

The Living Springs Journal

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

May 2021



Through Jesus you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God - 1 Peter



LIVING BEACONS

OF GOD'S HOPE

CELEBRATING PENTECOST: HOPE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT! *(from Pastor Eric)*

MAY BIBLE BOOK OF MONTH = PSALMS 51-100

"With God's help & the SPIRIT'S POWER...." These words declare such a vital component in our Hope Emphasis here at Living Springs!

Moving forward in faith to be a creative, innovative, living beacon of God's hope for all - with God's help & the SPIRIT'S POWER!

We strive to be a body of believers who all are more deeply formed & grounded in God's hope - with God's help & the SPIRIT'S POWER!

Who all are more fully equipped with hoping-coping skills for life and all are God's active hope-agents in our daily, spiritual, communal lives - with God's help & the SPIRIT'S POWER!

I think back 1991 years ago, and the Hope Emphasis that Almighty God was initiating in the world through the followers of God's risen Son, Jesus our Lord! "Go & make disciples of all nations ..." the risen Jesus told his followers (Matthew 28:28). "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you," the risen Jesus told his followers (John 20:21). "You will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth!" the risen Jesus told his followers (Acts 1:8). As followers of the Risen Jesus, our LS Hope Emphasis in the year 2021 is a continuation of the Hope Emphasis initiated by God through the risen Lord Jesus nearly 2 millennia ago. All those years ago, Jesus fully understood that those original frail, imperfect human disciples (like us) could not carry out God's great Hope Emphasis with their own

(Continued on page 4)

SUNDAY WORSHIP - MAY 8:15—Sanctuary Worship

10:30—“Multiple-Option” Worship
(sanctuary, lawn, vehicle, online)

Additional “spaced” spots are open in the church pews. For OUTSIDE worship/meetings, we may lower face coverings—once in our spaced places!



WEDNESDAY HOPE TIMES

April 28; May 5, 12, 19

Pastor Carl & Pastor Eric

12 Noon—Sanctuary

**6:45pm—Fellowship Hall or
online via GoogleMeet**

meet.google.com/ygs-qsiq-uzk

+++

THURSDAY 1:21 HOPE-CASTS

YouTube & Facebook

PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 23

We celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit on this 3rd of the three most important days in our lives as Christians (Christmas, Easter, Pentecost)!

PENTECOST WORSHIP—8:15 & 10:30am

PENTECOST OUTDOOR ROOT-BEER & “HUMS” - CHURCH LAWN, 5pm



Living Springs 2021: Moving Forward in Faith to Be ...

A CREATIVE, INNOVATIVE, LIVING BEACON OF GOD'S HOPE FOR ALL!

With God's help & the Spirit's power, we strive to be a Body of Believers who:

all are more deeply FORMED & GROUNDED IN GOD'S HOPE;

all are more fully EQUIPPED WITH HOPING-COPING SKILLS for life;

all are GOD'S ACTIVE HOPE-AGENTS in our daily, spiritual, communal lives.

DISCIPLE HOPE MENU (pick 3 for your initial 3-course “Meal of Hope”)

meeting people where they are & looking for opportunities, in whatever way the Spirit leads you!

1. Greater intentionality in taking time to **“Be still and know that God is God”**
2. **Deeper prayer life & dwelling in God's Word** in our personal/congregation life
3. Specific training to develop, live, and share **faith-based hoping-coping skills for various stages & challenges of life**
4. Involvement by all ages in creative forms of **faith formation & worship/sacramental life**
5. Deeper involvement with **children/youth/young adults** by intentionally sharing the gospel message of hope with them and equipping **parents/families** to also do so **at home**
6. Boldly proclaim & share the joy of **God's grace for all**
7. Be active voices for the **unity we share as God's human family** - accepting & celebrating differences, rather than fostering divisions
8. Reach out to the **most isolated among us** – with special awareness of Sr. Adults & those in care facilities; teens/tweens/young adults; and those on society's margins
9. Regularly engage in listening, caring, loving **personal contacts**
10. Share in ministries that provide for **life's essential needs**—w/ special emphasis on growing our food/hunger ministries
11. Be involved in ongoing **advocacy & justice ministry** that will have impact of hope in our community/societal systems
12. Share God's hope through support & partnership with our **LSCDC children/families/staff**
13. Produce citizens of God's kingdom through **creative/innovative evangelism & service in our communities** that will open hearts/minds - and empower people to be leaders in faith, loving others & trusting God in every aspect of life

Pick up your Hope Menu Card & Beacon Item at church!

WEDNESDAY HOPE TIMES:

Apr. 28; May 5,12,19

NOON (in the sanctuary)

6:45PM (fellowship hall & online GoogleMeet)

meet.google.com/ygs-qsiq-uzk

The word "hope" can be used in so many ways, including "wishing" we just had stuff—but what does Scripture tell us about the meaning of GOD's "sure & certain Hope" which we live and share? At Noon and 6:45, Pastor Carl and Pastor Eric will lead an exploration of scriptural teaching about God's hope, followed by an optional 15-minute time to share prayer & Holy Communion. Noon session is in the sanctuary; 6:45pm session will be on-line, as well as in-person in the fellowship hall. Spread the word and invite your friends!



Thursday Hope-Casts

1:21pm Facebook & YouTube

With Pastor Carl & Pastor Eric

Click on the photos below to see the Hope-Cast so far this month



May 2021 Volume 35 Issue 5

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

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power. Instead, they would need the power of the Holy Spirit—to uplift them, inspire them, comfort them, advocate for them, call them, gather them, enlighten them! God’s Hope Emphasis was sparked by the sending of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (along with Christmas & Easter, one of the 3 greatest days in Christian history). Sent by the ascended Jesus, the Holy Spirit came upon a group of timid, frightened disciples—and sent them bursting out of the tomb of their comfort zones to proclaim the Good News of God’s love, forgiveness, and grace for all, using words & foreign languages they could have never spoken on their own (Acts 2). This year, on May 23 (50th day of Easter Season), we celebrate Pentecost with joy!



Remember when we used the image of a baton being passed, as generation after generation of disciples moves Forward in Faith? As frail, imperfect followers of Jesus, OUR current LS stage of God’s continuing marathon Hope Emphasis for the world is sparked by the ongoing gift of the Holy Spirit in our lives. On Pentecost, we not only remember how the Holy Spirit came to the original disciples, but we also celebrate how the Holy Spirit comes to us in the waters of God’s baptismal grace, so that we too might have the power to creative, innovate, living beacons of God’s hope for others in the ongoing mission of God’s hope and grace for the world—even as we begin to emerge from a pandemic!

In these initial weeks of our LS Hope Emphasis, I encourage you to embrace the Spirit’s tugs in the follow ways:

- 1) Make sure you have your personal **HOPE MENU CARD & BEACON MEDALLION** displayed in some place as a daily reminder for you—including the 3 hope items you selected for your initial 3-course “hope meal” of growth & faith. *Cards & beacons may still be picked up at church, or call the office if you need us to deliver a set to you.*
- 2) Don’t miss our next two **WEDNESDAY HOPE TIMES ON MAY 12 & 19** (Noon in sanctuary, 6:45 in Fellowship Hall & GoogleMeet). These have been very meaningful times of Bible Study and discussion, to bring a deeper understanding of God’s hope—as well as uplifting times of prayer (and sharing of Holy Communion).
- 3) Enjoy and share with others the weekly Pastor Carl/Pastor Eric **THURSDAY 1:21 HOPECASTS** from various mystery locations (have you guessed first two locations from April 29 & May 6?). The Hopecasts are posted at 1:21 every Thursday (see I Peter 1:21), but you and your friends/family/co-workers/neighbors can watch them whenever.
- 4) During worship, fill out a **HOPE PRAYER SLIP** for the basket at the **HOPE BEACON STATION** in the communion line. The slips can be anonymous (unless you want a pastor to follow-up with you) - and they can be about any hope you want to lift up to God for yourself, loved ones, the community, the world. We do not share the content in any public way, but just lift up to God the Hope Basket in general during the post-communion prayer.
- 5) Finally, begin thinking and praying over what specific hoping-coping skills you might sense a greater need for (in your own life or in the lives of friends/neighbors/loved ones). In May, respond to our anonymous **HOPING-COPING SKILLS SURVEY**, that we will use to develop Hoping-Coping Skill studies, workshops, and resources in the year ahead.

In the ongoing season of Easter, the “**green pasture of hope**” continues to grow in the church lawn (come take a selfie)! With the Spirit’s power, we continue to celebrate that Christ Is Risen & we ARE Easter people of Hope! With thanks to God



PENTECOST CELEBRATION

ROOT BEER + HYMNS

Sun. May 23rd starting at 5pm

Living Springs Lawn & Parking Lot

Food Truck

Root Beer & Dessert

Musicians & Instruments

Bring your lawn chairs - we’ll have spaced spots for everyone. (Lower your face coverings once in place for the celebration.) You can also eat and celebrate from your vehicle.



Forward in Faith: LS Covid Updates

Throughout the COVID pandemic, we have sought the Spirit's wisdom to continue our worship, our ministry, our study of God's Word, our faith formation activities – in ways that are safest and most respectable of those with special conditions (again and again, Scripture calls us to look out for the least of these, as well as to follow Jesus' example of making personal sacrifice for the sake of others.) We give thanks for everyone's patience, cooperation, and tireless sharing of your time & creative energy to make this journey together – you are an amazing congregation of Christ's servants! In way of summary, here's where we are in that ongoing journey of moving forward in faith, as we move into May:

WORSHIP PROTOCOLS – NEXT STEPS IN MAY

Temperature Checks will no longer be taken.

We will **continue to have a worship sign-in table**, as there is still the possibility that we would be required to notify individuals for contact tracing, should someone at worship test positive.

We will **resume worship nametags**, since the number of worship guests has increased and we need to know each other's names and make everyone feel welcome – and be able to speak everyone's name when we give them the communion elements. *We will have "clean pen" and "used pen" containers.*

Continue **sanctuary worship at 8:15 & multiple-worship options at 10:30** (sanctuary/lawn/vehicle/online).

Open all pews, but still keep the marked-off spacing within each pew - alternating pews between "ends" and "middle section." It helps greatly if singles & couples occupy the pews with available middle section. There will continue to be extra spaced chairs available in the narthex and side areas.

For LAWN WORSHIP OR OUTSIDE GROUPS, we can lower our face-coverings once in our distanced spots. Out of respect for those who need extra safety, pull up your mask when near others & arriving/leaving.

Since inside gatherings hold the most risk, we will **continue to wear our face coverings in the sanctuary and for all inside gatherings/groups.**

Since open group singing increases safe spacing distances up to 12-18 ft., we will continue to record our hymns and anthems with instrumentalists/organ/piano on Wednesday night. This also gives us added space in the sanctuary for those attending on Sunday mornings.

We will continue to offer 2 options for communion elements, but may combine into single tables and gradually move to 2 simultaneous rotations (one for each side) as more people return to worship in-person.

GROUP MEETINGS & STUDIES – NEXT STEPS MOVING INTO MAY

Groups can meet **in-person in one of 3 locations: sanctuary, fellowship hall, outside** (lawn/portico/shelter) – please schedule with the office, so we can make arrangements for disinfecting sanctuary or fellowship hall.

2-4 persons max can meet in the Katie Room for planning or special projects – again please schedule so that we can make arrangements for the disinfecting process.

When meeting in-person, **please maintain spacing.** *INSIDE: wear face coverings. OUTSIDE: may lower face-coverings once in spaced spots.*

For any in-person meeting or group, each Committee, Ministry Team, Class, or Study Group **should also make available a virtual option (Zoom or GoogleMeet)** for those who are not yet comfortable joining you in-person, or may need to join from out-of-town, etc. See Lisa if you need help making arrangements.

To be prepared if exposure follow-up contacts become necessary, **leaders should maintain a record of those in attendance at any in-person group meeting/study, etc.**

FOR EVERYONE: Though we don't believe God has caused this pandemic, God has been at work during this pandemic to show us new ways to do ministry and reach people in different ways. Any group should NOT automatically return back to "doing things the way we did before," but pause to **prayerfully discern what God has taught us and what we have learned to move Forward in Faith as Creative, Innovative, Living Beacons of Hope for all people!**

Let us NOT waste this teachable moment in history which God is offering us!



GOD STORIES – LIVING BEACON OF GOD’S HOPE

One Sunday we had a visitor pull up in the parking lot section – she was welcomed, given a bulletin, and instructions for tuning into the radio station. I noticed she had her bible on her lap (not that that should be an oddity!), and she had arrived sort of early. Shortly before the worship service was about to start, this woman gets out of her vehicle and comes up to the welcome table – I was about to explain she did not need to have her temperature checked, when she stated that as she was sitting in the parking lot, she was “called” to go inside to worship. I heard she had a very welcoming experience.

During a recent worship service a gentleman walked across the street from either the Waffle House or the convenience store, I'm not sure which. I only saw him when he stepped from the road onto the church property. He walked over toward the cars in the upper parking lot and stood there for a while listening intently to Pastor Carl's sermon. I started to take my chair to him, but he waved me off, saying he was fine. He backed up a little so he was closer to the edge of the road, but continued to stand there until Pastor Carl's sermon was finished. When the musical selection began, he walked back across the street. It was clear from what happened that he was drawn into the sermon by Pastor Carl's voice and message. It was so cool, I shared it with Pastor Carl after the service. You just never know when what you do or say may reach someone. The Holy Spirit is definitely at work at Living Springs!

While traveling, I had the opportunity to listen in and participate in bible study. Normally I just sign in by myself because my better half doesn't care to participate in bible studies. Pastor Eric mentioned about the four gospels that Paul wrote while imprisoned and that might be something to talk about at a rest stop (joking or was he serious?). Anyway, I was sort of chuckling to myself because the good news of Paul's letters was being shared with someone that in non-COVID circumstances would not have heard



Butterfly Gardens of Hope!

The Good News Team shared packets of butterfly garden seeds as part of our Rush Hour ministry to our NE Cola neighbors as they stopped for the light at Hard Scrabble and Clemson the Monday of Holy Week. Many were very thankful at the Easter blessings and wishes that were passed as well as the seeds. Several said we had made their day.

Share with us your (or your friends/family/neighbors) butterfly garden photos and stories to GodAroundUs@livingspringscolumbia.org



Thank You

Dear Friends in Christ,

St. Paul regularly used his letter as opportunities to thank God for his fellow believers. Romans, Philippians, Colossians, and 1 Thessalonians all contains words of thanks to God for Paul's fellow believers and their faith: "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the Gospel from the first day until now." (Philippians 1:3-5)

Being thankful for one another and for our relationship as church together is important right now. The very first thing we have to share is our faith in Jesus Christ. We give thanks for those with whom we share faith in Jesus Christ and the ways in which God is at work in our lives in these times. Second, we give thanks to God for your congregation and your 2020 Mission Support. Mission Support is undesignated money that your congregation gives without restriction to the work of the South Carolina (SC) Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). God is changing lives through your Mission Support dollars. Because of your generosity the SC Synod and the ELCA are able to respond to mission and ministry opportunities beyond the congregation for Synodical and Churchwide ministries of the ELCA.

Faithfully yours,

Rev. Ozzie Herlong, Dir of Stewardship & Raymond L Hendrix, Jr., Treasurer, SC Synod, ELCA



RUSH HOUR MINISTRY – BE A BEACON OF HOPE THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2021

430-630PM

There is space for you! Be a beacon of hope on the sidewalk in front of Living Springs holding signs of HOPE to those traveling home from

HOPE STORY from a recent rush hour experience::

There I was out waving our signs – “You are known and loved by God” & “No matter what ...God Loves You! Moving and grooving to *My God is an Awesome God* in my head, when a car stops because he is waiting in line for the signal to turn green. He had rap music on, so my body started to move and groove to the rap music, but in my head I was still singing *My God is an Awesome God!* That made me think about differences in our

ANOTHER HOPE STORY:

The Lord nudged me to speak to a man who had his windows rolled down, yet was looking on his phone. I asked, "You look tired. You doing OK?" He shook his head no. I responded with, "God blesses you and loves you this day! How about I say a silent prayer for you?" At once, peace washed over him as his head fell back on the headrest, his stressed shoulders lowered and he said, "Thank you. I needed that!"



Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

PALMETTO PLACE MONTHLY MEAL

This month we prepared BBQ chicken legs, baked beans, potato salad, rolls, cupcakes and Gail provided a very detailed activity – paint for create your own flower pot, packages of dirt, decorating stones, and a begonia plant. We were asked to leave everything on the porch because there was a flu bug going around the house which was going to be very disappointing because it has been over a year that we have not been able to interact with the girls; but each month I can at least talk to Ms. Mary to get an update on the girls and how many babies there currently are and if the young ladies happen to be in the kitchen, I can say hi and coo-coo with the babies. As it turned out, Ms. Mary came to the door and asked a few of the girls to come help bring the items in. When one of the new girls came to the door and saw the paints, she got soooo excited and could hardly contain herself. Ms. Mary was so thankful and we are also thankful that we can be Living Beacon's of God's Hope for All!



Facebook post: "One of our newest residents in foster care, a 14-year-old, really enjoyed painting flower pots and planting these beauties with Living Springs Lutheran Church, Columbia SC this week! During such a difficult season in her life, this simple activity made her smile and gave her something to call her own. Thank you, Living Springs, for continuously supporting our children!" 🌸

Delivering Flowers for Mother's Day



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Join Living Springs and help save lives at a community blood drive

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. That's why Living Springs is on a mission to help save lives by hosting a blood drive on July 21 from 10 am to 4 pm at 4224 Hard Scrabble Rd.

The community is invited to take part in this special event and donate blood for hospital patients in our neighborhoods and across the nation. The need for blood is constant, but only 3 percent of the U.S. population donates. By rolling up a sleeve, donors can play a critical role in the treatment of accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those receiving treatment for leukemia, cancer or sickle cell disease.

To make an appointment or to learn more, download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org (Sponsor Code: **LIVINGSPPRINGS**) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Completion of a Rapid-Pass® online health history questionnaire found at RedCrossBlood.org/rapidpass is encouraged to help speed up the donation process. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

OPPORTUNITIES TO BE A LIVING BEACON OF GOD'S ACTIVE HOPE-AGENTS!



MEALS ON WHEELS - we are looking for members to participate in our Meals on Wheels delivery. Living Springs delivers every Monday and Tuesday - timewise it takes about one and a half hours from pick-up to last delivery. Meals are pre-packed and masks are required. Contact Mike Davidson or Karen Kranz.

BACKPACKS - three weeks remaining that are open to pack (signup: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4baea92fa0f85-backpack>) and then we will continue to collect food items throughout the summer (please be cognizant of expire dates) - leave your items in the shopping carts in the admin building. We are "hoping" to do our stuff-a-bus event in August.

HOPE MINISTRY PROJECT – CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

May 20th

In support of patient’s families of children who are undergoing treatment at the Children’s Cancer & Blood Disorder unit on the 5th floor of Prisma Children’s Hospital, Living Springs is providing 24 meals the third Thursday of each month. The meals are being delivered by our own LS members at Carolina Deli. Many of these families face the challenge of financial difficulties because of extensive medical expenses, missing work, longing to stay at the hospital with their children. To personalize this project, it will be an added comfort to include cards, pictures, poems with thoughts of comfort, words of encouragement, a handmade crochet or knitted square with an embroidered heart, etc.!! You can drop your cards or other care items off at the church on a continuing basis by the third Thursday and we will see they get delivered each month.



Special Love Offering thru Pentecost Sunday, May 23! Celebrating the Retirement of our LS Brother in Christ and Faithful Servant of the Church: Rev. Dr. Wayne Kannaday



Our LS member, Dr. Wayne Kannaday, has announced his retirement after 24 years as professor of religion at Newberry College, our Lutheran institution of higher learning here in SC (plus 42 years of ministry as a pastor here in our SC Synod)!

Since our foundation, Living Springs has been blessed with professors and other leaders of the Synod and larger church. We would like to honor Wayne’s ministry through a special love offering that will go to Newberry College’s Muller Center – a unique part of their educational ministry which helps college students explore God’s purpose for their lives and engage God’s world through vocational exploration, ethical inquiry, and civic engagement.

Living Springs Council has designated an initial gift of at least \$1000 for the Muller Center from our accrued funds to honor Wayne’s ministry – as seed money for our love offering. The total amount will be matched dollar-for-dollar through a special grant opportunity now available to the Muller Center! Love offering will be received through Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Checks can be made payable to Living Springs and marked "Newberry–Pastor Wayne." Donations can also be made on Givelify by clicking the "Newberry-Pastor Wayne" button.

Wayne arrived as a freshman on the Newberry College campus 50 years ago in 1971. As a professor, he has been known for his love & care of students – and this love offering for the Muller Center will create an ongoing opportunity for many young people to connect with God’s calling in their lives! Please uplift Helen & Wayne in your prayers in this time of celebration, as they continue to respond to God’s calling in their life together!

Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

SOUTH CAROLINA WOMEN OF THE ELCA CONVENTION NEWS

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, September 26, 2021, 1:00-6:00 pm (virtual)

"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness No merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand." ELW 597

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1 KJV

LS Women's Ministry is looking for two delegates to represent us at the convention. Please contact Gwen Furcron



Notes from: *Justice Ministry*

The message of HOPE at Living Springs is everywhere as May arrives! In Isaiah 1:17 we read, "Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow." Through Justice Ministry this year we have learned, we have sought, we have pleaded. And the message of HOPE is strong as we see God answering these prayers!

At the annual Nehemiah Action on April 26th almost 140 Living Springs members and friends joined well-over 1100 others from 35+ congregations to ask public officials to address problems of affordable housing and neighborhood gun violence in Columbia. The evening was a success on many fronts! First, we were uplifted as always by the diversity of those gathered – people of many faith traditions, economic circumstances, races, ethnicities, ages, and walks of life. It was good to be present, praising God together! Second, we were uplifted by what we learned. We had a chance to hear testimonies from those in need, we better understood the critical community problems we are facing, and we learned more about evidence-based solutions. And third, we were uplifted by the positive responses we received from public officials that will make Columbia a better place to live.

Regarding affordable housing:

Columbia has the 8th highest eviction rate in the nation and Richland County is ranked 10th among counties nationally. That evening we asked the Richland County Council to bring forward action to establish an Affordable Housing Trust Fund, a solution that has worked in many communities across the nation. Richland County Council Chair, Paul Livingston, agreed to bring the request forward to the Council and he agreed to support that request. Several other Councilmembers were present and agreed to support the request, too: Allison Terracio, Overture Walker, and Gretchen Barron. We are encouraged by their attendance at the Nehemiah Action, their engagement, and their positive responses and support!

Regarding gun violence:

Columbia is ranked by CBS as the 43rd deadliest city in the nation. From a multimillion-dollar budget, we are asking officials to allot \$50,000 for an initial, outside study of the problem here. Evidence shows that Group Violence Intervention (GVI) has dramatically reduced gun violence in many other communities. At the Nehemiah Action we heard from victims of gun violence, we learned more about GVI, and we clarified the fact that an outside study of the problem in Columbia has not been done. Action is needed! We were prepared to ask Columbia Police Chief Holbrook to request the study, but he did not attend the Action. We will continue to advocate for a GVI study and will continue to speak up on this critical problem.

In this season of HOPE, Mark Your Calendars!

On Monday, May 24, 6:30 pm, we will have our annual MORE Justice Celebration to celebrate what we have accomplished together this year, fellowship with one another, and kick off our investment drive. Registration and other information on the Celebration will be forthcoming.

Justice Ministry Team Leaders are happy to talk with you anytime: Peg or Jim Zieche, Mike Davidson, Gwen Furcron, Gail Buchanan, Wayne Kannaday or Helen Doerpinghaus. Join us on the Justice journey!

Opportunities Outside Living Springs

May is Foster Care Awareness Month!

Hello! My name is Kaley Lindquist and I am the Director of [Care2Foster](#), an initiative of Fostering Great Ideas, dedicated to recruiting and supporting foster families in SC. I write to you today, a little more than a week out from Foster Care Awareness month, to offer encouragement and to ask a favor.

Did you know that Richland County has a greater need for more foster parents than any other county in the state besides Greenville County? **Today, there are 513 children and youth in foster care in Richland County alone.** There are only 315 total licensed foster homes in Richland County; 200+ homes are urgently needed - specifically for older children and sibling groups.

As faith communities, we know you are already doing the hard work of caring for the people of Richland County - children, youth, families, and all those on the margins. We know that your congregants are loving, caring, safe and stable individuals and families. They might make perfect foster parents - loving, caring, safe, and stable temporary homes for children who desperately need it. Many of you are already providing foster care ministries and support for foster families. Thank you! Many of you are looking for ways to get more involved in helping to solve this crisis!

Together we can solve the never-enough-beds foster care crisis!

□ There's a foster care crisis in Richland County! Richland ranks in the top two counties for greatest need for more foster parents. See SC DSS [Foster Care Dashboard](#).

□ Today there are 513 children and youth in foster care from Richland County and only 315 Greenville foster families. There are 4026 children and youth in SC foster care.

□ Around 200 new Richland area foster families are needed TODAY - the need is greatest for families open to fostering teens and large sibling groups! There is a need for 1200+ new foster families across the state.

Care2Foster, in partnership with South Carolina Department of Social Services and South Carolina Foster Parent Association, have a large-scale virtual event focused on recruiting Greenville area foster parents called [Make Room](#) coming up on **May 20th at 6:30pm via Zoom** for Foster Care Awareness Month. We are reaching out to see if you would be willing to share the message with your communities about the great need for more foster families - specifically for teens and sibling groups - and promote this event. We've linked to the registration and the event on Facebook. We'd love to see you and your members at the event just to learn more. There is never any pressure to take a next step. Foster care is a huge life decision; there should never be any guilt or rush to get started.



Become a SC Foster Parent

Learn from current Greenville County foster parents and be inspired to take your next step in becoming a SC Foster Parent and making a difference in the life of a child or youth.

May 6th at 6:30pm

Live on Zoom

Registration Required

JOIN US!

[REGISTRATION](#)

[More Information on Facebook](#)



We want to support you, your teams, and your families ongoing!

Foster Care Awareness Month is only 31 days long. But the need for foster families is ongoing. Even once families start the licensing process, receive their first placements, and continue to care for vulnerable children and youth, the need for support is never-ending. We would love to talk to you about the ways your organization or ministry can continue to recruit and support foster parents in your own community. We'd love to talk to you about how [churches can support foster care, serve foster families](#), or start a [foster care ministry](#). In fact, Care2Foster is launching "Faith to Foster," an all-inclusive event materials package that will help faith communities put on events or small groups to talk about foster care. Reach out and we'll tell you all about it!

May/June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2 815A Worship (Sanctuary) 9A Adult Class 1030A Worship (Sanctuary/Lawn/Vehicle/Online) 1215P Middle/Sr High Faith Alive 130P Children's Faith Alive 430P Sr. Youth (lawn)</p>	<p>3 930A Staff Mtg 1030 Meals on Wheels 6P Worship Team 7P Boy Scouts (offsite) 7P Fellowship & Mutual Care Team (narthex) 7P Exec</p>	<p>4 10A Bible Book of Month 1030 Meals on Wheels 6P Bible Study 7P Handbells</p>	<p>5 12P HOPE Time (sanctuary) 3P Backpacks (sign-up) 315P LSCDC Bible Time 530P Hope Ministry Team 6:30P Music Recording 6:45P HOPE Time (fellowship hall & GoogleMeet)</p>	<p>6 830 Good News Walkers 11A Good News Team 121P Thur. Hope-Cast 7P Lifelong Discipleship 8P Men's Devotion Group</p>	<p>7 930A LSCDC Chapel Time</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>8 815A Worship (Sanctuary) 9A Adult Class 1030A Worship (Sanctuary/Lawn/Vehicle/Online) 1215P Middle/Sr High Faith Alive 130P Children's Faith Alive 430P Sr. Youth (lawn)</p>	<p>10 1030 Meals on Wheels 6P Justice Team Leaders 7P Worship/Music TF 7P Boy Scouts (offsite)</p>	<p>11 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030 Meals on Wheels 530P Finance 6P Bible Study 730P Sr Youth Virtual</p>	<p>12 12P HOPE Time (sanctuary) 315P LSCDC Bible Time 6:45P HOPE Time (fellowship hall & GoogleMeet)</p>	<p>13 830 Good News Walkers 121P Thur. Hope-Cast 3P Backpacks (sign-up) 630P LSCDC Board 8P Men's Devotion Group</p>	<p>14 930A LSCDC Chapel Time</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 815A Worship (Sanctuary) 9A Adult Class 1030A Worship (Sanctuary/Lawn/Vehicle/Online) 1215P Middle/Sr High Faith Alive 130P Children's Faith Alive 430P Sr. Youth (lawn)</p>	<p>17 930A Staff Mtg 1030 Meals on Wheels 7P Boy Scouts (offsite) 7P Exec</p>	<p>18 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030 Meals on Wheels 6P Bible Study 7P Handbells</p>	<p>19 12P HOPE Time (sanctuary) 315P LSCDC Bible Time 6:30P Music Recording 6:45P HOPE Time (fellowship hall & GoogleMeet)</p>	<p>20 Children's Hospital Meal 830 Good News Walkers 121P Thur. Hope-Cast 3P Backpacks (sign-up) 7P Council Meeting 8P Men's Devotion Group</p>	<p>21 930A LSCDC Chapel Time</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 PENTECOST! 815A Worship (Sanctuary) 9A Adult Class 1030A Worship (Sanctuary/Lawn/Vehicle/Online) 1215P Middle/Sr High Faith Alive 130P Children's Faith Alive 430P Sr. Youth (lawn) 5P Root Beer & Hymns</p>	<p>24 Palmetto Place Youth Meal 1030 Meals on Wheels 630P MORE Justice Celebration 7P Boy Scouts (offsite)</p>	<p>25 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030 Meals on Wheels 6P Bible Study</p>	<p>26 315P LSCDC Bible Time</p>	<p>27 830 Good News Walkers 121P Thur. Hope-Cast 3P Backpacks (sign-up) 7P Graceworks Planning 8P Men's Devotion Group</p>	<p>28 930A LSCDC Chapel Time</p>	<p>29 8A Men's Breakfast</p>
<p>30 Holy Trinity Sunday 815A Worship (Sanctuary) 9A Adult Class 1030A Worship (Sanctuary/Lawn/Vehicle/Online) 130P Children's Faith Alive</p>	<p>31 Memorial Day Office Closed</p>	<p>1 10A Bible Book of Month 1030 Meals on Wheels 6P Bible Study 730P Sr Youth Virtual</p>	<p>2 315P LSCDC Bible Time 530P Hope Ministry Team 6:30P Music Recording - Youth</p>	<p>3 830 Good News Walkers 11A Good News Team 121P Thur. Hope-Cast 3P Backpacks (sign-up) 5P Rush Hour Ministry 7P Lifelong Discipleship 8P Men's Devotion Group</p>	<p>4 930A LSCDC Chapel Time</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 Youth Sunday—Quilting 815A Worship (Sanctuary) 1030A Worship (all options)</p>	<p>7 6P Worship Team 7P Exec 7P Scouts Court of Honor</p>	<p>8 530P Finance</p>	<p>9 315P LSCDC Bible Time 6:30P Music Recording</p>	<p>10 830 Good News Walkers 121P Thur. Hope-Cast 3P Backpacks (sign-up) 8P Men's Devotion Group</p>	<p>11 930A LSCDC Chapel Time</p>	<p>12</p>

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

May 2	Sophia Skipper
May 4	Lindsey Pittman
May 6	Judy Lawrence
May 12	Gwen Brantley Peter Creighton
May 13	Charles Pollard
May 14	Caroline Moore
May 19	Melody Hair
May 21	Alison Levitt Lina Mooney
May 23	♥ Eric & Kris Fink
May 24	♥ Will & Nikki Collins
May 25	♥ Steve & Kathryn Padgett
May 26	Saundra Dixon Samuel Skipper
	♥ Maddie & Matthew McCormick
May 29	Nikki Allman
May 30	Sharon Evans
May 31	Wes Levitt
	♥ Harold & Bunie Talbert



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!



May 1	Gay Walter Jim Zieche	May 14	Ruth Pollard
May 3	Caroline Berger	May 20	Ron Ramsey
May 8	Kristen Mattson Karl Schmidt	May 24	Bryan Drafts Luke Prizer Sam Prizer
May 11	Benjamin Arnold	May 26	Collin Flores

CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers

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CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

[Gary Bradham](#) - President

[Adam Woodruff](#) - Vice President

[Raegan Prest](#) - Secretary

[Mike Davidson](#) - Treasurer

[Bill Franck](#) – Financial Secretary

[Wayne Bracey](#)

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[London Mancuso](#)

[Jeff Tenhover](#)

[Laura Turnmire](#)

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Child Development Center

Susan Bradham

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