

# Living Springs Lutheran Church

"CELEBRATE...SHARE...SERVE"  
ACCORDING TO GOD'S WILL

January 2018



# Here in 2018 (and always), We All Have A Story - From Pastor Eric



**Living Springs  
"Get-to-Know-You"  
Congregation Fellowship**  
+++  
**SUNDAY, JAN. 14  
9:30-10:30 am  
Fellowship Hall**

As we prepare to send out this newsletter, it is now the 11th day of Christmas (Jan. 4) - and I pray that you continue to find moments in your home and heart to celebrate this great gift of God's Christmas love for the world! I think back on the sights and faces of all our Advent-Christmas celebrations here at Living Springs—and behind every face, there is a living story of a human journey treasured and embraced by God.

I see the faces in a human circle spanning the entire sanctuary, with all our children & youth gathered on the steps in costumes from their magnificent Christmas program –and behind each of those faces there is a living, human story embraced by God.

I see the 300+ faces gathered on the church lawn in frigid December temperatures, filled with light and smiles and some tears of joy at the sight of animals and LS disciples sharing the story of God's "Love Born for Us" – and behind each of those faces there is a living, human story embraced by God.

I see the faces of children crowded on the chancel stairs and surrounding the altar at our family Christmas Eve service: bringing forward little Nativity characters to place at the stable; going out into the congregation to find someone and share the Good News that "God loves you!"; unpacking a manger filled with baby wipes, wood, bread, a scroll, a burdensome weight, a cross, and globe to be reminded how little baby Jesus grew up to share love with the world—and behind each of those faces there is a living, human story embraced by God.

I see faces illuminated by lights shining forth from the manger at our festival Christmas Eve service, with people dropping crumbled-up pieces of paper into that manger to give the Christ-child all the past or present "garbage" in our lives with which we struggle. I see faces with tears at the communion rail, faces listening to majestic strings and choir voices and bells giving praise to the God who came to dwell with us, faces of worshippers lifting up candles to spread the light of God's joy in our world— and behind each of those faces there is a living, human story embraced by God.

I see faces of parents, grandparents, and families in a packed sanctuary for the Preschool & Afterschool Christmas Program, joining with children to sing "Happy Birthday to Jesus." I see faces of children and youth encircling the Advent wreath on Sunday mornings, ringing bells to sound the call, "Come, Lord Jesus." I see faces of children and parents in the G.I.F.T. Zone during worship, making ornaments to lift up the meaning of Advent & Christmas –and behind each of those faces there is a living, human story embraced by God.

I see faces of nursing home residents and homebound folks, beaming as LS disciples visit to sing Christmas Carols. I see faces of disabled and elderly veterans smiling at the sound of carols, at the sight of bingo Christmas quarters, at handmade Christmas cards from preschoolers, at loving hugs from our Veterans Ministry team – and behind each of those faces there is a living, human story embraced by God.

I see faces of community members interacting with youth, parents, and volunteers at the Christmas tree lot, listening to stories about youth mission trips and sharing words of Christmas joy. I see faces of restaurant patrons singing carols at Community Beer 'n Carols, sharing how touched they are to find a reminder of God in their lives through unexpected moments – and behind each of those faces there is a living, human story embraced by God.

I see faces of disciples bringing Dove Tree Christmas gifts to the foot of the Lord's altar. I see faces of disciples packing 100 backpacks of food for the Christmas break. I see faces of disciples carrying in blue-wrapped boxes of

**Behind every face,  
there is a living,  
human story  
embraced by God!**

*(Continued on page 4)*

**BURNING OF THE GREENS**  
*Saturday, Jan. 6—5:00*  
+++  
**COMMUNITY BEER 'N HYMNS**  
*Jan. 15—7:00 (Beef O'Brady's)*  
+++  
**ANNUAL MLK SERVICE**  
*Jan. 21—4:00 (Rehoboth Baptist)*

**2018 Calendar Meeting**  
*Sunday, Jan. 7—4:00*  
+++  
**Chili Cook-Off Fellowship**  
*Saturday, Jan. 20—6:00*  
+++  
**Usher / Greeter Training**  
*Sundays, Jan. 21 & 28—9:30*

**Weekly Food Backpacks**  
*Thursdays, 3:00*  
+++  
**God's Storehouse Volunteers**  
*Monday, Jan. 8—10:00*  
+++  
**VA Ministry Night**  
*Thursday, Jan. 25—6:15*

***Do Justice! Love Kindness! Walk Humbly with God! - Grow in Faith Together!***  
**Active Discipleship + Ministries of Hope + Community Youth/School Partnerships**

## Burning of the Greens

*Saturday, January 6 @ 5 pm*

At 5:00 pm on Saturday, January 6th, we will have our Burning of the Greens service on the Day of the Epiphany of our Lord. Our church tree, along with other greenery and trees from our homes, will be ignited to symbolize the Light of Christ that shatters the world's darkness. Your tree (or greenery) may be dropped off in the upper left corner of the playground area any time prior to January 6.



## FAITH500/Holy Land Jeopardy

*Sunday, January 7 @ 9:30am*

FAITH500/Jeopardy Game for adults, youth & children, Sun. Jan 7 at 930am in the Fellowship Hall. This month's questions will focus on the Holy Land and will feature photo's from Seminarian Christopher Girardeau's trip there during the holidays Prizes for all!!

## Community MLK Service

*Sunday, January 21 @ 4pm*

Our annual NE Columbia community MLK service will be held at Rehoboth Baptist ([4646 Hardscrabble](#)) at 4:00 on Sunday, Jan. 21, with musical offerings from the various congregations and fellowship to follow. Sponsored by Rehoboth Baptist, Livings Springs Lutheran, Adams Northeast AME, and Northeast UMC. Come be part of this wonderful time together, celebrating the unity we share in Christ!

## 96 COATS/BLANKETS/GLOVES/THERMALS in 96 HOURS!

*(2:00 Wednesday – 2:00 Sunday)*

There are only a couple of days left of the Christmas season, so it's not too late to give a wonderful Christmas gift to someone in need via our local shelters. We remember how our Savior was wrapped in swaddling clothes to give him warmth at his birth, and so in His name, we seek to wrap others in warmth during this cold spell. Our challenge is to donate 96 new (or very-gently used) items in the next 96 hours (clock starts at 2:00 Wednesday and runs through 2:00 Sunday, but we will deliver items along the way to get them to those who are cold): WINTER COATS (any size), HEAVY BLANKETS, HEAVY GLOVES, THERMAL SOCKS OR THERMAL UNDERWEAR (any size). Items may be dropped off at the church: Wednesday-Friday (8:30-4:30 office hours), Saturday (un-decorating from 9:00-10:30, or Burning of the Greens, 5:00-6:00) Sunday (bring to worship services)

## January 2018 Volume 32 Issue 320

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2017 Christmas food items and dropping offerings of coins into a worship bucket. I imagine the unknown faces of those at-need, hurting students and families who will receive these items of hope and love offered to them in the name of the Christ-child—and behind each of those faces there is a living, human story embraced by God.

I see faces of LS Lutheran Men gathered around one of their brothers in his final hours on earth, praying with him, making the sign of the cross on his forehead, and offering him a blessing of grace. I see women preparing meals and serving food for a bereaved family—and behind each of those faces there is a living, human story embraced by God.

Behind each and every one of our faces, there is a living, human story embraced by God—not only at Christmas, but throughout every season of the year. On Sunday, Jan. 14, from 9:30-10:30 (between worship services), our newly-elected council is inviting the entire congregation to join together in the Fellowship Hall, in a time for all of us to get to know each other better. There are so many who do not know each other's stories—perhaps because we worship at different times, perhaps because some are newer to this community of faith, perhaps because we have not had time in our busy lives to sit and talk with one another. There may be a variety of reasons. But each and every one of us has a story that is important—not only because it is OUR story, but because it is part of GOD's story, and each of our stories somehow points us all to a deeper awareness of the amazing ways that our God of grace and strength continues to work in this world. I encourage you to come be part of this unique and special time on January 14th, to help kick off the 2018 calendar year and celebrate the season of Epiphany, in which we uplift the light of Christ for all! Come meet someone whose face you may or may not know, because behind every face .... there is a living, human story embraced by God.

With Epiphany prayers of light for the blessing of **growing in faith together**, *Pastor Eric*

*\*\*On a personal note, I would like to thank all of you for your many cards, prayers, and special gifts of Christmas love shared with me and Kris. The family of LS is truly a blessing in our lives, and I am overwhelmed by your heartfelt expressions of care. May you always sense the power of God's story at work through you everyday!*



## God's Corner



Received such a nice card today from Living Springs. Many thanks. I'm sure that all those prayers helped me to do so well.

*Nancy Kauffman*

Dear LS,

Richland School District Two would like to take this opportunity to express our sincerest appreciation for assisting our students and families during the holiday season. Your "Shoe- Vember" collection was a great resource for our children, especially this time of year. We would also like to thank you for your continued support of our unaccompanied youth, students and families during the holidays. Each year, you provide assistance that otherwise may go unmet. We are so thankful for your generosity and kindness. It is truly a blessing to work with you. Your ongoing support touches so many lives within our schools, our staff, and our families. Richland School District Two appreciated the opportunity to continue and strengthen our partnership with Living Springs. We truly understand that "it takes a village" and we rely on our partners to help ensure that are students are successful. Thank you again for kindness and warmth for the families of Richland School District Two.

Sincerely,

**Abby Cobb, LISW**

Lead Social Worker  
Richland School District Two



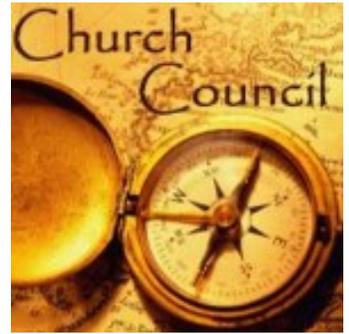
# Council Clips

COUNCIL CLIPS – Staff & Ministry Reports December 21, 2017 Meeting

Council Devotions: Pastor Eric Fink

Council Actions and news (from December 21 business meeting):

- \*Facilities: The team is waiting for cost estimates to rekey all of the locks on the property. Also waiting for quotes to replace both sets of doors in the Narthex and the outside kitchen door.
- \*Good News Team: Good News Walkers will resume in January.
- \*Fellowship & Mutual Care Team: Care Meal Coordinator is needed. The next Beer & Hymns will be on 1/15. The annual Chili Cook-off will be held in late January or early February.
- \*Lifelong Discipleship: The team is planning for two new adult milestones for 2018. One will be an Adult Communion Milestone and one will be an Adult Mission Experience. The next Devotional Lunch will be held on 1/9 and a Stewardship Symposium is coming up on 1/26.
- \*Ministries of Hope: Backpack packing will resume on Thursday Jan 4 at 3:00. Lenten Fish Fry will begin on 2/16.
- \*M.O.R.E. Justice: The 5 month research process began with a kick-off meeting on 12/11. A LS Team Leader meeting is scheduled for 1/16.
- \*LMM: Bible Study continues on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month at 6:30 am. The next breakfast meeting will be on 1/28. The Annual SCLMM Convention will be held in Newberry on 2/24.
- \*Women's Group: Women's bible study on Tuesday mornings. Volunteers working at God's Storehouse on the second Monday each month. Book Club will meet on 1/2.
- \*Preschool: Prayer lunch will be 1/16; The Preschool Board elected new board members and officers for 2018: Peg Zieche - President; Kellie Snipes - VP; Gail Buchanan - Secretary, TBA - Treasurer.
- \*Worship & Music: There will be an important usher and greeter training held in January.



**From Pastor Eric:** Oh, to think of all the preparations which we have observed since our last council meeting – and how the Holy Spirit has been at work in all of these to prepare human hearts among us for the coming of our Lord! Consider:

- \*The smiles and tears of joy of our LS Lutheran Men leading worship, sharing their faith stories, and offering a time of blessing & prayer for our brother, Herb, on his final night in this world with us!
- \*The smiles of Rice Estate residents observing our PS Christmas program dress rehearsal and the wonderful fellowship lunch offered to them by our Preschool!
- \*The unseen smiles of children & youth receiving their Dove Tree gifts, 100 Christmas food backpacks!
- \*The unseen smiles of hurricane victims being blessed with &7100+ from our LS \$57 Bucket emphasis!
- \*The smiles of grace and power at our Midlands Justice Ministry Research kickoff assembly – where the Spirit led to a focus on issues and mental health and education for our children/youth!

**Council:** New members, elected by the congregation to serve LS for 2018 were welcomed:

- \*Vickie Crapps, Doug Danner, Midge Gunvalson, Wendy McKenzie, Austin Padgett, Jeff Tenhover Gay Walter, Adam Woodruff.
- \*Members continuing to serve for 2018: Jan Berger, Ann Lynn Caughman, Mike Grimmer and Rachel Peterson.
- \*Members leaving after fulfilling their current terms were thanked for their service to Living Springs: Gail Buchanan, Ed Brennan, Bill Franck, Beverly Hoppert, Aaron Smith, Laura Stuart and Bob Turnmire
- \***Congregational Officers elected by Church Council to serve Living Springs for 2018:**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Jan Berger</b>	<b>Vice-President:</b>	<b>Adam Woodruff</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Wendy McKenzie</b>	<b>Financial Secretary:</b>	<b>Bill Franck</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Mike Davidson</b>		

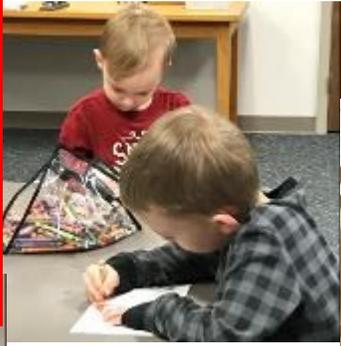


**CHILDREN AND YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTRY**  
 From the Minister of Faith and Life: Children and Families  
 Deacon Lexanne Graves  
[Lexanne@LivingSpringsColumbia.org](mailto:Lexanne@LivingSpringsColumbia.org)

do justice  
 love kindness  
 and walk humbly  
 with your  
 God  
Math 23

This past month's events have all been focused upon making God known within ourselves, our church community our Preschool, our community! See below the many pictures depicting the many ways families made God known!

We were making Nativity sets in a bottle so that our homes might literally see Jesus each day as we prepare for Jesus' return to earth.



**G.I.F.T. ZONE**



Watching **WONDER**, the movie, and learning how to be kind to everyone we meet!




We were singing and praising God because we are God's blessed children called to share our gifts.





**UPCOMING EVENTS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES:**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2018 at 5pm** is our “Burning of the Greens” Worship where our children will lead us to the large playground area to burn our used Christmas trees that will light up a path to the sky revealing to us God’s love in the midst of our darkness.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2018 at 12:15pm** we will “Read to the Residents at Rice Estate” and Play BINGO!!

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2018 at both worship services** will be YOUTH SUNDAY! All children and youth are invited to participate in our worship services to share your gifts of song, prayer, hope, and love!

**Children & Young Families**

There are many ministries here at Living Springs where children and young families are involved. We partner with children and parents to Grow In Faith Together during:

FAITH Alive Sunday School, Jr. Youth Group, SPARK VBS Camp, FAITH5 Home Devotions, the G.I.F.T. Zone, Family Outings, Christmas Play and Caroling, Advent and Lent Family Craft Events, Pancake Supper, Easter Hunt and Activities Day, and End of Year Swimming, just to name a few!

***Hey parents! Did you know?***

**Faith Alive Singers** are an extension of our children’s ministry on Sunday mornings. Children ages 2 – elementary school age gather in the Sanctuary from 9:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. We meet on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sunday’s of each month. We sing familiar songs and learn new songs to help us **Grow In Faith Together** as we start our Sunday School hour each week. We hope to share our songs in worship once a month this spring. Come join us! For more info, see [George Donovan](#) or [Lexanne Graves](#).



***Disciple Dot Stories***



***Congratulations...***

**Ashley Ramsey** - graduation, Masters of Accountancy from Darla Moore School Of Business/USC

**Dr. Helen Doerpinghaus & Rev. Dr. Wayne Kannaday** - This years honorees at the Lutheran Campus Ministries’ Dasher Dinner



***SHARE YOUR DISCIPLE DOT STORY***

Has God worked a disciple moment through you or someone else during the week? Pick up a disciple-dot story slip from the narthex, on a table or in a pew and share the story of God's work - place your slip in the blue-dot basket, or email your story to the church office. Stories are published anonymously. This isn't about what “we” are doing, but about God's work in the world!



## Notes from: *Fellowship & Mutual Care*

### Christmas Party



### Chili Cook-off

*Saturday, January 20 @ 6 pm*

Our annual Chili Cook-Off will be held Saturday, January 20, at 6:00 pm. Join us at the home of Bill and Nancy Franck, [321 Turnwall Lane, Elgin](#) (located in the Villas at Woodcreek Farms). Bring your best chili, prizes to be awarded for the three best chilies. If chili is not your specialty, please bring an appetizer or dessert as well as an adult beverage of their choice. Soft drinks will be provided. Sign-up sheet available in the admin lobby. *Please note: The Franck's live in a gated community. While the gates are usually open until 7pm, please bring their phone number with in just in case - 803-788-5704*

## Notes from: *TELS - Traveling Evangelists of Living Springs*

### Trip to Mepkin Abby



### Next Trip...Fryar's Topiary Gardens

*Friday, January 19*

Weather permitting, Friday, January 19 is scheduled for a visit to Fryar's Topiary Gardens and the Cotton Museum in Bishopville. Stay tuned for a possible detour to an inside location.

Friday, February 23 TELS is going to Newberry Opera House for *On Golden Pond*. Tickets have been purchased already but if you would like to submit your name in case someone cannot use their ticket, contact [Beverly Hop-  
pert](#). Signup sheets are located in the admin building.



Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

Dove Tree Gifts



**LENTEN FISH FRY**  
*Fridays - 5 to 7:30 pm*

**Save the dates:** starting Friday, Feb. 16 through Feb. 23. All proceeds will go to USC Campus Ministry that serves Midlands Tech, Columbia College, and USC students!, so start spreading the news to your neighbors, friends, family, & co-workers. Signup sheets will be available shortly. Contact [Karen Kranz](#) for information.




*Veterans Ministry - Christmas Caroling*



Notes from: *Lifelong Discipleship*

*Ladies Bible Study - Queen of the Day*

The Ladies studied *It's Good to Be Queen* by Liz Curtis Higgs



*Ladies Bible Study - St. Lucia Brunch*



# Preschool & Afterschool Care News

## From Tammy Mancuso, Director

How beautiful it is to see this season full of Joy and Sharing.

Our children shared the Joy of the Season when they drew and colored Christmas Cards for the residents of Rice Estates, The Crossings and The VA Hospital.

Our children shared the Joy of the Season with guests from Rice Estates with a special early performance of our Christmas Program, followed later that day with the annual program for families and friends.

Our children, families, staff and community shared the Joy of the Season as we watched the Live Nativity, taking a moment to be present in the history, the meaning, and the true blessing of Christmas. A true time for peace, love and reflection.

Our church family shared the Joy of the Season with our Preschool families and friends as they helped to direct and maintain safe entering, parking and exiting for our Christmas Program.

Our staff shared the Joy of the Season as we talked about the meaning of Christmas at our Staff Development, creating ornaments filled with symbols that will serve as a reminder of God's Love, Gift, Light, Sacrifice and Promise.

Staff also enjoyed Sharing in the Joy of a new life beginning as Ms. Courtney prepares for the arrival of her son. What an exciting time for both her home and school families. We are blessed to share this time with her.

Our staff shared the Joy of the Season with our Christmas time brunch, taking a moment to share in fellowship, food and fun together.

During this season it is a true Joy to Share in the Season of love and promise with our children, families, staff and members of Living Springs.

Thank you for being a light in the lives of others and continuing to share the love of God with us all.

May God continue to bless you and your family throughout the New Year.



With love,  
Tammy and Staff

## **Preschool Christmas Program**



### **Publix Partners**

LS Preschool is now participating in the Publix Partners Program. Please take a green card (located in the Admin bldg. lobby) and swipe it when you shop at Publix. The Preschool will receive a monetary reward when enough points have been earned.

# Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*



## *Advent Worship (Sunday & Wednesday)*



## *Christmas Caroling*



# A Vision for Music Ministry @ Living Springs



For nearly 30 years, Living Springs has had a desire to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to people from all walks of life, through a variety of offerings of ministry. Our desire is for our music to be a vital part of this diverse ministry. Music connects people to the Word of God in deep, meaningful and powerful ways. As we see the end of 2017 approaching and look forward to the dawning of 2018, the Music & Worship Board would like your help in insuring we are able to consistently offer the best in quality music for worship and community outreach. Would you consider financially supporting us in this endeavor?

We have a goal of streaming \$1000 per month in designated giving towards Music Ministry. This income would enable us to do so much to help grow our ministry together, which already has such a solid foundation. Some of the ways this income will enhance our music are:

- ✦ Additional Musicians for weekly worship & other outreach events (*Brass/Strings for Easter, Christmas Eve, Reformation, Concerts of Praise; Worship Band musicians & more!*)
- ✦ Supplemental Voices for our Choirs (*we are seeking to add 1 paid singer to each voice section for both the Joyful Noise Choir & Grace Chorale.*)
- ✦ The ability to continue to grow our music library. (*A lot of sheet music has been discarded due to illegal copying or it was worn out or we have low numbers of copies on file.*)

We will meet this goal through the following means:

- ✦ Encouraging increased designated giving to the Music Ministry from both active music ministry participants and our congregation.
- ✦ Fundraising events such as the "Concert of Praise" series, and other recitals
- ✦ Adopt a Musician or a Choir Member

With your help, we can continue to grow our music ministry into a life changing outreach. I hope that you will prayerfully consider how you might be able to help. As of today, we need an additional \$1000 to cover the cost of musicians through the end of 2017. Will you help us?

## Sanctuary De-Decorating Saturday, January 6 @ 9 am

The 12th day of Christmas is January 5th. So, we will be "de-decorating" the sanctuary on this Saturday 9 am until around 10:30 as we prepare for the Epiphany season. All are invited.



## Notes from: *Men's Ministry*

### Men's Breakfast

*Saturday, January 27*



We continue to form our Lutheran Men's circle of prayer where each man is praying for a brother in Christ. Next breakfast gathering will be **Saturday, January 27** at 8:00 am at Living Springs. Meal is being served by Laura Cunningham, LS Food Resource Person. \$7.00 per person. We meet on the last Saturday of each month. Contact [Bob Turnmire](mailto:Bob.Turnmire@living-springs.org) at 803-513-7533.

## Notes from: *Sr. Youth & Young Adults*

### CHRISTMAS TREE LOT



### Senior Youth:

The Senior Youth were busy in December. They were an integral part of the Live Nativity, portraying townspeople, centurions, angels, and more! We also had a blast at the Youth Lock-In! We spent time in faith formation and fellowship! The youth are blessed to have received an generous offering for their National Youth Gathering trip through the Spaghetti Dinner and Elf Store. Thanks to everyone who made that possible!

In January, we will spend our Senior Youth Faith Formation hour in continuing to delve into the Nooma series. We invite all Senior Youth to come and participate. January will also be our prep month for Youth Sunday, which is on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb 4. Be on the lookout for more information about that soon.

### Young Adults:

Some of the College Students home for break were able to come to coffee hour. It was great to catch-up and see how God is working through these wonderful students! Please continue to be in prayer for them as a new semester is right around the corner.

The Young Adults will be meeting after worship on Jan 21 at Starbucks for Coffee Hour. Hopefully this time change will help this group become more accessible for more folks!



## Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

### LADIES BOOK CLUB

The ladies met at the Olive Garden to discuss *The Wedding Dress* by Rachel Hauck .



### Next Book Club Meeting Monday, February 5 @ 7pm



Our kickoff meeting will be at Karen Kranz's house – 235 Founders Ridge Rd (in the Summit) on Monday, February 5 @ 7 pm. This meeting is when we will pick our book reads for the year. Please feel free to invite friends, relatives, neighbors, enemies – you don't have to be a church member to enjoy fellowship with other people!! The book we are reading is *The Woman in Cabin 10* by Ruth Ware. Contact [Karen Kranz](#) for information.

# God At Work



## SPAGHETTI DINNER & ELF STORE



## ADVENT MIDWEEK SUPPER



## 2017 Advent Food Collection



# Living Springs Living Outdoor Nativity Drama





## Christmas Eve Worship



# Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

## Calendar Planning Meeting

*Sunday, January 7 @ 4 pm*

All current committee leaders and group heads, please attend our important meeting on January 7 at 4:00. We will place major dates on the calendar through July 2018!

## Annual Leadership Retreat

*January 12-13*

Dates have now been set for our annual LS Leadership Planning Retreat, the weekend of Jan. 12-13. Please mark your calendars - more details to come! In addition to council members and staff, all Ministry Team heads & Ministry Group leaders are asked to participate in the Friday night portion here at the church from 6:30 - 9pm.

## Beer & Hymns

*Monday, January 15 @ 7pm*

Love to sing hymns? Enjoy having a beverage and fellowship with others? Come join us for Beer & Hymns this **Monday, November 20, 7 pm** at Beef O'Brady's on Hard Scrabble Road. We sing boldly. We laugh. We share Jesus in a unique way. All are invited and welcome. Bring a friend or two and experience a great hymn sing in the least likely place!

## Usher & Greeter Training

*Sunday, January 21 & 28 @ 9:30am*

Due to some revised procedures, we will be holding training for ushers & greeters. All are welcome whether you are a current usher/greeter or are interested in becoming one. Join us on either Sunday, January 21st or on the 28th at 9:30 am

### **YEAR END REPORTS DUE - JANUARY 9**

A reminder to all Team chairpersons and group leaders, please e-mail your year-end report to the office no later than January 9. This is an important summary of God's work here at Living Springs throughout the past year - for both historical records and to share with those who may be interested in Living Springs membership. Thank you for your awesome leadership!

## Tuesday Devotion Lunch @ Living Springs

*Tuesday, January 9 @ 11:45 AM*

Beginning this month, through at least May, We will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 11:45 for lunch with devotions by Pastor Eric. Everyone is welcome! Meal is served by Laura Cunningham, our LS Food Resource person. To reserve a spot for you and your friends, sign up in the office lobby or contact the office before 11am on the Monday before. Donation \$6 (includes drink & dessert).

## God's Storehouse

*Monday, January 8 @ 9:30 AM*

Join us as we carry out our mission to serve others at God's Storehouse. This ministry opportunity meets on the second Monday of each month. We gather at church by 9:30am to carpool and work at God's Storehouse from 10am until noon. This is a WELCA sponsored ministry for both men and women. For more information, please contact Ginny Devereaux.

## Living Springs VA Ministry Night

*Thursday, January 14 @ 6:15 PM*

On 4th Thursdays from 6:15 - 7:00 pm, we will host a time of music, visiting, support, care, and fellowship at the Dorn VA's Community Life Center. Everyone is invited to come be part of this special time for the many disabled or older veterans who are undergoing therapy or now residing at the center. If you would like to make cards or donate thank-you items to be distributed, those are welcome, too! Signup up in the office lobby. If you would like to carpool or follow in your car, please meet at the church at 5:30.

## **SAVE THOSE DOLLARS AND COINS!**

We will collect food, coins, and dollars on **Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>** at both worship services for our annual "Souper Bowl of Caring". God's Storehouse will benefit from your generosity! We will also sell soup (eat in or take out) after both worship services as well!



**G.I.F.T. ZONE Update ....** We continue to tweak and work to improve our G.I.F.T. Zone Children's Worship Area experiment. Thanks to everyone who has provided suggestions and insight. For those who missed the April newsletter, below is a summary of information shared there. May the Spirit continue to guide us in our efforts to make worship meaningful for our younger families & children!

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**G.I.F.T. Zone** (*Growing In Faith Together Zone*) is an area in the front, left transept of the Sanctuary, specifically set aside for families of younger children. The Zone consists of child-appropriate, worship-oriented materials, with parent/child-friendly worship furniture laid out in a way to help children participate in worship. It is not a "play area," but a space where children & parents are invited to participate in guided activities that help them focus—and find meaning in the Scripture Readings, Sermon, Prayers, and more! Parents are expected to accompany their children in this area. *G.I.F.T. Zone does NOT replace our 10:45 nursery for infants, nor does it replace our Children's Message. Parents are not "required" to use the G.I.F.T. Zone, but it will be a meaningful option for them.*

***Why is Living Springs offering this G.I.F.T. Zone?***

Nowhere in modern society are young children asked to sit still for a hour. Even in school, children no longer sit at individual desks like we once did, but they are constantly working in centers. In recent years, this has had the effect of worship being more uninviting for children and becoming a negative, anxiety-creating experience for parents. Some other traditions have addressed this challenge by creating a totally separate worship site, where all young children are totally removed from adults and the main worship experience. However, our Lutheran tradition has always emphasized the importance of families worshipping together, of children experiencing & learning the rhythms of our life-giving liturgy, and of the joy we experience in having disciples of all ages worshipping, praying, and communing as one. It is important to have children together with us in worship! As you may have seen in the Lutheran magazine, some churches are creating a more child/parent-friendly space and experience *within* worship. The G.I.F.T. Zone is one model that has been successfully implemented. As Lutherans, one of our greatest gifts of the Reformation was the emphasis on putting worship in the modern "language of the people." If you were a child or young parent in today's world, what would such meaningful "language" or space look like for you and your 21st-century child? Our experiment during Easter Season is to create a space where children can experience worship with their parents, grow in faith together as family, and use all of their senses to learn positively our flow of worship liturgy. One of our most important callings is to reach out to young families to experience the power of Christ in their lives. When children and parents feel welcomed and know that they belong, they will return to experience the Spirit moving in their lives!

***Why does it matter that we pay attention on how we integrate children in worship?***

It matters because of Ephesians 4:4-5 where Paul writes: *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.* Kids are part of the body of Christ, and we all have something to offer and gifts to share. Sometimes we just need to go the extra mile and pay attention to the details that matter to the various age groups so that worship is meaningful for all.

***Why is the G.I.F.T. Zone at the side of the sanctuary (rather than the back)?***

Research has shown that children actually learn more when they can see what's going on (and they're too short to see from the back)! We are blessed with a perfect design in our sanctuary, with the left transept available to give a direct sight-line to the altar, pastor, font, etc. Also, this puts the G.I.F.T. Zone off to the side of other worshippers, so that it is not right behind someone's pew or in someone's sight-line. Rather than fidgety children creating distractions in the middle of the pews, children now have something that helps parents keep them engaged with what is happening in worship in a meaningful way. Again, we are blessed with a wonderful sanctuary design, so that no one has to sit immediately next to the G.I.F.T. Zone if they wish to be further away—and can choose their pews accordingly.



# January 2018

**8:15am Worship, 10:45am Worship  
9:30am Faith Alive Sunday School**  
(every Sunday unless otherwise noted)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed	2 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Adult Bible Study	3 930A PS Chapel 6P Hope Ministries 6P Council Exec 630P Sr. Youth	4 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 3P Backpacks Food Min. 630P Preschool Board 7P Lifelong Discipleship	5	6 <b>Epiphany of Our Lord</b> 9A De-decorate Sanctuary <b>5P Epiphany Worship</b> (Burning of the Greens)
7 <b>Baptism of Our Lord</b> <b>Sunday</b> Anniversary Of Baptism Faith Milestones 930A FAITH500 4P Calendar Meeting	8 930A God's Storehouse 1030A Meals on Wheels 5P Worship Task Force 6P Worship & Music Team 7P Fellowship & Mutual Care Team	9 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 11:45A Devotional Lunch 6P Finance 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	10 930 PS Chapel 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Sr. Youth (Moe's) 7P Choirs	11 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 3P Backpacks 4P ASC Music Time	12 630P Council & Ministry Leader Retreat	13 830A Council Retreat 930A Crafty Ladies
14 815A & 1045A Council Installation 930A LS "Get to Know You" Fellowship	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - <b>Office Closed</b> 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Beer 'n Hymns	16 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 12:15P PS Prayer Lunch 4P ASC Bible Time 630P Justice Ministry Team Leaders (LSLC) 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	17 930 PS Chapel 3P Backpacks 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Sr. Youth (LSLC) 7P Choirs	18 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 4P ASC Music Time 7P Council	19 930A TELS (Fryar's Topiary Garden's)	20 6P Chili Cook-off (Frank's)
21 930A Usher/Greeter Training 12:15P Young Adults Coffee Hour (Starbucks) <b>4P Community MLK Service (Rehoboth)</b>	22 1030A Meals on Wheels	23 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	24 930 PS Chapel 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Sr. Youth (Mod Pizza) 7P Choirs	25 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 3P Backpacks 4P ASC Music Time 6:15P LS Veterans Ministry Night (carpool 530)	26 10A Stewardship Symposium (LTSS)	27 8A Men's Breakfast 930A Crafty Ladies
28 930A Usher/Greeter Training	29 1030A Meals on Wheels	30 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 12:15P PS Prayer Lunch 4P ASC Bible Time 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	31 930 PS Chapel 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Sr. Youth (LSLC) 7P Choirs	1 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 3P Backpacks Food Min. 7P Lifelong Discipleship	2	3

## Worship Assistant Schedule – January 2018

	Assisting Minister	Lector	Communion Assistant	Ushers	Greeters	Acolyte	Crucifer	Torchbearer	Counters	Children's Sermon	Council Person
1/7	John Imbert	Peg Zieche	Karen Kranz Bill Franck	Jeff Lummel Barb Imbert	Ron & Debbie Smith	Wesley Graves	Karen Kranz			Dea Jones	Midge Gunvalson
1/7	Alison Levitt	Bob Turmire	Trish Davidson Brantley Smith	Laura Stuart Karlene Stuart Steve Padgett Austin Padgett	Nancy Baldwin	Lauren Bloss	Andrew Levitt	Wes Levitt Sara Levitt	Bob Turmire Steve Bloss Steve Padgett	Dea Jones	Mike Davidson
1/14	Christopher Girardeau	Minister Griffin	Tina Molineu Don Molineu	Shirley Laingen Paul Laingen	Nancy Schwind	Anna Leigh Graves	Nancy Schwind			Lexanne Graves	Bill Franck
1/14	Minister Griffin	Bob Gabbard	Kathryn Padgett Leslie Bloss	Mike Davidson Wes Levitt Randy Masad Gary Ginn	Linda Hayes	Walker Flores	Steve Bloss	Gail Buchanan Alison Levitt	Gail Buchanan Brantley Smith Sarah Schultz	Lexanne Graves	Ann Lynn Caughman
1/21	Saundra Dixon	Nowell Ramsey	Scott Graves Ashley Ramsey	Sue Loveless Mike Loveless	Nancy Franck	Bill Franck	Jim Zieche			Christophe r Girardeau	Mike Grimmer
1/21	Steve Padgett	Anna Leigh Graves	Pat Bartucca Wendy Mckenzie	Cindy Day Jeff Day Laura Stuart Karlene Stuart	Gail Buchanan	Jan Berger	Austin Padgett	Steve Bloss Jeanette Bloss	Aaron Smith Wendy Mckenzie Karlene Stuart	Christophe r Girardeau	Aaron Smith
1/28	8:15 Gwen Furcron	John Imbert	Nowell Ramsey Saundra Dixon	Sadonia Grimmer Mike Grimmer	Marj Appleton Meg Goldman	Jim Zieche	Jan Epperson			Steve Padgett	Rachel Peterson
1/28	10:45 Mike Davidson	Christopher Girardeau	Jeanette Bloss Gail Buchanan	Leslie Bloss Lauren Bloss Jan Berger Wes Levitt	Alice Renaud	Preston Ginn	Steve Bloss	Cynthia Edney Tiffany Ginn	Jan Berger Leslie Bloss Laura Turmire	Steve Padgett	Gail Buchanan
	<b>Name Tag 8:15</b>	<b>Name Tag 10:45</b>	<b>Flowers</b>	<b>Muggers</b>	<b>Nursery (10:45)</b>	<b>Refreshments</b>	<b>Altar Guild January</b>				
1/7	Karen Kranz	Karen Kranz		Karen Kranz		Judy Lawrence				Gail Buchanan	
1/14	Roger Schwind	Karen Kranz		Charles Tracy		Saundra Dixon					
1/21	Karen Kranz	Karen Kranz		Laura Turmire		Ashley Ramsey					
1/28	Ashley Ramsey	Ashley Ramsey		Karen Kranz		Katie Prizer					

### SIGN UP FOR FIRST QUARTER – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

The online signup for February is ready to be populated – whatever slots are open by January 20 will need to be manually filled in. If you have not been assigned OR the opposite – have been getting assigned without wanting to be, let Lisa or Karen Kranz know. Time and Talent sheets are available all year round – you can still fill one out if you have had a spirit tug towards serving. 1st quarter (January - March) <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baee92fa0f85-2018>

# Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

January 1

Jessa Bazemore

January 14

Janet Lay

♥ Jan Epperson & Karl Schmidt

♥ Paul & Shirley Laingen

January 2

Kathryn Padgett

January 15

Sarah Kate Barrier

January 3

Samantha Kowalski

January 17

Rachel Hurlbert

January 5

Leslie Bloss

January 19

Liam Keppery

January 6

Wendy McKenzie

Lois Mattson

Katie Prizer

Luke Sorial

January 7

Olivia Fox

January 21

♥ Steve & Jeanette Bloss

Dylan Horan

♥ Bill & Peg Fox

Deborah Smith

January 23

Graham Sheldon

January 8

Jillian Carey

January 24

Catherine Milburn

January 9

Charles Tracy

January 25

Pat Bartucca

January 10

Judy Edmonston

January 26

Jordan Fakoury

Sadie Tustin

January 27

♥ Jeff & Cindy Day

January 11

John Arnold

January 29

Rocky Berger

♥ David & Linda Giertz

Savannah Creticos



## Celebrate Your Baptism

Don't forget to check the bulletin to see if we will be celebrating your Baptismal Anniversary during this month's Sunday worship services. Immediately below the Gathering Music, there are printed the names of those who are celebrating a baptismal anniversary ***in that week***. When the gathering music begins, individuals can quietly come forward to meet Pastor Eric at the baptismal fountain. There, he will re-trace the cross with the water on your forehead and offer a special prayer of blessing for you (children may be accompanied by parents). There is nothing to be anxious about - everything is done quietly while the music is being played. For those who know only the month of your Baptism, you can join us on the first Sunday of the month (if you prefer some other Sunday, please let us know). **If you do not know your baptismal information, then please pick a month when you would like to celebrate this gift of God's grace in your life – and notify the office**, so that we can add you to the celebration list (we'll simply mark the choice of your month with an asterisk). Even if you don't know the exact date, it's important to celebrate this special gift of God's grace in your life. Again, we encourage everyone to research your Baptismal date and find out as much information as you can – let us know if we can help!



January 1

Jason Crapps

January 20

Elise Gerald

Michael Landers

January 22

Anna Leigh Graves

Blake Lindstedt

Hany Sorial

January 24

Jonas Maher

January 3

Samantha Kowalski

January 28

Grady Smith

January 5

Dea Jones

January 29

Dylan Horan

January 8

Ryleigh Hensley

January 29

August Snipes

January 14

Mark Stuart

January 30

Ginny Devereaux

January 15

Matthew Brouwer

Sandra Dixon

Chris Collins

Adele Lindberg

Charles Tracy

## **CHURCH STAFF**

People of Living Springs - Ministers

Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor

George Donovan, Jr. - Director of Music & Worship

Dea. Lexanne Graves – Min of Faith & Life for Children  
and Families

Christopher Girardeau – Min of Faith & Life for Sr.  
Youth and Young Adults

Tammy Mancuso- Preschool/ASC Director

Lisa Petty – Admin. Assist/Communications Coor.

Laura & Mark Cunningham - Food Resource Persons

Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper

Laura Turnmire – Director of Handbell Choir

## **CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

[Jan Berger](#) - President

[Adam Woodruff](#) - Vice President

[Wendy McKenzie](#) - Secretary

[Mike Davidson](#) - Treasurer

[Bill Franck](#) – Financial Secretary

[Ann Lynn Caughman](#)

[Vickie Crapps](#)

[Doug Danner](#)

[Michael Grimmer](#)

[Midge Gunvalson](#)

[Rachel Peterson](#)

[Jeff Tenhover](#)

Gay Walter

[Austin Padgett](#), Youth Rep.

## **LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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[www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia](https://www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia)

## **MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS**

Children/Youth Ministries

Fellowship & Mutual Care

Trish Davidson & Wendy McKenzie

Good News Team

Hope Ministries

Karen Kranz

Lifelong Discipleship

Steve Bloss

Worship & Music

Jim Zieche

Preschool

Peg Zieche

Facilities

Ed Brennan

Finance

Rocky Berger

Archives/Pew Bears

Judy Lawrence

## **Staff Email:**

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Lexanne Graves

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Christopher Girardeau

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Tammy Mancuso

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Lisa Petty

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Laura & Mark Cunningham

[sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Sherry Forsgren

[prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Prayer Requests