Living Springs Lutheran Church

Church "Celebrate...share...serve" According to God's will

will be

March 2018

Thy Will Be Done, O God! - This Month from Pastor Eric

God's Will and God's Promise. God's Will and Our Inadequacy. God's Will and Our Dreams. God's Will and Our Identity. Worldview. God's Will and Our Response. Those are the themes for our Lenten devotionals and mid-week worship.

God's will God's will God's will Like a steady drumbeat pounding out the rhythm of life! Like a deep-flowing current underlying turbulent, surface rapids! It is there with us this Lenten journey of 2018. It is there in our daily devotions, our Wednesday worship times, It is there with us in the journey of faith we live each day. God's will God's will God's will!

It is there throughout the life and ministry of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. It is there, guiding Jesus, when he is taken into the wilderness by the Spirit, and thwarts the Tempter's efforts to derail his mission



before it even gets started (by focusing instead on his own needs or false options that deceptively pose an easy way out—see Matthew 4:1-11). It is there, guiding Jesus, when he tells his closest followers the stunning, incomprehensible truth: that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering and be rejected and killed—and after three days rise again (Mark 8:31). It is there, guiding Jesus, when he has to rebuke Peter's challenge to his Master's suffering, telling Peter "you are setting your mind not on divine things, but on human things" (Mark 8:33). God's will God's will God's will!



Daily Lenten Devotionals + + + 3 Study Options: Tuesdays, 10 & 7 Sundays, 9:30 am + + + Cross-Oak Prayer Pieces

5:17 Lenten Prayer Alerts Lenten Prayer Buddies It is there every time Jesus goes off by himself to pray and be renewed in God's strength for his mission (see, for example, Luke 6:12). It is there every time Jesus responds with grace and compassion to those who are hurting, suffering, outcaste, alone, forgotten, or downtrodden by the world or the religious system of his day. It is there on Palm Sunday when Jesus chooses to enter Jerusalem riding a donkey, the symbol of a loving servant (Mark 11:1-10). It is there when Jesus upsets the hierarchy by overturning the moneychangers' tables and reminds everyone that God's temple is meant to be a house of prayer for all the nations (Mark 11:15-19). It is there in the upper room when Jesus takes on the form of the low-liest servant and bows to wash his disciples' nasty feet (John 13:3-11). It is there when Jesus prays for his followers in that same Upper Room, that we may be one, just as he and the Father are one (John 17:21). It is there in that Upper Room, when Jesus give us a new commandment, that we love one another as he has loved us (John 13:34). God's will God's will God's will!

It is there when Jesus teaches us to pray: "thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:9-13). It is there when Jesus himself falls on his knees in the Garden of Gethsemane and prays, "not my will, but thy will be done" (Mark 14:32-42). It is there when Jesus willingly suffers trial and persecution and hangs dying upon a cross, for this entire world which God so loves! (Mark 15:21-38; John 3:16). It is there at the moment of Jesus' death, when a Roman Centurion (of all people), confesses the ultimate truth, "Truly this man was God's Son!" (Mark 15:39). And yes, thanks be to God, it is there early at dawn on a Sunday morning, when the tomb is discovered empty and a young man dressed in white tells the women the Easter Good News, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here!" (Mark 16:1-6).

God's will God's will God's will! These remaining 4 weeks of Lent with times of devotion and prayer; all the worship experiences and remembrances of Holy Week; the joy of Easter morning—it is all there before us as an invitation to more deeply

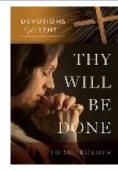
understand and *embrace God's great will of love and grace and power*, not just for Jesus, but for all of us, all of humanity, the entire cosmos! Everything uplifted in this newsletter each month, all the ministry that goes on in this place and in our daily lives — it is all about God's will being done in and through our lives for the sake of others, as we seek to Grow In Faith Together and respond to the Lord's desire for us to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God!" (Micah 6:8, Matthew 23:23).

God's will God's will God's will! This holy month and always, may God's will be the content of our prayer, the content of our hearts and minds, the content of our daily lives, the content of this community of faith—marked forever with the cross of Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and rejoicing in the mighty Resurrection love of God which conquers all! With prayers for God's will in your life, and the life of faith we share together, *Pastor Eric* The Holiest Week of our Lives... PALM SUNDAY—MARCH 25 MAUNDY THURSDAY—MARCH 29 GOOD FRIDAY—MARCH 30 HOLY SATURDAY—MARCH 31 EASTER SUNDAY—APRIL 1



Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly with God - Grow in Faith Together! Active Discipleship + Ministries of Hope + Community Youth/School Partnerships 2018 Focus Area A: Immerse Our Lives, Ministry, and Community in Deeper, Discerning Prayer. 2018 Focus Area B: Increase Opportunities for Relational Listening, Life-God Stories, Community Interaction.

Lent 2018: #goprayListen



LENTEN EVENING DRAMA WORSHIP: **"THY WILL BE DONE"** Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm (Lenten Supper served from 5:45–6:25)

March 7 — Mary, Mother of our Lord (God's Will & My Identity) March 14 — Paul (God's Will & My Worldview) March 21 — Lydia (God's Will & My Response)

LENTEN MID-DAY PRAYER: Wednesdays, 12:00 - 12:25



FRIDAY LENTEN FISH FRY & ENTERTAINMENT 5:00-7:00 (program @ 6:00); Eat-in or Take-out 3/2—Campus Ministry; 3/9— Bells & Disciples of Harmony

3/16—Dancing By Our Stars; 3/23-Surprise Fun!

Tell your neighbors, friends, family, co-workers to come enjoy a great fish dinner (we also have non-fish and vegetarian options). This is an important ministry—with \$2000 goal to help Lutheran Campus Ministry, which brings so much hope and support for

students. Sign up outside the office for kitchen volunteers, cookers, helpers, set-up, clean-up and **dessert donations** (you may also sign up <u>on-line</u>). <u>We</u> <u>encourage everyone to help at least one Friday!</u>

Holy Week Schedule



Our 8:15 and 10:45 Worship services begin on the church lawn, with the inspirational Procession of Palms. We enter the sanctuary to continue worship with the Reading of our Lord's Passion.

Palm Sunday, March 25 - Easter Family Event & Egg Hunt, 4pm

We will have Faith Stations of Fun for ALL AGES! The Easter Story, Easter Service Projects, Easter Crafts and Easter Egg Hunt. To donate candy or assist with a Faith Station, contact Deacon Lexanne Graves.



LENT 2018

Mini Cereal Boxes, Fruit Cups, Milk Boxes Baby Wipes, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper

Palm Sunday, March 25 - Service of Blessing & Healing, 6pm

Our series of Holy Week Evening Services begins on Palm Sunday night. As part of this powerful service, we receive a special blessing and prayer for God's wholeness and healing in our lives, in whatever form it may be needed.



Maundy Thursday, March 29 - Lord's Supper, 7pm

We remember and celebrate our Lord's Supper, along with First Communion celebration for our youth. The service concludes with the poignant and powerful Stripping of the Altar.

Good Friday, March 30 - Tenebrae Service, 7pm

With increasing darkness in the Tenebrae Service, we recall Jesus' 7 sayings spoken from the cross. Wherever we are this day, we pause in special reverence at 3:00 - the hour Jesus breathed his last.



Holy Saturday, March 31 - Easter Vigil, 7:45pm

We gather by a fire and enter the sanctuary to remember the waiting of that night when our Lord lay in the tomb. We hear foundational stories of Scripture, affirm our identity as God's baptized children, and welcome Easter joy!

+ EASTER SUNDAY, April 1 +

Outdoor Son-Rise Worship @ 6:45 am, Easter Breakfast @ 9:30, Easter Worship - 8:15 am & 10:45 am

At 6:45, we worship at the outdoor shelter with our Son-Rise celebration. Easter Services will be held in the sanctuary at 8:15 and 10:45, with special music & joy. Invite friends & neighbors to worship on this glorious day! Easter breakfast will be hosted by Lutheran Men at 9:30, with donations to support the Legrand/Lowman Scholarship Fund.

God's Corner



Man, Living Springs has done it again! Every evening with each of you gets better. The food is always delicious, and obviously the finished product of immeasurable "blood, sweat and tears". Oh how much we appreciate your caring, your love and most of all demonstrating Christian love. Thank all of you for your on going caring.

From a Rice Estate resident for the Rice Estate Dinner

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I want to thank the congregation for the beautiful prayer shawl, card and all the prayers while I have been sick.

Sincerely, Stephanie Joyner

Adele Lindberg sent this bear to me and it is such a blessing. He looks as if he is waving to me saying, "Get well." Love it so much.

Blessing & Peace, Maris

March 2018 Volume 32 Issue 3

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

| Message from Pr. Eric | Page 2 | Sr. Youth & Young Adult | Page 11 |
|---------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Lent/Holy Week | Page 3 | Worship & Music Ministry | Page 12 |
| God's Corner | Page 4 | Women's/Men's Ministries | Page 14 |
| Council Clips | Page 5 | GIFT Opportunities/Faith Milestones | Page 15 |
| Children & Young Families | Page 6 | God's At Work | Page 16 |
| Fellowship & Mutual Care | Page 7 | Upcoming/Ongoing at LS | Page 17 |
| TELS | Page 7 | March Calendar | Page 19 |
| Hope Ministry | Page 8 | March Worship Assistants | Page 20 |
| Lifelong Discipleship | Page 9 | March Birthdays/Anniversaries | Page 21 |
| Preschool News | Page 10 | | |

Council Clips

COUNCIL CLIPS February 15, 2018

Adam Woodruff led our God-Story Sharing and Introduction of 2018 Council book, "Stranger God: Meeting Jesus in Disguises" by Richard Beck. Council reviewed our two 2018 Focus Areas and three 2018 Target Areas.

Ministry Team Updates:

- Facilities: Fellowship hall to repainted, labor has been donated. HVAC unit #7 (Fellowship Hall & Music Rooms) needs repair. Bids will be solicited; this expense will be covered by funds in Long-Term Maintenance.
- Good News Team: Easter Invitation Postcards being prepared for distribution by Good News Walkers and congregation. Rush Hour ministry distributed over 300 packages to drivers on Hardscrabble Rd. Afterschool students assisted with assembling bags.
- Fellowship & Mutual Care: Linda Hayes will serve as the new Care Meal Coordinator. Next Beer & Hymns will be on 2/19 and 3/12. The annual Chili Cook-off included sharing God Stories and Group Prayer. Spring Exam boxes will be distributed to College Students. The annual LeGrand/Lowman scholarship dinner and Auction will be held on 5/5 – Kentucky Derby theme.
- Lifelong Discipleship: Adult Communion Milestone was held. A planning meeting was held for an Adult Mission Experience. Lenten Devotions have been distributed, with Prayer emphasis, supplemented by Tuesday Bible Studies and revitalized L.I.G.H.T. class. Lenten Oak Prayer Pieces being distributed, made of cross-oak tree that once stood at Church's entranceway.
- Hope Team: Backpacks will be packed on Wednesdays at 5pm. 40x40 Lenten focus will be donations of milk, fruit cups, cereal boxes for backpacks and toilet tissue, paper towels, baby wipes for Sistercare. Lenten Fish Fry begins on 2/16 and runs through 3/23 for Lutheran Campus Ministry. Easter Baskets will be collected for God's Storehouse. The VA ministry will continue 2/22.
- Sustice Ministry: Network members will meet on 2/19 at Rehoboth. Focus areas are education and mental health.
- Lutheran Men: Bible Study continues on 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 am. Breakfast meeting will be 2/24 at Lizards Thicket. SCLMM Convention will be held in Newberry on 2/24. Easter breakfast will be 4/1. Kilbourne Sending supper will be April 15th.
- * Women's Group: Women's Sunday will be May 5⁻ Volunteers working at God's Storehouse on the 2nd Mondays.
- Preschool: All committees met at last board meeting to establish priorities and goals for 2018.
- Worship & Music: Lenten Prayer Partners to be assigned. Lenten Worship at Noon & 6:30, focus on "Thy Will Be Done." 54 people participated in usher/greeter training. Worship500 sound phase to be completed in Feb. Next Hymn-A-Long will be 3/22. Journey Performing Arts Worship will be held on April 25, with open call & practices on Thursdays, beginning Feb. 22.
 - * From Pastor Eric "ways the light of Christ has been shining among us in only 6 weeks into new calendar year":
 - ✤ \$900+ raised for the Hungry in Souper Bowl collection
 - * Another moving Burning of the Greens worship experience
 - Call for 96 winter coats and blankets in 96 hours was vastly exceeded and provided warmth to numerous homeless served by Transitions and Oliver Gospel Mission.
 - # God's Storehouse received 2017+ food items collected to help those who hunger.
 - * Congregation Fellowship Morning gave opportunity to listen to our stories and affirm we are all part of God's Story.
 - * Adult Faith Communion Milestone was held, and participants shared a traditional Seder meal, baked bread and painted their own chalices to be used Ash Wednesday.
 - Shared MLK Worship hosted by Rehoboth Baptist powerful shared stories of reconciliation/hope and amazing sound of diverse choirs giving praise to God.
 - # Justice Ministry preparing for big Nehemiah Action to bring improvements for Mental Health System and Schools.
 - * Pew Bears leaving Living Springs with God's blessing to bring light and hope into lives of those hurting.

Ongoing Ministries and Council Actions:

- Safety/Security Task Face: moving forward with final stage of security camera installation and awaiting additional bids for updated locking system and narthex doors. Next step is finalizing the Safety Team and providing training with our emergency response protocol. Also looking to create our Parking Lot greeter team.
- Annual Report: draft copy was shared with council for review and corrections. Thanks to all for their amazing work!
- * Lenten Bucket Offerings will go to Harvest Hope so that they can purchase much need food items at a discounted price.

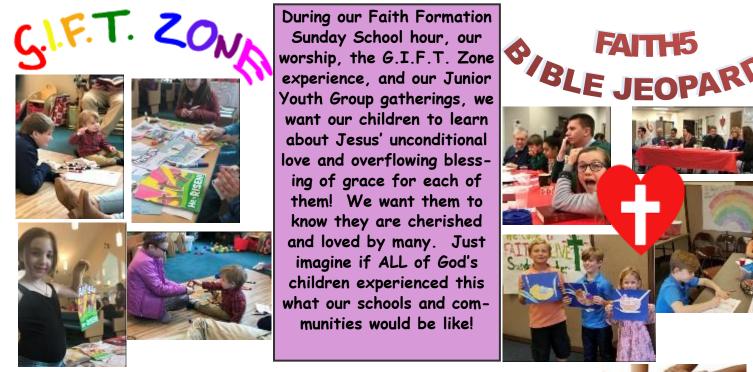




CHILDREN AND YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTRY From the Minister of Faith and Life: Children and Families Deacon Lexanne Graves Lexanne@LivingSpringsColumbia.org

do justice love kindness and walk humbly with your God

FAITHS





JUNIOR YOUTH GROU

LORD, LISTEN to your children praying..... Doctors, Frenchfries, Maggie our dog, Frosty, Liana, Relatives, JJ, Pierce, Patrick, GRACE





An outing to Wendy's where we prayed aloud and invited other restaurant guests to join us, played Bingo, and prayed for others!



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES:

SUNDAY, March 4th at 930am—FAITH5 Bible Jeopardy led by our confirmation students! FRIDAY, March 23rd-Living Springs "Got Talent" Night at the Fish Fry. Contact Lexanne (Lexanne@LivingSpringsColumbia.org) if you would like to tell jokes, play instrument, sing, juggle, dance, etcl SUNDAY, March 25th from 4-530pm—Easter Craft Event:: complete with an Egg Hunt, Easter craft activities, and the Easter Story!!!

Notes from: Fellowship & Mutual Care

SR./EMPTY NESTER LUNCH





Legrand/Lowman Dinner & Auction

Save the Date for the Annual LeGrand/ Lowman Dinner and Auction to be held on Saturday, May 5th at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us to break out the big hats and bow ties for the 144th Running of the Kentucky Derby. Dinner tickets will go on sale beginning Sunday, April 8th after both services - \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. The evening will include food and fun for all ages. We will have both a silent auction and live White Elephant Auction, as well as Kentucky derby themed food fare.

We are in need of Silent Auction items (donations from restaurants, or other ven-

dors, 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 4/22.

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.



Notes from: TELS - Traveling Evangels of Living Springs

Sunday, March 4 @ 4pm

TELS is going to the Koger Center on Sunday, March 4 @ 3 pm to see Bernstein's MASS presented by USC School of Music. We have a full bus, but names will be taken in case someone cannot attend. See <u>Beverly Hoppert</u> for information.



Notes from: Hope Ministry

VETERANS MINISTRY ® DORN VA

This past month at the VA Hospital visit, we unfortunately did not have any of our singing group along to lead the hymns that we sing in between our famous bingo games. It was not pretty and I know George would have been cringing if he heard me trying to lead these hymns, but down one of the hallways, a veteran and his wife were sitting on one of the benches and heard us singing Amazing Grace and the Doxology and we could hear her singing along with us. It made me think less about myself and more about how this wife, dealing with a sick veteran husband, was finding joy and peace for a few moments on this particular evening.



Living Springs VA Ministry Night Thursday, March 22 @ 6:15 PM

On 4th Thursdays from 6:15 - 7:00 pm, we host a time of fun, singing, support, and care at the Dorn VA's Community Life Center. Everyone is invited to come be part of this special time for disabled or older veterans who are undergoing therapy or now residing at the center. If you would like to make cards or donate thank-you items to be distributed, those are welcome, too! If you would like to carpool or follow in your car, please meet at the church at 5:30. *We are collecting quarters for bingo prizes. Look for the helmet the week prior to drop off your quarters.*

Meals On Wheels -Valentines from the Preschool



Pew Bear Blessing



Prepping Pew Bears



40X40 Lenten Collection



During Lent, we again take on the challenge to collect 1600 items: toilet paper, baby wipes, and paper towels (for SisterCare), mini cereal boxes, non-refrigerated milk boxes, and fruit cups (for Backpack

Ministry). Collection bins are located in the main office lobby and the Preschool entranceway.

EASTER BASKETS FOR GOD'S STOREHOUSE

Mr. Peter Cottontail will be accepting Easter Baskets to donate to God's Storehouse for our less fortunate community children. Bring your Easter Basket (homemade or

ready-made) to the Narthex by Sunday, March 25. We will be hopping on down the bunny trail to God's Storehouse on Monday, March 26. Contact <u>Karen</u> <u>Kranz</u> for information.



Notes from: Lifelong Discipleship

Holy Communion Milestone



Lent 2018: #GOPRAYLISTEN Be a Lenten Prayer Buddy!

As part of our upcoming Lenten journey of prayer, we are inviting everyone to be a Prayer Buddy for someone in our LS family. The task is simply to lift up another person, couple, or family in your own prayers during Lent. Please use the purple forms available at the church (or call the office). We will notify you of your assignment.

Preschool & Afterschool Care News

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Hello everyone, so nice to see some sunshine, even if it is just a little tease of spring. Here we are, a few months into 2018 and already God has shown us the wonders of the New Year.

The wonder of a child when she sees CoCo, our guinea pig, each day. The smile, curiosity and joy she shows as she shares this new found interest with her grandfather. The wonder of God's creatures.

The wonder of a child as they sit down to a table to share in a snack together, looking to see how they can help one another as they cut, spread and taste new foods. The wonder of sharing.

The wonder of a parent reading a story with their child outside on our Buddy Bench, sharing together, taking a moment to be present with one another, slowing down from the business of life. The wonder of time.

The wonder of staff as they sit around a table together, sharing a meal, taking the time to listen to one another, sharing stories of childhood and life, being committed to building up our School Family. The wonder of safety among friends.

The wonder of one of our toddlers as they see a friend fall, start to cry, and rush to them to gently rub their back. The wonder of compassion.

Just a few of the wonders we see every day. As we think about the wonders around us, I encourage you to take a look at our "Lenten Message" each day, posted just above the coffee maker. Often during Lent we are led to think of what tangible item or bad habit we can give up, but this season I want to encourage you think of what we can give up that may be robbing us of the wonders around us. Take a moment to soak up the wonders of time, of sharing, of compassion and love.

As we continue to build our School Family, I invite you to please bring in a family photo to add to our School Family Board (in the front entrance) as well as one for our classroom family boards. You will be amazed at how large our family is, with the people that God has put into place to help us Grow In Faith Together.

Wishing you well, Tammy

Here are our preschool teachers taking time to Bless each child at the baptismal font at the end of chapel. They do this every time. (Be still my heart!). They call each child by name and say God blesses you!! They will never forget this. These children are indeed blessed!!





Nuggets from the Classrooms

<u>Ocean Room</u> - Transitions have been very smooth for our new arrivals and the infants moving to the toddler room. We feel God's presence daily as we watch each infant thrive.

<u>Mother Goose</u> - This month we will continue to expand our sign language skills and will spend more time outside learning about nature and God's creations. The children have been sharing God's Love with one another through encouragement. It is so sweet to see them give another child a hug or a pat on the back when they need encouragement or reassurance.

Rainforest - This month we saw God in many ways especially when we learned about how much God gave up for us and that every day is a new day!

<u>Farm Friends</u> - During Black History month, it was so touching when we discussed Martin Luther King and equality. Even though we are all different, God made us special and loves us all the same. We shared stories about why we love each other and it warmed our hearts to see God's Love shining through each one of them.

Backyard Buddies - We welcome Ms. Cecilia to the Preschool staff and the younger side of the hallway. We see God each week when Ms. Lexanne talks about Lent and how Easter in coming soon.

ASC - Its Dr. Seuss' birthday and yes, we will be making green eggs and ham. Spring break is soon and we are planning fun field trips for that week. We have been learning about the power of prayer and that God will protect us from hurt, harm or danger that comes among us.



Notes from: Sr. Gouth & Goung Adults

Senior Youth

February was a busy month for the Senior Youth. With events like Shrove Tuesday and GraceWorks Celebration highlighting it, the Senior Youth were really able to experience God and fellowship in many different ways.

At our GraceWorks Celebration, we were able to partner with youth from all around Columbia and put together baskets that will go to help folks who are moving from Transitions to their own residence. These baskets will help them get a strong start to their new life. We, of course, will continue to pray for them, resting in the knowledge that God blesses us and them through this partnership.

The Senior Youth have been continuing the Rob Bell Nooma series, where we've wrestled with the Luggage that we carry around and with what it means for God to give us a Kickball. Please come join us as we continue this series, where Bell explains things in a very unique and helpful way.

February was also when the Youth were the primary leaders for worship on Youth and Souper Bowl Sunday. Thanks to everyone who helped make that happen and thanks to the youth for their witness of how God has made them a game-changer.

March is another month closer to the National Youth Gathering. Be looking for information soon on how to buy shares for the Youth, investing not only in them but in God's work that they will be doing in Houston.

We will also be having our Ski Trip the second weekend in March; we will be headed to West Virginia. Please let Christopher or Leslie know for sure if you can or can't go, if you haven't already.

Youth Sunday



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE





GRACEWORKS CELEBRATION





_{戀戀戀} Young Adults

We had our second coffee hour this past month where we talked about what it means to be on a Lenten Journey in an everchanging world. We discussed what does it mean for us to focus on our prayer life and how does that affect the people and situations around us.

We hope you will join us for **next month's coffee hour, March 25 at Starbucks right** after worship where will be looking at Holy Week and how that applies to our lives.

Notes from: Worship & Music Ministry

Burning of the Palms



Entering Confirmation Blessing



Ash Wednesday





Disciples of Harmony



Rush Hour Ministry









Calling all Kids & Parents!

During our 8:15 and 10:45 worship celebrations on Easter Sunday we would like our kids to share a special song with the congregation called, "*My Savior Lives!*" We ask that you join us beginning this Sunday, March 4th, after whichever worship service you attend at either 9:30 AM or 12:00 PM in the choir area for about 10-15 minutes so we can begin learning the song! We hope this will be a memorable, fun and meaningful way for our children to help lead us in worship on Easter Sunday! Preschool through Middle School ages are welcome to join us!!

Outside Greeter & Parking Lot Team

As follow-up to our January usher-greeter training, we are now adding an outside greeter to supplement our inside narthex greeter. For Sundays in Feb. and March, you can sign up to be an outside greeter on-line (or see Karen Kranz). By Palm Sunday, we hope to upgrade this to a new full Parking Lot Ministry, with 2 greeters in the parking lot before and after worship. This is a very important hospitality/safety ministry, which makes a huge impact on folks. If interested in being part of our future Parking Lot Ministry, see Mike Davidson, Bill Franck, or Jim Zieche.

Easter Flowers - due 3/25

If you would like to donate a flower in honor/memory of a loved one, please fill out the form in the narthex and return it to the office or place in the offering plate. The name of your loved one will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. A Donation of \$12.00 per plant is requested. Money and forms are March 25

Butterflies for Easter - Return 3/25

Butterflies are a symbol of new life in Christ. Once again we will hang butterflies in the church for Easter. Please pick up a butterfly from the narthex – decorate, cut it out and return. Please do not use any food or sparkles.

Living Cross for Easter Sunday Bring on 4/1

On Easter we have a living cross in the courtyard. Please bring live flowers on Easter morning to decorate the cross.

Living Springs Lutheran Church Music & Worship Ministry presents

Southern Bron

Handbell Ensemble

"RINGING that Ole Time Religion"



Sunday, April 8th, 4:00 PM Living Springs Lutheran Church 4224 Hard Scrabble Road Columbia, SC 29223

Southern Bronze is an auditioned community handbell ensemble consisting of members from all of the surrounding towns in the midlands of South Carolina. Purpose: To promote excellence in handbell artistry through performance, education, and community. To provide an avenue of advanced, semi-professional handbell experience for the midlands of South Carolina ringers to play and develop skills that might not be accessible to the average church handbell choir.

Concert program will include some old favorites like "Holy, Holy, Holy!" with organ ; Gospel favorites and other jazzy as well as classical arrangements of well know hymns including other instruments.

Notes from: Women's Ministry

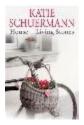
Crafty Ladies





LADIES BOOK CLUB

After our discussion group is ended, I reflect back on our our laughs and the comparisons to our own daily lives versus some of the themes of the books we read. We have fun and really do go through the discussion questions! A perfect setting to have fellowship with members and open our homes to new people. *House of Living Stones* by Katie Schuermann is our next read and Sue Loveless will be our host on Monday, April 2 @ 7 pm. Her address is <u>12 Keels Ct. (off Wildwood Ln.) in Elgin</u> – ph: 719.424.0777. Refreshments will follow our discussion time. Contact <u>Karen Kranz</u> for information.



Notes from: Men's Ministry

Lutheran Men in Mission Annual Convention/ LS Receives Outstanding Unit Award

Men's Breakfast Saturday, March 31 @ 8am

We continue to form our Lutheran Men's circle of prayer where each man is praying for a brother in Christ. Next breakfast gathering will be **Saturday, March 31st** at 8:00 am at Living Springs. Meal is being served by Laura Cunningham, LS Food Resource Person. \$7.00 per person. We meet on the last Saturday of each month. Contact Bob Turnmire at 803-513-7533.





Lenten "Cross-Oak" Prayer Pieces

Our Lutheran Men have made personal prayer pieces for us to carry during Lent. They are available at any of our Lenten services. If you would like to personalize your prayer piece with a burnt cross, stop by the office. The prayer pieces are made of wood from the inspirational cross-oak tree which once stood at Living Springs entrance.



Adult G.I.F.T. Opportunities

G.I.F.T. means *Growing In Faith Together*. Even as adults we can continue to grow in faith as we continue to learn and share our insights with others.

There are a number of opportunities at LSLC to join with others as we continue our faith journey. Find the right one(s) for you and join in.

"Thy Will Be Done" Lenten Devotionals & Studies

Lenten daily devotional for each household are available. Bible Studies based on these devotionals are being offered with three opportunities: Tuesdays @ 10 am, Tuesdays @ 7 pm, and Sundays @ 9:30 am (L.I.G.H.T. Class)

Sunday Faith Formation (Sunday School) – 9:30AM Sunday Mornings

† Adult Class – in depth study of the Gospel lesson for the day. Facilitator Ron Ramsey.

† First Sundays – all ages join together to share *FAITH5*. Not only is this an opportunity for adults to support faith formation for our children....many times, we learn from their uncomplicated understanding of faith.

Bible Studies: **Think that you don't know enough to be in a Bible study? No Bible credentials are needed; just questions and the desire to get closer to the story of Jesus and all the people of God's story, including all of us. Come join the discussions and the fun.**

† Men's Bible Study – First and Third Thursdays of each month at 6:30AM – explore scripture from a man's perspective – Facilitator <u>Mike Davidson</u>

† Adult Faith Milestones– TBA



Youth Faith Milestones

"Come to Jesus Christ. He is the living stone that people have rejected, but which God has chosen and highly honored. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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

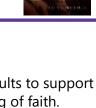
Our **Passing on Faith Milestones Ministry** team provides instruction and resources to equip families, children, youth, and adults to pass on faith and live well in Jesus Christ. By paying attention to the milestones of our lives, we create rituals and traditions that shape us and nurture us in our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

March 18th @ 12:15-2 & March 24 @ 9am - 1 — First Communion (ages 5-18) Bring \$25 for chalice painting

April 15th at 930am—Apostle's Creed

Please contact Karlene Stuart (<u>kstuart@sc.rr.com</u>), Faith Milestones Coordinator, if you would like to sign up to attend these milestones.







God At Work

Rice Estate Dinner





Rev. /Narty Wagner Installation



Beer & Hymns





FRIDAY FISH FRY













Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

FAITH5 Bible Jeopardy Sunday, March 4 @ 9:30 am

All Ages are invited to join us for FAITH5 Bible Jeopardy this Sunday at 930am! Our confirmation students will be leading it and it's bound to be educational and hilarious!

Membership Welcome Sessions March 11 & 18

Sunday, March 11 & 18, we gather at 9:30 in the fellowship hall. Find support for life's journey and be part of the exciting work God is doing among this community of disciples! If interested – or if you want to learn more about Living Springs – please contact <u>Pastor</u> or Tina Molineu <u>tpmolineu@gmail.com</u>.

Beer & Hymns Monday, March 12 @ 7 pm

Love to sing hymns? Enjoy having a beer or other beverage and fellowshipping with others? Come join us for Beer & Hymns on Monday, March 12, 7 pm at Beef O'Brady's on Hard Scrabble Road. We sing boldly. We laugh. We share Jesus in a unique way. All are invited and welcome. Bring a friend or two and experience a great hymn sing in the least likely place!



Easter Family Event/Egg Hunt Sunday, March 25

Join us for an Easter Family Afternoon & Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 25th at 4pm. We will have Faith Stations of Fun for ALL AGES: the Easter Story, Easter Service Projects, Easter Crafts and our Easter Egg Hunt. To donate candy or assist with a Faith Station of Fun, contact Lexanne Graves (Lexanne@LivingSpringsColumbia.org).



Ongoing Opportunities at Living Springs

Tuesday Devotion Lunch @ Living Springs Tuesday, March 13 @ 11:45 AM

Lunch is offered on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 11:45, with devotions by Pastor Eric. Everyone is welcome! Meal is served by Laura & Mark Cunningham, our LS Food Resource persons. To reserve a spot for you and your friends, sign up in the admin building or contact the office before 11am on the Monday before. Donation \$6.

Backpack Food Ministry *Wednesdays @ 5pm during Lent*

What a blessing you and also our helpers from Adams Northeast AME church, who contribute and help pack each week, are to our backpack program. Our inventory is still good on juice and pudding, but meat, fruit cups/ applesauce, & snacks are much needed items.

God's Storehouse Monday, March 12 @ 9:30 AM

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

2018 Altar Flowers

Are you looking for a way to honor or memorialize someone near and dear to you? Make a floral contribution by ordering altar flowers and let the office know who or what it is that you are celebrating **OR** maybe you just want to thank God for the many blessings you receive! There is a signup outside Lisa's office for 2018 or go to <u>http://goo.gl/</u><u>mVVrGE</u>. To order flowers from our preferred florist, contact Blythewood Florist at 691-1820.

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

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

Parents are not "required" to use the G.I.F.T. Zone, but it will be a meaningful option for them.

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

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

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

It matters because of Ephesians 4:4-5 where Paul writes: There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to

the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism. Kids are part of the body of Christ, and we all have something to offer and gifts to share. Sometimes we just need to go the extra mile and pay attention to the details that matter to the various age groups so that worship is meaningful for all.

Why is the <u>G.I.F.T. Zone</u> at the side of the sanctuary (rather than the back)?

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





| X | March 2018 | 018 | 8:1 9;9 | 8:15am Worship, 10:45am Worship 9:30am Faith Alive Sunday School every Sunday unless otherwise noted | 8:15am Worship, 10:45am Worship 9:30am Faith Alive Sunday School (every Sunday unless otherwise noted) | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | 1 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers | 2 5P Friday Fish Fry | e |
| | | | | 100 PS Music Time 4P ASC Music Time 630P Journey Rehearsal | Low Country Handbell Workshop 3/2-3/3 | /3 |
| 4 930A FAITH5 Bible Jeopardy 145P TELS (Bernstein's Mass) | 5 10A Staff Meeting 1030A Meals on Wheels 5P Worship Outeach | 6 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels | 7 930 PS Chapel 12P Lenten Prayer Service 5P Backpacks | 8 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 4P ASC Music Time | 9 5P Friday Fish Fry | 10 930A Crafty Ladies Daylight Savings Time Beains tomorrow - |
| | or Worship & Music leam 7P Ladies Book Club | 1 ZP Good News leam 4P ASC Bible Time 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells | 54.5P Usciples of Harmony 54.5P Lenten Supper 6P Hope Team 63.0P Lenten Drama Worship 63.0P Sr. Youth 71.5P Choirs | or reschool Finance 630P Preschool Board 630P Journey Rehearsal | Sr. Youth Ski Trip | I |
| Justice Network Blessing 930P Discipleship Visionaries 930 Member Sessions | 12 12 God's Storehouse 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Fellowship & Mutual Care Team 7P Exec Team 7P Beer 'n Hymns | 13 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1145A Devotional Lunch 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Finance | 14 930 PS Chapel 1 2P Lenten Prayer Service 5P Backpacks 545P Disciples of Harmony 545P Lenten Supper 630P Lenten Drama Worship | 15 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 4P ASC Music Time 630P Journey Rehearsal 7P Council | 16 5P Friday Fish Fry | 17 |
| | | 6P Facilities 7P Adult Bible Study | 630P Sr. Youth 715P Choirs | | Confirmation Retreat - 3/16-3/18 | at - 3/16-3/18 |
| 18 930A National Youth Gathering Devotions 930 Member Sessions 1215 LS WELCA 12156 1st Communion Faith Milestone Class - Part 1 | 19 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Justice Network Rally | 20 930 PS Bible Time 930 PS Bible Study 104 Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1215P PS Prayer Lunch 4 ASC Bible Time 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells | 21 930 PS Chapel 12P Lenten Prayer Service 57 Backpacks 545P Disciples of Harmony 545P Lenten Supper 630P Lenten Drama Worship 630P Sr. Youth 715P Choirs | 22 830A GN Walkers 10A Hymn Along (Rice Estate) 4P ASC Music Time 61 5P LS Veterans Ministry Night (carpool 530) Night (carpool 530) 630P PS Staff Development 630P PS Staff Development | 39 Friday Fish Fry | 24 9A 1st Communion Faith Milestone Class - Part 2 930A Crafty Ladies |
| 25 Palm Sunday 1215P Young Adult Coffee Hour (Starbucks) 4P Easter Family Event & | 26 1030A Meals on Wheels | 27 930 PS Bible Time 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time | 28 930 PS Chapel 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Sr. Youth | 29 Maundy Thursday 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 4P ASC Music Time | 30 Good Friday (Preschool Closed) 7P Good Friday Worship | 31 Holy Saturday 8A Men's Breakfast 745P Easter Vigil |
| Egg Hunt 6P Healing Service | | 5P Backpacks 7P Handbells | ZP Choirs | 7P Maundy Thursday Worship | Easter Wørship 6:45 - Outdoor SonRise Worship 8:15 - Easter Celebration Worship 9:30 Easter Breakfast 10:45 Easter Celebration Worship | rship Rise Worship ation Worship eakfast ation Worship |

Worship Assistant Schedule – March 2018

| | Karen Kranz |
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| | |
| | Nursery (10.45) |
| | |
| Marshall Hurlbert | Steve Bloss Karlene Stuart |
| Schwind | Schwind |
| Roger | Bill Franck Nancy |
| | |
| Bloss | Padgett |
| Steve | Jan Berger Steve |
| Smith | Kranz |
| Ron | Jim Zieche Karen |
| : | |
| n | |
| Mike | |
| | |
| Bill Franck | Anna Leign Karen Graves Kranz |
| | |
| Padgett | Bloss Levitt |
| | |
| Jeff Lummel | Wesley Karen Graves Kranz |
| Outside | |
| | |
| | Acolyte Cruciter |

opposite – have been getting assigned without wanting to be, let Lisa or Karen Kranz know. Time and Talent sheets are available all year round – you can still fill one out if you have had a spirit tug towards serving. Wednesday Mid-Week: https://goo.gl/7jLXvD Passion Sunday: https://goo.gl/XjbP2A **SIGN UP FOR HOLY WEEK & SECOND QUARTER – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS** The online signup for March is ready to be populated – whatever slots are open by February 20 will need to be manually filled in. If you have not been assigned OR the

Holy Week: https://goo.gl/7xKTfd Second quarter: https://goo.gl/KgoZhP

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

| March 1 | Marj Appleton | March 18 | Michael Grimmer |
|----------|---------------------|----------|-------------------|
| March 3 | Lauren Bloss | March 19 | Kellie Barrier |
| | Ruth Pollard | | Tyler Evans |
| March 5 | Laura Turnmire | | Randy Masad |
| March 6 | Wes & Alison Levitt | | Betsy Shank |
| March 7 | Bill Fox | | Audrey Turnmire |
| March 8 | Austin Padgett | March 20 | Jeffrey Brouwer |
| March 9 | David Abromaitis | March 21 | Gay Walter |
| March 11 | Steve Dye | March 23 | Patrick Lay |
| | Courtney Murrat | | Mallory Padgett |
| March 12 | Steve Niemeyer | March 24 | Colin Evans |
| March 13 | Ben Arnold | | Retha Murray |
| | Gary & Tiffany Ginn | | Lisa & John Petty |
| March 15 | Gwen Furcron | March 26 | Sam Drafts |
| March 16 | Lora Compas | March 28 | Patrick Sheldon |
| March 17 | Abigail Fox | March 29 | Ethan Christy |
| | Ryan Harmon | | |
| | Henrietta Kaiser | | 2002 |
| | Kristen Mattson | 331122 | AND SALL |





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!

March 1 Alice Renaud March 7 Jean Weick March 9 Shelby Sheldon March 12 Megan Compas March 13 Lydia Prizer March 15 Olivia Fox March 17 Nancy Baldwin March 18 Patricia Brouwer Linda Hayes

- March 23 March 24 March 28 March 29 March 30
- Walker Flores Patrick Lay Rachel Sorial Garrett Flores Leslie Bloss Tiffany Ginn



CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor George Donovan, Jr. - Director of Music & Worship Dea. Lexanne Graves – Min of Faith & Life for Children and Families Christopher Girardeau – Min of Faith & Life for Sr. Youth and Young Adults Tammy Mancuso- Preschool/ASC Director Lisa Petty – Admin. Assist/Communications Coor. Laura & Mark Cunningham - Food Resource Persons Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper Laura Turnmire – Director of Handbell Choir

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jan Berger - President Adam Woodruff - Vice President Wendy McKenzie - Secretary Mike Davidson - Treasurer Bill Franck – Financial Secretary Ann Lynn Caughman Vickie Crapps Doug Danner Michael Grimmer Michael Grimmer Midge Gunvalson Rachel Peterson Jeff Tenhover Gay Walter Austin Padgett, Youth Rep.

LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Children/Youth Ministries

<u>Fellowship & Mutual Care</u> Trish Davidson & Wendy McKenzie Good News Team

> <u>Hope Ministries</u> Karen Kranz

Lifelong Discipleship Steve Bloss

Worship & Music Jim Zieche

<u>Preschool</u>

Peg Zieche

<u>Facilities</u> Ed Brennan

<u>Finance</u> Rocky Berger <u>Archives/Pew Bears</u> Judy Lawrence

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Christopher Girardeau

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lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org Lisa Petty

laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org Laura & Mark Cunningham

<u>sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org</u> Sherry Forsgren

prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org Prayer Requests