

The Living Springs Journal

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

September 2023



Let's Journey Together with Jesus! (from Pastor Eric)

This Month's "Journey with Jesus" Focus = Life of Jesus, Part 1
PRE-WORSHIP FOCUS TIME: Sundays @ 8:05 & 10:20
ONLINE DEVOTION READING: Wednesdays @ Noon
PASTOR TIMES: Sun, 9/3 @ 9:20; Tue, 9/5 @ 10; Wed, 9/20 @ 6:30



2023-24 "Journey with Jesus" LS Focus of the Month!

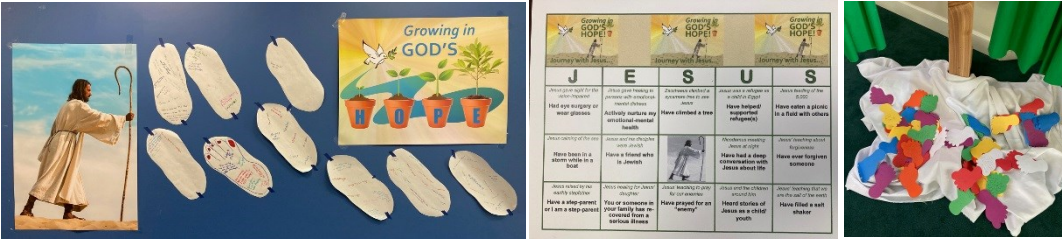
September – Life of Jesus (Part 1)
 October – Miracles of Jesus
 November – Teachings of Jesus
 December – Prophecies about Jesus

January – Encounters with Jesus
 February – Parables of Jesus
 March – Life of Jesus (Part 2)
 April – Encounters with the Risen Jesus
 May – The Message about Jesus
 June – More Miracles of Jesus
 July – More Parables of Jesus
 August - More Teachings of Jesus

What a truly joyful celebration we had for our "Rally Day" kickoff at the end of August, introducing our 2023-24 faith formation theme, "Journey with Jesus!" **Prayer foot-prints** being placed at the cross during Holy Communion. **Heart-touching stories** shared by our amazing Youth and Adult Faith Formation participants. Inspiring, relationship-building conversations held around our **interactive "Jesus" bingo cards**. A moving **outdoor worship procession**, with the image of Jesus as our shepherd leading us. **Human hope-chain** to unload thousands of "Stuff-a-Bus" food items. An incredible fellowship lunch, with **table footprints** carried up to the wall, containing all the important things we cherish about Jesus!

And yet, this inspiring "Rally Day" joy was truly meant to be ONLY a kickoff! For those events were intended to inspire us in a 12-month emphasis ahead, **focusing each & every one of us more deeply on our life-giving "Journey with Jesus!"**

(Continued on page 3)



From the Desk of Pastor Carl

Hey everyone!

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

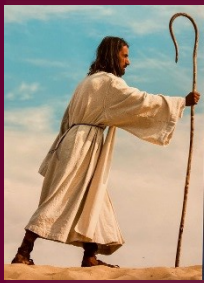
Beloved,

August has been an action-packed month as we prepared to send our kids back to school, which started on August 3rd and others on August 8th. Yes, summer was short for many of us, and we had to do a lot quickly. But now, we must turn our attention to the school year and help our kids readjust to the learning environment.

With that being said, let me recap August for you.



- We had our Annual "School Bag" Student-Educator Blessing and the issuance of our Legrand-Lowman College Grants. It was good to see our K3-12 and adults come out with their bags for the blessing of the school year. We also gave our college students grants for our college fund.
- We attended the dedication service for Cristo Rey and our new Latinx worshipping community in their new building. Seeing the Holy Spirit at work in the celebration and Meal was beautiful.
- We kicked off our football ministry with Hotdog, chips, and cookies for 150 football players, staff, and coaches. Seeing the young men and women embrace us, and our desire to serve them warmed my heart and fueled my passion to ----**"Reach one, Teach one --- Teach one, Be one --- Child of God."** ----- We have since had three weeks of pre-game and devotion with the B-Team and JV Team. It is a joy to see future leaders in many capacities listen, embody, and share moments of our time during the meals and devotions.



"JOURNEY WITH JESUS!" For your Bible reading & faith discussions at home... (plus LS Bible studies, group/team/committee "Dwellings in the Word," Sunday pre-worship, Wednesday online, youth, and more!)

Week of 9/3: focus on **Luke 1-2** (Jesus' birth and childhood)

Week of 9/10: focus on **Matthew 1-2** (Jesus' lineage and infancy)

Week of 9/17: focus on **Luke 3-4** (Jesus' baptism, temptation, and start of ministry)

Week of 9/24: focus **Matthew 16:1-17:13** (Jesus' identity, purpose, and Transfiguration)

****For families with children,** use stories from Children's Bible books or online Bible videos about: Jesus' birth, Jesus' childhood, Jesus' family, Jesus' baptism, Jesus' temptation, Jesus' transfiguration!

Sometimes, after a big kickoff, we can just give a big exhale and forget what the kickoff was intended for! So the challenge remains: how will we each follow-up to be drawn more deeply into **the all-encompassing, life-shaping joy of "journeying with Jesus" to be his disciples/students/servants/ambassadors for a hurting world?**

In September, you will see various follow-up steps (I am intentionally using the image of "steps"!): **Weekly focus chapters from the Gospels** will be posted to help us on our "Journey with Jesus" (see box above). These chapters can be topics for your home devotions, family table conversations, our group Bible studies, committee/team "Dwellings in the Word", youth meetings, children's Bible stories, and our **Wednesday online devotion**. After Labor Day, our hymn sings will be transformed into brief **pre-worship times to lift up each week's "Journey with Jesus" focus**. Also, each month will have several options for everyone to participate in **group discussion/learning times** (Sunday mornings, Tuesdays, Wednesday for youth/parents—see calendar).

More than that, each month will have opportunities to have our faith formed by **the ways we live out our journey with Jesus in service & action**: "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday on Sept 10 (as we prepare/deliver dozens of meals in our community); Justice Ministry gatherings starting this month; Cristo Rey partner ministry; Rush Hour ministry; Palmetto Place & Children's Hospital meals; Backpack school food ministry; weekly Football Ministry; Meals on Wheels; and more!

It is amazing to think about all the powerful ways we can each faithfully "journey with Jesus," but even more amazing is **the wonder that Jesus chooses to journey with us, through all the trials, challenges & joys of life in the world**. Thanks be to God!

With much love for each of you, as Jesus journeys together with us, *Pastor Eric*

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Opportunities to Experience & Share the joy of God's Growing Hope:

- GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS - Sept. 10** (Quilts/Seminarian/Justice Blessing)
- BACKPACK FOOD BAGS - Sept. 10, 24**
- JUSTICE HOUSE MTGS - Sept. 10,17,24**
- RUSH HOUR MINISTRY - Sept. 12**
- TECH MINISTRY DEDICATION - Sept. 17**
- CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - Sept. 21**
- LUTHERAN MEN'S SUNDAY - Sept. 24**
- PALMETTO PLACE MEAL - Sept. 28**
- FOOTBALL MINISTRY - Thursdays**
- MEALS ON WHEELS - Mon & Tues**

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

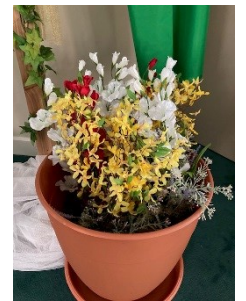
GOD'S GROWING HOPE FOR THE WORLD:

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)*

- We had a K3 – 12th grade Parent lunch to roll out our plans for this year and discuss Youth Gathering 2024. Seeing parents ask questions and offer valued input/insights for our youth and their spiritual journeys was good.

As we moved to the end of the month, we celebrated our Fatih Formation Sunday with a bang. It was action-packed and full of exciting things to do in our worship experience and outside as it carried into removing the food and items from the buses. Speaking of buses, we had a lot of help from the many patrons who gave donations and food items from the two Kroger Stores where we were located. God blessed, they gave, we received, and our congregation unloaded. God is Good all the time, and all the time, God is Good. It was a fun-filled day with food and some cool things for the kids.

Last, we have kicked off our confirmation class with four new confirmands, and we have six to be confirmed on October 29, 2023. It is an exciting time to wonder, ponder, and experience God's Growing Hope in our confirmands and ourselves as we move through our year and Journey with Jesus.

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

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Carl



Notes from: *Sr. Youth*



LS Youth Ministry

Things to look forward to:

- 9/6 - Sr. Youth 6:30 @ LSLC**
- 9/10 - Confirmation Class**
- 9/13 - Sr. Youth 6:30 @ Mod Pizza**
- 9/17 - ELCA Youth Gathering Devotion**
- 9/20 - Sr. Youth @ LSLC**
- 9/24 - Confirmation Class**

Wednesday Sr. Youth Gathering @
Chick-Fil-A

Notes from: *Lifelong Discipleship*

Journey with Jesus Discussion

Meets Sunday, 9/3 in the Fellowship Hall and Online at 9:20

Join us as we take a deeper look at this month's Bible Book(s) of the Month. All are welcome. Facilitator – Pastor Eric

Google Meet: meet.google.com/zkz-tzgp-seu

Or **dial:** +1 323-515-9597 (PIN: 776209519)



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Notes from: *Mission Partnership Team*

Cristo Rey Dedication



LS Ministries with Cristo Rey! *Sunday, Sept. 10 @ 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. 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: *Living Springs Child Development Center*

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Hello all!

I trust this note finds you well and staying out of the heat! We look forward to some cooler weather coming soon.

It is with GREAT JOY that we at the LSLC-CDC say, "Thank you!" for the commitment, dedication, and constant support of our ministry. We have had the opportunity to touch countless lives of children, families, staff, and community over the years. What an amazing group of disciples that I am honored to share this space and time with. Can you believe that collectively our staff of 11 have OVER 94 years of experience, just HERE at LSLC-CDC, and well over 200 in the field of early education. What a true blessing!

We have been busy with getting into the back-to-school mind set after some fun summer activities. We have said goodbye to some families as they have left our CDC, but it is always exciting to wonder where the seeds of Hope we have planted will sprout next.

We have welcomed in new families and faces as well and look forward to sharing this new educational and faith journey with them, as we watch Hope grow in their lives.

The children have been excited to have more Chapel and Bible Time scheduled. We have already heard them retelling stories and sharing songs as they excitedly return down the ramp and walk to class.

As I entered one classroom last week, I asked "So what did like about Chapel this week?"

"I remember this story was before, like a long time ago, but this time it was more today."

"I'm gonna celebrate Jesus' birthday, because it's at Christmas, cuz that's what Christmas really is, a birthday party, and I like parties."

"I liked the walk today, it was hot, but it was ok because we were outside when we walked, then it was cool inside the chapel place."

"Be nice everyone should be, it's what Jesus said."

"You should share, but not lunch sometimes people get sick."

At first these may sound like children saying funny things that they recall, but these are the moments that they remember, these are the seeds that are planted when conversations happen. It is such a joy to know that they are listening, that they are not just hearing what is said, but that they are truly listening and thinking forward about how to put these words into action to create a world that is full of Love, Jb ploy, and Hope for all.

Wishing you well,

Tammy

LSCDC Staff Day



LSCDC Sunday



Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

School Supply Collection



Summer Hope Sunday #3



CAMPUS MINISTRY

The BBQ dinner was a success and brought in about \$2,000. What a joy to see the wonderful things Pastor Jesse is doing to bring USC students together to worship God and fellowship with other students of all denominations. Pastor Jesse will be preaching Oct. 15 on Campus Ministry Sunday - if you would like to provide one of their Sunday meals, contact Karen Kranz or use the Signup Genius link [Gamecock Lutheran: 2023-2024 Meals for Campus Ministry \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com).



New students moved in last weekend, and they're now wandering around campus trying to learn where things are and what their life here will be like. Returning students are getting settled into routines both new and old as they prepare for the new year. And classes begin on Thursday, and that's when things really take off!

And so we cherish your prayers. Prayers that these - and all - students find success in this new school year. Prayers that they have the willpower to stick with their classes when they are tough. Prayers that they are filled with wonder as they explore how big the world is. Prayers that they will find belonging by being their authentic selves.

Thanks in advance. We so appreciate you and your support!

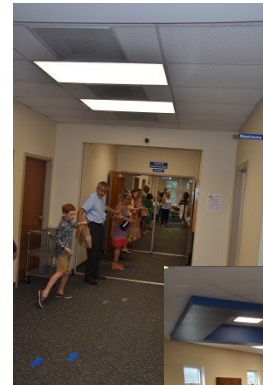
God's Peace,
Pastor Jesse

P.S. - Our BBQ Dinner was a tremendous success! Thanks so much for all the generous support. We had nearly 100 people gathered and raised almost \$2,000! Thanks again to everyone who was able to be with us. We loved our night with you!

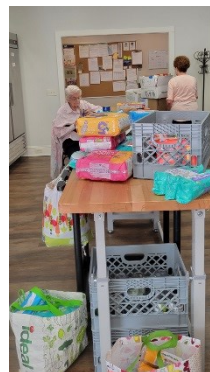
BACKPACKS/STUFF A BUS

I really look forward to our stuff a bus events and the interaction with the young adults that sign up to hand flyers out in front of a supermarket. One girl, very shy, was dropped off by her mother and was very skeptical about being in front of people and asking customers to donate to our program, but at the end of her time, she ran up to a very surprised mother bursting with "I want to do this again", when can I do it? Or another student that enjoyed herself so much, she wanted to come to our church and do the backpacks one week.

We will be packing bags the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month starting Sept. 10 in the fellowship hall and also there are a couple of dates (10/18 & 11/8) for packing - family, scout group, youth group, friends or neighbors. The social workers pick the bags up on Friday morning, so whatever day/time is convenient, we can set you up. Come on in before or after service on the 2nd & 4th Sundays to pack a few bags of food



Delivery to Christian Assistance



MEALS ON WHEEL

Each week Senior Resources sends out a message that they are in need of volunteers. Our team delivers on Monday and Tuesday of every week - if you think you might be interested in volunteering about 1-1/2 to 2 hours, contact Mike Davidson to add your name. We pick the meals up from Millwood Ave. location, but they are asking for volunteers at their Spring Valley location too. This is a wonderful opportunity to do with your grandchildren, neighbors, friends or family to bring some joy into an elderly person's life.

RICE ESTATE DINNER

The independent residents at Rice Estate and Harmony are invited to a special meal prepared and served by Living Springs members. October 28 has an Italian theme - residents are picked up in our CDC bus, served dinner, followed by games & activities, and returned to their home by 8 pm. This is a very fulfilling ministry that Gail Buchanan organizes and plans about once a quarter. Contact Gail if you are interested in participating or if you know of someone in either of these facilities that would enjoy this event.

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

Sunday, September 10

Ok - it's time for our famous meatloaf dinner (meatloaf, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans and dessert) that will be delivered to local first responders, Meals on Wheels clients, local sheriff stations, homeless in downtown area, Northstone Apartments, our backpack families, Palmetto Place Unaccompanied Youth house (The Oaks) and Samantha House (this house is where we provide the meal on the 4th Thursday of the month). The Red Cross was originally scheduled as part of GWOH, but had to cancel because of lack of staff. Cooking the meals will begin at 9am then after worship we will begin to assemble and deliver the meals. We will need help assembling the meals and delivering - see Karen Kranz if you can participate. We also need desserts - there is a signup in the admin bldg.

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



JOIN US
for a
day of service



Notes from: *Fellowship & Mutual Care*

Thanks to all who donated to our LeGrand-Lowman Scholarship Fund, we were able to award the following Continuing Education Grants: 8 students from Living Springs and 3 students from Christo Rey. Thanks to all who made the Rally Day Potluck a success!



Mark your calendars

We will host a **Octoberfest Senior Empty Nester lunch** following the 10:30 service on Sunday October 1st.



Notes from: *Justice Ministry*

As we begin the 2023-24 Justice ministry listening process, I am reminded over and over how the lives of people in Columbia are intertwined. In the past few years we have shared our stories and concerns in people's homes and places of worship. Thousands of sacred conversations have centered around one another. We are brothers and sisters, parents and children. We belong to a family with many spiritual traditions, and diverse lived experiences with a common goal. How can we better love our neighbor by addressing issues of affordable housing, food insecurity, gun violence, and mental as well as physical health.

Many of the team leaders at Living Springs are involved with important mercy ministries. At our recent leader meeting we shared our stories about delivering food for Meals on Wheels. Our delivery route takes us to many neighborhoods. It is not unusual to see piles of belongings left on the curb after an eviction. On our current route, we never pass a single grocery store. Clients often are disabled and home bound unable to afford transportation.

Recently, Colony apartments has been added to our delivery responsibilities. Of all the places we have been here in Columbia, this place is a convergence of every possible obstacle to safety and well being. Gun violence, unsafe housing conditions, food insecurity. This may not be our lived experience but with every meal we deliver we become part of this shared story. This shared story requires us to do something! To love mercy we must do Justice!

To walk humbly with God, please consider attending one of the house meetings scheduled in the coming months. This will be a time of sharing, learning and fellowship. Team leaders will be reaching out with dates and times

Notes from: *Good News Team*

Rush Hour Ministry

Tuesday, September 12

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!



LS Good News Journey with Jesus Bible Story Project

Catch this month's stories in our YouTube Journey with Jesus Playlist

Coming this week: A Child of Faith read by John Imbert

The Good News Team is beginning a new series for their Bible Reading Project in conjunction with the the "Journey with Jesus" Focus of the Month. Each Wednesday, a Bible story from our focus will be read along with sharing for our pastors, deacon, and possibly some of our worshippers. And, you may see some of these readings/discussions from some interesting places!The reading will be lstreamed, 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!

Looking for Readers To pre-record Bible Stories

Individuals/couples/families/youth

Want to read a Bible story for our Journey with Jesus Story Project? No need to be here, record yourself/family reading from your favorite Bible, or we can record you at home or a special location. Call the office to schedule or for more questions

LS Good News Bible Reading Project - Final reading of the series!

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

Humble, Rejoicing, Hope-filled Life! - read by Anna Graves

The Light of Love! read by Steve Padgett

God is Love! read by Dawn Willingham

A Living Hope! read by Dea Jones

Sharing the Manifold Grace of God! read by Pastor Carl

In an effort to get God's Word out to all, the Good News Team for the past year was doing a Bible Reading Project in conjunction with a Weekly Devotional . Each Wednesday, a Bible story from our Bible "Book" of the Month was read at the beginning of the devotion. Now that our Journey with Jesus focus is beginning, we are switching our series up a bit to follow along. Our Bible Reading Project will remain a playlist on YouTube. Please go and watch or share with your friends and family as often you please!



Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

Journey with Jesus Pastor Time

This Tuesday, Katie Room or Online

The next event is Aug. 8 -Pastor Eric will give an overview of the Bible Books of the Month.

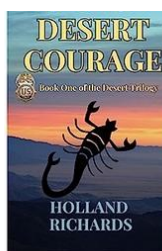
Facilitator – Pastor Eric

Google Meet:

<https://meet.google.com/crm-zcgt-bxx>

Or **dial:** 540-669-0687 PIN: 810 783 136#

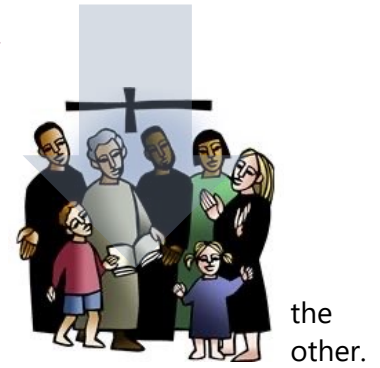
LADIES BOOK CLUB



One of our LS members is an author that has just published her first book - *Desert Courage* is available on either Kindle or paperback on Amazon. Good luck Dea!

Dea Jones will be our featured author at our next book club meeting on Sunday, October 1 @ 2 pm at Beverly Hoppert's home.

Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*



The Wonder of Worship

Sharing of Peace

Another thing new to me when I started attending Living Springs a year or so before pandemic was when the congregation was invited to “share Christ’s peace” with each

the other.



Everyone started walking around, shaking hands, hugging, and saying things like “Christ’s peace to you” or “Peace be with you.” I’d been in churches where there was a time to greet people near you, a way to welcome visitors and create a friendly environment. But there seemed to be something more to “sharing the peace” than that. We kept this part of our worship services even when we met online, using peace-sign hand-signals or honking car horns. When we started up again in-person, though masked and concerned about transmission (I hope that won’t happen again), we continued “sharing” (also called “passing” or “exchanging”) the peace each week. Like every part of our service, this one has historic roots and a specific purpose. You may be up on that purpose, but thanks—as with all these articles—for letting me share what I’ve learned.

Why do Lutheran Christians do this and why do they do it when they do it? After all, if it’s primarily to make people feel more at home, wouldn’t it be better earlier in the service (which is where I had experienced it before)? But we share the peace **after** the lectionary readings, the sermon, and the prayers of intercession—in other words, as we move toward Communion. And that’s the main clue to the purpose. Here’s how the [ELCA explains it on their website](#):

“Sharing God’s peace is not simply offering a friendly hello to those sitting around you. . . . The “exchange of peace” . . . is an act of reconciliation that serves as a transition point between the Word and Meal portions of the liturgy.” The article goes on:

“The exchange of peace is a ministry, an announcement of grace we make to each other, a summary of the gift given to us in the liturgy of the Word. This ministry we do to each other is far greater than a so ciable handshake or a ritual of friendship or a moment of informality. Because of the presence of Jesus Christ, we give to each other what we are saying: Christ’s own peace. Then, having been gathered by the Spirit around the Risen One present in the Word, we turn to celebrate his meal.”

Wow! Here’s my summary: Sharing the peace is indeed a way to show love, inclusion, hospitality, friendship—all very important! But it’s not just that. As we prepare to share Communion together, it’s also a time to remind each other: (a) that we can and should live in Christ’s peace and grace as those who are free from the guilt and penalty of our sin through Jesus’ death and resurrection, and (b) that it’s vitally important to live in peace and grace with one another. One of the verses behind this practice is Matthew 5:23-24: **So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.** It would be great if there was never strife or discord in churches, but history says otherwise. So, every time we share the peace of Christ, let’s show love and concern. Let’s encourage our brothers and sisters to live in the peace and grace we have in Christ. And let’s make sure that every relationship in our lives, at church and in the other spheres of our lives, is healthy. If not, sharing the peace is an opportunity to make things right.



Peace be with you, my dear friends at Living Springs!

Shirl Schiffman shirl@livingspringscolumbia.org

School Bag Blessing



Raleigh Ringers @ Ebenezer

A few of our members went to see the Raleigh Ringers. What a great time! If you are interested in becoming a part of our JuBE:LLation Handbell Choir, see Laura Turnmire. Two more ringers are needed!



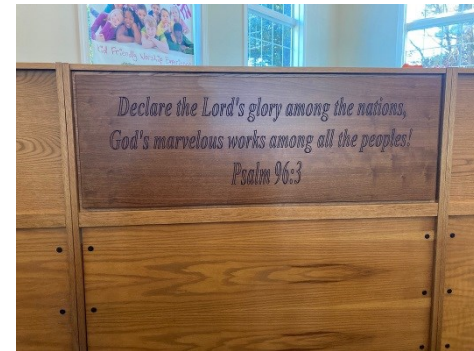
WORSHIP HELPERS

We need you to provide a meaningful worship experience at both 8:15 and 10:30. Our MSP (Ministry Scheduler Pro) program will allow you to enter "can't serve dates", preferred service times, qualify which roles you would prefer to serve in (lector, usher, etc.). We have guidelines and training available that explain each role - even if you serve one role once a month, it can make a difference. Contact Karen Kranz if you have any questions.

Dawn went through Assisting Minister training - same day filled an unfilled slot!

LS Streaming Tech Ministry Dedication Sunday, September. 17

You may have noticed several new things in the Sanctuary - all connected with our Streaming Tech Ministry, that continues to touch so many lives. Through generous donations of various congregation members, we have a beautiful new sanctuary tech/streaming cabinet; new upgraded streaming computers; 3 new mounted cameras, and other items. With thanksgiving to God, we are offering a special blessing of dedication on Sunday, Sept. 17 at the 10:30 service, with recognition of everyone who has been part of this formative ministry. Be sure to present for this wonderful occasion!



Over the past 6 years our abilities to livestream parts or all of our worship for God's people across the globe has increased and we give thanks for the many disciples who have made this happen. Last year we needed a roll top desk to "house" our equipment and a sweet couple in NE Cola had one for us to use. We used it for a year before we got our new sectional desks and then....then we reached out to Lutheran Services Carolinas to see if anyone could use the original roll top desk, for we wanted it to continue to give joy to someone else. And God did something amazing again! God led us to an Iraqi woman who lost her entire family and immigrated over to the states with nothing. She was so grateful to receive a solid wood, very sturdy desk that she can call her own. Wow! God used so many people and one desk to bring joy in every step of this! It reminds me how Jesus took 5 loaves and 2 fish and fed 5,000+ people! This one desk made connections for people all around our world in the name of Jesus! Thanks be to God! And thanks to the many hands and hearts that have made our livestreaming possible here at Living Springs.

Notes from: *Men's Ministry*

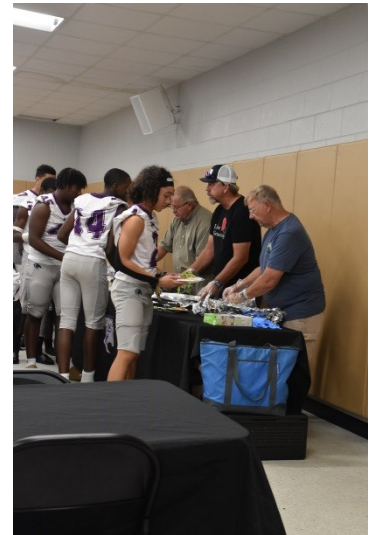
LS Football Devotion Ministry

We will need 4-5 helpers for each pre-game meal, usually around 4pm, but time varies depending on home/away game, etc. Go ahead and check your calendars to see which Thursdays you could help serve food and/or help with supplies/prep. There is a master sign-up sheet at the church, or you can also let Bob Turnmire know. For each meal, we also need 100-110 pre-packaged cookies or desserts. You can bring to church by the morning of game day (or sign-up to make a monetary donation and we will buy cookies for you.)

Sept. 7; Sept. 14; Sept. 28;

Oct. 5; Oct. 12; Oct. 19; Oct. 26

**As always, we can use a Thrivent Card for each date, so if you are a Thrivent member, remember you have access to two \$250 community care cards every year. Please let Karen Kranz know, as she is our LS Thrivent card coordinator.*



Please keep this life-impacting ministry in your prayers - the time we spend fostering relationships with these young men makes a huge difference in breaking down barriers, shaping hearts, and reinforcing the genuineness of our weekly devotional messages!!!! Even if you have to get off work early one Thursday, we encourage everyone to share in this experience at least 1 week during the season. Thanks so much for your witness, men/women are welcome!



Midlands Conference Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday Sept 19

at St Michael's Lutheran on River Rd. 6pm

They will be grilling hot dogs and will be serving them with all the fixins and dessert. Keith Smith coming to talk about his book. Built for the Rebuild

<https://www.inthegapmotivational.com/product-page/built-for-the-rebuild-book>.

He was our speaker at the convention a few years ago when we had it at St Paul's.

**Mark Your Calendars
Men's Sunday
September 24**



God At Work

Faith Formation Kickoff (& Baptism)



Growing @ GOD'S HOPE! ? Journey with Jesus...		Growing @ GOD'S HOPE! ? Journey with Jesus...		Growing @ GOD'S HOPE! ? Journey with Jesus...	
J	Jesus gave healing to the man impaled. Had eye surgery or wear glasses. Actively nurture my emotional/mental health.	E	Jesus healed the man with emboled. Have a friend who is Jewish.	S	Jesus was a religious as a child in Egypt. Have helped/ supported (refugee).
S	Jesus and his disciples were Jewish. Have been in a storm while in a boat. Jesus asked for his enemy's name. Have a step-parent or I am a step-parent.	U	Jesus climbed a tree. Jesus and his disciples were Jewish. Jesus' teaching to pray for our enemies. You or someone in your family has no covered from a serious illness.	S	Jesus was a religious as a child in Egypt. Have helped/ supported (refugee). Jesus' teaching about justice of right. Have had a deep conversation with Jesus about life. Jesus' teaching that we are the salt of the earth. Jesus' teaching that we are the salt of the earth.



Fireflies Outing



Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

LS DISASTER RESPONSE EMPHASIS! Sunday Bucket Offerings & Special Offerings...

With the recent disaster in Maui (and other seasonal storms/fires), Living Springs is having a special emphasis on Lutheran Disaster Response efforts, to directly help those whose lives have been devastated. Sunday Bucket offerings for Sept-Nov will be dedicated for this purpose— and additional check/donations can be placed in the offering (payable to Living Springs and marked “Disaster Response”). To give electronically, you can also use the Disaster Response button on our [LS Givelify app](#).

From Lutheran Disaster Response, regarding Hawaii disaster...

The significant loss of life and damage caused by the wildfires in Hawaii have turned our prayers and attention to mourning those lost, supporting the survivors and how Lutheran Disaster Response can assist with recovery. Exacerbated by strong winds, wildfires on Maui have claimed dozens of lives and have destroyed homes, businesses and lines of communication. The Big Island of Hawaii has also been impacted by wildfires, and more islands remain vulnerable to additional fires this season.

Lutheran Disaster Response is prepared to accompany our neighbors in Hawaii impacted by these wildfires. Will you consider a gift of love today?

Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. We will work with them to provide for immediate needs and long-term recovery amid the widespread destruction. Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to accompanying recovering communities in the years ahead.

NOTE: Special Option for Thrivent members... (please let us know in the LS office if you donate by Thrivent!)

Make a donation via Thrivent & Thrivent will boost it with a \$250,000 matching opportunity! For every \$2 you donate through Thrivent's online giving platform or through a Thrivent Charitable Impact and Investing® Donor Advised Fund to Lutheran Disaster Response, Thrivent will add \$1. Thrivent will also pay all the processing fees so 100% will go directly to the cause. **Choice Dollars®** If you are an eligible Thrivent client, click here to direct Choice Dollars to disaster response.

Ministry Signups Still Available from Faith Formation Sunday!

If you weren't here for Faith Formation Sunday or would still like to sign up for any of the Living Springs Ministries, journey to the admin lobby. Check out all the wonderful ways to share HOPE with others! Some of what you'll find are:

Worship Sunday Morning Helpers - Lectors, Assisting Ministers, Welcome Table, Ushers, Communion Assistants, Acolytes, Crucifers, Torchbearers, Parking Lot Ushers, Counters, Altar Guild, Coffee & Refreshment, Altar Guild, Worship Music (Choir, Disciples of Harmony, JuBEL-Lation Handbell Choir, Instrumentalists)

Adult Faith Formation Opportunities - Including: Sunday Adult Bible Study, Tuesday Evening Bible Study, Men's Bible Study. Fill out An LS Adult Faith Formation Questionnaire!

Hope Ministry - Sign up in the fellowship hall to help with: Meals on Wheels; Packing Backpack Food Ministry; Palmetto Place Meals; help with Campus Ministry meals; Children's Hospital Lunch; Family Promise Meal; Giving Tree; Rice Estate Dinner

Women's Ministry - Crafty Ladies Quilting Group, Ladies Book Club

LS JV Football Ministry - Every week during the football season we feed and have fellowship with the JV Football team at Ridgeview HS. Please see the article above for more information

Good News Team - Beer & Hymns Musicians; Rush Hour Ministry; Bible Story Readers; Mug Guests, Outdoor Live Nativity Drama

Prayer Labyrinth Dedication Service for Northeast Columbia

This dedication will encompass our whole community. The hope is that this campus will be a place of respite for people to have time with God. Labyrinths have long been associated with the journey of life, and in medieval times they were symbolic of the pilgrimage to Jerusalem in the Christian imagination. Praying with a labyrinth is a form of walking meditation, a physical expression of the interior journey towards Christ that characterizes all Christian contemplation.



Date: Sunday, September 10, 2023

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: NEUMC Prayer Labyrinth

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Melanie Dobson
United Methodist Elder and Professor at
Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary
and Director of the Spiritual Direction
Certification Program

Dr. Dobson will also teach three classes:

Practices of Presence: Prayer for Life's Journey
(Prayer for our life's moments, days, and weeks)

Thursday, September 14 | 6:30 PM

Practicing the Presence: Welcoming God in Life's Moments

Thursday, September 21 | 6:30 PM

Practicing Awareness: Discerning God's Presence in a Day (Examen)

Thursday, September 28 | 6:30 PM

Practicing Sabbath: Resting with God in a Week

(Childcare is provided)

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>MAIN SUNDAY SCHEDULE 1020A Pre-worship "Jesus" Time 1030A WORSHIP (Sanctuary/ Online/Parking Lot) - includes Children's GIFT Faith Time</p>						
3 *See box above 805A & 1020 Final Pre-Worship Summer Hymn Sing! 920A "Journey w/ Jesus" Pastor Time 10A Youth "Triple S" Time	4 Labor Day Office/LSCDC Closed 7P Recovery Comes First	5 10A "Jesus" Pastor Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	6 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 Journey w/Jesus Devotion Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 6P Hope Team 630P Youth (LSLC)	7 11A Good News Team 4P Football Ministry 330P Backpack Food Ministry (LSCDC) 630P Recovery Comes First 730P Lifelong Discipleship	8 9 930A Crafty Ladies	
10 *See box above "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday 9A GWOH Meal Cooking 920 & 1145 - Backpack Food Bags 1145A GWOH Assemble/Deliver Meals 12P Confirmation Class 145P Confirmation Parents 4P Labyrinth Dedication (NE UMC) 4P Justice Gathering (Davidson's) 430P Girl Scouts 5P Cristo Rey Ministry (carpool 415)	11 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Fellowship/Mutual Care 7P Boy Scout Troop #737 Court of Honor	12 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 515P Rush Hour Ministry 530P Finance Team 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	13 815A Staff Breakfast 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 Journey w/Jesus Devotion Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Youth (Mod Pizza)	14 7A Men's Bible & Biscuits 1130-130 CDC Staff Prayer Lunch 4P Football Ministry 6P Boy Scout Fitness 630P Recovery Comes First 630P LS-CDC Board	15 16	
17 1030A Tech Ministry Dedication 12P ELCA Youth Gathering Devotion 4P Justice Gathering (Buchanan's) 430P Girl Scouts	18 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737 7P Exec Team	19 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 6P LMM Midlands Conference (St. Michaels) 7P Handbells	20 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 Journey w/Jesus Devotion Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Youth (LSLC) 630P Parents "Jesus" Time	21 4P Backpack Food Ministry 630P Recovery Comes First 7P Council Meeting Children's Hospital Meal	22 23 8A Men's Breakfast Gathering	
24 *See box above Lutheran Men's Sunday 920 & 1145 - Backpack Food Bags 12P Confirmation Class 4P Justice Gathering (Doeringhaus/ Kannaday @ Bradham home) 430P Girl Scouts	25 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P Worship Team 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737	26 10A Ladies Bible Study 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	27 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 Journey w/Jesus Devotion Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Youth (Bojangles)	28 7A Bible & Biscuits Men's Bible Study 4P Football Ministry 6P Boy Scout Fitness 630P Recovery Comes First Palmetto Place Meal	29 30	

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

September 1 ♥ Gary & Susan Bradham
September 2 Sophia Skipper
 ♥ Gene & Sara Hale
September 3 ♥ Bob & Laura Turnmire
September 4 Steve Bloss
 Peg Fox
September 6 Karlene Stuart
September 7 ♥ Steve & Elouise Niemeyer
September 10 Anne Ducate
 Sarah Schultz
September 12 Helen Doerpinghaus
 Bob Turnmire

September 17 London Mancuso
September 18 Collin Flores
 Nancy Franck
 ♥ Bill & Nancy Franck
September 23 Scott Graves
 Midge Gunvalson
 Rylee Harris
 Cathy Loman
 ♥ Kurt & Luz Hopwood
 Logan Smith
September 28 Mackenzie Bales
September 29



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!



September 7 Bob Gabbard
September 9 Ed Brennan
September 15 Meredith McKenzie
September 18 Vickie Crapps
September 24 Mike Davidson
September 25 Susan Bradham
 Gail Buchanan
September 29 Ginny Devereaux



CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers

Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor

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Rev. Carl Taylor - Associate Pastor

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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

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Seminarian Jace Martinez

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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

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Prayer Requests