

The Living Springs Journal

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

March 2020



God's Love, Our Hands & Faces: One Life Deeper in 2020! – from Pastor

BOOK OF MONTH = MATTHEW, CH. 1-16! Group—March 10 & 24 @ 10AM; Adult Class—Mar. 15 @ 9:30



**GOD'S LOVE, OUR HANDS & FACES:
ONE LIFE DEEPER IN 2020!**

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**DEEPER IN DISCIPLESHIP KICKOFF
1st Sunday in Lent, March 1**

Blow the trumpet, sound the alarm, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly, sanctify the congregation, assemble the aged, gather the children! Return to the LORD, your God, who is gracious & merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love! See, now is the acceptable time. See, now is the day of salvation!"

On Ash Wednesday, we heard these urgent words from the prophet Joel and the apostle Paul: words that usher us into the annual spiritual journey of 40 days (+ 6 Sundays) called Lent. During these days ahead, we will be drawn yet again to the heart of our faith—the journey of Jesus to the cross and his victory over death in the empty tomb of Easter. But Lent is even more than a re-calling of Jesus journey to the cross; it is a time for our own pilgrimage to the cross, as we hear Jesus'

words for us, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me!" It is a time for deeper life reflection and deepening spiritual commitment. It is a time of deeper self-examination, with additional opportunities for deeper worship, deeper prayer, deeper devotion, deeper acts of sacrificial giving for others. The spiritual disciplines of Lent call us to a form of deeper discipleship as followers of Jesus: deeper in love, deeper in grace, deeper in Christ!

As we undertake this Lenten journey, we will re-discover the impact of Jesus' encounters with so many individuals and how those 1-on-1 encounters were such a central part of his mission of hope for the world. On Sundays, we will hear of Jesus' encounters with Nicodemus, the woman at a well, a man born blind, Mary, Martha, Lazarus, Simon Peter, and other disciples. On Wednesdays, we will hear of encounters with the woman of anointing, Judas, a Roman centurion, 2 criminals, Pilate, Mary Magdalene, John, and Mary of Nazareth. There is a great mystery and truth to these encounters: that our God is a God who chooses to work through personal impact on human lives. God has done this not only through Jesus, but continues to do this through persons such as you & me—disciples who have been called by Jesus, marked with his cross, filled with the deepness of God's grace & love, and empowered by the Holy Spirit to carry on the person-to-person ministry of Jesus in the world.

On the 1st Sunday of Lent, we will also celebrate the 2020 Ministry Focus which the Holy Spirit spoke at our annual leadership retreat: **God's Love, Our Hands & Faces—One Life Deeper in 2020!** Our prayerful goal is that God will work in every LS disciple in 2020 to have an impact of faith and hope in the life of one special person. What shoes might they be wearing? It may be someone you know already—at work, at home, at school, in the neighborhood, in your daily life. It may be a complete stranger whom God will bring to you this year. How will the Spirit work through you to bring someone deeper in 2020? So, during March, we will not only hear stories about all those "Bible persons," but we will also hear stories from LS disciples—about individuals whom God has used to impact our lives, and individuals with whom God has led us to walk in deeper places of grace, love, and Christ. You don't want to miss these powerful stories! In a world filled with darkness, despair, and fear, there is a great urgency in someone's life out there—for the mission of love, grace, and Christ we have been called to share. I pray that this Lent may truly be a powerful time for each of us to sense that urgency and grow deeper in our discipleship!

With much love and thanksgiving for each of you, *Pastor Eric*

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL OAK PRAYER CROSSES & WEEKLY ITEMS

- 2/26 - Purple Cloth
- 3/1 - Coin Bag
- 3/8 - Thorn Crown
- 3/15 - Nail
- 3/22 - INRI Sign
- 3/29 - Sponge
- 4/5 - Olivewood Chalice
- 4/12 - Empty Egg (Easter)



Lenten Shoe & 40x40 Drive

+ + +

**Fish Fry's for Campus Ministry
Fridays, 5:30 - 7:00**

+ + +

**Cristo Rey Partner Ministry
March 1 @ 5pm**

+ + +

**Recovery Comes First (NA)
Mondays @ 7pm**

+ + +

**Taco 'Bout God (El Jimador)
March 10 @ 6pm**

+ + +

**Beer 'n Hymns (Beef O'Bradys)
March 16 @ 7pm**

+ + +

**Palmetto Place Meal
March 23 @ 4pm/5pm**

+ + +

**Hymn-a-Long Ministry
March 26 @ 10am (Rice)**

+ + +

**Veterans VA Bingo Ministry
March 26 @ 6:15pm**

+ + +

**Sunday Backpack Ministry
March 29 @ 9:30am**

+ + +

**Justice Ministry Network Rally
March 30 @ 6:30
(Trinity Cathedral)**

God's Love, Our Hearts & Hands: One Life Deeper in 2020!
Build Relationships—inviting, involving, mentoring, discipling relationships, 1 person at a time!
Build Partnerships—for the work of God's kingdom in our community and world!
Share God's Love—with those who are hurting, alone, marginalized, or feeling unloved!
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



Lent 2020: Deeper in the Cross

MID-DAY PRAYER SERVICE

Wednesdays, 12:00 - 12:25

EVENING DRAMA WORSHIP

Wednesdays @ 6:30pm

- February 26 — Ash Wednesday Worship (Cross Item: Purple Cloth)
- March 4 — Judas & Woman of Anointing (Cross Item: Coin Bag)
- March 11 — Roman Centurion & Soldier (Cross Item: Crown of Thorns)
- March 18 — Criminals on the Cross (Cross Item: Nail)
- March 25 — Pilate & Servant (Cross Item: INRI Sign)
- April 1 — Mary Magdalene & Mary, Mother of Jesus (Cross Item: Sponge)
- Maundy Thursday, April 9 — In the Upper Room (Cross Item: Olivewood Chalice)



FRIDAY FISH FRY & ENTERTAINMENT

Meal Served 5:30-7:00 (program @ 6:00)

\$2000 goal for our Lutheran Campus Ministry

(all Living Springs folks, sign up to help at least one Friday!)

- Feb. 28 Kickoff—CDC Night
- March 6 LS Got Talent Night, Mason the Firefly!
- March 13 Game Night!
- March 20 Lutheran Campus Ministry
- March 27 JuBELLation Bells & Disciples of Harmony
- April 3 Phenomenal Dancers



BOOK OF THE MONTH(S):

MATTHEW 1-16 (March)

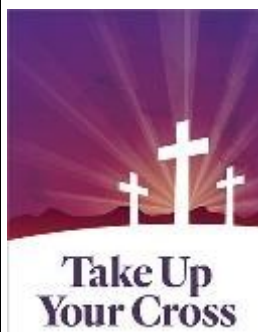
MATTHEW 17-28 (April)

(Small Group Reflection Gatherings)



40 X 40

Give Up
Something
= 1600!



**"Take Up Your Cross"
Daily Lenten Devotions**

+++

8:34 Daily Prayer Alerts

(Mark 8:34. "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross & follow me.")

Lent 2020: Deeper in the Cross

Lenten Table-Top Crosses for Each Household

Last week, we distributed Lenten tabletop oak crosses made for each household. A few extra crosses remain in the narthex for any household who was not here to receive one. Each week, we will distribute a specific devotional item to add to your cross. Second item (coin bag) will be given to you at the end of worship today. Extra items from previous weeks will also be available on the narthex table. Each cross is made from the wood we saved from the oak prayer tree which previously stood by the road at our Living Springs entrance.



Lenten "Outside-Church"/Home Groups

As part of Lent, we invite you to extend a personal invitation and gather a group of 4-10 people at your home (or a restaurant, coffee shop, park, ballfield, etc.) for intentional Bible Study or devotions around your cross. This could be a mixture of LS people, friends, co-workers, neighbors, or others. You might gather weekly or every other week – and can schedule as best fits your group. It is not meant to be a "church calendar event," but a way the Spirit works through you to be a disciple with others. You might focus on the Daily Lenten Devotional topics, or Matthew chapters covering Holy Week, or the Sunday Scripture readings, or everyone's prayer/life concerns. If you are forming a group (and/or need help with resources), please simply let Pastor Eric know, so your group can be lifted up in confidential prayer.



40X40 LENTEN COLLECTION

During Lent, we again take on the challenge to collect 1600 items: shoes (see shoe drive article), socks of all sizes/male/female/child, mini cereal boxes, juice boxes, and fruit cups. Collection bins are located in the main office lobby.

Lenten Shoe Drive: March 1 - April 10

What "shoe'd" you give up for Lent? Chocolate, desserts? LS is participating in a **'Give-up your Shoes for Lent'** drive to benefit people in developing countries while being good stewards and keeping landfills free of unneeded shoes. There are many children and adults around the world who have never owned a pair of shoes. As part of a larger Midlands project, we will collect new or gently-used shoes for all ages (normal wear and tear - must be pairs!). Bins will be located in the admin hallway and in the LSCDC (as well as Rice Estate). Please save a "special pair of shoes" you may want to wear on Palm Sunday (April 5) to be left at the altar steps as a special offering of love to begin Holy Week.

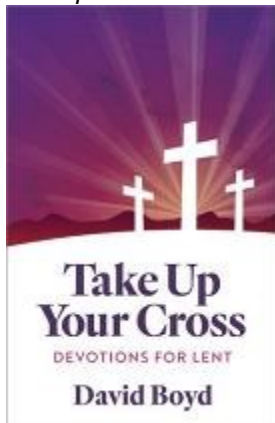


Help with FRIDAY FISH FRY

Tell your neighbors, friends, family, co-workers to come enjoy a reallllly good fish dinner (we also have non-fish and vegetarian options). This is a very important ministry to help fund our Lutheran Campus Ministry, which brings so much hope and support for students at USC and Columbia campuses. *Sign-up sheets are available outside the office for kitchen volunteers, cooks, ticket-takers, helpers, set-up, clean-up and dessert donations. We encourage everyone to help at least one Friday!* Contact Karen Kranz

LENTEN 8:34 PRAYER ALERTS

During Lent, we are sending out daily "prayer alerts," with the prayer and scripture from each day's devotion from our Lenten devotional books. Alerts will be sent out at 8:34 AM, reminding us of Mark 8:34: *"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross & follow me."* May we all go deeper in the cross this Lent! Our daily Lenten devotional booklets, *"Take Up Your Cross"*, are available in the Narthex.



God's Corner

O See God At Work...

- † God is at work in the lives of my YAGM friends.
- † God's presence through the work of physical therapists & surgical nurses
- † I saw God at work in the faces of home owners fighting for justice to be treated fairly in water and sewer rates.
- † I saw God as we shared a small service and communion with the Talberts in their home.
- † The Spirit told me to begin an intense 30 day Bible Study and I answered that call. My life has been more enriched than ever before because of saying yes!
- † My husband and I were blessed with two beautiful adopted children. We are lucky to continue to have connections to the birth families, through biological sister, or half sister or biological aunt. Please keep all adoptive children in your prayers as well as the families who blessed others with children of God!
- † God's light shining at Albert's house and with all Scouts collecting food!
- † I saw God in a CNA at an infusion center. She spoke of God as her peace, who gets her through a frustrating day at work.
- † God sent a stranger to help me this week. My inside car rearview mirror came off. I went three places to get it repaired. They weren't able. I didn't give up and went to the fourth place and they looked at it. Took my car for about 20 min. During that wait, I talked to a nice lady about the beauty of the morning. The tech brought my car back with the mirror repaired. I asked what I owed him and he said nothing. I teared a little and he reached out and hugged me and said, "It's my gift to you. Smile!" God was present in this man as he passed gods love to me. Thanks be to God.
- † Sharing worship and communion with our friends, Harold & Bunie Talbert in their home.
- † I saw God reflected in the hopeful faces of children this week!
- † I see God in a good book. Perspectives other than my own, companionship with others not even in the room where I'm reading - God speaks! Martin Luther needed the printing press and so do I.
- † God was at work at Harvest Hope Food Rescue warehouse sorting and boxing food for local food banks.
- † God was present in the joy of a precious girl sharing her knowledge of Jesus freely & openly.
- † I see his healing power for our sister, Katherine, and brother, Michael.
- † God walks with us at every stage of life. Instead of nagging as a mom, I pray for my son. And God blesses his heart, mind, body, and soul to grow in love and wisdom. This week, I was able to "let go & let God!" So grateful.
- † I saw God this past week when after a long walk with 3 of my friends, one of the men asked us if we would say a prayer for him and his son.
- † I felt God this week in the reassurance of a dear friend and co-worker who made me feel better about my decision to speak up when I felt called to do so over a situation that put people in danger.
- † I was shopping, checking out with my groceries. I asked if all of my yogurts (10 individual cups) could be put in a separate bag so I could jut throw them in the refrigerator because I was running late to go out again for another appointment. The bagger was a teen-aged boy about 16 years old. He didn't make eye contact and had an angry scowl on his face. He angrily slammed the 10 yogurts into 1 bag, and then slammed that bag into 12 other plastic bags. I had just come form Ladies Bible Study. I decided that he might be abused at home or have some other problem, so I didn't react to him. I just said, "thank you for your help," like I always do to baggers. Ladies Bible Study is good for my soul!
- † I see God in my volunteers who advocate for children.
- † Sometimes my carefully crafted plans need to change. Over commitment and heroics close off connection to God. A friend suggested we not doing something, and after a minute I realized God was speaking through her! Blessed peace, quiet time and a moment to breathe!! God speaks and calms the storm of our daily lives.
- † I saw God at work in a little 6 year old girl who received heart surgery and has the biggest smile as she continues to recover! God is the great healer.
- † I saw God this week during the delivery of Meals on Wheels when one of the recipients of the meals blessed me in the name of God.
- † In spite of disappointments, I experienced God's love and received an unexpected blessing.
- † I thank God for the love, abilities and faith of my children. I see God in them every time I see them.
- † Thankful for beautiful days and a wonderful life.

Look for more God Stories throughout the Journal marked with a cross!

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!

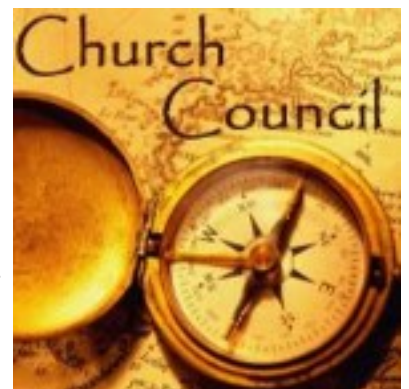


Thank you for the bear. Kyle slept with it . I showed several friends the bear and they took pictures of it to share with their churches. Please know your outreach has touched many others.

Wendy

February Council Clips

- Council opened their February meeting with a prayer led by President Adam Woodruff. The Dwelling in the Word was from Nehemiah 13:4-14.
- Pastor and Adam Woodruff introduced the new book for the year-long book study: Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks by Diana Butler Bass. Pastor described the author's viewpoint that there is a difference between "deep gratitude" and "cheap gratitude" and the importance of the "me" and the "we" in practicing gratitude in our lives.
- Council discussed various ways to share more about the abundance of giving Living Springs has been blessed in the last year and how it is positively impacting both the church and the larger community.
- Council discussed the 2020 Ministry Goal of each LS disciple having an impact on one life during the year (a continuation of our 2019 Goals: Building Relationships, Building Partnerships, Sharing God's Love, Sharing God's Stories). The Ministry Goal also fits with the current Faith Formation Discipleship emphasis of Deeper in Christ, Deeper in Grace, Deeper in Love. Council discussed details of kickoff for the goal, starting Mar. 1.
- Council discussed the next steps in the call process, including initial steps for forming the Call Committee - and the need to wait for council members' outstanding Community Interview Forms in order to turn them into the synod office.
- Council discussed the Synod's Abundancia Appeal for Cristo Rey and appointing a LS coordinator. Council agreed to start the appeal the week after Easter and run it for three weeks.
- Council suggested members for the LS Community Youth Mission Team and made plans to contact potential members.
- Council suggested members for the LS Mission Partner Team and made plans to contact them.
- Council voted to ratify the CDC Board Manual updates by replacing the Communications Committee with a new Advancement Committee, having an added focus of getting word into the community and exploring outside grants or funding opportunities.
- A draft of the LS Annual Report was distributed to council, for review.
- Council approved the Finance Committee recommendation of giving online viewing access of accounts to the LS Treasurer and Financial Secretary.
- Council heard updates and recommendations from the Worship Team to discontinue paying Nursery Staff for the 10:45 service (\$5000+ per year), as the nursery is no longer utilized by parents. We will still pay Nursery Staff for major festivals (Easter, etc.). In addition to the GIFT Zone, a rocker has been added to the narthex for any parent/infant who needs some re-focusing time - and we will begin sharing info that during worship services, the Youth Room (with its sofa, chairs and proximity to the restrooms with changing tables) is also available as a re-focusing/crying space. The Worship & Tech Teams are taking steps to restore the Worship Service AV feed to the Youth Room.
- Council and Pastor Eric discussed the plans concerning the Oak Devotional Crosses and devotional items to be dispersed each week during Lent.
- Mike Davidson reminded Council about the Justice Ministry Rally (Mar. 30) & Nehemiah Action (Apr. 27) and encouraged everyone to participate and get the word out.



Special Message from: *Christopher Girardeau*



Dearest church family of Living Springs,

I hope this letter finds you well. I wanted to write to you to let you know how things are going on my internship. It's hard to believe that I'm over halfway done with things here. For those of you who don't know, my internship site is Trinity Ecumenical Parish in Moneta, VA, which is comprised of Presbyterians, Lutherans, and Episcopalians in one congregation. I really enjoy it here and the people are wonderful.

I have started working on my internship project, in which I am trying to help this congregation explore what worship looks like in terms of music, liturgy, and space. We will begin a monthly midweek service after Lent. In addition to that, my internship project will help this congregation be more present online, especially Facebook, by setting up technology to stream worship services. A lot of this was inspired by you all.

I've been able to preach about once a month and that will ramp up as we head into Lent. I can tell that I've grown a lot in many areas during my time here. I'm very thankful to you all for nurturing me during my time at Living Springs as well.

It's been wonderful to follow the life of Living Springs on Facebook like seeing the youth lead worship on Youth Sunday, sharing their God stories. I also love to see how active you all are in MORE Justice. Thank you all for your continued ministry to Columbia and the whole Church.

I look forward to moving back to South Carolina for my final year at LTSS and I hope that I will be able to come visit you after I move back. May you continue to grow deeper in Christ's love and grace.

In Christ,

Christopher Girardeau



Notes from: *Mission Partnership Team*

Cristo Rey



Help With Cristo Rey *Sunday, March 1 @ 5:15*

We are so excited to have Cristo Rey Lutheran in West Columbia as our Mission Partner! On the first Sunday of each month, we provide a Bible lesson, crafts, singing, and snacks for their children (at their 5:15 Sunday worship gatherings). 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 all future months. Snacks may be dropped off on Sunday mornings. Volunteers will meet at LS at 4:15 and carpool to Cristo Rey. The children speak English, so Spanish fluency is not a requirement. For more info, contact Mission Partner Team members Becky Sides/Midge Gunvalson.

Notes from: *Living Springs Child Development Center*

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Hello and well wishes as we head into a new season. As we pay close attention to how God's creation is beginning to spring forth with new life, we can see how the world around us is Growing Deeper in Love.

Our children were involved in sharing God's Love through the gift of song and smiles with the residents of WaterCrest at our monthly Hymn-a-Long and with their handmade Valentine cards which were included in the Blessing Bags handed out during LSLC "Rush Hour" Ministry.

Our staff were involved in noticing God's Love in the lives of one another as they shared a meal and cares/concerns/blessings at the Staff Prayer Lunch.

Our parishioners were involved in sharing God's Love with our infants in the baby room as they rocked, fed, smiled, and sang to the youngest members our school family.

Our staff were involved in noticing God's Love as they shared where they see the Spirit working in their lives as disciples of Living Springs.

Our staff were involved in hearing God's Love as they witness the children singing, and praying, during chapel time, music time and in their classrooms.

With thankful hearts, we are partners in the everyday blessings of praying, sharing, listening, and witnessing God's Love in our lives and those all around us.

Our Love and Blessings, Tammy and Preschool Staff

D See God At Work...

† God's light shining through CDC students & staff.



HYMN ALONG

On the last Thursday of the month, we visit a senior living facility with our CDC (Child Development Center) children and sing chapel songs, favorite hymns, and Pastor Eric gives a short devotion. This past month, we went to Harmony at Columbia and sang to the folks in the Memory Care unit and watched the joy on the faces of the residents as they listened to the children.

Next month we will be visiting Rice Estate – won't you take an hour and come experience this joy with us? We will start at 10 am and finish by 10:45.



Notes from: *Fellowship & Mutual Care*

Special Visitor to F&MC Meeting

Sweet little Ella visited the F&MC ministry team meeting. Ministry for all ages!!



Senior Adult Lunch Sunday, March 1 @ noon

Fellowship and Mutual Care will be hosting a Senior Adult/Empty Nesters Lunch following the 10:45 service today. Join us for Food (baked potatoes & salad), Fun, and Fellowship.



Legrand/Lowman Scholarship Auction & Dinner

I See God At Work...

† I saw God at work at the LeGrand/Lowman Auction & dinner. Blessed by the presence of the LeGrand's daughter, generous hearts of those present and a lot of laughter & fellowship.



Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

PALMETTO PLACE

This month we started our make-a-meal event with Palmetto Place girls – there was an eagerness to learn and be involved in the meal preparation and then tasting the end results! I thought we might have two or three girls interested in helping prepare, but was pleasantly surprised to have at least seven girls come out of their rooms and want to help make chicken tenders, mix together salad fix-ins', and prepare apple crisp for dessert. During the lull before dinner was ready, we had an activity where they made their own "Thankful" box that they could submit something they were thankful for every day.

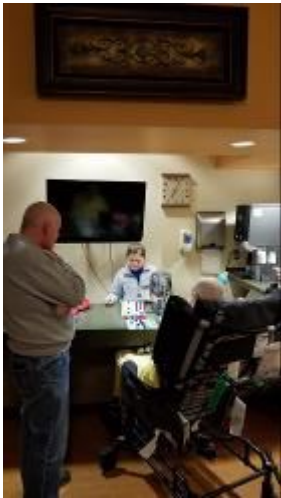
If you would like to be a part of this ministry, there is a sign-up sheet for the fourth Monday of the month – meet at the church at 3:30 to carpool.



VA NIGHT

If you ever have a free night to take the time to experience playing bingo with the veterans, I would highly, highly recommend it. We have gone from searching room to room, down both hallways to walking into the rec room and have 5 to 6 people "waiting" for us to set up our bingo game. Mr. Austin is a regular each month! We play bingo, sing a few favorite hymns (one fellow didn't want a hymn book because his eyesight was bad, but he was singing the words right along with us), and always the favorite part of the night when Pastor Eric reads scripture and emphasizes how much we appreciate the sacrifices each one of them have made for our freedom. This month we called each veteran by name and repeated "you are a treasure held in our hearts".

Next VA Ministry night will be Thursday, March 26 at 6:15 pm. Please join us at Dorn VA!



I See God At Work...

- † I see God in the faces of the young people and adults who pack the backpacks.
- † God's presence during the assembly of bags for the Backpack Food Ministry on Sunday morning

LENTEN FISH FRY

Every Friday in March and our last one on April 3, you have the opportunity of supporting Lutheran Campus Ministry AND enjoying the best fish fry in Northeast Columbia! This month our entertainment, which starts at 6pm is:

March 6 – Mason the Fireflies mascot and Living Springs Got Talent. We will have the mic set up so you can showcase your talent – bring your musical instrument, vocalize your favorite songs, perform your magic tricks, and/or tell us your funniest joke.

March 13 – Game Night. Hunter the Host will be calling Bingo and Trivia Pursuit questions and yes, we will have prizes.

March 20 – Campus Ministry Night – come hear the stories and faith journeys of our students. This is what our fish fry ministry is all about – proceeds are donated to this very important ministry.

March 27 – JuBELLation and Disciples of Harmony – no need to say any more...we are blessed to have both these ministries.

April 3 – Dancing by Our Stars -the Phenomenal Dancers (Christ Mission) and anyone else that would like to perform a dance routine.

The menu is fried fish, chicken nuggets, vegetarian casserole for \$8, broiled fish for \$9, and a child's portion (under 10 yrs) is \$5. We offer eat-in with drinks included, \$1 donation for a homemade dessert, and take-out at no extra charge. Tell your neighbors, friends, family to join us on Friday 5:30 to 7 pm!!

Notes from: *Justice Ministry*

A Time of Preparation

People of Living Springs are preparing for the Nehemiah Action, Monday, April 27th, at 7:00 pm at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. The Nehemiah Action is a night when 1700+ people of faith will come together to ask our public officials for change to serve our neighbors in need. Lent is a fitting season to prepare for the Nehemiah Action and for God to come more fully into our lives and our community. How best do we prepare?

We prepare through prayer. Remembering Micah 6:8 we ask God to help us “do Justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.” We ask to better understand what that means. We ask to listen more carefully to our neighbors in need. We ask for courage to stand up and speak for others less able than we to advocate for change. Through prayer our hearts and minds are opened to what God may be calling us to do.

We build People Power. Together with hundreds of other people of faith in more than 35 Midlands congregations, we build “people power” to ask community officials this year for change to make our neighborhoods safer from Crime and Gun Violence.

Over the last two years at the Nehemiah Actions we have asked for changes to make our community safer for the mentally ill and law enforcement, more supportive of teachers and students, and our city more able to offer affordable housing to low- and middle-income neighbors. Our prayers and actions have led to change! For example, in the last 2 years we have had more than 250 officers become certified in Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) to ensure their safety and the safety of those they encounter with mental illness - that is a 331% increase from how many officers were certified at the time of our first Nehemiah Action when we asked Chief Holbrook and Sheriff Lott to prioritize the training.

We invite others to come to the Nehemiah Action with us. LS Network Members have committed to coming to the Nehemiah Action on April 27th and to “bringing 3” others along. Our community-wide goal is to have 1700+ at the Convention Center to meet with officials and ask for change. Turnout at the Nehemiah Action is essential for gaining the ear of those officials able to make change happen.

As we prepare for the Nehemiah Action we will be inviting others at LS, our friends, our neighbors, and people we see sharing interest in the community problems we are concerned about. Over the coming weeks watch for a beautiful display in the LS narthex that makes visible our outreach as growing numbers of people we invite agree to come with us to “do Justice” at the Nehemiah Action on April 27th!

“What does the Lord require of you but to do Justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.” (Micah 6:8) If you would like to talk with someone about the Justice Ministry, please contact any Justice Team Leader: Peg or Jim Zieche, Mike Davidson, Gwen Furcron, Gail Buchanan, Adam Woodruff, Wayne Kannaday or Helen Doerpinghaus.

SAVE THE DATES to join us on the Justice journey!

- **March 9** –LSLC NETWORK MEMBERS and Team Leaders who were not able to meet 2/26 will gather to prepare to invite others to the Nehemiah Action (LSLC meets with Adams NE and Rehoboth at Adams NE at 6:30 pm)
- **March 30** – MORE Justice RALLY to prepare for the Nehemiah Action: all NETWORK MEMBERS & team leaders from the entire Justice Ministry meet at Trinity Cathedral at 6:30 pm; buses and carpools leave LSLC at 5:30 pm and following
- **April 27** – MORE Justice NEHEMIAH ACTION, all NETWORK MEMBERS and invitees (1700+), at 7:00 pm, Columbia Convention Center; buses and carpools leave LSLC at 5:30 and following
- **June 1** – MORE Justice CELEBRATION, 6:30 pm Location TBD



Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*

LS Adult Choir & JuBELLation Handbell Choir

Pew Bear Blessing



Prepping for the Lenten Journey



I See God At Work...

- ✠ Thank you dear Lord for music and Disciples of Harmony. Amen
- ✠ I saw God today during the singing of the "We Are Called" led by Justin. It was very evident that Justin is filled with the Holy Spirit.
- ✠ The Spirit's energy seemed fully engaged at the Martin Luther King service at Rehoboth. What a wonderful experience of Christian community!

I See God At Work...

✝ This past Sunday, the sermon and songs (sending hymn being "This Little Light of Mine") all related to "you are the light of the world". Our acolyte at the end of the worship service thought she had snuffed out all the candles, but was upset with herself in noticing that one candle remained lit. She was beating herself up about failing to do her responsibility right, but what do you think God was doing? It wasn't her doing - He left that candle lit to be a visible reminder to all of us to go out into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

✝ I saw God at work this week as I sang with the choir. Singing is worship for me!

Burning of Palms



Ashes-To-Go



Ash Wednesday



I See God At Work...

✝ God blessed me as I blessed others with a sign of the cross and a prayer during Ashes To Go. The Lord blessed a woman who was led by the spirit to move here from NY and due to 12 hour workdays wasn't sure how she would receive ashes! The Lord blessed a man who had asked God for a sign because he needed God—and there we were! The Lord blessed a family whose dad had just suffered a stroke and the mom was caring for him and two children on the spectrum. The Lord blessed a couple who knew today was Ash Wednesday and wondered how they were gonna get ashes due to their travels today. The Lord blessed a woman in the midst of her confusion of where to live so she could move closer to her first grandchild. The Lord blessed a woman going through chemo and couldn't risk walking into a church with so many people during cold/flu season. This Lord, was holy ground and your church in action and blessing. May we all be open to our hurting community who needs to know they are loved and not alone.

Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

LADIES BOOK CLUB Monday, April 6 @ 7 pm

Our next read is The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michele Richardson. It is available at Richland County Library – there is a request in for a book club set (15 books) – see Karen Kranz for availability.

Our next meeting is Monday, April 6 @ 7 pm – Sue Loveless will host and Shirley Laingen will provide the goodies. Sue's address is 12 Keels Ct. in Elgin – ph: 719.424.0777. This group is not exclusive to Living Springs members – do you love to read?, do you like to fellowship with other women? do you enjoy light refreshments and shush! maybe even a glass of wine? This is the group for you!

Save the Date! At our Monday, August 3 meeting, the author will be joining us – Raegan Teller on her book *Murder in Madden*.



Notes from: *Men's Ministry* SELMM Convention



I See God At Work...

- † Seeing men whose lives have been transformed by the ministry of Lutheran Men and One Year to Live.
- † God was definitely at work yesterday at the SC Lutheran Men Convention. Individuals and groups were honored for their yearlong and lifelong dedication to discipleship and helping others.
- † At the SC Lutheran Men convention on Saturday, attendees worked together to provide blessing bags for the Pee Dee Indian tribe in McColl, SC.

Men's Breakfast Saturday, March 28, 8 am

Next breakfast gathering will be Saturday, March 28 at 8:00 am at Living Springs. Meal is being served by Mark Cunningham. Donation requested \$7. We meet on the last Saturday of each month. Contact Bob Turnmire at 803-513-7533.

Notes from: *Sr. Youth*

Souper Bowl Sunday



Sr. Youth Ski Trip



I See God At Work...

- ✠ "Lord, listen to your children praying..." I saw God at work last Sunday during our youth Sunday, so many God stories that were shared. LS has been so blessed with so many wonderful youth.
- ✠ I saw God's work in all the soup donated to the Youth's Souper Sunday.

God At Work

Rice Estate Dinner



Dear friends,
Couldn't let too much time pass before I tell you how wonderful our dinner party (Rice Estate Dinner) was last Saturday. All your planning and food and decorations were so appreciated by us, who are essentially quite lonely. Thanks for brightening our days. God bless each and everyone of you!

Sincerely, Maggie

I See God At Work...

✝ I saw God's light shining on a cold & cloudy evening when members of the congregation & Rice Estate residents shared wonderful conversation, food, and activities.

Cross Building Team



Door Installation for Meals on Wheels Client



Rush Hour Ministry

I See God At Work...

† Afterschool praying over the Rush Hour bags to show a message of love.



Boy Scout Food Drive

Collected 6,000+ items for food pantries & our backpack program



I See God At Work...

† I saw God at work when the Boy Scouts collected food for backpack ministry. I was nice working with all those who helped and volunteered.



Entering Confirmation

Milestone



Pancake Supper

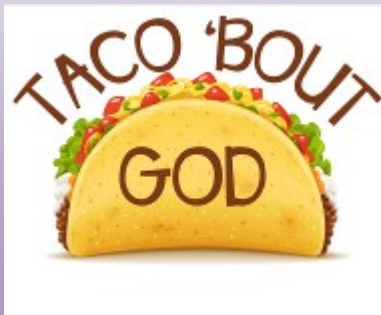


Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

Taco 'Bout God

Tuesday, March 10 @ 6 pm

Once each month, everyone is welcome to gather at El Jimador in Sandhills at 6 PM to eat dinner and have conversations around a specific topic. We meet and chat over a variety of questions, and you get bonus points if you bring someone who we wouldn't otherwise see on Sundays.



Boy Scout Troop 737 Car Wash

Saturday, March 14, 9am - 1pm

Boy Scout Troop 737 is having a "Spring Cleaning" Car Wash on Saturday March 14th from 9am until 1pm(ish)! Get that early pollen off your car and a clean inside as well!! This fundraiser is for our two Crews going to Philmont Scout Ranch in June!! We're asking for a \$5 donation to wash off that early pollen of your vehicle and we'll even vacuum it out for another \$5 donation too!! Thanks for your support of our Troop and the Philmont Crews attending the Philmont High Adventure Backpack Trip!!

Beer & Hymns

Monday, March 16 @ 7pm

Love to sing hymns? Enjoy having a beer or other beverage and fellowshiping with others? Come join us for Beer & Hymns this Monday, November 20, 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!



THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you have a Thrivent product (insurance, investments, Thrivent leader), you may be eligible for Choice Dollars that you can direct to a charitable organization of your choosing. Log onto "My Thrivent" www.thrivent.com and go to "Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars". If you do not see a charitable organization listed, you can recommend one. Choice Dollars expire by March 31. See Karen Kranz if you need help.

Easter Flowers - Due by 4/5

If you would like to donate a flower in honor/memory of a loved one, please fill out the form (soon to be) in the narthex and return it to the office or place in the offering plate. The name of your loved one will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. \$12 Donation per plant is requested. Deadline 4/5

Butterflies for Easter - Return by 4/12

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

Living Cross for Easter Sunday - 4/12

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

March 2020

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 1215P Confirmation 1215 Empty Nester/Sr. Lunch 5P Cristo Rey (carpool 415)	2 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Worship & Music Team 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737	3 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 1230P CDC Prayer Lunch 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Tues Bible Study 7P Handbells	4 930A PS Chapel 12P Lent Prayer Service 4P ASC Music 4P Backpacks Food Min. 530P Disciples of Harmony 6P Hope Ministries 630P Lent Drama Worship 630P Sr. Youth (Zaxby's) 715P Choir	5 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 11a Good News/Worship Outreach 7P Lifelong Discipleship	6 530-7P Lenten Fish Fry (LS Got Talent/Mason the Firefly) Handbell Workshop 3/6-3/7 One Year to Live Women's Retreat 3/6-3/7	7
8 Daylight Savings Time 1215P Jr. Youth Gathering	9 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P Justice Ministry Network Mtg (Adams NE) 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Fellowship & Mutual Care Team 7P Boy Scout Troop #737	10 930 PS Bible Time 10A Matthew Discussion 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Finance 6P Tues Bible Study 6P Taco 'Bout God (El Jimador) 7P Handbells	11 930A PS Chapel 12P Lent Prayer Service 4P ASC Music 530P Disciples of Harmony 630P Lent Drama Worship 630P Sr. Youth (Wendy's) 715P Choir	12 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 11A Staff Meeting 630P LSCDC Board	13 530-7P Lenten Fish Fry (Game Night)	14 9A Car Wash by Boy Scout Troop #737 930A Crafty Ladies
15 930A Matthew Discussion 1215P Confirmation 145 Confirmation Parents	16 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P Executive Team 7P Beer & Hymns (Beef O'Brady's) 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737	17 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 6P Tues Bible Study 7P Handbells	18 930A PS Chapel 12P Lent Prayer Service 4P ASC Music 530P Disciples of Harmony 630P Lent Drama Worship 630P Sr. Youth (Bojangles) 715P Choir	19 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 4P Backpacks Food Min. 7P Council	20 530-7P Lenten Fish Fry (Campus Ministry Night)	21 9A Bhagavadgita Ministries (Fellowship Hall)
22 930A Lord's Prayer Milestone Class	23 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P Palmetto Place Dinner 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737	24 930 PS Bible Time 10A Matthew Discussion 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 7P Handbells	25 930A PS Chapel 12P Lent Prayer Service 4P ASC Music 530P Disciples of Harmony 630P Lent Drama Worship 630P Sr. Youth (Sonic) 715P Choir	26 830A GN Walkers 10A Hymn Along (Rice Estate) 4P Backpacks Food Min. 615P LS Veterans Ministry Night (carpool 530)	27 530-7P Lenten Fish Fry (JubELLation/DOH)	28 8A Men's Breakfast 930A Crafty Ladies Tentative Communion Milestone Class
29 930A Backpacks Food Min. 1215P Communion Milestone Class 2P GraceWorks Planning Retreat (Sr. Paul's) TBA PoCAYA	30 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P MORE Justice Rally (Trinity Cathedral) 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737	31 930 PS Bible Time 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 4P ASC Bible Time 7P Handbells	1 930A PS Chapel 12P Lent Prayer Service 4P ASC Music 530P Disciples of Harmony 6P Hope Ministries 630P Lent Drama Worship 630P Sr. Youth (Chick-Fil-A) 715P Choir	2 630A Men's Bible Study 830A GN Walkers 10A PS Music Time 11P Good News/Worship Outreach 4P Backpacks Food Min. 7P Lifelong Discipleship	3 530-7P Lenten Fish Fry (Phenomenal Dancers)	4 8A Spring Work Day Tentative Communion Milestone Class

Worship Assistant Schedule – March 2020

	Assisting Minister	Lector	Communion Assistant	Ushers	Greeters	Acolyte	Crucifer	Torchbearer	Counters	Children's Message	Council Person
3/1	Gwen Furcron	Isaac Taylor	Saundra Dixon Karen Kranz	Sue Loveless Mike Loveless	Inside Kathy McDonald	Jeff Lummel	Anna Graves Jan Epperson	Gail Buchanan	Steve Bloss (L) Gail Buchanan	Adam Woodruff	Midge Gunvalson
3/1	Isaac Taylor	Dea Jones	Kellee Flores Jeanette Bloss	Preston Ginn Gary Ginn Austin Padgett Steve Padgett	Cathy Lowman	Adam Woodruff	Adriana McMurphy	Tiffany Ginn	Steve Bloss (L) Gail Buchanan Midge Gunvalson	Adam Woodruff	Gary Ginn
3/8	Minister Griffin	Sarah Schultz	Helen Doeringhaus Bob Gill	Mari Appleton Jerry Appleton	Nancy Schwind	Jeff Lummel	Nancy Schwind			Isaac Taylor	London Mancuso
3/8	Adriana McMurphy	Cathy Lowman	Gail Buchanan Steve Padgett	Walker Flores Marshall Hurlbert Karlene Stuart Leslie Bloss	Linda Hayes	Marshall Hurlbert	Austin Pagett	Steve Bloss Jeanette Bloss	Karen Kranz (L) London Mancuso Barbara Imbert	Isaac Taylor	Walker Flores
3/15	Isaac Taylor	Anna Graves	Julie Ann Harris Gwen Furcron	Sue Loveless Mike Loveless	Debbie Smith	Ron Smith	Karen Kranz			Pastor Eric Harris	Julie Ann Harris
3/15	Mike Davidson	Jan Berger	Jan Berger Isaac Taylor	Lauren Bloss Leslie Bloss Adam Woodruff Austin Padgett	Gail Buchanan	Wes Levitt	Walker Flores	Alison Levitt Ginny Devereaux	Trish Davidson (L) Jeff Tenhover Michele Outlaw	Pastor Eric Danner	Doug Danner
3/22	John Imbert	Peg Zieche	Jan Epperson Barb Imbert	Gaby Aponte Angelica Collins	Sue Hyman	Paul Laingen	Jim Zieche			Laura Turnmire	Bill Franck
3/22	Alison Levitt	Hunter Prest	Audrey Turnmire Trish Davidson	Wes Levitt Mike Davidson Dan Shannon Karlene Stuart	Dea Jones	Mike Davidson	Lucas Shannon	Jan Berger Adriana McMurphy	Bob Turnmire (L) Steve Padgett Doug Danner	Laura Turnmire	Kellee Flores
3/29	Jan Berger	Lexanne Graves	Beverly Hoppert Jerry Mancuso	Sue Loveless Mike Loveless	Judy Lawrence	Jeff Lummel	Bill Franck	Jan Epperson		Steve Padgett	Jan Berger
3/29	Jan Berger	Isaac Taylor	Jeanette Bloss Adam Woodruff	Walker Flores Austin Padgett Lauren Bloss Karlene Stuart	Trish Davidson	Steve Bloss	Steve Bloss	Ginny Devereaux Cynthia Edney	Karlene Stuart (L) Sue Hyman Kellee Flores	Steve Padgett	Jeff Tenhover
	Name Tag 8:15	Name Tag 10:45		Sound Tech	Muggers	Flowers	Coffee		Refreshments	Altar Guild	
3/1	Meg Goldberg	Karen Kranz	Rocky Berger	Charles Tracy			Charlie Tracy	Karen Kranz			
3/8	Roger Schwind	Gay Walker	Bob Turnmire	Karen Kranz			Karen Kranz	Saundra Dixon		March	
3/15	Sue Hyman	Gay Walker	Rocky Berger	Karen Kranz	Judy Lawrence		Todd Gunvalson	Judy Lawrence		Tiffany Ginn	
3/22	Mari Appleton	Karen Kranz	Bob Turnmire	Kathy McDonald			Bill Franck	Sue Loveless			
3/29	Karen Kranz	Gail Buchanan	Rocky Berger	Karen Kranz			Karen Kranz	Susan Bradham			

Ministry Scheduler Pro is our new scheduling program which should be easier to view and schedule on your phone. As we expand its capability – e.g. CDC 22:6 Disciple Signup that is now available, more ministries will be able to provide scheduling availability. The key factor is to go into your profile, check that your info is up-to-date and put your preferred service times, ministries that you would like to be qualified for, dates you cannot serve and any other information that would be beneficial to scheduling your worship times to your satisfaction. If you do not have internet and would like to serve on Sunday or in other ministries, or if you need assistance navigating within this new program, Contact [Karen Kranz](#).

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

March 1 Marj Appleton
March 3 Lauren Bloss
 Ruth Pollard
March 4 Brady Stoutland
March 5 Laura Turnmire
March 6 ♥ Wes & Alison Levitt
March 7 Bill Fox
March 8 Austin Padgett
March 9 David Abromaitis
March 11 Steve Dye
 Courtney Murray
March 12 Steve Niemeyer
March 13 Ben Arnold
 ♥ Gary & Tiffany Ginn
March 15 Gwen Furcron
March 17 Ryan Harmon
 Henrietta Kaiser
 Kristen Mattson

March 19 Tyler Evans
 Randy Masad
 Betsy Shank
 Audrey Turnmire
March 20 Jeffrey Brouwer
March 21 Gay Walter
March 23 Patrick Lay
 Mallory Padgett
March 24 Colin Evans
 Retha Murray
 ♥ Lisa & John Petty
March 26 Sam Drafts
March 29 Ethan Christy
 Cody Shannon



Celebrate Your Baptism

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



March 1 Alice Renaud
March 7 Jean Weick
March 13 Lydia Prizer
March 17 Nancy Baldwin
March 18 Patricia Brouwer
 Linda Hayes

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

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

laurabells@livingspringscolumbia.org

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

[Adam Woodruff](#) - President

[Jan Berger](#) - Vice President

[Dea Jones](#) - Secretary

[Mike Davidson](#) - Treasurer

[Bill Franck](#) – Financial Secretary

[Doug Danner](#)

[Kellee Flores](#)

[Walker Flores](#), Youth Rep.

[Midge Gunvalson](#)

[Gary Ginn](#)

[Julie Ann Harris](#)

[Wes Levitt](#)

[London Mancuso](#)

[Jeff Tenhover](#)

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

Karlene Stuart

Archives/Pew Bears

Judy Lawrence

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Prayer Requests