

The Living Springs Journal

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

July 2024



"More Miracles of Jesus" - All Around Us, Still! (from Pastor Eric)

July "JOURNEY WITH JESUS" Focus = More Parables of Jesus!

Pastor Study Time: Tuesday, 7/23 @ 10am

Reading/Discussion Online Postings: Wednesdays @ Noon

Each month, our "Journey with Jesus" focus speaks to me in a very special way. In June, the focus was "more miracles of Jesus" - as we spent time delving into even more miracles of hope & grace that Jesus worked in people's lives in the Gospels. As we focused on those stories, it struck me that the phrase "more miracles of Jesus" was not only applicable to additional 1st-century miracles recorded in the Scriptures. But beyond those miracles, there were "more miracles of Jesus" happening today here in our midst—for everywhere I looked, there was still miraculous hope and grace flowing into people's lives....

There was the miraculous feeding that took place on a Sunday with our **joint LS-Cristo Rey youth food truck fellowship!** There were parents & families speaking about joy and hope carried into their homes through their children/youth who participated in an **incredible LS VBS!** There were so many lives touched with God's grace & hope through our

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

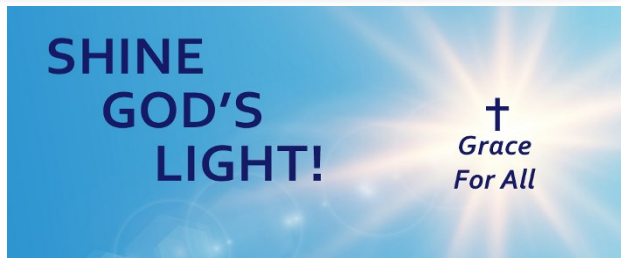
CREATED

TO BE MYLE
the tAble Young Adult Gathering

youth & adults who participated in 4 days filled with outreach at our **GraceWorks servant event.** There were miracles of young hearts being opened to a deeper faith & greater awareness of Jesus' love for them at an amazing **Lutheridge camp week!**

There were miracles of grace & love shared at the June **Rice Estate meal**, the distribution of dozens of **Father's Day cards & flowers**, and the quarterly **Empty Nesters/**

(Continued on [page 3](#))



YOUTH GATHERING BLESSING, July 7
ELCA MULTICULTURAL YOUTH, July 13-16
ELCA YOUTH GATHERING, July 16-20
(Youth depart 7/12 & 7/15; return 7/21)
+ + +
LS SUMMER HOPE SUNDAY #2 - July 14
Lutheran Serv. Refugee Christmas Dove Tree
LS "CHRISTMAS IN JULY" - July 28
+ + +
July Opportunities to "Shine Additional Light!"
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEAL—July 18
PALMETTO PLACE MEAL—July 25
MEALS ON WHEELS—each Mon & Tue
NA RECOVERY GROUP—each Mon & Thurs



From the Desk of Pastor Carl



Dear Church Family,

We are overjoyed to share the beautiful experiences and successes of our recent Vacation Bible School (VBS)! This year's theme, "Food Truck Party - On A Roll With God," added an extra layer of excitement as we gathered daily to learn, play, and grow in faith together.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to the incredible volunteers and dedicated teachers who were the driving force behind the success of VBS. Your unwavering dedication, infectious enthusiasm, and love for the children were not just evident, but they were the very essence of every lesson, every song, and every meal. Your service made a profound impact on the children's experience, and for that, we are truly grateful.

Each day was a joy as we welcomed the bright smiles and eager hearts of our children. It was a true blessing to see their enthusiasm as they learned different stories from the Bible. They were captivated by the tales of:

- **Daniel and the Good Food:** Learning about making healthy choices and trusting in God's provision.
- **Elijah and the Endless Oil:** Understanding God's miraculous ability to provide for our needs.
- **Manna in the Morning and Quail at Night:** Discovering God's faithful provision for the Israelites in the desert.
- **Jesus Feeding the 5000 with Two Fish and Five Loaves of Bread:** Witnessing the power of Jesus' miracles and the importance of sharing.

The joy of singing together each day was infectious. The children sang their hearts out, praising God with lively and spirited songs that will be remembered for a long time. We also enjoyed delicious meals that perfectly complemented our "Food Truck Party" theme, creating a festive and communal atmosphere that everyone cherished.

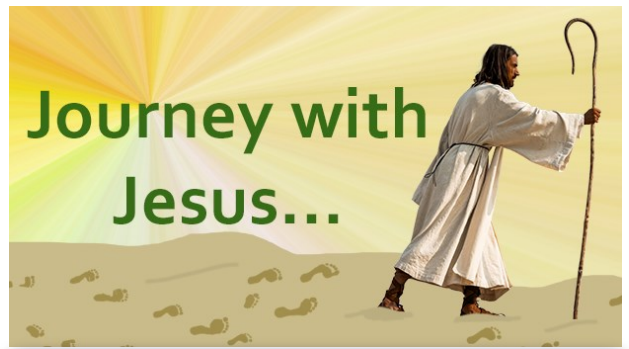
(Continued on [page 12](#))

Seniors Lunch. There was the visit of Laird Weaver from **Palmetto Place (LS Summer Hope Sunday #1)**—to share about the daily miracle of God’s love and hope being poured into young lives through that powerful life-shaping ministry in Christ’s name.

There were **Sunday Thanksgiving Moments**, one of which uplifted the amazing hope brought to families through our monthly **Children’s Hospital lunch ministry**. There was the miracle of joyful hope brought to **Meals-on-Wheels** doorsteps, along with cards & songs of Graceworks youth. There was the miracle of hope & God’s unconditional love, evidenced by smiles of **Lutheran Services refugee children** (and tears of joy in their parents’ eyes), as they were greeted at the airport by **LS bus drivers, quilts & prayer bears**—and then joined with others at an afternoon of ice cream, fun & games at a festival sponsored by Graceworks youth & Midlands Lutheran Men. There was the miracle of hope & joy unfolding every Monday & Thursday night at our **NA Group** meetings—and the miracle of a young life serving others through an **Eagle Scout project** to add benches to our church portico and LS prayer garden.

There was the miracle of Christ’ grace before us at the service of **Holy baptism** for little Henry; the miracle of hope being poured into hearts through **summer hymn-sings**, choir anthems, solos, Addi’s youth saxophone solo, Lauren’s youth liturgical dance; and, the miracle of 21 disciples joining the LS family of faith at a June **Member Welcome Blessing**.

Now in July, there will be more great miracles to behold—as our LS youth join youth from Cristo Rey (plus 16,000 others) in attending the **ELCA Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) & ELCA Youth Gathering** in New Orleans. I give thanks for your role in that miracle... through all your support of the Youth Shareholder & other initiatives. We look forward to being together in worship on July 7 to celebrate the miraculous work of God in our youth at their **Sending Blessing**. Everywhere, still more miracles of Jesus here in our midst! Thanks be to God! With joy & thanksgiving for Christ’s light shining in you, *Pastor Eric*



Summer Small Catechism (Sunday Worship)

- July 7 – Apostles’ Creed, 1st Article
- July 14 – Apostles’ Creed, 2nd Article
- July 21 – Apostles’ Creed, 3rd Article
- July 28 – Lord’s Prayer, Intro/1st Petition
- Aug 4 – Lord’s Prayer, 2nd/3rd Petitions
- Aug 11 – Lord’s Prayer, 4th/5th Petitions
- Aug 18 – Lord’s Prayer, 6/7th Petitions/Concl
- Aug 25 – Sacrament of Baptism
- Sept 1 – Confession & Forgiveness
- Sept 8 – Sacrament of the Altar
- Sept 15 – Morning & Evening Blessings
- Sept 22 – Blessing at Meals

Download the free Augsburg Fortress “Small Catechism” App —go to: catechism.augsburgfortress.org

“Well-Done, Good & Faithful Servant!” Blessings to our beloved bookkeeper, Sherry Forsgren, upon her retirement...



It is with great joy for Sherry (and sadness for us) that we share news of Sherry’s retirement after 16+ years of faithful service at LS. Please hold Sherry in prayer for a wonderful retirement, as she continues with positive results with her post-cancer treatments. Stay tuned for more details about officially honoring Sherry!

*In the interim, we are truly blessed with the work of Elizabeth Ulloa (who also serves as part-time bookkeeper for St. Paul Lutheran). Finance Team members Karlene Stuart, Mike Davidson & Todd Gunvalson serve as our Search/Interview Team.

Called Congregation Meeting Results (June 9): Campus Vision Project to Begin!

Unanimous Vote to approve moving forward with our Campus Vision Project (road-widening), as updated! Contract has since been signed with DNR Construction for parking lot renovation, to begin as soon as scheduling allows. Thanks to everyone for the great turnout, that easily exceeded our quorum requirements!

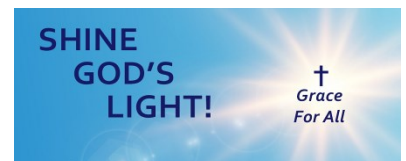
Please hold the project in prayer, so that we may be a positive witness for all workers involved—and so that the result may enable Living Springs to shine Christ’s light even more brightly in the community, as we “Journey with Jesus” in our 36th year of ministry!

Project Team: Ed Brennan, Randy Sides, Jeff Tenhover, Jim Zieche.
Task Force: Ed Brennan, Todd Gunvalson, Andrea Maloney, Ashley Sanders, Randy Sides, Aaron Smith, Karlene Stuart, Jeff Tenhover, Adam Woodruff, P.Eric.

2024 LIVING SPRINGS MINISTRY FOCUS

*Grounded in worship, we are disciples joyfully sharing our resources and celebrating Jesus’ message of **Good News of God’s grace for all!** We lift up these areas of Ministry Focus to **Shine Additional Light** in 2024:*

- PROVIDING SAFE SPACES FOR LISTENING AND ATTENDING TO one another & the larger community... especially in areas of mental-emotional wellness.**
- MINISTERING TO, AND PARTNERING WITH, OUR NEIGHBORS to serve others and offer hope... through feeding ministries, justice ministry, and other crisis ministries.**
- OFFERING LIFE-SHAPING FAITH FORMATION for all ages... through multiple, creative opportunities to worship and learn - with special emphasis on children, youth, and families, including LS Child Development Center.**
- INVITING, WELCOMING & CELEBRATING everyone in God’s diverse Kingdom garden... all beautifully created in God’s image!**



Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED

TO BE MYLE
the table Young Adult Gathering

2024 ELCA Multicultural Youth Leadership Event

July 13-16, New Orleans

Depart July 12: Lauren Bloss, Garrett Flores, Daniel Hampton, Leslie Bloss, Pastor Carl, Pastor Mark Buchan & 9 members of Cristo Rey

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering (16,000+)

July 16-20, New Orleans

Depart July 15: Anna Graves, Wesley Graves, Addi Hayden, Alyssa Prest, Hunter Prest, Ava Riddle-Perras (St. John, Walhalla), Cody Shannon, Lucas Shannon, Parker Thoma, Brantley Smith, Pastor Eric

Both sub-groups return together on Sunday, July 21

**** SENDING/COMMISSIONING BLESSING: SUNDAY, JULY 7 ****

"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works, that I know very well!" - Psalm 139:14

Special thanks to all our Youth Shareholders & others who have offered so generously to support this faith-shaping, life-changing experience. Shareholders, be on the lookout for daily contacts/reports from our youth during the July 16-20 main Youth Gathering.

Enjoy livestreams of the **Evening Mass Gatherings** from SmoothieKing NBA Arena (Tuesday, July 16 - Friday, July 19 @ 7-8:45pm) and **Closing Worship** (Saturday, July 20 @ 9:30-11:30am).

Go to elca.org/youthgathering

For even greater participation, download the **free gathering APP** from your app store: search for "ELCA national youth gathering"



LS CHRISTMAS IN JULY, 7/28!

Christmas Fellowship Gathering @ 9:00-10:15 AM
Christmas Worship @ 10:30 (brief version at 8:15)



Wear your favorite or ugly Christmas sweater, bring a brunch item, eggnog (non-alcoholic), or your favorite Christmas cookie/dessert! We are having a fun Christmas Fellowship event between services where adults, youth, and children can make a craft, assemble blessing bags, and contribute items for our Dove Tree. There's nothing quite like embracing the Christmas spirit during the summer heat—singing Christmas carols, enjoying fellowship, and allowing the Holy Spirit to work within us to "Shine God's Light."



"CHRISTMAS IN JULY" DOVE TREE

July 14-28

In connection with LS "Christmas in July", our Christmas Dove Tree will have essential items needed to help our Lutheran Services refugees upon arrival (as they flee horrible situations to begin life here in safety). Pick one, two or more items off the tree - and please have them back by July 28. *Note: there is one item listed that is a little pricey (pots & pans), so that could be a group effort.* The tree will go up on July 14 to coincide with our LS Hope Sunday welcoming Sarah Lewis from LSC.



God's Corner



Dear Living Springs,

Thank you so much to everyone that has supported me throughout my faith journey as well as these milestones that I have hit. Thank you all so much, I really appreciate it!

Love, *Josh Holmstrom*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your gift of \$70.00 to the Annual Fund! Your generosity is empowering ministry that inspires faith, builds relationships, and transforms lives.

"I keep my summer camp history in my Bible," says family camper Sarah V. Sarah is one of the parents who has been coming to Family Camp with her children for many years.

"For me, family camp has been a way to regain my youth again," Sarah says. "I get to participate in skits and be goofy in a way I rarely do. It's a place apart in that way, and to be able to come and do that again is always a reset for me."

Like many of the parents who come to family camp, Sarah's camp story include several years being on summer staff. Each summer she was at camp Sarah brought her student Bible along, and she wrote in it what she did that year.

"When the kids started coming the list got more complicated," Sarah says. "But I love keeping this history of what we have done every summer."

Sarah's three children have done other camp programs and had great experiences being away from their parents. This summer, however, Sarah and her children will be together at family camp again. The beauty of family camp is that it's one big family," Sarah shares. "The kids and adult who come back year after year are growing up together."

Thanks to you, we can continue to give families the opportunity to connect with God, each other, and Christian friends, and to grow in faith together. Thank you for your generosity which helps us form faith, build community, and develop strong leaders.

In gratitude,

Rev. Mike Ward & Deacon **Mitzie Schafer**

Co-Intentional Interim CEO's



Notes from: *Fellowship & Mutual Care*



Empty Nester Lunch



Notes from: *Living Springs Child Development Center*

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Blessings to all during this HOT introduction to our Summer,

The sun shines brightly, a breeze gently blows, and flowers begin to wilt as they ask for the rain to come and quench their thirst. We see squirrels scurry along the fence in search of food or shelter from the heat, Katie waits at the door for a fresh bowl of water and the children are excited about waterplay. The signs of Summer are obvious. Even in the heat and excitement that summer brings, we continue to be blessed with experiences of Hope.

We have so many opportunities to share Hope among our children, families, staff, and the community. A few of the exciting things we have done to kick off summer have included:

Taking a field trip to Rice Estates to pass out the Father's Day cards that the children made and taking the opportunity to visit with our senior friends.

VBS, where our LSLC-CDC children and staff were able to participate in activities with church and community members, expanding our experiences by meeting new people.



We invited guests to visit and share their expertise on safety, health, and wellbeing. During a visit from our local fire department, the firefighters let the children hold the fire hose as it was on, they were shocked at the weight and power of the water hose! A group from DHEC shared information about dental health and two nursing students from Midlands did a demonstration on germs and the effectiveness of handwashing.

One of our Summer Campers was very excited to explore how to create a circuit board, they created a complete circuit in which the batteries connected to a button, and a push pad which then sounded a small alarm. Our Summer Campers learned about heat by making and experimenting with thermometers. Our 5-year-olds and Summer Campers will be cooking quesadillas in solar ovens that they have made using pizza boxes, then taking them to make S'mores for the 4th of July.



Our staff and families were able to take a day off in honor of Juneteenth, and we are ending the month by celebrating Pride with our colorful "Pride Pasta". Our three older classrooms will be cooking and using food dye to color differently shaped pasta, after which we will combine the pasta with butter and cheese creating a colorful snack representing and celebrating how our diversity doesn't mean division.

If you are able to stop by July 18th, we will be selling Lemonade! See below for more details!

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry.

Wishing you well, Tammy

Firefighter's Visit



Come One, Come ALL!
The LSLC-CDC will be serving
Fresh lemonade on July 18th
9-10 am and 3:30-4:30 pm
All proceeds will go directly to
St. Jude Children's Hospital
We hope to see you there!

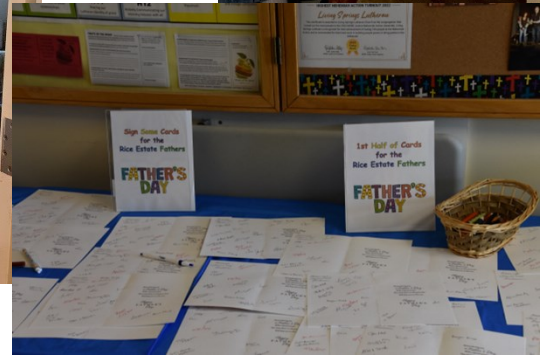
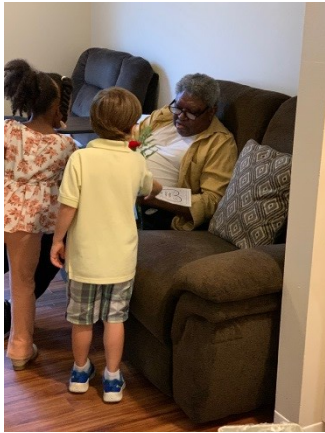
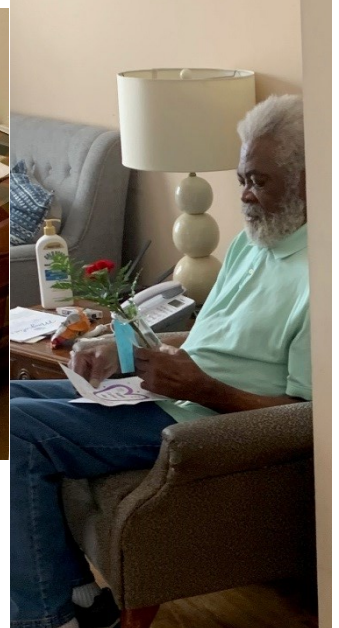



**St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital**
ALSAC • Danny Thomas, Founder

Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

Sharing God's Love for Father's Day

Many hearts were touched by nearly 70 Father's Day cards that many of you signed an equal number of cards that the CDC children colored a bud vase with a bright red carnation, lovingly made by our Living Springs family. And when a group of our CDC children presented these expressions of God's love to nearly 60 residents of the Rice Estate the residents responded with smiles, joy and thankful hearts!



Rice Estate Garden Party



PAPER, PENCILS, & PENS – OH MY!!!



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 4. 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/ls/4HJP77SK99YO?ref=wl_share

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

BACKPACK FOOD MINISTRY - STUFF A BUS

Saturday, August 17 from 9 am to 1 pm

We will be collecting items for the backpack food ministry program and also for Christian Assistance Bridge in Blythewood.

Volunteering for GraceWorks, I had the opportunity to help at "Keepin it Real" - a pastor that works out of a storage unit to provide for homeless folks in the downtown area. Any items that cannot be used for backpacks or CAB will be donated to Keepin it Real - God continues to shine his light!

PALMETTO PLACE

At our June Hope Sunday #1, we heard from Laird Weaver, Development Manager of Palmetto Place explaining the "about us" of how Palmetto Place works to provide a safe and supportive environment for children and teens who have faced abuse, abandonment, neglect and/or homelessness. One of the ministries Living Springs is involved in is providing a meal for Samantha House (ages 18-21) who are in transition to becoming independent young adults. The house holds six people, so we usually prepare for ten (to include staff) on the fourth Thursday of the month. If you would like to participate in this ministry, contact Karen Kranz or there is also an opportunity to provide a meal for the children at The Oaks which houses around 20 teens - are you an empty-nester that likes to cook, but no one to cook for?



LS Summer Hope Sunday #2

July 14 @ 9:20

Join us Sun, July 14 9:20 to 10:20 am in the fellowship hall to hear Sarah Lewis, Outreach Coordinator for the New Americans Program will be speaking on July 14 in-between services on Hope Sunday #2 of our 2024 series. Sarah is instrumental in communicating with other organizations and churches in the area to maintain a smooth transition for refugees into their new environment.

SAVE THE DATE - CAMPUS MINISTRY BBQ

All Columbia churches will be receiving an invitation to the annual Gamecock Lutheran BBQ on Saturday, August 10 at 5:30 pm to start off the new college year and help spread the word that Gamecock Campus Ministry welcomes everyone into their loving and accepting communities. Young adults experience unique spiritual, intellectual and emotional challenges and Gamecock Lutheran Campus Ministry seeks to strengthen and support them as they learn and grow.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

If you would like to write an encouraging message/note to parents or children that are going through chemo treatments, the note will be put inside the lunch provided on the third Thursday of the month by Carolina Deli. There is a box on the counter in the workroom - feel free to drop off anytime.

Notes from: *Lifelong Discipleship*

LS 2023-24 "Journey with Jesus" 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

THIS MONTH: *For your Bible reading & faith discussions at home...* (plus our LS Bible studies, group/team "Dwellings in the Word," Wednesday online readings, youth studies, and more!)

Week of June 30: Luke 16:1-13, 19-31 True riches

Week of July 7: Luke 18:1-14, 21:29-38 Prayer and readiness

Week of July 14: Matthew 21:18-22, 28-46 Figs, Sons, and Tenants

Week of July 21: Matthew 22:1-14, 24:45-51 A Banquet and faithfulness

Week of July 28: Matthew 28:1-30 Prepared and investing for abundance.

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



Notes from: *Mission Partnership Team*

Youth Gathering Fundraiser w/ Cristo Rey

Cristo Rey
Joins LS in
worship



LS Ministries with Cristo Rey!



Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*

Why do People like Hymn-Sings . . .



. . . where the leader gives everybody in the sanctuary an opportunity to pick out a song to be sung? Here's a few ideas: (1) For some of us who are older, hymn-sings might remind us of Sunday evening services or some other more informal setting when those gathered could pick a favorite hymn. (2) It's a chance to peruse the hymnbook (a treasure chest of resources for God's family, and not just the music!), something people in most churches don't do much anymore—or maybe never did. (3) It's a chance to hear and sing a hymn that means a lot to us. (It'd be great to hear some of those reasons!) (4) It's fun! (5) ? ? ?

Whatever the reasons, these 10-minute sessions before both Sunday services in the summer are enjoyable and I hope you'll keep coming and singing! Sing out, OK? Never be shy about singing, since you are singing to God—who created and loves you! Our Living Springs Hymn-Sings continue throughout the summer, 8:05 and 10:20. See you there!



Shirl Schiffman shirl@livingspringscolumbia.org

Thankful for a church and pastors that encourage participation in so many different ways meeting young ones where they are.



We give thanks for all who participated in our Member Welcome Blessing on June 23rd. We welcome these 21 siblings in Christ to God's family of faith here at Living Springs. Please make them feel at home and continue to introduce yourselves, as we join together in shining God's light even more brightly among each other, in this community, and throughout the world!!

Lisa & Johnny Besser
Sam Dyar
Ena & Chris Hagon - Gabriel & Noah
Marilee McWilliams & mom, Barbara Lawlor
Judy Meisner
Lisa Petty
Daisy & Eddie Rivera
Jaime Shreve
Betty Slojewski
Niane Szalwinski
Tanya & Ricky Wallace - Soren, Rogan, Kayla



Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

Crafty Ladies

We have finished 3 new quilts since we last met. Pictured are a lovely red and cream paisley quilt by Beverly Hoppert, a pieced quilt in browns and cream by Jeannie Hurlbert, and a bright pink, green and white lap quilt by Dawn Willingham. Thank you all for your work.



A new quilter joined us last time, Betty Slojewski. Betty and her husband are new to Columbia Northeast. Please welcome Betty when you see her at services or this Saturday morning quilting.

Thanks to Barb Imbert we have two new quilt tops and backs to layer. I want to try something different, if possible. After the quilt is layered, pinned, and trimmed, let's un-tape the quilt, roll it up lengthwise, and move it to another table where it can be tied while comfortably seated. Starting at one edge, as each row is tied the quilt can be pulled forward to tie the next row. If this works it should be easier on delicate backs and short arms. Meanwhile, if there are enough of us, we can start the second quilt.

While browsing the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) website I saw there is another Ingathering scheduled at St. Andrews Lutheran Church September 12-14, 2024. This provides a target for another blessing of quilts and fabric kits. Check out this link for information and inspiration about LWR Quilt and Kit Ministry.

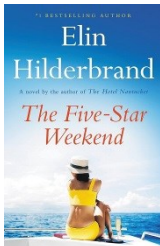
If I have omitted something, please let me know so I can include it next time.

Yours in Christ, Janet Wedlock

LADIES BOOK CLUB

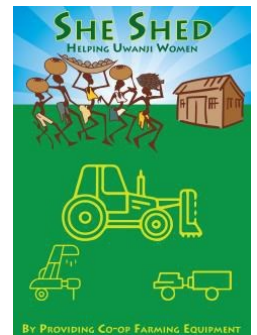
Monday, August 5 @ 7pm

Our next meeting is at Peggy Merrill's, 110 Clay Ridge Rd, 29223 ph: 803.727.2640 on Monday, August 5 @ 7 pm. We are reading *The Five-Star Weekend* by Elin Hildebrand. The book is available at the Richland Library and we invite everyone that wants to participate in a night fellowship to join us. Reading the book is not a prerequisite.



LS Summer Bucket Offering- TANZANIA "She Shed" Project

SC WELCA is collecting money to help Vwanji women in Tanzania with their farming. This year the Tanzania Mission team is building a small co-op shed to house and maintain the equipment they are purchasing the women need to harvest their crops as the ladies are currently doing it by hand. The LS Summer Bucket offering collected at the Children's Message every Sunday will be going to help fund this project. [You can read more about this project here.](#)



Notes from: *Men's Ministry*

Mark you calendars...Details to come

OYTL retreat September 13th - 15th

LSLC LMM sponsor corn hole tournament for Shannon Long fund. September 28th

(Continued from [page 2](#))

Our youth had a life-changing experience during Graceworks. This program was a catalyst for them to 'Shine God's Light' in downtown Columbia, South Carolina. They were involved in a variety of service activities, from community clean-ups to feeding the hungry and mentoring those in need. Their dedication to servanthood and their embodiment of Jesus' love in tangible ways was truly inspiring and a testament to the transformative power of our programs.

As we reflect on the month of June, we are filled with gratitude for the fellowship, fun, and faith that blossomed through our events. Through the unwavering faith and love of God, the peace of Jesus, and the workings of the Holy Spirit, this month has truly been a blast.

As we look forward to our senior youth attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering from July 12 to 20, 2024, I ask for your prayers for safe travel and for our Sr. Youth and adult leaders to have fun, grow in Spirit, and learn and share with others from around the country.

Let us cherish these memories and look forward to many more joyful moments together. I leave you with a famous quote that perfectly encapsulates the joy and happiness of our youth:

"Children are the hands by which we take hold of heaven." - Henry Ward Beecher

Thank you, church family, for your continuous support. May we continue to grow together in faith and love.

Grace and Peace

Pastor Carl

VBS Food Truck Party 2024

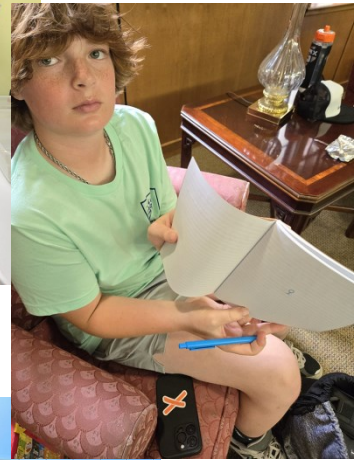
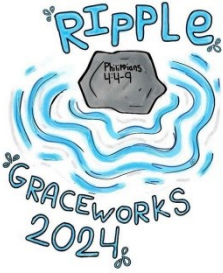


Notes from: *Sr. Youth*

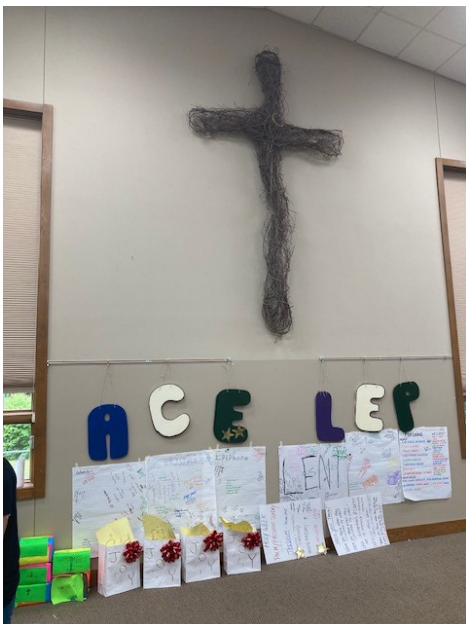
GraceWorks Thank You!

What an amazing week of service in the name of Christ... we had 10 youth and 8 adults volunteers from Living Springs!! Thanks to everyone who donated McDonalds gift cards for our Transitions Homeless Ministry bingo prizes! Because of your generosity, we were able to distribute \$300 in gift cards; another \$200 to fund our 80-sandwich assembly for "Keeping It Real" street ministry; plus some extra \$\$ for first-responder gratitude baskets. We also had an amazing Wednesday afternoon festival for 32 Refugee Children from Lutheran Services 'New Americans' ministry! In addition to these ministries, our Midlands Lutheran Youth served at Mission Lexington, Sharing God's Love, Jubilee Academy, Water

Wagon, Sr. Resources, Homeless No More, and Tanzania Layette projects - along with some amazing worship, music, guest speakers and faith-forming times!



Campfirmation



God At Work

Boy Scout Summer Camp



Scouts demonstrating their Multiple Marshmallow Roaster for Engineering Merit Badge!!



Troop 737 with Dr. Julie Helm DVM on Veterinary Science Merit Badge!!

Boy Scout Eagle Project Bench



2024 Synod Assembly



Opportunities Outside Living Springs

50
years



Dear friend,

Last week you received an email about summer nutrition for kids in the United States — [read that message here.](#)

[We're reaching out again because we hope you'll join ELCA World Hunger in supporting these kids.](#)

In the U.S. millions of children receive breakfast and lunch at school throughout the academic year. However, when school lets out for the summer, this leaves a critical gap in nutrition assistance for school-age children — a gap many congregations fill with the support of ELCA World Hunger.

GIVE NOW

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support this work through local congregations and feeding ministries across the country to reach people where they are — one meal, one child at a time.

[Will you make a gift to ELCA World Hunger and join us in providing these summer meals today?](#)

Together we can build a just world where all are fed.



Lutheridge Fall Camps

Fall Family Fun

Need time in the mountains to renew and play? Come up to Lutheridge and enjoy a perfect fall weekend for the whole family, full of your favorite camp activities and some autumn-themed fun. You'll get to enjoy the beauty of the mountains in autumn while growing closer to God and new friends.

Experience all that camp at Lutheridge has to offer with your family, including crafts, canoeing, songs, campfires, and faith-forming moments with other families. This retreat will feature an interactive family Bible study time. Join us and create faith-filled, lifetime memories in the beauty of God's creation

Dates: October 18-20, 2024 Cost: \$200 Per Adult; \$50 Per Child; \$80 extra room

[Click here for more information](#)

Geek Camp

Geeks Assemble! Do you like sci-fi, fantasy, role-playing games, D&D, board games, comics and graphic novels, anime, and/or gaming? Then this retreat and fellowship is for you.

We will have time to explore our fandoms and the big questions that revolve around them, as well as spend time out in nature and around Asheville. Whether you are a lifelong geek or just getting into geeky things, all levels of experience and geek credentials are welcome. Everyone geeks out on something; come geek out with us!

Weekend will feature:

- Live "Systematic Geekology" podcast
- Movie screening and discussion
- Workshops on toxic fandom and myth-building
- Board game sessions
- Dungeons and Dragons
- Exploring Asheville
- Cosplay making and mixer

PROGRAM INFO

ADULTS

Dates: November 10-13, 2024

Cost: Single Occupancy \$440;

Double Occupancy \$375

Commuter \$205

[Click here for more information](#)



- Comfortable Accommodations
- Delicious Meals and more!



Practicing acts of micro-kindness



Series editor's note: Throughout 2024, "Deeper understandings" will feature teaching scholars of the ELCA reflecting on the many ways that Lutheran theology makes a difference for our daily ... [continue](#)



Protecting Sacred Ground: Camp Kinard's Response to Challenges & Blessings

"In the idyllic rolling hills of the Midlands of South Carolina, Camp Kinard stands as a sanctuary, offering solace and spiritual rejuvenation to all who tread upon the over 300 acres that make up its sacred grounds.

Unfortunately, like many sanctuaries, it faced trials during the tumultuous times of the COVID-19 pandemic. Heartbreakingly, the tranquility of Camp Kinard was disrupted as trespassers took advantage of the chaos, pilfering kayaks, a gator, and other equipment." [Continue reading →](#)

July 2024

MAIN SUNDAY SCHEDULE
 805A Summer Hymn-Sing
1030A WORSHIP (Sanctuary)
Online/Parking Lot - includes
 Children's GIFT Faith Experiences

815A WORSHIP (Sanctuary)
 920A Adult Faith Formation

1020A Summer Hymn-Sing
1030A WORSHIP (Sanctuary)
Online/Parking Lot - includes
 Children's GIFT Faith Experiences

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First</p>	<p>2 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>3 10A CDC Summer Chapel 12 Journey w/Jesus Posted 3P Youth Gathering Meeting 51.5P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 6P Hope Team</p>	<p>4 Independence Day Office & LSCDC Closed 630P Recovery Comes First</p>	<p>5 LSCDC Closed</p>	<p>6</p>	
<p>7 *See box above 8:05 & 10:20 Summer Hymn-Sings Youth Gathering—Sending Blessing 12P Youth Gathering Meeting</p>	<p>8 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Fellowship/Mutual Care 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>9 1030A Meals on Wheels 530P Finance Team 6P Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>10 10A CDC Summer Chapel 12 Journey w/Jesus Posted 51.5P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir</p>	<p>11 7A Men's Bible & Biscuits 630P Recovery Comes First 630P LS-CDC Board 7P Lifelong Discipleship</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 930A Crafty Ladies</p>
<p>14 *See box above 8:05 & 10:20 Summer Hymn-Sings 920A Summer Hope Sunday #2: Lutheran Services Carolinas</p>	<p>15 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First</p>	<p>16 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>17 12 Journey w/Jesus Posted 51.5P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir</p>	<p>18 930A LSCDC Lemonade Snd 330P LSCDC Lemonade Snd 630P Recovery Comes First Children's Hospital Meal</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 2P HOA Mtg</p>
<p>ELCA MYLE Gathering - New Orleans - 7/13-7/16</p>						
<p>21 *See box above 8:05 & 10:20 Summer Hymn-Sings</p>	<p>22 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Exec Team 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>23 10A Journey w/ Jesus study 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Adult Bible Study 6P Facilities Team</p>	<p>24 10A CDC Summer Chapel 12 Journey w/Jesus Posted 51.5P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 6P Emotional-Mental Wellness TF</p>	<p>25 7A Men's Bible & Biscuits 630P Recovery Comes First 7P Council Palmetto Place Meal</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 8A Men's Breakfast 930A Crafty Ladies</p>
<p>ELCA Youth Gathering - group returns this evening</p>	<p>29 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First</p>	<p>30 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>31 10A CDC Summer Chapel 12 Journey w/Jesus Posted 51.5P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir</p>	<p>1 11A Good News Team 630P Recovery Comes First 700P Lifelong Discipleship</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>28 LS "Christmas in July" 8:15 Brief Worship 9:00-10:20 Christmas Bruch & Activities 10:30 "Christmas in July" Worship</p>	<p>430P Girl Scout Christmas in July Meeting</p>					

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

July 4	Susan Bradham	July 19	Joshua Hayden
July 5	♥ Rhett & Melody Hair	July 21	Hailey Stoutland
July 7	Delores Harmon	July 22	Kathy Brennan
July 11	Gail Buchanan	July 24	Ena Hagon
July 12	♥ Carl & LaTynia Taylor	July 25	♥ Charles & Nancy Kauffman
July 16	♥ Todd & Midge Gunvalson	July 27	Jan Epperson
July 18	♥ Weston & Vickie Crapps	July 28	Barbara Creighton
	Peggy Merrill		
	Evan Turnmire		



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!



July 1	True DePaoli
July 3	Lauren Bloss
July 4	Melissa Feather
July 17	Nicolas Wirth
July 18	Beverly Hoppert
July 21	Audrey Turnmire



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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Shirl Schiffman - Music Director

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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

[Steve Padgett](#) - President

[Laura Turnmire](#) - Vice-President

[Mia Rapport](#) - Secretary

[Mike Davidson](#) - Treasurer

[Bill Ramsey](#) – Financial Secretary

[Hunter Prest](#) - Youth Representative

[Rev. Eric Fink](#) – Senior Pastor

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

[Steve Bloss](#)

[Gary Bradham](#)

[Ed Brennan](#)

[Lorenzo Hampton](#)

[Ashley Stoutland](#)

[Tom Willingham](#)

[Debbie Zvejnieks](#)

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Child Development Center

Deborah DePaoli

Children/Youth Ministries

Leslie Bloss/Jan Berger
Ashley Stoutland/Hunter Prest

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

Jan Berger

Worship & Music

Jim Zieche

Facilities

Ed Brennan

Finance

Karlene Stuart

Archives/Pew Bears

Judy Lawrence

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Prayer Requests