

The Living Springs Journal

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

August 2024



“Streams of Light, Waters of Grace” (from Pastor Eric)

August “JOURNEY WITH JESUS” = More Teachings of Jesus!

Pastor Study Times: 8/4 @ 9:20, 8/27 @ 10am

Reading/Discussion Online Postings: Wednesdays @ Noon

Over my lifetime, I have been blessed to behold many incredible sights in God’s creation. I remember, about 25 years ago, canoeing in a horrendous rainstorm on the upper Missouri River in Montana, with a couple friends as we were re-tracing the historic path of Lewis & Clark. As we paddled against the wind, being pelted by rain, I was becoming tired and discouraged. Then I looked up and shining through the dark, ominous clouds were beautiful rays of light. After a couple more paddle strokes, I looked back up—and through a break in the clouds, the streams of light had diffused into the full spectrum colors of a rainbow, the rays shining down upon the river in front of us. Somehow, the vision gave me hope and encouragement, as we paddled on through the storm, finally reaching a safe spot on the bank for shelter and rest.



I was reminded of that image at the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans, as our youth gathered to take a group photo in front of the Mississippi River—and there behind them were streams of light shining out of the storm clouds behind them. I thought about that image of “streams of light” and the beautiful passage of truth and hope from the prologue of John’s gospel, “The light shines in the darkness, and

(Continued on page 3)



SCHOOL BAG BLESSING, Aug. 4
HOPE SUNDAY/JUSTICE SUNDAY, Aug. 11
COLLEGE STUDENT BLESSING, Aug. 11
RALLY DAY KICKOFF SUNDAY, Aug. 18
EMOTIONAL/MENTAL WELLNESS, Aug. 25

+ + +

MINISTRY PLANNING/CALENDAR, Aug. 4
LS-CDC STAFF TRAINING DAY, Aug. 5
CAMPUS MINISTRY BBQ @ LS, Aug. 10
YOUTH SHAREHOLDER SUPPER, Aug. 11
“BEER ‘N HYMNS” @ RANDOM TAP, Aug. 14
LS STUFF-A-BUS (2 Krogers & IGA), Aug. 17
BOY SCOUT SPAGHETTI SUPPER, Aug. 24

+ + +

Opportunities to “Shine Additional Light!”
CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL MEAL—Aug. 15
PALMETTO PLACE MEAL—Aug. 22
MEALS ON WHEELS—each Mon & Tue
NA RECOVERY GROUP—each Mon & Thurs



From the Desk of Pastor Carl



ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans: A Week of Faith, Fellowship, and Service

Dear Church Family,

We are thrilled to share the incredible experiences from the recent ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans! This event was nothing short of transformative for the 16,000-plus youth who gathered in the vibrant and resilient city of New Orleans.

Inspiring Speakers and Soul-Stirring Music

the darkness did not overcome it!" I thought even more about the miracle of our LS youth—along with the youth of Cristo Rey & 16,000 others at the gathering—being LIVING streams of God's light, shining amid all the dark storm clouds that so often gather in a troubled world, scarred by human hatred, selfishness, injustice, warped nationalism, violence, bigotry, self-exaltation, and greed. And yet, none of this darkness overcomes the still-shining streams of light of God's hope, mercy, compassion, acceptance, welcome, forgiveness, love, and grace!!!

Just like our youth, we are all are created, called, and empowered to be living streams of God's light, shining every day amid the world's clouds of darkness. And like the blessing of that image on the river 25 years ago, I think about the beauty when those streams of God's light are diffused into multiple colors & hues, reflecting the full beautiful diversity of humanity, all created to reflect God's image among us. I am thus very excited about our **2024-25 Faith Formation Theme**, which we will celebrate at our Rally Day Kickoff on Aug. 18: **"Streams of Light: Let's Shine Together!"** I am excited about all the multiple streams of light that will shine among (and through) us during August: School Bag/Educator/Student Blessing Sunday, Hope Sunday, Justice Sunday, College Blessing Sunday, Emotional/Mental Wellness Event, Campus Ministry BBQ, Stuff-a-Bus for Backpack food & Christian Assistance Bridge, Community Beer 'n Hymns, Scouting Spaghetti Fundraiser, Youth Shareholder Supper, LS-CDC Staff Training—and so much more!

During July, we were blessed through a generous donation of labor & finances, to have installed a new water bottle filler in the fellowship hall, and a new bottle filler/water cooler outside the Admin. Restrooms here at Living Springs. Before loading up for the Youth Gathering trip to New Orleans, one of our youth became the first person to "officially" use the bottle filler (see below). As the cool water streamed out into her bottle, I thought about the flowing waters of Baptism—and how that gift of grace is truly the source of every stream of light that shines out into the world through our youth and each of us. That dual image—streams of living light and streams of the living waters of God's baptismal grace—indeed gives us all encouragement to keep paddling forward amid all the winds & storms of this world. I look forward to delving deeper into those images with you in this 2024-25 Faith Formation year ahead, as we shine together! Thanks be to God!

With joy & thanksgiving for Christ's light shining in you, *Pastor Eric*



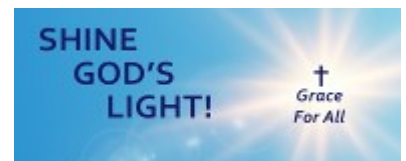
Summer Small Catechism (Sunday Worship)

- 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

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!

Notes from: *Good News Team*



Calling all people of
Living Springs & friends....
**2024 Faith Formation
Kickoff "Rally Day"**
Sunday, Aug. 18
10:00 Rally Day "Unity" Worship
11:30 Cong. Covered-Dish Lunch
(**& Stuff-a-Bus Chain**)
12:15 Water Activities & Water Bingo

**brief prayer service offered at 8:15
for those who cannot attend the Unity Worship*

**GAMECOCK LUTHERAN
Alumni & Friends**

BBQ DINNER
August 10th @ 5:30

Living Springs Lutheran Church
4224 Hard Scrabble Rd. Columbia, SC 29223

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.

You're invited to



Place: Random Tap,
117 Spears Creek Church Rd, Elgin, SC 29045

Date: Wednesday, August 14, 2024
7:00-9:00pm
Kitchen is open from 4-9pm!
Bar will serve beer, wine, & cider!

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 Aug. 4 - Luke 4:14-30, Luke 6, 11, 12 (Hope, Blessings & Prayer)

Week of Aug. 11 - John 6, 7, 8 (Living Bread, Living Water, Light!)

Week of Aug. 18 - Matthew 15, 16 (Pure Hearts & A Cross)

Week of Aug. 25 - Matthew 23, 24 (Woes & Watchfulness)

****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: *Sr. Youth*

Reflections from the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans

MYLE

What an amazing experience MYLE has been! My biggest joy has been watching the youth fully immerse themselves into worship, connect with speakers, and fully discover who they are created to be! They have grown so much and are so filled with the spirit! They have moved from living with their faith to living through their faith.
Leslie Bloss



This week at MYLE I was able to really find out what I was created to be, and how I was called to be a light for others. I made some amazing connections not just with people in my group but people in other church groups which really made me feel seen and heard. One of my favorite parts was going up on stage and singing one of my new favorite songs "You know my name". A keynote listener that really resonated with me was Jenny Sung, she said "God is sitting before us with an empty canvas saying let's create something beautiful together". This really spoke to me because during these three days I feel like I have made some beautiful art with people who were attending MYLE and it just shows that God works through us in mysterious ways. MYLE was a great experience and showed me what I am called to do and be.

Lauren Bloss

This week at MYLE I learned that there are many, many different ways that you can praise God. I also learned that no matter where you are, no matter how you start God has a plan and through us God showed his plan by leading all of us here together. Also, GOOD IS JUST GOD Stretched OUT!
Garrett Flores



This week at MYLE my favorite part was everyone learning to somewhat bond with each other and dance and sing together. I learned a lot about matching people's energy and trying to keep the energy the same if not higher. The spirit moved me to learn about different cultures and I would like to continue learning about those cultures so I can learn about who different people were created to be.

Daniel Hampton

This week at MYLE, I had the opportunity to be around multicultural people where I was able to have voice. To feel that I am created, Created to be a bridge builder, generation healer, bold, brash and wonderfully made to share with others and meet them where they are in life....of only for a moment...

It was exciting to hear from people who have paved the way for Black, Brown, and Tan people in the ELCA. People like Rev. Dr. Albert Star, Pastor Brenda, Rev. Dr. Beverly Wallace Rev. Khader El Yateem and Rev. Regina Goodrich. Yes, the struggles are real for Black, Brown and Tan people that is why this MYLE experience is so important as we learn that WE ARE CREATED TO BE.....

Pastor Carl Taylor



Mass Gathering Tuesday night:

Mass Gathering was a BLAST!!!

We heard from amazing speakers and talented musicians as we worshipped through the night!

The house band, made up of people from across the ELCA and popular Christian rock band The Afters played music to feed the soul!

We heard from Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Dr. Michael Chan, Joe Liles, and our wonderful emcees Rebekah, Sam, and Agnetta!

Here are some quotes that struck me during worship:

[youth] are not the church of tomorrow. [youth] are the church today!

We like a comfortable faith, but God is in the uncomfortable.

You can't contain the spirit of God.

You were precious long before you could prove it

This world is rarely prepared for love's arrival

The danger isn't shining too brightly, it's hiding the light

In the darkness, something is happening.

They tried to bury us; they didn't know we were seeds.

You can either have a mask or a real life. There's not a third option.

We had a great time and look forward to sharing even more awesome times with you!

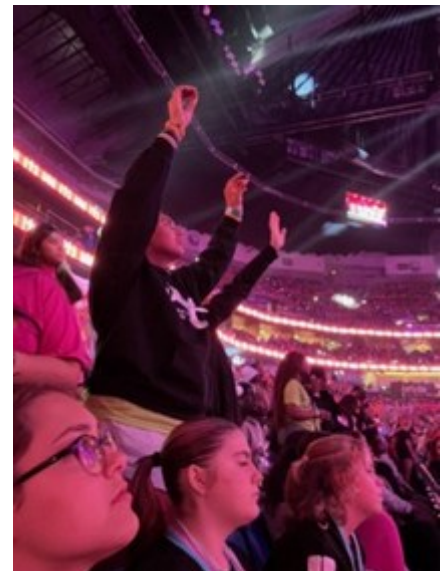
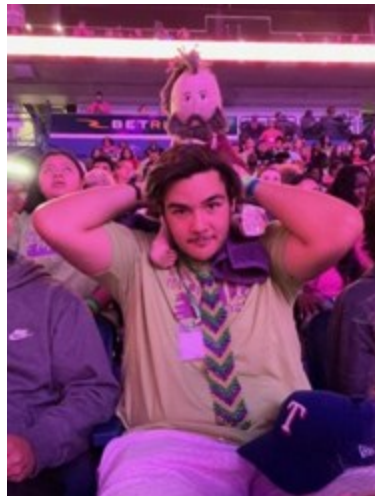
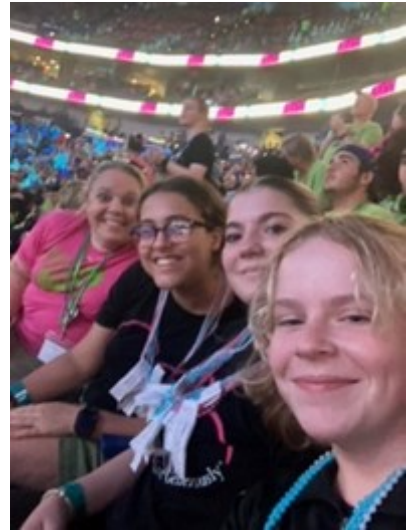
-Hunter Prest

Last night had a wonderful vibe! Even though it might not have been the same as MYLE you still got to see people bonding in many ways even from across the area! Most of the youth here have amazing energies and can even match energies and it just makes the experience for me so much better!

-Daniel Hampton

I liked when Mr. Chan said "You were precious long before you could prove it." I think that we degrade ourselves and think that others are better, but this made me take a step back and realize that God has a plan for each and every one of us.

-Wesley Graves



Accompaniment Day:

Today during the youth gathering we did accompaniment day, and we went into a neighborhood to clean out storm drains for the rain season. They explained that even the small act of cleaning a gutter can save lives from flooding.

-Garrett Flores

Today I learned that it may feel like what you're doing is not making a difference, but when you take a step back and look at what you've done you see massive changes.

-Lucas Shannon



Mass gathering - Wednesday

The most impactful part of mass gathering was, to me, the music. The music was catchy and powerful and easy to follow, and I felt like it connected everyone. The ending music group, Blessing Offor, had a blind lead singer, who also played piano, and that goes to show the music connects everyone with the message of the Holy Spirit.

-Addi Hayden

The mass gathering last night was very soothing and remember able. The speakers were very vulnerable, which caused the atmosphere to become more welcoming. The music was really amazing, and it helped me feel the presence of God.

-Cody Shannon

Goosechase Scavenger hunt

Sightseeing during the scavenger hunt was such an eye opening experience. The architecture is amazing. The people are all very interesting in their own beautiful way. Also seeing so many historical places

-Ava Riddle (St. John's Lutheran, Walhalla)

Synod Worship

Synod worship was awesome because we got to interact with so many local youth groups we already knew, AND new youth groups that we can't wait to interact with again!

-Alyssa Prest

Synod worship was a great experience because we got to connect with other youth groups in our region. My favorite part about the worship was getting to give communion to the South Carolina youth groups who were attending the youth gathering.

-Lauren Bloss

Mass Gathering - Thursday

Mass gathering last night was probably the most influential gathering we've had. We had to have those tough conversations about the racial inequalities and other discriminations in this world. While things are moving in the right direction, we still have more work to do. One of my favorite quotes from the night was "black, brown and tan people are not the work. Racial inequality and injustice is the work." Last night's final 15 was also very enlightening. I think every youth group here should have had the tough conversation of the harsh reality that racial injustice has happened to people closest to us. We can't get caught up in the "woos" and the hollering. We have to stand up for what is right.

-Anna Graves

Mass gathering was empowering and eye opening. We worshiped god in song and scripture.

-Lucas Shannon

Interactive Learning - Friday

Interactive Learning was AWESOME!!!

We got to check out booths from all kinds of cool organizations and people!

We learned about orgs doing God's work in their community, had fun at games and crafts, talked to ambassadors from Lutheran colleges, and got merch at the Old Lutheran store!

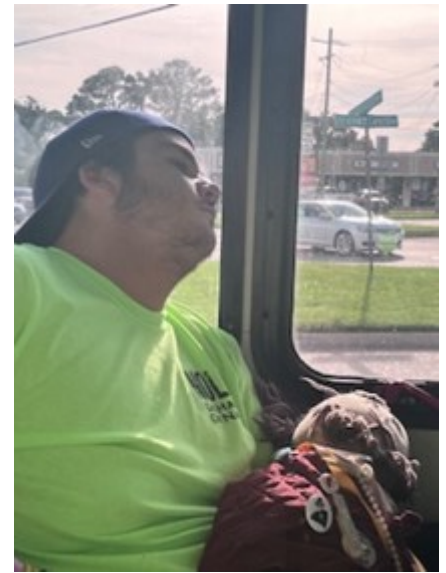
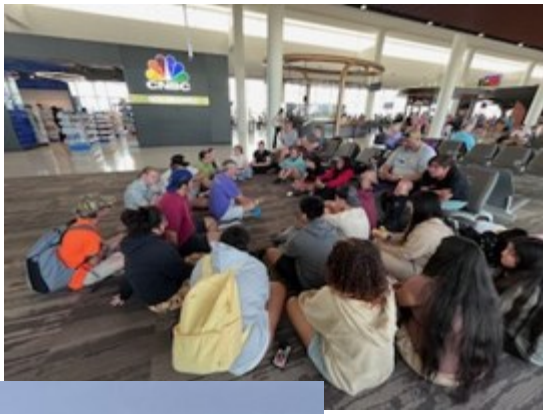
My favorite part of interactive learning was seeing my friends from across the ELCA!

-Hunter Prest

Today at interactive learning we went out and took steps onto what Jesus had to walk on and to think and reflect on what happened back then. The next activity we did was to write affirmation of you or someone else. As we thought interactive learning over we saw the OG house band at MYLE as we were walking out we were so happy that we got on stage and sang our favorite song "you know my name".

-Garrett Flores





The Youth of Living Springs cannot wait to share all about their trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Join Us for our Shareholder's Dinner
Sunday, August 11
5:00 PM
LSLC Fellowship Hall
 Come dine with us and hear the Good News!

Pastor Carl (Continued from page 2)

During the MYLE (Multicultural Youth Leadership Experience), our youth, along with the youth of Christo Rey, had an amazing time together. We were able to share unique and personal experiences with featured artists and guests as well as share in worship and music with the house band. We even got a chance to go on stage with the band and perform. MYLE is an awesome experience for Black, Brown, and Tan people of the ELCA to come together and experience what we do not often see within the church. It was a truly a time of sharing and connecting across the four days we were together.

Let me take a moment to say that the energy in the Smoothie King Arena was electric from Tuesday evening opening worship to the closing on Saturday Morning. Our hearts were uplifted by the powerful messages from our amazing speakers. Their words resonated deeply, encouraging us to live out our faith boldly and compassionately. The music, too, was unforgettable, with performances that brought everyone to their feet, singing and dancing in joyous worship. It was a celebration of faith that none of us will soon forget.

Serving with Grace and Compassion

One of the most moving aspects of our time in New Orleans was the opportunity to engage in service work across the city. We were blessed to be able to assist those still struggling from the effects of past storms. This experience was a profound reminder of the grace given by God to help those in need. The act of serving others brought a deep sense of fulfillment and gratitude as we witnessed the strength and resilience of the New Orleans community.

Building Connections and Sharing God's Love

Every evening, our group gathered to reflect on the day's events. These nightly conversations were profoundly impactful as our youth poured out their feelings and thoughts. It was a time of bonding, sharing, and growing together in faith. We were inspired by the depth of their reflections and their desire to make a difference in the world.

Gratitude for Our Supporters

We are immensely grateful to all who made this journey possible. To the organizers, volunteers, and everyone who supported us along the way – thank you. Your dedication and generosity allowed our youth to participate in this life-changing event, where they experienced the love of God in powerful and tangible ways.

In closing, our hearts are full of sheer happiness and gratitude. The ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans was more than an event; it was a testament to the power of faith, service, and community. We are excited to carry the spirit of this gathering forward, sharing the love of God with our own communities and beyond.

Grace and Peace

Pastor Carl



2024 Mid-Year Ministry Leadership Planning **(* Semi-Annual Calendar Mtg.)** **SUNDAY, AUGUST 4 @ 4pm**

**** Come at 3:30 for info about Rally Day! ****

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 2024 Ministry Focus and to get a sense of how the Spirit is tugging us to move forward in upcoming months in our call to shine additional light! You are truly an amazing group of disciples, who give so much of yourselves to shine God's light 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:

<https://meet.google.com/wzf-ovao-agu>

by phone, 740-837-7363 PIN: 582 499 261#

Notes from: *Living Springs Child Development Center*

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Hello and Happy August!

Kindergarten send-off celebrations, end-of-summer parties, the first day of school, and back-to-school traffic patterns, are just a few reminders that fall is just around the corner. As we head into these new transitions, some with overflowing joy, some with nervous trepidation, how is it that we can continue to see the light shine in, though, and around us?

One of the ways we keep the light shining in our CDC ministry is through ongoing ministry outreach. Two of our classes (3,4 and 5-year-olds) wanted to sell Lemonade at a Lemonade Stand. They were excited, made signs, danced around to attract drivers that may want to purchase, and were able to raise nearly \$250.00 for St. Jude's Children's Hospital! One of the sweetest moments was when one of the large dirt trucks that moves dirt up and down Hard Scrabble stopped by for a cup, the kids were so excited!

Our summer campers have had the opportunity to be a shining light in the lives of others as they have been out in the community on field trips to the library where they learned how to make soap, visiting Fire Station #34 to say "Thank You" for being our heroes and reaching out to the local age facilities and children's hospital through letters and cards.

Another way we see the light shine is through our ongoing staff development days. This provides time for our staff to come together to share in ministry with one another, providing a quiet time to reflect, connect, and come together as a staff family.

We continue to be grateful for all the ways we see The Light Shine in our CDC ministry, from our staff and children's interactions to our dedicated board members and our church family. We are grateful to be a part of this ministry where the Light Shines here and beyond.

Wishing you well,



Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

LS Summer Hope Sunday #2

Lutheran Services New Americans Program



In listening to Sarah, Lutheran Services New Americans Program, talk about the amount of money the refugees receive when they enter the US and how many years of waiting they experience in their quest for freedom, I thought about the time I went with Raegan when she was leader of the Circle of Welcome group. We spent the morning taking the family to dental appointments and then to Walmart to shop for food and my thought was, we would drop them off back at their hotel and proceed to continue on our day. But no - this family was **so appreciative** of what we did for them, the only way they could repay us was by feeding us. They sat us down at their small kitchen table and took the food that they had just purchased for their family and made us a huge meal. I really was so moved by this gesture of sharing what little they had and more thankful for organizations like Lutheran Services Carolinas that use our hands to do God's work.

Watch the video Sarah shared on Hope Sunday here: <https://youtu.be/sZHzoLb5VCw?si=DVTf-NuLpNINsXWN>

LS Summer Hope Sunday #3 *August 11 at 9:20*

Ms. Kate Williams, Executive Director of Christian Assistance Bridge in Blythewood will speak to us about this organization. Christian Assistance Bridge reaches out to those who find themselves in a crisis situation—facing eviction, utility cut-off, homelessness or food and necessities shortages. Since 2013, Christian Assistance Bridge has been serving the communities of Blythewood (29016), Ridgeway (29130) and northeast Richland County (29229).

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

Items for the Lutheran Services New Americans refugee program were delivered the day after our Christmas in July event. Contact Karen Kranz if you have items that need to be delivered.



Thank you, Thank you, Thank you Living Springs!

Thank you for this wonderful drive of the EXACT ITEMS that we were out of or running low on for new arrivals. We were able to take a pots/pans set and other items from this huge stash for the Afghan family of 7 arriving tomorrow. Thank you so much, Karen, for arranging such a lovely showering of gifts for refugees!

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Paper, pencils, and pens -- oh my! The Hope Ministry team is going to deliver the supplies on Monday, August 5. 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 earbuds), water bottles, alarm clocks, and folders.

Thank you for donations to help children in need in our community!

STUFF A BUS FOR BACKPACK PROGRAM

Saturday, August 17, 9-1pm

Woo Hoo! We were persistent and it paid off!! We are back to three stores, collecting items for our backpack program and paper products for our partner, Christian Assistance Bridge in Blythewood. The date is Saturday, August 17 - 9 am to 1 pm. You can sign up on the Signup Genius link or a hard copy will be available on the welcome table. Sign up for the whole day or for as long as you can.

The stores:

- Kroger, 1028 Roberts Branch Pkwy. 29203 (Killian Rd)
- Kroger, 10136 Two Notch Rd 29229 (@ Sparkleberry)
- IGA, 135 Blythewood Rd. 29016



We will provide the slips to hand out at the stores - the more slips we hand out, the more items we will have to replenish our inventory.. to be able to feed 70 kids a week at Joseph Keels, Rice Creek Elementary and Blythewood Academy.

Signup link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BAEA92FA0F85-stuff3>

FAMILY PROMISE

We provided meals for Family Promise clients in the month of May.

SPOTLIGHT Building Relationships (July Newsletter)

Eastminster Presbyterian Church and Ebenezer Lutheran Church provided an afternoon of bowling for our families in April. This not only included fun and friendship, but also pizza and arcade games for all!! Ebenezer Lutheran Church provided "birthday bags" in June. The bags were prepared by youth taking part in their Vacation Bible School.

Each contains party supplies and ingredients for a birthday cake. They also have gift cards for the birthday boy or girl.

Living Springs Lutheran Church and Spring Valley Presbyterian Church made Mother's Day special for the moms in our program. And, in June, our families had a great time at the Fireflies game courtesy of Forest Lake Presbyterian Church.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEALS/PALMETTO PLACE MEAL

Make a card for the parents and/or children who are in the hospital for long periods of time going through chemo treatments. Shine God's light through words of encouragement.

Palmetto Place - Samantha House is a transition home for young adults trying to edge their way into successful adult living. We make a meal for them (8 people) on the fourth Thursday of the month - we usually don't see them because they are out working, but the house mother is soooo thankful for our contribution.



SAVE THE DATE!
God's work. Our hands.
Sunday, September 8.

Notes from: *Justice Ministry*

August is Justice Month at Living Springs! This month we are celebrating what God has done in our community through the LS Justice ministry. We also are celebrating our MORE Justice partnerships with a diverse group of other congregations in Columbia. As people of many faiths together we are answering God's call "to do Justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God." (Micah 6:8)

Over the past 7 years Living Springs through its partnership with MORE Justice has made a difference:

- The Richland County Sheriff's Department & Columbia Police Department have certified an additional 336 officers in Crisis Intervention Training.
- The Richland County Council allocated \$4M to address affordable housing and has added housing to their 2024 Strategic Plan.
- The City of Columbia established and funded the Office of Violent Crime Prevention to address gun violence in our neighborhoods.
- Columbia City Councilmembers committed to securing \$720,000 over the next 3 years for food insecurity programs.

On August 11th we will celebrate Justice Sunday with a special Message about God's call to do Justice. There will be an opportunity to make a Love Offering toward support of MORE Justice and our staff there. The MORE Justice staff – Sydney, Lizzy, and ReiQuan – are invited to join us for worship that day. Our August "Journey with Jesus" Wednesdays online will explore how justice shapes the scriptures we are reading. We have much to celebrate in August -- thanks be to God!

Check out this video from our SC Synod Assembly: www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7FHPgentyc



Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*

Liturgical Dance - Lauren Bloss w/choir



Thanksgiving Moment -
Pastor Eric's 30th Anniversary of his Ordination



Love Offering for Pastor Eric & Kris

As we continue to celebrate Pastor Eric and Kris for 30 years of ordination in the church, church council invites the congregation to share in a love offering for them. Please designate as love offering when making your gift. You can place your offering in the plate in the communion line or drop off in the office during the week. Pastor Eric and Kris have plans to travel later this fall.

Prayers of Godspeed for Zach Ward (Cellist)



Scripture/Sermon Time



Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

LADIES BOOK CLUB **Monday, August 5 @ 7pm**

Our 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 full of fellowship to join us. Reading the book is not a prerequisite.



The next book is *The Bird Hotel* by Joyce Maynard - meeting is Sunday, October 6 @ 2 pm.

Save the Date!

"God's Rockin' the Retreat" **LS Women's Retreat** **October 4-6 @ Camp Kinard**

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Psalm 95:1 (NRSV)
Plans are being finalized with Camp Kinard for us to hold a retreat in the fall. It will be a "rockin" weekend with three of our sister's-in-Christ sharing their faith journeys. Come share a wonderful time with food, crafts, games and sharing time! More details to come. Cost is approximately \$150, (still to be finalized, more details to come!) If you are interested, there is a sign up sheet in the lobby.

Notes from: *Men's Ministry*

Living Springs Lutheran Men Cornhole Tournament



September 28, 2024



Proceeds to benefit the Living Springs Mission Partnership Fund

Established in memory of Shannon Long

Location: Random Tap

Time: 1:00 pm

SC Lutheran Men in Mission Weekly Thursday Bible Study ...

Join us every Thursday Night

From 7 - 8 pm Central Time Zone

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/353022558?pwd=WHBsa2FuTmZEdi9SM0hqVjVpVEtHQT09>

Passcode: 499275

The first week in August we're covering... Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

God At Work

Brand New Water Fountains!

LSLC has been blessed through those that have been blessed and called to donate two water filling stations. One in the Fellowship is a bottle filling station only. In the admin building is a bottle filler and traditional water fountain. The bottle filler has a red sensor that you hold your bottle or cup in front of to start the water flow. To stop the flow of water move the vessel down or away from the sensor to stop the water flow. These fountains are filtered and will tell us how many disposable water bottles were saved by using reusable water vessels. The five blue LED lights inform us of the current filter state.

We now have functioning water fountains that represent our commitment to the community that uses our facilities.

First water bottle filler:



Christmas in July



Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Boy Scout Troop 737 will hold a Fundraiser on 8/24/2024 at Living Springs Lutheran Church.

August 24th

Time: 5:00 to 7:00 PM

Take it Home or eat at the church with family style dinner

Cash, Check or Credit Card Accepted



\$10 Meal includes: Spaghetti from Pasta Fresca; With Meat or regular Spaghetti Sauce

Bread Sticks, Salad, Tea, Lemonade, or Water

Extra: Bake Sale for Deserts



Join ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton for a conversation about God's Love Made Real. This ELCA movement encourages us to create a world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation.

Tuesday, Aug.13, 12:00 p.m. Eastern time

Registration is encouraged, but not required.

This event will take place on Zoom. (**Save this link.**)

What can I expect?

Bishop Eaton will share why God's Love Made Real is meaningful to her and the future of the church. The **Rev. Pedro M. Suárez**, bishop of the Florida-Bahamas Synod, will host the conversation, and participants will have a chance to ask questions and share stories.

Is this event for me?

This webinar is especially for people who care about the ELCA and live in the Caribbean, Florida-Bahamas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Southeastern or Virginia synods. If you don't live in one of these synods, stay tuned for an upcoming event in your region.

Can I watch it later?

A recording may be available at some point in the future, but we encourage you to stream the event live on Tuesday, Aug. 13, at 12 p.m., Eastern time.

What else do I need to know?

Learn more about God's Love Made Real at lovemadereal.elca.org.

We look forward to sharing this time with you!

Register at: <https://bit.ly/3LX1KY5>



Inside Out 2 and the peace that passes understanding



When we last left the personified feelings of Inside Out, they seemed to have everything together. In the 2015 Disney-Pixar animated film, Joy and Sadness (voiced by Amy Poehler and Phyllis Smith ... [continue](#)

Lutheridge Fall Family Fun



Could your family use some time in the mountains to rest, renew, and play together? Join us at Lutheridge for the perfect fall weekend getaway for the whole family, filled with your favorite camp activities and autumn-themed fun.

Your family will experience all that camp at Lutheridge has to offer, including crafts, canoeing, songs, campfires, and faith-forming moments with other families. The retreat will also feature an interactive family Bible study time. You'll even get to enjoy the beauty of the mountains and all their fall colors while growing closer to God and new friends. Join us this October, and create faith-filled, lifetime memories in the beauty of God's creation.

Dates: October 18-20, 2024

lutheridge.campbrainregistration.com

MAIN SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

805A Summer Hymn-Sing
815A WORSHIP (Sanctuary)
 920A Adult Faith Formation

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4 *See box above 8:05 & 10:20 Summer Hymn-Sings SchoolBag Student/Educator Blessing 920A "Journey w/Jesus" Adult Class 330P Rally Day Planning Update 4P Ministry Leader Gathering/Calendar Planning</p>	<p>5 LSCDC Staff Day 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Ladies Book Club 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>6 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>7 12 Journey w/Jesus Posted 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 6P Hope Team</p>	<p>1 11A Good News Team 630P Recovery Comes First 7P Lifelong Discipleship</p>	2	3
<p>11 *See box above 8:05 & 10:20 Summer Hymn-Sings **LS Justice Sunday** College Student Blessing 920A Summer Hope Sunday #3: (Christian Assistance Bridge) 4P Girls Scouts 5P Youth Shareholder Supper (setup 330)</p>	<p>12 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Fellowship/Mutual Care 7P Boy Scout Troop #737 7P Exec Team</p>	<p>13 1030A Meals on Wheels 530P Finance Team 6P Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>14 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 Journey w/Jesus Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 7P Beer & Hymns</p>	<p>15 TBA-Football Ministry? 630P Recovery Comes First 7P Council Children's Hospital Meal</p>	16	17 9A-1P Stuff-A-Bus (2 Krogers & IGA)
<p>18 Rally Day (brief prayer service @ 8:15) 10A "Unity" Worship 1130P Congregational Lunch 1215P Water Activities, Water Bingo 4P Girls Scouts</p>	<p>19 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P Worship Team 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>20 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>21 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 Journey w/Jesus Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir</p>	<p>22 7A Men's Bible & Biscuits TBA-Football Ministry 630P Recovery Comes First Palmetto Place Meal</p>	23	24 930A Crafty Ladies 5P Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
<p>25 *See box above 920A Emotional-Mental Wellness Event 4P Girl Scouts</p>	<p>26 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Justice Listening Kickoff 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737</p>	<p>27 10A Journey w/Jesus study 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 6P Facilities Team</p>	<p>28 10A Preschool Bible Time 12 Journey w/Jesus Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir</p>	<p>29 TBA-Football Ministry 630P Recovery Comes First</p>	30	31 8A Men's Breakfast

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

August 1 Barbara Collins
August 5 Trish Davidson
August 6 Dee Glander
August 7 Laurie Drafts
August 8 ♥ Randy & Becky Sides
August 9 Anita Gabbard
 ♥ Ted & Gail Buchanan
August 13 Ed Brennan
August 14 Eric Fink
August 18 Dawn Willingham
August 19 Daisy Rivera
August 20 Soren Wallace
 ♥ 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 28 Chris Hagon
August 30 Bob Gabbard
 Dallas Holmstrom
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!



<p> August 1 Trish Davidson Adam Woodruff August 2 Dallas Holmstrom August 11 Cynthia Edney August 13 Lina Mooney August 20 Cody Shannon Kayla Wallace </p>	<p> August 22 London Mancuso Lucas Shannon August 23 Kathy Brennan August 25 Courtney Murray </p>
--	---



CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers

Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor

pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org

Rev. Carl Taylor - Associate Pastor

pastorcarl@livingspringscolumbia.org

Deacon Lexanne Graves – E-Outreach Coordinator

lexanne@livingspringscolumbia.org

Tammy Mancuso- Dir. of Child Development Center

tmancuso@lslccdc.org

Lisa Petty – Good News Coordinator

lisaoffice@livingspringscolumbia.org

Shirl Schiffman - Music Director

shirl@livingspringscolumbia.org

Laura & Mark Cunningham - Food Resource Persons

laurafood@livingspringscolumbia.org

Sherry Forsgren – Bookkeeper

sherry@livingspringscolumbia.org

Laura Turnmire – Handbell Choir Director

laurabells@livingspringscolumbia.org

Seminarian Jace Martinez

seminarian@livingspringscolumbia.org

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

LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH

4224 Hard Scrabble Road

Columbia, SC 29223

Phone: 803-736-0661

FAX: 803-865-8252

contact@livingspringscolumbia.org

www.livingspringscolumbia.org

 www.facebook.com/livingspringscolumbia

prayer@livingspringscolumbia.org

Prayer Requests