

The Living Springs Journal

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

January 2019



Jan. 6 and Jan. 13— Two Wonderful Sundays to Kickoff

LS BIBLE BOOK(S) OF THE MONTH: January = RUTH/ESTHER

Every year, after 12 days of celebrating the Christmas Season (Dec. 25—Jan. 5), we join with Christians across the world on Jan. 6 to celebrate the great festival of the Epiphany of our Lord. It is the occasion when we recall the visit of the Magi to worship the Newborn King with their gifts—and celebrate that Jesus was revealed to be “a light for the nations” in fulfillment of the ancient promise from Isaiah. In many cultures, Jan. 6 is the date on which gifts are exchanged in honor of the Christ-child. In 2019, we have a relatively rare year when Jan. 6 actually falls on Sunday. So, we are **inviting everyone to bring a special gift to church on Epiphany, Jan. 6** to share Christ’s light for those who will struggle in winter cold; gloves, blankets, winter hats/scarves (to be shared with the homeless as part of the United Way’s annual Midlands homeless count process later in January). In addition to our Sunday morning worship, we are excited to gather for worship at 5pm on Sunday evening to celebrate the annual Burning of the Greens—and to consider how the light of God’s love bursts forth in our lives to bring hope in an all-too-often dark world.

On Jan. 13, the entire congregation is asked to gather in the fellowship hall at 9:30 (between worship services) for our 2nd annual “Get-to-Know-You Fellowship.” We had such a tremendous response to last year’s event—it is a wonderful opportunity for us to put names with faces, and get to know a little more about each other as sisters & brothers in Christ whom the Spirit calls together in this community of disciples. On the

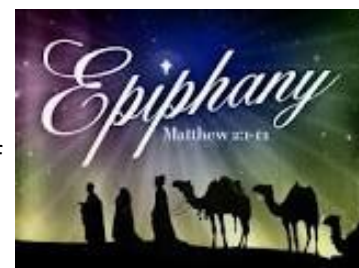


13th, we will also offer prayers for our newly-elected 2019 LS Council, who will be installed & recognized at each morning worship service.

Finally, on the afternoon of the 13th at 4:00, all congregational staff, committee/group leaders, and council will gather for the 1st step in our annual planning discernment process. In 2018, this led us to two powerful focus points (immersing ourselves in deeper prayer + increased opportunities for relational listening/community interaction—see below). The Spirit truly empowered us to grow in faith together through these focal points last year, and I invite everyone’s prayer as we begin the process to discern God’s vision for our ministry in 2019 (and beyond).

There were so, so many ways that the light of Christ shone among and through the community of Living Springs last month. I saw light shining in the powerful sharing of the Christmas story by our Child Development Center children for a standing-room-only sanctuary—and shared by our Jr./Sr. Youth at their truly creative Sunday evening Christmas program. I saw light shining as Christmas trees were delivered to needy backpack ministry families; as Dove Tree gifts were prepared for at-need elementary and high school students; as countless World Hunger farm animals & hope gifts were given to honor Christ’s birth; as blankets and breakfast were shared at Finley Park on the weekend before Christmas by our CDC staff; as Advent Food boxes were

carried into the narthex and over 1100 pounds of food were delivered to God’s Storehouse and Harvest Hope Food Banks. I saw light in teens and adults giving of their time and energy to work in a tree lot, so that our youth might have their lives changes through summer faith experiences and Christ-centered youth ministry. I saw light in the quiet worship experiences of mid-week Advent prayer with little blue slips of hurt & pain being laid in a manger; and I saw light in disciples gathered to grow in faith by reading & studying Isaiah as our Book of the Month. I saw light among community members singing joyfully about Christ’s birth at Beer ‘n Carols; in homebound members listening to visiting carolers; in VA patients playing Christmas bingo and singing carols; in community members gathered at LS for the joyful Christmas music of Arpad Dirazs. I saw so much light in faces who beheld the wonder of Christ’s birth through our an-



Just as the Magi once brought gifts to honor the Christ-child, we invite you to bring a special gift on Jan. 6:

- **Gloves**
- **Blankets**
- **Winter Hats/Scarves**

+ + +

Epiphany Worship
8:15 & 10:45
Burning of the Greens
5:00

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

**“Get-to-Know-You”
Congregation Fellowship**
9:30-10:30 am

+ + +

Council Installation
8:15 & 10:45 Worship

+ + +

Leadership Gathering
4:00 - 6:30 pm

VA MINISTRY NIGHT

Thursday, Jan. 24—6:15

+ + +

CHILI COOK-OFF FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, Jan. 26—6:30

+ + +

ANNUAL MLK SERVICE

Jan. 27—3:00 (Adams NE AME)

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.

nual Outdoor Nativity; in children who petted animals; in a young voice who said to a character afterward, "So THIS is why we celebrate Christmas!" I saw light in a chancel packed with children at our Christmas Eve Family Service, contemplating all that was made holy (not holey!) by the birth of Jesus. I saw light in worshippers reciting "God with us" during a Christmas Eve message, receiving Holy Communion by the manger, and being moved by amazing music & candlelight at our late Christmas Eve worship. Light! Light! Light! Everywhere we turned in December, there was the powerful light of God's amazing love and grace!



As we move into January and the season of Epiphany, we continue our wonder over the light of Christ, which shatters the darkness of this world. Our "Grow in Faith Together" focus has been the Fruits of the Spirit—and it is these 9 fruit in our daily lives that truly bring much light into the dark places of this world: **love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control!** Throughout 2019, I pray that your heart and your home may continue to be a living orchard of light, as the Spirit nurtures these fruit in your life—and in our shared life together. I truly look forward to kicking off 2019 with you in worship on Jan. 6 and Jan. 13, and to the journey of growing in faith together throughout this calendar year!

With thanksgiving for all the ways the light of Christ shines through each of you, *Pastor Eric*

[*CLICK HERE for a link to Pastor's January article for the LS Child Development Center newsletter.](#)

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

GLOVES, SCARVES, BLANKETS, HATS... Special Epiphany Day Offering, January 6!

On January 6, the Day of the Epiphany, Christians around the world remember the visit of the Magi and the gifts they brought for Jesus. This year, Epiphany Day falls on a Sunday - and we too will bring special gifts for Jesus (inasmuch we have done to the least of these, we have done unto him!).



This Sunday, everyone is invited to bring at least 1 item for a homeless individual to help for the winter: gloves, scarves, blankets, or winter hats. Items may be brought to Sunday morning worship OR to our Burning of the Greens service at 5:00. They will be distributed as part of the annual Midlands Homeless Count performed by the United Way in January.

January 2019 Volume 33 Issue 1

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God's Corner



SPECIAL THANKS...

To all who offered their time & talents to make this Advent and Christmas a special season of celebrating Christ's love: our decorators, choir & bell members, instrumentalists, altar guild, worship assistants, office & preschool staff, Live Nativity & Children's Program participants, SS teachers & youth leaders, tree lot volunteers, poinsettia/candle donors - & all who offered special gifts for the Dove Tree, backpack ministry, & other outreach projects. We rejoice in the blessing of sharing the wonder of Christ with each other, our community, and the world!



There are not enough words to express my gratitude and appreciation for everything that you all do for our students and families. I was absolutely blown away this morning when the gift cards were dropped off. I have forgotten the name of the person I met but she was such a true blessing to meet as well. We have already helped many students just today. The ability to help our students and families in the last hours before Christmas is some of our most challenging times. Many times families and students don't want to ask for help but as the time draws near we find out their stories and so desperately want to help. You all have made that possible. I will be sending a formal thank you letter but I just wanted to share my gratitude today. I appreciate you so much! Love you so much! Merry Christmas!

Abby H^{Available} Cobb^{Available} LISU^{Available} CD

Lead Social Worker

God Moment Stories

I was pumping gas the other day when a woman at the next pump asked me what my "Donate Life" license plate meant. I explained that it promotes organ, tissue and bone donation. I told her that I had just celebrated the fifth anniversary of my new kidney, and it was a perfect match! She said that if she was a religious person, she would call it a miracle. I told her that our family still regards it as a miracle; and that although the kidney had to come from a deceased donor, we still exchange Christmas cards with the donor's family. She told me that her sister has cancer, and how things like this really make you appreciate our own healthy lives. I agreed—they sure do. Then the gas pumps clicked off and we got back to our business at hand.

Thank you, Lord. As we were racing hither and yon during this busy holiday season, You gave two strangers the opportunity to reflect on this precious gift of life that has been bestowed upon us. Help us to always acknowledge and be grateful for all of Your miraculous gifts to us.



My 22 year old daughter recently had a two-tire blow-out at night in a part of town she didn't know well. Her phone was not working and she needed help. She was concerned about the car and about her personal safety. She went up to a dimly lit house to ask to use a phone. A woman hesitantly opened the door and let my daughter in. My daughter called me and left a phone message. As the two waited together to hear back from me they began to talk. When I received my daughter's message telling me what had happened I immediately called the number back and thanked the woman for helping my daughter. She said that my daughter had helped her far more than she had helped my daughter. I later told my daughter what the woman had said. My daughter understood right away: she said that as they waited for help the woman had told her that she was going through a very rough time and was thinking about suicide. She felt that my daughter's knock on the door and need for help was a gift, a reminder that this woman could make a difference and that she was needed. After the car was towed, my daughter went and picked up food to take to the woman. She had seen while she waited for me that there was nothing in the house to eat. As sisters and brothers we share a journey -- across neighborhoods and across needs -- that strengthens each of us! In helping each other we glimpse God's love.



God used us to serve Him. One way God used this individual is through her love for talking to God's people. The story goes. I approached this person and said. You are late. She said. "I was downstairs selling pigs and chicken. I told them I was buying two pigs because they could have piglets and feed the family and two chickens so they can have chicks to feed the family She proceeded to explain the Good Gift to the manger st the YMCA. She sold the program. This individual said the manger thought it was a good idea and he was given information on how to get involved in Good Gifts. See God take what talent we have and use it for His purpose—even loving to talk. Praise God



After the Live Nativity, a family approached me with 2 little children to say thank you for sharing this story with our family. With tears in her eyes she then said, "Tonight was very special for me, more special than you can ever imagine." I firmly believe the Holy Spirit wanted this family to hear the Greatest Story ever told of love and grace. Thank you for the opportunity to be among these wonderful disciples and the hard work it takes to present this to our community.



In Chapel this morning we were discussing Mary's long journey to Bethlehem while pregnant and the joy of giving birth to the Messiah. I shared that the Jesus loves us ALL so very much that he bursts into our world and is born in a stinky stable...for you and for me! One little toddler asked earnestly, "Does Jesus really loves *me*?". Yes! Yes! a million times Yes!, I shouted gleefully. But I felt deep down that she wasn't sure I was telling the truth. So we read more from the Bible and sang some more "Jesus songs" as the kids call them, and this same little girl asks again, "Does Jesus really love me?" Absolutely, today and everyday of your life, I responded. This sweet 2 1/2 year old toddler then asks, "But when we die, will Jesus still love me?" OF COURSE!! We actually will live with Jesus forever because Jesus loves us so very much!!! And she smiled the biggest smile I have ever seen! What a joy it was to see her heart smile! And what an even greater joy is was to hear her honest questions during this Christmas season that were about Jesus, instead of Santa Clause!! May we all be drawn to the light and love of Jesus this season as this toddler!!



In Chapel this morning we were singing the "Jesus Zone" song and one toddler shouts excitedly when we finished singing, "I Am In the Jesus Zone!" Yes, yes, we all are! This emphatic knowledge from a toddler helps my doubt as an adult and reminds me that no matter what, Jesus is with me!



In Chapel this morning, the Spirit urged me to ask the children to sing Away In a Manger with me. To my astonishment, our 3 & 4 yr old children sang 3 verses of the song from memory! WOW! What a blessing! I mentioned to them that I am not even sure our adults would know from memory 3 verses of this song! Awesome!



During chemo treatment with mom the day after Christmas, there were sweet folds going through giving gifts of cheer to patients with a reminder they are loved and being prayed for by complete strangers. Very inspiring!!



I am blessed to see diverse members of our community come together to advocate for children and their well being

SHARE YOUR GOD MOMENT STORY

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



Notes from: *Living Springs Child Development Center*

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

If someone asked you to take a taste test of fruits, one would most likely anticipate tasting a banana, apple, pear or grapes; things that are common to us in our daily lives. We would be willing to take a taste without much thought or hesitation. But this year, as we have begun to engage, explore and experience "Fruits", that taste test has been something much different.

We have started to fill our basket with the fruits of Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-Control. Some of these fruits may "taste" a little different to us based on our past experiences and exposure to the community and world in which we have grown.

As a Child Development Center we are blessed with the gift of filling the baskets of our children and families with these fruits. Blessed with the opportunity to serve as a reminder of the sweetness they have brought, or to give the gift of a fresh new taste. May we continue through the upcoming year to share the sweetness of these fruits with you. May we serve as an example to our community and the world that we are here to share God's love and fill each other's baskets to the brim.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Wishing You Well,
Tammy and the C.D.C. Staff

Child Development Center Christmas Program



Celebrating St. Lucia Day

*Child Development Center
Teachers Delivering Blankets
& Breakfast to the Homeless*



It happened here at LSLC CDC

LSLC CDC children are the best! Recently, one of our young boys came to school with something very special in his pocket—a band aid—and he was so excited to show everyone his prized possession. Earlier that morning, he had asked his Dad for a band aid. Dad asked if his son if he had a "boo boo" and the little boy said "no, it's for a friend". A bit later, when the child went into his classroom, he found his friend and gave her the band aid. The little girl suddenly discovered a teeny, tiny, barely visible scratch on her finger and gratefully accepted the band aid. We all know how much our children love band aids, so what a wonderful example of this month's fruit of the spirit—kindness.

"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible" – **Dalai Lama**

Notes from: *Fellowship & Mutual Care*

Fellowship Christmas Party



Chili Cook-Off

Saturday, January 26 @ 6:30 pm

Chili Cook-Off will be held January 26, 6:30pm at the Home of Bill and Nancy Franck (321 Turnwall Ln, Elgin). Bring your best chili (prizes to be awarded) If chili is not your specialty, please bring a heavy appetizer or dessert as well as an adult beverage of their choice.



Legrand/Lowman Dinner & Auction



Save the Date for the Annual LeGrand/ Lowman Dinner and Auction to be held on Saturday, February 9th at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us in "Winter Wonderland." Dinner tickets will go on sale soon - \$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.

We are in need of Silent Auction items, such as donations from restaurants, or other vendors, handmade/homemade items, etc. 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. Contact Wendy McKenzie or Trish Davidson.



Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

December seems to be a month that has 31 days, but seems like 7. With shopping, preparing for travels, gatherings/parties, so much so that the true meaning of Christmas can easily get lost in it all. We have many ministries here at Living Springs to participate in that really set the tone for the focus on the coming of Christ - Advent Palooza, Advent prayer services & daily Advent devotions, collecting of Advent Hope Boxes, Christmas pageants, caroling to homebound & nursing home residents and to the community in a casual atmosphere, Christmas Dove Tree offering the opportunity to give to those less fortunate than us, a Living Nativity Drama depicting Love is Born, Christmas Eve services, Christmas bingo & caroling with veterans - I just realized I am probably taking up one whole page listing all these events!! I know it's hard participating in them all, but they all bring your attention to that one precious gift of all - God's son to bring eternal life to the world. Each week as I glance through the pictures in the bulletin, I am amazed how God works through our hands.

Dove Tree Gifts Blessing



Delivering Dove Gifts



Delivery of Hope Boxes



We give thanks to everyone for the overwhelming response to our 2018 Advent Food Box project - and to our Sr. Youth for delivering the items this week to Harvest Hope.



Notes from: *Justice Ministry*

As the New Year begins and we consider "resolutions," there is another "R-word" that comes to mind: "requirements." Micah 6:8 offers New Year's insight for us: "What does the Lord require of us? To do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God." January marks the mid-season of our second year as a part of MORE Justice and offers all of us an opportunity to deepen our involvement with the Justice ministry.

MORE Justice is the Midlands interfaith organization where 29 covenanted congregations come together to address community problems (with a total of 35+ congregations participate with us). Concern for justice and concern for neighbor unify our many faith traditions: Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, AME, Baptist, Quaker, Church of Christ, Unitarian, and Jewish Synagogues. LSLC is actively engaged in MORE Justice work and, like last year, we began our MORE Justice year in September with LSLC house meetings where we all talked together about our deep concern about local problems. We were not alone: across the Midlands almost 600 people of faith attended 70 house meetings, sharing similar conversations. We listened and noted recurring concerns shared by others participating in the process.

After the house meetings were completed, more than 30 congregations and 400 participants attended the Community Problems Assembly on November 13 at Shandon Methodist Church to prayerfully agree on the community problems to address this year. What an inspiring evening with hundreds of other people of faith excited about "loving God, loving neighbor"! More than 40 members of LSLC attended the Community Problems Assembly and participated in voting on which community problem to focus on this year. The problem of Affordable Housing was selected, along with continued focus from last year on problems of Mental Health and Education.

On November 27th the Research Kick-Off was held at Gill Creek Baptist Church, where we found out more about the research process and how we go about this. We want to learn more about the three problems, find out what is being done, and identify potential solutions. We signed up to work on Research Teams (Affordable Housing, Mental Health, or Education) and LSLC members are on all three research teams. Our Research is now underway.

With Housing we began by defining the problem and getting some facts. "Affordable housing" means that you're paying no more than a third of your income on rent/utilities. In the Columbia area 13,000 families spend more than 50% of their income on rent/utilities. We found out that Columbia ranks 8th in the nation in evictions, and in Richland County more than 19 people are evicted a day on average. The problem of affordable housing touches our lowest-income neighbors but also impacts teachers, firefighters, public servants, and mid-income earners. We are meeting with a wide range of housing officials and agencies now and are learning more about the need and resources that exist.

Our work with Mental Health and Education also continues. We have made great strides in the area of Mental Health! Last year we identified the need for Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for law enforcement officers to ensure their safety and the safety of those arrested who are mentally ill (a disproportionate number of those arrested). Chief Holbrook and Sheriff Lott agreed to have their officers trained in CIT. The good news is that by December 2018 more than 100 Columbia police officers (which is about 25% of the city force) had completed the CIT training! MORE Justice is working with Mayor Steve Benjamin's office to investigate the Club House model, a residential resource for those with mental illness that's been successful in Greenville and nationally. MORE Justice also continues to work with school officials on Education to pilot a national best-practice program to reduce school suspensions since academic success begins by keeping students in the classroom.

MORE Justice continues to "grow the circle" by partnering with other groups and expanding our call to others in our community. In Affordable Housing, Mental Health, and Education, we see increased support and commitment to serving our neighbors by addressing these important

problems.



What's your New Year's "Re-solution" or "Re-quirement"? Do you feel a Spirit tug to get involved with Justice Ministry? There are many opportunities in coming weeks:

Upcoming Research Team opportunities for anyone interested: Affordable Housing (January 8 at 6 pm), Mental Health (January 15 at 6 pm), Education (January 14 at 6 pm)

All of our LSLC Network Members please mark your calendars: We will meet with Adams NE and Rehoboth Baptist MORE Justice Network Members on February 25 at 6:30 pm – what a wonderful chance to get together and deepen our faith relationships with our neighbors down the street? Network Members should also mark their calendars for the:

MORE Justice Rally on April 1 (6:30 pm)

Nehemiah Action (everyone + 3) on May 6 (7:00 pm)

MORE Justice Celebration on May 20 (note new date) (6:30 pm)

If MORE Justice is new to you or you'd like to learn more, please talk with any of our LSLC MORE Justice Team Leaders: Peg or Jim Zieche, Mike Davidson, Gwen Furcron, Gail Buchanan, Sheila Kowalski, Wayne Kannaday, or Helen Doerpinghaus. It's not too late to become a MORE Justice Network member or get involved with a Research team. All are welcome!



Notes from: *Lifelong Discipleship*

JANUARY Bible Book = RUTH/ESTHER



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!

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“Book Discussion” Times ...

1st Sundays: Bible Book Kickoff Overview, led by Pastor 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

The Tuesday evening Bible Study is following the Book of The Month schedule. It supplements Pastor Eric's twice a month review with a month long study of the book(s) for the month.

For January, since Ruth and Esther are short books, we will spend a week on each one and fill in the last two weeks with Song of Solomon and a review of the favorite Psalms of class members.

Come join us for a lively discussion of the assigned reading for the week.

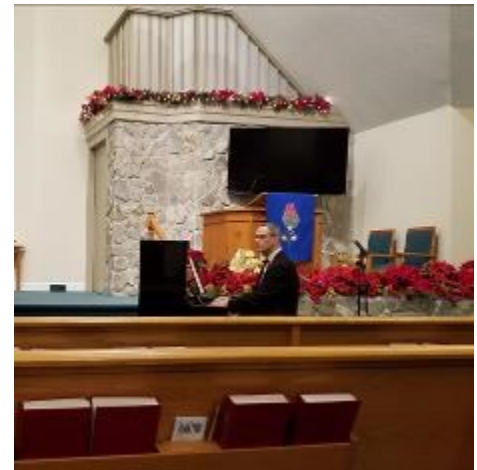
Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*

JuBELLation Play for the Children's Hospital

The Living Springs JuBELLation (handbell) Choir has been getting ready for Advent and Christmas church services. Hours of practice and performance have made Sunday services here at LSLC more meaningful for everyone. God has not stopped blessing us at the doors of our sanctuary: the Spirit has taken JuBELLation gifts far beyond LSLC! On December 5th JuBELLation spread the gift of music to Palmetto Richland Children's Hospital where the choir played for staff and children for almost an hour. The people there told us that the architecture and structure of the building made the music carry up to all the floors! We left little gift bags to the patients to remind them of God's love at this season of Jesus's birth. What a blessing to share the Spirit with so many others in our community!



Árpád Darázs Singers



Sanctuary Decorating



Advent Sunday Worship



Christmas Eve



Burning of the Greens

Sunday, Jan 6 @ 5pm

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

Community MLK Service

Sunday, January 27 @ 3pm

Annual NE Columbia Community MLK service will be held at 3:00 on Jan. 27 at Adams Northeast AME (409 Longtown Rd), with fellowship to follow. Sponsored by Rehoboth Baptist, Living Springs, Adams Northeast AME, and Northeast UMC, with musical offerings from the congregations. Come be part of this wonderful time together, celebrating the unity we share in Christ! *To donate refreshments, use the signup sheet in the office lobby.*

LS Choral Director Search

As part of our staff re-organization, we have completed Phase 1 by welcoming Deacon Justin Rimbo to a newly defined position as our interim Minister of Worship & Innovative Church Outreach. Now, we turn to Phase 2, to identify and hire someone for the revised part-time position of Choral Director (to work specifically with developing and directing the adult choir). If you know someone whom might make a good candidate, please pass along information to Worship Chair Jim Zeiche or Pastor Eric.

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
- 🦋 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. Registration forms in church lobby.)
- 🦋 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



Ladies Book Club *Monday, February 4 @ 7pm*

It's The Sacred Romance, Drawing Close to the Heart of God by John Eldridge And Brent Curtis is the book our book club is reading. The kickoff meeting will be held at Karen Kranz, 235 Founders Ridge Rd. 29229 ph: 803.699.9566 on Monday, February 4 at 7 pm. Join us as we pick our 2019 reads and also have some fun and fellowship. We welcome all - (even if you don't read the book).



Notes from: *Jr. Youth*

Looking back on the Advent activities Living Springs offered for children and their families this month, it is hard NOT to see moments when God was present. First and foremost for me, it was great to see how the junior youth and senior youth were able to come together to put on this year's children's Christmas program. This could not have happened without the partnership of the Holy Spirit along with many staff members, volunteers, parents, and especially, the children. I am so thankful for your help!



That evening was an chance for congregation members of all ages to hear a retelling of the Christmas story from the perspectives of Mary, Joseph, and the angel Gabriel. The three senior youth group members who were chosen for these roles were gracious enough to agree to a responsibility requiring public speaking, which can be intimidating. Junior youth group members rounded out the performance in the form of shepherds, barn animals, and angels. In addition to the cast, other talents of our young people were displayed through singing, reciting memorized lines, and multiple dances! Throughout the program, families of all sizes used supplies to create nativity scenes while discussing memories and singing carols. These keepsake nativity sets can retell the story of Christmas anytime. What a great way to take the news of the birth of Christ home with you!

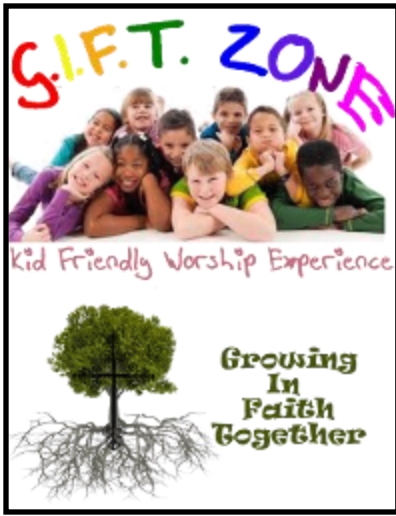


The following weekend, one of the highlights of participating in the live nativity play for me was overhearing the senior youth boys who were playing the guards and the thief planning how they could make the biggest impact when executing the robbery scene. I appreciated their sincere desire to make their characters' actions were visible, and it definitely made an impact when Jacob, our thief, unexpectedly landed with a thud on a piece of wood while running away from the market! Finally, that Sunday, junior youth who attended our faith formation class were pleasantly surprised with a "Happy birthday, Jesus" themed Christmas party which was set up for them to enjoy. Check out the photo of Gabriela and Eliana showing off the sugar cookies they decorated!

In this season of hope, peace, joy, and love, I am especially thankful for the opportunity to share tidbits in this article of how much I am enjoying building relationships with children and families through my role at Living Springs!

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





Whenever I buy a new set of stationery, I don't always have specific recipients in mind for each note card. Can you relate to that? Something that I find fascinating which happens on a regular basis in the G.I.F.T. Zone is that whenever a child decides to design a card, they always have a specific friend or family member who they plan to give it to. I recently saw one such young person write out a card intended for her grandparent, with a message of "My family and me -- that's what Christmas is all about." What a thoughtful note! If you have been reading my reflections in the journal each month, you know that I love to recount stories of my observations such as this one here. Thank you for allowing me the space to do so!

The inscription on this handwritten card got me thinking about how our younger folks and their parents must be feeling during the Advent season as we lead up to Christmas. It is no secret that many kids are eagerly anticipating the arrival of Santa Claus. As for the parents, after weeks of discouraging any bad behavior by reminding kids that Santa or an Elf on the Shelf is

watching, I can only imagine the joy that they get from seeing their children's faces when they finally walk into the living room on Christmas morning to find the presents that magically appeared under the tree. Excitedly opening these gifts surrounded by family members feels like a critical element of celebrating the holiday for most people, and I imagine this fact is what inspired the card I mentioned earlier made by one of our G.I.F.T. Zone guests.



It's important to remember that the happiness we experience when opening our Christmas presents does not compare to the amazement we should feel when pondering the gift which God gave us through the birth of a baby named Jesus -- somehow both fully human, fully God, and sent to eliminate the separation between people and their God. Let's continue to teach the children in our midst about the story of this baby, so that we can Grow In Faith Together as we improve the world around us. Thank you to all who showed the children of our church an example of Christlike generosity by contributing money and items to the angel tree, in order to provide a more beautiful Christmas for many people throughout the community.

In summary, I'd like to reiterate how wonderful it is that in addition to the wealth of special events that Living Springs provides when the story of Christ's birth is retold throughout the season of Advent, this church provides a special place dedicated for young people to work on age-appropriate activities during worship. Cards, coloring sheets, and word searches may not seem like sophisticated instructional tools, but they are great ways to reinforce the true meaning of Christmas. When kids take these crafts home, they bring a piece of the good news home with them too. Thank you for your support in this mission!

In the new year, I pray that the G.I.F.T. Zone will be as much of a GIFT to you as it has been for me!

Love in Christ, Ellen Girardeau
Associate for Junior Youth and G.I.F.T. Zone Ministries



Notes from: *Sr. Youth*

Happy New Year and Happy Epiphany!!! This month, not only do we wrap up celebrating the birth of the Christ-child and a new calendar year, but we celebrate that this Christ-child came for all the world. This can be seen embodied in the Magi who visited the toddler -- that's right, not an infant -- Jesus. These Magi show the radical love and reach of God in Jesus; Richard Rohr likens them to New Age folks from San Francisco coming to a "well-to-do" Catholic Church in Albuquerque. God's love is for all. This love is incarnate in Christ. Here's a good article from Living Lutheran with a new perspective on Epiphany

During this past month, the Senior Youth Group continued their mid-week meetings. They also put in a lot of work in the Tree Lot and were able to sell all the trees more than a week before Christmas! Great job! This was a great way for the youth to interact with the community! There was also a fun lock-in, during which the youth helped set-up for Keepsake Christmas. They also had a blast bowling; Austin and Walker had some competitive games!



Our Senior Youth had integral roles during Keepsake Christmas and the Living Nativity. It was a treat to see families listening to the Christmas Story and making their own manger scenes to take home and cherish for years to come.

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 January, we'll be watching (Clemson Alumna) Rev. Tuhina Rasche's speech. You can watch her video here.

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

Youth Ski Trip is Jan 25-27th

Youth Lock-In is Feb 15-16

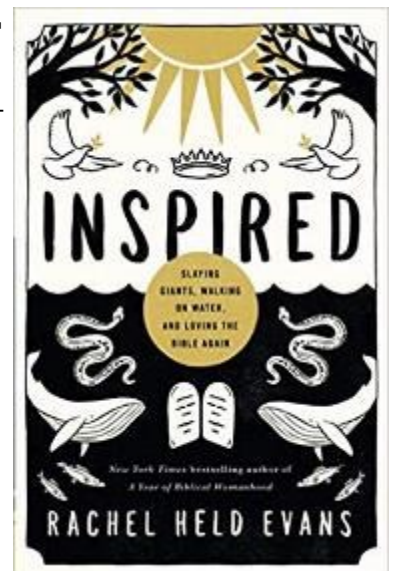
Youth Sunday is Feb 17



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 **Tuesday, Jan 15 at 630** at Beef O' Brady's.



God At Work

Live Outdoor Nativity Drama

Very glad we were able to see it tonight. I especially loved the simplicity, words directly from the Bible and each scene showing the words. And the live animals were a great addition. Biggest surprise were the angels in the window, very cool. - From a postcard recipient



Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

IMPORTANT LS LEADERSHIP GATHERING

Sunday, January 13 @ 4 pm

Calling all committee chairpersons, group leaders, staff, and council! Next Sunday, we gather at 4:00 in the fellowship hall for our 2019 kickoff planning (this will be in lieu of a Friday night event). We reflect on God's activity here at Living Springs and share planning priorities for council to consider at their upcoming retreat. Refreshments will be served - don't miss this important semi-annual time for all congregational leaders to be together! *Note: we will combine this with our semi-annual calendar meeting, so please be sure to bring all ministry dates through August.*

"Get-to-Know-You" Fellowship

Sunday, January 13 @ 9:30 am

Are there faces and names of LS brothers and sisters in Christ whom you do not know? On Sunday, Jan. 13, the entire congregation is asked to gather in the fellowship hall at 9:30 for our next big "get-to-know-you" fellowship. We received terrific feedback from last year's event - and look forward to this opportunity to spend time getting to meet and learn more about each other. *In addition, council installation will be held at both the 8:15 and 10:45 services.*

2019 Offering Envelope Boxes

Your 2019 envelopes boxes are available. Please pick up your box and use your envelopes throughout the year. If you do not see a box with your name, please see Bill Franck.

Pictorial Directories are in!

Our updated pictorial directories are here. If you had a picture taken this year or two years ago, there is a directory for you. Please check the table in the narthex for a book with your name on it. In a couple of weeks, printed copies will be available for those that don't have a photo but would like a directory.

DISCIPLESHIP COMMITMENTS, TIME&TALENTS

You may still hang your Sealed Envelopes on the Discipleship Cross before, after, or during worship today. Time & Talent Sheets can be placed at base of the cross. Extra envelopes and T&T sheets are in the narthex.

Year End Reports

Due - January 15

A reminder to all Team chairpersons and group leaders, please e-mail your year-end report to the office. This is an important summary of God's work here at LS throughout the past year - for both historical records and to share with those who may be interested in LS membership. Thank you for your awesome leadership!

Thrivent Choice Dollars.

So far in 2018, Living Springs Lutheran Church has received \$905 through the Thrivent Choice® program. Eligible members can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars®. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership. Check your statement online or call 800-847-4836 to direct your Choice Dollars to a charity or organization of your preference. Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year.

God At Work

Christmas Caroling



Beer & Carols



Ongoing Opportunities at Living Springs

Tuesday Devotion Lunch @ Living Springs

Tuesday, January 8 @ 11:00 AM

Lunch is offered on the 1st 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

Thursdays @ 4 pm

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, January 14 @ 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.

Living Springs VA Ministry Night

Thursday, January 24 @ 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 today through next Thursday to drop off your quarters.*

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

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!

Weaving a new fabric of home

TUCSON, ARIZ.
ELCA.org/hunger

When conflict broke out in Darfur, Sudan, in the early 2000s, Souad, her parents and 11 siblings were forced to flee.

After 13 years living in a refugee camp in Chad, Souad and her family moved to Tucson, Ariz. It wasn't long before Souad's father took her and her siblings to the Is-kashitaa Refugee Network (IRN), where the whole family began volunteering.

IRN is an intergenerational network of Tucson volunteers and refugees from Africa, Asia and the Middle East that harvests and redistributes locally grown fruits and vegetables that would otherwise go to waste. The group's work is supported in part by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger.

IRN founder and director Barbara Eiswerth calls the program a "multicultural exchange" that's unique in its format. The network addresses several needs at once: reducing food waste, breaking down barriers between people and helping refugees resettle.

In addition to taking home food that has been gleaned, refugees are also connected with other services through the network. At food preservation workshops, participants can practice their English skills and share recipes and techniques from their home countries. It's a perfect example of ELCA World Hunger's integrated philosophy in action – integrating food security, agriculture, education and more.

"It's not going to be home, but we can help refugees weave a new fabric of a new home," Eiswerth says.

Today, Souad is 27, and while she works most weekdays, she still spends her Saturdays volunteering, picking and sorting produce. To her, volunteering is part of the fabric of her life.



ELCA WORLD HUNGER

More than 800 million people in our world today are undernourished. As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we are called to respond. Working with our neighbors in the United States and in more than 60 countries around the world, we start by listening and learning about how we can accompany them to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty – for good. From water wells to animal husbandry, microloans to health clinics, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that get at the root causes of hunger. And they don't stop there. We engage Lutherans in advocacy and hunger education to act and speak in ways that can make a difference. We rely on your gifts. ELCA World Hunger is funded solely by gifts from ELCA members and congregations like yours.

Thank you for making this work possible through learning, action, prayer and giving.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that fight hunger and poverty in more than 60 countries around the world, including the United States.

Will you help with your gift today?

YES! I would like to support ELCA World Hunger (WHG0038)

- I have enclosed my gift of \$100
- I have enclosed my gift of \$250
- Other \$ _____

Mail

Make your check payable to "ELCA World Hunger." Place your gift in your congregation's offering plate or mail it to: ELCA

P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Online

ELCA.org/hunger/donate

Phone

800-638-3522



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

January 2019

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Office Closed	2 6P Hope Ministry 6P Disciples of Harmony 7P Choirs	3 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers	4 11A Sr. Youth	5 9A De-decorate Sanctuary
6 Epiphany of Our Lord 930A Book of Month Discussion (Ruth/Esther) 5P Epiphany Worship (Burning of the Greens)	7 1030A Meals on Wheels 1030P Worship Task Force 6P Worship & Music Team 630P Executive Team 7P Recovery Comes First	8 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 11A Devotional Lunch 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	9 930 PS Chapel 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Sr. Youth 7P Choirs	10 830A GN Walkers 4P Backpacks Food Min. 630P Preschool Board 7P Lifelong Discipleship	11	12 930A Crafty Ladies
13 Baptism of Our Lord Anniversary Of Baptisms 815A & 1045A Council Installation 930A LS "Get to Know You" Fellowship 1215P Confirmation 4P Leadership Gathering	14 930A God's Storehouse 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Fellowship & Mutual Care Team 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Justice Ministry Leaders	15 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Finance 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	16 930 PS Chapel 4P Backpacks 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Sr. Youth 7P Choirs	17 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers	18	19 Leadership Retreat @ Lutheridge
20	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Office Closed 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First	22 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1215 CDC Prayer Lunches 4P ASC Bible Time 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	23 930 PS Chapel 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Sr. Youth 7P Choirs	24 830A GN Walkers 4P Backpacks 615P LS Veterans Ministry Night (carpool 530)	25 10A Stewardship Symposium (Seminary)	26 8A Men's Breakfast 930A Crafty Ladies 630P Chili Cook-off (Franks')
Leadership Retreat					Youth Ski Trip - 1/25-27	
27 Love One Another Kickoff Sunday 930A End of Month Book Discussion (Ruth/Esther) 3P Community MLK Service (Adams NE AME) 630P Parents of College Children & Young Adults	28 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First	29 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 7P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	30 930 PS Chapel 6P Disciples of Harmony 630P Sr. Youth 7P Choirs	31 830A GN Walkers 4P Backpacks	1	2
Youth Ski Trip						

Worship Assistant Schedule – January 2019

	Assisting Minister	Lector	Communion Assistant	Ushers	Greeters		Acolyte	Crucifer	Torchbearer	Counters	Children's Message	Council Person
					Inside	Outside						
1/6	8:15	John Imbert	Midge Gunvalson	Hank Cox Karen Kranz	Jeff Lummel Sadonia Grimmer	Debbie Smith	Ron Smith Lucas Shannon	Jim Zieche			Pastor Eric	Midge Gunvalson
1/6	10:45	Mike Davidson	Christopher Girardeau	Pat Bartucca Trish Davidson	Karlene Stuart Laura Stuart Austin Padgett Steve Padgett	Linda Hayes	Adam Woodruff Steve Bloss	Jan Berger	Jeanette Bloss Leslie Bloss	Adam Woodruff (L) Ed Brennan Angie Dyches	Pastor Eric	Adam Woodruff
1/13	8:15	Rev. Griffin	Beverly Hoppert	Bill Franck Saundra Dixon	Kathy McDonald Jerry Mancuso	Nancy Frank	Jeff Lummel Jim Zieche	Karen Kranz			Adam Woodruff	Vickie Crapps
1/13	10:45	Alison Levitt	Bob Gabbard	Rev. Griffin Jan Berger	Leslie Bloss Lauren Bloss Adam Woodruff Randy Masad	Alice Renaud	Mike Davidson Walker Flores	Wes Levitt	Pat Bartucca Leslie Bloss	Mark Stuart (L) Trish Davidson	Adam Woodruff	Gay Walter
1/20	8:15	Saundra Dixon	Lori Masad	Helen Doeringhaus Nowell Ramsey	Marj Appleton Jerry Appleton	Sue Hyman	Paul Laingen Bill Franck	Jan Epperson			Christopher Girardeau	Bill Franck
1/20	10:45	Adam Woodruff	Anna Graves	Audrey Turnmire Wendy McKenzie	Steve Bloss Jan Berger Wes Levitt Marshall Hurlbert	Gail Buchanan	Marshall Hurlbert	Jeff Day	Trish Davidson Alison Levitt	Marshall Hurlbert (L) Scott Graves Wes Levitt	Christopher Girardeau	Wendy McKenzie
1/27	8:15	Helen Doeringhaus	Wayne Kannaday	Ashley Ramsey Scott Graves	Mike Loveless Barb Imbert	Judy Lawrence	Jerry Appleton	Nancy Schwind			Lexanne Graves	Jan Berger
1/27	10:45	Christopher Girardeau	Adele Lindberg	Kellee Flores Steve Padgett	Walker Flores Preston Ginn Gary Ginn Jan Berger	Tiffany Ginn	Steve Padgett	Mike Davidson	Cynthia Edney Gail Buchanan	Jan Berger (L) Leslie Bloss Laura Turnmire	Lexanne Graves	Doug Danner
		Name Tag 8:15	Name Tag 10:45	Sound Tech	Muggers	Flowers	Coffee	Refreshments	Altar Guild			
1/6		Marina Cox	Karen Kranz	Bob Turnmire	Karen Kranz		Charles Tracy	Karen Kranz				
1/13		Karen Kranz	Gay Walter	Rocky Berger	Charles Tracy	Ann Lynn Caughman	Bill Franck	Saundra Dixon			January	
1/20		Roger Schwind	Ashley Ramsey	Bob Turnmire	Kathy McDonald		Karen Kranz	Judy Lawrence			Tiffany Ginn	
1/27		Marj Appleton	Karen Kranz	Rocky Berger	Vickie Crapps		Todd Gunvalson	Ashley Ramsey				

SIGN UP FOR FIRST QUARTER – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

The online sign up for February is ready to be populated – whatever slots are open by January 20 will need to be manually filled in. If you have not been assigned OR the opposite – have been getting assigned without wanting to be, let Lisa or Karen Kranz know. Time and Talent sheets are available all year round – you can still fill one out if you have had a spirit tug towards serving. First quarter (January-March): <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baee92fa0185-2019>

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

January 1	Jesse Bazemore	January 17	Rachel Hurlbert
	♥ Jan Epperson & Karl Schmidt	January 19	Liam Keppery
January 2	Kathryn Padgett		Lois Mattson
January 3	Samantha Kowalski		Luke Sorial
January 5	Leslie Bloss	January 21	Barb Imbert
January 6	Wendy McKenzie		♥ Steve & Jeanette Bloss
	Katie Prizer		♥ Bill & Peg Fox
January 7	Olivia Fox	January 23	Graham Sheldon
	Deborah Smith	January 24	Catherine Milburn
January 9	Charles Tracy	January 25	Pat Bartucca
January 10	Judy Edmonston	January 26	Jordan Fakoury
January 11	John Arnold	January 27	♥ Jeff & Cindy Day
January 14	♥ Paul & Shirley Laingen	January 29	Rocky Berger



Celebrate Your Baptism

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



January 1	Jason Crapps	January 20	Elise Gerald
	Blake Lindstedt	January 22	Anna Graves
	Hany Sorial		Lisa Petty
January 3	Samantha Kowalski	January 24	Jonas Maher
January 5	Dea Jones		Grady Smith
January 9	Gray Harmon	January 29	August Snipes
January 14	John Imbert	January 30	Sandra Dixon
	Mark Stuart	January 31	Baylee Owens
January 15	Chris Collins		
	Adele Lindberg		
	Charles Tracy		

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

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

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

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Tammy Mancuso- Dir. of Child Development Center

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Lisa Petty – Admin. Assist/Communications Coor.

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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

[Adam Woodruff](#) - President

[Jan Berger](#) - Vice President

[Midge Gunvalson](#) - Secretary

[Mike Davidson](#) - Treasurer

[Bill Franck](#) – Financial Secretary

[Vickie Crapps](#)

[Doug Danner](#)

[Julie Ann Harris](#)

[Dea Jones](#)

[Wes Levitt](#)

[Wendy McKenzie](#)

[Jeff Tenhover](#)

[Gay Walter](#)

[Emma Harris](#), Youth Rep.

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Child Development Center

Gail Buchanan

Fellowship & Mutual Care

Trish Davidson & Wendy McKenzie

Good News Team

Lisa Petty

Hope Ministries

Karen Kranz

Lifelong Discipleship

Steve Bloss

Lutheran Men in Mission

Bob Turnmire

Women of the ELCA

Ginny Devereaux & Gwen Furcron

Worship & Music

Jim Zieche

Facilities

Ed Brennan

Finance

Rocky Berger

Archives/Pew Bears

Judy Lawrence

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Prayer Requests