



Living Springs Lutheran Church

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

November 2014 Volume 28 Issue 283

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"O, Give Thanks to the Lord!" -This Month from Pastor Eric

As we move into November, the mass-marketing machine will skip directly from Halloween candy & costumes to Christmas lights & holiday decorations. Yet, falling in between, there is this day on the calendar called Thanksgiving. It is easy to skip over Thanksgiving, not just in the stores, but in our lives as well. Scripture tells us that one of the hallmark characteristics of our lives as people of God is meant to be "thanksgiving." The apostle Paul writes to Christians in Thessalonica, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you!" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Christ has come into our lives, precisely SO that we may know the deep joy (not fleeting happiness) of living a thankful life: finding occasion to give thanks in all circumstances, knowing that God's power in Christ is there to conquer all, knowing that there is a peace in Christ that surpasses human understanding, knowing that there is nothing in all creation - not even death - that can ever separate us from the love of God (see Romans 8). Over and over, the Scriptures tell us to "give thanks to the Lord" - and the main reason for this thankfulness is not temporary, earthly things, but rather something that lasts for all eternity and is there for us in all circumstances - the steadfast love of God! "Give thanks to the Lord, for his steadfast love endures forever!" echoes throughout Scripture (see 1 Chronicles 16:34, 2 Chronicles 20:21, Psalm 106:1, 107:1, 118:1, 136:1, Jeremiah 33:11). In the gift of Christ among us - and in his resurrection - we find ultimate confirmation of the glorious truth: that the steadfast love of the Lord does endure FOREVER! What a reason to give thanks!

In Christ, we discover that God's love for us is not just an emotion in God's heart, but a love that takes action in the incarnation, cross, and empty tomb of Christ. I once heard a mother tell a story about her son, who was crying over the death of a goldfish. "Why are you crying?" she asked. "Because I LOVED my goldfish," came the reply. "Well, no," said the mom in a gentle voice, "You are emotional about your goldfish. But if you loved it, you would have fed him." Now, I'm not sure if that was perfect parenting, but the point is valid. Actual love is not about being "emotional" - it is defined by action. And the same might be applied to thankfulness.

It's interesting that in Scripture, "giving thanks to the Lord" is associated with 2 particular actions. "Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds" (see 1 Chronicles 16:8, Psalm 9:1, 105:1, Isaiah 12:4). "It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart ... in the congregation" (see Psalm 92:1, 111:1). To give thanks to the Lord is to act! It is to: 1) tell others what you experience God doing in your life or what you may witness God doing elsewhere; and, 2) actively worship the Lord and sing God's praises! The things we share as a congregation are opportunities for each of us to actually do what you and I are called to do, as people of God and disciples of Jesus. We hold worship services every week, so that you & I can give thanks to the

Lord in the way that Scripture calls us. We invite one another to share those little blue-dot stories, so that we can give thanks to the Lord by making known the Lord's deeds. And so, I invite you to actively celebrate Thanksgiving - not just on Nov. 27, but every day! Give thanks to the Lord, for his steadfast love endures forever - for you, for your family, and for this world to which God sent Jesus! Let us worship the Lord - let us tell of the Lord's mighty deeds!

With thanksgiving for all the ways you each witness to the power of God, *Pastor Eric*



All Saints Sunday
November 2
+++
Worship in God's Creation
November 9
(10:45 at Poinsett S.P.)
+++
Blessed to Be a Blessing
November 16
(Annual Cong. Meeting)
+++
Christ the King Sunday
November 23
(Advent Family Night)
+++
First Sunday in Advent
November 30

Membership Sessions Sundays, Nov. 16 & 23

Find support for life's journey and be part of the exciting work that God is doing among this community of disciples! See Pastor Eric or Tina Molineu tpmolineu@gmail.com.

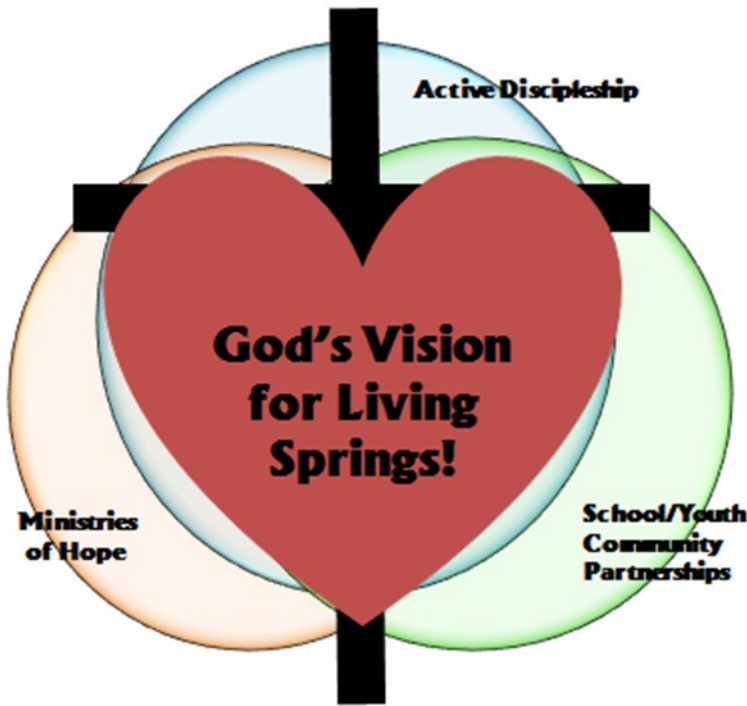
Monthly Devotional Lunch 1st Tuesday, Nov. 4 - 11:45

Invite a neighbor or friend for this time of food, fellowship, and faith!
Devotion by Pastor Eric.
Food by Laura Cunningham (\$6 donation for LS Food Ministry).

Mission Visionaries Nov. 16, 4:30-6:30

We invite your prayers for this important 1st gathering of our LS Mission Visionaries & liaisons (plus chairs).

How Is God Calling You? Network Your Spirit-Tug with Other Disciples!



The Ministry Goals below represent visions the Spirit spoke through you, the disciples of Living Springs. Our task is to spread these visions all over the place, like seed of God's kingdom being sown over all types of soil.

Which of these visions tug at your heart personally as a disciple of Jesus?

If you have not yet done so, fill out a Spirit-tug sheet from the narthex – or just call the office or send an e-mail and say, "I think I've got a Spirit-tug for #__." We will network folks who have similar Spirit-Tugs and see where the Spirit will lead, either in daily life out in the world or in something together here at LS. As an example, we already have folks following up on Spirit-Tugs for D1, D2, D7, H3, H5, H10, P4, P6. Where is your call?

A Vision for... ACTIVE DISCIPLESHIP



- D1. Daily life ministry – discipleship lived out in everyday situations
- D2. Lifelong equipping of faith (education, Bible study, faith in homes)
- D3. Disciple partners/groups/networks (for men, women, families, etc.)
- D4. Pervasive culture of prayer in our congregation & our homes
- D5. Worship as Core (Word & Sacrament) - variety of opportunities/styles
- D6. Expanded music ministry - various forms for all ages
- D7. Christ's caring presence for each other in the family of faith
- D8. Fellowship events & communications to build relationships

- H1. Hope Team - children and youth in need or alone
- H2. Hope Team - homeless
- H3. Hope Team - veterans, military & families
- H4. Hope Team - hospitals, care facilities, those who suffer
- H5. Hope Team - food and clothing ministries
- H6. Grace & Inner Peace - struggles with the stress of life
- H7. Grace & Inner Peace - God's forgiveness
- H8. Grace & Inner Peace - healing ministries
- H9. Grace & Inner Peace - for all who feel alone in life
- H10. Grace & Inner Peace - specific life crises (grief, divorce, other)
- H11. Hope Awareness - sharing our Lutheran identity of grace
- H12. Hope Awareness - sharing our exciting LS ministry & mission

A Vision for... MINISTRIES OF HOPE



A Vision for... COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (Youth/Schools)

- P1. Public events for congregation, preschool, community, families
- P2. Extending Milestones to preschool, community youth, etc.
- P3. Music ministry for preschool and youth
- P4. Building relationships of faith among preschool/congregation
- P5. Life-transforming experiences for youth
- P6. Partnerships of caring with local schools / college campuses



Congregation Events



Living Springs Outdoor Weekend at Poinsett State Park November 7-9

Make plans to be a part of an outdoor weekend Poinsett State Park November 7-9, 2014. We will be tent camping in the "group camping" area, but if you have your own camper/motor home/travel trailer, you can make a reservation at: <http://southcarolinaparks.reserveamerica.com>. There are also a very limited number of cabins available. You can arrive any time after 3pm on Friday. **Feel free to just come spend the afternoon or two if you don't want to stay the whole weekend.** Sign ups are in the narthex to check off what meals you plan to be there for. The Lutheran Men request a \$30 donation per adult to cover the food costs (meals will be prorated for those only attending specific times). They are picking up the cost for the kids! Come for a little bit or all weekend! Contact Mike Davidson at m Davidson33@gmail.com or 699-1498 if you have any questions. Sponsored by Lutheran Men.



Outdoor
Worship
Service

Worship and Recreate in the Beauty of God's Creation Sunday, November 9 @ 10:45

As a beautiful end to the congregational camping trip, we will be having our 10:45 worship at the campground. For those not camping, buses and carpools will leave Living Springs at 9:30 if you'd like to catch a ride to Poinsett State Park. After worship, we will be having a hot dog cookout. Everyone is invited to stay as long as you wish to enjoy that afternoon! We will be having our regular 8:15 service at Living Springs for those that would prefer to stay at Living Springs.

Calling all People of Living Springs

We gather as God's Family to prepare our hearts and homes for the Season of Advent!

- *Advent Devotional Crafts
- *Advent Servant Activities
- *Fellowship, Devotions & Fun



Christ the King Sunday, Nov. 23 – starting at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

(You may bring finger foods, light snacks, or desserts to share with others).

Midweek Advent Prayer Wednesdays, December 3, 10, & 17

Need some meaningful time of peace and reflection during a hectic holiday season? Each Wednesday during Advent, join us at 5:30 in the sanctuary for our brief but inspiring mid-week Advent Prayer Service. Amidst all the holiday madness, we take time to hear God's Word, lift up our hearts in prayer, and focus on the Advent call to "prepare the way of the Lord." Stop on the way home from work or take a break before your evening activities. Bring the whole family - invite a neighbor, friend, co-worker, classmate, or teammate to join you!

God at Work in October

Blessing of the Animals LORD'S PRAYER MILESTONE

At Sunday, October 5, we held our annual animal blessing on the front lawn. This year we had a variety of dogs show up. Here is a selection of our canine loved ones that received a special blessing.



Anna Leigh Graves and Lauren Bloss studying the Lord's Prayer.



Traveling Evangelists of Living Springs

This past Thursday, our TELS group went to Grandad's Apples N' Such in Hendersonville, NC and the Blue Ridge Folk Art Center.





Check these "action" photos of our members enjoying Faith Alive!



Reformation Olympics - Sr. Youth

SO PROUD OF OUR YOUTH! We came in 3rd place out of 16 teams at the Reformation Olympics today! Lots of great teamwork, coaching, and fun competition! We won the Diet of Worms competition as well. We have high hopes of bringing the Marty Bobble Head Trophy home next year!

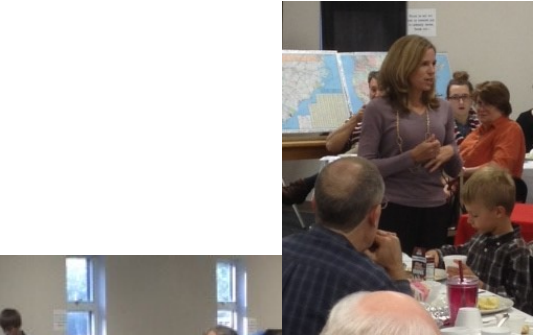


2014 Confirmands

Laura Stuart, Haley Haskins, Christopher Staudt, Courtney Staudt and Amber Jorgensen



Mission Vision Celebration



Copies of this blue dot are available in the narthex



LS Disciples out in the Community

Last year, I had gone to Disney world with my family. There was another family there with us that has a son, around the age of four, with Leukemia. We call him "Super Luke". Since meeting this family, my granddaughter, Alyssa, keeps up with what is going on with Luke. He just recently was released from yet another hospital stay. The Spirit tugged at Alyssa with an idea to help him. She set up a stand and sold lemonade and milkshakes. God sent people to her stand so that she could raise \$37 to send to him and his family.

†††

I was blown away when I heard something the other day at an event that God called me to attend. A 78-year-old man, Gary, was sharing his story of having cancer and how a 7-year-old boy impacted his life recently. Gary stated that he had undergone cancer treatments over the past 2 years and was now cancer free, but then his wife of 40 years was diagnosed with an inoperable form of cancer and had died 3 weeks

earlier. Gary was seeking fellowship because of his immense sadness and showed up on Wednesday night at his church's "Wonderful Wednesdays" meal and worship. That particular night they did something different at worship. All the attendees were divided up into small groups and they shared their High's and Low's of the day, read a bible verse, prayed for and blessed each other. The Spirit must have been very active that evening because Gary was put in a group with a very caring 7 year old boy who, after hearing Gary's story, wrote a prayer to be read aloud by the pastor. The prayer went something like this--"Dear God, I wish I could have had cancer so Gary for him so he wouldn't have to go through all that. Amen." Wow, such compassion from a 7-year-old boy. His prayer brought tears to Gary's eyes and opened the door for God's healing. This further showed me that we need to seize every opportunity to connect all ages together, because the Spirit will indeed intercede and teach us something through disciple of every age!

†††

At our Mission Vision Celebration, we heard one story of how the Spirit tugged at the heart of a disciple to use her knitting skills for those struggling with cancer. This is a Disciple-dot story from a completely different Living Springs disciple, who felt a similar Spirit-tug!

A couple of weeks ago I started losing sleep over several friends who are dealing with cancer in their families. While I am not in a position to help most of them directly, there was one teenager with a brain tumor I could help. I have a pattern for a chemo cap and I have some soft yarn. I made the girl a chemo cap to comfort her during and after treatments. Her expressions of delight made me think that I could help others who could use a pick-me-up during chemotherapy. I have a retired friend who volunteers in a hospital cancer ward. I have started using times when I am awake at night and cannot get back to sleep to accomplish something useful. Each cap has a note attached that says, "This cap was constructed with prayers for you woven throughout. Know that God cares about you and so do I." It is signed with a single initial. It is my prayer that the Holy Spirit will work these small gifts to His greater good.



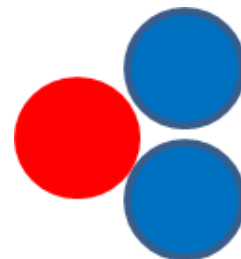
SHARE YOUR DISCIPLE DOT STORY

Has God worked a disciple moment through you or someone else during the week? Pick up a disciple-dot story slip from the narthex table and share the story of God's work - place your slip in the blue-dot basket, [click here for an online form](#) 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! See the website, bulletin, newsletter, and Facebook page for some inspiring examples.



Where will be your Disciple-Dot moments this week?

Add your Red-Dot (home address) and multiple Blue-Dots (weekly disciple moments) to our Narthex Mission Map! Don't forget to share God's Blue-Dot stories!



Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

BUNCO - 11/2

Save the date Sunday November 2nd at 6pm at home of Retha Murray, [208 Fetterbush Rd, Elgin](#). Its BUNCO time again. Don't miss out on the fun. You can be the biggest winner, the biggest loser or get to wear the crown. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share, and adult beverage of your choice (soft drinks will be provided).



TUESDAY DEVOTIONAL LUNCH @ LIVING SPRINGS - 11/4

On Tuesday, November 4, lunch will be offered in the fellowship hall at 11:45. Anyone is welcome! Meal is served by Laura Cunningham, former owner-operator of Backyard Grill. To reserve a spot for you and your friends, sign up in the narthex or contact the office by Sunday, November 2. Donation is \$6, which includes drink and dessert.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE - 11/5

Do you feel a Spirit Tug in communications? Do you have writing or media skills, advertising knowledge or can share what is going on in our ministries and programs? The Communications Committee is looking for more people to join the group. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 5.



THRIVENT – TRASH OR TREASURES!!! - 11/9

To help fund the SC Synod's three-volume history book project, the "Charleston Silver Lady", Dawn Corley is donating her time and expertise to appear at appraisal events in SC Synod congregations during this year. During these events, Dawn presents amazing information about silver and its uses in South Carolina, and then appraises items brought in by attendees. In most cases, she can tell you not just the value of the object, but she can tell you how it was used, and very likely, who made it! Check in & registration here at Living Springs: Sunday, November 9 at 3pm. Admission is free. There will be a \$25 appraisal fee (for up to three (3) items per guest). The Response Form needs to be filled out prior to event. [Click here to open form](#) Once the response form is received, a reservation number will be issued. Please make checks payable to Thrivent Midlands SC Chapter – response must be postmarked by Saturday, November 1. Following the presentation, a Thrivent Financial Workshop, refreshments, and Chapter elections will be available during the appraisal time. Please see your Thrivent advocate (Karen Kranz, Jan Schmidt, Charles or Ruth Pollard) for information.

TELS - 11/12

Wednesday, November 12 we will depart from the Living Springs parking lot at 10 AM, tour the Woodrow Wilson House (\$10 adult/\$8 Senior), have lunch at McCutchen House (USC Campus) and then visit the Mast General Store. Transportation fee is \$5. Check the website for our 2014/2015 schedule – next trip is to the Crèche Festival at Mepkin Abbey in Moncks Corner. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex and/or contact Beverly Hoppert, beverlyhoppert@gmail.com.



ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING - 11/16

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, Nov 16 immediately after the 10:45 service. We elect 2015/2016 Council members, 2015 Nominating Committee and 2015 SC Synod Assembly delegates. This meeting is also required to adopt our congregation's 2015 Spending Plan. A quorum of is required. Voting members are all confirmed members who have communed and contributed on record in either 2013 or 2014.

EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 11/16 & 11/23

Gather at 9:30 in the fellowship hall. A special opportunity to complete the Spiritual Gifts Inventory and consider what unique gifts the Spirit has given you for your ministry as a disciple. For new members, inquirers, and all other Living Springs folks who would like to re-explore your spiritual gifts. To sign up or for more info, please contact Tina Molineu (tpmolineu@gmail.com).

FALL FEAST - 11/20

[See Preschool Page 14](#)



ADULT FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS PARTY - 12/7

Join us for merriment, joy, laughter and cheer! It's a holiday party to celebrate Christmas growing near at the home of Becky and Randy Sides (note new address: [308 Crickentree Dr. Blythewood](http://308CrickentreeDr.com))

on Sunday, December 7th at 6:00 pm. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. Beverages will be provided. Please note this is an adult event. Look for signups coming out soon.

SIGN UP NOW! LIVING SPRINGS LIVING NATIVITY - 12/20-12/21

Sign up now on the board in the narthex to participate this year. Remember, no speaking is required by the actors! There is a role for everyone: cast members, lights, sound, scenery, props, costumes, music, animal keepers, and refreshments. Rehearsals begin in November after the Sunday 10:45 service. What a special opportunity for you and your family to celebrate the birth of our Lord with the congregation and community! Questions? Contact Dea Jones (dejones@richland2.org) or Anita Gabbard (nitagabbard@yahoo.com)



NOVEMBER – MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

This year ESO (Evangelism/Social Outreach) has set aside the whole month of November to honor, remember, recognize and appreciate those who have served and those now serving. Their sacrifices enable us to enjoy the freedoms that we sometimes take for granted. We will have a pamphlet on the table in the narthex with suggestions or ideas on what you can do for each week or see [Military Appreciation Month](#). For those of you checking your daily reminder sheets, these are D4,H3,H4,&H9. Contact Karen Kranz or any member of the ESO team for information.

NOV 1--9: HOMEFRONT WEEK - Fly your flag and pray for our troops & their families.

NOV 10-16: SHARE YOUR GIFTS WEEK - Make a connection with a veteran and share your gift.

NOV 17--23: USO WEEK - Make a holiday card & donate snacks to the USO South Carolina Center.

NOV 24--30: BLESSING WEEK - Give thanks for God's blessing and give to Angels House and/or Dorn VAMC wish lists.

"An Unexpected Christmas"



Our Christmas Play this year will be on **Sunday, December 14th at 5:00pm**, followed by a Spaghetti Dinner and the Elf Store. We have a very unique Christmas play called, "An Unexpected Christmas" to present to you, so we hope you will feel the Spirit guiding you to participate in it or attend and share in this experience. This play is presented from God's viewpoint and will call us all to ponder how God works in this world and in you. If you are interested in participating, we will need several adults, teens, young people, and toddlers. We will have speaking and non-speaking parts. Our practice times will be Sundays, Dec 7 and 14 from 930-1030am. Please contact Leslie Bloss (LBloss3306@hotmail.com) or Lexanne Graves (Lexanne@LivingSpringsColumbia.org).

Elf Store

Our Elf Store is such a treat for our young people every year and we look forward to your children and grandchildren participating. Members of the congregation donate items that children will buy for their family members and friends for less than \$4 each. The children can get them gift wrapped by volunteers and will proudly have something under the tree to give to loved ones. The ELF STORE helps to instill the act of giving to which Jesus calls us.



"...remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35

If you have items to donate to the Elf Store, please place them in the box located outside Lexanne's office door. Suggestions for items include candles, lotion, handmade items, jewelry, sports related items, collegiate items, Disney collectibles, and much more!

Ongoing Opportunities at Living Springs

GOOD NEWS WALKERS

If you would like a little exercise along with some great fellowship, meet us in the administration building by 8:30. We start out with the devotion of the day and then distribute our church flyers to neighborhoods that have paper boxes. Contact Karen Kranz for information. Contact Karen Kranz, kbkranz@gmail.com.



BACKPACK FOOD MINISTRY

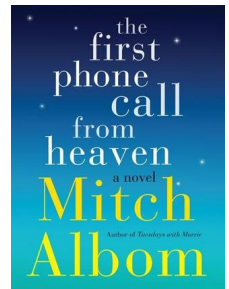
H1. Provide deeper relational and support ministries for children and youth in need or alone.

Who wants to help?? We start setting up the table at 4:45 pm and at 5:30, we pack the bags. After the bags are packed, We say a blessing over the them and it's over before 6 pm. Our inventory is pretty good, but we could use more meat items. Thank you for supporting this ministry...even over the summer. Contact Karen Kranz, kbkranz@gmail.com for information.



LADIES BOOK CLUB

We treat ourselves to dinner for our last meeting of the year, but to make it official in addition to the fellowship, we schedule an easy-read for our suggested book. For December, we will be reading and discussing *The First Phone Call from Heaven* by Mitch Albom (which is available from the library). The restaurant of choice is [Stonefire American Grill, 566 Spears Creek Church Rd.](#), Pontiac 29045, 803 -419-2332 on **Monday, December 1 @ 7:00 pm**. Bring your family and friends for enjoyable night out with the girls! Contact Karen Kranz, kbkranz@gmail.com for information.



LIVING SPRINGS PEW BEAR MINISTRY

Each bear is a minister of God's love as they leave here to be a blessing for others. You may take a bear to anyone who is in need of God's love: hurting from illness, loneliness, depression, grief, or any other reason. When you take a bear, please place \$10 or a free-will offering in a pew envelope and mark it "Pew

Bears." Donated funds are needed to replace the bears. Thank you for praying for this ministry. We are blessed to be a blessing!



LIVING SPRINGS CAR MAGNETS

Make your car an invitation for someone to come experience the joy of God's love here at Living Springs. The Communications Team will have LS Car Magnets available in the narthex. We ask for a minimum \$5 donation to cover the cost of the magnets.



HELPING HANDS!!

Currently there are about 450 students a week getting a backpack in the Richland 2 school district! As part of this program (McKinney Vento Advisory), a chain link was set up to send out to committee members...an email alert to an immediate need of an unaccompanied youth, families that are without housing, etc. In support of this, ESO has labeled this Outreach "**Helping Hands**". We send out an email blast when

the message is received that there is someone in need. We ask that you respond if you can or are able to fill the need of the request. Contact Karen Kranz at kbkranz@gmail.com for information.

CRAFTY LADIES

Looking for someone to share your crafting time with? Bring your knitting, crocheting, cross-stitch, or join us in making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, women's shelters, and female veteran homes. We tie our quilts so sewing experience is not a factor if you would like to participate – in fact, we have several ladies who are not sewer's but enjoy the fellowship of other ladies. Our group meets in the Fellowship Hall the second and fourth Saturday of the month at 9:30 am and usually end about 11:30 am. We would also appreciate any fabric donations and/or blankets (we use these as fillers). Contact Beverly Hoppert, beverlyhoppert@gmail.com for information.



Additional Opportunities

DASHER DINNER FOR LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY AT USC - 11/7

We are pleased to announce that the Rev'd Dr. Fred Reisz and May Reisz will be honored at the DASHER DINNER on Friday, November 7, 2014 at 6pm to be held in the Campus Room at Capstone House on Barnwell Street at College Street.

May and Fred have, each in their own way, contributed so much to the life of the Church, especially in education.

As pastor of University Lutheran Church at Harvard Square in Boston and as President of Southern Seminary Fred Reisz has distinguished himself in service, preaching, and administration.

As a gifted artist and teacher May has influenced many in Church and educational circles and served LCM at USC as a member of the Council for Lutheran Campus Ministry in the Columbia Area, and as its chair, during critical times in the ministry's history.

We look forward to having them, and as many friends and supporters of this ministry, with us for the annual event.

As part of our partnership with Lutheran Campus Ministry, Living Springs is sponsoring a table for eight at the discounted price of \$50 per person. If you would like to attend call the office or see Pastor Eric by November 2.

CELEBRATE THE MINISTRIES OF LUTHERAN SERVICES CAROLINAS REMEMBERING GOD'S LOVE

Every day at Lutheran Services Carolinas, we work with people who are down and struggling, and we help lift them up. The opportunity to help others is truly a wondrous blessing that serves as a constant reminder that God is present in all that we do. The ministries of LSC child and family services are celebrated in congregations around the state during the month of November. Thank you for your work on behalf of children and families and for supporting LSC as we offer special programs aimed at promoting healing and wholeness.

The theme for LSC's emphasis month this year is "Remembering God's Love." Inspired by the accompanying verse from Deuteronomy 6:12, "Be careful that you do not forget the Lord..." we are reminded to take God for granted in our lives. LSC is proud to work as God's hands in the world to make sure individuals and families are not forgotten. This is something we have done in the Palmetto State for more than 20 years through our child and youth services, such as therapeutic foster care, and services geared toward adults with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities, homeless veterans, and refugees.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to support the work of LSC child and family services, make checks payable to Lutheran Services Carolinas and write "Child and Family Month" on the memo line. Contributions may be mailed to P.O. Box 947, Salisbury, NC 28145, or made securely online at www.LSCarolinas.net.

During this special time, celebrate your congregation's involvement with LSC and rejoice in what we have accomplished and what more we can do together.

DIRECTORY DRAFT

Have you checked your contact information in one of our Directory Drafts? There are drafts in the Narthex. We still need photos as well - you may e-mail yours to the office (they do not need to be formal portraits)! Please do not take the directory drafts home. We will have final directories available at the Annual Meeting.



Faith Formation for All Ages at Living Springs



We invite any and all adults to our weekly Bible Study and Sunday Faith Alive offerings. Join in one or more to learn more about how we Lutheran Christians live out our faith in our daily lives.

- "The Sunday morning Faith Five Adult Class, meeting next to the main kitchen, is currently completing a survey of the New Testament. Ron Ramsey is serving as the Leader. The group concentrates on what the Bible said to the early Christians and what the Bible says to us in the twentieth-first century. This is a discussion group where all are heard.
- "The Greatest Story" Bible Study Sundays, 6:45 pm - Interested in making deeper connections between Scripture and daily life? This 16-part study, led by Pastor Eric, focuses on the life of Jesus, with DVD scenes from acclaimed sand artist Joe Castillo. Come join us!
- The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible study continues to meet at 10 AM Tuesdays. Beginning November 4th, Beverly Hopper beverlyhoppert@gmail.com will be the leader. The ladies will be viewing a series of videos on "Women of the Bible" with a discussion of the Biblical basis for the portrayal and the connection to our Christian life. All women are welcome!
- Tuesday Evening Bible Study has begun its study of The Gospel According to Matthew. This group meets for one hour beginning at 7 PM in the Katie Room. Come, be enlightened and enjoy our fellowship.

GOOD-BYE

Sara and Gene Hale have left South Carolina to return to their home in Pennsylvania. They would like to again say thank you to the many friends they have enjoyed over the last three years. Thanks for the welcome we received when we came and for the lovely farewell Pastor led Reformation Sunday. Thank you for including us in your hearts, your prayers, and your lives. The people of Living Springs have been a source of comfort, a place to worship and an inspiration to us both. Sara especially wishes to thank those who organized and those who attended the lovely farewell luncheon. As a preacher, she can't help passing on a word or two: If you want to feel welcome in any place, you must open your heart and mind to the people you find there. We did and we were greatly rewarded! Thank you, our brothers and sisters in Christ!



ELCA Presiding Bishop Eaton's November article from *The Lutheran*

See each other as brother, sister

This is most certainly true: Remember Eighth Commandment explanation

I remember a particularly contentious meeting with a church council when I was a synod bishop. It didn't start out that way, but bit by bit the mood changed. Council members began to question my motives, then my veracity, then my character. Finally I said, "Hey, I have a mother you know." That broke the tension. My point was that I was a human being just like them, not a bloodless functionary. I had become "The Man," which made me sad and was hugely confusing for my husband.

I would like to say this was an isolated incident in my experience of life in the church, but it was not. Nor is it confined to the church. Suspicion and blame aren't new. Bearing false witness was around way before Moses received the commandments. But it seems that the climate of distrust and accusation in society has become more heated. It's just more disappointing when it happens in the church.

[Read more](#)



Preschool & Afterschool Care News

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Happy Fall Everyone!

We look forward to the **Fall Feast November 20th 6:15-7:15**. If you would like to sign up to attend or to bring a dessert, side dish or make a monetary donation for hams or turkeys, please see the signup sheets in the Narthex. We look forward to seeing you there for a great evening of fun, food and fellowship!

We will be hosting a Yankee Candle Fundraiser just in time for the Holidays! Please follow the link to order online <http://tinyurl.com/pb3etua> or you may find a catalog (they will be arriving by mid November) in the Narthex. Funds from this fundraiser will go toward our Spring Playground Renovation. Our playgrounds outback are in need of updates. We would like to start with the younger playground. Our hope is to see the wood chips and climbing structure replaced with grass and "moveable equipment" and to create a "Natural Playscape" for our children. Children have a natural need and desire to explore, create and follow their own curiosities in a safe, inviting and challenging environment. Curiosity and the freedom to use loose parts create the problem solvers and risk takers of the future. We are in need of input/help with design, if this is a gift/talent/expertise you have; PLEASE consider sharing it with us! Also, if you have a talent, idea, desire or spirit tug to get involved, we would love to have you!

We would like to introduce a new program. We have joined Scholastic Books in the FACE Program. This is an outreach program aimed at getting books into the hands of children that may not otherwise have the chance to read or own books of their own. The foundation of FACE is –Early Literacy+Family Involvement+Access to Books+Expanded Learning+Mentoring Partnerships= Giving Our Youth More Tools to Succeed! These children and youth are the future. This program allows you to purchase books at a discounts of 43%-80%, no minimum purchase and free shipping. There is a variety of \$1.00 books as well. To login to our account please follow this link: www.scholastic.com/face our ID # is FC22201 We also have a catalog downstairs if you would like to take a look.

We invite all Preschool and Church Families as well as community members to our annual Winter Book Fair that will be held during the first week of December in the Fellowship Hall. Last year we sold over \$1,200.00 in books which allowed our staff to choose over \$600.00 in free books or classroom supplies. We look forward to another successful year!

We look forward to hosting a Family Literacy night in the near future, please keep an eye out for more information on how to attend, volunteer and support the FACE program! It's a busy time in our Preschool; we look forward to seeing you around! Until then, be blessed!

Love, **TAMMY AND THE PRESCHOOL STAFF**

From Lexanne, Director of Faith Formation:



We are so blessed to have this ministry here, which has created a safe haven for children and young people for over 10 years! Who are we? Look below:

N.A.E.Y.C. Accredited Program <https://www.naeyc.org/accreditation>.

- 9 age appropriate, hands-on classroom environments for children ages 6 weeks to 5th graders
- 25 talented, trained, dedicated teachers and staff
- Open Monday through Friday from 715AM-6PM year-round.
- Inviting atmosphere for parents and children
- Encourage members and guests to come be a Mystery Reader, Lead or assist with a crafting project (quilting, painting, sewing, gardening, arts and crafts, etc.), Play an instrument, Sing some songs, Help with lunch or snack time, or Share your faith story. There is no required time commitment; just a love of God and a desire to share!

Announcing ... **Living Springs FAITH ALIVE!**

Sunday School – Faith Education Time

1st Sundays

*All God's Family together,
9:25-10:30
FAITH5, FaithFriends,
Music & more!*



2nd-5th Sundays

9:25–9:40:

Music & Faith-Fun Bible Time

(Adults/Children/Youth in sanctuary;
then pick up refreshments on way to ...)

9:40–10:30:

Faith Alive Groups

Children's Faith Alive

Group Rotations

(arts, crafts, games, faith & life
applications)



Confirmation Faith Alive

High School Faith Alive

"L-I-G-H-T" Adult Faith Alive

Adult Class Faith Alive



FAITH 5

Have you experienced FAITH5 in your household yet? Here are 2 stories of how FAITH5 has impacted 2 households of faith.

**God has been acting in a FAITH5 household recently and it has brought smiles and laughter and deep conversation. A couple with 2 teenagers have seen so many positive benefits recently. They are talking openly and helping each other cope with daily struggles. They are praying for and with each other. The teens are seeing that every afternoon/evening the parents are putting down the electronics and really focusing on each other and God. To add an additional bit of fun to the experience, this household decided that on Sunday nights they will do something special! Instead of a pillow fight, they recently had a *marshmallow fight!* What fun! It was a chance to let go and let God be in on the fun and laughter that makes up a household centered in the grace and love of Jesus! Blessed to be a Blessing!

**God has been acting in and through a unique FAITH5 experience between a couple whose children are grown. This couple makes sure that at some point throughout the day (nighttime isn't the best time for them so they do it during the day!) they are taking time for each other, and experiencing how God has been at work in their separate lives. One day they chose to experience FAITH5 over a luncheon with co-workers. It was a low-key, simple way of finding out more about the people they interact with daily. This experience led to deep insight, great conversation, and the presence of God over a meal. Indeed it was a grace-filled lunch. Blessed to be a Blessing!

If you have a story to share about how your household is using FAITH5 daily, please contact Lexanne at Lexanne@LivingSpringsColumbia.org.

Feel free to click on this link to see a household actually experiencing FAITH5. You will see how simple and easy you can bring Jesus into every household, every night. <http://faith5.org/about/>



SHARE



READ



TALK



PRAY



BLESS

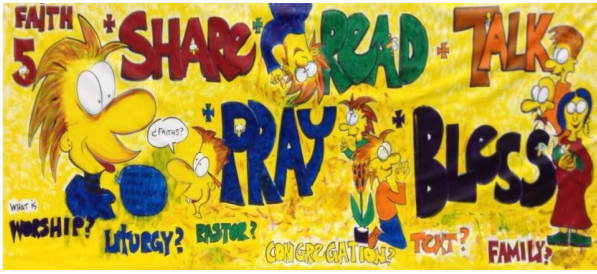
[Return to front page](#)

From the Director of Faith Formation

Lexanne K. Graves

Lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org

803.736.0661 M, W, Fr



FAITH ALIVE

Sunday School

We have re-formatted our Faith Formation education time on Sunday mornings so that we can fulfill God's Vision through "lifelong equipping of faith through education and bible study for all ages." If you feel the Spirit tugging you to share your insights on our Sunday morning education time, please contact Pastor Eric Fink (pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org) or Lexanne Graves (lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org).

FAITH5™ (Faith Acts In The Home) is a simple, easy-to-implement faith practice, perfect for incorporating into your bedtime or any daily routine for five to fifteen minutes. When done over time, the FAITH5™ carries the power to enrich communication, deepen understanding, aid sleep, and promote mental, physical and spiritual health. The five steps are:

[SHARE](#) your highs and lows

[READ](#) a Bible verse or story

[TALK](#) about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows

[PRAY](#) for one another's highs and lows

[BLESS](#) one another

If you would like to watch a family do all 5 steps and see how

EASY it is, please visit this link: <http://faith5.org/about/>



REINVENTING SUNDAY SCHOOL: *(Continuation from last month's newsletter)*

A reformation in faith formation, excerpts from The Lutheran Magazine Cover Story

Involving families in mission and service provides another way to do faith formation. "A lot of people are motivated to visit a nursing home or work in a community garden or homeless shelter because they are used as contexts for telling the stories and practices of the faith," Hymans said. "Before you go, you can have a meal, read Scripture and talk together."

Trinity provides such an opportunity through "Feed and be Fed," which includes an intergenerational, participatory 30-minute worship service followed by a project in the community. For example, they assembled snack packs for a local charity. Before delivering them, they talked about caring for their neighbors.

"It's an experiment for those who don't want to just sit in worship," Lutz said. "We have 3-year-olds working with 80- or 90-year-olds assembling sandwiches or planting flowers and vegetables. That's one way we do faith formation, and it doesn't look like traditional Sunday school."

To read the entire article, click here: http://www.thelutheran.org/article/article.cfm?article_id=12194



Faith Milestones



"I chose a valuable stone, which I am placing as the cornerstone in Zion; and whoever believes in him will never be disappointed." 1 Peter 2: 4-6

Our **Passing on Faith Milestones Ministry** team provides instruction and resources to equip families, children, youth, and adults to pass on faith and live well in Jesus Christ. By paying attention to the milestones of our lives, we create rituals and traditions that shape us and nurture us in our faith. The promises we make at Baptism point to the spiritual milestones in our lives.

You are invited to remember, celebrate and uphold your Baptismal promises by participating in our Faith Milestone events.

† **On November 16**, we invite all 1st-2nd graders to participate in our *Kids and Money Milestone* from 925am-1130am. We will gift and bless these young people in worship on Sunday, November 23rd.

† **On November 23**, we invite parents of 4th-5th graders who are interested in the *God and Family Faith Milestone*, to gather in the Narthex at 940am for a meeting to explain the details of this milestone.

Please sign-up through the Sign-Up Genius emails you will receive from Karlene Stuart, or you may contact her directly at karlene.k.stuart@baml.com so that we will have enough materials and gifts for each young person.

If there are any parents or young people who would like to write a brief article on participating in our Passing on the Faith Milestone Ministry or receiving the gifts from this ministry, please contact Lexanne Graves (Lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org). We want our members and guests to read about the amazing love expressed during these special family faith milestones.

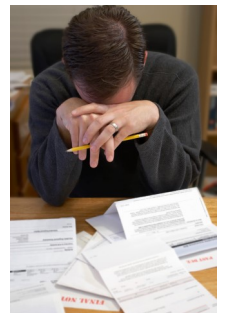


STRESS AND IT'S EFFECTS

Have you ever wondered how stress can affect your performance on a daily basis? In our Mission Vision process we heard that the **constraint stress of life** was very prevalent for many of us. So in an effort to provide support and tools to handle stress, read this article for helpful tips.

Research from the University of California, Berkeley, reveals an upside to experiencing moderate levels of stress. But it also reinforces how important it is to keep stress under control. The study, led by post-doctoral fellow Elizabeth Kirby, found that the onset of stress entices the brain into growing new cells responsible for improved memory. However, this effect is only seen when stress is intermittent. As soon as the stress continues beyond a few moments into a prolonged state, it suppresses the brain's ability to develop new cells.

[READ MORE](#)



What's Up with Youth???



We have a youth group for each of our children from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Parents, please make every effort to have your youth participate in our Christ-centered events.

Kindergarten-2nd Grade Youth Group:

We will gather on **Sunday, Nov 16th** following the Congregational Meeting (~1245pm) for a picnic lunch, an Advent Craft, and a friendly competition to buy the most items for our BackPack Ministry. We will indeed Be Active in our Faith this day! Join us! Contact Kind-2nd Gr Leaders, Nic and Rachel Peterson, (peterson.nicholas3@gmail.com, rach7@gmail.com).

CLUB 3456: For all young people in Grades 3, 4, 5, & 6!

Join us on **Sunday Nov. 16th** following the Congregational Meeting (~1245pm) to eat lunch at Firehouse Subs and then Pay It Forward! We invite all families to join us as we follow Jesus' command to love one another, as he first loved us. Youth are asked to bring money to buy their own lunch and the lunch of another random person.

Contact Club 3456 Leaders, Leslie Bloss (LBloss3306@hotmail.com) and Cheryl Milburn (cmilburn98@yahoo.com)

7TH-12TH Youth Group Events:

Sr. Youth Group will gather at a local restaurant on Wednesday nights at 7:00pm. We look forward to seeing everyone on November 5, 12, 19, & 26!! Contact Laura Dunklin (843-992-2506; lauradunklin@livingspringscolumbia.org) or Adam Woodruff (803-917-6270; nccwoody@hotmail.com) Woodruff to see which restaurant we will gather for food and fellowship!

Nov. 7-9 – Camping weekend trip sponsored by Lutheran Men

Nov. 20 – Fall Feast; come join with us as we give thanks for what God has given us!

Nov. 23 – Advent Family Night, 5:00pm

Nov. 28 – Christmas Tree Lot opens

Dec. 14 – Youth Spaghetti Dinner and Elf Store!

Dec. 20-21 - Live Nativity

Contact 7th-12th gr Leaders, Laura Dunklin (lauradunklin@livingspringscolumbia.org) and Adam Woodruff (nccwoody@hotmail.com).

**Parents, please support these youth events so that our young people can reap the benefits of a connected, Christ-centered peer group. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/154193947932855/>



ATTENTION YOUTH:

If any of our young people are in need of "Extracurricular Community Service Hours" for school or activity groups, Mrs. Lexanne is always in need of help with crafty projects and getting things ready for Sunday school and youth group. So please contact her! lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org.

Tell me, how you gonna love a God you can't see, if you can't love a person you can see?!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gykmvCAh24g>





ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING IN DETROIT, JULY 15-19, 2015

www.ELCA.org/gathering

We have 6 Youth and 3 Adults committed to going to Detroit!

Now we as a congregation have some work to do to ensure this faith forming experience will be one these persons will be transformed by and remember for years to come!

If you haven't already, please reserve your Christmas Tree and Wreaths by using the order forms located in the back of the newsletter, the Narthex and the Administration Building. Turn in form and check to Lexanne's box!



ELCA youth are not unlike their peers in that they are people of action, and they like to take action alongside their friends. Friends are extremely important, often influencing the direction and quality of one's life. As friends united in Christ, we begin collecting In-kind Donations for the Gathering, which Detroit residents desperately need. So will you help us too?

Diapers

Imagine sending your baby or toddler to preschool or daycare wearing a plastic grocery bag instead of diapers. That is happening in Detroit. In fact, diapers are such a hot commodity, pharmacies and stores sometimes keep them behind glass because desperate people sometimes steal to get them. On average, a newborn goes through eight to 10 diapers a day, a cost that can add up to \$100 a month for one baby. For people who are poor that cost is out of reach, and they too often have to choose between diapers and food. In addition, diapers are the first line of defense against infection and disease and are even linked to preventing depression and violence.

Non-perishable food items

The lack of access to transportation, an inadequate public transportation system, and safety issues are all factors impacting a person's ability to choose when and where they shop for food. Over half a million Detroit residents live in areas that have an imbalance of healthy food options. These people are statistically more likely to suffer or die prematurely from a diet-related disease, holding other key factors constant. Many areas in Detroit are considered, by some, to be "food deserts." Food deserts are urban areas in which it is difficult to buy affordable or good, healthy food. For too many people in Detroit the only option for food is from Dollar Stores, party stores, convenient stores and gas stations. There are 141 food pantries in Detroit to help meet the need for healthy food. In addition to the food pantries, there are federal programs like WIC (Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children). The director of the WIC program in Detroit says the program services approximately 65,000 residents per year; 75 percent are infants and children up to 5 years old. Your congregation can help by sending non-perishable, packaged food items with youth going to the Gathering. Everything collected will be sent directly to Detroit community food pantries for people who are hungry.

GET TO KNOW OUR HOST CITY, DETROIT!

We are looking forward to gathering ELCA youth and their leaders for worship and fellowship in Detroit, Mich., our host city for the 2015 Gathering. We believe God is calling us together to be church in this place, and that there is much we can learn from the people of Detroit. Watch this [video](#), and hear what people have to say about downtown Detroit — an area that's exciting, safe and walkable, and different from what you might expect. And if you haven't already, be sure to watch [this clip](#) from ELCA Youth Gathering Director Heidi Hagstrom sharing more about our call to Detroit.

SAFETY AND SECURITY VIDEO

The [ELCA Youth Ministry Network](#) is partnering with the Gathering team to offer video updates for Adult Leaders. This month, we want you to hear from Pastor Shawn — the team leader for Safety and Security. We think it is important that you hear about the experienced people who are working to ensure that our participants, partners and guests go home at least as healthy as they came. When we ask you to trust us, we do it because we know we have leaders with decades of experience in urban law enforcement (NYPD), trauma medicine and large event security working with agencies that know and protect Detroit every day. [Watch video](#)

Men's Ministries

MEN'S BREAKFAST

We continue to form our Lutheran Men's circle of prayer where each man is praying for a brother in Christ. Come to our next meeting to expand our circle. Next breakfast gathering will be **Saturday, November 22nd** at 8:00 am at Living Springs. Meal is being served by Laura Cunningham, former owner-operator of Backyard Grill. She will be serving coffee, buttermilk pancakes, grits, sausage, and scrambled eggs @ \$6.60 per person. We will be discussing our upcoming events. We meet on the last Saturday of each month.



Women's Ministries

FALL WELCA MIDLANDS CONFERENCE

Adele Lindberg, Gwen Furcron, Ginny Devereaux and Jan Berger attended the Fall WELCA Midlands Conference at St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Broad River Road, Columbia, on Saturday, October 11, 2014. The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. with coffee and light refreshments. Attendees were able to visit booths set up in the church narthex to get information on WELCA happenings in our area and our state. The Ripple Newsletter was available and we could sign up for an electronic copy at no cost. We were able to purchase beautiful Lucinda Pins. We were able to learn about various WELCA ministries and how we might serve boldly as women of God!!!

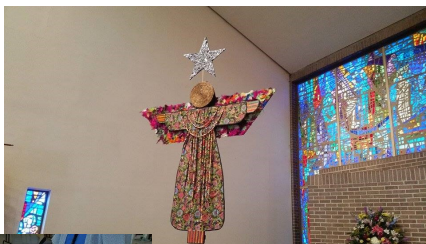


Pastor Jackie Utley, the first ordained African American woman in the SC Synod, who is serving at Ascension Lutheran Church in Columbia, spoke to us about serving boldly and reaching out to spread the gospel. With a Church of Christ background, Pastor Jackie shared her journey on how she became a Lutheran pastor! It was quite a story!!

A wonderful summer lunch was served in the church dining hall hosted by the women of St. Andrews. The St. Andrews Quilting Group made placemats as gifts for the attendees. Living Springs ladies came home with 2 placemats!!

What a joy to be a part of a wonderful group of women: learning, sharing, serving and praising God! Look for information in future bulletins and newsletters about WELCA events at Living Springs, at our Midlands area conferences, and throughout our State!

For more information about WELCA events, or serving in women's ministries at Living Springs, contact Ginny Devereaux or Jan Berger.



Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

November 1 Madison Spencer
November 2 Ray Long
November 3 Joseph Faulisi
November 4 Wade Smart
November 7 Andrew Drafts
November 9 Nickie Riley
November 10 Jack Arnold
 Dick Collins
November 11 Jane McManus
 ♥ Blake & Melissa Lindstedt
November 12 ♥ John & Kari Arnold
November 14 Preston Franks
 ♥ David & Diana Abromaitis

November 17 Emma Randall
November 19 Becky Sides
November 20 Brenda Grohman
 Angelina Scipio
November 21 ♥ Bill & Darbie Anderson
November 22 Jason Keppery
November 24 Wayne Kannaday
 ♥ Mike & Trish Davidson
November 26 Darbie Anderson
 Steve Padgett
 Hany Sorial
November 28 Julia Buchanan



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!



November 1 Eric Johnson
November 9 Connor Horan
 Alex Snider
November 10 Jean Cronin
 Hannah Staudt
November 11 Ann Lynn Caughman
November 13 Evelyn Long

November 16 Catherine Ruff
November 18 Aaron Smith
November 19 Samuel Bailey
 Steve Cronin
November 22 Karlene Stuart
November 26 Jen Necker
November 29 Helen Doerpinghaus

Council Clips

August 21, 2014 Meeting
September 18, 2014 Meeting

Staff Reports:

Pastor

Active Discipleship:

- 4 sermon proclamations; 9 Holy Communion celebrations; Animal Blessing service; (1) wedding service, rehearsal & reception; weekly Baptismal Anniversary Recognitions; 1 partial choir practice; (1) LS Prayer lunch; meeting with Worship chair.
- MV: (2) meetings (Team & DVD) and follow-up items; (1) planning meeting for Visionaries & follow-up.
- LS Stewardship Meeting; SC Synod Stewardship meeting.
- (2) Faith Alive gatherings; Christian Ed meeting; Letter to confirmation parents for final month focus.
- Bible Studies: (2) partial woman's; (4) Greatest Story BS; (1) adult BS.
- 11 hospital/nursing home/office conferences; (1) wedding planning session; 22 other contacts/calls/visits.
- Lutheran Men's breakfast; (1) staff lunch.

Community/Youth/School Partnerships:

- (4) Wed. night Youth gatherings; Sr. Youth Climbing at Wendy's.
- National Youth Gathering parents' meeting.
- (4) PS Bible Story Times & (4) AS Bible Times; (2) PS Wed. Chapel; PS Staff Prayer Lunch; PS Board Meeting.
- SC LARCUM School Partnership Conference.
- 2014-15 LTSS Teaching Parish Supvr.: Seminary meeting; student conference.

Ministries of Hope:

- October newsletter; (2) meetings (ESO & Communications); (2) backpack sessions.
- Worship Guests/Potential Members: (12) contacts/calls/notes; (1) office conference.
- (2) Membership sessions; Membership Sunday.
- Midlands Conf: Mission Dev. Information session.

Support: 8 meetings (Staff, Exec, Council, Finance, Communications Coordinator).

Director of Faith Formation

Active Discipleship:

- Trained more adults on Child Youth Protection Policy.
- Lifelong Faith Equipping for all ages = FAITH5. At 9:25 music, skits, & song to introduce the bible verse for the day. Three adults to talk/discuss the Nooma Series of DVD's with 9-12th graders during Faith Education Hour; attended Dr. Rich Melheim's conference on FAITH5 & worked on cross generation worship & education experience at LS.
- Network of Discipleship Partners/Build Deeper relationships: God's Work. Our Hands Day.
- Culture of Prayer: PSC prayer box, PSC teacher prayer lunch, prayer at FAITH ALIVE centers.
- Music Ministry in PSC: sing camp songs with children playing instruments and also in weekly chapel time.
- Attend Tuesday lunches with members/guests making connection with their daily life.
- Communicate through Facebook, bulletin boards and newsletters to share what our Youth are doing in our communities.

Ministries of Hope:

- FAITH5 (Faith Acts In The Home) – SHARE. READ. TALK. PRAY. BLESS -- 5 to 15 minutes at bedtime.
- Refection Group Leader at LTSS for 7 students to help form them into church leaders.

Youth/School Community Partnerships:

- Expand opportunities: lunch on 2nd Tuesday for Prayer and FAITH5 sharing with all staff;
- Life-Transforming experiences: NYG Detroit 2015 – 6 youth 3 adults attending; K-2: Bible & Science; Club 3456: experimented to see which group could buy the most backpack food items for \$20 (156 items for \$40); 7-12 continue to gather on Wed. nights and Sunday mornings for faith/life application & fellowship.

Congregational: Worship (10); Staff (2); Meetings: (3); Reports: newsletter articles; PSC Board report & Council report.

Current Ministries:

Membership: next class scheduled for November.

Ongoing Ministries:

Constitution: Bylaws mailed out to members – First meeting to approve constitution after the Mission Vision Celebration on Oct. 19.

Living Springs Lutheran Church

Finance Committee Report - Spending Plan 2015

Attached you will find a summary of the proposed Ministry Spending Plan for 2015, to be voted on at the Annual Congregational Meeting on **November 16, 2014.**

If you would like a detailed, itemized version of the Spending Plan, copies are available on the narthex table, or in the office. On **Sunday, Nov. 2,** and **Sunday, Nov. 16,** a member of the Finance Committee will be available in the narthex between services, to answer any questions you may have about the 2015 Spending Plan. You may also email questions to Finance Chairperson, Charlie Tracy, at charlietracy44@gmail.com.

The 2015 Spending Plan shows, for comparison, the actual income and expenses for 2013, along with the annualized 2014 income and expense, and the 2015 proposed Spending Plan. For planning purposes, in the 2015 Spending Plan, we project income to be the annualized 2014 income. Please note that for the first time in five years we have seen an increase in income.

As you can see, 92% of the foundational 2015 Spending Plan is allocated to salaries, mission support, mortgage, maintenance, utilities and administration – those essential and vital expenditures which enable Living Springs to exist as a congregation and continue all our ministries that have such a great impact upon many lives. It should be noted that our foundational Spending Plan also makes it possible for other additional, specific designated offerings to fund a significant portion of the ministry for our youth, outreach projects, social ministry, etc.

Note: The 2014 Spending Plan originally projected a deficit of \$86,500, but as of 3rd quarter, we now project to be within \$7,000 of completely covering our ministry expenditures for 2014, due to an increase in giving and a tight control of expenses. *If we pull together for a push in our offerings in the final quarter of 2014, we might be able to amazingly “break-even” for the year and even begin to repay some of the \$54,000+ we have had to borrow from our capital/designated funds over the past few years. Let’s make it happen!*

We give thanks to God for all the faithful support of Christ’s disciples here at Living Springs – and all the powerful ways you carry on the ministry of our Lord through your faithful stewardship of time, talent, and treasure!

2015 LIVING SPRINGS MINISTRY SPENDING PLAN

| | 2013 Actual | 2014 Plan | 2014 YTD Annualized | 2015 Plan Proposal |
|--|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Congregational Offerings</i> | 294,067 | 280,999* | 319,476* | 322,841* |
| <i>Preschool Reimbursements</i> | 62,817 | 62,817 | 63,608 | 64,594 |
| <i>Other Receipts/Interest, etc.</i> | 1,515 | 862* | 5,042* | 2,100* |
| OPERATING CONTRIBUTIONS | 358,399 | 344,678* | 388,126* | 389,535* |
| Outreach - Proportionate Share | 29,792 | 27,600 | 28,417 | 31,600 |
| Outreach – Social Ministry | 187 | 300 | 0 | desig. funds |
| Outreach - Evangelism | 1,507 | 750 | 159 | 900 |
| Synod Assembly/Events | 1,037 | 600 | 547 | 1,000 |
| Christian Education | 2,354 | 9,225 | 5,242 | 7,725 |
| Communications (incl. website/software) | 1,673 | 7,500 | 1,460 | 7,500 |
| Social Inreach | 0 | 500 | 0 | 500 |
| Stewardship | 112 | 1,000 | 1,114 | 1,200 |
| Worship (incl. Outdoor Nativity) | 1,222 | 4,500 | 1,105 | 4,400 |
| Youth Ministries | 172 | 5,300 | 100 | 5,100 |
| Salaries (Pastor, Staff, Nursery) | 171,686 | 177,842 | 170,505 | 183,030 |
| Benefits (Insurance, Pension, etc.) | 14,525 | 27,783 | 23,092 | 28,005 |
| Mileage (Staff, Seminarian) | 3,628 | 4,000 | 3,991 | 5,400 |
| Staff Continuing Education | 245 | 1,600 | 629 | 1,600 |
| Supply (Pastor/Organist) | 2,200 | 2,000 | 371 | 1,000 |
| Admin – Paper, Office, Postage, etc. | 11,191 | 10,756 | 10,193 | 10,450 |
| Payroll Tax | 8,507 | 8,902 | 8,920 | 9,184 |
| Kitchen/Bathroom Supplies | 3,000 | 3,500 | 0 | 3,500 |
| Payroll Administration | 716 | 1,000 | 1,150 | 1,400 |
| Personnel Recruitment | 1,245 | 1,000 | 0 | 1,000 |
| Mortgage Payments | 77,535 | 76,066 | 76,066 | 76,066 |
| Insurance | 6,063 | 4,546 | 4,424 | 4,849 |
| Maintenance, Janitor, Grounds | 17,502 | 20,403 | 19,177 | 31,140 |
| Utilities | 33,363 | 34,479 | 35,633 | 34,547 |
| LifePoint Counseling | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | n/a |
| Stephen Ministry | 0 | 100 | 0 | n/a |
| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | 390,462 | 431,252 | 394,844 | 451,097 |
| OPERATING DEFICIT | (32,063) | (86,574)* | (6,718)* | (61,562)* |
| <u>Monthly/Weekly Requirements:</u> | <u>2013 Actual</u> | <u>2014 Plan</u> | <u>2014 Projected</u> | <u>2015 Plan</u> |
| Monthly Expense | 32,538 | 35,938 | 32,904 | 37,591 |
| Monthly Preschool Contribution | 5,235 | 5,235 | 5,301 | 5,383 |
| Monthly Congregation Contribution | 27,304 | 30,703 | 27,603 | 32,208 |
| <i>Weekly Cong. Contribution Required</i> | 6,301 | 7,085 | 6,370 | 7,433 |
| <i>Weekly Cong. Contribution Received</i> | 5,684 | 5,420* | 6,241* | 6,249* |

*contribution estimates based on annual projections made at end of 3rd Quarters.

November 2014

***8:15am Worship, 9:30am Sunday School, 10:45am
Worship - every Sunday unless otherwise noted**

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|---|---|--|-------------------------|---|
| <p>2 All Saints Sunday 12P Worship/Music Team 5P Greatest Story Bible Story 6P Bunco</p> | <p>3 1030A Meals on Wheels 1245P Zumba</p> | <p>4 930 PSC Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1145A Tuesday Lunch 345P ASC Bible Time 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells</p> | <p>5 930 PSC Chapel 1230P Zumba 6P ESO 6P Sanctuary Choir 615P PSC Board 7P Chancel Choir 7P Communications 7P 7th-12th Gr. Youth</p> | <p>6 830A Good News Walkers 530P Backpacks</p> | <p>7</p> | <p>1</p> |
| <p>9 1045 Outdoor Worship @ Poinsett 3P Thrivent Annual Meeting 645P Greatest Story Bible Story</p> | <p>10 930A Staff Meeting 1030A Meals on Wheels 1245P Zumba 7P Social Inreach</p> | <p>11 930 PSC Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1215P PSC Prayer Lunch 345P ASC Bible Time 6P Finance Team 6P Girl Scouts 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells</p> | <p>12 9A TELS 930 PSC Chapel 1230P Zumba 545P Stewardship 6P Sanctuary Choir 7P Chancel Choir 7P 7th-12th Gr. Youth</p> | <p>13 830A Good News Walkers 530P Backpacks 615P Preschool Board</p> | <p>14</p> | <p>15</p> |
| <p>16 930A Kids & Money Noon Congregation Mtg 12:45 K-2nd Group 12:45 3456 Youth 430P MV Training 645P Greatest Story Bible Story</p> | <p>17 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Council Exec</p> | <p>18 930 PSC Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 345P ASC Bible Time 615P Tuesday Dinner 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells</p> | <p>19 930A PSC Chapel 1230P Zumba 6P Sanctuary Choir 7P Chancel Choir 7P 7th-12th Gr. Youth</p> | <p>20 830A Good News Walkers 530P Backpacks 615P Fall Feast 7P Council</p> | <p>21</p> | <p>22 8A Men's Breakfast 930A Crafty Ladies</p> |
| <p>23 930A God & Family Parent Meeting 5P Advent Family Night 645P Greatest Story Bible Story</p> | <p>24 1030A Meals on Wheels 1245P Zumba 530 Backpacks</p> | <p>25 930 PSC Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 345P ASC Bible Time 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells</p> | <p>26 930 PSC Chapel 6P Sanctuary Choir 7P Chancel Choir</p> | <p>27 Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed</p> | <p>28 Office Closed</p> | <p>29</p> |
| <p>30 645P Greatest Story Bible Story</p> | | | | | | |

Family Campout @ Poinsett State

Worship Assistant Schedule – November 2014

| | Assisting Minister | Lector | Communion Assistant | Ushers | Greeters | Acolyte | Crucifer | Torchbearers | Counters | Children's Sermon | Council Person | | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|--|---|----------------|--------------|--|--|-------------|--|--|
| 11/2 | Brandon Heavner | Bob Gill | Beverly Hoppert Karen Kranz | Jan Schmidt Scott Graves | Herb & Gwen Brantley | Connor Kilbourne | | | | Dea Jones | Karen Kranz | | | | | | |
| 11/2 | Brandon Heavner | Peg Collins | Evan Turnmire Laura Turnmire | Bill Franck Karlene Stuart Laura Stuart Rocky Berger | Julia Tenhover | Dylan Horan | Allison Levitt | Ed Brennan Brenda Grohman | Bill Franck (LC) Steve Cronin Peter Moore | Dea Jones | Rocky Berger | | | | | | |
| 11/9 | Sandra Dixon | Janet Bate | Gwen Furcron Bill Franck | Marj & Jerry Appleton | Jen Necker Corin Wiggins | Ben Arnold | | | | Jan Berger | Scott Graves | | | | | | |
| 11/9 | CAMPING | WEEKEND | AT POINSETT | CAMP GROUNDS | | | | | | Mark Stuart (LC) Mike Davidson Brantley Smith | Mark Stuart | | | | | | |
| 11/16 | Lexanne Graves | Herb Brantley | Sally Moore Bob Gill | Peter Moore Wendy McKenzie | Bill & Gale Copeland | Courtney Staedt | Pat Bartucca | Alison Levitt Sara Levitt | Scott Graves (LC) Trish Davidson Aaron Smith | Brandon Heavner | Jean Cronin | | | | | | |
| 11/16 | Jeff Day | Bob Turnmire | Jan Berger Courtney Murray | Mike Davidson Mathis Butler Evan Turnmire Adam Woodruff | Nancy Baldwin | Lauren Bloss | Pat Bartucca | Alison Levitt Sara Levitt | | Brandon Heavner | Aaron Smith | | | | | | |
| 11/23 | Jen Necker | Corin Wiggins | Tina Molineu Don Molineu | Peg & Bill Fox | Nancy Franck | Caroline Moore | | | | Adam Woodruff | Bill Franck | | | | | | |
| 11/23 | Brandon Heavner | Adele Lindberg | Leslie Bloss Jeanette Bloss | Marshall Hurlbert Sara Levitt Amber Jorgensen Steve Padgett | Lauren & Leslie Bloss | Mathis Butler | Karlene Stuart | Laura Stuart Rocky Berger | Jean Cronin (LC) Wendy McKenzie Leslie Bloss | Adam Woodruff | Leslie Bloss | | | | | | |
| 11/30 | Gwen Furcron | Peg Zieche | Ashley Ramsey Nowell Ramsey | Shirley & Paul Laingen | Jan Schmidt | Hayley Haskins | | | | Lexanne Graves | Rocky Berger | | | | | | |
| 11/30 | Steve Padgett | Dea Jones | Gail Buchanan Cindy Day | Courtney Murray Pat Bartucca Steve Bloss Rocky Berger | Mike Davidson | Austin Padgett | Jan Berger | Jeanette Bloss Jeff Day | Ed Brennan (LC) Adam Woodruff Angie Dyches | Lexanne Graves | Ed Brennan | | | | | | |
| Care Meals | | | Flowers | | | Muggers | | | Nursery (10:45) | | | Refreshments | | | Altar Guild | | |
| 11/2 | | | Steve Bloss | Karen Kranz | | | Sally Moore | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11/9 | | | Kari Arnold | Herb Brantley | | | Wendy McKenzie | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11/16 | | | Karen Kranz | Irene & Charles Tracy | | | Misty O'Donnell | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11/23 | | | Marj & Jerry Appleton | Cathy Lowman | | | Angie Dyches + | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11/30 | | | | Karen Kranz | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

+Julia Tenhover (helper)

Gifts of Hope



Gifts that Really Matter.

Gifts of Hope is an alternative gift-giving program in the [South Carolina Synod](#) (ELCA). This Christmas give gifts to family and friends that really matter. Give hope.

For your shopping pleasure, this website contains 31 unique gifts priced from \$10 to \$100 that give hope to others. The gifts are presented by the institutions and social ministry organizations affiliated with the SC Synod of the ELCA, as well as the SC Synod's companion synods.

For each gift you purchase, you receive two items - a gift card and an insert describing your chosen gift - which you give to the person receiving the gift. The actual gift will be delivered by the designated organization or institution to the beneficiary, (for example, new shoes and backpacks for children or new vegetable plants for a community garden).

Whether you give Gifts of Hope to share your faith and blessings, to advocate for a simpler lifestyle or to make a difference in the lives of all those touched by your gift - we thank you for participating in this program to give hope to someone who really needs it.

http://www.giftsofhopesc.com/uploads/8/1/1/4/8114799/2014_catalog.pdf

Questions? Contact us at <mailto:lynn@scsynod.com>



Living Springs
COLUMBIA, SC

Living Springs Lutheran Church
4224 Hard Scrabble Road
Columbia SC, 29223

Annual Christmas Tree Sale Discount Pre-Order Form Certified North Carolina Frazier Firs

Name: _____ Phone# _____

Address _____

Email: _____

| Size | Price | #Ordered | Tree Total |
|-----------|---------|----------|------------|
| 6 - 7ft | \$40.00 | | |
| 7 - 8ft | \$45.00 | | |
| 8 - 9ft | \$60.00 | | |
| 9 - 10ft | \$70.00 | | |
| 10 - 11ft | \$90.00 | | |



Trees



Wreaths

| Size | Price | #Ordered | Wreath Total |
|--------|---------|----------|--------------|
| 12-14" | \$25.00 | | |

Shipping Preference - Trees will be received in two shipments this year
Please indicate which shipment you wish to receive your order from

1st Shipment (Nov 28) _____ 2nd Shipment (Dec 12) _____

Paid by: cash _____ check# _____ Total: _____

Pickup _____ Delivery _____

Youth Representative: _____

All Proceeds are used to fund Youth events throughout the year

Pre-Order deadline is October 31

CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers

Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor

Lexanne Graves, A.I.M. – Director of Faith Formation

Nickie Riley – Director of Music Ministry

Tammy Mancuso- Preschool/ASC Director

Lisa Petty – Administrative Assistant/Communications
Coordinator

Laura Dunklin - Associate for Sr. Youth Ministry

Laura Cunningham - Food Resource Person

Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper

Laura Turnmire – Director of Handbell Choir

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

[Rocky Berger](#) - President

[Scott Graves](#) - Vice President

[Karen Kranz](#) - Secretary

[Jerry Appleton](#) - Treasurer

[Ken Creticos](#) – Financial Secretary

[Leslie Bloss](#)

[Ed Brennan](#)

[Jean Cronin](#)

[Bill Franck](#)

[Aaron Smith](#)

[Mark Stuart](#)

[Jeff Tenhover](#)

[Bob Turnmire](#)

[Nick Creticos](#), Youth Rep.

LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

4224 Hard Scrabble Road

Columbia, SC 29223

Phone: 803-736-0661

FAX: 803-865-8252

contact@livingspringscolumbia.org

www.livingspringscolumbia.org

 www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Archives

Judy Lawrence

Christian Education

Leslie Bloss

Communication Team

Jan Berger and Wendy McKenzie

ESO

Karen Kranz

Facilities

Ed Brennan

Finance

Charles Tracy

Social Inreach

Wendy McKenzie and Retha Murray

Youth Ministry

Contact Faith Formation Director, Lexanne Graves

Worship & Music

Jim Zieche

Email:

pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org

Pastor Eric

lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org

Lexanne Graves

nickie@livingspringscolumbia.org

Nickie Riley

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Lisa Petty

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Laura Dunklin

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Laura Cunningham

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Sherry Forsgren

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Laura Turnmire

prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org

Prayer Requests