lord today? This week? This month? This year?”

What are the challenges that we may encounter? A new job? A health issue? Retirement? Family conflict? Saying “Goodbye” to our retiring Pastor and his family? Waiting for God’s timing for a new Pastor? Maybe our challenge is a broken relationship or financial stresses. Whatever they may be, we can be assured that God blesses those who put their trust in Him.

Not all challenges are inherently bad. For instance, the birth of a baby is a joyful occasion, but that child does change many things in one’s life. The parents may need to trust God for sleep enough to get through each day or for patience and wisdom in creating a new routine. We often learn something about ourselves and our faith grows when we see how God has worked through a situation that seemed beyond our ability to understand or to withstand. This is when we look back and say, “Thank You God!”

My Mustard Seed Devotion that prompted my 5:30am prayers of Thanksgiving ended with this prayer: Gracious Lord, by Your Spirit help me to live my life in faith and with trust, knowing You hear my prayers and will answer them in Your time. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen.

It is probably a good prayer for all of us to begin each new day.

-Judy C.
Welcome back to Book Club! We resume our discussions on Saturday, September 14. We meet the second Saturday of each month, 10:00-11:30 am, September-May. A lively discussion of the book occurs, fellowship is shared and we are refreshed with morning goodies, coffee and tea. Please consider joining the group when you can and invite a friend! There is no obligation to attend every month and no pressure to have the right answers because there are NO right answers. The following is a listing of the books that will be read and discussed:

| Sept. 14 | A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles |
| Oct. 12 | A Duty to the Dead by Charles Todd |
| Nov. 9  | I'm No Hero by Charlie Plumb & Glen DeWerff |
| Dec. 1  | No assigned book |

JAN. 11  O Pioneers by Willa Cather
FEB. 8    The Gown by Jennifer Robson
MARCH 14 Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson
APRIL 11  Carnegie's Maid by Marie Benedict
MAY 9     The Language of Flowers by Vanessa Diffenbaugh

WHAT’S NEW WITH SCRIP!

Scrap is not over - just different. We have 2 options for raising funds for the building fund!

1. BENEFIT MOBILE - it’s an app that you use on your phone for pre-purchase or at the checkout purchase. It is really easy to get started.
   - Just load the app on your phone. Set up an account and choose Living Savior as the benefactor.
   - Set up payment option: either direct withdrawal from bank account for full % profit - or credit card for reduced % profit.
   - Start using it! There are tons of choices of stores or restaurants to choose from. It’s a great option for those of you who do not want to carry cards around in your wallet or don’t know what you need in advance.


2. SCRIP GIFT CARDS - order forms coming soon.
   - Purchase at the scrip counter what we are carrying in stock. The options will change a little from before due to availability. Some new ones too.
   - Pace an order like you have done in the past. Place the paper order found at the Scrip Mailbox on Sunday.
   - Go online and order directly on your computer or phone. Continue to pay by check to LSLC in the box for now until I see how it goes. There may be an option to pay directly online too. www.scripzone.com
   - Pick up order at the Scrip counter. Not sure of the turnaround yet but should be 1 week.

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SUPPORT GROUP AT LIVING SAVIOR

We invite you to connect with others at Living Savior who are giving care or have given care to a loved one. Those who are in the midst of giving care could greatly benefit from those who have gone before them. We meet the third Saturday of the month, 10:00 am to share resources, encourage one another and fill our spiritual cup. Please join us! Friends of Living Savior Lutheran are welcome to join us as well. You may know someone in the work place or community who would benefit from our group. Questions? Call Karen H. at the church office.

Saturday, September 14, 10:00 am
Library
Living Savior Lutheran Church

SHUT IN MINISTRY

“You are those who have stood by me in my trials.” -Luke 22:28

Living Savior has an active team of people who have a heart for those who are unable to attend church because of illness or disabilities. As a visitor to shut ins, they have an opportunity to make a positive difference in someone’s life by visiting and bringing to them fellowship and love from the congregation.

Would you like to visit Shut Ins or know of someone we can visit? Volunteers are trained for this ministry. If you would like to be a part of this ministry or have questions, contact either person at the church office.

Peggy H.
Lola E.

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COME CHECK US OUT!

In addition to the regular library material,

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- We have a book shelf dedicated for books that the Book Club at Living Savior has read.
- We have a book shelf of puzzles for you to check out.
- We have reference material, Bible studies, children’s craft & learning idea books.
- We have devotions that you may take home and use for as long as needed.

The library is located on the second floor, next to the Upper Room (arched entries). There is self-check out.

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STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Contributions through August 19, 2019 are as follows:

- **General Fund:**
  - Received: $379,914
  - Budget: $371,250
  - Variance: $+8,663

- **Building Fund Contributions:** $30,794

Thank you for your faithful giving!

- Tired of writing checks? Interested in giving electronically? Please pick up a form to enroll in Joyful Response, available on the counter outside of the church office.
- Reducing the mortgage balance continues to be a top priority for the Stewardship Committee. The Committee recently approved a supplementary payment to reduce the mortgage balance by $20k through gifts made to the Building Fund. Through the congregation’s discipline, we have been able to reduce the balance outstanding from over $2.2 million to less than $1.1 million in the last five years.

If you have questions, please contact at the church office.

Thank you.
Adan W.

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STOP THE HOPPING

“A church is an imperfect mix of imperfect believers, so it’s easy for members to find faults or feel disappointed. That, in turn, may tempt us to shop around.”

C.S. Lewis addresses this in _The Screwtape Letters_. “If a man can’t be cured of churchgoing,” Screwtape advises his demon protegé, “the next best thing is to send him all over the neighborhood looking for the church that ‘suits’ him until he becomes a taster or connoisseur of churches.” How Satan must hate when Christians maintain long-term commitment to one church!

The urge to church-hop harms congregations as well as believers. “Spiritual depth isn’t fostered by satiating your sense of felt needs,” writes James Emery White. “It’s receiving a balanced diet of teaching and challenge, investing in service and mission, living in community and diversity that you probably would not select for yourself.”
September is Suicide Prevention Month

There are 123 suicides every day. It is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, the 2nd leading cause for ages 25-34 and the 3rd leading cause for ages 15-24. In order to create awareness and strengthen the fight against suicide, the entire month of September is focused on Suicide Prevention. For every suicide there may be as many as 40 attempts. This gives us all an opportunity to help someone in crisis and to endeavor to remove the stigmas. We can ask the question: “Are you O.K.?”

Use the LEARN steps in identifying and assisting prevention.

L Look for warning signs
E Empathize and listen
A Ask about suicide
R Remove danger
N Next Step National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255

Tualatin School House Pantry

Total contribution of $55. Brings the total to date: $709.

Current needs: canned fruit, canned soup, canned pasta meals (chili, pasta, etc.) boxed mac & cheese, and powdered laundry detergent. They can always use extra paper grocery bags.

Camp Lutherwood Harvest Festival is Sunday, September 29 from 2:30-5:30. Tickets are $50 and can be purchased online at lutherwoodoregon.org

These Numbers Have Faces: annual Thrive event—Saturday, September 29, 5:00-7:00pm at Lagunitas Community room, Portland. Tickets are $20.00 and can be purchased at thesenumbers.org/thrive

Sharing Jesus Love Through Action: Make a point to pray for specific missionaries and missions. Make dinner for your child’s teacher or a teacher you may know. Bring snacks for the teachers as they start their new school year. It is the month for collecting coffee donations for a shelter.

Community Warehouse is like a food bank – only they focus on household goods and furnishings. They are located in Tualatin at 8380 SW Nyberg Street. 503-612-0020 M-F, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm + Sat.-Sun. 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

We will continue to collect smaller items that will fit in or next to the purple bag in the fellowship hall. If you are looking for a worthwhile organization to donate furniture that truly serves needy people in our community, this is a great place. You can either drop it off yourself or they will pick up large items at your house for $30.

For information about Community Warehouse go to: www.communitywarehouse.org

Mission and Service - Shari R.

It’s Back-To-School!

Our theme this year in preschool will be Monkeys! The teachers will be going bananas for these little monkeys (preschoolers). The children are ready to hear about the love of Jesus while we prepare their minds and have some fun in the jungle (classrooms) with these little ones!

Preschool families will start on September 9th!

The excitement is building for our Pre-K class which will start September 4th, a week before preschool. Their theme is woodland animals with 16 little Owls (Pre-Kers) flying about gathering knowledge!

Our students and their families met their teachers and classmates on Popsicle Days and the Pre-K Potluck Play date the last week of August. Now the children know school will be starting soon!

We start the 2019-20 school year off with six openings in our afternoon 3 & 4’s class.

Do you know of any families in need of a preschool? Children must be 3 or 4 by September 1st to qualify for preschool. Please pass the word along!

The staff and I rejoice and give thanks for the Lord’s presence in our lives.

*Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”*

Matthew 19:14

We look forward to welcoming back returning families and getting to know all our new families. Thanks to the congregation for your support and prayers for preschool.

Denice and the Preschool Staff
For questions: Call Vicki S. at the church office.

We all have as a single woman.

If you have any questions, please call Vicki S. at the church office.

Some people feel a rush of joy after singing—especially when we spend and hour and half singing words of praise to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Singing is expressive of our deepest feelings. It can express love, it can bolster courage and dismiss fear. It can express grief and sorrow, and is appropriate for praise. We should never sit through the hymns and songs in church but should lift up our voices in song—especially when we are not good at singing. God listens to the heart.

At our first gathering, we will explore activities and events for this fall, based on results from the questionnaire and discussion. Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to explore and support the unique life that each of us have as a single woman.

For questions: Call Vicki S. at the church office.

It is that time again! The Living Savior Choir starts rehearsals on Wednesday September 11th from 7 – 8:30 PM. You like to sing—you are welcome to join us. Every year I remind you of all of the advantages of singing in a group. Here are just a few.

- It lowers blood pressure
- Boosts the cuddle hormone oxytocin that bonds you to your neighbor
- Provides serenity after an illness like cancer
- Reduces stress and eases anxiety

Handbell practices will be Wednesdays
September 4, 11, 18, 25 at 5:45pm. New Members are welcome.

Some people feel a rush of joy after singing—especially when we spend and hour and half singing words of praise to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Isaiah Chapter 12 it says it all.

Singing is expressive of our deepest feelings. It can express love, it can bolster courage and dismiss fear. It can express grief and sorrow, and is appropriate for praise. We should never sit through the hymns and songs in church but should lift up our voices in song—even if we are not good at singing. God listens to the heart.

See you in the balcony on the 11th.

Dorothy H., Director.

Monday, September 10

An evening of music

We celebrate the beginning of a 50-hour training program to become a Stephen Minister. Those attending training classes most every Thursday evening, September through February are: Brad A., Brent B., Stephanie S. and Marc T. We ask for your prayers and encouragement as they learn ways to walk along someone who has a loss or challenging event in their life. A listing of study topics will be in each week’s parish notes.

Journeying through Grief is a set of four short books to send to people at four crucial times during the first year after the loss of a loved one. Author Kenneth C. Haugk writes in a warm, caring style, with short, easy-to-read chapters. He walks alongside the reader through the grief journey, sharing helpful insights about grief, biblical truths, and stories that provide comfort and reassurance. The set includes the four books, four envelopes and a tracking card as to when to send them.

Stephen Ministry is YOUR ministry. It is an important way we at Living Savior Lutheran care for one another. If you are going through a difficult time, consider having a Stephen Minister. If you know someone else who is facing difficulties, suggest that they request a Stephen Minister. Make use of it. Stephen Ministry belongs to you.

Contact one of the following at the church office.

Karen H.
Valorie W.
Andrew W.
Pastor Alexander

The next Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held November 1-3 in Vancouver, Washington.

For more information, go to GodLovesMarriage.org or call Brent and Sandy B. at the church office.

The church library is offering puzzles for lending. We use the honor system so please return a borrowed puzzle in a timely fashion so others may use them. If you have quality puzzles, no pieces missing, that you would like to share with others, place them in the plastic tub to the right of the puzzle shelf in the library.

PUZZLES!

A SIMPLE, POWERFUL WAY TO CARE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE GRIEVING

We are making them available to you to share with others. They are $8 and can be purchased in the church office during regular office hours or on Sunday from a Stephen Minister leader.

Handbell practices will be Wednesdays
September 4, 11, 18, 25 at 5:45pm. New Members are welcome.

Henry James D.
Born — August 4
Baptized — August 18

Violet Adele F.
Born — July 30
Baptized— August 25
Daughter of Chad and Sarah F.
Sponsors/Godparents: Cory & Jenny F.
Grandmother: Mary F.

For more information, go to GodLovesMarriage.org or call Brent and Sandy B. at the church office.

Locked Forward in September

Sunday, September 8
Return to regular service schedules:
8:30am Early service
9:45am Adult Bible Class
11:00am Second Service

Sunday, September 15
9:45am Sunday school classes begin

Sunday, September 19
7:00pm Confirmation Classes begin
The 4th Annual Phil Fribley Memorial Golf Tournament

The Phil Fribley Memorial Golf Tournament was held Sunday, August 25th at the Charbonneau Golf Course in Wilsonville. Ten teams participated in the 9-hole competition. A special thanks for prizes to Chad Fribley for golf balls, Ray & Diane D. for sports socks and Larry D. for providing hats for all participants.

Winning Team: Curt T.
Second Place: Lisa T.
Longest Drive: Alyssa C.
Closest to the Line: Lauren H.
Closest to the Pin: Josh W.

Calling All Altar Guild Members and Acolytes/Parents of Acolytes

In anticipation of Fall, Advent, and Christmas, we are having a training for All Altar Guild Members & Acolytes, along with their parents on Sat. SEPTEMBER 14, 9:00am in the sanctuary. We hope to have both a training time and set schedules for serving at that meeting. We still need one additional late service Altar Guild member...feel free to invite someone you know to come and serve. We look forward to seeing each of you there!

Late Service: In the near future, with the impending retirement of some of our long-serving ushers, our church will have a need for ushers during the late service. Beginning the first Sunday of October, we will have only six ushers at the late service so we hope you will prayerfully consider serving our church in this capacity. Please contact the church office for more information.

About our Mites . . .

Thank you to all the farmers in our church who shared their wonderful vegetables. We enjoyed zucchini, lemon cucumbers, string beans, plums and lemons. We really appreciate the bounty of your gardens and had some delicious meals.

I hope everyone has been enjoying our wonderful summer and looking forward to Fall. The Group Homes have enjoyed some vegetables from their garden boxes, thank you to Leonard Dooley for the plants. The Bible Lessons and meals will start again in September. It is always fun to start visiting all our friends in the homes after summer break and find out what everyone did—lots of picnics and summer camps.

This past year our theme for Bible Lessons was “Sharing and Caring” and our theme for this year will be “Jesus Loves Me”. I will be calling all the people who signed up to help with meals and thank you again, it really is appreciated. I also will be planning a short meeting to discuss our Christmas Celebration and the Wish Gift Wreath, in October. Jesus Loves us all and our Friendship with our Group Home Friends shows how we Love Jesus and are thankful for all the Love and Blessings we receive. God Bless.

- Kathye G.