

The Living Springs Journal

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

February 2023



"GOD'S GARDEN: GROWING HOPE!" (this month from Pastor Eric)

FEBRUARY BIBLE "BOOK" OF MONTH = Isaiah 1-12, 35, 40-62

Devotion Worship—Wednesdays @ Noon; Pastor Study—2/5 @ 9:20, 2/14 @ 10:00

*In Christ, through Christ, with Christ,
God's Hope is a GROWING Hope for our lives & for the world...
Baptized & filled with the Spirit, we are blessed & called
to be part of God's kingdom task of GROWING this Hope in the world!*

Growing Hope! What a powerful time: our LS council & so many LS disciples gathered to share how we've experienced God's growing hope through all God is doing among this community—"breaking down barriers" & "extending the umbrella of God's hope" so that more people may "move from surviving to thriving" and "experience the life-changing power of God!"

In a large flower pot, we poured **abundant soil** representing all the unique gifts, qualities, talents & experiences in this community of disciples that the Spirit has gathered to be part of Christ's body here at LS in 2023! We surrounded the pot with **atmospheric clouds**, representing unique characteristics of our community and this world in which we are called to serve at this time in history! In the pot of soil, surrounded by those clouds, we came forward with **nascent seeds**, representing expressions & ministries of hope which God has recently planted that perhaps have just begun to sprout. We came forward with **flourishing foundational greenery**, representing ministries which are already growing to extend hope in people's lives. We came forward with **flowering blooms**, representing ministries that are truly blossoming as expressions of God's hope in our congregation, community, and world. **God's garden of hope!**

(Continued on page 3)



SHROVE TUESDAY, Feb. 21
Pancakes, 5:30-6:40pm
Burning of Palms, 6:45pm



ASH WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22
Worship Services
12 noon & 6:45pm
Ashes-to-Go @
LS and Lake Carolina
8-10am, 3-6pm

LENTEN FISH FRY, Feb. 24
Each Friday in Lent, 5-7pm



Welcome Seminarian Paula Perry!

LS continues our long-time ministry of serving as a field education site for students from our Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia. Seminarian Adriana McMurphy has completed her 3 semesters of formal field education with us. Now, we are blessed to welcome Seminarian Paula Perry, who will be working with both Pastor Carl & Pastor Eric as her field ed instructors. Below is Paula's bio. Please welcome her, as we join together in this exciting partnership of education & ministry!



Paula Dargan Perry

Paula Dargan Perry lives in Irmo, SC but was reared in Darlington, South Carolina. She is married to Reverend Samuel Perry, Pastor of Family Vision Ministries, Columbia, SC (an interdenominational ministry) and they are the parents of three adult children, Sean, Samantha, and Amanda Perry.

Paula received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from Benedict College, a Master of Science degree in Computer Studies from North Carolina State University (NC State) and a Master of Arts degree in Practical Ministry from Erskine Theological Seminary. She is currently employed by the State of South Carolina as a Senior Systems Analyst.

Paula is currently pursuing an MDiv at LTSS. She became a member of Christ Mission Lutheran Church in 2019. She gets great pleasure in serving those in nursing facilities/homebound. She is also an ordained minister in the Baptist tradition and serves along with her husband at Family Vision Ministries.

Paula finds it most humbling to be considered worthy to minister God's Word. One of her favorite passages is Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths."

**LS Disciple Gatherings!
Mid-Feb through March
specific times TBA**

+ + +

Be on the lookout for an invitation from a gathering host, so you can join with a small group of fellow disciples for an important time of faith reflection & dialogue!

In the upcoming weeks, our LS leadership will be prayerfully pondering and refining the initial ideas which sprouted during our planning retreat—and then, on the **1st Sunday in Lent, February 26**, we look forward to a **congregational kickoff** for our 2023 Ministry Focus under that wonderful theme of “Growing Hope!” In the surrounding weeks (mid-Feb through end of March), all of us will also be invited to gather in **small disciple groups** to reflect on our own journey of being part of God’s growing hope in our lives—and in the world!

One powerful seed of growing hope uplifted during the retreat was our LS Emotional-Mental Wellness initiative. We had a tremendous congregational gathering in December, at which results were shared from the 80+ persons who responded to the initial survey. The Wellness Task Force has met multiple times since December, with specific updates shared at the January leadership retreat. We are now engaging in next steps with the following 6 initiatives:

- 1) **Monthly Emotional-Mental Wellness moments** to be shared during worship, to help continue breaking down barriers of silence and societal stigma associated with this important aspect of our wholistic beings who are all God’s children!
- 2) Sponsoring special **Emotional-Mental Wellness Panels/Workshops** for the congregation (including our Child Development Center) and larger community at least 4-6 times throughout the year, with invited “experts” available to share resources, strategies, and support in various areas.
- 3) Assembling & regularly publicizing a **list of Emotional-Mental Wellness Resources & Counseling Services**, to address multiple issues faced by individuals, couples, or families in various subject areas.
- 4) Formation of new (or connection to already existing) **Emotional-Mental Wellness Support Groups** in a variety of areas. See the box....
- 5) Explore re-starting our **LS Stephen Ministry**, which had once been operative years ago (if interested, please contact Pastor Eric).
- 6) Establishing a new **Emotional-Mental Wellness Fund**, that can help cover the expense for expert resources, plus assist individuals, couples, or families with the growing cost for counseling & other needed Emotional-Mental Wellness professional help. The specific parameters & guidelines are still being worked out for this new Fund, but thanks to the generosity of LS members, we **already have \$14,000 donated as seed money** for this important endeavor! Thanks be to God!

Truly, the hope of God, which we share as people of faith, is a GROWING hope—and truly, as disciples stretched by the cross and filled with the Holy Spirit, we are blessed to join together in the holy task of continuing to GROW hope in people’s lives and in the world. In February, we will be blessed to celebrate that growing hope with 4 special Sundays: **Youth Sunday (Feb. 5)**, **Scout Sunday (Feb. 12)**, **Transfiguration Sunday (Feb. 19)**—with rite of Confirmation for Daniel, Garrett, Hunter!!!, and **“Growing Hope” Kickoff Sunday (Feb. 26)**. Along with **Shrove Tuesday (Feb. 21) & Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22)**, it will be a special month—one which I look forward to celebrating with all of you! Spread the word and invite someone to join you, as we continue to be part of God’s garden of Growing Hope for all! With much love and gratitude in Christ for each of you, *Pastor Eric*



**LS EMOTIONAL-MENTAL
HEALTH & WELLNESS SUPPORT GROUP**

Interest slips are in the admin lobby, or [click here](#) to complete online. Initial gathering planned for Sunday, Feb. 26!!

+ + +

*Next Monthly Emotional-Mental Wellness
Worship Moment: Sunday, Feb. 12!*



**Shrove Tuesday
Tuesday, February 21
Burning of the Palms @ 6:40pm
Pancakes & Sausage
Served by our Youth
(eat-in or take-out)
5:30-6:40pm**

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is almost here! Our youth will be serving pancakes & sausage between 5:30 and 6:0 pm—come when you can.
Eat-in or Take-out.
(Donations will benefit LS Youth).

The brief outdoor “Burning of Palms” will take place at 6:40 (ashes used for Ash Wednesday).

**ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP
February 22
Noon and 6:45pm**

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.
Invite a friend.
*We begin the Lenten journey of prayer
that leads us to the cross.*

**Outreach “Ashes-to-Go”
Blessing for the Community
8AM—10AM & 3PM -6PM
Lake Carolina Town Center
and LS entrance**



God's Corner



Dear Living Springs,

On behalf of Harvest Hope and those we serve, thank you for your financial contribution in 2022. During such unprecedented times, your support helped provide vital hunger relief at a time when so many of our neighbors across South Carolina needed and continues to need our help. Thank you for joining us in helping to ease the burden for those struggling from hunger. Your donation allowed Harvest Hope to distribute millions of meals through the Midlands, Pee Dee, and Upstate last year. Together, we're building a hunger-free tomorrow.

With Gratitude,

Kristy McLellan

Major Gifts Manager



Dear friends,

Thank you for your gift of \$225 in support of N Street Village. We are grateful for your generosity. Because of you, we have reimagined our services and adapted to the ever-changing needs of the women we welcome each day. Your investment enables us to partner with women like Iva, a Village resident who moved into our permanent supportive housing after experiencing homelessness for a decade. Iva says, "N Street Village gave me the resources and tools to reclaim my life. I am so grateful for that, and I know it would not have been possible without you, the Village community of volunteers, donors, and supporters."

In gratitude,

Kenyatta T. Brunson

Chief Executive officer, N Street Village

O See God At Work...

God uses the time, talents, treasures & provisions given to us all to make a difference to us all. Open your heart to HIS agape love.



I witnessed a beautiful sight this week. I watched a young child talking to a homeless man by Washington Street. Methodist Church downtown. The mom stood back while they talked. I have no idea what the conversation was, but I watched a beautiful dialogue between the two. We are all God's children no matter age or position in life! Amen!



I did not plan to go to Rice Estate to deliver Advent bags - I was just dropping off items at church. Cathy and Gail encouraged me to accompany them. The reactions of the residents to the Advent items was worth the trip. Residents were truly surprised and touched by the gifts. Many took the opportunity to share past experiences and faith testimonies. An ordinary day was transformed into a look at how God is working through LS ministry.

SHARE YOUR Hope Moment

Has God worked a Hope moment through you or someone else during the week? Email GodAtWork@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!

Notes from: *Living Springs Child Development Center*

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Greetings and Happy 2023!

It's hard to believe that we are already welcoming a new year! We look forward to it being filled with conversation, stories, and examples of the connections of God's HOPE as it works in our lives and those around us. We are anxious and excited to see what the coming months will bring! How we as a CDC ministry will be held and kept under the umbrella of HOPE, or how we may hold that umbrella for others.

Our focus for the coming year in the CDC is sharing stories of HOPE. We want our children, families, and staff to know the importance of sharing where, how, and when we see God at work in our lives, the lives of our loved ones, and in the lives of our community. Something as simple as a smile or a card may leave an imprint of HOPE on someone when they thought there was none.

One story we want to share from this month is that our three and four-year-old students took an exciting field trip. They had the opportunity to visit a veteran at his home for his 100th birthday! The children, families, and staff created a brightly decorated banner with signatures and pictures that they hand-delivered along with 100 handmade birthday cards as they sang him, "Happy Birthday!" The morning of the field trip I received an email from a parent of one of the children that would be attending that morning:

"Good morning! I believe y'all are going to see ____ today. I may have that wrong but if it is.... Logan uses this stool every day to reach our sinks and it's made by him! It was mine and Lindsey's when we were younger. My mom actually taught with his wife at Hammond many years ago. Pretty cool I think!! I didn't think to take a picture until this morning. Hope today's trip goes well." Brantley

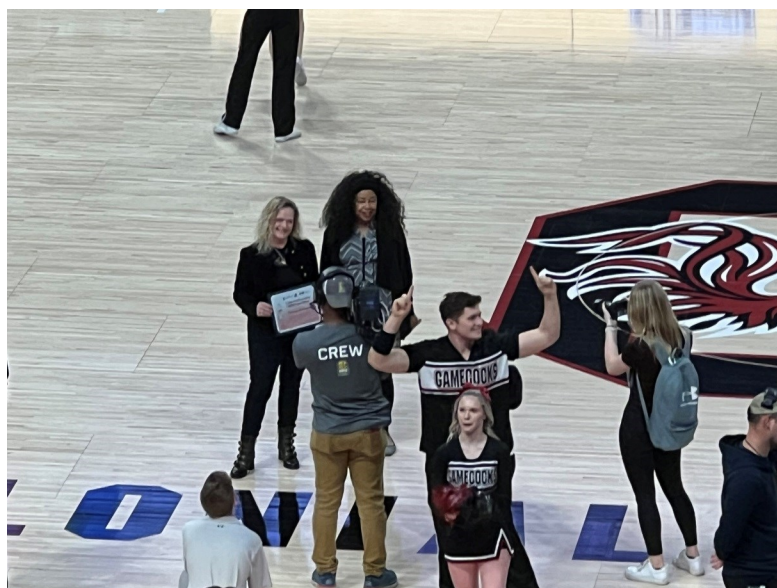
This is just one example of the countless interactions and seeds that are planted as we go through our daily lives. We may think of these interactions as simple gestures, and "not much to it", but here we are years later able to see how that love has come full circle and has continued to make an impact.

As move through our days, I pray that we are intentional about listening, sharing, and fostering conversation of HOPE.

Wishing you well, Tammy

Tammy honored at UofSC basketball game...From the SC Gamecocks Facebook page: *Congratulations to Tammy Mancuso, our [ABC Quality](#) Child Care Hero of the Game, from Living Springs Lutheran Child Development Center. With over 33 years of experience, Tammy is instrumental in assisting families seek out scholarships to pay for child care.*

Check out the page with a video here: www.facebook.com/watch/?v=567181428288176



Notes from: *Fellowship & Mutual Care*

"Can you take the Heat?"

LS Legrand/Lowman Scholarship Auction - with Chili Cookoff!
Saturday February 4th at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Fellowship and Mutual Care will be hosting the Annual LS Scholarship Dinner and Silent/White Elephant Auction on February 4th. This year, we are combining this event with our LS Annual Chili Cook-off, "Can you take the Heat?". Proceeds will benefit our LS college scholarship fund, in memory of the LeGrands and Lowmans .

We will not be selling tickets, as we will dine on chili appetizers and dessert. We will have a signup sheet in admin building. If you would like to participate in the cook off, bring your best chili (doesn't have to be spicy because some of us can't take the heat -lol). There will be prizes.

For the additional White Elephant auction, we limit this to one donated item per person/family. For example, an item can be a Christmas gift you have no idea what to do with. Instead of regifting it, it may find a perfect home at the white elephant auction. Remember one person's "junk" may be another's "treasure".

You don't want to miss out on the fun!



Notes from: *Emotional - Mental Wellness*

**EMOTIONAL-MENTAL WELLNESS
SUPPORT GROUPS FOR 2023!**

As shared at the congregation gathering on Dec. 11, we had a tremendous response to our Emotional-Mental Health & Wellness Survey. One next step is to form various groups for support, dialogue & resources for those experiencing similar life-challenges. Interest slips are located in the Admin Building, Narthex or [online](#). Friends, family, and community members are welcome! Possibilities include: Caregivers of Loved Ones; Living with Emotional-Mental Health Challenges; Walking with Anxiety/Stress/Depression; Grief & Loss; Healing for Relationships or Past/Current Hurts; Caring for Parents; Support for Marriage/Couples; Parenting Support; Recovery Support; Post-Traumatic Stress; Stephen Ministry; Other Needs....



Notes from: *Good News Team*

LS Good News Bible Reading Project

Catch this month's stories in our YouTube Bible Project Playlist

A Commandment & Promise - read by Dawn Willingham

Jesus Lives! - read by Raegan Prest

Ruth, A Woman to Ponder - read by John Imbert & Pastor Carl

A Miracle Child - Consecrated for the Lord - read by Anna Graves

Here I Am, Lord! - read by Steve Padgett

Facing a Giant: The Battle Is the Lord's! - read by Alyssa Prest

In an effort to get God's Word out to all, the Good News Team is doing a Bible Reading Project in conjunction with the Devotional Weekly Worship. Each Monday, a Bible story from our Bible "Book" of the Month will be read at the beginning of the service. The worship will be livestreamed, so we are asking you to share on all your social media platforms. By sharing, that story will get to someone who may need to hear it and possibly never heard that story before! We can all be a part of the Good News Team!

Upcoming February stories:

The Peaceful Kingdom, Rejoicing in Hope

A Highway of Hope

Hope Found in a Suffering Servant

Looking for Readers To pre-record or read live... Individuals/couples/families/youth

Want to read a Bible story for our Devotional Worship Time? No need to be here, record yourself/family reading from your favorite Bible, or we can record you. Call the office to schedule

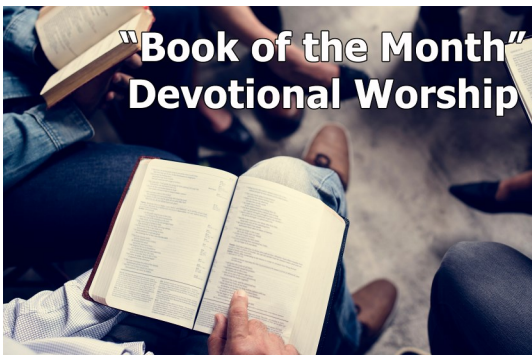
Rush Hour Ministry

Extend an Umbrella of God's Hope

Thursday, October 27,

5 -5:45PM (set up @ 4:45)

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 5pm. Join us anytime!



"Book of the Month" WEEKLY DEVOTION WORSHIP Wednesday, 12:00-12:25

We spend time together in the sanctuary to start our week with brief Monday worship - reading a favorite story from our Bible Book of the Month, sharing some thoughts, and closing in prayer. *Those who wish can also stay & receive Holy Communion after the brief Bible/Prayer worship.*

Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

Dear Living Springs Members, thank you so much for helping my sweet family for Christmas. My parent was so worried that she would not have enough to give so what you did means the world to her!! THANK YOU!!!!!!

Christie Hutchinson, Richland 2 School Social Worker

STUFF A BUS *Saturday, Feb. 11*

On Saturday, Feb. 11 at Kroger on 10136 Two Notch (@ Sparkleberry) and Kroger on Killian, the CDC bus will be parked out in front of these stores. Helpers will pass out flyers to customers from 9 am to 1 pm. There is a sign up in the admin building and you can also sign up with Signup Genius <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BAEA92FA0F85-stuff3>. The schedule is in one hour increments, but you can do whatever time works for you - we appreciate any help we can get.



LENTEN FISH FRY

Woo hoo! We enter another year of featuring our annual fish fry event to contribute to our commitment to Campus Ministry! Fishin' Fellas will be providing the meals starting Friday, February 24 through March 31. Take out is featured, but the Fellowship Hall will be available to eat inside. Spread the word to your neighbors, co-workers, friends, & family so we can have a successful event! Menu, prices, times will be posted in the enews.



BACKPACK FOOD MINISTRY

We continue to look for food items - milk, juice, cereal, applesauce & fruit cups, meat items, pudding cups/cookies, and snacks - all individually packaged. For February, we are changing up our packing schedule - Sunday, Feb. 5 and Feb. 26 before & after worship; w/o 2/12 & 2/19 can be done by a couple, family and you can sign up on <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BAEA92FA0F85-packing> or contact Karen Kranz.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

What a joy to see and hear Pastor Jesse connect with USC students at the 1/22 Sunday night worship/meal. I remember a couple of years ago when we provided the Sunday meal, there were maybe 4 or 5 students that would attend. This past Sunday, there had to be at least 17 students all engaging freely in the worship service. I know we sometimes hear "where are the young people" "they don't attend church anymore"; but there are some good vibes bouncing around in the building on Greene St. and it is so refreshing to listen to them talk about God in their lives. There are some March-April slots open to provide meals - you can sign up using this link: [Gamecock Lutheran: Meals For Campus Ministry 2022-2023 \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BAEA92FA0F85-packing).



CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL & PALMETTO PLACE MEALS

Each month on the third Thursday, there is an opportunity to contribute to the 20 children's hospital lunches provided by our own Travis Mooney at Carolina Deli ([who made the top 7 best Delis in South Carolina!](#)) You can write your own personal encouraging note to be included in the bag that is delivered for parents attending to their children that are in for long-term illnesses. On the fourth Thursday, Palmetto Place gets a home-cooked meal for ten young adults transitioning from the unaccompanied youth house to the experience of adulthood. Learning how to budget, cook simple meals, getting to and from jobs is part of the itinerary at Samantha House.

Notes from: *Justice Ministry*

Spring is "action season" for the Living Springs Justice Ministry. We prepare for the upcoming Nehemiah Action on March 27 by inviting others to join us as we ask our public officials for changes to make Columbia a more just and peaceful place for everyone. This Spring we are asking for Justice for our neighbors with Food Insecurity, Affordable Housing, Crime and Gun Violence, and Mental Health Care.

Asking for Justice has been going on a long time. The Parable of the Persistent Widow in Luke 18:1-8 provides a wonderful model for Living Springs this Spring in "action season".

The story opens with Jesus telling his disciples a parable "to show them that they should always pray and not give up." In a "certain town" there was a judge who didn't fear God nor care for what the people thought. And there was a widow who was being treated unjustly by "an adversary." That's what we know. The story goes on to say that the widow goes repeatedly to the judge, asking for justice, but he continually refuses to help her. Finally the judge says to himself that even though he doesn't care what God wants and he doesn't care what other people think, he is tired of being bothered by this widow. He says, "I will see that she gets justice" so that she will quit bothering him. When Jesus finishes the story he says to the disciples, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones who cry out to him day and night? Will God keep putting them off? I tell you; he will see that they get justice, and quickly."

Springtime is "action season" for the Living Springs Justice Ministry and "action" begins with prayer, persistent prayer for justice for our neighbors.

- We pray for compassion and care for those in Columbia suffering from the effects of mental illness.
- We pray for establishment of an affordable housing trust fund so that our city joins other communities in South Carolina that have a sustainable plan to provide for those needing homes.
- We pray for the newly established City of Columbia Office of Violent Crime Prevention to bring peace to our neighborhoods.
- We pray for action to reduce food insecurity across our community.
- We pray with confidence in God's promise to "bring about justice for his chosen ones who cry out to him day and night."

Like the widow, we need to be persistent in prayer. We need to pray with our lips and also pray through our actions as the widow did. We need to be persistent in our invitations to others to come to the Nehemiah Action to ask our community leaders for the changes that our neighbors need. We need to be persistent and believe God's promise to bring justice.

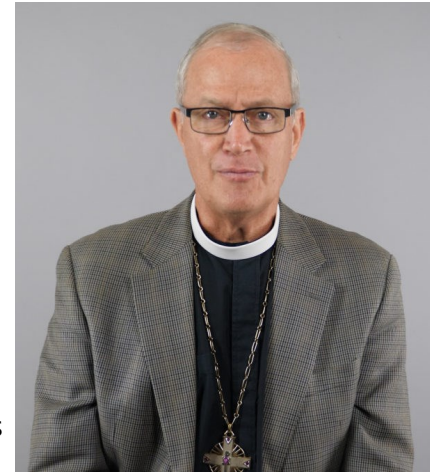


SAVE THE DATES:

- 2/26 @ 8:15 and 10:30 AM - Blessing of Living Springs Justice Ministry Network Members – Location @ LS
- 3/13 @ 6:30 PM MORE Justice Rally – Location TBD
- 3/27 @6:30 PM Nehemiah Action – Location TBD
- 5/8@6:30 PM MORE Justice Celebration – Location TBD

Notes from: *Lifelong Discipleship*

Special Spiritual Opportunity Here at LS!
An Introduction to Centering Prayer
led by Retired Bishop Herman Yoos
Sundays - March 5, 12, 19, 26; April 2 & 16
4:00-5:00pm in the LS Fellowship Hall



To sign up, please email (or call) the Church Office starting Monday, Feb. 6.

Due to the nature of the class, it is limited to the first 15 people who sign up (we will also have a "waiting list").

Since 2003, Pastor Yoos has been a practitioner of Centering Prayer and a Certified Spiritual Director since 2017. He writes:

Have you felt a desire for a deeper connection to God in your prayer life? It seems that many people today are hungry not for more head knowledge about God but rather for a heart knowledge of the loving presence of God at the center of one's being. I have been blessed to offer this experience at other congregations and am looking forward to now leading a 6-week course here at Living Springs.

The study material will include selected readings from the book, *Centering Prayer and Inner Awareness* by Cynthia Bourgeault and some written prayer reflections that have been helpful to me in my 41 years of ministry. Since 2003, I have found spending 20 minutes each day in silent openness to God has been a transformative prayer practice. In introducing this practice, we will focus on 6 key words from scripture that are essential to one's ongoing prayer journey with God: Seek, Set, Let, Ask, Thank and Share. In addition, we will be covering each week helpful chapters from Cynthia Bourgeault's book and learn why so many people today are being drawn to this ancient prayer practice. Each person will be asked to order and read assigned sections from this book. It can be ordered at most online bookstores. (Note: please see Pastor Eric or Lisa if we can help you order the book)

I look forward to sharing this prayer journey with you. You may also email me with any questions at hryoos52@gmail.com. There is no charge, but as a voluntary love offering, at the end of the classes, I am inviting interested participants to make a donation to our SC Synod's building fund for Cristo Rey.



"SEE GOD'S GENEROSITYMORE CLEARLY" INTENTS MAY STILL BE OFFERED FOR 2023

We rejoice in the amazing, faithful response of this community of disciples! To date, 92 Intents of Generosity have been offered for our Lord (a new high for recent years). The purpose of the Intent Card is NOT about trying to meet "a church budget," but rather an opportunity for each person/family to find joy in an expression of faith and commitment to our Lord. As always, your Giving Intent remains sealed in the sanctuary throughout the year, so no one will know your Intent, other than yourself and God. Intent Cards can still be left at the Baptismal cross during worship, dropped off at church, or mailed to the office. Check the lobby or narthex for copies of the Intent Card and Blue Prayer Envelopes. As we move into 2023, may God inspire each of us to see God's Generosity more clearly in our own lives and extend the umbrella of God's HOPE to even more lives!

Check out our YouTube Channel playlist - "See God's Generosity More Clearly" for powerful Generosity Moments from Todd Gunvalson, Reagan Prest, Karen Kranz & Jeff Lummel, and Shirl Schiffman.



BOOKS OF MONTH: 2022-23

SEPTEMBER	Genesis 1-25	MARCH	Matthew 1-14
OCTOBER	Genesis 26-30	APRIL	Matthew 15-28
NOVEMBER	Exodus 1-24, 31-34	MAY	Acts 1-14
DECEMBER	John 1-21	JUNE	Acts 15-28
JANUARY	Ruth 1-4 & 1 Samuel 1-20	JULY	Galatians 1-6 & Romans 1-16
FEBRUARY	Isaiah 1-12, 35, 40-62	AUGUST	Hebrews 1-13, 1 John 1-5, 1 Peter 1-5

Notes from: *Mission Partnership Team*

LS Ministry with Cristo Rey!



LS Ministry with Cristo Rey! *Sunday, February 5 @ 4:15pm*

We provide a Bible lesson, crafts, singing, and snacks for the children of our Mission Partner, Cristo Rey, in West Columbia. We have team leaders, but 5-6 volunteer helpers are needed, plus a snack for up to 20 children. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Volunteers will meet at LS at 4:15 and carpool to Cristo Rey. The children speak English, so Spanish is not a requirement.



Notes from: *Sr. Youth*

Wednesday Sr. Youth Gathering



"SOUP"-er Bowl COLLECTION

Drop off soup cans

thru Super Bowl Sunday, February 12th

LS Youth are participating in "Soup"-er Bowl of Caring in a meaningful way again this year. They need your help! "Vote" for your favorite soup by donating cans for those who hunger in our community. Baskets will be set up in the Admin. Building. Cans can be dropped off through Super Bowl Sunday, February 12th. The Youth will count the cans, announce the winning soup, and distribute them to local food pantries. You can also order through Amazon and have it delivered directly to the church. We will have our traditional "soup \$\$ bowls" at worship on the 12th, for your hunger donations of coins and dollars. Monetary donations are also welcome via our LS Giveli-fy app. Contact Leslie Bloss with any questions. Thanks in advance for your support!

Calling all people of LS....

Youth Sunday is Feb. 5!

Be sure to be present next Sunday, Feb. 5 as we celebrate the ministry of our amazing youth here at LS! Youth will be leading the worship service, with specially-selected music and a powerful message. Come be inspired, affirm these youth people in their faith journey, and show our youth how much they mean to us all!

Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*

The Wonder of Worship

I've been privileged to help with the music at Living Springs for the last year or so. Some of you have been Lutheran Christians for a long time—maybe since you were born! It's been a newer journey for me to understand our liturgical style of worship which has: (1) many parts (the capitalized, bold headings in the bulletin), (2) music interspersed throughout those parts, and (3) lots of interaction and movement for the pastors, worship assistants, and congregants alike. It takes a while to see the meaning of these elements, but as you do, you see more clearly that worship services are meant to be *not-like-anything-else* times of interaction between us and our great God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



I thought I'd share what I've been learning in the *Journal*. If you're newer to Living Springs, maybe my pondering will help in your own learning curve. If you're an old-timer (of any age!), maybe it'll be encouraging to see things through a newcomer's eyes. Send any thoughts or questions to shirl@livingsprings.org. This month and next the topic is:

What is Worship? (Part 1)

We worship as we gather as God's people, remember our Baptism and receive forgiveness, sing hymns to praise God, hear the Word read and proclaimed in a sermon, confess our faith & pray together, and receive the grace of Holy Communion before being sent out to represent Christ in the world. The core meaning of the word *worship* is to bow down, to prostrate, honor, reverence, show adoration, homage to God. True worship involves both actions and attitudes of the heart.

There are many descriptive definitions of worship, but I found one I really like: ***Worship is a collaborative engagement across cultures and generations in which God and the people of God 'listen' to each other and are formed in love around each other for the sake of the world. It is an imaginative, risky, and life-giving venture.*** – Robert Alan Rimbo¹

Wow! So much could be said, but just three thoughts. First, I love the terms **collaborative engagement** and **listen to each other**. Worship services are unlike plays or concerts where certain people perform and an audience reacts. For us, the pastors, worship assistants, readers, musicians, and each and every person present (across cultures and generations!) collaborate together to engage with ... with God! God, the creator and sustainer of the universe! And wonder of wonders, God collaborates and engages with us! We (the people of God) and God listen to each other! Amazing! Our liturgical form of worship models this with many back-and-forths: we listen, we speak, we sing, we pray, we kneel, we sit, we stand. I could go on . . .

Second, that the people of God and God **are formed in love around each other for the sake of the world** is a powerful reminder of what our pastors often tell us, that gathering together is essential, but always tied to our call to take the strength, joy, and purpose nurtured in church with us as we disperse out of church as lights for Christ.

It [worship] is an imaginative, risky, life-giving venture. So cool! Each descriptor warrants discussion. A lot of imagination and creativity goes into everything we do at Living Springs, our services, ministries, outreach, etc. It makes our life together very vibrant. There's no question that worship—both corporate and individual and/or family worship—is **life-giving**, for that's when we pay the closest attention to God through the Holy Spirit. But **risky**? How is worship risky? I'll leave that for you to ponder!

Shirl Schiffman

¹“Formed/Re-formed: Engaging worship across cultures and generations,” by Robert Alan Rimbo and Justin Rimbo. In *CrossAccent*, Fall/Winter, 2016, 5-14. [Note: Justin Rimbo was the Minister of Worship & Innovative Church Outreach at Living Springs several years ago.

Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

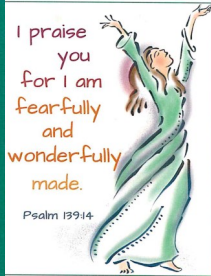
LADIES BOOK CLUB

Sunday, Feb. 5 at 2 pm we will gather at Karen Kranz's house, 235 Founders Ridge Rd (in the Summit) to discuss *Listen to the Children* by Johnny Bloodworth and to also pick our books to read for 2023. This book club is open to anyone (I'm talking about anyone!) so please feel free to join us. We enjoy fellowship and a light refreshment afterwards. Contact: Karen Kranz 716.998.1157.



Women on a Mission

March 10-12, 2023
Camp Kinard
6053 Two Notch Road
Batesburg-Leesville, SC
29070



Who We Are: A group of women whose mission it is to continue to walk in the way of Jesus. This weekend changed our lives. We continued the weekend with a 12,week Renewal to deepen our understanding of our purpose and our calling to be better women of God. This is not your typical women's retreat. In the hustle and bustle of life, as women we often are caring for others. This retreat is a gift to yourself. As part of the retreat, you will have: Time to be still and listen. Time to connect authentically with yourself and other women. A clearer sense of your purpose and where God is calling you. Be prepared for a once in a lifetime experience and connect in a circle of sisters. Follow-up sessions to deepen the experience and relationships are available after the retreat.

Cost: Retreat and Women on a Mission - Renewal (12,week Bible study) is only \$175. Registration is non-refundable but is transferable to another participant for this retreat (limited exceptions). The retreat is 2 nights of lodging, 6 meals, and retreat materials. (Special diet need are \$6 extra per person). [Click here for more info & registration](#)



Notes from: *Men's Ministry*

Bibles & Biscuits
Men's Bible Study



South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission 2023 Annual Convention

Fri, Feb 17, 2023, 7:00 PM – Sat, Feb 18, 2023, 4:30 PM EST
Messiah Lutheran Church 1100 Log Shoals Road Mauldin, SC

Come join us at the 80th SC Lutheran Men in Mission State Convention! Lutheran men from across the state will gather for a time of fellowship, then listen to speakers entertain and provide helpful information about mental health.

There will informative and service opportunities in the afternoon breakout sessions.

We will also award the monetary gifts to supported ministries.

We need you to make this a success so come be a part of our legacy!

More info or to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-south-carolina-lutheran-men-in-mission-annual-convention-tickets-465453974367>



March 24-26, 2023

Tracy's Camp

Pinewood, SC

COST: Early Registration: \$150 by Mar 17th; Late Registration: \$175 by Mar 23rd (Scholarships are available - contact retreat leaders)

[Click here for more info/registration](#)

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!

God At Work

Epiphany Campfire Gathering



Council Installation



Community MLK Worship @ Rehoboth Baptist



Thanksgiving for Seminarian Adriana McMurphy



Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

Coming Soon: LS Disciple Fellowship Gatherings *Would you like to convene or host a small group?*

Once again, we are making plans for everyone at LS to gather in small groups for fellowship and reflection on living out our call as disciples of Jesus. The target dates are mid-February through March. If you would like to help gather a group OR host a group, please call the office or contact Steve Bloss. You can host the group in your home or some other site (restaurant, neighborhood center, wherever). You do not have to lead the "program" - someone from the leadership team will take care of that. (NOTE: this is something different from the fall Justice house gatherings). Please consider this wonderful opportunity!

AARP Smart Driver classroom course *Saturday, March 25 - 10 am to 2 pm*

AARP Smart Driver classroom course could save you money on your car insurance. If you would like to attend on Saturday, March 25 - 10 am to 2 pm, contact Karen Kranz. The fee is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members (cash or check only). I would recommend checking with your insurance company to see if attending this course will save you money. This will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

Member Info & Welcome Session *Sundays, Feb. 19 & 26 @ 9:20am*

Plans are now being made for our next Member Welcome Blessing (and info class) to welcome persons into Christ's family of faith here at LS. If interested - or if you would like to know more about LS and our faith as Lutheran Christians - please see Pastor Eric or Pastor Carl, or call the office.

Ongoing Opportunities at Living Springs

Recovery Comes First *Mondays 7pm-8pm @ Living Springs*

A Narcotics Anonymous Group is being formed here in the NE Columbia area! "Recovery Comes First" will meet every Monday, 7-8 pm, at Living Springs Lutheran Church (Katie Room). This is an "open" group, meaning that anyone affected (directly or indirectly) by narcotic/opioid addiction is welcome to attend.

2023 Altar Flowers

Are you looking for a way to honor or memorialize someone near and dear to you? Make a floral contribution by ordering altar flowers and let the office know who or what it is that you are celebrating **OR** maybe you just want to thank God for the many blessings you receive! There is a signup outside Lisa's office for 2023 or go to <http://goo.gl/mVVrGE>. To order flowers from our preferred florist, contact Blythewood Florist at 691-1820.

Living Springs Pew Bear Ministry

Each bear is a minister of God's love as they leave here to be a blessing for others. You may take a bear to anyone who is in need of God's love: hurting from illness, loneliness, depression, grief, or any other reason. When you take a bear, please place \$10 or a free-will offering in a pew envelope and mark it "Pew Bears." Donated funds are needed to replace the bears. Thank you for praying for this ministry. We are blessed to be a blessing!

Disciples Helping Disciples

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

Opportunities Outside Living Springs

Night of Promise Gala 2023



... because every child deserves a home.

Friday, March 31 2023

6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Junction 800 in the Vista

- Fabulous Music and Dancing
- Heavy hors d'oeuvres by Southern Way Catering
- Free valet parking
- Beer, wine, soft drinks included with ticket
- Display of silent auction items with online & onsite bidding through 8:30
- Updates on the Family Promise Mission
- Celebration of our 2023 Campaign

Festive Attire



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Through Thrivent Choice®, clients with membership can contribute to organizations and causes they care about—and influence how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funding through Choice Dollars®.

You can make a personal donation to your favorite enrolled organization—Thrivent pays the processing fees. Your 2022 Choice Dollars can be distributed through the end of March.

Log onto your Thrivent account > My Thrivent > Membership Overview > Thrivent Choice or contact or call Thrivent @ 800-847-4836.



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE REDEEMER

EST. 1853

Dear *Living Springs Lutheran Church, Rev. Eric Fink, & Rev. Carl Taylor*

We at The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer wanted to let you know that we lifted you and your congregation up in our prayers on Sunday, January 29, 2023. We prayed that God would continue to guide and be present in your ministries within your community. We give thanks for the gifts you get to share with your community and the entire Body of Christ!

God bless each of you and the work you get to do!

Huger + Anne Caylor
Gayle Lindley

Andy & Kevin Kelly
Pat Kelly
Wesley Caylor Jr. and Dennis

Susan & Thomasson
Ann Jacobs
Walter Jacobs

Kathy & Bob
Robert
Debra Whitford

Eric Wital
Ernest Shealy

Ann P. Stone
Andy

Eric Wayne Kneese Jr.
Robert Kneese

Maart
Tommy & Helen Sellers

Rev. Matthew Peter
Erwin, Evelyn, + William

John + Carolyn Hammond
Cynthia + Bobby Lominack

Kevin Paul

Kris Lu Caylor
Rosemary S. Dominick

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
MAIN SUNDAY SCHEDULE 810A Pre-Worship Prayer Time 1030A WORSHIP (Sanctuary/ Parking Lot FM/Online) - includes Children's GIFT Faith Learning 815A WORSHIP (Sanctuary) 920 Adult Faith Formation	1025 Pre-Worship Prayer Time 1030A WORSHIP (Sanctuary/ Parking Lot FM/Online) - includes Children's GIFT Faith Learning		1 1030A Preschool Bible Time Noon Devotional Worship w/Communion 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 6P Hope Team 630P Sr. Youth (LSLC)	2 930A Staff Mtg 11A Good News Team 330P Backpack Ministry (LSCDC) 630P Justice Ministry Network Members @ LS 7P Youth & Children Ministry Team	3 930A Staff Mtg 11A Good News Team 330P Backpack Ministry (LSCDC) 630P Justice Ministry Network Members @ LS 7P Youth & Children Ministry Team	4 6P Legrand/Lowman Scholarship Auction & Chili Cook-off
5 *See box above Youth Sunday Before/After Worship—Backpacks 920P Bible Book of Month Study 12P Confirmation (parents 215) 2P Ladies Book Club (Kranz) 430P Girl Scouts 5P Cristo Rey Ministry (Meet LS 415)	6 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P LS Leaders Anchor Zoom 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scouts	7 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	8 1030A Preschool Bible Time Noon Devotional Worship w/Communion 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Sr. Youth (Cookout) 8P Emotional-Mental Hlth TF	9 7A Bible & Biscuits Men's Bible Study 630P LSCDC Board	10 7A Bible & Biscuits Men's Bible Study 630P LSCDC Board	11 9A-1P Stuff-A-Bus (Kroger on Killian, Notch)
12 *See box above Scout Sunday @ 10:30 (+ Prayer Garden Dedication) Stuff-A-Bus Line (before/after worship) 815 & 1030 Soup-er Bowl Collection 1145A Child Protection Training 430P Girl Scouts	13 1030A Meals on Wheels 445P Rush Hour Ministry 6P Worship Team 7P Fellowship Mutual Care 7P Exec Team 7P Boy Scouts 7P Recovery Comes First	14 10A Bible Bk of Month Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 530P Finance Team 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	15 1030A Preschool Bible Time Noon Devotional Worship w/Communion 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Sr. Youth (LSLC)	16 4P Backpack Food Ministry 7P Council Meeting Children's Hospital Meal	17 4P Backpack Food Ministry 7P Council Meeting Children's Hospital Meal	18 930A SCLMM Convention-Mauldin 5p Rice Estate Dinner (Set-up 3p)
19 *See box above Transfiguration Sunday 1030P Rite of Confirmation! 920A Member Info Class 12P Confirmation Class 430P Girl Scouts <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> Disciple Gatherings through March </div>	20 Office Closed - Presidents Day 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scouts	21 Shrove Tuesday 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 5:30-6:40P Shrove Tuesday Pancakes 640P Burning of Palms 7P Handbells	22 Ash Wednesday 8-10A Ashes to Go 1030A Preschool Bible Time Noon Ash Wed. Worship 3-6P Ashes to Go 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 645P Ash Wed Worship	23 7A Bible & Biscuits Men's Bible Study 1030A Staff Mtg 4P Backpack Food Ministry Palmetto Place Meal	24 5-7P Lenten Fish Fry	25 8A Men's Breakfast Gathering
26 *See box above 1st Sunday in Lent GROWING HOPE KICKOFF! Justice Network Member Blessing Before/After Worship—Backpacks 920A Member Info Class 12P Confirmation Class 3P Midlands Conf. Gathering @ LS 430P Girl Scouts 5P Campus Ministry Meal TBA Emotional Wellness Support Grp	27 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scouts	28 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 630P Justice Tm Assembly 7P Handbells	1 1030A Preschool Bible Time Noon Lenten Dev. Worship 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 645P Lenten Drama Worship 645P Sr. Youth (+McDonalds after worship)	2 11A Good News Team 7P Lifelong Discipleship 7P Youth & Children Ministry Team 7P Recovery Comes First (New Thursday group)	3 5-7P Lenten Fish Fry	4

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

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



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!



February 1	Patricia Bartucca
February 3	Kris Fink
February 6	Laura Stuart
February 7	Jacob Newton
February 10	Lilah Snipes Mike Wirth
February 13	Wendy McKenzie
February 15	Wesley Graves
February 17	Goldie Harmon
February 19	Katie Prizer
February 24	Rocky Berger



CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers

Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor

pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org

Rev. Carl Taylor - Associate Pastor

pastorcarl@livingspringscolumbia.org

Deacon Lexanne Graves – E-Outreach Coordinator

lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org

Tammy Mancuso- Dir. of Child Development Center

tmancuso@lslccdc.org

Lisa Petty – Good News Coordinator

lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org

Laura & Mark Cunningham - Food Resource Persons

laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org

Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper

sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org

Laura Turnmire – Handbell Choir Director

laurabells@livingspringscolumbia.org

Seminarian Paula Perry

seminarian@livingspringscolumbia.org

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

[Joel Holmstrom](#) - President

[Laura Turnmire](#) - Vice-President

[Brantley Smith](#) - Secretary

[Mike Davidson](#) - Treasurer

[Bill Ramsey](#) – Financial Secretary

[Hunter Prest](#) - Youth Representative

[Rev. Eric Fink](#) – Senior Pastor

[Rev. Carl Taylor](#) - Associate Pastor

[Gary Bradham](#)

[Barb Imbert](#)

[Lorenzo Hampton](#)

[London Mancuso](#)

[Ron Ramsey](#)

[Ashley Stoutland](#)

[Tom Willingham](#)

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Child Development Center

Deborah DePaoli

Children/Youth Ministries

Leslie Bloss/Jan Berger/
Adriana McMurphy/London Mancuso

Fellowship & Mutual Care

Trish Davidson & Wendy McKenzie

Good News Team

Lisa Petty

Hope Ministries

Karen Kranz

Justice Ministry

Helen Doerpinghaus

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

4224 Hard Scrabble Road

Columbia, SC 29223

Phone: 803-736-0661

FAX: 803-865-8252

contact@livingspringscolumbia.org

www.livingspringscolumbia.org

 www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia

prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org

Prayer Requests