



The Living Springs Journal

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

December 2018

Time for Gifts? – This Month from Pastor Eric

LS BIBLE BOOK OF THE MONTH: December = ISAIAH!

As we move into December, there is much energy turned to the practice and tradition of gift-giving. Growing up, I remember an aunt who would buy all her Christmas gifts many weeks in advance. On the other end of the spectrum, I remember my dad having to work right up until Christmas—and then, only in the very final hours on Christmas Eve, was he able to take me and my brother shopping to buy gifts for mom. I also remember my college roommate, who was born at Christmas and always lamented the fact that growing up, he never really knew the joy of getting specific “birthday” gifts—because everyone seemed to lose his birthday amidst all the holiday present-giving.

When we consider Christmas gifts, we almost always think about getting presents or giving gifts to *each other*. We know that Christmas is a celebration of Jesus’ birth, but somehow, amidst all the holiday gift-giving, we oddly never seem to think of Christmas as a time to give specific birthday gifts *for Jesus*. In fact, if you think about it, as children, we are even ironically taught that Christmas is a time to make a gift-list of things we want *for ourselves*.

So, what would a birthday gift *for Jesus* actually look like? Perhaps there is an answer to that question in Jesus’ parable in Matthew 25, where we find his beautiful words, “inasmuch as you have done it to the *least of these* who are part of my family, you have done it unto me.” Perhaps, in that parable, Jesus actually gives us his own Christmas-gift list—what he would desire to celebrate him & his birth: clothe the naked, feed the hungry & thirsting, welcome the stranger, care for the sick, visit the imprisoned, etc. What an amazing gift-list from Jesus: nothing actually for himself, but rather a list of things to bring hope to the hopeless, hurting, and forgotten in our midst and throughout the world, with all humanity being part of his family!

From such a perspective, it is interesting to realize that Christmas birthday gifts for Jesus are thus given both “way in advance” and “at the last minute.” In November here at Living Springs, we were blessed to be able to share some “early” Christmas birthday gifts for Jesus. There were Jesus-birthday gifts of little mini-buckets, culminating in nearly \$4800 to assist hurricane victims. There was the Jesus-birthday gift of over \$800 given at the Thanksgiving service to assist victims of the California fires. There were Jesus birthday-gifts of 60 turkeys/hams to help hurting families through God’s Storehouse. There were Jesus-birthday gifts of coins & dollars in the Sunday worship bucket, reaching a \$1500 goal to help with our local Habitat House project. And ... there were all those Time & Talent sheets and sealed commitment envelopes hung on the Discipleship Cross, reflecting our Jesus-birthday gifts of service, witness, study, devotion, pray-

er, and more. All these November gifts, of course, merely represent many other Jesus-birthday gifts for the “least of these” that have been given way in advance of Christmas, throughout the entire year (consider blessing bags, food backpacks, blankets & coats, Meals-on-Wheels, mini-house project, God’s Work Our Hands meals, VA Ministry quarters, football ministry food, SC Synod Tanzania water project, etc.).

Now, in December, we have unique opportunities for some more “last-minute” Jesus-birthday gifts. There are Dove Tree items for elementary school students, lonely high school students, backpack ministry families. There are Advent Hope boxes in our homes to reach a goal of 2018 canned goods. There is the Child Development Center blanket drive. There are World Hunger goats & pigs & chickens & honeybees to be given for the “least of these” throughout the world. There is our year-end LS Regular Giving emphasis, which helps provide the foundation for our congregation to exist and enable all these ministries to share Jesus-birthday gifts with the least of these in our community and world.

And so, during Advent and Christmas, we gather as followers of Jesus for a



MID-WEEK ADVENT PRAYER
Wednesdays, 12:00 & 6:30
+ + +

CHILDREN/YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
Sunday, Dec. 9—5pm
(Spaghetti Supper/Elf Store after)
+ + +

LIVE OUTDOOR NATIVITY
Friday & Saturday, Dec. 15-16—7pm
+ + +

CHRISTMAS EVE
Candlelight Communion
5:00—Family/Children’s Service
7:30—Festival Service (music @ 7:15)
+ + +

1ST SUNDAY IN CHRISTMAS (Dec. 30)
10:30—Lessons & Carols Worship

LS Advent/Christmas Party
Sunday, Dec. 2—6:30
+ + +

Arpad Dirazs Singers @ LS
Thursday, Dec. 6—7:00
+ + +

CDC Christmas Program
Thursday, Dec. 13—4:00
+ + +

Community Beer ‘n Carols
Monday, Dec. 17—7:00
(Beef O’Brady’s)
+ + +

VA Hospital Caroling & Bingo
Thursday, Dec. 20—6:15

(Continued on page 4)

Love + Joy + Peace + Patience + Kindness + Generosity + Faithfulness + Gentleness + Self-Control
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.

**"A Season for Deepening Prayer"
Midweek Advent Services
Wednesdays, 12:00 & 6:30 (Dec. 5, 12, 19)**

We gather midweek to take a break from the hectic holiday pace to find peace in God's house—as we join in a journey of deeper prayer to "prepare the way of the Lord" in our hearts, lives, and world! Invite a co-worker, classmate, neighbor, stranger, or friend!



Living Springs Annual

**Outdoor Nativity Drama
"Love Is Born!"**

December 15 & 16 - 7 pm

FREE, for the entire family!
Animals, characters, and more...

Pause from a hectic holiday pace to witness a 30-minute living enactment of God's gift of love for you...the birth of a savior, Jesus!
Bring a lawn chair...hot drinks provided.



**Christmas Eve 2018:
"Silent Night, Holy Night"
God's Gift of Christmas Love!**

5:00pm Family Candlelight Worship
(special children's message & communion)

**7:30pm Festival Candlelight
Communion Worship**
(special music begins at 7:15)

**2018 Advent
Hope Boxes**



***Set up an Advent
Hope Box in your
home!***

Add 1 non-perishable food item each day of Advent (Dec. 2nd-24th=23 items).

You can wrap your box in blue, representing the Advent color of hope, then add Advent symbols (or just use a plain box!) Place it under your tree, near your advent wreath, or by a manger scene. Bring the filled box to worship on Christmas Eve (or drop it off at the LS office the week prior). **Our goal is 2018 total items for our local food pantries—one item for every year of our Lord!**

**Christmas
Dove Tree**

***Three Options
This Year:***

(see Hope Ministries page)

- 1) Sponsor a Christmas Tree for 1 of 16 of our most needy backpack families**
- 2) Gift card for a high school teen who is alone or in need at Christmas**
- 3) Christmas gift for at-need elementary student identified by one of our LS public school teachers**

Take a tree or dove from the special tree in the narthex and return your gift by Dec. 16. Checks for tree donors can be made to "Living Springs."

tremendous birthday celebration. Rather than trivial games and ice cream and cake, it is a celebration centered around mid-week Prayer and Sunday worship and special daily devotions to draw us closer to the one whose birth (and future coming!) we celebrate. It is a celebration with amazing food and drink—Living Water and the Bread & Wine of forgiveness & grace, salvation & life. It is a celebration where we get to re-live and act out the story of our Savior’s actual birth in an Outdoor Nativity—sharing it with community children & families, neighbors, friends, and strangers from all around. It is a celebration where we visit and carol and deliver meals and play bingo with veterans and more. **And.... it is a celebration where the One we celebrate is the One still giving us gifts:** *an amazing collection of 9 Spirit-fruit that this world cannot give us—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control!* (Talk about an amazing Christmas gift list!)



What wonderful gifts that Jesus continues to share with us!

As we go through the Advent journey, I look forward to all these ways we will gather and participate in this greatest, ongoing 2000+ year birthday celebration—by offering Jesus-birthday gifts to the least of these in our world. I also pray that you may find space and time to transform your home and heart to be a part of that ongoing celebration. Visiting, caring, feeding, giving, serving—is there some way that you and your family might find space and time to prepare and share a Jesus-birthday gift with someone overlooked or hurting? And in the process, might truly find this Advent and Christmas to be even more joyful, more real, more true, more lasting, more eternal

With much excitement and anticipation to share the gift of Advent & Christmas with each of you, *Pastor Eric*

Year-End LS Ministry Info Sessions (+Time & Talent Q&A) - Dec. 9, 16 @ 9:30
Those interested in learning about Living Springs!
Newer and long-time folks who want to know more about any of our T&T sheet ministry options!
 Meet with pastor and other leaders in the Music Room at 9:30 on Sundays, Dec. 9 and 16.
 Come find out about opportunities to grow in faith together and serve our Lord!



ELCA
GOOD
GIFTS

Give something
unexpected
this Christmas.

Goat \$50

SHOP NOW

ELCA.org/elcagoodgifts



As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference.

ELCA Good Gifts go beyond your regular congregational offering to support the ministries of the ELCA that mean the most to you and your loved ones. Together, we can do more than we ever could alone, making a huge collective impact on the needs of our church and the world.

Good Gift Catalogues are available in the narthex and the admin lobby. There are also ornaments and note cards to share with your loved one.

Council Clips - November 2018

- ✝ **Pastor's Report:** Pastor Eric spoke of Thanksgiving and being thankful for the many Fruits of the Spirit and Kingdom we are blessed to witness at Living Springs.
- ✝ Finance: Council will be sending out a letter to the congregation with the emphasis on contributions in our Regular Offerings for December, due to the current deficit.
- ✝ The Christmas Tree lot to fund youth will open 11/23
- ✝ The Annual Adult Fellowship Christmas Party will be held 12/2 at the home of the Sides.
- ✝ The Live Nativity will be held December 15th and 16th. We will have two billboards advertising event this year, with funding assistance provided by 2 Thrivent grants.
- ✝ Worship & Music: Motion passed for one Worship Service (Lessons and Carols) will be held at 10:30am on 12/30/18. New interim position, Minister of Worship and Innovative Church Outreach, Justin Rimbo will start on November 26th. Adventpoloza will be held 11/28. The Handbell Choir will be performing at the Palmetto Health Children's Hospital on 12/5. The church will be decorated on 12/1.
- ✝ Facilities: Working to have power restored at playground area where Christmas trees are to be sold. Generators will be used for backup. We will be oiling the altar and other sanctuary woodwork made by John Ducate.
- ✝ A Leadership Retreat is being planned for council member and leaders of ministry teams in January.
- ✝ We will once again host a "Get to Know You" in January/ February.
- ✝ Lutheran Men in Mission will host a dinner for their November/December meeting on 12/10 at Beef O' Brady's.
- ✝ Justice Ministry will host their research kickoff on 11/26.
- ✝ We will be donating Christmas trees to 16 of the backpack recipient families. Congregation is invited to sponsor a tree.
- ✝ The Children/Youth Christmas Program, Spaghetti Supper and Elf Store will be held on 12/9.
- ✝ Child Development Center have been preparing sandwiches and distributing to homeless at Finlay Park.
- ✝ The next council meeting will be held December 20th at 7pm. Newly elected Council Members will be joining current council members.

Annual Meeting News:

Deacon Justin Rimbo called to serve as Interim Minister of Worship & Innovative Church Outreach!

We are excited about the energy of the Spirit, as we celebrate this new call for our congregation. Deacon Rimbo's official start date will be November 26, with first Sunday being December 2. We invite everyone to be present to welcome Justin and his spouse, Angie, along with children, Owen & Zoe. What a great blessing they will be for this community of disciples!



With everything going on at the annual meeting, we apologize if there may have been some slight confusion during the vote announcement. The final, official tally was 99-2. We give thanks to God for everyone's faithful votes!

Council Elections

We give thanks to God for all 10 disciples who were nominated for congregational council – what an amazing group of faithful leaders! In some close votes, the following were elected to council for 2019-20: Jan Berger, Midge Gunvalson, Julie Ann Harris, Dea Jones, Wes Levitt – and Emma Harris (1-year youth term). May God bless all nominees as they continue to inspire us with their witness & service!

Annual Ministry Video

If you were not present to view the truly inspiring and moving annual Ministry 12-minute video. Thanks to Mark Stuart, Lisa Petty, Marshall Herbert – and everyone who submits photos of God's activity among us throughout the year! Look for it on the website soon!



From Your LS Council & Finance Team: Important Year-End Regular Giving Appeal!

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

In this season, we are truly thankful for all God's amazing blessings in our lives—and for the faithful giving of our Living Springs family! We continue to experience a wonderful growth in ministry, touching so many lives with God's grace. This year, we particularly rejoice in the outpouring of love reflected in all the giving for many special efforts, including: Hurricane Relief; \$50 Buckets, California Fire Offering; Habitat House & Small House Youth Projects; Music Ministry; National Youth Gathering & Youth Projects; Campus Ministry support (fish fry); Long Mission Congregation partnership (golf tournament); Legrand/Lowman Scholarships (auction); Stuff-a-Bus, Dove Tree, Thanksgiving Turkey Drive, Winter Blankets/Socks, backpack food ministry, Football devotion ministry, Debt & Maintenance Fund, and so much more!

**INVITATION FOR FINAL WEEKS OF 2018:
Focus on Regular Offerings to completely eliminate our \$10,000+ shortfall!**

Now, as we come to the end of 2018, it is time again to make a concentrated focus on our Regular Offerings, which provide the foundation for all the special life-changing ministries that God makes possible in this community of faith. To have so much generous giving for our designated ministries is a tremendous blessing.

But we must remember our #1 Giving Goal is to cover all our regular ministry expenses & mortgage principal with our regular, weekly offerings. We remain good stewards without unnecessary spending, as we continue to grow our ministry as much as possible for the sake of God's kingdom. We have come a long way in the past few years (compare to 2013, when we had a \$33,000 shortfall by October), and last year, we were right on target. But **at the end of October**, we found ourselves **\$11,632 short in our regular offerings to-date**. In November, there were some wonderful offerings to help put a dent into this shortfall, and for that, we are thankful! The people of LS have an amazing history of special year-end offerings! We are confident that we can respond to completely eliminate this shortfall by year's end, even with the usual end-of-year one-time bills and expenses.

Consider a special Christmas gift this year ... remember or honor a loved one with something that truly makes a difference: sharing the hope & love of Christ through our LS Ministry!

At year's end, we all receive appeals from various sources, and we spend lots of money on material gifts that often end up making little difference in people's lives. The amazing ministry video shared at our annual meeting again showed so many faces and stories of lives filled with the joy & hope of Christ—because a congregation called Living Springs exists here in the NE Columbia community! As we all ponder our year-end giving, we ask you to join together with us in remembering Christ's important ministry at Living Springs.

With prayers of thanksgiving & joy as we all continue to Grow in Faith Together!

We are BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING! When members of Living Springs Lutheran Church see or hear about an immediate need, God is already working within and around us to meet those needs. Throughout the history of Living Springs, God's love flows through us, and we are able to support many worthy community projects. We are also called to support our ongoing, foundational congregational ministry, which make all those other ministries possible. We cannot rest knowing that more work is to be done and God has richly blessed us with time, talent, and treasure. During this Advent season of Hope and Expectation, let us look within and continue to recognize our blessings from God and know that all we have comes from Him! With prayerful consideration, may we continue to find ways to strengthen our financial footing and share our resources for the Kingdom of God. May God continue to bless us to be bold and daring disciples and walk deeper in faith with Him. —Rocky Berger, Finance Chair

God's Corner



Dear People of Living Springs,

"He takes the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes." Ps 113:6

On Thursday, November 25, Christy and her husband walked through the door of their duplex on Oak St. This happened in large part, because of your most generous hearts. It was like watching the wonder in a child's eye on Christmas morning as I witnessed their delight as they walked from room to room, opening each door and cabinet. Thank you from the bottom of my heart - and theirs - for helping make this happen.

Your sister in Christ, Deacon Dianna Deaderick



Thank you so much for the precious little teddy bear. When I look at him and hold him, I think of the caring congregation at Living Springs. It is amazing how good and peaceful I feel when I hold him. Since I live alone, it is almost like having someone here with me. I call him a "he" and have named him Luke - my favorite of the 4 gospels.

Your sister in Christ, Margaret



Dear LSLC friends,

We want to thank you for welcoming us, nurturing us and blessing us. During our nearly 10 years in SC, LSLC offered friendships, opportunities for service and most importantly a church home where all are welcome, "a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat." A special thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl. I don't think it is a coincidence that it is a color that perfectly matches our great room - it is on our sofa where we see it daily so we not only are reminded of LSLC friend, prayers, but also of God's constant presence. May God continue to bless your faithfulness.

Blessings and peace, Tina & Don Molineu



Thanks so much for your prayers, cards, and phone calls as I recover from yet another back surgery. I am blessed to have such a caring church family and Pastor Eric!

God Bless, Anita Gabbard



We give thanks to God for the outpouring of offerings to share God's blessings with those in need:

- +55 turkeys, 14 hams, and \$287 in additional items for God's Storehouse thanksgiving baskets
- + \$839.25 in Thanksgiving Service Offering for California Fire response
- + \$4,616.46 in mini-buckets and offerings for Hurricane response



God Stories

Last night I was leaving work and took a different route to my car. I exited the building into the darkness, cold and rain. The door opened onto a walkway with a low wall between the sidewalk and the street. There on the wet sidewalk under a small overhang was my Muslim student praying. She was facing the building at an odd angle, likely it was East toward Mecca. She had removed her shoes, knelt down, and her head, knees, and hands were on the sidewalk (in a posture I've since learned is called sajdah). I froze, completely surprised and touched that she would be thinking about God rather than preoccupied with the weather, dinner, and traffic going home. I marveled that she felt safe and open to prayer in that unlit, invisible spot between the wall and the building. After a moment I quietly walked on, knowing that my student had taught me something about commitment in my own prayer life, feeling I had passed holy ground.



A neighbor that we used to walk with every morning has come down with dementia/early stages of Alzheimer's – we've noticed the deterioration as the months have gone on. He was an engineer so he was a very detailed person, he talked of wanting to travel to England (home of his ancestors) and loved cruising to places on his motorcycle. The family has had to sell his motorcycle & car, his driving rights were taken away (he drove a red mustang!) and now has to depend on his wife to take him to the grocery store as his only "out" activity during the week or doctor visits. To get him out of the house, Jeff asked him if he wanted to do Meals on Wheels – he didn't know what to expect and was hesitant about doing it, but he was encouraged to try it. He fumbles with putting the meals together – forgets to include a milk or bread, and usually asks a couple of times what goes in the bag (there are only four items); but when he gets out of the car to take the meal to the client, it is like a transformation – he starts a conversation with whoever is at the door to accept the meal and has created a little bond with each of them. This has been going on for a couple of months now – Jeff asks to be put on the schedule with his neighbor and the neighbor is now making sure his calendar is able to accommodate doing Meals on Wheels! This neighbor does not have a church home, but do you think God is at work here?

God At Work

Veterans Praise in the Park



Advent-Palooza



Notes from: Living Springs Child Development Center

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Greetings to all in this Season of Gift Giving,

As we head into the holiday season we are bombarded with commercials telling us that if we just have this, or just buy that, then we will be fulfilled; that the "Season of Giving" is all about the gifts we give or receive. Sadly, it is easy to get caught up in the hype of the societal commercialism of it all, but as I sit here writing this I can't help but be moved by the thought of "Gifts"; and the awesome Gifts that God has given to us. The Gifts of Daily Grace, Everlasting Love and Acceptance for the child He has created us to be.

As we continue to celebrate our Fruits of the Spirit, we look ahead to the Fruit of December, Patience. It is said that "Patience is a virtue" or, according to Styx, (one our past 4 year old students who never quite understood what her mom was trying to tell her) "Patience will kill you...." I know that sometimes it may feel that way, when children are asking about Christmas, the cookies need baking, the house needs cleaning, the presents need wrapping and the stockings need filling, oh it seems that the list can go on and on. If we can take a moment to find our patience, step back from it all, take a deep breath and remember the Why. The Why of the season, the Why of the celebration, the Why of the Gift; that we are here to share the gift of Love as Christ has shared His Love with us.

With love and blessings for the upcoming season,
Tammy and Child Development Center Staff

Our annual Christmas Program will be December 13th at 4 pm in the sanctuary.
Please join us if you are able, we would love to share this time with you.

Story Time with Ms. Adele



Hymn Along @ CM Tucker



Notes from: E-Outreach Ministries

From Deacon Lexanne Graves
E-Outreach Ministries Coordinator



NEW MONTHLY PODCAST FOR YOU TO LISTEN TO
—CALLED THREE SIDES!



This Three Sides Podcast edition is an amazing podcast for all of our LS disciples that touches on faith formation, welcoming new people, Being the Church vs Doing Church, and so much more! It features Dawn Rundman who authored “Little Steps, Big Faith”.

<https://www.livinglutheran.org/>

Three Sides is a monthly podcast featuring stories from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). As a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together, Three Sides will present diverse voices from across the ELCA. Listen as we share unique stories from the many expressions of this church.

- From our members whose lives are grounded in faith, love of God and neighbor.
- From our congregations that work every day to share the love of Christ with all God’s people.
- From our global companions and partners that join us as we



Remember: You can partner with Deacon Lexanne by doing some of the following on your own social media sites:

⇒ “Like” Living Springs Lutheran Church on your Facebook page (go to yacebook; search for Living Springs Lutheran Church, and click on LIKE)

⇒ “Follow” Living Springs Columbia on your Instagram (go to Instagram, search for Living Springs Columbia, and click on follow)

⇒ “Follow” Living Springs SC on your Twitter page (go to Twitter, search for LivingSpringsSC, & click follow)

Now each time Living Springs Lutheran posts anything on these three social media sites, it will automatically be in your “feed”. Then, here comes the cool part.....you can share these amazing, Spirit filled worship and fellowship experiences on your own social media feeds.



Notes from: Fellowship & Mutual Care

Christmas Fellowship Party

Sunday, December 2 @ 6:30

Please join us for an evening of food, fellowship and fun. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

Soft drinks will be provided.

Bring your own adult beverage.

Sunday December 2nd at 6:30 PM at the Sides Home (308 Crickentree Drive, Blythewood) Call Becky if you need directions (608-5558)



Living Springs College Ministry,
Thank you for the card & the Starbucks gift card. It will sure come in handy with my long hours of studying.

Thanks Rachel Hurlbert



I appreciate the gift card. It has helped me with a tough day at school. Thank you!

Dylan Mondro (son of Lisa Petty)

Notes from: TELS (Traveling Evangelists of Living Springs)

TELS Visits Enoree Winery



Notes from: Hope Ministry

VA Ministry

This was Veterans Appreciation Month so you could see there were organizations that had come to the area where we usually play our bingo – a stack of cards on the piano, a vase of roses that were wilting and needed water, a sign that said thank you for serving. We had a few of our regulars join us, but there was a new person this night. Pastor Eric always does a very heartfelt passage from the bible and relates it to how thankful we all are of the time and commitment that these veterans have given for the freedoms that we enjoy. We were honored to have the Disciples of Harmony sing for us this night - this new fellow tapped his



hand on the table and nodded his head as the DOH sang In Flanders Fields...you could see these gentlemen contemplate what this song means to each of them. When we are finished, I always shake hands and thank each veteran for his service and hope they join us next month – this new fellow, he was really touched by this simple night of bingo which had a deeper significance for him and he said in a very meaningful way that he will definitely come back next month and thanked us for being there.



On behalf of the Columbia VA Health Care System patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation to you for your Bingo with the Veterans. It is through the efforts of community partners like you that allow us to continue the quality care and services that we seek to provide our deserving Veterans. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you again in the future.

Thank you for your continue support and advocacy.

Sincerely, Tammy M. Finney, Chief, Voluntary Service

LS Veterans Ministry - 12/20

On Thursday, December 20, from 6:15-7:15, we will visit the Dorn VA's Community Life Center to sing carols and play Christmas bingo. Everyone is invited to come be part of this special time for the many disabled or older veterans who are undergoing therapy or now residing at the center. If you would like to make cards or donate items to be distributed, those are welcome! If you would like to carpool or follow in your car, please meet at the church at 5:30.



Rice Estate Dinner



CHRISTMAS DOVE TREE

The Dove Tree this year will have three opportunities of giving:

1. Our backpack ministry provides food for 50 elementary children at Rice Creek and Joseph Keels. In the past we were seeking some way to do a fun event for these children at Christmas, but because of privacy & security issues, we were unable to do. This year we are partnering with our Christmas Tree Lot Youth event and providing a tree to any backpack family that desired to accept a tree. The tree symbol on the Dove Tree with the prepaid \$45 price is the sponsor tag for the 16 trees that were ordered. *Please make check payable to Living Springs & indicate in the memo section "Backpack Christmas Tree" or put cash in a pew envelope appropriately designated for BP Tree.*
2. Doves that have wish list items on them are the children that have been identified by our Living Springs teachers as underprivileged and will not be enjoying a meaningful Christmas this year.
3. The gift cards are for the high school "unaccompanied youth" who, for a wide variety of reasons, do not live with their parent/guardian and most of the time are "couch surfing" with friends or other family members. Our lead social worker suggested gift cards, so they can enjoy shopping for their own personal items, clothing, food, etc. You can apply whatever denomination you desire at the stores listed on the Dove Tree (Wal-Mart, Target, JC Penny, Fast Food Restaurants, gas gift cards, Movie theater gift cards).

Thank you for the opportunity to serve others this Christmas Season. **Please return all by Sunday, Dec. 16.** Contact Karen Kranz for information.



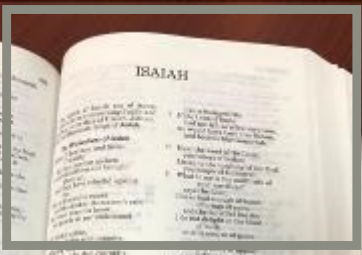
Notes from: Justice Ministry

Community Problems Justice Assembly



Notes from: Lifelong Discipleship

November Bible Book = Isaiah



Everyone in the congregation is challenged/encouraged to read the Bible Book of the Month! Pick a few chapters per day—do a chunk per week—read it all at once. Set aside a special time to do your reading at home/work.

Whatever works!

+++

“Book Discussion” Times ...

1st Sundays: Bible Book Kickoff Overview, led by Pastor at 9:30am

2nd Tuesdays: Devotional Lunch Group at 11am

Each Tuesday Evening: Study Group at 7pm

1st & 3rd Thursdays: Men's Group at 6:30am

Last Sundays: Discussion, led by Pastor @ 9:30am

January = Ruth & Esther

Notes from: Worship & Music Ministry

Árpád Darázs Singers at LS Thursday, December 6 @ 7pm

Living Springs will be hosting the Árpád Darázs Singers on Thursday, December 6 at 7pm. Cathy Lowman is a member of this wonderful group.

Started in 1987 after the death of noted University of SC choral professor Dr. Árpád A. Darázs, The Árpád Darázs Singers was organized by some of his former students to honor his memory and keep alive his desire "to provide group singing opportunities for everyone who has an interest in choral music and can carry a tune." The choir provides audiences in SC the opportunity to experience international choral music deeply rooted in the Árpád Darázs tradition of excellence. Admission is free to this gift of music although an offering will be taken to help defray expenses of the choir.



POINSETTIAS AND CANDLES Forms due December 16

If you would like to donate a set of 5 Moravian candles or have a poinsettia placed in the sanctuary on Christmas Eve in honor or memory of loved ones, please fill out the forms in the narthex. You may place in the offering plate or turn into the office. Deadline is December 16.



Sanctuary Christmas Decorating - 12/1

We will be decorating the sanctuary on Dec. 1 starting at 8am. The tree should be ready to decorate around 9:30. All are invited!

All Saints Sunday



Commitment Sunday Worship



Veterans Recognition Sunday



Christ the King Sunday - Commitment Burying



NE Community Thanksgiving Service



Notes from: Women's Ministry

We as women give thanks and praise God for His mercy in allowing us to serve Him. Ministries that the women are involved: God's Storehouse - meet at the Church the second Monday of the month to car pool to the site

Women Bible Study- Tuesday at 10:00 am

Lady book club - December 1

Crafty Ladies- 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month

Upcoming Event

Statewide Women Retreat @ Camp Kinard- February 8-9 2019 (How Lutheran interpret the Bible) Registration by January 4. (See Gwen Furcron for more information)

Mark your calendar for upcoming statewide and national Women's events

Statewide Isles of Palms- 4/26-28 2019

SC WELCA 2019 Convention- June 7-8 2019

Triennial Convention July 14-16 2020 (application due by March 31 2019) Contact G Furcron for more information

Ministries are open to all women at Living Springs. We encourage young adults to participate especially on the state and national level. All expenses are paid for participants who are elected to participate in any of the conventions

Thank you for listening to God's call.

St. Lucia Breakfast Tuesday, December 11 @ 10am

Around Christmas time in Sweden, one of the biggest celebrations is St. Lucia's Day on December 11th. The celebration comes from stories that were told by Monks who first brought Christianity to Sweden. St Lucia was a young Christian girl who was martyred, killed for her faith, in 304. LS Ladies Bible Study will celebrate St. Lucia on Tuesday, December 11 at 10am. We will gather at Adele Lindberg's (162 Peach Grove Circle, Elgin) for breakfast. Join Adele and friends and be Swedish for a day! (please rsvp with Adele so she can get a headcount)



LADIES BOOK CLUB

The Story of Arthur Truluv by Elizabeth Berg

We will meet at Red Lobster – Monday, December 3 @ 7 pm

10136 Two Notch Rd. 29229

Ph: 803-462-1755

All are invited – even if you have not read the book. Contact Karen Kranz for information.



One Year to Live Women's Retreat January 4-6, 2016

Isle of Palms Retreat Center, 2101 Palm Blvd., Isle of Palms, SC

This is not your typical women's retreat. In the hustle and bustle of life, as women we often are caring for others. This retreat is a gift to yourself. As part of the retreat, you will have:

- Time to be still
- The opportunity to connect authentically with yourself and other women
- A clearer sense of your purpose and where God is calling you.

Be prepared for a once in a lifetime experience and connect in a circle of sisters. Follow-up sessions to deepen the experience and relationships are available after the retreat.

[Click here for more information and registration form.](#)



Notes from: Men's Ministry

Lutheran Men Christmas Party Monday, December 10 @ 6:30 pm

All men of Living Springs and their families are invited to join us for an evening of fellowship to celebrate the season. We will be meeting at Beef O'Brady's on Mon. Dec. 10th at 6:30 pm. Contact Bob Turnmire for more information. *There will be no breakfast meeting in December.*

Notes from: Jr. Youth

Youth Christmas Program - Sunday, December 9 beginning @ 5pm!

With all the busyness that Advent will bring, our junior youth event for the upcoming month will be the Christmas program on the evening of Sunday, December 9. Kellee Flores, Christopher Girardeau, and I have been planning a program which will be unlike one Living Springs has ever seen before!

Starting at 5:00 p.m., there will be a fun photo booth set up for folks to have Christmas portraits made. We will begin an interactive program featuring a dramatic retelling of how the amazing events unfolded that first Christmas, from the perspectives of Mary, Joseph, the baby Jesus, and the angel Gabriel at 5:30. Throughout the program, groups will work together to create their very own nativity scenes to cherish for years to come. The program will be followed by the traditional spaghetti dinner. After eating, the Elf Store will be available for children to purchase inexpensive Christmas gifts for family and friends. We should wrap up around 7:30 p.m.



This event is not just limited to families with young children - everyone is invited to take part. However, we would like to make a seating chart, so please take a moment to click [this link](#) and let us know if we can plan to see you there!

Advent blessings, Ellen Girardeau Associate for Junior Youth and G.I.F.T. Zone Ministries

Spaghetti Dinner & Elf Store Sunday, December 9

Our Elf Store is a unique little shop we create in our Fellowship Hall for your children or "elves" to enjoy shopping for gifts for Mom and Dad and the rest of the family. This rare youth fundraiser provides toddler and elementary age children with a fun, real life learning opportunity of giving to others! Your children will learn how to budget their money (or your money!) while they shop for gifts under \$4 for Mom, Dad and others in your family! Trust us, seeing the joy of giving from the eyes of your youngster is one of the best gifts ever!!! Our hope is that they will be able to keep your gift a secret all the way to Christmas!!

PROGRAM PRACTICE 12/2 & 12/9

All children and youth are asked to gather in the Fellowship Hall today and next Sunday at 9:30 to practice for our Christmas program. Speaking roles have been assigned, but there are opportunities for all ages to be shepherds, angels, or animals.

First Communion

Youth Learning to Play the Handbells



Part of what I love about the G.I.F.T. Zone is that it meets children where they are. Whether you are in the mood to color a worksheet, read a book, or draw on a dry-erase board, we have activities for all! While scientific research continues to give us more information about age-appropriate developmental milestones for children, it is true that kids' behaviors related to factors like their attention spans can vary from week to week, not to mention the grown-ups!



If you are an adult who attends worship with a child, and you haven't joined us in the G.I.F.T. Zone before, please consider it! You don't have to sign up in advance, and you can leave at any time during worship if needed. There's no firm age restriction, either. Some of the most wonderful moments I witness are when an older child carefully shepherds a younger one. Personally, my worship experience is enhanced tremendously when I witness unprompted behaviors like girls and boys nurturing baby dolls, and flipping through the pages of a hymnal.

There's room for all of us in worship!

Looking forward to experiencing the joy of the holiday season with all of you,
Ellen Girardeau, Associate for Junior Youth and G.I.F.T. Zone Ministries



Notes from: Sr. Youth

Happy New Year!!! This month we celebrate the New Year of the Church, which we call Advent. In this season of the Church year, we anticipate the coming Christ-child, Emmanuel. The month of November helped us build up to the end of the Church year, capping it off with Christ the King Sunday, where we celebrate the reign of Jesus. During this past month, the Senior Youth Group continued their mid-week meetings. At the end of October, the youth helped by leading carnival games at Trunk 'r Treat and were able to celebrate Halloween at Walker's grandmother's house; there we were able to have delicious food, participate in a haunted trail, play some pool, and other fun! In November, we had our Senior Youth Annual Discipleship meeting. We dwelt in the Word, listening to how God is speaking to us in Scripture, especially as it pertains to being good stewards of that which God has given to us.

During Faith Alive hour, there are middle school class and a high school Sunday school classes. For the middle school youth, there will be a discussion every week on how we see God moving and being in our modern world with relevant social and cultural issues. For high school youth, a big part of our curriculum will be to bring the Gathering here to Living Springs. In September, we relistened to Nadia Bolz-Weber's speech from the Gathering and talked about how grace is for everyone. In October, we watched Marlon Hall speak about how amazing God's love is! In December, we'll be watching (Clemson Alumna) Rev. Tuhina Rasche's speech. You can watch her video [here](#).

!!!GREAT NEWS!!! Our very own Emma Harris, because of her leadership, gifts, and talents was recognized by some amazing adults from across the Synod. and she was nominated to be the **youth representative on the SC Synod Council!** Please take a moment to congratulate her and offer your support!

The Tree Lot is open! We have lots of beautiful Christmas trees that still need a home. We hope you'll consider purchasing one and continuing to support youth missions at LSLC. If you are moved to help at the tree lot, we would love that! (This is not just for youth and families, we would love for anyone to come and help.) Please [sign up here!](#)

Here are some key dates to keep in mind and put on your calendars:

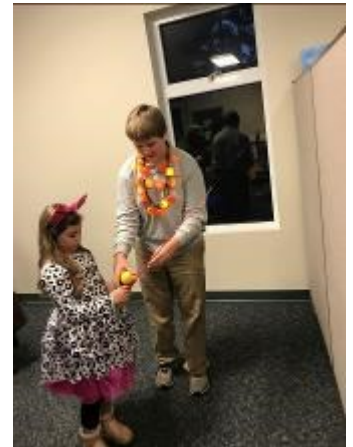
Youth Lock-In is December 7-8th

Youth Ski Trip is Jan 25-27th

Youth Lock-In is Feb 1-2nd

Youth Sunday is Feb 3

Youth @ Trunk or Treat



Notes from: Young Adults

We will try again to have a monthly meeting where we'll be reading Rachel Held Evans' new book *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*. About this book: "Drawing on the best in recent scholarship and using her well-honed literary expertise, Evans examines some of our favorite Bible stories and possible interpretations, retelling them through memoir, original poetry, short stories, soliloquies, and even a short screenplay. Undaunted by the Bible's most difficult passages, Evans wrestles through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating Scripture's mysteries. The Bible, she discovers, is not a static work but is a living, breathing, captivating, and confounding book that is able to equip us to join God's loving and redemptive work in the world." The first meeting for this will be **Thursday, Dec 13 at 630** at Beef O' Brady's.

Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

Christmas Program

Sunday, December 9 @ 5pm

This year's Christmas program will be unlike one LS has ever seen before! Starting at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 9, there will be a fun photo booth set up for folks to have Christmas portraits made. We will begin an interactive program featuring a dramatic retelling of how the amazing events unfolded that first Christmas, from the perspectives of Mary, Joseph, the baby Jesus, and the angel Gabriel at 5:30. Throughout the program, groups will work together to create their very own nativity scene to cherish for years to come. The program will be followed by the traditional spaghetti dinner. After eating, the Elf Store will be available for children to purchase inexpensive Christmas gifts for family and friends. We should wrap up around 7:30 p.m. This event is not just limited to families with young children - everyone is invited to take part. However, we would like to make a seating chart, so please take a moment to go to <https://tinyurl.com/ybsd2je4> and let us know if we can plan to see you there! Contact Ellen Girardeau, Christopher Girardeau, or Kellee Flores.



Spaghetti Dinner & Elf Store - 12/9

Our Elf Store is a unique little shop we create in our Fellowship Hall for your children or "elves" to enjoy shopping for gifts for Mom and Dad and the rest of the family. This rare youth fundraiser provides toddler and elementary age children with a fun, real life learning opportunity of giving to others! Your children will learn how to budget their money (or your money!) while they shop for gifts under \$4 for Mom, Dad and others in your family! Trust us, seeing the joy of giving from the eyes of your youngster is one of the best gifts ever!!! Our hope is that they will be able to keep your gift a secret all the way to Christmas!!

ELF STORE Donations

We are collecting new or gently used items for our Elf Store for Dec. 9th. (jewelry, decorative household items, crafty hand towels, body lotions/soaps, golf/hunting/sporting stuff, ornaments, kitchen gadgets, grilling items, etc.) Please place your items in the Youth Room!!

Daily Advent E-Mail Devotions

Beginning Monday, December 3rd, our Daily Advent Email Devotions will be arriving in your mailboxes. A theme & Scripture passage are assigned for each week-day during Advent. We were truly blessed by all of the submissions last Advent - this is a wonderful way to focus your heart on an Advent message of hope and joy to share with others! We still have a few days available if your interested in writing one. A sign-up sheet is in the admin building. You can sign up as an individual, couple, or family.

Living Springs Christmas Tree Lot

Christmas Tree Lot is now open. It will be open every weekend until Christmas. Spread the word! Lot hours: *Friday 5 - 9 pm; Saturday 10 am - 9 pm; Sunday 12 - 8 pm.* Tree Prices are from \$50-\$ 90. Wreaths are \$25. We encourage all LS members to volunteer for at least one slot during this season to support our Youth Ministries. Please sign up in the admin building or contact [Leslie Boss](#)

Beer & Carols

Monday, December 17 @ 7pm

Love to sing Christmas Carols? Enjoy having a beverage and fellowshiping with others? Come join us for Beer & Carols Monday, December 18, 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!

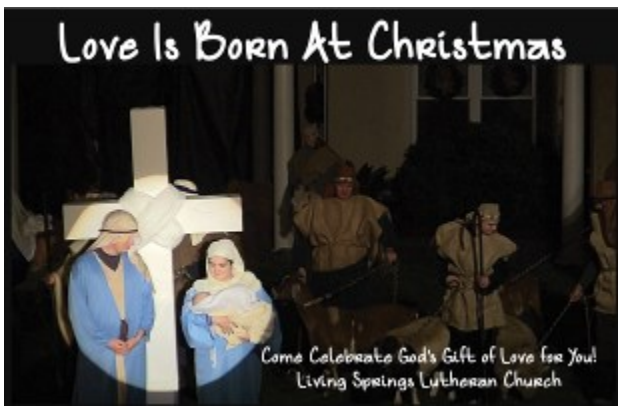
Amazon Smile

Living Springs is now a part of Amazon Smile.

How does AmazonSmile work?

When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. Go to

smile.amazon.com



2500 CHRISTMAS OUTREACH INVITATIONS!

Today, each worshipper is asked to take at least five outreach invitations to prayerfully share with someone special in the upcoming week. They contain information about our Outdoor Nativity and Christmas Eve worship. Don't forget to look for our billboards on Two Notch south of Clemson and on Clemson at Earth Rd. Point it out to your friends!



Living Nativity Rehearsal Schedule

All rehearsals are held after the 10:45 service, approx. 12:15

Still want to participate? We have a spot for you! Sign up today!

- December 2 - Shepherds, Angels, Narrator, Mary, Joseph
- December 9 - Make Up Rehearsal - Townspeople, shepherds, angels
- December 13 - Time TBD - Tech Rehearsal - all tech crew
- December 14 - 6:30 pm - Dress Rehearsal - EVERYONE in costume
- December 15 and 16 - Living Nativity- Dressed and ready by 6:30!



Opportunities Outside Living Springs

Your **Festival** Invitation

Sights and Sounds of Nativity

December 8, 2018, 5-7 pm

December 9, 2018, 3:30-7:30 pm

Reformation Lutheran Church
1118 Union St. at River Dr., Columbia, SC

Nativity displays (anticipate 200 or more) in all shapes and sizes

Variety of musical performances

Children's activities/crafts

Seasonal treats in a candlelight setting

Carol sing at 6:30 pm to close the festival



This is a self-guided festival event open to everyone. A printed guide will describe the displays. Spend as long as you like. Stay as long as you wish. It is free and open to the public. Donations will benefit the Year of the Veteran through WIS-TV

If you can and will

Register a set or collection of sets for display

We would love to feature one or more sets

From your congregation: pastor/staff, a group in your congregation, individual(s)

RESERVE SPACE WITH THIS FORM

Event Contact for information: Dorothy Jeffcoat 803-407-9375 (H) or 803-622-3314 (C) dotjeffcoat@aol.com

Ongoing Opportunities at Living Springs

Tuesday Devotion Lunch @ Living Springs

Tuesday, December 4 @ 11:00 AM

This month's lunch is on Tuesday, December 4th. at 11 am, with discussion of monthly bible book led by Pr. Eric. Everyone is welcome! Light meal provided by Living Springs Food Ministry. To reserve a spot for you and your friends, sign up in the office lobby or contact the office before 11am on Monday. Donation \$6 (includes drink & dessert).

Backpack Food Ministry

Thursdays @ 4pm

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, December 10 @ 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. For more information, please contact Ginny Devereaux.

Good News Walkers

Thursdays @ 8:30 AM

We start out with a short devotion from The Word in Season and then we deliver Living Springs/Preschool flyers to areas that have new move-ins **and** have a paper box. Meet in the administration building by 8am on Thursday morning – we are usually finished in an hour. Contact [Karen Kranz](#) for information.

Recovery Comes First

Mondays 7pm-8pm @ Living Springs

A Narcotics Anonymous Group is being formed here in the NE Columbia area! "Recovery Comes First" will meet every Monday, 7-8 pm, at Living Springs Lutheran Church (Katie Room). This is an "open" group, meaning that anyone affected (directly or indirectly) by narcotic/opioid addiction is welcome to attend.

2019 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 <http://goo.gl/mVVrGE>. To order flowers from our preferred florist, contact Blythewood Florist at 691-1820.

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!

SAFETY & KEYFOB REMINDER

Important Reminder: the outside doors to the administration/classroom building must NOT be propped open for any occasion (except during momentary loading/unloading). If you have not yet picked up your keyfob, please call the office to make arrangements for Lisa. The new call button on the outside of the office doors will ring to inside phones should you have a guest arriving for an event (or consider having a group member in the lobby if you are expecting many guests). For this reason, please do not mute any of the inside phones in the administration building. Thank you for your help in keeping everyone's safety a priority!

December 2018

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

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	930A Book of the Month Intro 930A Christmas Program Rehearsal 1215P Nativity Rehearsal 1230P Tree Lot 630P Adult Fellowship Christmas Party (Sides')	4 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1145A Devotional Lunch 4P ASC Bible Time 5P Worship Outreach 6P Worship & Music Team 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	5 930 PS Chapel 12P Advent Prayer Service 6P Hope Ministry 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Advent Prayer Service 7P Choirs 7P Lifelong Discipleship	6 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 4P Backpacks 7P Arpad Darazs Singers in Concert	7 5P Youth Lock-in 5P Tree Lot	8 930A Crafty Ladies 10A Tree Lot
9	930A Ministry Info Session 930A Christmas Program Rehearsal 1215P Nativity Rehearsal 1230P Tree Lot 5P LS Christmas Program, Spaghetti Dinner & Elf Store	11 930 PS Bible Time 10A St. Lucia Breakfast (Lindberg's) 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Finance 7P Handbells 7P Adult Bible Study	12 930 PS Chapel 12P Advent Prayer Service 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Advent Prayer Service 7P Choirs	13 830A GN Walkers 4P Backpacks 4P CDC Christmas Program 630P CDC Board 7P Live Nativity Tech Rehearsal	14 5P Tree Lot 630P Live Nativity Dress Rehearsal	15 10A Tree Lot 7P Live Outdoor Nativity
16	930A Ministry Info Session 1230P Tree Lot 7P Live Outdoor Nativity	18 930 PS Bible Time 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	19 930 PS Chapel 12P Advent Prayer Service 4P Backpacks 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Advent Prayer Service 7P Choirs	20 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 615P LS Veterans Ministry Night (carpool 530) 7P Council	21	22
23	930A End of Month Bible Book	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26	27	28	29
30	1030 Lessons & Carols	1 New Years Day Office Closed	2 930 PS Chapel 6P Hope Ministry 6P Disciples of Harmony 7P Choirs	3 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 7P Lifelong Discipleship	4	5 8am Sanctuary Dedecorating

Worship Assistant Schedule - December 2018

	Assisting Minister	Lector	Communion Assistant	Ushers	Greeters	Acolyte	Crucifer	Torchbearer	Counters	Children's Message	Council Person
12/2	8:15 Jan Berger	Peg Zieche	Hank Cox Karen Kranz	Marj Appleton Jerry Appleton	Debbie Smith	Bill Franck	Jim Zieche			Helen Doeringhaus	Jan Berger
12/2	10:45 Jan Berger	Anne Ducate	Tiffany Ginn Anne Ducate	Gary Ginn Preston Ginn Karlene Stuart Mike Davidson	Jeanette Bloss	Lucas Shannon	Steve Bloss	Gail Buchanan Jeff Day	Jan Berger (L) Leslie Bloss Laura Turnmire	Helen Doeringhaus	Jan Berger
12/9	8:15 John Imbert	Rev. Griffin	Helen Doeringhaus Saundra Dixon	Sue Loveless Mike Loveless	Nancy Schwind	Wesley Graves	Nancy Schwind			Adam Woodruff	Midge Gunvalson
12/9	10:45 Rev. Griffin	Christopher Girardeau	Pat Bartucca Leslie Bloss	Steve Bloss Jan Berger Randy Masad Adam Woodruff	Gail Buchanan	Cody Shannon	Steve Bloss	Leslie Bloss Trish Davidson	Steve Bloss (L) Jeff Tenhover Vickie Crapps	Adam Woodruff	Jeff Tenhover
12/16	8:15 Saundra Dixon	Nowell Ramsey	Bill Franck Jan Epperson	Jeff Lummel Barb Imbert	Kristen Mattson	Jim Zieche	Karen Kranz			Christopher Girardeau	Bill Franck
12/16	10:45 Jeff Day	Keith Powell	Steve Bloss Trish Davidson	Lauren Bloss Austin Padgett Steve Padgett Marshall Hurlbert	Linda Hayes	Lauren Bloss	Leslie Bloss	Steve Bloss Jeanette Bloss	Karen Kranz (L) Sarah Schultz Midge Gunvalson	Christopher Girardeau	Adam Woodruff
12/23	8:15 Gwen Furcron	John Imbert	Ashley Ramsey Nowell Ramsey	Jerry Mancuso Kathy McDonald	Judy Lawrence	Bill Franck	Jan Epperson			Alison Levitt	Vickie Crapps
12/23	10:45 Christopher Girardeau	Lori Masad	Audrey Turnmire Laura Turnmire	Karlene Stuart Laura Stuart Austin Padgett Walker Flores	Cathy Lowman	Walker Flores	Leslie Bloss	Wes Levitt Andrew Levitt	Bob Turnmire (L) Steve Padgett Doug Danner	Alison Levitt	Doug Danner
12/30	10:30 Jan Berger	Mike Davidson	Hank Cox Karen Kranz	Sue Loveless Mike Loveless Jeff Lummel	Marlene Jorgensen	Lucas Shannon	Wes Levitt	Leslie Bloss Cynthia Edney	Karlene Stuart (L) Wendy McKenzie Sue Hyman		Mike Davidson
	Name Tag 8:15	Name Tag 10:45		Flowers	Muggers		Coffee	Refreshments		Altar Guild	
12/2	Marina Cox	Karen Kranz		Karen Kranz	Karen Kranz	Charles Tracy		Karen Kranz		December Kathy Brennan	
12/9	Roger Schwind	Gay Walter		Charles Tracy	Bill Franck		Saundra Dixon				
12/16	Marj Appleton	Karen Kranz		Kathy McDonald		Karen Kranz		Judy Lawrence			
12/23	Jean Weick	Ashley Ramsey		Vickie Crapps		Todd Gunvalson		Keliee Flores			
12/30	n/a	Marina Cox		Karen Kranz		n/a		n/a			

SIGN UP FOR CHRISTMAS EVE & FIRST QUARTER – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

The online sign up for January is ready to be populated – whatever slots are open by December 20 will need to be manually filled in. If you have not been assigned OR the opposite – have been getting assigned without wanting to be, let Lisa or Karen Kranz know. Time and Talent sheets are available all year round – you can still fill one out if you have had a spirit tug towards serving. Christmas Eve <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baea92fa0f85-20184>
 First quarter (January-March): <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baea92fa0f85-2019>

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

December 1	Megan Compas Shelby Sheldon Michael Snipes	December 22	Christian Grohman
December 2	Lisa Petty	December 24	Matthew Brouwer
December 5	Elise Gerald	December 25	Nic Creticos
December 6	Peg Zieche	December 26	Lexanne Graves Linda Hayes
December 9	Lucas Shannon	December 28	Savannah Mancuso Leena Skiba
December 11	Jessica Bazemore		♥ Barbara & Peter Creighton
December 14	Peggy Collins ♥ Hank & Marina Cox	December 29	Goldie Harmon Jeannie Hurlbert
December 17	Jessica Jorgensen Teagan Lindstedt		♥ Marshall & Jeannie Hurlbert ♥ Mike & Sue Loveless
December 19	Adele Lindberg	December 31	Melanie Mooney Jeremy Niemeyer
December 21	♥ Lee & Barbara Collins Addie Peterson Ron Ramsey		Randy Sides



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!



December 1	Anne Ducate Chris Kannaday Bob Turnmire	December 17	Jessica Jorgensen
December 2	Brantley Smith	December 22	Lexanne Graves
December 6	Marj Appleton Evan Turnmire	December 23	Karen Kranz
December 9	Kellie Snipes	December 24	Jack Arnold
December 10	Sarah Schultz	December 29	Scott Graves

CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers

Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor

pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org

Deacon Justin Rimbo - Interim Minister of Worship &

Innovative Church Outreach

justin@livingspringscolumbia.org

Dea. Lexanne Graves – E-Outreach Coordinator

lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org

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

Christopher@livingspringscolumbia.org

Ellen Girardeau - Assoc. for Jr Youth
and G.I.F.T. Zone Ministries

ellen@livingspringscolumbia.org

Tammy Mancuso- Dir. of Child Development Center

tmancuso@lslccdc.org

Lisa Petty – Admin. Assist/Communications Coor.

lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org

Laura & Mark Cunningham - Food Resource Persons

laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org

Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper

sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org

Laura Turnmire – Director of Handbell Choir

scturnmires@yahoo.com

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

[Jan Berger](#) - President

[Adam Woodruff](#) - Vice President

[Wendy McKenzie](#) - Secretary

[Mike Davidson](#) - Treasurer

[Bill Franck](#) – Financial Secretary

[Ann Lynn Caughman](#)

[Vickie Crapps](#)

[Doug Danner](#)

[Michael Grimmer](#)

[Midge Gunvalson](#)

[Julie Ann Harris](#)

[Jeff Tenhover](#)

[Gay Walter](#)

[Austin Padgett](#), Youth Rep.

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

E-Outreach Ministries

Deacon Lexanne Graves

Fellowship & Mutual Care

Trish Davidson & Wendy McKenzie

Good News Team

Lisa Petty

Hope Ministries

Karen Kranz

Lifelong Discipleship

Steve Bloss

Worship & Music

Jim Zieche

Child Development Center

Peg Zieche

Facilities

Ed Brennan

Finance

Rocky Berger

Archives/Pew Bears

Judy Lawrence

LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Columbia, SC 29223

Phone: 803-736-0661

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contact@livingspringscolumbia.org

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prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org

Prayer Requests