



# Living Springs Lutheran Church

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



## February 2016 Volume 30 Issue 297

*This newsletter is interactive. Click any of the links below in the Table of Contents to be taken to that page!*

### In This Issue:

<a href="#">Message from Pr. Eric</a>	<a href="#">Page 2</a>	<a href="#">"Big Game" Challenge</a>	<a href="#">Page 9</a>	<a href="#">Preschool News</a>	<a href="#">Page 15</a>
<a href="#">Lent at Living Springs</a>	<a href="#">Page 3</a>	<a href="#">Upcoming at LS</a>	<a href="#">Page 10</a>	<a href="#">Message from Lexanne</a>	<a href="#">Page 16</a>
<a href="#">Message from V. Marty</a>	<a href="#">Page 4</a>	<a href="#">Men's Ministry</a>	<a href="#">Page 12</a>	<a href="#">FAITH5 Feb Verses</a>	<a href="#">Page 20</a>
<a href="#">God At Work</a>	<a href="#">Page 5</a>	<a href="#">Women's Ministry</a>	<a href="#">Page 11</a>	<a href="#">Youth News</a>	<a href="#">Page 21</a>
<a href="#">Disciple Stories</a>	<a href="#">Page 7</a>	<a href="#">Ongoing at LS</a>	<a href="#">Page 13</a>	<a href="#">Calendar</a>	<a href="#">Page 25</a>
<a href="#">Council Clips</a>	<a href="#">Page 8</a>	<a href="#">Faith Milestones</a>	<a href="#">Page 14</a>	<a href="#">Worship Assistants</a>	<a href="#">Page 26</a>
				<a href="#">Birthdays/Anniversaries</a>	<a href="#">Page 27</a>

## ***"The Next Step" - This Month from Pastor Eric***



As the newsletter is finalized, we come to the final ten days of Epiphany. Epiphany is brief this year, because Easter comes so early (March 27) and hence, Ash Wednesday arrives soon (Feb. 10). A focus of Epiphany is the coming of God's light (Jesus) to shatter the world's darkness—and how that light shone beyond the descendants of Abraham & Sarah for all peoples. We ponder the amazing miracles (signs) worked by Jesus, by which the light of God's grace was revealed. We ponder how Jesus called ordinary folks to follow him and become harbingers of the light. We reflect upon Jesus' words directed to people like you and me, "YOU are the light of the world—let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven!" (Matthew 5:14

-16). We began the Epiphany season with the night sky exploding in light emitted from a candle's single spark touched to the greenery of Christmas: a symbol of the light and warmth of God's love that can transform the world, through the spark of the Holy Spirit within each of us who have been baptized into Christ. At our final Sunday worship time in January, we considered Christ's call for us to follow him completely, and we asked ourselves the question, "Will I take the next step?"

As we approach the season of Lent, we consider the Good News that GOD's answer to that very same question was a resounding "yes!" For centuries, God reached out to humanity in incredible ways—covenants of promise, the gift of God's commandments, prophets who proclaimed God's word. Then, in a truly amazing act of grace-filled love, God took the next step and sent us God's very own Son!

The book of Hebrews describes that amazing next step: "Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days God has spoken to us by a Son, whom God appointed heir of all things, through whom God also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory...." (Hebrews 1:1-3a). Throughout his ministry, Jesus was a living reflection of God's own willingness to "take the next step." Jesus took the courageous "next step" at his hometown synagogue, when he enraged the people of Nazareth by indicating that God's fulfillment would be not only for them, but also for those whom they saw as their enemies (Luke 4:20-30). Jesus took the courageous "next step" when he left the crowds of Galilee and headed out on a 100-mile journey that would take him to Jerusalem and the cross that awaited him (cf. Luke 9:51).



I am excited about this year's Lenten focus at Living Springs, "People of Jesus' Story." What *was* it like for those who encountered this One, Jesus, who took the next step for them? What *is* it like for people such as you and me, who are part of the ongoing story of this One, Jesus, who still takes the next step with us? What does it mean for us to be marked with the cross—the symbol of Jesus' ultimate "next

step"? What does it mean to hear the call to pick up our cross and follow Jesus—to take our own next steps in the journey of God's grace and love for all the world?

I am excited about our Wednesday night dramas that will pair someone who encountered Jesus in the Gospels and a modern disciple-dot story of someone in our own community who has encountered Jesus. I am excited about the mid-day prayer services, "Open My Life, Lord." I am excited about the little Lenten reporter notebooks that will be given to everyone—to record our ongoing sightings of people in our world who continue to be part of Jesus' amazing story of hope and love.

I am excited about the "next step" in our ongoing efforts of racial reconciliation, with the NE Community viewing of "Selma" on Feb. 28. I am excited about the upcoming Friday Lenten Fish Fry series, with a sharing of talents to support our partnership with Lutheran Campus Ministry (which helps so many college students take the "next step" in their journey of faith). I am excited about our Adult Faith Milestone recognition on Feb. 21, as we recognize adult disciples who are taking "next steps" in their lifelong journey of faith. I am excited about Youth Sunday on Feb. 7, as we continue to marvel at our young people taking "next steps" in growing as disciples of Jesus. I am excited about culminating the Epiphany season with you at our

Shrove Tuesday pancake supper sponsored by our youth. I am excited about beginning the Lenten Journey with each of you at Ash Wednesday services the next day. And, as always, I am excited by the ways the Spirit is calling each of us to take the next steps in our own lives, to reflect the grace and light of this amazing God—and our amazing Lord, Jesus—who in every way, have taken the next steps for us!

*With thanksgiving to be your fellow disciple, marked with the cross of Jesus, Pastor Eric*

***In sending Jesus, God took the "next step" for us — when it comes to following Jesus, how will we take the next step?***

**LENT 2016:**

***People of Jesus' Story!***

***Youth Sunday - Feb. 7***

***Shrove Tuesday - Feb. 9***

***Ash Wednesday - Feb. 10***

***Fish Fry Programs - Feb. 12, 19, 26***

***Lenten Services - Feb. 17, 24***

***Adult Milestones - Feb. 21***

***"Selma" Viewing - Feb. 28***

***Prepare Your Heart! Respond to the Spirit's Tugs! Share Your Disciple-Dot God Stories!***

**Active Discipleship + Ministries of Hope + Community Youth/School Partnerships**

# LENT AT LIVING SPRINGS

**SHROVE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

*Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake Dinner*



**PANCAKE SUPPER STARTS AT 6:00—BURNING OF PALMS AT 7:00**

Youth groups will serve pancakes & sausage between 6:00 & 7:00—come when you can. All proceeds benefit Living Springs Youth. “Shrove” derives from the English verb *shrive*, which means to obtain absolution for one’s sins by way of confession and penance. Pancakes are associated with the day preceding Lent because they were a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the fasting of Lent’s 40 days. The brief outdoor liturgy for the Burning of Palms will take place at 7:00 (ashes are used for Ash Wednesday).

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES**

**February 10 @ Noon & 7:00pm**

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. Invite a neighbor or friend.



**LENTEN EVENING SERVICES & LENTEN SUPPERS**  
*Wednesdays @ 7:00pm (supper served from 5:45—6:45)*

**“People of Jesus’ Story—Then & Now!”**  
**+ HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER & DRAMATIC REFLECTION +**

Each week we witness a reflection from a Gospel character and a parallel modern Disciple-Dot story.

**February 17 — Andrew & The Young Boy / Football Team & Landscaper**

**February 24 — Widow of Nain / Widowed Mother of Twins & Father of Ill Son**

**March 2 — Joanna & Bartholomew / Faith 5 & Buffalo Wild Wings Encounter**

**March 9 — Roman Centurion / Veteran from VA Community Life Center**

**March 16 — Mary of Bethany / Prayer Shawls & Chemo Caps**

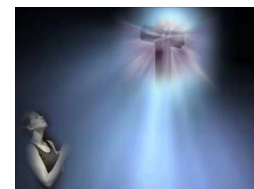
**LENTEN MID-DAY PRAYER SERVICES: “Open My Life, Lord”**

*Wednesdays, 12:00 - 12:30 (February 17—March 16)*

Feb. 17—Open My Eyes, Lord      Mar. 9—Open My Heart, Lord

Feb. 24—Open My Hands, Lord      Mar. 16—Open My Life, Lord

Mar. 2—Open My Ears, Lord



**FRIDAY LENTEN FISH FRY & WONDERFUL PROGRAMS!**

**5:00 - 7:30 pm (February 12—March 18)**

*Men’s Ensemble, Campus Ministry, Lutheran Foster Care, Open Mic Talent Night,  
Handbells, Preschool & More!*



SPREAD THE WORD!! Our Lenten fish fry starts on Friday, February 12 from 5:00 – 7:30 pm. Special programs will begin around 6:00. You can eat in or take out – price is the same for both, \$7 for the adult portion and \$4 for children (under 10). Sign-up sheets are in the administration building for kitchen volunteers, ticket-takers, helpers, set-up, clean-up and desserts (you may also sign up on-line). **We encourage every member of the Living Springs family to sign up to help at least one Friday during Lent.** Contact Karen Kranz [kbkranz@gmail.com](mailto:kbkranz@gmail.com) or Jeff Lummell [tjlummell@gmail.com](mailto:tjlummell@gmail.com) for information.

## *This Month from Vicar Marty*

### **LENT IS NEAR, Intern Project Commercial**

Can you believe it is already February? And on February 10<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday, we will begin the season of Lent. We will be reminded of our mortality, as we hear the words, "You are dust, and to dust you will return." The cross on our forehead marked in ashes will provide a visible reminder of our mortality. This ritual gives us focus as we begin this season of Lent. We are encouraged to create a little more space within ourselves for Jesus. Some of us will give something up to create this "Jesus space." Some of us will add something in to create our "Jesus Space." Either choice is fine. We can use this space to ask Jesus to teach us to love God as we should. We can ask Jesus to show us how to love our neighbor as ourselves. We remember that Jesus never encountered anyone without making some kind of impression on them: for some it was a positive one and for some it was negative. When Jesus saw people abuse their power, he pointed it out. When Jesus saw the helpless people, he helped them. And now, with a measure of fear, we invite Jesus into our lives. We seek daily conversation and communion with God. We may sense that we do not deserve communion with God, but remember Jesus' life, death, and resurrection assures our welcome into the presence of our Trinitarian God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God welcomes us! Thus we should not enter this time of communion with fear but with trust. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge God, and God will direct your paths."

And now I'd like to take about 30 seconds to advertise my Parish Project. Each Intern gets to create and complete a project within their parish, and very soon, I will be starting my own Parish Project. It is called "Project Abraham" and will provide opportunities to learn about our two faith cousins, Islam, and Judaism, both of whom share a common faith lineage with Christianity. Project Abraham's purpose is to create opportunities for new relationships between ourselves and adherents of both the Muslim and Jewish faiths. Overall, there will be 6 sessions: 2 will teach the basics of each faith, two will feature leaders from each faith, and lastly two will provide opportunities for us to spend some time at an event with each faith group. The goal of this project is to encourage relationships with people who are different from us, because our heavenly Father has done the same.

## Vicar Marty

### ***179 Coats/Blankets in 70 Hours***

Thanks to everyone who responded so incredibly to our challenge for 70 Coats/Blankets over 70 hours. An appeal was sent out last weekend for 70 winter children's coats and warm infant blankets to be gathered in a 70 hour period. LS members and friends donated 136 coats, 43 blankets and 118 gloves!!! The folks at Cooperative Ministry were truly amazed by such an immediate response - and many children/infants have received badly needed items of warmth for last weekend and still upcoming winter days.

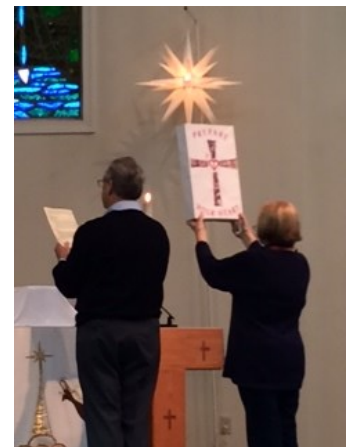
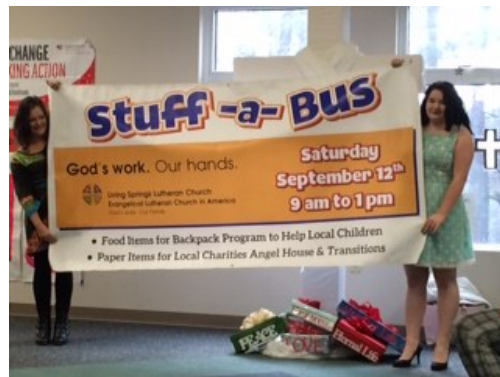


# God At Work Through Living Springs

## BURNING OF THE GREENS



## 2016 Council Installation & Ministry Kickoff Brunch



## LS Handbell Choir Attend Low Country Handbell Festival



On Friday, January 22nd, 8 members of the church and 1 guest headed to Mt. Pleasant to attend a Handbell Workshop. The workshop was lead by David Harris, the founder and director of the Raleigh Ringers Bell Choir. Over 200 ringers from South Carolina, North Carolina and Florida attended the event.

Friday night, we sight read about 7 new pieces from 7-8:30pm. This was to increase our reading and ringing skills. Saturday, we began ringing at 8:45am and concluded the concert at 6pm. We worked on 4 music pieces, each ringer attended 2 classes and had a great time. We all learned a lot, too.

Thank you Lori Masaad, Karlene Stuart, Pat Bartucca, Wendy McKenzie, Sarah Schultz, Jan Berger and Caroline Berger for giving your time to increase your knowledge and bell ringing!

Laura Turnmire, Director



## MLK COMMUNITY SERVICE



with Impact Church, Rehoboth Baptist, Adams Northeast AME, & Northeast UMC



## Blessing Quilts for Hannah House



## Sr. Youth Mid Week Gathering

Sr. Youth (7th - 12th Gr) meet weekly for fun and fellowship. They will meet on Wednesdays during February for Lent (except the week of Shrove Tuesday!)





### BACKPACKS

These are just a few of the cards that Keels Elementary backpack recipients made for us at Living Springs. They all say "thank you" for showing your love for those less fortunate than you. What a wonderful way to show our younger generation what



sharing is all about – when you are shopping, pick up one or two items for the backpack children and place it in the shopping cart in the narthex or in the administration building. Thank you for your continuous support. Contact [Karen Kranz](#) for information.

### THANK YOU – RIDGE VIEW HIGH

Thank you so very much for ensuring that our students in need at Ridge View High School received a wonderful Christmas! We could not have done this without your support.

*Sincerely, Morgan Lea Daniels, School Social Worker*

Dear Disciples Helping Disciples,

This is late, but no less heart felt. Thank you for fixing my poor sagging fence! A big hug to Jim Zieche and Bill Franck. Another thank you to Bob Gill for arranging everything. Y'all were Great.

*Sincerely, Ann Lynn Caughman*

### Disciple Dot Stories & Spirit Tugs



After all the preparation for the Living Nativity, I was ready to watch the program on Saturday night. The lights went out, Jeff started speaking and Adam Woodruff came out with the Christ candle in his white robe. A little boy – about 4 or 5 – behind me asked him parents 'Is that God?' Such a sweet and innocent voice and what a question! I can't help but think what an impact on him the Nativity had.

†††

A friend of mine recently had a double mastectomy because of a recurrence of a cancer she had some years ago. She is a member of another Lutheran church in our synod, and I thought she might appreciate if I sent her one of our "good Lutheran bears" from Living Springs. She called to tell me that she was so excited to receive it, and she was so touched to learn if this ministry. She wanted me to know that she has been taking it to church with her every Sunday and that when she starts chemotherapy in January, she will take the bear with her to each appointment. The story could have stopped there, but she also wanted me to know that when she finishes chemo and is feeling better, she is going to leave the bear in a pew at her church for someone else who could be helped by the comfort and love the bear has brought to her. The circle of love grows and grows!

†††

God blessed and acted in a brief, yet powerful conversation between our landscaping guy and one of our members. On a Friday morning, the Landscaping guy noticed our grocery carts outside overflowing with bags of food. He asked what all that food was for? Was it for homeless persons to eat because of the cold weather we have been having? And those questions opened up a beautiful dialogue about our Backpack Ministry, where our LS disciples fill up bags of food to feed hungry children in Richland School District 2 over the weekends, as many don't have food to eat. The landscaping guy was amazed, and his eyes were opened to two realities: that indeed there are hungry children in our community and that God's people do indeed heed the call to feed the hungry.

†††

God gave us a miracle on Christmas Day in our home. We read Luke's story of the birth of Jesus as a family, standing in a circle in our kitchen, and making sure that all 12 of us gathered had a line or two to read and be included. This was the first time we had done this and we did it before the madness of opening presents and eating began! God's word shared in our kitchen, I truly believe, is what set the tone for the reason and blessings for the day. It wasn't about toys or gifts or certain family members getting their way; rather it was about Love, Grace, Mercy, Forgiveness and Hope. God is good all the time!

### 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 a disciple dot box or in a pew and share the story of God's work - place your slip in the blue-dot basket, Disciple Dot mailbox in the workroom 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!*

## Council Clips

### **Staff & Ministry Reports** - January 21, 2016 Meeting

#### **Council Devotions:** "The Agile Church" Introduction and Chapter 1

The author discussed the difference between bad and good mistakes. A bad mistake is refusing to learn or grow. Growth involves making good mistakes and learning from them. Churches often do what they have always done instead of adapting to new generations and their way of doing things. The Agile Church is spirit led.

**Challenge:** We were asked to close our eyes and think about ways that our church is agile. Many items were discussed, including the job description for our new worship and music leader, the Live Nativity and the Thanksgiving Ecumenical service.

#### **Council Actions (from January 9 and January 21 business meetings):**

- ✝ A motion to transfer \$5,761 to the operating fund to cover the deficit for 2015 and to transfer \$9500 to the Long-Term Maintenance account, leaving a carryover balance in the Debt/Maintenance Fund of \$6,682. Motion carried. After the transfer, the total balance of the Long Term Maintenance Fund is \$11,241.
- ✝ A motion to pay \$250 to LTSS for allowing us to use their facilities for this year's congregational council retreat. Motion carried.

#### **Here are just a few ways that we saw the presence of God in the sights we have been blessed to behold in just the past 4 weeks.**

- ✝ Over 500 folks gathered on a church lawn to find time away from the maddening pace of a holiday season and sense the peace of Christmas that would evoke tears in their eyes, smiles of their faces, and meaningful joy in their hearts;
- ✝ A high school football coach offering a plaque to some LS disciples, with words of gratitude for the ways God worked for a team of young men, through a series of fall JV football meals;
- ✝ Living Springs disciples and Impact Church members worshipping together on New Year's Eve, then joining together in a Tuesday night meal in preparation for a night of Bible studies;
- ✝ Council members & ministry leaders stepping forward to the middle of a circle to share how the Spirit has personally been tugging at their hearts – and to communicate Disciple Dot stories about the amazing ways they have beheld God at work in this community;
- ✝ Council kneeling in silent prayer around an altar, holding sparkling red hearts filled with symbols of their callings and year-round faith grounded in the life & ministry of Jesus (and then on a later date, our staff members doing the same);
- ✝ Ministry team members joyfully acting out wonderful skits and our Preschool Director singing a song that her daughter has composed – to invite others to consider how the Spirit might be urging them to ministry – then meeting that same afternoon to fill a calendar with months of ministry to give glory to our God and accomplish the work of the Kingdom;
- ✝ Congregation members praying for a young brother in Christ as he receives a vocational milestone recognition in preparation for 6 months of Air Force training in sacrificial service for us and our nation;
- ✝ A Seminary Vicar proclaiming the gospel for God's people and providing leadership for our youth, because of the partnership we share with a seminary and our larger Lutheran church;
- ✝ Children adding names on a board during Children's Sermons to celebrate the story of God's people – being blessed to be a blessing to others;
- ✝ A box filled with Discipleship Commitments being dedicated at the Lord's Altar, to signify our hearts prepared as living offerings of love for the Lord in 2016;
- ✝ Folks gathering in the sanctuary at 5:42 on a Sunday evening to grow deeper in their relationship with God through a worship milestone;
- ✝ Pastors from area churches gathering in our LS office – and LS Racial Reconciliation Team members making plans – for a 2<sup>nd</sup> community service to celebrate the unity we share in Christ across all lines of race;
- ✝ Winter Coats & blankets being carried into the front door, only minutes after a challenge is sent out to collect 70 in 70 hours;
- ✝ Congregational cards being signed in the narthex and care meals being delivered to those in need; disciples helping disciples in many quiet ways; folks rocking babies and doing repair work at the Lord's house; visiting one another in hospitals and nursing homes; praying for each other ... and so much more!

#### **The Holy Spirit has gifted this community of disciples to:**

- ✝ Laugh and share with our Sr High Youth at Red Robin and McDonalds! Taking time to simply "be" with these youth brings me hope, reminds others that Jesus is alive in them, and that each moment is a chance to share God's love!
- ✝ Share in blessed, life-giving, prayerful, hopeful, musical loving Christmas Eve services.
- ✝ REVEAL the LIGHT of Christ in a moving Burning of the Greens worship service where passers-by looked on to see that even in darkness, Christ's light has and will continue to shine.
- ✝ Lean on each other and be there for one another. Over the past month the Spirit has moved persons to be there for another in worship/bible study who was in tears or in need of someone, and one of our LS disciples

*Continued on next page*



was right there. The Spirit has moved persons to use Social Media in a positive way to lift up another person in despair. The Spirit has moved parents to lend a shoulder to cry on when one mother was feeling bad for "not being the best mom." These are all examples, and more, of how the Spirit is using us—God's creatures created in God's image—to help another walk in their journey. This is why God calls us into this place... "Come and See!"

### **From the Congregational Council Retreat:**

- ✝ Ministry Goals for 2016
  - ✝ Music Ministry/Worship – training and bible study
  - ✝ Young Adults/College – milestones, partnership with Seniors
  - ✝ Racial Reconciliation – RIC
  - ✝ Youth Ministry
  - ✝ Expanding DHD – Senior Ministry
  - ✝ Community Outreach – Pregame meals, presence in schools, Live Nativity
  - ✝ Debt Maintenance
- ✝ Where are we in 2021?
  - ✝ Music Ministry – Youth Choir and Praise Choir/Band
- ✝ Everyone knows who Living Springs is and what we do, because we are doing so many different things
- ✝ Faith Milestones growth – all people, all ages
- ✝ Full and diverse sanctuary - joyful
- ✝ Youth – stronger throughout all age groups/ church and community
- ✝ Partnerships with other area churches – Hardscrabble and beyond (How does God see church?)
- ✝ Lutheran school system
- ✝ Road widening – where will it take us?
- ✝ Transformed physical space – prayer garden more visible, move playground, build gymnasium, etc.
- ✝ Food ministry expansion
  - ✝ Dinner church
- ✝ Alternative worship services - Contemporary
- ✝ Community/high school worship
- ✝ Staffing changes

## **The "BIG GAME" Synod Challenge to benefit ELCA World Hunger is on!**

**TEAM CAROLINA** (the North Carolina and South Carolina Synods) takes on **TEAM DENVER** (the Rocky Mountain Synod) to see which group of fans can raise the most money to support **ELCA World Hunger**.

Celebrate your team making it to the "**BIG GAME**" and help **tackle hunger**. While the Panthers and Broncos are playing for football's ultimate prize, you can help in this epic battle. It will be **SUPER** easy to give a gift online and also check the progress!

Give an online gift for **TEAM CAROLINA!**

Give an online gift for **TEAM DENVER!**



*Click above to see video*

Are you participating in the "Souper Bowl of Caring?" Please consider donating those funds to this "Big Game" Synod Challenge. If you are participating this way, please write the check to your synod with "**BIG GAME Challenge**" in the memo. If you are on **Team Carolina** we also ask that you email [neal@scsynod.com](mailto:neal@scsynod.com) with the total by kickoff so that we can make the online donation for your congregation.

Also, we ask you to up your game via social media. Let us know when you donate, or if you are just proud - but not too proud - of your team, by using the hashtag **#ELCABigGame** and sharing the link to give before and during the game.

## ***Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs***

### **2016 TIME & TALENT OFFERINGS**

Time has come for everyone to complete your 2016 Time and Talent sheet. Please do so as soon as possible at <http://goo.gl/forms/0WN6Nnyifb> (printed copies are also available in the narthex). God is working in powerful ways among this community of disciples – and we all have a role to play in Christ's ministry here. It is amazing how much blessing we find in offering our time, talents, experience, and energy for the work of God's love and hope! In addition to all the specific ministry tasks and opportunities, we invite everyone to be part of at least one Ministry Team or Support Committee. Please prayerfully consider how the Spirit is tugging you to do your part! If you would like more information, contact the office or pastor - or a fellow disciple!

### **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

***Sunday, February 7***



Our youth will once again sell soup for our Souper Bowl of Caring on Sun, Feb. 7. We will have delicious HOMEMADE soup for take out after the 8:15am service. After the 10:45 service, delicious HOMEMADE SOUPS will be available for "eat in" and/or take-out. Cost is \$4 a bowl, includes soup and crackers. All proceeds go to God's Storehouse which serves persons in our NE Columbia community. Youth will also collect coins and dollars in big soup pots after both services for God's Storehouse! [www.souperbowl.org](http://www.souperbowl.org). Please contact Leslie Bloss [lbloss3306@hotmail.com](mailto:lbloss3306@hotmail.com) if you are willing to donate a pot of soup to this endeavor!

### **FAMILY PROMISE AT FRIDAY FISH FRY**

***Friday, February 12***

On Feb. 12 at the first fish fry of the Lenten season, Trinity United Methodist in Blythewood will be bringing the Family Promise families to Living Springs. Right now they are scheduled to host three families – a mother & son (they were at our Trunk or Treat night), and the other two families has a total of 3 adults and 12 children. We want to make them feel welcome, so you can volunteer to be a host/guide/conversationalist.

### **HANNAH HOUSE FOOD MINISTRY**

***Thursday, February 18***

Every third **Thursday** of the month, we will prepare & deliver a meal to Hannah House, a shelter for women & children located in downtown Columbia. Laura & Mark, our Food Ministry folks, will provide the entrée and there is a sign-up for side dishes in the administration building. For those wanting to sit down and break bread with the ladies and children, we will depart from Living Springs around 5 pm. Contact Karen Kranz for information. This project is being sponsored by a Thrivent Action Team grant.

### **TELS (TRAVELING EVANGELS OF LIVING SPRINGS)**

***Friday, February 19***

Calling all Evangelists!!!! February's trip is to the State Museum in Columbia – 301 Gervais St. on Friday, Feb. 19 - the bus will leave Living Springs at 9:30 am. If we can get a group of ten, senior price (62 & over) is \$6.95, Adults (13-61) \$7.95 and children (3-12) \$5.95. A sign-up sheet is in the administration building - contact Beverly Hoppert for information.



### **FAMILY PROMISE AT ST. MARTIN'S IN THE FIELDS**

***February 21-28***

The other opportunity will be at St. Martin's in the Fields and their greatest need is Dinner Providers 4:30 pm (2 adults for ea. Day) and Overnight Hosts (8 pm to 7:30 am – couple or 2 adults or ea. day). St Martin's is located off Forest Dr. on Clemson Ave. – they are hosting Feb. 21 thru Feb. 28. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the administration building with all the slots that are available. If you have a spirit-tug to help these families, contact Karen Kranz, Mike Davidson, or Debbie Zvejniaks for information.

### **HYMN SING-ALONG @ CROSSINGS**

***Thursday, February 25***

You don't have to be a professional singer to give joy to some senior folks! Mark the date – THURSDAY, FEB. 25@ 10:30 am in collaboration with the preschool 3 & 4 year-olds to sing some favorite hymns & children songs at the Crossings on Clemson Rd. If you can play the piano or guitar, we would love to have you join us. Sign up is in the administration building



## **"SELMA" VIEWING & CONVERSATION** **Sunday, February 28**

Join us for the next in our NE Columbia series of dialogue and community reconciliation events at Journey UMC ([1151 Longreen Pkwy](#)). On Sunday, Feb. 28, at 3:00 pm, community and congregation members will come together to view the critically-acclaimed movie, Selma, followed by a time of small group discussion, Bible study, fellowship & food. This event is sponsored by Journey UMC, Rehoboth Baptist, Northeast UMC, Living Springs Lutheran, Adams Northeast AME, and Impact Church. Spread the word - invite your neighbors and friends for this powerful shared experience!

## **BEER & HYMNS** **Monday, February 29**

Our next joyous time of singing and fellowship will be on Monday, February 29th. We will gather at Beef o' Brady's on Hardscrabble Road. Folks are welcome to arrive earlier if they wish to eat prior to the merry singing.



## **ANNUAL PHEBEE LEGRAND SCHOLARSHIP AND AUCTION** **Saturday, April 19**

Save the Date for the Annual Phebee LeGrand Scholarship and Auction to be held on Saturday, April 9th at 6pm in the fellowship Hall. More info to follow in upcoming enews and March newsletter. Dinner tickets will go on sale in March. We are in need of Silent Auction items (donations from restaurants, or other vendors, handmade (homemade items, etc.)) Items to be auctioned off in the silent auction need to be delivered to the church no later than Wednesday, April 6th to ensure that they will be included in the silent auction. If for some reason you have an item to be included in silent auction and cannot have to church until day of auction, please contact Wendy McKenzie or Trish Davidson by 4/6. White Elephant auction items can be brought the day of the auction. Remember one person's "trash" could be another's "treasure". White elephant submission is limited one per person.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIVING SPRINGS COMMUNICATOR AND CHAMPION!**

**Living Springs Synod Communicator.** Do you have a Spirit-Tug to be the Living Springs Synod Communicator - sharing stories of God's mission? The LS communicator will share stories of God's work from the SC Synod and Churchwide with our congregation. (The Synod will provide information for sharing through a video, the SC Synod ENEWS and the SC Lutheran Publication.) The communicator will also share stories about God's work at Living Springs with the Synod. What an amazing opportunity to lift up God's mission!

**Lutheran Services Champion.** Do you have a Spirit-Tug to be our Lutheran Services Carolinas Champion (or Co-Champion)? Lutheran Services is responsible for an array of services in the Carolinas, including Lutheran Disaster Response efforts, Veterans Services, Children's Foster Care, Bridge of Hope (to end homelessness), Refugee Resettlement, and Adult Residential Services. One or two individuals can serve as the Living Springs Champions. Champions communicate information between Lutheran Services and Living Springs; act as a resource in the congregation to educate members about the services, programs and opportunities; and celebrate Lutheran Services once a year in our congregation. This is another amazing opportunity to be a Champion for God's mission!

If you have a Spirit-Tug to serve in either of these roles or would like more information, please see Pastor Eric, or contact Council Chair Gail Buchanan at 754-8428 or 727-4311.

## **NEXT MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY**

Membership sessions are now being scheduled in preparation for our next Membership Sunday. Find support for life's journey and be part of the exciting work that God is doing among this community of disciples! If interested - or if you want to learn more about all God is doing here - please contact Pastor Eric (917-2749) or Tina Molineu [tpmolineu@gmail.com](mailto:tpmolineu@gmail.com).

## **CARE MEAL TEAM COORDINATOR/VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The coordinator would be the liaison between Pastor and the Care Team monthly leader to ensure care meals are delivered. This does not involve cooking or providing meals. If you feel the spirit tug for this ministry, please contact, Wendy McKenzie at 603-6145 or email at [wendy.mckenzie@sc.edu](mailto:wendy.mckenzie@sc.edu). We are also looking for volunteers for the monthly teams. Sign up at <http://goo.gl/ErKsl6>

## Men's Ministries

### SOUTH CAROLINA LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION 73RD ANNUAL CONVENTION

**Friday, February 12 - Saturday, February 13**

*Held at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1430 North Lake Drive, Lexington*

Friday - Sweetheart & Past Officer Recognition Dinner at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend and honor your Sweethearts as well as past SCLMM leaders. Guest Speaker - Brian Snyder, Christian Musician & Bold Daring Follower of Jesus Christ. \$20 each or \$35/couple.

Saturday - Convention Worship Service & Banquet. Key Note Speaker - Mr. Clay Dyer, professional angler born with no arms or legs, will discuss "If I Can You Can". Workshops conducted by Clay Dyer and Pastor Jackie Utley on Diversification in the Church. Registration begins at 11am in the Narthex. Convention starts 12pm. Banquet at 6:30. German Cuisine provided by Wurst Wagen. \$20 each or \$35/couple.

Pre-registration required for Convention Dinner and Past Presidents banquet. Contact Frank Bouknight at [onanoko@windstream.net](mailto:onanoko@windstream.net)

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

**Saturday February 27**

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, January 27th** at 8:00 am at Living Springs. Meal is being served by Laura Cunningham, LS Food Resource Person. Meal costs \$7.00 per person. We will be discussing our upcoming events. We meet on the last Saturday of each month. Contact [Bob Turnmire](mailto:Bob.Turnmire@windstream.net) at 803-513-7533 if you have any questions.

## Women's Ministries

### SC WOMEN OF THE ELCA ANNUAL CONVENTION

**"For the Sake of the Children"**

**June 3-4, 2016** [tpmolineu@gmail.com](mailto:tpmolineu@gmail.com)

Trinity Lutheran Church, [421 North Main St., Greenville, SC](http://www.trinitylutheran.org)



Workshops include:

- |                                    |                               |                                      |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ✦ Bible Study, Rev. Elise Stringer | ✦ Churchwide Representative   | ✦ Craft/Service Project, Safe Harbor |
| ✦ Dementia Education, Julie Roy    | ✦ Healthy Eating, Pat George  | ✦ Hospice/End of Life, Rev. Maria    |
| ✦ Human Trafficking, "SWITCH"      | ✦ Line Dancing, Bonnie Valine | ✦ Miller                             |

Registration is \$35 before April 15. Meals not included. See [registration form](#) for details. Let Gwen Furcron or Ginny Devereaux know if you would like to attend.

## Additional Opportunities

### 2016 MARCH FOR MEALS



The 2016 March for Meals 5K is right around the corner! Join us Saturday, February 27 for the "Wild Run" at Timmerman Trail in Cayce. The race begins at 9 a.m. and is a certified 5K course along the scenic and historic Timmerman Trail. All proceeds from the March for Meals 5K benefit [Meals on Wheels](#) and other programs to address senior hunger in our community. It is a flat, paved, fast course. Check out the race map and additional details on our [website](#), and follow the [March for Meals 5K Facebook page](#) for the latest updates. \$30 Runners \$25 Walkers \$10 Children (12 and under).

Registration fees will increase by \$5 beginning February 12, 2016. All registered participants guaranteed an event tee shirt through February 12, 2016. If you are interested in forming a team, contact Karen Kranz.

### THRIVENT MEMBERS - CHOICE DOLLARS

As of January 10, 2016 you could have Choice Dollars available to direct to can be directed to thousands of nonprofit organizations nationwide, including your Living Springs. Remember, 2015 Choice Dollars expire on March 31, 2016. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend where Thrivent Financial should distribute some of its charitable outreach funds. Log into [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com) and click on the "Direct Now" button or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted. Direct Choice Dollars now before time runs out, and help make a difference where you live, work and worship!

## ***Ongoing Opportunities at Living Springs***

### **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](mailto:beverlyhoppert@gmail.com) for information.

### **TUESDAY DEVOTION LUNCH @ LIVING SPRINGS**

***Tuesday, February 2***

Lunch is offered in the fellowship hall at 11:45 on the first Tuesday of the month, 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 narthex or contact the office before 11am on the Monday before. Donation \$6 (includes drink & dessert).

### **TUESDAY NIGHT DEVOTION DINNER**

***Tuesday, February 16***

On the 3rd Tuesday of the month, we offer dinner at 6:15. Everyone is welcome to to this dinner and devotions served by Laura Cunningham, our LS Food Resource person). On the menu: Poppy Seed Chicken, Corn Pudding, green beans & Bread. Cost \$9 – signup sheet is in the narthex or contact the office before 11 am on Monday.

### **GOOD NEWS WALKERS**

Weather is delightful and perfect for sharing the good news at Living Springs. Meet in the administration building by 8:30 am on Thursday morning – we are usually finished in an hour. Contact Karen Kranz for information.

### **BACKPACK FOOD MINISTRY**

***FILL THE SHOPPING CART***

Did you add an item to your shopping list this week – any non-perishable...milk, juice, meat, individual cereal, diced fruit or applesauce, pudding, & snack items. Each week we bless the 50 bags of food that go out to children for their weekend meal. Blessed to be a blessing ... for 50 children at Keels & Rice Creek! For information, contact Karen Kranz.

### **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!

### **COLLECTING CELL PHONES**

WELCA of Living Springs and the Hope Team are collecting cell phones for Sister Care, an agency that work with women who experience domestic violence. The cell phones will, at least, allow the women to have some means of communicating. There will be a basket placed near the "dove tree" in the narthex. Please place your used phones in the designated basket. Thank you for sharing.

### **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](mailto:kbkranz@gmail.com)

### **DISCIPLES HELPING DISCIPLES**

LSLC is establishing a team of volunteers to perform small household tasks for those members unable to complete them. The team will do minor tasks in the areas of mechanical, electrical, plumbing, IT (computer-related), transportation and other minor home repairs depending on the skills of the team. The team will suggest contacts for jobs beyond the scope of the team skills. Everyone is encouraged to participate. For details contact Bob Gill (788-6788), Jim Zieche (497-3239), Bill Franck (331-7871) or Pastor Eric (736-0661). If you would like to be a member of this team, please sign in the narthex

## Adult Faith Milestones

### DEEPENING RELATIONSHIPS



DO YOU FEEL AN URGE TO GO DEEPER AND EXPERIENCE EVEN MORE JOY IN SOME ASPECT OF YOUR LIFE IN SOME OF THE RELATIONSHIP THAT YOU ARE IN ..... With God? With Your Spouse or Family? With Your Vocation or Daily Calling?

This fall, Living Springs Lifelong Discipleship Team is kicking off a new "Adult Faith Milestones" emphasis, to provide opportunities for all adults of any age to grow deeper in the primary dimensions of our lives.

#### **Partnership of Joy & Love: Growing Deeper in Relationship with our Spouse**

(Winter 2016: Weekend Retreat, led by Pastor Kris Cox, director of Marriage Enrichment, US Air Force Chaplains)

#### **The Vocational Journey: Growing Deeper in Daily Life Callings** (First Job, New Jobs, Retirement & Beyond!)

(Winter 2016: format and leaders TBA)



If you have an interest or Spirit-Tug in any of these areas, [click here](#) to grab a form to select the areas of interest and place this slip in the offering plate on Sunday (or return to the church office).

## Youth Faith Milestones

"Come to Jesus Christ. He is the **living stone** that people have rejected, but which God has chosen and highly honored. <sup>5</sup> And now you are **living stones** that are being used to build a spiritual house. You are also a group of holy priests, and with the help of Jesus Christ you will offer sacrifices that please God. <sup>6</sup> It is just as God says in the Scriptures, "No one who has faith in that one will 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 children's lives.



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

- ✝ **On Sunday, March 6 at 930am**, we will host our Apostles' Creed Class for 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders and one parent. The class will last 2 hours so we invite you to worship at 815am this day. We will bless and gift each child the following Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at either worship service.
- ✝ **On Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 900am-300pm**, we will host our First Communion class for children in Kindergarten and older, along with one parent. There will be interactive activities all throughout the day along with a very tasty lunch. The cost for the chalice that is made is \$25 and financial assistance is available if needed. We will bless and honor each child at our Maundy Thursday worship service at 700pm.
- ✝ **On Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>** we will bless and gift our Seniors at our Quillowing Ceremony. There will be a **Parent Meeting in March** with parents to prepare for the ceremony.

Please contact Karlene Stuart ([kstuart@sc.rr.com](mailto:kstuart@sc.rr.com)), Faith Milestones Coordinator, if you would like to sign up to attend these milestones.

## Weekly Faith Formation Opportunities 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 Alive Adult Class, meeting in the Katie Room, is led by Ron Ramsey and additional volunteers!
- ✝ The Sunday morning Faith Alive Adult LIGHT Class (Learning in God's House Together) meets in the multipurpose room and is led by Alison Levitt.
- ✝ The Tuesday Morning Women's Bible study continues to meet at 10 AM Tuesdays. Beverly Hoppert [beverlyhoppert@gmail.com](mailto:beverlyhoppert@gmail.com) is the leader. The ladies are studying the "Bad Girls of the Bible". 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.
- ✝ Men's Bible Study - Men's Bible Study on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month at 6:30 AM. Get your day started with the study of God's word! Contact Mike Davidson at [m Davidson33@gmail.com](mailto:m Davidson33@gmail.com) or 699-1498 for additional information.

## Preschool & Afterschool Care News

### From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Hello and Happy New Year,

We have been blessed with another GREAT start to the year here at LSLCPS. We continue to share our ministry in the community in various ways. Our children are working with the Hope Team by making Valentine Cards to pass out at the Rice Estates. They will also have a joint sing-along with congregational members at The Crossings at the end of February.

Do you have a special gift or talent that you would like to share with the children and/or our staff? We would love to have you join us to share it with us!

If you or someone you know has a "spirit tug" to be a part of our team, there are a few ways that we would love for you to help out. We are in need of compiling a list of "shoppers" to help do shopping runs for supplies. Supplies would be items such as: paper products, snacks, laundry detergent etc.. We are also looking for a few staff members to fulfill positions in our classrooms. If you are able to help out, or would like to fill out an application please feel free to email Ms. Cindy at [office@lslcps.org](mailto:office@lslcps.org) or call the office at 803-736-0776.

Thank you for your continued support of our program and ministry.

WITH LOVE,  
TAMMY AND THE PRESCHOOL STAFF



The new Living Springs Pre-School After School (LSLPS/ASC) Board has begun its work for the 2016 school year.

Welcome new members to the board, Melissa Garst, Todd Loftis, and Shelby Shelton.

Also serving are Cindy Day, Jeanette Bloss, Peg Fox, David Gwin, April Britton, Leslie Bloss, Lexanne Graves, Pastor Eric Fink

Board Officers are Peg Zieche- Chairperson, Nic Peterson Vice Chairperson, Tiffany Ginn -Treasurer, Sheila Kowalski Secretary



### 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>.
- 8 age appropriate, hands-on classroom environments for children ages 6 weeks to 5<sup>th</sup> grade
- We serve 95 children and families in our community, giving love, nourishment and compassion to God's children, year round.

- 24 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!

[www.LSLCPS.org](http://www.LSLCPS.org)

Living Springs Preschool has a Facebook Page. Click the logo to check it out!

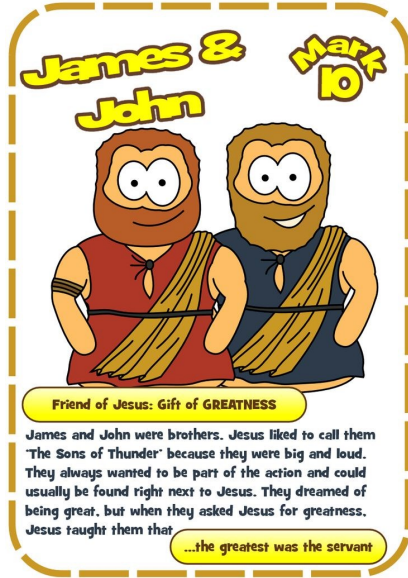


## From the Director of Faith Formation

Lexanne K. Graves

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

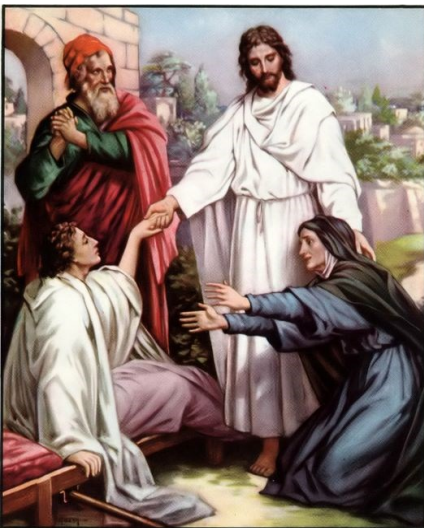
The GREATEST GIFT to give anyone is FAITH in God and God's promises of abundant love and grace in God's son, Jesus! One of the places we are collaborating together to share this Gift of Faith is in our new Sunday morning Faith Formation Focus.



Our Faith Formation theme is:

***People of God's Story;  
Blessed to be a Blessing!***

Each week we will learn about persons in the Bible and how these persons can teach us how to be better disciples in today's world. We all need to partner together to share God's amazing love in Jesus to our children and youth, and each other.



**This month we will hear about James and John, Joanna and Bart (Bartholomew), the Widow of Nain, and a Young Boy who shared his lunch!**





**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!  
EASTER FAMILY NIGHT  
SUNDAY, MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup> AT 4:00PM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL!**

**CRAFTS, SINGING, EASTER EGG HUNT,  
BLESSING BAG MAKING.....  
FUN FOR ALL OF GOD'S FAMILY!**



**Easter  
Family Night**



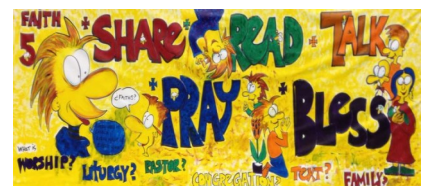
**FAITH5**

**Faith Acts In The Home that only takes 5 minutes!**

**I wonder what our community would be like if Every night in Every home, we talked about our highs and lows, read God's Word, connected God's Word with our own lives, and then prayed and blessed each other.**

**My guess would be that we might be a gentler, kinder, more loving community if we committed to doing this.**

**Will you invest in your familial relationships  
and your  
relationship with  
God?**



## *Generous Pint-Sized Givers*

### **Teaching Kids How to Care and Share**

Jennifer Jacobson



**A**mong a parent's greatest rewards is

seeing their children grow up to be productive, contributing members of society, including knowing how to give back and enrich the communities in which they live. Children can start participating in the giving process as toddlers. Having them observe regular charitable acts can make a strong impression and catalyze later independent initiatives.

Learning how to give and developing the associated skill set is a lifelong journey. Giving becomes a way of life—of looking at the world and determining how to help the causes they feel passionate about. Here's how to take those crucial first steps.

**Ask kids how they'd like to help.** If giving to a cause is new to the household, explain that the family has many opportunities. Then engage children in a conversation about the general areas they may feel strongly about supporting—perhaps individuals or families in need, animals or wild-life habitat—and start a list of those that the family is interested in.

Next, start researching related local organizations, facilities and institutions, and matching them to the topics on the list. Ideas may include food kitchens, pet shelters and animal rescues, nature parks, senior citizens' residences, camps for low-income or physically or mentally challenged children, zoos, museums, aquariums and local libraries.

**Make a game plan.** Get creative about how to actually help the selected causes. Talk it through together, map out activities—like visiting, donating funds or materials or participating in fundraising efforts—and post the results somewhere at home that is highly visible. "Gamify" it to some degree with tasks that turn into goals that turn into accomplishments that result in chits. Quick tasks can make a big difference. Clear the clutter. Every six to 12 months, launch an all-family household closet cleaning day that includes the toy chest and maybe the garage. Add nonperishable healthy food items they've picked out while grocery shopping. Make a "donate box" positioned where kids can add to it and deliver the donations often, even if it's small.

**Find ways to raise money for donations.** Organize a family or neighborhood yard sale or organic bake sale that involves kids at all stages of the project, and give all or a portion of the proceeds to a selected charity.

**Associate getting with giving.** For birthdays and holidays, include a handwritten "certificate of giving" that specifies the amount of money available for them to gift to their favorite charity. Take the child to the charity site to make the monetary donation in person, if possible. For non-local organizations, write a check and have the child include a letter with their thoughts and mail it.

**Volunteer to do community service.** Public gardens need weeding, historic buildings need painting and food banks need hands. Find goodwill tasks that are age-appropriate and engaging.

**Grow the mindset.** Tell real-life stories about kids or groups of kids that have found creative ways to give back. Encourage empathy by sharing appropriate stories of struggle. Ask kids, "How would you want people to help you in this situation?" Explain the action the family is taking and the resulting benefit to the recipient.

The conversation might be, "We don't need to store all this stuff when someone else could really

use it." Or, "I bet there is a kid out there who would really like playing with this toy. I know you used to love it, but how about if you pass it along to someone else so they can enjoy it as much as you have?" Keep the focus on the people in need and your child's ability to share an experience through an item. Establishing an impermanent connection to material things can help kids understand the importance of nurturing relationships over acquiring goods.

Develop a language of giving in the household by creating opportunities to incorporate it into regular conversation. Appropriate comments could share concepts such as seeing ourselves as stewards of the planet and the things we think we own; it's our duty to help those in need when we have abundance; and if there is ever a time when we are without, we hope that others will think of us and help us.

Teaching children how their thoughts, words and actions impact those around them is a lesson that bears repeating.

*Jennifer Jacobson lives in Seattle and has served on the boards of several influential nonprofits and other organizations focused on conservation, education and community.*



## ***PARENTING/GRANDPARENTING CORNER:***

### **LESS-STRESS PARENTING SEMINAR**

***Saturday, March 5***

Parents of all types are invited to participate in the Less-Stress Parenting Seminar taking place Saturday, March 5 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at Ebenezer, Columbia. This event will introduce parents to tried and true approaches to parenting children. It will give the best parenting principles from the latest research on parenting and highlight the strongest points from major models. Dr. Bill Mitcham is the instructor. There is no cost to attend. However, registration by February 29 is required. Child-care will be provided. For more information and to acquire a registration form, please contact Dr. Mitcham at [803-210-9197](tel:803-210-9197) or email him at [bmitcham36@windstream.net](mailto:bmitcham36@windstream.net).



# FAITH



Every night in every home



## SHARE

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

### People of God's Story: Blessed to be a Blessing!

- 1 Luke 4:38-40
- 2 Luke 4:41
- 3 Luke 5:3-4
- 4 Luke 5:5-6
- 5 Luke 5:7
- 6 Luke 5:10-11
- 7 **Luke 9:28-31**
- 8 Luke 9:32-33
- 9 Luke 9:34
- 10 **Luke 9:35**
- 11 Luke 9:36
- 12 Matthew 17:2
- 13 Matthew 17:7
- 14 **John 6:1-3**
- 15 John 6:1
- 16 John 6:2
- 17 John 6:5
- 18 John 6:7
- 19 John 6:8-9
- 20 John 6:11
- 21 **Luke 7:11-17**
- 22 Luke 7:11
- 23 Luke 7:12
- 24 Luke 7:13
- 25 Luke 7:14
- 26 Luke 7:15
- 27 Luke 7:16-17
- 28 **Luke 6:12-16; 8:1-3**
- 29 Luke 6:12

## February

As the season of Epiphany comes to an end, we enter into LENT, a liturgical season consisting of a 40 day journey (not counting Sundays) between Ash Wednesday and Easter. During this season we focus upon God and prepare to re-member and celebrate Jesus dying on the cross and rising from the grave to save of us of our sins.

The word LENT is derived from the Germanic root for "long" because it is observed in spring when the days get longer. Neither the words Lent nor Easter were words known in Jesus' time, and, neither words appear anywhere in the Bible! We Christians adopted these words as well as the names of the special days in Holy Week, Good Friday (death) and Maundy Thursday (Last Supper).

Some people "give up" things for Lent to help them remember that Jesus gave his life for us, but you can also "take on" doing good things, just like Jesus did. Whichever one is your perspective, giving of time with your family to do FAITH5 will make your Lent and Easter season much more fulfilled.

Would you consider gathering around scripture and experience FAITH5? Through reading, sharing, talking, blessing and praying this month, may we all "show" each other God's love in his Son born for ALL of us! So, why don't you give FAITH5 a try this week and see how awesome God is?!! Try this routine at night with those around you, or even on Facetime with relatives far off?!

Begin with "highs and lows", the best and worst moments of your day, read God's word found on the other side of this sheet, pray and end by blessing each other, with a cross (+) traced on the forehead and words like, *God bless- you and loves you very much!*.



*Grateful to be Faithful*  
A FAITH5 Devotion Guide





## **YOUTH MINISTRY GROUPS**

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



Join us on Sunday, February 7 at 1230pm for **"Whose Your Hero?"**.

We will talk about people in God's story that were heroes, who our heroes are today, and then watch BIG HERO 6!! Bring your lunch! Feel free to contact our Kind-2 Youth Leaders with questions: Nic and Rachel Peterson *Nic and Rachel Peterson, (peterson.nicholas3@gmail.com)* Club 3456 Leaders *Tiffany and Gary Ginn (Tiffany.Ginn@td.com and garyginn10@gmail.com)*

Upcoming Dates for Club 3456 to mark on your calendars:

Mar 20 – 3:30pm – 5:30pm

April 10 – 12:30pm – 2:00pm

May 22 – 12:30pm – 2:00pm



### **ATTENTION YOUTH:**

### **CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETING DATES: 7TH-8TH GRADERS**



Our general pattern is Confirmation class meets after 1045am worship for 1 ½ hours. This pattern may be adjusted to a later time on Sunday afternoon/early evening if it suits families who may have

other obligations on certain weekends. Please let Pastor Eric or Jan Berger know of any date above that will conflict with the general pattern of meeting after worship. Then, that change will be communicated to all families each month to confirm everyone knows what time class will be!

Also, once a month Pastor Eric will meet with parents towards the end of confirmation class to ensure parents are given an opportunity to connect together as a group and to go over topics to be discussed at home throughout the month! Pastor Eric will communicate with parents on which dates these gatherings will occur.



# SENIOR YOUTH

## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Senior Youth have been busy. Right after the Christmas break, there was a quiet but desperate period of time when all Senior Youth seemed to be studying for EXAMS!!! Although we leader types could not help them study, we prayed that God would help each youth as they worked hard to remember all the things they learned this past Semester which was last year doncha' know!!!

On January 6th, many Youth and quite a few other Living Springs folks celebrated Epiphany with Word and Fire! After beginning our worship in the sanctuary, as a congregation, we processed out to our big field following Chase and Austin carrying our huge Sanctuary tree recently taken down. It was heaved on top of the large pile of greens and after Pastor removed the "Good Friday nail" from its lower branch, he and Marshall set the greens on fire. And what a fire it was! As the whole pile began to burn, our entire group moved back about 7 feet due to the intensity of the blaze. As the entire pile caught fire we all had to step back about another 7 to 10 feet! Pastor explained that, as Christians, each one of us has that kind of energy and light within us because we are joined to Christ. What an EPIPHANY! WE need to remember that and seize the opportunities to be the light of Christ in our dark world. Of course since Living Springs is right on Hard Scrabble road, we know that the passing cars were witnesses to this flame which represented the Light, Love and Power of Christ. Truly we have been blessed with the Light of Christ, and part of our call is to share that light with everyone we meet.



# 2016



### January stuff we did...

We gathered on Epiphany and then ate at Micky Dee's. Then we gathered at church several nights...eating comfort food while we planned youth Sunday (Feb 7th) and got excited for the upcoming Ski trip to Winterplace WVA, (Feb 19-21).

On Jan 23rd, we went to the Seminary for the ReMix music event. Ok then, bring on February and **YOUTH SUNDAY ON FEBRUARY 7TH!!!**



**FEBRUARY EVENTS YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS!!!**

(YOU COULD STICK THIS ON YOUR FRIDGE, just sayin')

- Feb 2 7PM TUESDAY YOUTH MEET AT CHURCH
- FEB 5 6 PM FRI YOUTH SUNDAY practice at church and supper.
- FEB 7 8:15 & 10:45 YOUTH SUNDAY equals 100% YOUTH LED WORSHIP
- FEB 9 6pm Shrove Tues Pancake Supper
- FEB 10 5:15 & 7 pm Supper & Ash Wed Worship
- FEB 12 5pm FISH FRY & ENTERTAINMENT
- FEB 14 8:15 & 10:45am WORSHIP
- FEB 17 5:15&7pm Supper & Lenten Worship Drama
- FEB 19 5PM FISH FRY & ENTERTAINMENT
- FEB 19-21 SKI TRIP- We will Worship God on on the way, on the mountain, and at the cabin.
- FEB 21 8:15&10:45 WORSHIP
- FEB 24 5:15 & 7pm Supper & Lenten Worship Drama
- FEB 26 6pm WINTER JAM -Colonial Life Arena
- FEB 28 8:15 & 10:45 WORSHIP
- FEB 28 1-3pm GRACE WORKS @EBENEZER



REMIX-ING WITH FOLKS WHO ARE BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

LAURA WITH OLIVER THE KITTY.



OLIVER AND HIS FAMILY HAD THE YOUTH OVER FOR BURGERS

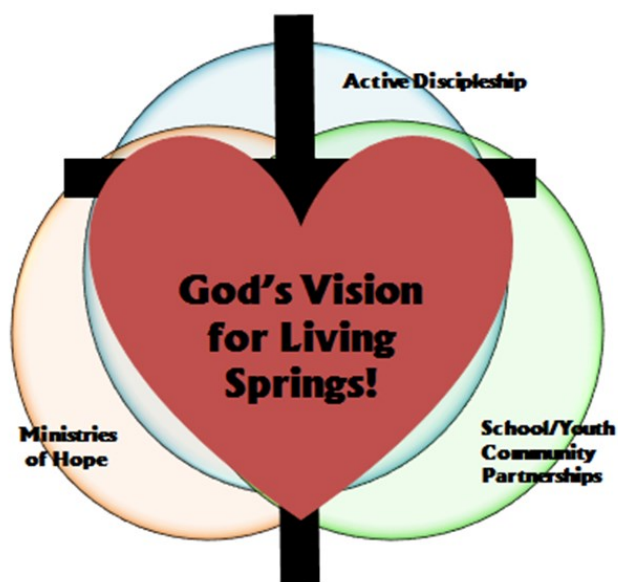


OLIVER IS BIGGER NOW!!!



SENIOR YOUTH AFTER MAKING A PANCAKE BREAKFAST FOR THE CHURCH FAM'...

# Over 370 Spirit-Tugs Shared in our Latest Round of Cottage Gatherings! (see numbers below—at right of each Spirit-Tug vision)



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 19
- D2. Lifelong equipping of faith (education, Bible study, faith in homes) 14
- D3. Disciple partners/groups/networks (for men, women, families, etc.) 9
- D4. Pervasive culture of prayer in our congregation & our homes 18
- D5. Worship as Core (Word & Sacrament) - variety of opportunities/styles 15
- D6. Expanded music ministry - various forms for all ages 14
- D7. Christ's caring presence for each other in the family of faith 21
- D8. Fellowship events & communications to build relationships 12

- H1. Hope Team - children and youth in need or alone 23
- H2. Hope Team - homeless 17
- H3. Hope Team - veterans, military & families 15
- H4. Hope Team - hospitals, care facilities, those who suffer 17
- H5. Hope Team - food and clothing ministries 34
- H6. Grace & Inner Peace - struggles with the stress of life 11
- H7. Grace & Inner Peace - God's forgiveness 14
- H8. Grace & Inner Peace - healing ministries 10
- H9. Grace & Inner Peace - for all who feel alone in life 13
- H10. Grace & Inner Peace - specific life crises (grief, divorce, other) 11
- H11. Hope Awareness - sharing our Lutheran identity of grace 12
- H12. Hope Awareness - sharing our exciting LS ministry & mission 9

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

- P1. Public events for congregation, preschool, community, families 12
- P2. Extending Milestones to preschool, community youth, etc. 13
- P3. Music ministry for preschool and youth 6
- P4. Building relationships of faith among preschool/congregation 10
- P5. Life-transforming experiences for youth 13
- P6. Partnerships of caring with local schools / college campuses 11



## A Vision for... MINISTRIES OF HOPE





# February 2016

\*8:15am Worship, 10:45am Worship  
9:25am Faith Alive Sunday School  
every Sunday unless otherwise noted

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
7 Youth Sunday Souper Bowl of Caring 12:15P Confirmation 1230P K-2nd Gr/Club 3456 "Whose Your Hero" 4:23P Worship Series	1 1030A Meals on Wheels 1245P Zumba 6P Worship & Music Team 7P Ladies Book club	2 930 PSC Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1145A Devotional Lunch 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Good News Team 630P Impact Bible Study 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells 7P Sr. Youth	3 930 PSC Chapel 1230P Zumba 6P Sanctuary Choir 6P Hope Ministries Team 7P Chancel Choir	4 630A Men's Bible Study 830A Good News Walkers 5P Backpacks 7P Worship Task Force	5 630A Men's Bible Study 830A Good News Walkers 5P Backpacks 7P Worship Task Force	6 2P Homeless Not Hopeless 5P Rice Estate Dinner (Set up at 3P)
8 Youth Sunday Souper Bowl of Caring 12:15P Confirmation 1230P K-2nd Gr/Club 3456 "Whose Your Hero" 4:23P Worship Series	8 10A Staff Meeting 1030A Meals on Wheels 1245P Zumba 7P Fellowship & Mutual Care Team	9 930 PSC Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1215P PSC Lunch 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 6P Finance 630P Impact Bible Study 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells 7P Facilities	10 Ash Wednesday 930 PSC Chapel 12P Ash Wed. Service 1230P Zumba 5P Backpacks 6P Sanctuary Choir 7P Ash Wed. Service	11 830A Good News Walkers 615P Preschool - Board 7P Lifelong Discipleship	12 7A PSC Coffee & Hot Chocolate 5-730P Fish Fry	13 930A Crafty Ladies 11A LMM Convention (Pilgrim, Lexington)
14 Transfiguration Sunday	15 President's Day - Office Closed 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Council Exec	16 930 PSC Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 615P Devotional Dinner 630P Impact Bible Study 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	17 930 PSC Chapel 12P Prayer Service 1230P Zumba 5P Backpacks 545P Lenten Meal 6P Sanctuary Choir 7P Lenten Service 7P Sr. Youth 745P Chancel Choir	18 630A Men's Bible Study 830A Good News Walkers 530P Hannah House Food Ministry 7P Council	19 930A TELS 5-730P Fish Fry	20 Sr. Youth Ski Trip - 2/19-2/21
21 Adult Milestone Recognitions	22 930A Staff Meeting 1030A Meals on Wheels	23 930 PSC Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 630P Impact Bible Study 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	24 930 PSC Chapel 12P Prayer Service 1230P Zumba 5P Backpacks 545P Lenten Meal 6P Sanctuary Choir 7P Lenten Service 7P Sr. Youth 745P Chancel Choir	25 830A Good News Walkers 10:30A Hymn Sing-Along (Crossings) 630P Children & Youth Ministry Team	26 5-730P Fish Fry 6P Sr. Youth - Winter Jam	27 8A Men's Breakfast 930A Crafty Ladies
28 1215P Confirmation 3P Selma Gathering @ Journey Church	29 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Beer & Hymns	Family Promise Volunteer Week 2/21 - 2/28 @ St. Martins in the Fields				



## *Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries*

<b>February 1</b>	Shirley Laingen	<b>February 17</b>	Walker Flores
<b>February 2</b>	Caroline Berger Peter Zvejnieks	<b>February 18</b>	Peter Moore Kris Kenline
<b>February 4</b>	Andrew Levitt	<b>February 19</b>	Troy Newton Samuel Arnold
<b>February 7</b>	Diana Abromaitis Ray Hajducsek Jean Weick	<b>February 20</b>	Weston Crapps Sarah Hinchee Beverly Wyka
<b>February 8</b>	Otto Esslinger Julie Owens	<b>February 22</b>	Patricia Brouwer Will Collins Stephanie Joyner
<b>February 10</b>	Ted Buchanan	<b>February 23</b>	Rachel Drafts
<b>February 11</b>	Jan Berger	<b>February 25</b>	Bob Gill
<b>February 12</b>	Margaret Blank Garett Flores Bryanna Nelson	<b>February 26</b>	Preston & Colleen Franks
<b>February 13</b>	Al & Judy Jordan	<b>February 27</b>	Mary Fox Charles & Irene Tracy
<b>February 14</b>	Darrell & Lora Compas	<b>February 28</b>	Inga Lowery
<b>February 15</b>	Alice Renaud		
<b>February 16</b>	Marshall Hurlbert		



### **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!



<b>February 1</b>	Patricia Bartucca
<b>February 6</b>	Laura Stuart
<b>February 7</b>	Jacob Newton
<b>February 13</b>	Wendy McKenzie
<b>February 15</b>	Wesley Graves
<b>February 17</b>	Goldie Harmon
<b>February 21</b>	Andrew Tilton
<b>February 24</b>	Rocky Berger

## CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers

Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor

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

Tammy Mancuso- Preschool/ASC Director

Lisa Petty – Administrative Assistant/Communications  
Coordinator

Laura Cunningham - Food Resource Person

Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper

Laura Turnmire – Director of Handbell Choir

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Gail Buchanan - President

Alison Levitt - Vice President

Bob Turnmire - Secretary

Jerry Appleton - Treasurer

Bill Franck – Financial Secretary

Rocky Berger

Leslie Bloss

Ed Brennan

Gwen Furcron

Scott Graves

Beverly Hoppert

Aaron Smith

Connor Kilbourne, Youth Rep.

## LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

4224 Hard Scrabble Road

Columbia, SC 29223

Phone: 803-736-0661

FAX: 803-865-8252

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

[www.livingspringscolumbia.org](http://www.livingspringscolumbia.org)

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

## MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

### Children/Youth Ministries

Leslie Bloss

### Fellowship & Mutual Care

Trish Davidson

### Good News Team

Sheila Kowalski

### Hope Ministries

Karen Kranz

### Lifelong Discipleship

Steve Bloss

### Worship & Music

Jim Zieche

### Preschool

Nic Peterson

### Facilities

Ed Brennan

### Finance

Charles Tracy

### Archives

Judy Lawrence

### **Staff Email:**

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

Pastor Eric

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

Vicar Marty Wagner

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

Lexanne Graves

[tmancuso@lslcps.org](mailto:tmancuso@lslcps.org)

Tammy Mancuso

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

Lisa Petty

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

Laura Cunningham

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

Sherry Forsgren

[laura.turnmire@bcbsc.com](mailto:laura.turnmire@bcbsc.com)

Laura Turnmire

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

Prayer Requests