

The Living Springs Journal

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

November 2019



Deeper In Christ, Deeper in Grace, Deeper in Love, and Deeper in Gratitude!

NOV. BOOK OF MONTH = JUDGES! Lunch Discussion—Nov. 12 @ 11:30; Adult SS Class—Nov. 17 @ 9:30



And so we have arrived at November—the month of an important holiday known as “Thanksgiving.” Here at Living Springs throughout this month, we have many wonderful opportunities for giving thanks to God beyond Thanksgiving Day itself!

On **All Saints Sunday, Nov. 3**, we give thanks for all those who have touched our lives and passed to life in the Church Triumphant (as well as give thanks for our call to be God’s saints, washed in grace, sharing the light & love of Christ daily in the world). On **Sunday, Nov. 10 (Congregation Meeting & Annual Ministry Celebration)**, we give thanks for all the ministry that the Spirit has shared in and through this congregation during the past year. On **Sunday, Nov. 17 (Veterans Recognition)**, we extend the celebration of Veterans Day beyond just the 2nd Monday of November and give ongoing thanks for all veterans & active duty military (and their families), who have sacrificed so much for the blessing of our freedom. On **Christ the King Sunday, Nov. 24**, we give thanks for the kingship of Christ in our lives, along with the planting of our 2018-19 “Fruits of the Spirit” discipleship gifts. On **Monday, Nov. 25**

(Community Thanksgiving Worship), we gather with neighbors here in NE Columbia from Adams AME, Rehoboth Baptist, and Northeast UMC to give thanks to God for all the blessings we share in our lives. Beyond those occasions, we give thanks to God by sharing our time & energy to make a difference in so many lives through our ongoing ministries of outreach, including Disaster Response offering, our Mission Partnership with Cristo Rey, Justice Ministry, Veterans Ministry, and Nursing Home Hymn-a-Long (see insert boxes).

Several weeks ago, our Sunday Gospel lesson featured the story of Jesus healing 10 lepers on the border between Samaria & Galilee—and how only one of them (the foreign Samaritan) returned to worship Jesus and give him thanks (Luke 17:11-19). Through his faithful gratitude, this one person received a healing of wholeness beyond his physical cure! As the grateful Samaritan came back & knelt at Jesus’ feet, giving thanks and praising God with a loud voice, Jesus confirmed this deeper healing of the spirit, *“Get up and go on your way, your faith has made you well!”*

Recently, we have been on a journey together as a congregation, with the Spirit tugging us deeper in Christ, deeper in grace, deeper in love. A corollary is that through this Spirit-led journey, God also works to take our hearts to a **deeper gratitude** as well, and thereby brings a greater sense of healing, wellness, peace, and wholeness (shalom) to our souls.

On the Sunday of that Gospel lesson, I shared some thoughts from the inspiring book, *“Grateful: the Transformative Power of Giving Thanks”* by Diana Butler-Bass (Ph.D. from Duke Divinity School). She distinguishes between “cheap gratitude” and living a Spirit-filled life of “deep gratitude,” grounded in our daily awareness of the abundant grace of God. Cheap gratitude can take the form of “prosperity gratitude” - self-focused attempts to thank God or others enough, in hopes that our thanking will bring more & more material blessings for ourselves (what she describes as a “privatized spirituality of success”). Cheap gratitude can also take the form of “duty-based gratitude,” wherein we thank others or God out of an emotionally-empty, and sometimes resentful, sense of binding duty - in order to avoid feeling guilty (yet another self-focused motive). In such forms, gratitude can become nothing more than “a commodity of exchange—a transaction of debt & duty,” organized around ourselves and our desires.

In contrast, “deep gratitude” takes us beyond transactional self-centeredness and opens our hearts to daily viewing all of life as gift and re-

All Saints Sunday Worship

Nov. 3 @ 8:15 & 10:45

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Annual Ministry Celebration & Congregation Meeting

Nov. 10 @ 9:15 (between services)

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Veterans Recognition Sunday

Nov. 17 @ 8:15 & 10:45

+ + +

Christ the King Sunday Worship

Nov. 24 @ 8:15 & 10:45

+ + +

Community Thanksgiving Worship

Nov. 25 @ 7:00 (Northeast UMC)

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

+ + +

Cristo Rey Mission Partner

Nov. 3 @ 5:00 (carpool 4:15)

+ + +

Justice Ministry

Community Problems Assembly

Nov. 4 @ 6:30 (carpools 5:40-6:10)

+ + +

“TacO ‘Bout God”

Nov. 12 @ 6:00 (El Jimador)

+ + +

Community Beer ‘n Hymns

Nov. 18 @ 7:00 (Beef O’Brady’s)

+ + +

Hymn-A-Long @ CM Tucker

Nov. 21 @ 10:00

+ + +

Veterans Ministry—Dorn VA

Nov. 21 @ 6:15 (carpool 5:30)

WARMING THE WATERS: God’s Love—Our Hearts, Our Hands! 2019 Ministry Focus Areas:

Focus A: Build Inviting, Involving, Mentoring, Discipling Relationships—1 person at a time!

Focus B: Build Partnerships—for the work of God’s kingdom in our community and world!

Focus C: Share God’s Love—with those who are hurting, alone, marginalized, or feeling unloved!

Focus D: Share God-Stories—so that we do not remain silent about God’s ongoing work in the world!

DEEPER IN CHRIST + DEEPER IN GRACE + DEEPER IN LOVE



(Continued on page 3)

sponse, in a way that brings transformation to our lives (cf. the “wellness of faith” in the grateful Samaritan). Everything comes to us as gift through the grace of God. (Here in the week of Reformation Day, we Lutheran Christian especially uplift that even salvation comes as a gift from God!). Butler-Bass writes, “*The universe is a gift. Life is a gift. Air, light, soil, and water are gifts. Friendship, love, and family are gifts. We live on a gifted planet. Everything we need is here, with us. We freely respond to these gifts by choosing a life of mutual care.... Gifts bring forth gratitude, and we express our appreciation by passing on gifts to others. When we share God’s gifts, we become benefactors toward the well-being of all.*” She continues, “*Even in the darkest times of life, gratitude waits to be seen, recognized, and acted upon more thoughtfully and with a sense of purpose ... gratitude is an ever-present habit of awareness that reshapes our self-understanding and the moral choices we make in the world Gratitude is an ethic, a coherent set of principles and practices related to grace, gifts, and giving that can guide our lives!*”

Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge ... to overcome evil and welcome good! - Maya Angelou

I am always amazed at how a sense of “deep gratitude” provides peace and strength for the challenges of life. I think of my own grandparents and how they spoke of living through the Great Depression with what I heard from them as a sense of deep, daily gratitude. I think of the apostle Paul sitting in prison, and yet writing about giving thanks to God always (cf. the letter of Philippians). I think of a beautiful quote from Lutheran pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer, in the midst of his own imprisonment 1900 years later (for resisting Hitler), “*In normal life one is not at all aware that we always receive infinitely more than we give, and that gratitude is what enriches life. One easily over-estimates the importance of one’s own acts and deeds, compared with what we become only through other people.*”

Special Disaster Response Bucket Offerings (continue thru November)
for all affected by recent hurricanes, fires, storms
We give thanks for the \$3000+ offered to-date.



In this month of “Thanksgiving,” I pray that the Spirit might tug you and your family even more fully toward this life-transforming journey of deeper and deeper gratitude—knowing that everything we have and everything we are is truly grounded in the abundant, daily, grace-filled gifts of God; that in life we come to a place of deeper wellness and wholeness through faith (like the grateful Samaritan). Indeed, May we all give thanks and rejoice in the Spirit who is ever tugging us deeper in Christ, deeper in grace, deeper in love, and deeper in gratitude!

With ever-deepening gratitude for all the ways the light of Christ shines in you daily for our hurting and yearning world, *Pastor Eric*

+ + +

Some Important Info about the Nov. 10 Annual Meeting

If you have not been able to attend any of the info sessions offered on Oct. 13, Oct. 27, and Nov. 3, copies of the info hand-out are available at church ([or download via Link here](#)). Please take time to look at the info so that you can get any questions answered *prior to* the Annual Meeting. In addition to Council & Assembly Elections, 2020 Spending Plan, and the inspiring Ministry Celebration slideshow, we have some important items:

- **Ratify the Kingdom Vision recommendation regarding 10% tithe of DOT Settlement funds** (what a powerful presentation on Oct. 13 regarding the congregation’s desire to make a long-term difference in the lives of youth at need and alone in our community. If you were not there on the 13th, please check with someone who was present to hear the stories of Palmetto Place, Lutheran Services Carolinas, and Richland 2 Social Work ministries.
- Ratify Personnel Recommendation for **6-month extension of term call** for Minister of Worship & Innovative Church Outreach (to give more time for us and Deacon Justin to faithfully discern any possible long-term call).

• Share input about Personnel Recommendation for Council to **initiate call process for long-term staff person** - with focus on faith formation, youth/young adults & families, unchurched-de-churched, etc. (could be either Deacon or Associate Pastor, full-time or part-time, as Spirit so leads).

• View the **updated drawing being recommended by Campus Vision Task Force** regarding re-configured parking lot, drives, property, etc.

Annual Congregation Meeting
Sunday, Nov. 10
9:15-10:35 in the Fellowship Hall
(WE BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 9:15—PLEASE BE ON TIME)

2020 Council Elections & Ministry Spending Plan
Ratification Vote for 10% DOT Funds Tithe
Staffing Update & Ratification
Annual Ministry Celebration Slideshow
Pastries & coffee! Please attend – a quorum is required!
Spending plan summaries / info sheets available at office or link above
Nominee bios will also be available at church & via e-news
(or via email, upon request).

Congregation Info Session Series
next session is offered Sunday, Nov. 3 @ 9:30 (sanctuary)



Notes from: *Faithful Innovation Guiding Team*

Sneak Peak from God at Work Around Us:

PAALS Center in NE Columbia - Eric & Kris Fink



God working through community volunteers & God's animals (trained service dogs) to provide comfort & hope for those who need help

Hard Scrabble Road, next door to Living Springs, Columbia SC – Lori Masad

R212 Innovation Center, Columbia SC – Aaron Smith



God working through elementary students sharing their musical talents for all to hear.

Spider Babies Hatching in Garden – Adriana McMurphy



God at work preserving and renewing life every day.



God at work bringing an adult daycare facility to our neighborhood, to help those in need of care and respite.

Richland County Sheriff's Department – John Imbert



God is with us in everything and we should glorify him – reminders in an investigator's cube

O See God At Work...

- † Presence of Holy Spirit during conversations at Lifelong Discipleship team meeting.
- † I saw God at work this week with my colleagues. One of our group was in distress and we surrounded her with love and support. The Holy Spirit worked through us, giving us the words of comfort and advice to ease her heart.
- † I am feeling the grace and strength that God gives me as I heal from years in a toxic relationship.
- † The refreshing life giving rains received to renew God's creation.
- † Yesterday we attended the installation of the Southeastern Synod Bishop. The service featured all the liturgical bells and whistles you can imagine, but what stood out most for me was the throne of inclusiveness that marked the day. A Native American chanted the call to worship in her native tongue. One of the lessons was read in Swahili. Participants included people of all ages, races, sexual orientation, and ethnic identities. God's creative energy and love for all was on vivid display.
- † I saw God at Work through my son's health care providers over the past couple of months. This past week, he went for an MRI and it came back with no issues!
- † A thought occurred to me that although each of my days I have been given my daily bread, I realize that I have been blessed with so much more.
- † While glancing out at the lake, I was able to gaze at a magnificent white egret, who stood out against the soft greens, browns, and reflection of the water. Thank you, God, for reminding me of the beauty in the world in which we live!
- † God's healing, caring presence among staff and cancer patients receiving treatment at the chemotherapy infusion center every day
- † A sign all the brokenness in our world, that in order to help children, Sesame Street has a new character who is in foster care because her parent(s) are addicted to opioids. God's presence in helping us turn away from all our outside dependencies and becoming dependent on God.
- † I saw God this week when a former neighbor welcomed me into his home and shared his love of God with me.
- † I saw God this week in a group of committed leaders discussing plans for His congregation in NE Columbia.
- † God was with my daughter and the young lady who ran into her. The cars were dented, but neither of them were injured.
- † The Holy Spirit's presence was felt as he guided our son to surprise us by joining us in worship today after a long absence!
- † I see God at work every morning as the birds chirp while I have my morning coffee.
- † I saw God in the exuberance of children as they interacted with God's creation, learning about his awesome majesty.
- † God was revealed to our young ladies on the softball field through other college softball players at CIU.



LIVING SPRINGS' LIVING NATIVITY: LOVE IS BORN

December 14 & 15...SIGN UP IN NOW!

All congregation members are encouraged to sign up in the narthex to participate in this year's living nativity drama. Remember, no speaking is required by the actors! There is a role for everyone: cast, lights, sound, scenery, props, costumes, music, animal keepers, and refreshments. What a special opportunity for you and your family to celebrate the birth of our Lord with the congregation and community!

Questions??? See Dea Jones or Anita Gabbard.

Living Nativity Rehearsal Schedule

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

Nov 3 - Mary Joseph Innkeeper Midwife Narrator
Nov 10 - Mary Joseph Innkeeper Midwife Narrator Elizabeth
Nov 17 - OFF!
November 24 - Townspeople Mary Joseph Innkeeper Midwife Narrator
December 1 - Shepherds, Angels, Narrator, Mary, Joseph
December 8 - OFF!
December 12 - Time TBD - Tech Rehearsal
December 13 - 6:30 pm - Dress Rehearsal - EVERYONE in costume
December 14 and 15 - Living Nativity - Dressed and ready by 6:30!



Notes from: *Living Springs Child Development Center*

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Happy Fall everyone! As the weather finally begins to cool we are reminded that along with the cooler weather comes the excitement of the upcoming Holidays. For many this is a time to share with family and friends, a reminder of all that God has provided for us, a time to reflect on our thankfulness and a time to reflect on how we are growing deeper in Jesus.

How is it that we are being the presence of Jesus in someone's life, not just at the holidays but in everyday small acts? We can take an extra moment to say "hello" to the clerk at the store, or hold the door open for someone who may be in a rush. We can listen to someone is in need of a caring heart. We are created to be in community with one another, so how can we be in community with the world around us? Americans today spend an average of 12 hours a day isolated behind an electronic screen. Now, when thankfulness is on our minds and in our hearts, how can we be the presence of Jesus for one another and create community, especially for those who feel most vulnerable and alone?

This season I challenge us all to put down the screen, say "hello", and be aware of the world around us. We just may be the presence of Jesus that someone needs in their life when they least expect it, when we least expect it.

Wishing you the presence of Jesus in your lives, Tammy

ROCKING THE BABIES

I remember back years ago when I babysat my granddaughter a few days a week and how that created such a warm bond between the two of us. We went to playgrounds, splashed in rivers and took walks in the summer and winter was always making a snowman or pulling her on a sled; and then there was lunch and then nap time. Before nap time, she would cuddle up on my lap and I would either read a book or tell my favorite story (and a different version every time) – Goldilocks and the Three Bears. I sure do miss those days and the warm, fuzzy comfort of my granddaughter snuggling in my arms. I know it is not exactly the same as being with my granddaughter, but rocking the babies down in the Ocean Room of our CDC comes pretty close.

HYMN ALONG

The residents were oooing and aaaahhing as they entered the dining room to listen to Mr. Justin and our CDC children sing their favorite chapel songs. "Father Abraham" seemed to be the hit as the kids stuck out right arm, left arm, stick out your tongue and nodded their heads all to the delight of the residents. We always get a "come back whenever you want to" comment – and we all enjoy it as much as the residents do! When Pastor Eric ends with "peace be with you" and sends the little ones out to give peace and hugs, they are welcomed with open arms! **Join us on Thursday, November 21 @ 10 am at C.M. Tucker Nursing Care Center.**





Support the Child Development Center when you buy groceries at Kroger and Publix!

In support of their community, both Kroger and Publix will donate funds to the Child Development Center when you make a purchase in their stores. Here is how easy it is to earn funds for the Center!



- √ Sign into your Kroger account. *(If you don't have a Kroger Plus Card, you can obtain a digital Kroger Plus Card when creating an account online at Kroger.com or at any Kroger Store.)*
- √ Click on "Community" and then on "Community Rewards";
- √ Enter Living Springs Child Development Center and click on "Search";
- √ Select Living Springs Child Development and click "Enroll".
- √ Once you are linked, you can start earning rewards for the Center immediately through Kroger Community Rewards **SIMPLY BY USING YOUR KROGER PLUS CARD OR ALTERNATE ID AT CHECKOUT!**



- √ Log in to your Publix account; *(If you don't have a Publix account, you can create an account online at Publix.com);*
- √ Click on "My Publix Partner" and then click on "Select a School";
- √ Search for Living Springs - Columbia, SC; then click on "Select" to partner with the Child Development Center.
- √ Once you are linked, you can start earning rewards immediately thru Publix Partners **SIMPLY BY ENTERING THE PHONE NUMBER YOU STORED ON YOUR ACCOUNT, (on the payment kiosk) WHEN YOU CHECK OUT!** *(Be sure to enter the phone number PRIOR to utilizing a digital payment method or paying with cash.)*

Notes from: *Fellowship & Mutual Care*

Senior Adult/Empty Nester Lunch



I See God At Work...

† God's amazing, joyful presence on Sunday after worship, as confirmation teenagers, elementary-age Jr. Youth, and Sr. Adult/Empty Nesters joined together in singing the Superman Blessing.



Annual Adult Fellowship and Mutual Care Christmas Party

Maybe Christmas He thought doesn't come from a store.

Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more. The Grinch

Join us for a WHO-BILATION

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH AT THE HOME OF RANDY & BECKY SIDES

308 Crickentree Drive Blythewood

6 PM

BRING AN APPETIZER OR DESSERT

Soft drinks will be provided but you may bring your own adult beverage if you would like.

*****Also please bring a gift card for groceries or gas which will be donated to LTSS to benefit seminary students. Your heart will grow just like Mr. Grinch as we let these dedicated students know how much we support them.*****

Call or text Becky at 608-5558 or email her at beckysides@earthlink.net for more information.



Notes from: *Mission Partnership Team*

CRISTO REY WORSHIP BOOK DELIVERY

Sunday, November 3 @ 5 PM

Join us today, as we deliver 34 Spanish Lutheran Worship Books that Living Springs is donating to our 2019 Mission Partner, Cristo Rey Lutheran! Thanks to everyone who donated a book in honor of Living Springs 31st Anniversary! Cristo Rey's worship service starts at 5:00 at St. David's Lutheran sanctuary in West Columbia. You can drive directly, or carpools will leave LS at 4:15. On the first Sunday of each month, we provide a Bible lesson, crafts, singing, and snacks for their Children's Church time. We have team leaders, but 5-6 volunteer helpers are needed each month, plus a snack for up to 24-30 children. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex for future months. Snacks may be dropped off on Sunday mornings. For more info, contact Mission Partner Team members [Becky Sides](#) & [Midge Gunvalson](#).



Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

VETERANS MINISTRY

Once again, we walk in the door and there in our little meeting area, are our faithful bingo players "waiting" for us! Becky is scheduled for shoulder surgery and is the most pleasant person you will meet – she is minus a leg and praying the shoulder surgery goes well so she can go back home. Another vet was so happy he was going home that whoever approached him, he announced he was going home tomorrow! You could just feel his excitement! Bingo was played – thank you to the Prest family for their participation every month and to Jim and Karen for providing the entertainment by echoing the bingo calls with their bingo yoga! Mr. Bob Burke, our resident church member, proudly announced he wore his Living Springs shirt and made the effort to play bingo with us in-between going back & forth to his room for his medications. Pastor Eric always has a very meaningful devotion that relates to our thankfulness and gratitude for their service as each veteran states their name and branch of service. It must have touched Mr. Sam because he wanted to know where our church was located and mentioned he might stop in some time – wouldn't that be special!



Veteran's Recognition Sunday *November 17*

November is Military Appreciation Month and we will be honoring all veteran's on November 17 at both services. A Quilt of Valor will be presented to our next longest serving veteran. Quilts of Valor is a non-profit foundation whose mission is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor. There are specific instructions on how to make these quilts in addition to specific material to use and many hours of time - it takes 9 to 12 months to receive a QOV after you apply for one. Donations can be made at <https://www.qovf.org/donate/> and we are requested to indicate the donation go to SC (SC is noted to make the most quilts nationally). Or make a check out to SCQOV and mail to 202 Harry C Raysor Dr., St. Matthews SC 29135. Thank you to Jeannie Hurlbert who has helped us with this project.

Please fill out or update the Military Questionnaire form if

Living Springs VA Ministry Night *Thursday, November 21*

Normally on the 4th Thursdays from 6:15 - 7:00 pm, this month we will hold the Ministry Night on the 21st due to Thanksgiving on the 28th. We will host a time of fun, singing, support, and care at the Dorn VA's Community Life Center. Everyone is invited to come be part of this special time for disabled or older veterans who are undergoing therapy or now residing at the center. If you would like to make cards or donate thank-you items to be distributed, those are welcome, too! If you would like to carpool or follow in your car, please meet at the church at 5:30. We are collecting quarters for bingo prizes. Look for the helmet the week prior to the VA Night to drop off your quarters.

FAMILY PROMISE **Wednesday, November 13 @ 6 PM**

One of our Hope ministries is to support host churches that provide shelter, food, and hope for families experiencing homelessness – not families that are living on the street, but families that are temporarily experiencing hardships in their life. There are 16 host and 15 support congregations that rotate to provide sleeping accommodations, meals, and fellowship to the guest families. Living Springs is a support congregation and we have been helping with Trinity UMC in Blythewood and St. Martins in the Fields. We will be providing the meal at Trinity UMC on Wednesday, November 13 @ 6 pm – if you would like to participate, contact Karen Kranz. This is an opportunity to sit & join the families & listen to their struggles to regain housing, independence and their dignity.



***“Share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house . . .
Then your light shall break forth like the dawn.”*** Isaiah 58: 7-8

Backpack Food Ministry

Well, folks – you heard me tell about a lady that was touched by our stuff a bus project and dropped off some food items last month and now I am here to report this same lady came back again with items for our backpack ministry! I am always in wonder how God works in our lives – the stuff a bus project was just an event to collect food and paper items; but no, it is much greater than that! It brought this woman into our lives – a stranger moved to contribute to something that tugged at her heart. Is that a God Story???

We have depleted our supply of a few items and our inventory could use a little help:



Cereal (individual boxes)



Cookies



Snacks

Items can be dropped off & placed in our shopping carts anytime during the week. If you would like to see what this program is all about – stop in on Thursday at 4 pm and help set up and pack for weekend supplement for children at Rice Creek and Joseph Keels elementary schools. Contact [Karen Kranz](#) if you would like to be put on our contact list.



Packing
during Trunk
or Treat!

Notes from: *Justice Ministry* **Justice Ministry – Why Justice?**

Justice Ministry is an important ministry at Living Springs Lutheran Church. How come?

Some of us might say we do justice ministries because God commands us to “do Justice.” Take a look at Micah 6:8: “What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.” There’s not much choice or wiggle-room there -- we are commanded to do it.

Some of us might say we are engaged in justice work because we see so many people in a bad way every week and we’d like to help change things. And justice ministry has made a difference. When we look at what has happened the first two years with MORE Justice we see important positive changes: We’ve put in place Crisis Intervention Training for the Columbia Police officers and Richland County deputies to protect officers and those with mental illness during interventions and arrests. MORE Justice pushed for a trust fund for safe, affordable housing and it’s moving quickly ahead. Justice ministry is making a difference in the Midlands.

Some of us might say that we “do Justice” because it’s a congregational ministry here and we are part of the church. We participate with our Living Springs brothers and sisters and with faith partners from many different kinds of congregations: protestant, catholic, A.M.E. churches, and Jewish congregations. As people of faith we walk together seeking justice, and we are getting a glimpse of the diversity and love that literally color the Kingdom of God.

Some of us may “do Justice” even as we are trying to figure out what Justice is. We know what mercy ministries are – when we feed the hungry or our JV football players, visit the sick or those at Rice House, tutor school children or pack their backpacks with food every week. If that’s “mercy” then how is Justice different?

I think of a mother with children. Every day they ask her to take them to a nearby playground. They love the swings, the monkey bars, and the see-saw. They love running and yelling and playing with all of the kids that are there, some they know and some they don’t. It is a time of joy and great energy for the children. But the mom sees that every day her kids come home with a gash in a hand or a scrape on the leg or a scratch up the arm. She realizes that the playground is old and not up to the safety standards of the playgrounds at the big schools. “Mercy” for her is putting on salve and a bandaid, giving a hug or kiss to comfort the child. Mercy and love are certainly needed. Justice on the other hand is when she buys duct tape and covers over the rusted out places on the monkey bars, the screws that poke out and grab a child’s leg, the park bench nail that tears the older peoples’ clothing when they watch their grandchildren having fun. Justice is looking at what causes the problem and addressing that. Love and mercy are essential, but we are also called to address root concerns of a problem.

(Can’t you do better than duct tape as a solution?! A mom on her own with limited resources may not be able to. But MORE Justice provides the “people power” that allows for better, sustainable, long-term solutions. For example, last May more than 1200 people at the Nehemiah Action asked public officials for a safe, affordable housing trust fund – and change is on the way!)

In September and October we had 7 Justice Ministry house meetings at Living Springs and more than 50 people committed to be MORE Justice Network Members. They committed to attend 4 meetings this year and to consider a contribution to this ministry. The first of the 4 meetings, the Community Problems Assembly, is Monday, November 4, at 6:30 pm at Reid Chapel AME and we will each vote on which community problem to address this year. We anticipate 500 other people of faith from 35+ congregations attending, too, and together we will seek God’s guidance on what to work on together this year. Pray for us to be good listeners and to hear God’s voice.

If you haven’t yet been a part of Justice Ministry but want to find out more, please talk with a Justice Team Leader: Peg or Jim Zieche, Mike Davidson, Gwen Furcron, Gail Buchanan, Adam Woodruff, Wayne Kannaday or Helen Doeringhaus. Doing Justice requires “people power” and we invite you to walk with us on the Justice Journey this year. “Let Justice roll down like the water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream!” (Amos 5:24)

MORE Justice Team Assembly



I See God At Work...

- † Holy Spirit was present at a Justice Ministry House meeting when the children of God shared their personal stories.
- † At the Justice Ministry meeting, it was nice to have so many together; and the same concerns.
- † I saw God's work in our Justice Ministry gatherings. To seek justice for the vulnerable in our society is to follow Jesus!



Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*

LS Choir

JuBELLation



Advent Cantata
Wed., December 18 @ 6:30 PM

The title is "Joy Has Dawned" by Lloyd Larson. The cantata will be sung at the December 18th Advent Service, Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm.

All who would like to join the choir in singing in this cantata are invited to come to one or more of our rehearsals in the choir room each Wednesday from 6:30 to 6:45. If you would like an audio link, contact [Virginia Herlong](#),



Laura Turnmire (handbell director) has been asked to return to the 'Covey Clubs' at Rice Creek Elementary. Covey Clubs meet once a month at the end of a Friday. Some of the students from last year are returning and there will be new students; the students range from 3rd grade – 5th grade.

Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

WELCA Midlands Conference

Thanks to the women who made the Midland Conference a welcoming and enjoyable experience for the attendees. They gave kudos to Living Springs for being so hospitable.



D See God At Work...

- † God's presence among Women's Ministry and women as they faithfully give thanks to serve the Lord.
- † I lead Dwelling in the Word yesterday at the Midlands WELCA Conference. It was new to most attendees. After the conference, one lady came



Women's Retreat

Women are you interested in attending a retreat from 10/16 to 10/18/20 at Isles of Palms. We need an estimation of the number of potential attendees so we can reserve rooms.

Also what do you think of our asking Pastor Jackie Utley to be with us to facilitate.

Please let [Jan Berger](#), [Karen Kranz](#) or [Glnny Devereaux](#) know whether you plan to attend and your thoughts on Pastor Jackie. Or give suggestions on who you would like to see as a facilitator.

Notes from: *Men's Ministry*

November Men's Breakfast to Honor Men 35 Years & Younger *Saturday, November 23 @ 8am*

Next breakfast gathering will be **Saturday, November 23rd** at 8:00 am at **Lizard's Thicket** on Two Notch. This month we are honoring and inviting all men 35 years and younger, including our youth! All are welcome! We meet on the last Saturday of each month. Contact Bob Turnmire at 803-513-7533.



Notes from: *Jr. Youth*

Jr. Youth Gathering – Surge Adventure

I See God At Work...

† God's presence with our Jr. Youth and adult chaperones at their SURGE outing.



Save the Date
Next Jr. Youth Outing -
Adventure
Sunday, November 10
@ 12:15

Notes from: *Sr. Youth*

Sr. Youth Retreat



I See God At Work...
† God's presence in the Living Springs fellowship hall this week - Monday night with dozens of Boy Scouts & their leaders, then again Wednesday night with 20 people in Sr. Youth prayer circle!



Sr. Youth @ Marty Party



God At Work

Rice Estate Dinner

Although it's taken me this long to let you and all the others on the Rice Estate Dinner "committee" know how much I and all the others who attended, enjoyed our Western night with you at Living Springs. Please thank the others who helped with the food and entertainment--what a fun time we had and you all do such a good job of putting it all together. I wanted to express my thanks and appreciation for all you all did to give us such a great evening.

Lovingly, Caroline



D See God At Work...

† I saw God at work in the joy of the Rice Estate residents attending the fall Cowboy/Cowgirl Cookout dinner at LSLC through conversation, delicious food and playing Howdy Bingo and a cowboy board game.

PETS ARE A BLESSING



Fall Outdoor Planting



Kingdom Vision Information Meeting

I See God At Work...

- † God was very much present in the talks last Sunday morning from Palmetto Place, R2 Social Worker, and Lutheran Services - especially in Savannah's story (mom for LSC)
- † I heard God in the stories that were told by the representatives from Palmetto Place, Lutheran Services Carolinas, and R2 School Social Worker, at the Kingdom Vision Info Session
- † Hearing the stories from the agencies that the Kingdom Vision Implementation Team is proposing we support with our Road-Widening Tithe - helped me see God's work in our community. What a blessing, because we are so blessed!
- † The presence of God in the life-changing stories shared at the Kingdom Vision info session - and how God works through so many people in our community to bring hope to young people who are alone and facing huge life-challenges



JV Thanks (and Team Prayer Rock)

We give thanks for everyone who helped with this year's JV Football Ministry (volunteers, desserts, Thrivent cards, donations). What a wonderful blessing that touched the lives of 70+ players and staff! As part of the last devotion, team members signed a prayer rock to be placed at our church, so that we could keep them in prayer after the season. We invite you to pause at their prayer rock in the narthex and offer a prayer for these teens, that God would continue to deepen them in faith, grace, love, and purpose.



Fall Work Day



I See God At Work...

- † I saw God in all of the people who gave up part of their Saturday to work and help spruce up the church.
- † I saw God at the workday last Saturday. See us put a clean face on God's house...it was beautiful. Smiling faces as everyone worked together. Thank you God!
- † God's presence among the youth and other adults who gathered for last Saturday's workday.



Trunk or Treat



Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

QUILLOW MINISTRY Do you like to sew?

After many years of faithful service, Beverly Hoppert is no longer able to make the Quillows for our HS graduates (due to back issues). One or more persons are needed to help and learn this art, especially since we have at least 5 graduates this year. Beverly tells me the highlight of this ministry is watching the families come together and being surrounded by God's love through the symbolism of the quillow. To join this ministry, please contact [Beverly](#).



LS Welcome Blessing

Plans are now being made for our next LS Member Welcome Blessing! To learn more about Living Springs and our beliefs as Lutheran Christians, info session will be held today at 9:30 am in the fellowship hall. Contact [Pastor Eric](#) or the [office](#).

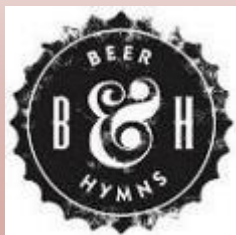
Taco 'Bout God Tuesday, November 12 @ 6 pm

Each month, everyone is welcome to gather at El Jimador in Sandhills to eat dinner and have conversations around a specific topic. We meet at 6 pm and chat over a variety of questions. You get bonus points if you bring someone who we wouldn't otherwise see on Sundays. Bring a friend, and spread the word!



Beer & Hymns Thanksgiving Monday, November 18 @ 7 PM

Love to sing hymns? Enjoy having a beer or other beverage and fellowshiping with others? Come join us for Beer & Hymns on Monday, November 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!



SHARE YOUR GOD STORY

Has God worked a disciple moment through you or someone else during the week? Email lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org and share the story of God's work - you can also use a green welcome slip in Sunday's bulletins. Stories are published anonymously. This isn't about what "we" are doing, but about God's work in the world!

PoCAYA

Parents of College Age/Young Adults Sunday, November 24 @ 5:30 PM

Come join us for a unique experience of fellowship and fun! Those that wish to have an art lesson painting a small canvas can do so at [Alexandra's Cafe and Art, 111 Sparkleberry Crossing Road, Suite 2 Columbia, SC 29229](#). Those that don't want to participate can enjoy fellowship next door at [Henry's Sports Pub](#). Wine and snacks will be provided at the art studio. The cost is \$30 for individuals or \$45 for couples. All art supplies, beverages and light snacks are included in the cost. Contact [Alison Levitt](#) if you are interested in joining the fun.



Community Thanksgiving Service Monday, November 25 @ 7 PM

[Northeast UMC](#) is hosting this year's Community Thanksgiving Service on Mon., Nov. 25 at 7pm. Fellowship and refreshments to follow. *Finger foods and dessert items are needed - sign up in the lobby*. Invite your neighbors & friends, as we join to give thanks to God for so many blessings, and offer special prayers of peace & unity for our community, nation, and world!



Ongoing Opportunities at Living Springs

Tuesday Bible Discussion Lunch **Tuesday, November 12 @ 11:30 am**

Lunch is offered on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 11:30 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 Mon. 11/11. Donation \$6



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.

2020 Altar Flowers Signup is Now Available!

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 202 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!



Helping Hands!!

Currently there are about 450 students a week getting a backpack in the Richland 2 school district! As part of this program (McKinney Vento Advisory), a chain link was set up to send out to committee members...an email alert to an immediate need of an unaccompanied youth, families that are without housing, etc. In support of this, ESO has labeled this Outreach "**Helping Hands**". We send out an email blast when the message is received that there is someone in need. We ask that you respond if you can or are able to fill the need of the request. Contact Karen Kranz at kbkranz@gmail.com

Disciples Helping Disciples

LSLC has establishing a team of volunteers to perform small household tasks for those members unable to complete them. The team will do minor tasks in the areas of mechanical, electrical, plumbing, IT (computer-related), transportation and other minor home repairs depending on the skills of the team. The team will suggest contacts for jobs beyond the scope of the team skills. Everyone is encouraged to participate. For details contact Ann Lynn Caughman (803-708-2543) or Cathy Lowman (803-917-8523) If you would like to be a member of this team, please sign in the admin building or contact one of the above.



Growing In Faith Together: 2019-2020 Adult Faith Formation

Deeper In Christ, Deeper In Grace, Deeper In Love

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

Sunday Faith Formation: 9:30AM Sunday Mornings

*(**if you're a parent or grandparent, **bring the children for their classes as well** - see offerings for all ages of children & youth in our separate listing).*

Adult Bible Class - This class takes a deeper look at scripture readings that are used in the worship service that Sunday. (*On 3rd Sundays, the Book of the Month is discussed.) All are welcome to join as we ask "What is God saying to us in the lesson." *Facilitator – Helen Doeringhaus*

Brand New Faith Action Group – This is not a class; it's a gathering of adults exploring faith, acting as servants for others, hearing Jesus' words and talking about what Jesus might be saying to us. If you are a person who likes to learn & grow by actively reaching out to make a difference in others' lives, this is the place for you. *Facilitators Mike Davidson and Steve Bloss*



Book of the Month Overview – On the **third Sunday** of each month Pastor Eric will give an overview of the Bible "Book of the Month." This year's "Books of the Month" are:

Nov – Judges

Dec - I Kings

Jan – Jeremiah

Feb - Ezra-Nehemiah

March - Matthew

April - Mark

May - I & 2 Corinthians

June - Galatians & Ephesians

July - Hebrews

August – Daniel

Weekly/Monthly Bible Studies & Groups!

**Think you don't know enough to be in a Bible study? No Bible credentials are needed; just questions and the desire to get deeper into the story of Jesus, and the people of God's story, including all of us. Build relationships of support for life's journey as we grow deeper in faith together. Come join the fellowship & dialogue!*

Ladies Bible Study – Meets 10:00AM Tuesdays. We begin for fall on Sept. 10. *Facilitator Beverly Hoppert*

Men's Early Morning Bible Group – 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 6:30AM – explore scripture from a man's perspective. *Facilitator Mike Davidson*

Adult Bible Study – all adults are welcome – 7:00PM Tuesday evenings –we will study the Bible Book of the Month through in depth reading and discussion. *Facilitator Steve Bloss*

Monthly Devotional Lunch –11:15PM on 2nd Tuesdays – we share discussion & questions over lunch, as Pastor provides further insight into the Bible "Book of the Month." *Facilitator Pastor Eric*

Ladies Book Club – 1st Mondays of alternate months (Aug, Oct, Dec, etc.), hosted in various homes. We pick interesting books and share insights about what we've read. *Facilitator Karen Kranz*

Monthly Men's Breakfast – Last Saturdays @ 8:00am. We dwell in the Word, share in prayer, and plan for events that help us live out our call to be Lutheran Men in Mission. – *Facilitator Bob Turnmire*

Adult Faith Milestones – various faith & life topics, held periodically throughout the year, as announced (see separate listing for our children/youth faith milestones). *Facilitators - Lifelong Discipleship Team*

Sunday Morning Faith Alive for Children & Youth! 9:30-10:30.

Amazing things are developing for Sunday morning Faith Formation Time! We have some great teaching teams and leaders in place to help us Grow Deeper in Christ, Deeper in Grace, and Deeper in Love!

Children' Groups (age 3/4 - grade 1, grades 2-5) - everyone gather in "bubble room" on right side of fellowship hall. Music greeting time with Adriana McMurphy from 9:30-9:40, then split into separate age groups for Bible lesson & craft learning activity with our team leaders.

Middle Group (grades 6 - confirmation) - gather at 9:30 with Jan Berger and other leaders in area outside the big kitchen (left end of fellowship hall)

Post-Confirmation Group - gather at 9:30 in Youth Room with Leslie Bloss and other leaders.

D See God At Work...

- † Presence of God in GIFT Zone as children work on Lord's Prayer Training.
- † God's presence among the deep conversations & prayers shared with confirmation students & their parents in the monthly parent/student gathering with pastor.
- † Presence of God in parents helping children learn to worship in G.I.F.T. Zone.



November Youth Faith Alive Teachers

Date	Team	
Nov. 3	Adriana McMurphy	Jeanette Bloss
Nov. 10	Jeanette Bloss	London Mancuso
Nov. 17	Peri Baker	Karen Kranz
Nov. 24	Christmas Pageant Practice	



Living Springs Youth and Confirmation Events

*Weekly Wednesday Night Gatherings (6:30-8:00) See Google Calendar for more details.

Date	Event	Details
11/3	Confirmation	12:30-2:15 Bloss's providing Lunch
11/15-11/17	Confirmation Retreat – Lutheridge	Confirmation students Fall retreat
11/26ish	Trees Delivered	All hands-on deck to unload trees for our Youth Tree Lot
11/29	Tree Lot Opens	10:00AM-9:00PM
11/30-12/15	Tree Lot Open	Fridays 5:00-9:00 Saturdays 10:00-9:00 Sundays 12:00-6:00 Youth Fundraiser – all youth and families are encouraged to sign up to work several times. (Work schedule to be sent via Google Forms in early November)

Council Clips - October 2019

Council opened their October meeting with Dwelling in the Word from Joshua 17:14-18, led by Adam Woodruff.

Council welcomed our SC Synod Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Ginny Aebischer – to provide initial information about how the call process could potentially work, for either an Associate Pastor or Deacon (to fill the former position held by Deacon Graves and previously other Associate Pastors).

Council next welcomed Finance Chair, Karlene Stuart, for presentation of the Consolidated Spending Plan (both Congregational & CDC pieces) as recommended by the Finance Team. Council unanimously passed a motion to endorse the plan to be presented for the congregation's approval at the Annual Meeting.

Council received updates from the Personnel Committee regarding recommendation to extend term call for our Minister of Worship & Innovative Church Outreach by 6 months.

Report from the Financial Secretary—Bill Franck

For the month of September, 2019, non-designated contributions were \$37,616.08; designated contributions are \$3,571.83; debt/maintenance contributions were \$1,910.00; for a total of \$43,097.91.

Report from the Treasurer—Mike Davidson

September Operating Funds: Checking: \$21,245.21 (regular checking and Givelify); Money Market Operating Funds: \$42,995.43; Total = \$64,240.64. Operating Cash: Total Cash – Total Designated = \$54,958.35.

In lieu of committee reports, President Woodruff asked each council person to consider how God has affected our lives and ministries. We were also asked to share one special event in our lives which brought us closer to God. We concluded by reading again our 2019 Ministry Focus areas – and adjourned with prayer.

+++++

Pastor's Report: Be sure to introduce yourself to our new seminarian, Isaac Taylor, and our new Children/Youth Associate, Peri Baker.

Children & Youth: Trunk-r-Treat is going to be held on 10/29th. You can pre-order of Tree Lot trees and wreaths now. The Confirmation Retreat is scheduled for 11/15-17th.

Child Development Center: The Trunk-r-Treat is a special event for our students, plan to decorate your vehicle and pass out candy on the lawn! Sign up for the Kroger card to designate money to the CDC by using your card!

Hope Team: The bucket collection is for Lutheran Disaster Relief. This is a great place to park loose change! We are still seeking readers for the 31-er Reading Ministry. The next VA Ministry will be 11/21st.

Fellowship and Mutual Care: We are preparing Fall Boxes for college-age students. The Congregation Christmas Party will be held on 12/7th.

Facilities: The Congregational Work Day is 10/26th. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

Good News Team: Taco 'bout God is scheduled for 11/12. Beer & Hymns will be on 10/28 at Beef O'Brady's.

Justice Ministry: The Community Problems Assembly will be held on 11/4th at the Reid Chapel A.M.E.

Mission Partners: Next Cristo Rey visit will be Sunday, 11/3rd. Come meet Pastor Jorge and see what God is doing

Lifelong Discipleship: Annual Discipleship Commitments will kick off on 11/10th. Dev. Lunch is 11/12th.

LMM: Brats & Beer (Root Beer kind) will be available at Trunk-r-Treat. JV Football Ministry will conclude 10/24th.

Worship Ministry: Reformation Service will be 10/27th. Wear red! All Saints is 11/3rd. NE Thanksgiving Service will be 11/25th. Rehearsals will soon be underway for the Living Nativity. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex.

WELCA: The Midlands WELCA Conference was a lovely event, with good food, fellowship and stories of the ELCA Mission in Tanzania.



Opportunities Outside Living Springs

CAMPUS MINISTRY DASHER DINNER

Friday, November 8 @ 6 PM

Campus Room of the Capstone House at USC Celebrating 50 years of Women's Ordination—Recognizing Prs. Kathleen Panning, Beverly Aurand, & Mary W. Anderson. As one of LCM's partner congregations, LS is sponsoring two tables. If you would like to attend this special dinner, please contact Pastor Eric. Dinner is \$50/person. There will be a Silent Auction as well! If you are unable to attend, you can also donate a monetary contribution or Silent Auction item to support this ministry that serves Midlands Tech, Columbia College and USC students! Contact LCM Board Member Wendy McKenzie (wendy.mckenzie@sc.edu or 803-603-6145). LCM website: gamecocklutheran.com



Gift Card Drive for Seminary Students



We have learned of a very significant need in our Synod and invite you and your congregations to join in this Fall Gift Card Drive to benefit Seminary Students at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. Seminary students are focused on completing assigned readings, writing papers, working in local parishes, and engaging in the various ways the Spirit is forming them at LTSS. Unfortunately, many of them are also focused on the financial stress of mounting loans, and very often, the funds they are allowed to borrow do not stretch far enough to cover all the costs of life. Our congregations can make a significant

difference and we hope you will join in this Gift Card Drive by collecting and sending us gift cards for our seminarians. If you feel called to help a student buy some groceries or fill their gas tank, you may buy a gift card to Food Lion, Publix, or Shell and drop them off at our LS office. We'll bring your gifts to students who need them.

Coastal Crafting

November 10, 2019 @ 4:00PM — November 14, 2019 @ 11:00AM

Explore your creative side while enjoying a week on the beautiful Isle of Palms, SC.

Coastal Crafting is a brand new five-day, four-night retreat led by SCLRC Coordinator of Older Adult Ministries Pegi Roberts.

Participants are invited to explore their creative side while enjoying a week on the beautiful Isle of Palms, SC. Enjoy making jewelry, sweetgrass ornaments/baskets, in addition to other crafting adventures that utilize local natural resources. This event is perfect for those looking to get a head-start on personalized presents to share at Christmas.

Select meals and project materials will be provided. Enrollment is limited. Daily program rates are also available. For more information, please contact Pegi Roberts (pegi@sclrc.com).

An extra night and two additional meals are available for FREE to those willing to assist with a service project focused on painting lounge furniture. Please contact Pegi Roberts for more info.

[Register here](#)

Laugh, Learn, & Lunch **Thursday, November 21 @ 9:30 am**

You're invited to join us on Thursday, November 21, for our fun program: "Laugh, Learn & Lunch".

This one-day retreat for people of all ages will feature Rev. Kris Litman-Koon as guest speaker. He brings a passion for caring for God's creation and is involved with Lutherans Restoring Creation, a nationwide, grassroots movement within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Their goal is to cultivate a community of dedicated stewards of earth and neighbors who proclaim God's promise of hope and healing for all.

Space is limited so [register](#) early. We look forward to seeing you there!

Satisfying spiritual hunger

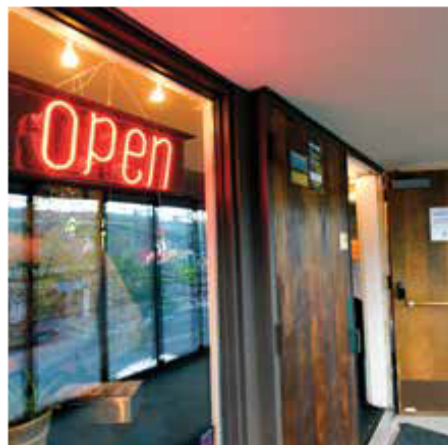
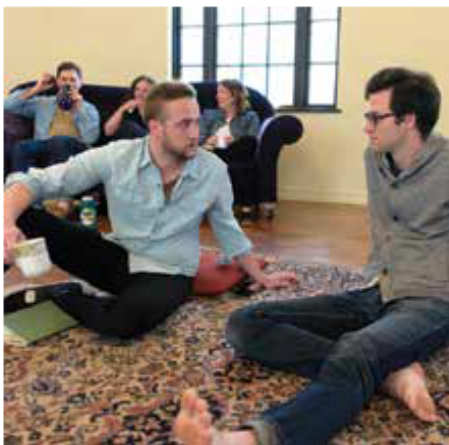
The soothing strains of live music create a relaxed, meditative environment at the Open Space program, hosted by Church of the Apostles, a Seattle-based worshipping community of the ELCA and the Episcopal Church.

The monthly gathering is open to the public and regularly attracts 10 to 40 people. Attendees enter quietly, silencing their phones. They set up yoga mats, pillows or cushions to relax on as they take time to enjoy the present in a comfortable, candlelit space.

"A lot of people who go to [Open Space] have nothing to do with [our congregation]," said Ivar Hillesland, pastor of Church of the Apostles. "It answers a longing they have for safe spiritual experiences within community."

The Seattle area has many who aren't affiliated with a church, and who may be wary or distrustful of religion, he noted.

"We're hosting a communal, spiritual place without the programming involved," Hillesland said. "It is evangelism, but we're not trying to get [visitors] to join the church."



Once a month, Church of the Apostles, an ELCA and Episcopal Church worshipping community in Seattle, hosts a time of music and meditation for the city's residents. Your Mission Support dollars fund this congregation's outreach.



YOUR MISSION SUPPORT GIFTS AT WORK

Alex Mrakovich, a regular attendee, enjoys the serenity of Open Space.

"It's a space where my questions and judgments and fears can slowly be suspended as I practice being present to both myself and the vibrations and sound around me," Mrakovich said.

Mission Support funding from the churchwide organization enables Church of the Apostles to provide this community program as well as other ministries.

"It is because of the freedom granted to us through this funding that we are able to serve God and our neighbors most fully," Hillesland said.

He believes Open Space is satisfying Seattleites' deepest cravings. "Some churches offer food pantries that respond to the physical need for food. We offer a spiritual, musical experience for people who are hungry for that. ... It is spiritual food for people."

To find a video story about Open Space, visit ELCA.org/SOFIA.



October 14, 2019

Dear Living Springs Lutheran Church:

Please accept my sincere thank you on behalf of Prison Congregations of America for your generous donation of \$333.33. I recognize that there are many ministries doing good work that you could elect to offer your gifts to. I am so appreciative that you chose Prison Congregations of America as one of those ministries.

PCA's priority this year in 2019 has been to assess how we can be the best stewards of the financial support we receive from gracious folks such as yourself to continue to forward the vision and mission of PCA's founder, Pastor Ed Nesselhuf.

There are currently around twenty prison congregations in the United States affiliated with Prison Congregations of America led by dedicated pastors and volunteers on the ground, bringing the gospel behind the walls and helping develop men and women into proactive disciples of Christ while serving time in prison and when they are released. Your donation helps PCA continue to support these efforts and assist others who are called to serve this population establish additional congregations in states and prison facilities where that is permissible. Thank you so very much.

God's Peace,

Renae Griggs, Executive Director



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Paul DePalma
Local Board Chairman
ADEPT Leadership

Frank Wan
Finance Chair
BCA Investment Advisors

Dan Pugh
State Board Chairman
Residential Building Supply

Nick Archer
AdventHealth

Dick Batchelor
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Alicia Bechtel
Orlando Health

Cheryl Bollinger
Just Think About It

Leon Camarda
Project Management Advisors, Inc.

Viicki Case
Adventist University of Health Sciences

Jeff Chandler
Community Volunteer

Hollie Croft
Nelson Mullins Broad & Cassel

Karl Francetic
Equity Capital Investors, Inc.

Dwayne Gray
Zimmerman Kiser Sutcliffe

Steven Lau & Pauline Ho
Laus Consulting

Cleve Loveland
Loveland Properties

Susan Makowski
Community Consultants Orlando

Dan & Glenna Morris
MEI Civil

Donna Myers
Community Volunteer

Dr. Marc Ott
Integrative Physical Medicine

Michael Parks
Hoar Construction

Jamie Poulos
Poulos & Bennett

Bill Robinson
Zimmerman Kiser Sutcliffe

Deputy Chief Eric Smith
Orlando Police Department

Monica Smith
Poston Communications

Jim Tharp
Tharp Plumbing

October 21, 2019

Pastor Eric Fink
Living Spring Lutheran Church
4224 Hard Scrabble Rd.
Columbia, SC 29223

Dear Pastor Fink,

Since we're in October we want to share with you some scary facts about poverty in our community. **Over 46% of our neighbors in the Central Florida tri-county area are living in poverty or are unable to afford basic needs such as housing, child care, food, and transportation.** The cost of these basic needs continues to increase, with the minimum family budget increasing by 20% since 2010. This rising cost of living is worsened by the abundance of low-paying jobs and contract jobs in Central Florida which lead to financial instability.

With households struggling to cover expenses and keep up with the basic cost of living, the demand for the services we offer at United Against Poverty is high. Our campus is serving an average of 525 families each and every day which makes UP Orlando the busiest single-site social service agency in the state of Florida. Daily, we are seeing 24 new families signing up for Member Share Grocery Program.

Thanks to the generous \$25 investment in our mission you recently made to UP Orlando, we will continue to focus on determining each individual's deeper, underlying issues so that the most effective services and resources can be offered. Together, we are moving the needle on poverty in our community.

We believe poverty is not permanent and that people are not defined by their current circumstances. **Thank you for supporting programs that focus on dignity, empowerment and personal responsibility.**

Hope and Joy,



Eric Gray
Executive Director



Lisa Blackwelder
Director of Development

Please use this as a receipt for your recent gift. A gift in the amount of \$25 was given on date 10/17/2019. No gifts or services were received for this contribution.

Formerly known as Community Food & Outreach Center

October 29, 2019

The Rev. Eric E. Fink
Living Springs Lutheran Church
4224 Hard Scrabble Rd.
Columbia, SC 29223-8559

Dear Pastor Fink and Congregation:

We are pleased to acknowledge the receipt of a gift from the South Carolina Synod of the ELCA in the amount of \$5.00 on October 15, 2019 for the *Love One Another* capital campaign made on behalf of Living Springs. We are always appreciative of the efforts of our friends and supporters that lead to gifts such as this. This gift has been included as part of the campaign appeal total for Living Springs Lutheran Church.

As you know, the *Love One Another* campaign is focused on guiding young people transitioning out of foster care; welcoming refugees fleeing from war and persecution who are starting a new life in the U.S.; and encouraging individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities to live as independently as possible. The campaign will enhance services to care for these individuals and families who otherwise would have been unserved or underserved.

We are grateful to Living Springs for the role you played in making this gift possible. LSC could not be as successful without your involvement and support of this ministry.

Yours in Christ,



Ted W. Goins, Jr.
President

November 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
<p>3 All Saints 930A Annual Meeting Info. Session 930A LS Member Info. Session 1215P Nativity Rehearsal 1215P Confirmation 2P GraceWorks Planning (St. Paul's) 5P Cristo Rey (carpool 415)</p>	<p>4 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P Justice Ministry Community Problems Assembly (Reid Chapel) 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>5 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Bible Study 7P Handbells</p>	<p>6 930A PS Chapel 4P ASC Music 530P Disciples of Harmony 6P Hope Ministry 615P Choir 630P Executive Team 630P Sr. Youth (LSLC) 7P His Heart Beat Ministries (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>7 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 1P Staff Meeting 4P Backpacks Food Min. 7P His Heart Beat Ministries (Sanctuary) 7P Lifelong Discipleship</p>	<p>1 8 6P Dasher Dinner (Capstone Hall) 7P His Heart Beat Ministries (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>2 Time Change 9 930A Crafty Ladies</p>
<p>10 930A Annual Congregation Mtg/ Ministry Celebration 1215P Nativity Rehearsal 1215P Jr. Youth Outing to Edventure</p>	<p>11 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Worship & Music Team 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Fellowship & Mutual Care Team 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>12 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1130A Devotional Lunch 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Finance 6P LM Committee of 100 (Christ Mission) 6P Taco 'Bout God 6P Bible Study 7P Handbells</p>	<p>13 930A PS Chapel 4P ASC Music 530P Disciples of Harmony 6P Family Promise (Trinity UMC) 615P Choir 630P Sr. Youth (LSLC)</p>	<p>14 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 4P Backpacks Food Min. 630P LSCDC Board</p>	<p>15 16 9A Bhagavadgita Ministries (Fellowship Hall)</p>	
<p>17 Veteran's Recognition 2P FI Guiding Team</p>	<p>18 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P Executive Team 7P Beer & Hymns (Beef O'Brady's) 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>19 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 7P Justice Ministry Board 6P Bible Study 7P Handbells</p>	<p>20 930A PS Chapel 4P ASC Music 530P Disciples of Harmony 615P Choir 630P Sr. Youth (Mod Pizza)</p>	<p>21 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 10A Hymn Along (CM Tucker) 1P Staff Communion 4P Backpacks Food Min. 615P LS Veterans Ministry Night (carpool 530) 7P Council</p>	<p>22 11A LSCDC Stone Soup</p>	<p>23 8A Men's Breakfast (Lizard's Thicket, Two Notch) 930A Crafty Ladies</p>
<p>24 Christ the King 1215P Nativity Rehearsal 530P PoCAYA (Alexandra's Café & Art)</p>	<p>25 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Community Thanksgiving Service (Northeast UMC) 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>26 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time TBA Sr. Youth Trees Arriving 6P Bible Study 7P Handbells</p>	<p>27 930A PS Chapel 4P ASC Music 530P Disciples of Harmony 615P Choir</p>	<p>28 Thanksgiving Day Office & LSCDC Closed</p>	<p>29 Office & LSCDC Closed 3P Tree Lot opens</p>	<p>30 10A Tree Lot</p>

Worship Assistant Schedule – November 2019

	Assisting Minister	Lector	Communion Assistant	Ushers	Greeters		Acolyte	Crucifer	Torchbearer	Counters	Children's Message	Council Person
11/3	8:15 John Imbert	Julie Harris	Helen Doeringhaus Julie Harris	Sue Loveless Mike Loveless	Inside Debbie Smith	Outside Ron Smith	Bill Franck	Jim Zieche			Lexanne Graves	Vickie Crapps
11/3	10:4 5 Jan Berger	Anne Ducate	Anne Ducate Steve Padgett	Gary Ginn Preston Ginn Steve Bloss Wes Levitt	Lauren Bloss	Mike Davidson	Lauren Bloss	Karlene Stuart	Tiffany Ginn Adriana McMurphy	Laura Turnmire (L) Leslie Bloss Dea Jones	Lexanne Graves	Dea Jones
11/10	8:15 Minister Griffin	Midge Gunvalson	Karen Kranz Gwen Furcron	Jeff Lummel Barb Imbert	Kristen Mattson	Nancy Schwind	Wesley Graves	Nancy Schwind			Adam Woodruff	Midge Gunvalson
11/10	10:45 Isaac Taylor	Hunter Prest	Laura Turnmire Audrey Turnmire	Marshall Hurlbert Karlene Stuart Randy Masad Leslie Bloss	Gail Buchanan	Marshall Hurlbert	Adam Woodruff	Wes Levitt	Alison Levitt Mike Davidson	Steve Bloss (L) Jeff Tenhover Michelle Outlaw	Adam Woodruff	Jeff Tenhover
11/17	8:15 Isaac Taylor	Lori Masad	Ashley Ramsey Karen Kranz	Shirley Laingen Paul Laingen	Sue Hyman	Jeff Lummel	Eliana Collins	Jan Epperson			Pastor Eric	Bill Franck
11/17	10:45 Mike Davidson	Anne Ducate	Anne Ducate Gail Buchanan	Lauren Bloss Jeanette Bloss Walker Flores Austin Padgett	Linda Hayes	Wes Levitt	Steve Bloss	Leslie Bloss	Cynthia Edney Ginny Devereaux	Karen Kranz (L) Midge Gunvalson Barbara Imbert	Pastor Eric	Gay Walter
11/24	8:15 Helen Doeringhaus	Anna Graves	Minister Griffin Julie Harris	Sue Loveless Mike Loveless	Kathy McDonald	Paul Laingen	Emma Harris	Nancy Schwind			Lexanne Graves	Julie Ann Harris
11/24	10:45 Alison Levitt	Isaac Taylor	Kellee Flores Mike Davidson	Austin Padgett Steve Padgett Karlene Stuart Randy Masad	Trish Davidson	Steve Bloss	Walker Flores	Jan Berger	Gail Buchanan Jeanette Bloss	Bob Turnmire (L) Steve Padgett Doug Danner	Lexanne Graves	Doug Danner

	Name Tag 8:15	Name Tag 10:45	Sound Tech	Muggers	Flowers	Coffee	Refreshments	Altar Guild
11/3	Susan Bradham	Gay Walter	Bob Turnmire	Karen Kranz	Karen Kranz	Todd Gunvalson	Kellee Flores	November Tiffany Ginn
11/10	Roger Schwind	Karen Kranz	Rocky Berger	Vickie Crapps	Shirley Laingen	Karen Kranz	Congregational Meeting	
11/17	Ashley Ramsey	Karen Kranz	Bob Turnmire	Charles Tracy	Karen Kranz	Charlie Tracy	Ashley Ramsey	
11/24	Gary Bradham	Karen Kranz	Rocky Berger	Karen Kranz		Bill Franck	Karen Kranz	

SIGN UP FOR FOURTH QUARTER – WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

The online sign up for October is ready to be populated – whatever slots are open by September 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. 3rd quarter (August - September) <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baea92fa0f85-20173>
 Fourth quarter: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baea92fa0f85-20174>

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

November 2	Ray Long Rhea Pye
November 3	Mike Wirth
November 5	Eric Nelson
November 6	Eric Hyyppa
November 7	Andrew Drafts
November 10	Jack Arnold
November 12	♥ John & Kari Arnold
November 13	Jonas Maher
November 14	Preston Franks ♥ David & Diana Abromaitis
November 15	Sue Hyman
November 16	Taralee Bartholomew Kristin Snelgrove
November 19	Becky Sides

November 20	Brenda Grohman
November 21	Luke Prizer Sam Prizer ♥ John & Barbara Imbert
November 23	Tiffany Ginn Grady Smith
November 24	John Imbert Wayne Kannaday ♥ Mike & Trish Davidson
November 26	Corbin Cassidy Steve Padgett Hany Sorial ♥ Eric & Alexis Hyyppa
November 29	Kellie Snipes



Celebrate Your Baptism

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



November 9	Emma Harris	November 26	Logan Smith
November 11	Ann Lynn Caughman	November 27	Rosie Kowalski
November 13	Evelyn Long	November 29	Helen Doerpinghaus
November 18	Aaron Smith		
November 22	Everett Snipes Karlene Stuart		

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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Seminarian Isaac Taylor – Sr. Youth Associate

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Peri Baker - Children/Jr. Youth Associate

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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

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Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper

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Virginia Herlong - Choir Director

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Laura Turnmire – Handbell Choir Director

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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