

# The Living Springs Journal

“CELEBRATE...SHARE...SERVE”  
ACCORDING TO GOD’S WILL

February 2022



*Extending the Umbrella of God’s H.O.P.E.*

# A REALLY BIG KICKOFF on Sunday, Feb. 13th— LS 2022 Ministry Focus *(from Pastor*

**FEB. BIBLE BOOKS OF MONTH = Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai**  
**PASTOR TIMES: Sunday, Feb. 6 @ 9:20am; Tuesday, Feb. 22 @ 10am**

On Sunday evening, Feb. 13th, millions upon millions of people will tune in to watch the kickoff of a football game. It is said the game could be a life-changing event for some member of the Cincinnati Bengals or Los Angeles Rams. Maybe so.

But on that same Sunday morning, Feb. 13th, there will be another Kickoff with life-changing impact. Here at Living Springs, a community of Jesus' disciples will be kicking off the focus for our shared ministry in the months ahead—a focus that will invite and empower us to "extend the umbrella of God's H.O.P.E." to even more people in these challenging times and thus change countless lives. Every year, we gather for a leadership planning retreat, and we pray that God will provide a focus for our ministry. And every year, God amazingly answers that prayer. Over the past years, we have "Grown in Faith Together" (GIFT); we have gone "Deeper in Grace, Deeper in Love, Deeper in Christ"; we have moved "Forward in Faith"; and we have sought to be "Living Beacons of God's Hope." For 2022, the Spirit has provided us a theme of **"Extending the Umbrella of God's H.O.P.E.":**

**HELP** with resources for [Emotional-Mental-Spiritual Health & Well-Being!](#)

**OUTREACH** to uplift others with creative expressions of God's grace for all!

**PARTNER** with our community to support Children/Youth/Young Adults!

**EXPAND** connections to share God's love with people wherever they are!

Amidst the world's infatuation with a Super Bowl kickoff, mark your calendar and spread the word to everyone about this truly exciting kickoff on the morning of Feb. 13th—and behold the start of what God will inspire through this community of disciples in the months of 2022 ahead (and don't be surprised to see some actual H.O.P.E. umbrellas in the parking lot and worship that Sunday morning)! The full content of our H.O.P.E. focus is on page 3. It

*(Continued on page 3)*

## **2022 LS Ministry Focus Kickoff!**

**Feb. 13: 8:15 & 10:30 Worship**

***"Extending the Umbrella of God's H.O.P.E."***



**Help ...  
Outreach ...  
Partner ...  
Expand ...**

**FEB. 6: LS ADULT VOCATION MILESTONE**

**FEB. 13: YOUTH SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY**

**FEB. 20: ANNUAL PEW BEAR BLESSING**

**FEB. 27: JUSTICE NETWORK BLESSING**

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**LS HOPING-COPING SERIES #2**

***"Strategies for Living in Stressful Times"***

***Wednesday, Feb. 9 @ 7pm***

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**CRISTO REY MINISTRY—Feb. 6**

**JUSTICE NETWORK GATHERING—Feb. 7**

**RUSH HOUR MINISTRY—Feb. 9**

**BACKPACK STUFF-A-BUS—Feb. 12**

**CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEAL—Feb. 17**

**PALMETTO PLACE MEAL—Feb. 24**

**BACKPACK FOOD BAGS—each Thursday**

**MEALS ON WHEELS—each Mon & Tues**



## **This February from Pastor Carl**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we rolled over from 2021 to 2022, we know it will bring more ups and downs on this roller coaster of the pandemic. We have already weathered quarantine, isolation and church closure, reopening, hybrid worship, and returning to our public singing songs on the Lawn. In the darkness, we saw God with us, opening us up to new ways of being together when the old ones were not accessible any longer. We watched as God increased our awareness of the fragility of life and our responsibility for the safety of our community. In the light, we saw evidence of resurrection and renewal, and we saw that, though our community had changed, it was not diminished. There were undoubtedly many other things you observed beyond these. What did you learn from the dark and the light?

The Message Bible in 1 Corinthians 12: 11 says, "Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. The Spirit hands out all kinds of things and to all kinds of people! The variety is wonderful: wise counsel, clear understanding, simple trust, healing the sick, miraculous acts, proclamation, distinguishing between spirits, tongues, interpretation of tongues. All these gifts have a common origin but are handed out one by the Spirit of God. He decides who gets what, and when."

This is an excellent way to begin my journal entry for February. We have done a lot since this new year has started; yes, we have installed the new council, we have had a council retreat, we have had confirmation classes on the Ten commandments, we have celebrated everyone's baptism in January, and will continue to do so in the coming months, and we had snow (first time since February 2014). We did a lot in our church as one body serving many people in our community in 2021. The question is, how much more can we do this year?

*(Continued on page 4)*

will not only be shared on Kickoff Sunday, but it will also be available for us each to ponder during our annual LS Disciple Gatherings. Be on the lookout for an invitation from a gathering host, so that you can join (virtually) with a small group of sisters & brothers in Christ in an important time of faith reflection and conversation.

At our disciple gatherings, we will also have the opportunity to share our challenges and coping resources that we have each found helpful as people of faith living in these stressful times. To that end, we are very excited to announce the **2nd installment of our LS Hoping-Coping Series**. On **Wednesday, Feb. 9 at 7pm**, we welcome a gifted faith-based counselor, Laura Truesdale, who will lead a session on specific **coping strategies for life in these stressful times** (including an ongoing pandemic). This will be appropriate for all ages and stages of life, such as young adults, parents with children, empty-nesters, retirees, senior adults. We will gather with Laura in-person (spaced, masked in the fellowship hall), but there will also be a [GoogleMeet](#) link so that anyone can join on-line. Please spread the word to friends, neighbors, family members, co-workers, fellow parents, community folks, everyone—even those out-of-state can join us online! You can show up or log in starting at 6:50 for some greeting time, before we start at 7pm.

I give thanks for all the ways that God continues to bring hope to so many through this amazing community of disciples. Last month's MLK Pizza & Hymns with Rehoboth Baptist was truly uplifting—and your response to the late January "Winter Warmth Drive" was so inspiring. I look forward to many upcoming events to extend God's H.O.P.E. in February—including our Adult Vocation Milestone (Feb. 6), Rush Hour Ministry (Feb. 9), Backpack Stuff-a-Bus (Feb. 12), Youth Souper Bowl drive (Feb. 13), Annual Pew Bear Blessing (Feb. 20), and Justice Network Blessing (Feb. 27), to name just a few. For 34 years, the Spirit has filled lives with hope because of this congregation named Living Springs—and we rejoice to be able to extend the umbrella of God's hope to even more lives in the months ahead!

With much love in Christ and thanksgiving to God for you, *Pastor Eric*

**LS Disciple Gatherings!**  
**February 13—March 15**  
**specific times TBA**

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**Be on the lookout  
for an invitation  
from a gathering host,  
so that you can join (virtually)  
with a small group  
of sisters & brothers in Christ  
for an important time of faith  
reflection and conversation.**

**As a community of disciples stretched by the cross, we are empowered by the Holy Spirit to further extend the umbrella of God's H-O-P-E: continuing to break down barriers, so that more people may experience the life-changing power of God and move from surviving to thriving in a challenging world! Walking together in faith with each other & our community, the Spirit calls us to these 2022 focus areas:**

**HELP** with resources for Emotional-Mental-Spiritual Health & Well-Being!

**OUTREACH** to uplift others with creative, multi-faceted expressions of God's grace for all!

**PARTNER** with our community to support Children/Youth/Young Adults in their life-skills & spiritual journeys!

**EXPAND** our connections while sharing God's love with people wherever they are!

**HELP** with resources for Emotional-Mental-Spiritual Health & Well-Being!

Counseling services, support groups, workshops to address life-transitions and challenges

Mental health resources for youth, families, senior adults, and others

Support for frontline healthcare providers, teachers, caregivers, essential workers

Faith resources for dealing with grief/loss, depression, anxiety, anger, hopelessness, despair

**OUTREACH** to uplift others with creative, multi-faceted expressions of God's grace for all!

Sharing the Good News through multiple formats for worship & faith growth

Offering God's message of hope in public arenas, such as Rush Hour/billboard/online ministries

Share concrete expressions of God's love & hope for others in times of need & crisis (e.g., pop-up disaster response, refugee ministry, backpack food ministry, hunger & homeless ministries, etc.)

**PARTNER** with our community to support Children/Youth/Young Adults in their life-skills & spiritual journeys!

Personal & Congregational involvement in schools (tutoring, mentoring, JV football, LCM, etc.)

Sharing God's hope for youth on the margins (isolated, homeless, refugee children, prison youth)

Active Involvement, Support and Sponsorship of Campus Ministry (college students)

**EXPAND** our connections while sharing God's love with people wherever they are!

Communicating in God's love across boundaries & barriers of language, race, culture, politics, etc.

Embracing the diversity of God's humanity by actively building relationships and partnering with other churches, classes, groups

Speaking, listening, and engaging in deep conversations with those who differ from ourselves by employing various formats ... in community settings, daily life locations, house gatherings, public places, etc.



(Continued from page 2)

In saying that we have become one church, I would like to refer to the scripture in 1st Corinthians when Paul said that there are many parts of the body, but all have come together for the coming good. Paul is saying there are many of us, and we do things and work together for the common good of our community and the people that we reach.

Dr. Brian Peterson, seminary professor at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, puts it like this, "Thus, the diversity within the church community is not something to be tolerated, or regretted, or manipulated for one's advantage, but something to be received as the gift that it is. Paul's argument implies that diversity and unity in that diversity are a reality without which the church cannot live. A congregation can probably exist and even thrive without healings or speaking in tongues, but it cannot live without the word of Christ spoken and heard. Proclaimed and taught, the good news will form the church into one body in Christ.

The new reality of ministry and life together post-COVID is that we cannot be the pre-COVID church we were. We must continue to stretch ourselves to do and be more. It is essential that while we are being called to a time of self-reflection and examination, looking at the cross from surviving to thriving, it is my prayer that we seek to continue along our path of discipleship together faithfully. That will mean making some hard decisions and living with the consequences. There are no right or wrong choices, which is both good and bad news. We are, so to speak, finding our way out of the Holy darkness into the light. We can see the incredible generosity and blessing that has sustained us this far, even through this pandemic.

It continues to amaze me how our children, youth, and college students are walking through their spiritual journeys. Our confirmation youth spent January learning the Ten Commandments, and we have plans for a Lord's Prayer Milestone with our Little Lutherans later in February. I remain excited to see who God will help us become this year with our children, youth, and college students.

The dawning of a new year and the shorter days finds us in the season of Epiphany, the season of light. After walking for a time in the dark and learning that darkness holds promise, it is still good to see the light of Christ shining again, showing us a path forward and lighting our way. The good news we celebrate as Christians is that neither dark nor light is the exclusive domain of God: both are Holy, and both together make us whole. As I celebrate one year of being called to Living Springs (Jan 24<sup>th</sup>), one year of being ordained (Feb 27<sup>th</sup>), and one year of being installed (Feb.28<sup>th</sup>), I thank you all for continuing this journey with me.

Let me close with this prayer, Compassionate Father, through the steadfast love of Your Spirit, you God, have cleansed the hearts and minds of all who believe in Your Son. You, God, have enlightened the intellect of billions. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, I ask that You continue to work on our minds so that we can come to a better understanding. Give us contentment and demolish any walls that block our paths to understanding. Because Your will is good, help us always walk in the light of it. Help us keep growing in Your will as wheat grows from the soil. Allow us to cling to You, God, so that we may learn to walk in Your ways. Help us to remain steadfast in Your love with an unshakable faith so that we may become fused with You. All this we ask through Christ, our redeemer. Amen.

**Pastor Carl**



Thank you for your thoughts and prayers, it's greatly appreciated.

Peace and Blessings,

*Wayne Bracey*



# 2022 Living Springs Ministry Focus Kickoff

## Souper Bowl Sunday

### Feb. 13th

### 8:15 and 10:30 Worship

**LS Hoping coping Skills Series...**  
**Coping Strategies for Stress Filled Times**  
**Guest Speaker Laura Truesdale**  
*Wednesday, February 9 · 7:00 – 8:00pm*

On **Wednesday, Feb. 9 at 7pm**, we welcome a gifted faith-based counselor, [Laura Truesdale](#), who will lead a session on specific **coping strategies for life in these stressful times** (including an ongoing pandemic). This will be appropriate for all ages and stages of life, such as young adults, parents with children, empty-nesters, retirees, senior adults. We will gather with Laura in-person (spaced, masked in the fellowship hall), but there will also be a [GoogleMeet](#) link (Or dial: 405-458-8524 PIN: 809 681 972#) so that anyone can join on-line. Please spread the word to friends, neighbors, family members, co-workers, fellow parents, community folks, everyone—even those out-of-state can join us online! You can show up or log in starting at 6:50 for some greeting time, before we start at 7pm.

### Hoping-Coping Skills for Life Survey

Think about the challenges, trials, struggles, and stresses that require special HOPING-COPING skills throughout all the ages and stages of life. Think about what is happening in your life right now - and/or think about what is happening in the lives of your family members/friends/neighbors/co-workers, etc. Form is in the admin lobby or go to: <https://forms.gle/phwhBTmUoXMuQABR7>



### Notes from: *Mission Partnership Team*



### Help With Cristo Rey! *Sun., Feb. 6 @ 4:15pm*

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 5:00 Sunday worship gatherings). We have team leaders, but 5-6 volunteer helpers are needed each month, plus a snack for up to 20 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.



# Notes from: *Good News Team*

## Pizza & Hymns

The Lord blessed us with great weather for Pizza and Hymns and such a peaceful day to share quotes and writings from Martin Luther King Jr. The songs about justice, peace, and hope for a transformed world are still playing in my head. For just that hour and a half, we got to see a glimpse of the Kingdom of God singing together with ALL people and finding common ground among us. This is HOPE for today. This is balm for the soul. This is what it means to join with sisters and brothers in the one name of Jesus. And now, can all the people, even those in the back, shout with HOPE--AMEN!



### **Rush Hour Ministry** *Become a Beacon of Hope* **Wednesday, Feb. 9, 4:20-5:15 PM**

There is space for you! Be a beacon of hope on the sidewalk in front of Living Springs holding signs of HOPE and sharing smiles and blessings to those waiting in rush hour traffic! We will meet to be beacons around 4:20. Join us anytime!





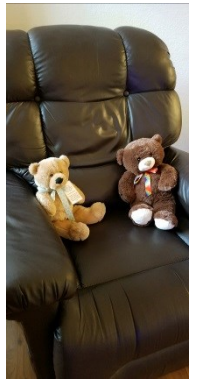
## Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

### Advent Hope Food Boxes Delivery to CAB in Blythewood—1302 Items



### PEW BEAR MINISTRY

Who would think this cute little teddy bear would have such an impact on so many lives! Stories continue to come back to us about how this cuddly little object that sits patiently in the pews before it is specially hand-picked by someone wanting to give comfort to a friend, family member, or someone we have no idea who they are or what is going on in their lives! We do know from feedback we receive that the mission of the pew bears is experienced time after time. This picture came back to us with a thank you and a note "here are Louie's bears from you – keeping his chair warm. So sweet!" This year about 40 pew bears went out into the world.



### STUFF A BUS/BACKPACK FOOD MINISTRY *Saturday, February 12 from 9 am to 1 pm*



If you are shopping at Kroger's on Killian Rd. on Saturday, February 12 from 9 am to 1 pm, please accept the flyer we are passing out and help support our backpack program. We pack 65 bags each week of the school year. The Boy Scout Troup #737 is also collecting items in their food drive, so if you get a brown bag on your doorstep, please consider donating.

We will continue our process of 2-3 people packing each week – this is an excellent opportunity to be Hope Agents as a family (check out which item this is on the Hope Menu!). Sign-up on Signup Genius (<https://bit.ly/2XD6tsl>) or contact Karen Kranz.

## CAMPUS MINISTRY MEALS

*Sunday, February 27*

One Body, many members – we are all baptized into one body – this is what came to mind while attending the Gamecock worship before they ate the meal that Living Springs provided. Students from any local college is welcome to the campus ministry building in downtown Columbia and Pastor Jesse is so welcoming to anyone that walks in the door that remains open during their time there. It is a feel-good moment to know we have this opportunity available to all students. Sunday meals are provided by local churches and organizations – Living Springs has signed up again for February 27. If you would like to participate in providing an item and/or would like to experience the worship and stay to dine with the students, contact Karen Kranz.



## PALMETTO PLACE

*Thursday, February 24*

Samantha's Place hosts a Transitional Living Program with seven beds for youth ages 18-21. Eligible youth are gearing up for complete independence and ideally successfully graduate from the program within 6 months before moving into their own form of permanent housing such as an apartment. Living Springs has committed to teaching meal preparation on the 4th Thursday – eventually we will prepare and serve the meal in-house. Meals are delivered by 4:30 pm.

## CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Lunches are prepared and delivered by Carolina Deli (Travis Mooney) to parents who have children on extended medical stays – our Child Development Center creates special messages that are placed in the lunch bags. These meals are sponsored by Thrivent Action cards.



## MEALS ON WHEELS

*Monday's & Tuesday's*

Contact Mike Davidson if you would like to deliver meals either Monday or Tuesday to clients in the Two Notch/ Beltline area. Two people are assigned – you pick up the meals from Senior Resources and deliver to the clients listed on the delivery sheet. This takes about approximately 2 hours, but the friendship and fellowship you gain is 5X that.

## FRIDAY FISH FRY!



Yes, we are going to have our Lenten fish fry starting March 4 through April 8. Because we are not 100% over COVID, we will be using a food truck again with approximately the same menu. We hope the weather will cooperate to have seating on the lawn and take-out will also be available. Spread the word to your neighbors, friends, family so we can match our last year donation of \$4,000. Look for details in the e-news.

## URGENT: LS NOW forming a WELCOME TEAM FOR REFUGEE FAMILY!

*\*\*in partnership with Lutheran Services Carolinas\*\**

Many remember the great blessing we had as a congregation several years ago when we worked with Lutheran Services to sponsor an Iraqi refugee family (who had to flee for their safety because their father had served as an US translator). Once again, Lutheran Services Carolinas is responding to an urgent need through their refugee ministry, which includes many US Ally families from Afghanistan. Living Springs is now forming a "Circle of Welcome" team, so that we can serve as a sponsoring congregation for a refugee family arriving through Lutheran Services Carolinas and the extensive US gov't screening process. Most of the families now arriving have fled from Afghanistan, but there are families from other locations that the US is now also bringing into our country for their safety. Typically, the families have first spent time in US military bases on foreign soil and then have been transferred to military bases here in the US, before being assigned to sponsoring care agencies like Lutheran Services of the Carolinas. In order to be a sponsoring congregation, our Living Springs team will need at least 8-10 members (or more) who are willing to be involved in various ways to support our family for 6 months - 1 year, in partnership with staff from Lutheran Services. Opportunities include airport welcome, transportation, helping with grocery-shopping, job prep, school, doctor's appointments, life skill assistance, and more. If you would like to be part of our LS "Circle of Welcome" for a family - or would like more details - please contact the office or call Pastor Eric as soon as possible, so that we can welcome a family in need!



## Notes from: *Justice Ministry*

### Justice Ministry – February 2022 “Action Season!”

Welcome to the Justice Ministry “Action Season”! Spring is when we get ready for our annual Nehemiah Action where hundreds of people of faith meet with elected officials to ask for changes to better care for our neighbors in the Midlands. We ask them to address problems with mental illness, access to affordable housing, and neighborhood gun violence. Mark your calendars!

- Living Springs Winter Network Member Gathering, Monday, February 7, 6:30 pm, online (*Get updates and identify whom to invite to the Nehemiah Action!*)
- Rally, Monday, March 14, 6:30 pm, at Reid Chapel AME (*Get prepared for the Nehemiah Action!*)
- Nehemiah Action Assembly (*Bring 3+*), Monday, April 4, 6:30 pm, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center (*Speak up for neighbors in need!*)
- Celebration, Monday, May 23, 6:30 pm, Location TBD (*Celebrate and invest in our justice work!*)

Spring is also the time when we talk about investing not only time but money in the work of MORE Justice. I’ve been a part of MORE Justice since it started in the Midlands about 5 years ago. I’ve been investing since that first year and increasing my investment over time. I want to share two reasons that I invest in the work of MORE Justice.

First, God calls all of us to do justice. As a person of faith, I want to respond to this call. In Micah 6:8 we hear God’s command: “What does the Lord require of you? To do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God.” Growing up I was in church every Sunday “walking humbly with God” and I was a part of mercy ministries, “feeding the hungry and caring for the poor.” But I really didn’t understand what “doing justice” meant. In the Nehemiah scripture, we see what doing justice means. It means standing up and speaking out to public officials about unfair systems that hurt our neighbors. I am investing in MORE Justice again this year because this is an important way that I can respond to God’s command to “do justice.” I want to take ownership of what God asks of me.

A second reason that I invest is because I want to be a part of making the world a better place. I see injustice every day: in mistreatment of those with mental illness, lack of affordable housing for middle- and low-income families, and rising gun violence that threatens many Columbia neighborhoods. I want this to change. I am investing again this year because I see that MORE Justice truly is making a big difference in Columbia. Sometimes the difference is a change like CIT training for law enforcement officers which protects them as well as those they encounter with mental illness. Sometimes the difference comes by shining a light on overlooked issues, resulting in agencies quietly making changes that address problems we’ve raised. City officials have come to know about MORE Justice, and they are listening and engaging with us more each year. I invest in MORE Justice because it has a good return on investment. MORE Justice is an effective way to make our community a better place for everyone.

My sister in Washington often tells me how lucky I am to be a part of MORE Justice at Living Springs. She says that some people go their whole lives not finding an organization like MORE Justice to live out God’s call. MORE Justice ministry allows us to grow stronger in love for God and neighbor through the stories, struggles, and experiences we share with people of faith from many diverse backgrounds. Participating and investing in MORE Justice give us an opportunity to take ownership for the work of justice and move it forward – thanks be to God.

For more information about Justice Ministry please talk with Pastor Eric, Mike Davidson, Gwen Furcron, Peg or Jim Zieche, Gail Buchanan, Wayne Kannaday or Helen Doerpinghaus.

# Notes from: *Lifelong Discipleship*

## VOCATION MILESTONE SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 6

Martin Luther taught that our *"work is no longer simply a job or occupation. It is a calling, a vocation. It is a summons from God. Vocation is also where the Spirit sanctifies the Christian's life, not in a self-centered quest for perfection, but rather in humble service to the neighbor."* We understand our VOCATION to be ALL the things we do in our jobs, in our homes, in the community, in the church in which the Spirit equips us and leads us as we serve others.

Throughout our lives we experience many changes in our vocation....those are milestones worthy of celebration. Some examples of milestones include retirement, starting study for an advanced degree, arrival of first grandchild, job change, job promotion, new volunteer endeavor, etc.

Have you had a vocation milestone in the last year? If so, we want to celebrate with you. Please contact Lisa Petty or Steve Bloss so we can celebrate with you during February 6 worship services.

## Annual LS Disciple Group Gatherings

### What are Disciple Group Gatherings?

All Living Springs Disciples are invited to join in a time of conversation and relationship-building, centered around our faith and how it plays a role in our lives. At this year's gatherings, we will focus on *"Our Hoping/Coping Skills in These Challenging Times"* – as well as introduce our exciting 2022 Living Springs ministry focus, arising out of the January Planning Retreat.

### How will the Gatherings take place?

All groups will have the ability to meet in a virtual way on-line. Also, some groups may elect to use a hybrid model, with some folks gathering "socially distanced" in person, with other members of the group participating in the conversation on-line.

### When will Disciple Gatherings occur?

Group Hosts will be making invitations to join a group very shortly. Gatherings will take place from mid-February through mid-March. If they desire, some groups may plan to gather for additional times later in the spring.

**Be on the look-out for an invitation – it is very important (and a great blessing!) for everyone to participate in a gathering.**

### Ladies Bible Study

*Meets in the Fellowship Hall and Online on Tuesdays at 10am*

Ladies Bible Study returns on Tuesday, January 4th. We will be studying "Heart of Jesus" by Marlys Taege. The book and workbook cost around \$20. Contact Beverly Hoppert to let her know you would like the book/workbook.

### Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Meets in Online on Tuesdays at 6pm

Want to join in? If so, just contact Steve Bloss at sbloss1947@gmail.com or at 803-467-8287 to be added to the Google Meet invitations and to receive notes for each weekly readings.

### Sunday Adult Bible Class

*Meets in the Fellowship Hall*

*and Online at 9:20*

Join us as we take a deeper look at scripture readings that are used in the worship service each Sunday. All are welcome to join as we ask "What is God saying to us in the lesson." Facilitator – Helen Doeringhaus

## BOOKS OF FEBRUARY: 2021-22

SEPTEMBER	Leviticus	MARCH	Luke Ch. 1-13
OCTOBER	Numbers	APRIL	Luke Ch. 14-24
NOVEMBER	1 Chronicles	MAY	1 & 2 Timothy, Titus
DECEMBER	2 Chronicles	JUNE	Philemon & James
JANUARY	Hosea-Obadiah	JULY	Song of Solomon & Lamentations
FEBRUARY	Nahum-Habakkuk-Zephaniah-Haggai		



## Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*

We are blessed to have so many talented individuals willing to share their musical gifts in Worship! As we prepare for our music offerings for spring we are looking for the following gifted individuals; Brass instrumentalists for Easter Sunday, Percussionists, and soloists.

### Choir/Disciples of Harmony

Our Choir practices continue on Wednesday's with the Disciples of Harmony at 5:15 PM and the choir at 6:00 PM. Our Bell rehearsals continue on Tuesdays at 7:00. Please join a group and lift your voice and bells in praise! We continue to follow Covid Protocols.



### Tech Team

One of the unsung ministries essential every Sunday is our Technical Team. Those individuals keep our services streamed, amplified, broadcast and recorded. We have a core team of four individuals and need to add at least two more. Please contact Bob Turnmire or Mark Stuart to join the team.

### Worship Leader Search Update

The fall search for a new director of Worship and Music turned up one qualified candidate who eventually decided to remain in his current position at a church in West Columbia. The Search Team will reconvene in early February to continue the search process. We are blessed to have Shirl Shiffman assisting as the interim director. Praise the Lord!

### Burning of the Greens

It's always a joy to decorate and prepare for the Advent and Christmas season, and somewhat sad to put it away for the next year. Our heartfelt thanks to the Turnmires, Stuarts, and Bergers for taking care of this chore this year and preparing the way for the Burning of the Greens.



## ASH WEDNESDAY & ASHES TO GO *Wednesday March 2*

Our Ash Wednesday services will be at noon and 6:30 pm and we will also be offering Ashes to Go at Living Springs entrance and another location in the community – if you would like to participate, contact Jim Zieche. Our Mid-week Lenten services will start March 9 through April 6 at noon and 6:30 pm.

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

What a blessing to be able to continue worship in all our different forms – in-person, online, parking lot. All these options entail participation from volunteers to light the candles, carry the cross, ushering – be it serving once a month, once a quarter, or every week, we need you! We use Ministry Scheduler Pro (MSP) as our scheduling program – Please see Karen Kranz if you need help navigating or understanding how it works.

Along with worship are different opportunities to assist Jan Berger with Altar Guild – order communion supplies; change the water in the narthex font; fill candles with oil & change acolyte wick; communion setup; change paraments as needed; and change Eternity Candle. Some of these tasks are very simple; but could ease the responsibility of the altar guild person. Contact Jan if you are interested – these altar guild roles are listed in the MSP program for signup.



### STARS FOR EPIPHANY/ BUTTERFLIES FOR EASTER

Have you noticed the stars hanging in the sanctuary? These are such a special decoration and we thank Bob Turnmire for his talent in hanging them. For Easter, Bob will hang butterflies that you have creatively decorated. Take a form (will out during Lent), decorate (no glitter or food please), cut out and return before April 10.



### Notes from: *Living Springs Youth*

#### "SOUP"-er Bowl Sunday

*Drop off through Super Bowl Sunday, February 13th*

The Youth will be participating in "Soup"-er Bowl of Caring in a new and creative way this year, and they need your help! Do you love a bowl of classic chicken noodle or do you crave a creamy potato soup when the weather gets cold? "Vote" for your favorite soup by donating cans for those in need. Labeled bins (chicken noodle, potato, tomato, vegetable, other) will be set up in the Admin. building. Donations can be dropped off through Super Bowl Sunday, February 13th. The Youth will count the cans, announce the winning soup, and distribute them to local food pantries. If you are unable to come by the church, you can order through Amazon and have it delivered directly to the church. We will have a "soup bowl" at the worship check-in table on the 13th, for your hunger donations of coins and dollars. Monetary donations are also welcome via the Givify app. Contact [Leslie Bloss](#) with any questions. Thanks in advance for your support!

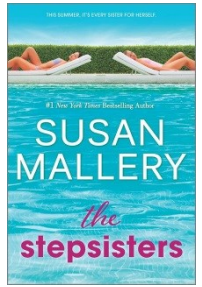




## Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

### LADIES BOOK CLUB Monday, February 7 @ 7pm

Our read for our next meeting is The Stepsisters by Susan Mallery. Our kickoff meeting will be at Karen Kranz's house – 235 Founders Ridge Rd. (The Summit) ph: 716.998.1157 on Monday, February 7 at 7 pm. discussing The Stepsisters, we will choose our reads for the remaining months, so we invite all to come with book suggestions and enjoy some fellowship time with friends. Contact Karen Kranz for information.



### WOMEN'S WELLNESS RETREAT May 20-22, 2022

What is Wellness? Join Martha Beahm to explore Self Care and Renewal – Body, Mind and Spirit at Isle of Palms Lutheran Retreat Center May 20-22, 2022. *There will be a Zoom information meeting on February 9 @ 4 pm.* For information, contact Martha Beahm at [mebeahm927@gmail.com](mailto:mebeahm927@gmail.com) or 803.603.3085.



### SC Women of the ELCA Annual Convention Theme: "He's got the whole world in his hands" The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer, Newberry, SC

Friday, June 24- Saturday, 25, 2022

Please find the [Convention Registration Form](#) attached.  
Don't let the deadline sneak up on you! IT IS TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2022.



## Notes from: *Men's Ministry*

### "ONE YEAR TO LIVE" March 18-20



Men of all ages yearn for real friendships and a closer relationship with Christ.

Join us and be...Adventurous and courageous; Genuine and spiritual.

Look forward to...Banding together and being challenged; Examining your life and making decisions.

Be prepared for a spiritual boot camp. This 45-hour experience is not for the faint of heart!

Registration: \$150 cash/check/ Credit card reader at camp [Grab your registration form/brochure here](#)



### The 2022 SCLMM 79th Annual Convention and Past President's Dinner

*will be held on February 18th and 19th, 2022 at*

St. John's Lutheran Church, 157 Ladys Island Drive, Beaufort



Join the Past President's Dinner on Friday evening (6:30pm - Fellowship, 7:00pm - Dinner) to honor our SCLMM leaders where we'll enjoy a Frogmore Stew meal with entertainment by Carter Lybrand. The cost for the dinner event is \$10 per person. Feel free to bring a chair and cooler and enjoy sitting around the open fire (weather permitting).

On Saturday the Convention Registration and Sign-In begins at 9:30am with the Convention beginning at 10:00am in the church sanctuary. There will be a luncheon catered by Jim 'N Nick's Bar-B-Q (\$25 per person) available. At 1:00pm, Musician and Storyteller, Army Veteran Carter Lybrand will be the Convention Speaker. The Convention will end with Worship service at 4:00pm in the Church Sanctuary.

[You can register for the Convention on the EventBrite site](#), and can also register and pay for the Friday Past President's Dinner and/or Saturday Catered Bar-B-Q Luncheon on this site also or pay by check. Please make checks payable to SCLMM and remit to the following address: Tom Counts, 121 Wayne McCaw Road, Irmo, SC 29063



# God At Work

Council Installation  
Sunday



Leadership Gathering



KY Tornado Students return from Christmas break with blessings and bears from LS!





## Opportunities Outside Living Springs

*Special Opportunity to Support our LS Mission Partner:  
**Journey Performing Arts "Back To Harlem"**  
Saturday, Feb. 19 @ 3pm & 6 pm, Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian*

We have 28 unused tickets from Asheville in January which we could not attend due to bad weather. Cost is only \$25 ea. If you would like to attend, call the office or see one of the pastors. February's performance will be at: Mount Pleasant Presbyterian church Fellowship Hall, 302 Hibben Street, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464

*Set in Patty's Bar in Harlem in the 1940's, "Take Me Back to Harlem" sets the stage for an imagined conversation between Langston Hughes and his longstanding literary character, Jesse B. Semple. "Take Me Back to Harlem" brings Semple to life to plumb the depths of the human experience to the backdrop of Jazz and the Blues. In Patty's bar, they cover topics from race to religion to politics, to matters of the heart.*



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

*Volunteers needed for front-end office reception-3821 W. Beltline Rd.*

The Cooperative Ministry needs seven to eight volunteers to serve in front-end reception, primarily answering the telephone, Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1-5 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Any encounter with guests will be from behind glass; all guests must wear a mask inside the building.

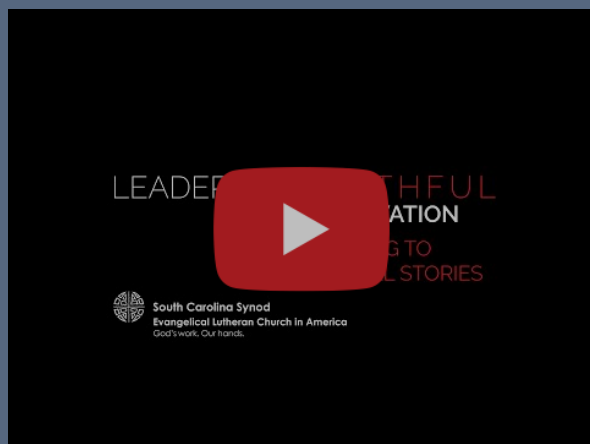
Volunteers will have a day of orientation prior to service. Quarterly volunteer luncheons will provide opportunities for education and feedback.

For more information please contact Rhemie Gantz at (803) 799-0932 or [rgantz@coopmin.org](mailto:rgantz@coopmin.org), or Scott Vaughan at (803) 799-2428.

*Christian Assistance Bridge – Blythewood Rd.*

Volunteers are needed for Client Intake and Benefit Bank Counselors and greeters. Contact Kate Williams (601) 988-7653 or there is an application at [christianassistancebridge.com](http://christianassistancebridge.com). The counselor positions will need training.

## LISTENING TO SPIRITUAL STORIES



Pastor Eric Fink from Living Springs Lutheran Church in Columbia shares about the experience of Listening to Spiritual Stories from members of his congregation and the wider community.





## Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

<b>February 2</b>	Caroline Berger Peter Zvejnieks	<b>February 16</b>	Marshall Hurlbert
<b>February 7</b>	Jean Weick	<b>February 17</b>	Walker Flores
<b>February 8</b>	Otto Esslinger	<b>February 22</b>	Gary Bradham Patricia Brouwer Stephanie Joyner
<b>February 10</b>	Ted Buchanan	<b>February 23</b>	Rachel Drafts Rhett Hair
<b>February 11</b>	Jan Berger Charles Christy Maggie Pittman	<b>February 25</b>	Bob Gill
<b>February 12</b>	Margaret Blank Garrett Flores	<b>February 27</b>	Jerry Mancuso ♥ Charles & Irene Tracy
<b>February 14</b>	Maria Sorial	<b>February 28</b>	Inge Lowery
<b>February 15</b>	Alice Renaud		



### Celebrate Your Baptism

Don't forget to check the bulletin to see if we will be celebrating your Baptismal Anniversary during this February'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 February of your Baptism, you can join us on the first Sunday of the February (if you prefer some other Sunday, please let us know). **If you do not know your baptismal information, then please pick a February 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 February 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



<b>February 1</b>	Patricia Bartucca
<b>February 6</b>	Laura Stuart
<b>February 7</b>	Jacob Newton
<b>February 10</b>	Lilah Snipes Mike Wirth
<b>February 13</b>	Wendy McKenzie
<b>February 15</b>	Wesley Graves
<b>February 17</b>	Goldie Harmon
<b>February 19</b>	Katie Prizer
<b>February 24</b>	Rocky Berger



## **CHURCH STAFF**

People of Living Springs - Ministers

Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor

[pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Rev. Carl Taylor - Associate Pastor

[pastorcarl@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:pastorcarl@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Dea. Lexanne Graves – E-Outreach Coordinator

[lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Tammy Mancuso- Dir. of Child Development Center

[tmancuso@lslccdc.org](mailto:tmancuso@lslccdc.org)

Lisa Petty – Admin. Assist/Communications Coor.

[lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Laura & Mark Cunningham - Food Resource Persons

[laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper

[virginia@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:virginia@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Laura Turnmire – Handbell Choir Director

[laurabells@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:laurabells@livingspringscolumbia.org)

## **CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS**

[Gary Bradham](#) - President

[Wayne Bracey](#) - Vice-President

[Raegan Prest](#) - Secretary

[Mike Davidson](#) - Treasurer

[Bill Ramsey](#) – Financial Secretary

[Lauren Bloss](#) - Youth Representative

[Joel Holmstrom](#)

[Barb Imbert](#)

[Dea Jones](#)

[London Mancuso](#)

[Ron Ramsey](#)

[Brantley Smith](#)

[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

## **LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Columbia, SC 29223

Phone: 803-736-0661

FAX: 803-865-8252

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 [www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia](https://www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia)

[prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org](mailto:prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org)

Prayer Requests