



The Living Springs Journal

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

August 2023



Teaching & Learning ... Growing in Hope!

2023 Faith Formation Kickoff (from Pastor Eric)

AUGUST BIBLE "BOOKS" OF THE MONTH = Philippians, I John, I Peter
PASTOR TIMES: Tuesday, 8/8 @ 10am; Sunday, 9/3 @ 9:20am

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." - Matthew 28:16-20

It has truly been an amazing summer to experience God's growing hope, hasn't it? I think of all the powerful experiences we have shared as a congregation: Spark VBS; ArtSmart Drama Camp; Confirmation Camp @ Lutheridge; Christmas in July celebration; Transitions Homeless Ministry collection; Youth Mystery Mission Trip; Adult Mission Trip; GraceWorks servant week; Scout camp; special meals for Palmetto Place, Children's Hospital & Family Promise Transitional Homeless Ministry; ongoing twice-a-week Meals on Wheels delivery; ongoing twice-a-week NA Recovery Group meetings; summer pre-worship hymns; summer worship prayer times; Child Development Center summer chapel times; LS-CDC summer camp; Wednesday online summer Bible devotion readings; ongoing Justice Ministry work on issues of housing, community violence, and food insecurity; school supply drive.... Oh, so many, many ways we have seen and experienced God's Hope growing, growing, growing in people's lives!

It has truly been an amazing summer... so many, many ways we have experienced God's Hope growing, growing, growing in people's lives!

In our summer worship Scripture readings, we have continued our primary focus on the Gospel of Matthew. As with every gospel, it is interesting to see the "last" things that the gospel write highlights for us in Jesus' ministry & life. The "last" teaching of Jesus (before his crucifixion) which Matthew shares with us

(Continued on page 3)



Annual Blessing of School Bags!
Sunday, Aug. 6

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LS Faith Formation Kickoff!
Sunday, Aug. 20

(Congregation "Rally Day")

Unity Worship 10:30, Cong. Lunch

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- Football Ministry Kickoff—Aug. 4*
- Semi-Annual Ministry Planning—Aug. 6*
- LS Columbia Fireflies Nite—Aug. 10*
- Summer Hope Sunday #3—Aug. 13*
- LS Stuff-a-Bus @ Kroger(s)—Aug. 19*
- LS Child Dev. Center Sunday—Aug. 26*



From the Desk of Pastor Carl

Hey everyone!

I've got some amazing news to share with you all! 😊

Beloved,

July has been an action-packed month. Let me start by telling you about our Youth Mystery Trip and the things we experienced...

On Sunday, July 9th we:



Left church headed to Atlanta. We went straight to the National Center for Human Rights which was eye-opening and emotional all at once. Then we went to the Coke-a-Cola Museum and that was knowledgeable and fulfilling. Yes, we tasted all of the coke products from around the world. Talk about fulfilling...LOL. We concluded our day with an evening meal at the Varsity Restaurant and then headed to our sister church... Lutheran

Church of the Redeemer. We had evening devotions and reflections about our day.



(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 2)

is Jesus' parable about the judgement of the nations, where Jesus speaks of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick & imprisoned, welcoming the stranger—and says, "Inasmuch as you have done to the least of these who are members of my family, so you have done unto me!" Truly, God's Hope grows in the world whenever the Spirit empowers us to live out these words in so many ways.

The final words of Jesus shared by Matthew are those of the Great Commission (see above). Jesus commissions us, as his followers in the world, to go and make disciples. How does Jesus say to do this? **By doing two things: "baptizing" and "teaching."** It is a reminder of the central importance of Baptism in our lives! Baptism is the foundation of our relationship with God through Jesus; the holy moment when God acts to make a personal/communal covenant with us through total grace; the means of grace by which we are joined to Christ's death & resurrection; the miraculous gift by which we are made siblings of Jesus and members of Christ's holy community called the church; the wonder by which we are given the Holy Spirit to begin a daily hope-filled journey of dying to ourselves and being raised to new, ever-transforming life in Christ!

It is also a reminder of the **central role of "teaching" (and learning!) as part of God's growing hope in the world.** Remember that the most common title for Jesus in his ministry was that of "Rabbi" (or teacher). Remember that the word "disciple" actually means "student" of a Master. **Being a student, a lifelong learner, is thus at the core of our identity as Christians!** There are so many ministries we share as a congregation that help make the kingdom of God's Growing Hope a reality in our lives and in the world ... but lest we forget, a central ministry for all of us is that of teaching and learning. As society prepares for "back-to-school", so here too in August, as disciples of Jesus, we have our own "back-to-school" focus. Our annual Faith Formation Kickoff (aka "Rally Day") invites all of us—adults, parents, youth, children—to embrace the centrality of lifelong faith education in our lives.

To experience the wonder of God's Growing Hope, as followers of Jesus, we each immerse ourselves in Christ's ministries of service to the least of these among us in the world. As followers of Jesus, we engage in weekly worship to praise our God, remember our Baptismal identity, receive God's forgiving Word, and be fed with Christ's body & blood. But also, as followers of Jesus, we each embrace our lifelong identity as students of the Master!

How will you take a step to be more directly involved in ministries of faith education this year? Sunday Adult Bible Class? Bible Study Group? Men's or Women's groups? Small Groups? Youth Group? Children's Faith Milestones? Adult Faith Milestones? Disciple Mentoring? How will you nurture your core identity as a student of the Master, engaged in learning at the feet of Jesus? I look forward to being with you on Faith Formation Kickoff Sunday (Aug. 20) - for all of us to "kickoff" a renewed time of learning in our lives, as disciples ... "students of the Master" immersed in Jesus' teaching, to truly know and be God's Growing Hope in the world! With much love and thanksgiving for each of you, my fellow students of Jesus..... *Pastor Eric*

Being a student, a lifelong learner, is thus at the core of our identity as Christians our annual Faith Formation Kickoff invites all of us—adults, parents, youth, children, disciples of every age & stage of life—to embrace the centrality of lifelong faith education in our lives!

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How will you be more directly involved in ministries of faith education this year? Sunday Bible

2023 LIVING SPRINGS MINISTRY FOCUS

Like a tree planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, we are
baptized, rooted & nurtured in Christ to be part of

GOD'S GROWING HOPE FOR THE WORLD:

Breaking down barriers by sowing seeds of **God's grace for all!**

Serving daily as instruments of **God's life-transforming hope** for others!

Inviting everyone to experience the **joy of life in God's diverse Kingdom garden!**

Joyfully living & proclaiming the **unconditional, reconciling love of Jesus** for the world!



Nourished by the living waters of God's grace and led by the Holy Spirit, we are called to live in faith with each other & our community through these 2023 Ministry Focus Areas:



Sow Additional Seeds of God's Growing Hope!

- * *Forming relational Mentoring Ministries in our congregation & community*
- * *Meeting & going beyond our church walls, to carry Christ's presence into the community*
- * *Creating deeper relational ministries of Support, Care, Prayer, and Faith-Building for all ages*
- * *Developing/partnering for specific Food Ministries (& other Life-Necessities) in our community*

Nurture the Growing Hope that God Has Already Sprouted & Bloomed!

- * *Implementing Emotional-Mental Wellness Initiatives (incl. recovery ministries)*
- * *Offering multiple modes of Worship & Bible Study (incl. creative technology options)*
- * *Fostering Diversity/Inclusion in our congregation & community (incl. bi-lingual options, ASL)*
- * *Building on Ecumenical/Community Partnerships for God's work (incl. Justice, NE partners, Mission partners, R2, LCM)*
- * *Growing Music Ministries to joyfully praise God & celebrate God's Grace for all*
- * *Expanding Faith-Life Ministries with children & youth (CDC, GIFT worship, Youth, Ftbll, Scouts, Palmetto Place, etc.)*
- * *Continuing Outreach Ministries that meet people where they are (especially those on the margins, such as at-risk children/youth, homelessness, refugees, imprisoned, veterans, seniors, those with special needs)*

Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

FAITH FORMATION KICKOFF SUNDAY!

(LS Rally Day)

Sunday, August 20th

Unity Kickoff Worship @ 10:30

Congregation Faith Gathering

Congregation Fellowship Lunch @ 11:45

Watch for all the details in upcoming eNews and Sunday announcements!

LS ANNUAL "SCHOOL BAG" BLESSING - SUNDAY, AUG. 6 10:30 WORSHIP (OR 8:15)

Students & Educators at All Levels!

** Email a Photo with Grade & School by Aug. 3 **

With all the ongoing challenges of life in the world, it is so meaningful to hold our annual SchoolBag blessing. We will do this as part of our worship services on **Sunday, Aug. 6**. Students & educators of any level (including pre-school thru graduate school) are invited to bring your "school bags" (lunchbox, backpack, bookbag, briefcase, laptop, whatever) and place them at the altar for a special prayer of blessing. You will receive a **2023-24 blessing tag** to attach to your bag, as a reminder of God's care and presence throughout the school year.

For the past few years, we have formed a **photo montage** to display on our worship screens during the blessing prayer - and it is very powerful! So, again, we are asking each student and educator to send us a simple photo of yourself. The photo can be taken with your phone or whatever is easiest. If siblings wish to be included in a photo together, that is perfectly fine. **Please email your photo to pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org by Thursday, Aug. 3, along with your School/Grade (or School & teaching/staff position).** During the worship blessing, we will post screens of about 6-8 photos at a time, as we offer special prayers for you.

2023 MID-YEAR MINISTRY LEADERSHIP PLANNING

(* Semi-Annual Calendar Mtg.)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6 @ 4pm

**** Come at 3:30 for Rally Day planes! ****

Council Members, Ministry Chairpersons, Staff, All Group Leaders ...

As always, the gathering is about so much more than putting dates on a calendar. It's a prayerful time for all leaders of the congregation to come together to share how God has been working in our 2023 Ministry Focus and to get a sense of how the Spirit is tugging us to move forward in upcoming months in our call to be part of God's Growing Hope for all! You are truly an amazing group of disciples, who give so much of yourselves to grow God's hope in many, many lives. We look forward to being together for this important time!

If you are out-of-town OR cannot be present, here is how to join virtually:

Log-on Video link: meet.google.com/uhn-dpdw-pnx, or join by phone, 470-705-4553 PIN: 312 137 637#

LS Football Devotion Ministry Kicks Off - Aug. 4!

Once again, LS Lutheran Men are coordinating our congregation-wide football devotion ministry. We'll be sharing this life-impacting blessing for around 100 JV/B-team youth at Ridgeview HS (Hardscrabble Rd). We kick off with a hot dog supper this Friday night, Aug. 4. You can meet us at Ridgeview HS around 8pm to help greet the players & serve, or come help prep hot dogs in the LS kitchen at 6pm. See Bob Turnmire or Pastor Carl.

***Be on the lookout for the sign-up list in upcoming weeks, once team schedule is finalized. We need at least 4-5 folks for every pre-game (usually Thursday afternoons), plus cookie/drink donations. If you are a Thrivent member, contact Karen Kranz to help sponsor a meal with a Thrivent community grant card!*



Continued from Pastor Carl/Notes from: *Sr. Youth*

(Continued from page 2)

The next morning, we went to the Martin Luther King Jr. Center. We spent time in the museum, toured MLK's childhood home, saw where MLK and Coretta were laid to rest and saw the outside of the church where MLK pastored. After we finished at the King Center, we left Atlanta headed to Birmingham, Ala.



Once in Birmingham went to Walmart to purchase items to pack Blessing Bags for the next few days. We also met up with our adult group who were doing the civil Rights tour in reverse. We had dinner and lively conversations of our experiences careful not to tell the other of what was to come next in our perspective journeys. We concluded the day with a joint worship experience and meal at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. It was humbling to hear from our youth and adults as they reflected.



The next day we all met up once more at the 16th Street Baptist Church. We sat, we listened, we looked, and we toured. This is the church where on September 15, 1963, the congregation of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama greeted each other before the start of Sunday service. In the basement of the church, five young girls, two of them sisters, gathered in the ladies room in their best dresses, happily chatting about the first days of the new school year. It was Youth Day and excitement filled the air, they were going to take part in the Sunday adult service.

Just before 11 o'clock, instead of rising to begin prayers the congregation was knocked to the ground. As a bomb exploded under the steps of the church, they sought safety under the pews and shielded each other from falling debris. In the basement, **four little girls were killed**—14-year-olds Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and 11-year-old Cynthia Wesley. Addie's sister Sarah survived but lost her right eye.

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(Continued from page 5)



We processed our thoughts along the tour as we saw where the place where the bombing took place which was marked by a stone block of remembrance. Then we went to the Kelly Ingram Park across the street which was named in 1932 for local firefighter Osmond Kelly Ingram, who was the first sailor in the United States Navy to be killed in World War I. As we walked the park, we also engaged some of the homeless people and gave them blessing bags. After a while the adults and youth came together and shared in conversation how we were feeling after the tour of the church. Talk about powerful, and enlightening words of reflection from the adult and our youth, it is hard for me to explain. I hope you can experience it through these words typed. After our time together, we prayed and departed ways, the adults



went on to tour the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and the youth continued our journey to Selma, Alabama.



Once we arrived in Selma, we drove by historic place where the Selma to Montgomery marches started, Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church. We shared with the youth as we stood the Edmond Pettis Bridge that on Sunday morning March 7, 1965, despite a ban on protest marches by Governor George Wallace, about 600 black protestors gathered outside Brown Chapel to march from Sel-

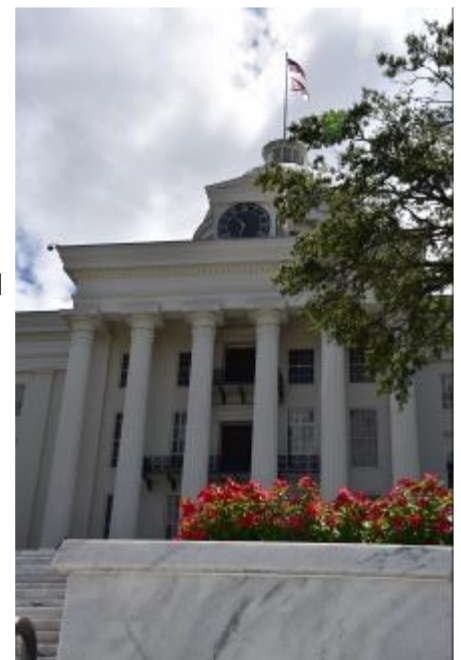


ma to the state capital in Montgomery. At Edmund Pettus Bridge, six blocks from Brown Chapel, mounted troopers confronted the marchers and ordered them to disperse. The marchers stood their ground and the troopers advanced, billy clubs raised. People fell, their skulls fractured, a lot of them screamed while running, as white onlookers cheered. There was firing tear gas and swinging bullwhips and rubber tubing wrapped in barbed wire. I let them know that was why it was called "Bloody Sunday." We then walked across the Edmond Pettis Bridge to the memorial just on the other side. Then we walked back across the bridge. It was a lot, it was hot, and it was knowledge.



We got back on the bus and continued our trip. I slowed the bus down and Leslie explained that these were the three of the four campsites where the walkers rested during the march to the State Capital. We stopped at the fourth campsite for the youth to see that it was the last stop before the final push to the State Capitol in Montgomery.

We took the route as best we could in a bus to the Capitol stopping at different markers along the way. Once at the Capitol of Alabama, we let the youth out and they walked to the top of the steps and gathered together sitting on the steps. It was a site to see them sitting in a place where the Civil Rights people who walked from Selma once sat.



From there we saw Dexter Avenue as we headed to our sister church, Messiah Lutheran. We ate and gave the youth time to download and process the day. A little later that evening around 9pm we had evening devotions and reflections.

The next day, Wednesday, July 12th, we got up ate breakfast which was provided by the church. We had an array of things from bacon to waffles, with juice and fruit. We were thankful for the breakfast which was served by the pastor and staff. After breakfast we started our day at the Rosa Parks Museum downtown Montgomery. Again, we sat, we listened, we saw, we watched a rendition of that day when Rosa refused to give up her seat.



After we left the museum, we walked to the place where Rosa got on the bus. Along the way we witnessed just how bad the homeless population have it in the city as we saw a man passed out on the corner. There were already people there calling 911 so we went around them and prayed along the way for healing. For our youth we weren't just talking about the



homeless and passing out blessing bags, the reality of it was right there in our face to see. We were happy to know that the man did survive. It was severe heat exhaustion and dehydration which caused him to pass out. EMS took him to a nearby hospital. We thanked God for his survival and prayed for his health and for help.

It was a lot to take in and process. So, we toured the city for a bit before arriving at Davis Café for lunch. Davis Café has been around for a long time. It is noted that some of the civil right leaders, Rev. Jesse Jackson and the late Dr. Julian Bond, Congressman John Lewis and Rev. Joseph Lowery enjoyed meals and fellowship at the Davis Café when passing through. Congresswoman Terri Sewell is a regular. Let me just say that the food was soulfully delicious, and we all enjoyed it to the last bite. It was good to sit in a place and feel the love in the food.



After lunch we went to the Legacy Museum. I cannot put into words the depth of emotions felt during our four almost four-hour timespan. All I will say is this should be on a list of things to see and experience. As we left the museum there was silence on the bus



unless we saw a homeless person in need of a blessing bag.

Once we returned to the church we got food, ate and gave everyone a chance to process the day before evening devotion and communion.

On Thursday, July 13, 2023 we woke up to heavy rain and a cloudy day. We had breakfast, packed up our things, cleaned up our space, and chatted with the pastor and some staff before we left. As our day would have it, the rain continued as we headed to The National Memorial for Peace and Justice. Again, words cannot express the depth of



the experience. I will say that this is the nation's first memorial dedicated to the legacy of enslaved Black people, people terrorized by lynching, African Americans humiliated by racial segregation and Jim Crow, and people of color burdened with contemporary presumptions of guilt and police violence. You have to see it to experience it.

From there we headed to the Tucker Pecan Company where we were able to get stuff before we left Montgomery headed home. As we were leaving we were able to pass out more blessing bags to the homeless and those in need. What a way to end our time, being in service to someone else. We started our trip home with our last stop being a surprise. It was eating

experience. We stopped at Chick-fil-a's Truett's Luau in Fayetteville, Georgia. This place brings the spirit of Hawaii to right to you. In addition to Chick-fil-A classics, this specialty menu consists of everything from Island Chicken Salad sandwiches and I'a Makana Tacos to a Frosted Pineapple drink and Lava Cake. This was a good treat and a new experience for all of us.

The long trip home gave way to sleep for some and rest for others and driving for me. As we arrived home, we were met by parents who were glad to see us home safe. We unpacked, put away our things, and had a closing prayer circle where our youth shared two words as to how they felt. We then prayed out and left campus. This is a trip to remember. I hope that in your reading you were given a glimpse into our experiences. Thanks to everyone for your continued support for our youth and their experiences.

Following our Youth Mystery Trip, we had Graceworks (see page 10), and some of our youth participated in service to areas downtown. Now we can take a short breath as school starts for some, August 3rd and for others August 8th.

Through it all, let us remember that God is good all the time, and all the time God is good. Let's eagerly anticipate the ways God will continue to work as we sow new seeds of His Growing Hope.

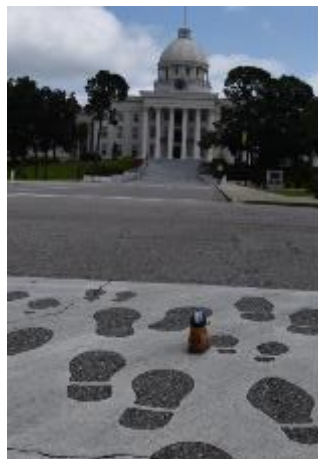
I want to again express my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you. Your unwavering support for our youth and your continued prayers truly make a world of difference. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Carl



Notes from: *Lifelong Discipleship* Adult Mission Trip







BOOKS OF MONTH: 2022-23

SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER
JANUARY
FEBRUARY

Genesis 1-25
Genesis 26-30
Exodus 1-24, 31-34
John 1-21
Ruth 1-4 & 1 Samuel 1-20
Isaiah 1-12, 35, 40-55, 56-62

MARCH
APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST

Matthew 1-14
Matthew 15-28
Acts 1-14
Acts 15-28
Galatians 1-6 & Romans 1-16
Hebrews 1-13, 1 John 1-5, 1 Peter 1-5

Notes from: *Youth*

GraceWorks





Sharing God's Love Crisis Ministry
Irmo SC

1h · 🌐

Thank you to these volunteers from [GraceWorks SC](#) for serving with us this morning!



CELEBRATING
10 YEARS OF SERVICE

BETTER TOGETHER

GraceWorks

ISAIAH 41:10
JULY 17-20, 2023



Notes from: *Good News Team*

Rush Hour Ministry

Tuesday, August 15

5:15 -5:45 PM (set up @ 5:00)

There is space for you! Be part of God's growing hope on the sidewalk in front of Living Springs, sharing smiles and blessing gifts to those waiting in rush hour traffic! We will meet around 5pm, but you can join us at anytime!



God's Corner



Dear Living Springs,

Thank you so very much for all you did to welcome this large afghan family to the us! Thank you for the groceries and transporting them to their hotel in the church bus! We appreciate you all so much! Sincerely, *Sarah Lewis for the NAP team*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your gifts of \$400 and \$100 to Lutheridge for the Fleet/Vehicle Fund! **Thanks to you**, we can continue telling the story and singing the song of faith to God's people of all ages. We are blessed by the faithful support of friends like you as we seek to provide experiences for all people in God's creation that inspire faith, build relationships, and transform lives!

Sincerely in Christ,

Kristen Williams, MPA

Financial Development Executive Directory

o See God At Work...

During vacation, I wanted to get my steps in, so I went to a local soccer field that had a walking path around the complex. It was morning during the week, so there was only one team practicing and the concession stand was not open. The first lap, I noticed a man in a wheelchair up on a platform all by himself by the concession stand - he was just sitting there with a really sad face. I usually watch the path so I don't trip on anything, but as I was passing this man, I looked up, waved and said "good morning" and he hesitated and then lightly lifted his hand to give what looked like a wave. The second time around, I waved again with a smile and he brightened up and waved back. The third time around, he noticeably had a changed look - no longer sad, but smiled and really gave me a wave. The fourth time around, he had moved his wheelchair down the walkway to be near the path so he could say hi and gave me a big smile. My point: take time to smile and acknowledge people - just a simple gesture could mean the world to someone.

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

Hello and Summer Greetings!

We are bustling with energy as we squeeze in the last bit of Summer Fun and gear up for the school year! Hope and Love are alive and flourishing as we continue to grow together.

We had the opportunity to watch as our Fellowship with families grew at our first-ever full school-wide field trip! Families, teachers, and kiddos met at Sequential State Park where they enjoyed the Splashpad. There was Fun and Fellowship for All!

We have been growing in Hope as we celebrate Christmas in July with Pajama Day, Frozen Hot Cocoa, Christmas Carols, and collecting items for the Care Closet for Kershaw County schools. So far, we have collected over 150 needed items!

We are growing in Love as our kids created 70 Happy Birthday cards that were mailed out to a staff member's mom that turned 70 this month! The children also added over 40 cards to the "Wishing you Well" supply box in the workroom.


Acts of Service and Support continue to grow as members volunteer time as they repair books, read to children, help organize the library, pick up groceries, and serve on our LSLC-CDC board.

Nurturing continues to grow, as I am so pleased to announce that Ms. Karin Reed has been with LSLC-CDC for **20 years** as of this month! What a blessing to know that she has had the opportunity to care for so many families and children over the years. (see pictures below!)

We are growing in Community as we watch our children move on to kindergarten, many of whom we have had since they were just a few months old. It is always a bit bittersweet as we embrace this time to move on, but also welcome new children and families into LSLC-CDC with open arms.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry and for helping us continue to grow in Faith and Discipleship.

Wishing you well, Tammy



Note from Karin Reed:
Just wanted to say
- Thank You-
For the beautiful shawl.
I love everything about it
and will cherish it always.
Best Wishes,
Karin Reed

Notes from: *Hope Ministry* **PAPER, PENCILS, & PENS – OH MY!!!** *Collection through August 6*



The Hope Ministry team is collecting school supplies for students that are financially unable to buy their own – the items will be collected and distributed to our backpack schools – Rice Creek and Joseph Keels elementary, and Blythewood Academy schools. We thank you in advance for your willingness to help the less fortunate children in our community. We will collect donations until August 6. Contact Karen Kranz for information.

Items needed: book bags, #2 pencils, 24-pk. crayons, glue sticks, large pink erasers, wide-ruled notebook paper, wide-ruled composition books, dry erase markers (4-color pk), colored pencils (12 color pk), 8 oz. hand sanitizer, headphones (not ear-buds), water bottles, alarm clocks, and folders.

Amazon link: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/29IWCIF?ref=wl_share

BagsinBulk (wholesale site for school supplies in bulk): <https://bagsinbulk.com>

LS Summer Hope Sunday #3 *August 13 @ 9:20*

Heidi Rixman, Chief Development Officer of Lutheran Services Carolina will speak on the many services they provide. Grab a cup of coffee and join us at 9:20 am in the fellowship hall or online with the Google Meet link: meet.google.com/zkgp-tzgp-seu. or join by phone 323-515-9597 pin: 776 209 519#.

LS STUFF-A-BUS for Backpack Food Ministry *Saturday, August 19*

Saturday, August 19 from 9 am to 1 pm, the CDC buses will be parked in front of the two Kroger stores - Two Notch Rd. at Sparkleberry and Killian Rd. We need your help in passing out flyers to store customers and collecting the donations. There is Signup Genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BAEA92FA0F85-stuff3> or there will be a hard copy on the welcome table or just mention when you want to work and Karen will submit your name.

Students -- this is a great opportunity to collect community service hours.



BACKPACKS

It's hard to believe we are close to starting up our backpack program, but it will be upon us soon. We always hear how much it means to children who depend on their backpack for week-end nourishment. One of our church members brings in two 6-packs of milk every week which she buys during her weekly shopping - this will enable us to have enough milk for our first day of packing. Just picking up a couple of items each week adds up! If you would like to help pack, contact Karen Kranz.

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS *Sunday, September 10*

Living Springs is preparing their famous meatloaf dinner. Palmetto Place, Meals on Wheels, first responders, and the homeless community will benefit. There will be a need for help in the kitchen at 9 am and many hands to assemble the meals and then make delivery. Contact Karen Kranz with any questions.

American Red Cross will also be collecting blood donations from 9 am to 1 pm. Here is the link to sign up: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=LivingSprings>.



PALMETTO PLACE AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

You can help donate part of a meal for Palmetto Place Samantha House (10 young adults) - contact Karen Kranz for info. We deliver the meal on the 4th Thursday of the month (Aug. 24). On the 3rd Thursday (Aug. 17), Travis Mooney provides 20 lunches for the parents and children going through chemo and blood disorder treatments. You can donate and designate for Children's Hospital or we are also including little cards with words of encouragement.

MEALS ON WHEELS

We have been doing Meals on Wheels for a long time and have developed many special relationships along the way! Currently, we deliver to 10 people and pick up from the Millwood Ave. location. Abbey, our contact, is always sending out notifications asking for additional help delivering meals for other routes and also picking up from the Spring Valley location. The total time it takes to pick up and deliver is about 2 hours total = pick-up at 10:30 and usually ends up around noon (perfect timing to go have lunch someplace). This is something you can do as a couple, grandparent/grandchild, neighbors, group, etc. - If you have questions or would like to ride with someone, contact Mike Davidson for information.



Notes from: *Mission Partnership Team*

COME AND CELEBRATE CRISTO REY'S LONG-AWAITED DEDICATION OF THEIR NEW BUILDING ON AUGUST 12, AT 3:30 P.M.



Bishop Ginny Aebischer will preach and preside in a bilingual service as we celebrate as a synod with the community of Cristo Rey this milestone in their ministry. Each congregation of the synod is invited to bring or send a cross that will be placed on the wall as a testimony to the faithful partnership of the whole synod. Parking and shuttles are available at St. David's Lutheran church starting at 2:45. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service. Please sign up in the admin lobby if you plan to attend. We can arrange carpools as well.



Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

LS Fireflies Outing

Thursday, August 10 @ 7:05

LS Lutheran Men are sponsoring a Columbia Fireflies Outing. The Columbia Fireflies take on the Charleston Riverdogs. Receive a free Fireflies hat with each ticket! It is a Thirsty Thursday game with \$1 sodas, \$2 domestic drafts, \$3 craft draft and \$3 cocktails. It is also Area 51 Night so there will be a UFO and extraterrestrial theme throughout the night. Tickets are \$11 each. Please let Bob Turnmire know if you would like to attend. Deadline to request tickets is July 31st. Tickets will be distributed on Sunday August 6th.



All Parents, Children & Youth... Big Kickoff Lunch Planning Meeting!

Sunday, August 13 -- After 10:30 Worship ...

To kickstart our preparations for the faith formation year for our children, confirmation students, and youth ministries, we gather for an important planning time on August 13, immediately following 10:30 worship. Please be present, as we gather over lunch to discuss aspirations & goals for our children and youth community - including regular faith formation times for children & youth, faith milestones, fall/spring outings, confirmation schedule, youth retreats/trips, fundraisers, 2024 Lutheran Youth Gathering, and more... Contact Pastor Carl, if you have questions.

Notes from: *Justice Ministry*

Just us. Justice.

If we don't act for justice, who will?

Christ has no body on earth but yours, no hands but yours, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which Christ's compassion for the world is to look out; yours are the feet with which Christ is to go about doing good; and yours are the hands with which Christ is to bless us now." Teresa of Avila

Just us. Justice.

We aren't alone. As a body of believers, we are working together to "do Justice" as God commands in Micah 6:8. ...

Some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. (Ephesians 4:12,16)

Just us. Justice.

As individuals and as the Church, we are never alone. God is with us.

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. (Matthew 28:20)

Just us. Justice.

Is it "just us"? Yes, each one of us is needed to be the hands and feet of Christ. We are it. And, no, as members of Living Springs it's not "just us" because we join almost 30 other congregations to work together for justice for our neighbors in need. And most importantly, it's not "just us" because God is always with us, going before us.

In late August, our new cycle for Justice Ministry begins with House Meetings where we talk about problems in the community that keep us awake at night. With hundreds of other people of faith in the Midlands, we then vote on a community problem to focus on this year. In the past 7 years we have worked for justice for those with mental illness, those without housing, those hurt by crime and violence, and those without food. In the coming fall and winter months we will explore ways to address these problems and in March we will ask our public officials for changes to make Columbia a better, more just place for everyone.

Justice.

In August and September watch for our LS house meeting invitations and join us on the justice journey! If you'd like to know more, please talk with Pastor Eric, Peg or Jim Zieche, Gwen Furcron, Mike Davidson, Gail Buchanan, Wayne Kannaday, or Helen Doeringhaus.



Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*



The Wonder of Worship

This month we look at two important spoken elements of our Sunday morning worship services.

Lectionary Readings



When I first starting coming to Living Springs, I was struck with how much Scripture was read **every Sunday!** I couldn't get over it! We are so blessed to hear three or four substantial public readings of God 's Word **every single week**, readings carefully selected to walk us as a faith family through the Bible every three years. If you grew up as a Lutheran Christian, you may not know that this is not the case in all churches.

A lectionary (Latin = *lectio*) is a list or book of Bible readings (or lections) to be read at church services. We and many other churches use the **Revised Common Lectionary (RCL)**. I assumed it went way, **way** back, which is true, sort of. The reading of God's Word has always been at the heart of Judeo-Christian worship. Jesus, quoting Deuteronomy 8:3, said that we **do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God** (Matt. 4:4). We are and always have been people of the Word, people of the Book. But our pattern for reading and hearing that Book, the **RCL**, was published in 1994 and is based on the **Ordo Lectionem Missae (OLM)**, a ground-breaking, post-Vatican II lectionary published in **1969**. Earlier lectionaries had relatively little organization, but **OLM** readings were aligned with the liturgical calendar and spaced across three years, each highlighting a particular gospel—Matthew, Mark, and Luke, with John interspersed throughout and used especially during Lent and Easter. See [The Revised Common Lectionary](#).

Let's always be amazed and grateful to learn more about our great God! Let's listen with open hearts to receive the truth with gladness, with conviction when needed, and with determination to put the Word into action in our lives. (Remember that there are places in the world where having/reading a Bible can be dangerous.)



The Sermon



After the lectionary readings comes another blessing, and that is having someone who has steeped him- or herself in the weekly readings help us understand the meaning and significance of the passages. This feature of worship also stretches back to biblical times. At Living Springs we are blessed with two pastors who preach the Word powerfully from their hearts. They would feel about us the way the apostle Paul felt when he wrote to the Thessalonian church: **We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.** (1 Thess. 2:13). May the words of this chorus be our prayer each Sunday when we hear the Word explained:

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your Word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.

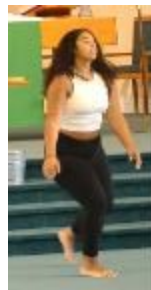
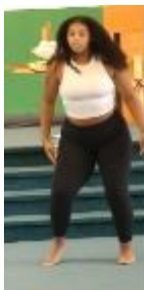
When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Shirl Schiffman shirl@livingspringscolumbia.org

Liturgical Dance - Lauren Bloss



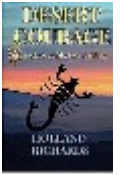
Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

LADIES BOOK CLUB



Peggy Merrill will host the next book club at 110 Clay Ridge Rd.(Dove Park neighborhood) ph: 803.727.2640 on Monday, August 7 at 7 pm. We will discuss Sullivan's Island by Dorothea Benton Frank which is available at the Richland Library. This is always a great time for fellowship and enjoying a glass of wine together.

At our Sunday, October 1, 2 pm meeting at Beverly Hoppert's we will introduce a new famous author (we think she's famous) that has agreed to join us and discuss her first book publication - Desert Courage by Holland Richards (aka Dea Jones). Dea has offered to get our books at a discount price of \$10, so if you would like to submit your name to Karen Kranz, I will let Dea know the number of books we need - we hope you can join us! The book is available on Amazon in either book or Kindle format.



Crafty Ladies

Join the fellowship and fun the second Saturday, August 12th, at 9:30 am. We are working on charity quilts:

- ◆ cutting cotton batting,
- ◆ measuring and counting quilt tops,
- ◆ matching tops to backing, and
- ◆ layering more quilts.

If you can count, tie a square knot, use scissors or a measuring tape, you can help! Questions or suggestions? Call Janet at 813-417-7887, or email janetnjanetw@gmail.com.

Dear LS Women of ELCA,

Thank you for supporting the ministries of Women of the ELCA, both in our South Carolina Synod and in the wider work of the Church, with your generous gifts!

Over 1,000 hygiene kits were contributed at the convention! An additional \$410 for Tanzania was received. Cathy Milejscak was delighted to be able to take that with her so she could buy medical supplies for her upcoming trip there.

Offerings for our Camp Kinard project amounted to \$9,557.46. Our convention offering was \$2,048, half of which went to the Camp Kinard Project for a total of \$10, 581.46. Dallas Shealy writes:



Dear SC WELCA Sisters in Christ,

As I shared with you ladies during my presentation, our pool has cost more that expected with some un-planned expenses. One of those unplanned expenses is the required fence around the pool. Of course, we want an attractive fence, black, "wrought iron," that will cost an additional \$10, 000+. We would love for the gift from WELCA b e to cover the cost of this fence. This is a gift that will last for decades!

*Thank you! **Dallas Shealy***

In response to Pastor David Coffman's report of the Newberry College Wolf Pantry, your Board authorized all of the worship offering to go to that cause. The final offering check brought the new total offering to exactly \$1000. Pr. David was overwhelmed and very appreciative of your loving support. Your faithful commitment benefits many people and makes a real difference in the world. **Thank you!**

Blessings on all you do,

Virginia Herlong, Treasurer

South Carolina Women of the ELCA

Opportunities Outside Living Springs

GAMECOCK LUTHERAN Alumni & Friends



St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
1416 Broad River Rd. Columbia, SC 29210

RSVP Appreciated!

Join us for an evening of BBQ, reconnecting with old friends and meeting new ones, and learning more about what's happening in campus ministry! Pastor Jesse and students will share stories about what's going on at Gamecock Lutheran.

There's no cost, but a free will offering will be collected to support the ministry. RSVP is not required, but is appreciated. You can do so at GamecockLutheran.com/bbq or by scanning this QR code.



Lutheran Services Carolinas cordially invites you to a special

Dedication Service and Grand Opening of its new Day Services for Youth Program

Sunday, August 13, 2023

Program with speakers begins at 2:15 p.m.

Reformation Lutheran Church
1118 Union Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Parking is available in the lot at the corner of Confederate Avenue
and Union Street.


LUTHERAN SERVICES
CAROLINAS

Christian Assistance Bridge

CAB needs help to offer a hand up

Christian Assistance Bridge is a hope-filled partnership among many a church in our area that reaches people in Richland and Fairfield counties. It's more than a food pantry, it literally serves as a bridge to independence. Read more about it here:

<https://www.blythewoodonline.com/2023/07/cab-needs-help-to-offer-a-hand-up/>

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>6 *See box above Annual Blessing of School Bags 330P Rally Day Planning 4P Semi-Annual Ministry Leaders Planning</p>	<p>7 LSCDC Staff Day 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First</p>	<p>8 10A Book of the Month Discussion 1030A Meals on Wheels 530P Finance Team 6P Adult Bible Study 6P Justice Ministry Board</p>	<p>9 12 BOM Bible Dev. Posted 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir</p>	<p>10 7A Men's Bible & Biscuits 6P Boy Scout Fitness 630P Recovery Comes First 7P LS Fireflies Outing</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 930A Crafty Ladies 330P Cristo Rey Dedication 530P Luth. Campus Ministry BBQ</p>
<p>13 *See box above LS Summer Hope Sunday #3 920A Summer Hope Sunday #3 12P Children & Youth Planning Meeting w/ Parents</p>	<p>14 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Fellowship/Mutual Care 7P Boy Scout Troop #737 7P Exec Team</p>	<p>15 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 515P Rush Hour Ministry 6P Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>16 815A Staff Breakfast Mtg 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 BOM Bible Dev. Posted 12 LS Justice Team Leaders 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Youth</p>	<p>17 4P Football Ministry 630P Recovery Comes First 7P Council Meeting Children's Hospital Meal</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 9A-1P LS Staff-A-Bus @ Kroger (both Killian and Two Notch)</p>
<p>20 Cong. Faith Formation Kickoff ("Rally Day") Congregation Faith Gathering 1030A Unity Worship 1145A Cong. Celebration & Fellowship Lunch 430P Girl Scouts</p>	<p>21 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>22 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 6P Justice Ministry Kickoff</p>	<p>23 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 BOM Bible Dev. Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Youth</p>	<p>24 7A Bible & Biscuits Men's Bible Study 4P Football Ministry 6P Boy Scout Fitness 630P Recovery Comes First Palmetto Place Meal</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 8A Men's Breakfast Gathering</p>
<p>27 *See box above LS Child Development Ctr Sunday 920A Worship Helper Training 430P Girl Scouts</p>	<p>28 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>29 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells</p>	<p>30 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 BOM Bible Dev. Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Youth</p>	<p>31 4P Football Ministry 630P Recovery Comes First</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

August 1 Barbara Collins
August 5 Trish Davidson
August 6 Dee Glander
♥ Goldie & Delores Harmon
August 7 Laurie Drafts
August 8 ♥ Randy & Becky Sides
August 9 Anita Gabbard
♥ Ted & Gail Buchanan
August 10 Mike Schultz
August 13 Ed Brennan
August 14 Eric Fink
August 20 ♥ Bob & Anita Gabbard
♥ Roger & Nancy Schwind

August 21 Cindy Day
Kris Fink
August 22 Ginny Devereaux
August 24 Jacob Newton
August 25 Kellee Flores
Eleanor Cool
♥ Scott & Lexanne Graves
August 30 Bob Gabbard
August 31 Jeanette Bloss



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!



August 1 Trish Davidson
Adam Woodruff
August 11 Cynthia Edney
August 13 Lina Mooney
August 20 Dakota Shannon
August 22 London Mancuso
August 23 Kathy Brennan
August 25 Courtney Murray
August 29 Jessica Bazemore



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

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Tammy Mancuso- Dir. of Child Development Center

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Lisa Petty – Good News Coordinator

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Laura & Mark Cunningham - Food Resource Persons

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Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper

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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

Susan Bradham

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

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Prayer Requests