

The Living Springs Journal

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

May 2025



Beyond Easter Sunday... (from Pr. Eric)

May "STREAMS OF LIGHT" Bible Focus: Book of Acts, chapters 1-9, 15-28

* *The Light Spreads Beyond: Apostles & Early Church* *

Pastor Study Time: Sunday, 5/25 @ 9:20 & Wed, 5/28 @ 10:30

Reading/Discussion Online Postings: Wednesdays @ Noon

Here in May, as we move deeper into the **great 50-day celebration of Easter Season**, I find great wonder in reflecting upon the events of that first Easter Sunday: God's great victory of love over the powers of darkness & death; the miraculous empty tomb; the message of Good News shared with the women; the risen Jesus calling Mary by name and comforting her amidst her tears; Christ on the Emmaus road that afternoon opening the Scriptures; and then later that evening appearing to the disciples in their locked room of fear, to offer them peace. It truly all reflects the core of our faith!

And yet, I also marvel over **everything that happened beyond that first Easter Sunday**: the Risen Christ's re-appearance in that same locked room a week later to offer peace to Thomas; Christ's appearance on the shore to cook breakfast for exhausted fishermen; Christ's heart-to-heart dialogue with Peter by the campfire to offer him restoration (after all Peter's earlier denials); Christ's ascension & great commission for his disciples on a mountaintop; the gift of the Holy Spirit to those disciples on Pentecost; and then... (as we read this month in our "Streams of Light" Bible focus) the hope-filled ministry of Jesus for all people continuing through those disciples & the amazing spread of the Good News of Jesus throughout the whole world!

Similarly, I look back on all the wonders God worked here among this community of disciples in the days surrounding Easter 2025: the powerful Lenten dramas; the inspiration of our Lenten study about the meaning of the cross for our lives; the little Lenten mini-buckets of hope for Lutheran Services refugee families; dozens of Easter cards/bags for Rice Estate & homebound; 40+ people (plus 2 dogs & a baby in the womb!) publicly

(Continued on page 3)

REFLECT THE LIGHT



...BEYOND!

Grace For All

Opportunities to Reflect the Light...Beyond:

YOUTH SUNDAY—May 4

LS LEADER GATHERING—May 5

MOTHER'S DAY, QUILT BLESSING—May 11

NEHEMIAH JUSTICE ASSEMBLY—May 12

HS GRADUATE QUILLOWING—May 18

"SUMMER'S HERE" FESTIVAL—June 1
(VBS on June 2-3-4)

+ + +

CRISTO REY MINISTRY—May 4

CAMPUS MINISTRY WORSHIP—May 4

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS—May 9

SUNDAY MORNING BACKPACKS—May 11

FAMILY PROMISE MEAL—May 13 & 20

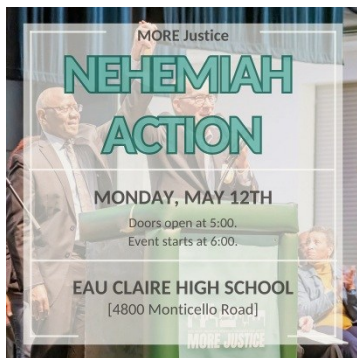
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEAL—May 15

RICE ESTATE SUPPER—May 17

PALMETTO PLACE MEAL—May 22

MEALS ON WHEELS—each Mon & Tues

NA RECOVERY GROUP—each Mon & Thurs



**Calling all people of LS and friends... Only 1 week until our big
NEHEMIAH ACTION JUSTICE ASSEMBLY**

Monday, May 12 @ 6:00pm

Eau Claire HS Auditorium, 4800 Monticello Road, Columbia
(LS carpools & buses leave the church starting at 5:00)

Child Care Available

Our spring Nehemiah Action is almost here! Living Springs will join more than 25 other congregations to follow God's command to "do Justice" (Micah 6:8) here in the Midlands at the annual Nehemiah Action. We will ask public officials for changes to address problems of affordable housing, food insecurity, mental health, and neighborhood violence. This is the 8th year we've participated, and we have seen the fruits of this ministry bless our local community.

All LS members and guests are invited to attend! Add your name—and the names of those coming with you—to the Justice "Reflect the Light" board in the narthex! Need a ride? Sign up for the bus or carpool—they will start leaving from Living Springs at 5:00 pm. **Our goal is 125+ from LS:** to equal our average 52-week worship attendance for just 1 night. "People Power" is what makes the difference and shows our public officials that people of faith care about these issues in our community. Join us for the Nehemiah Action!

FREE Childcare will be available for our tiny justice seekers. Please fill out the form in the link below by Monday, May 5th so they can get a headcount and ensure a spot for your child(ren). bit.ly/3YWlamU

walking the cross on Passion Sunday & Good Friday; 320+ Holy Week blessing bags distributed to stressed-out people in Rush Hour traffic; hearts touched by Good Friday readings of Christ's words from the cross; disciples gathered around an outdoor fire & holy Scriptures & baptismal waters for the Easter Vigil; seminarian Jace's inspiring SonRise Easter homily; Easter breakfast and our joyful Easter festival worship; a 2-sided Easter tombstone & little Easter reminder coins; the joy of children with Easter eggs in our prayer garden.

Oh, so much wonder! And yet, **we now marvel at how the Spirit of the Risen Christ will be at work among us in these days beyond Easter Sunday!**

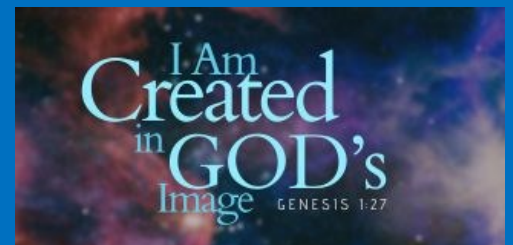
The hope-filled ministry of Christ still continues nearly 2000 years later.....as we all join with hundreds of disciples to gather for our **Nehemiah Assembly on May 12** to "do justice" for so many who are affected by a lack of affordable housing, daily food insecurity, community violence.

The hope-filled ministry of Christ still continues 2000 years later.....as we gathered with the community to sing praises to God at an Easter Season Beer 'n Hymns; as we will be inspired with the joy of Youth Sunday; as we deliver Mother's Day flowers to the Rice Estate & other locations; as we provide meals for Palmetto Place, Children's Hospital & Family Promise; as we travel to Cristo Rey for our monthly children's ministry; as we visit Lutheran Campus Ministry to share an amazing \$6000 for this life-changing work given through Fish Fry efforts & donations; as we offer blessings of Quillows & Scholarships for HS graduates; as we pack a final set of Backpack food bags for 80 school children; as we celebrate "week of the young child" and CDC "teacher appreciation"; as we kickoff the summer (and VBS) with a community festival; as we gather for our next Adult Faith Milestone focusing on the joyful truth that we are each created to reflect God's own image!

Yes, the joy of Christ's power & all-victorious love continued beyond the events of that first Easter Sunday—and still continues today in one of the greatest wonders of all: that you and I are each blessed, called, and gifted to be part of an ongoing miracle, as we reflect the light of God's grace for all...beyond!

With much love in Christ for you and much ongoing Easter joy, *Pastor Eric*

Christ Has Died, Christ Is Risen, Christ Will Come Again!



"MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE!" LS Adult Faith Milestone Series

Wednesdays: May 14, 21, 28
Online at 7:15pm

meet.google.com/yeu-pfyg-kzh
+1 929-236-4115 PIN: 341 901 632#

*With life in a broken, challenging world,
here in the ongoing Easter season,
we explore the joy we can find
in the affirming truth that each of us
has been beautifully, amazingly made
to reflect God's own image!*

*Share the online link and invite
family, friends, and others to join us!*

2024-25 LIVING SPRINGS MINISTRY FOCUS

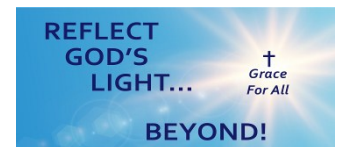
*Grounded in worship, we are disciples joyfully sharing our resources
and celebrating Jesus' message of **Good News of God's grace for all!**
We lift up these areas of Ministry Focus to **Reflect God's Light...Beyond:***

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!



Vacation Bible School

Living Springs
Lutheran Church,
4224 Hard Scrabble
Road Columbia, SC

June 2, 3, & 4
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Age 3 - Grade 5
middle school and
high school help needed
More details to come.
CONTACT BECKY FOR MORE INFO

God's Corner



Thank you, Thank you to Any and All of you who took time to bless me during my recent knee replacement. The caring calls, hopeful texts, uplifting emails, kind visits, sweet cards, the rides to therapy, and my goodness the wonderful gifts of Food for my body just made me so Thankful that I have you All in my life.. it really made this tough Journey much lighter! God bless you, Everyone! Cathy Lowman

Dear Living Springs family,

Thank you so much for the card and love you shared throughout the illness and passing of Stewart. The cards, texts, visits, care packages, phone calls, food, and help with the memorial service have shown an overwhelming reflection of God's light to me and our family. God bless each and every one of you!

Love, Dea Jones

Dear Living Springs Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous donation to the New Americans Program in Columbia. Your support brings hope to refugees helping them build brighter futures with you kindness. We can transform lives and foster a sense of belonging. You are making a difference, and for that, we are deeply grateful.

Blessing, Rev. Sarah Quinney, Community Engagement Director, Lutheran Services Carolinas



Notes from: *Mission Partnership Team*

LS Ministries with Cristo Rey! Sunday, May 4 @ 4:15pm

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



Notes from: *Living Springs Child Development Center*

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

As the days begin to warm and the sun shines a bit longer, we see the excitement as the children get ready for T-ball practice, we listen as they tell us how they are learning to play golf and taking swim lessons, and we share how we also are enjoying a little extra time outside in the evenings.

As a society, we are often focused on what children can learn from us. However, whether you are a parent, an aunt, an uncle, a grandparent, or someone who has the opportunity to share in the life of a child, let us be mindful of what they have to teach us.

What WE can learn from children at play:

- To be Fearless in your exploration, have a sense of adventure, and a willing openness to the unknown and sometimes awkward.
- Build Resilience, kids fall, maybe get a band-aid, get up, and keep going. They remind us that falling is trying and if you never try, you'll never know what you can achieve.
- Live in the Present, children are fully immersed in their work of play. They are fully present as they draw images on the sidewalk with chalk, as they watch a lizard run across the fence, as they pour sand from one container to the next. Children are focused on what is now, without concern for the perfect social media post, or how they may look. They are focused on the present, a simple reminder and inspiration of the joy in simplicity.
- Love without limits or judgment; children who don't look alike, aren't the same age, and may not speak the same language come together to laugh, run, connect, and engage because this is what we are created to do.

The next time you have the opportunity to be with children I urge you to listen, see, enjoy, and take a little lesson from them; remember to play, love, explore, and be present.

Wishing you well, Tammy and LSLC-CDC Staff

God moment from LSCDC teacher Aisha:

Working in the toddler class, I am often reminded of how hard it is to see growth when we keep looking for more goals to achieve. As I cleaned up toys from the floor one morning, I got a little tired and started to slide them to their respective areas of the class. A small voice whispered, "No throwing Aisha," and I was shocked. It was in that moment that I realized two things: the children in our class grow significantly during their time with me, and they will not hesitate to correct me if I am wrong (yikes!) As we enter a new month, I encourage all of you to reflect on how much progress you have made in this year alone—we're getting close to the halfway mark! Be proud of yourself (and your children) for every step you make towards those big goals.

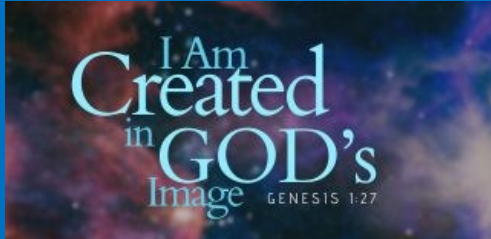


LSCDC student Kenya was won an award from Richland County Community Planning & Development for a picture she submitted! They came during Bible Time to award her in front of her classmates! Congratulations, Kenya!

Notes from: Lifelong Discipleship

Reflecting the Cross

A group met in between service for the past several weeks, strengthening our understanding and passion for the fullness of Jesus's love for us, reflected in the Cross! The study was based on the book, "Making Sense of the Cross".



"MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE!"

LS Adult Faith Milestone Series

Wednesdays: May 14, 21, 28 Online at 7:15pm

meet.google.com/yeu-pfyg-kzh

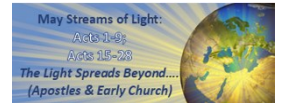
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With life in a broken, challenging world, here in the ongoing Easter season, we explore the joy we can find in the affirming truth that each of us has been beautifully, amazingly made to reflect God's own image!

Share the online link and invite family, friends, and others to join us!



"Streams of Light" Trinity Water Bottle 2024-2025 Devotional Focus Item *Pick up your May Sticker!*



If you weren't able to get your "Streams of Light" Trinity water bottle, we have one for you! You can pick one up today or stop by the office during the week. ****Mark your calendars for future focus stickers: June 1, July 6, Aug. 3.**

"Streams of God's Light ... Shining through the Clouds"

May Reading Focus:

Acts 1-9; Acts 15-28

The Light Spreads Beyond....(Apostles & Early Church)

During our Lenten dramas, we shared episodes from Acts regarding Paul, Stephen, Timothy, and Lydia of Philippi. In June, we will celebrate the great events of Pentecost from Acts 2. In May's Wednesday online discussions, we will focus on other stories from Acts, where the light of the Resurrected Jesus is being reflected beyond...



LS Good News "Streams of God's Light" Bible Story Project *Catch this past month's stories in our YouTube "Streams of God's Light" Playlist*

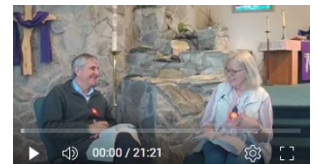
"Hosanna's & Weeping" read by Bob Gill

"A Meal of Love & Night of Betrayal" read by Dawn Willingham

Denial & Trials" read by Hunter Prest

"Life Conquers Death " read by John Imbert

"A Walk of Hope" read by Ena Hagon



Coming this Month:

May 7 Acts 4:1-22 A Light that Can't Be Dimmed (Peter & John)

May 14 Acts 8:4-40 Reflecting the Light Beyond Borders (Paul)

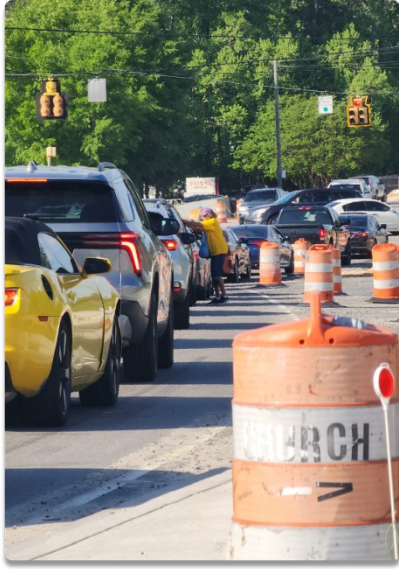
May 21 Acts 17:1-34 Light Turning Things Upside Down (Paul & Silas)

May 28 Acts 21:37-22:29 A Courageous Reflection of Light (Paul)

Each Wednesday, a Bible story from our focus will be read along with sharing from our pastor, seminarian, and possibly some of our worshippers. The reading will be streamed on our Facebook and YouTube Channels. 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!

Notes from: *Good News Team*

Rush Hour Ministry



Our Rush Hour Ministry Team handed out over 300 bags to those people who were stopped in traffic on Hard Scrabble Road. They shared Easter blessings to those that rolled down their windows for a treat. One gentleman shared a story of how blessed he felt. His daughter was recently in an accident where she had sustained some serious injuries. She is now home and doing great! Another woman felt blessed by our gift to her that she shared with us a pocket Jesus!

Beer & Hymns



God led a catholic man and his veteran friend to Doko Station where they met other veterans and shared memories together.

God led a woman with a dog named Cookie who made friends with Phoebe who wasn't quite sure how to react around dogs.

God led 2 strangers/neighbors in our community to Doko Station where they freely lifted their hands up in praise and song to Jesus.



Notes from: *Hope Ministry*

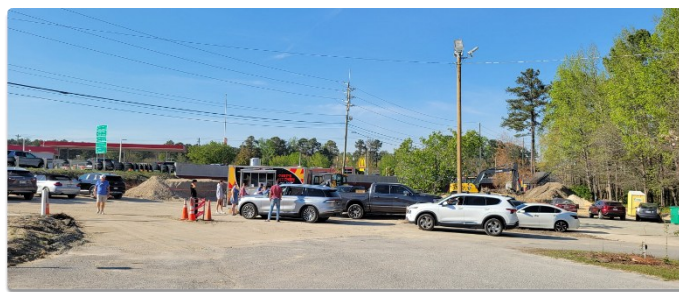
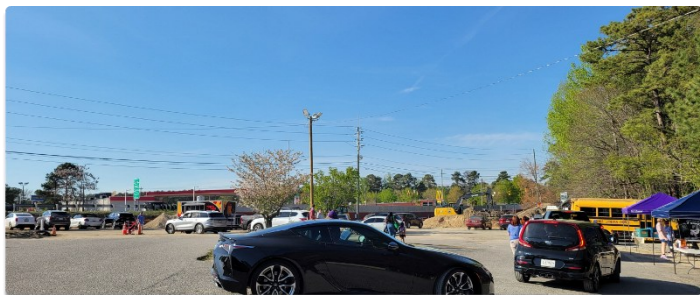


\$6000 for CAMPUS MINISTRY - WORSHIP Sunday, May 4!

We give thanks to all who helped with our Lenten Fish Fry series, which—along with special gifts and donations—reached a total of \$6000 for our Gamecock Lutheran Campus Ministry (once again exceeding our annual commitment of \$4000 to be a primary sponsor partner of this ministry which impacts so many young lives)! Our gift will be presented Sunday, May 4th at the conclusion of LCM's Sunday worship (1702 Greene Street). You are always welcome to come worship with the students - service begins at 5:30pm.

LENTEN FISH FRY FOR CAMPUS MINISTRY

The weather was beautiful for the first five nights - the last night gave us a little trouble with tents blowing away and into the trees, rain and mud, but we had fun and earned **\$6,000** for the Gamecock Campus Ministry. Kurt's Kitchen Catering served 495 meals and Thrivent provided the seed money and free t-shirts. The Hope Ministry Team shouts out a big **THANK YOU** to all who helped make our donation possible - parking lot help, t-shirt giveaway, order takers & deliverers, fellowship hall helpers, and yummy dessert donations.



MOTHER'S DAY FLOWERS FOR RICE ESTATE & AT-HOME MEMBERS

Once again, Living Springs will deliver a bud vase with a flower & fern to Rice Estate women, our homebound & nursing facilities women, and our Family Promise mother's. We will be assembling on Thursday, May 8 and delivering on Friday. If you would like to help on Thursday, meet in the fellowship hall at 10 am - we arrange the flowers in the vases and attach a LS tag with ribbon. Also, please sign the cards that will be on a table before & after worship 4/27 & 5/4.

RICE ESTATE DINNER ***MAY 17 (Back up date—May 31)***

Gail has picked a Luau theme for the dinner - this is always a fun event with our Rice Estate independent living guests and lately we have added Harmony residents. Please see Gail Buchanan if you would like to participate. We always get positive feedback from our participants (both helpers & residents) - a time for a good meal and fun activities. *Note: due to the possible of the upcoming closing to finish the parking lot, a backup date of May 31 has been set*

LENTEN 40X40 MINI-BUCKETS: \$1483 toward \$1600 goal!

Thanks to everyone who has already turned in mini-buckets and gift cards to support our Lenten 40x40 drive for Lutheran Services local refugee families! To date, we have \$1483 toward our annual 40x40=\$1600 Lenten Goal. Mini-buckets with coins & dollars can still be brought to church, or donations/checks/gift cards can be placed in the offering. ***Needed gift cards are Food Lion (for groceries), Wal-Mart (for work shoes, clothing, school supplies, etc.), and Gas Cards (to help with transportation to work, training, doctor's appointments, etc.).*



Backpack Food Ministry

This will be our last month of the school year to pack for four schools -- Rice Creek (30 bags), Joseph Keels (25 bags), Blythewood Academy (15 bags), and Muller Rd. Middle (10 bags). What an amazing outreach to provide food for the weekend to kids who don't have the luxury of just looking in the pantry and getting something to eat. For whatever reason, and it is not up to us to judge, there are over 500 children in Richland 2 alone that benefit from this program. Thank you to all that helped pack, provided food items, helped at our stuff a bus event, our CDC after-schoolers - together we made it work and look forward to doing it again in August!

FAMILY PROMISE SUPPORT

"Our mission is to help families experiencing homelessness achieve sustainable independence within the greater Columbia and Lexington areas." Living Springs has been a support church since this program started in the Columbia area around 2014 - back when rooms were temporarily set up in the host churches. Our role has been to provide meals for the families being supported - right now there are four families in the program. May is our month and Spring Valley Presbyterian is the host church. Living Springs will be providing meals the second and third week of May. As a gift for the four mothers, we will also present them with the Mother's Day flowers that we do for Rice Estate and our homebound women.

For the w/o 5/13: our menu is pasta & broccoli, sausage (bratwurst, Italian), salad, and dessert.

For the w/o 5/20: our menu is meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, and a dessert.

The family profiles are: Bellamy: mother and two daughters (11 & 8); Young: mother and one daughter (11); Caldwell: mother and one son (17); Buckhanon: mother and two daughters (16 & 5)

We will also be collecting grocery & household items: laundry detergent peanut butter, jelly, snack cakes, bread, dish detergent, canned vegetables, rice - if this type donation is more suitable for you and of course, a monetary donation always works. If you would like to help, contact Karen Kranz.

PALMETTO PLACE & CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Children's Hospital lunches are provided to the 5th floor patients & parents on the third Thursday of the month. If you would like to give a monetary donation, indicate "children's hospital lunch" in the memo section.

The Palmetto Place meal is provided on the fourth Thursday of the month - this is for about ten people - young adults transitioning from the unaccompanied youth house to working and learning how to provide for themselves. We give an entree, starch, veggie/salad and dessert. Contact Karen Kranz if you would like to participate.



Notes from: *Emotional - Mental Wellness*



**Living Springs
Emotional/Mental
Wellness
Support Fund**

For assistance, please see
Pastor Eric.



If you or someone you know
needs support now,
call or text 988
or
chat 988lifeline.org



Notes from: *Justice Ministry*

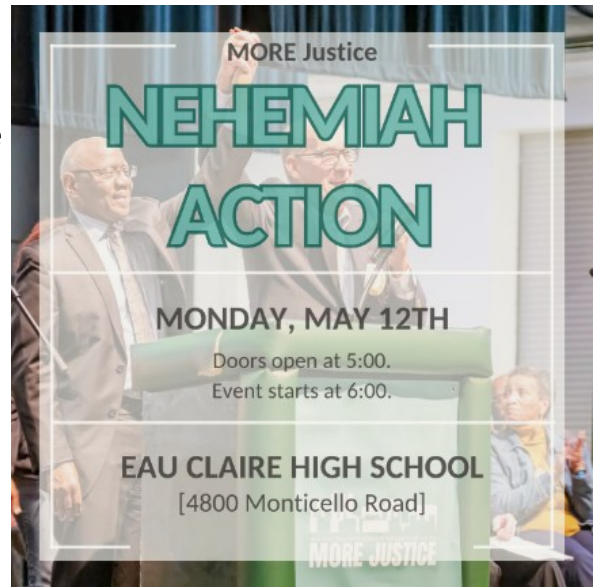
Our annual Nehemiah Action is finally here!

Everyone is invited to the **Nehemiah Action, Monday, May 12th at 6 pm at Eau Claire High School** auditorium (4800 Monticello Road, Columbia). Make plans to come. Sign up for the Nehemiah Action on the "Reflect the Light" sign-up board in the Narthex! Buses leave the Living Springs parking lot beginning at 5:00 pm – sign up if you'd like a ride.

All year we have worked with hundreds of other people of faith toward this important evening. At the Nehemiah Action we will *hear from neighbors* affected by problems of housing, food availability, neighborhood violence, and mental health. We will *celebrate progress* we have made on these problems and *ask public officials* for continued work to address these ongoing community needs:

- Continued funding and implementation of an affordable housing trust fund.
- Coordination of affordable housing action across the state.
- Expansion of the successful Columbia food programs through our Mobile Markets serving neighborhoods without nearby grocery stores.
- Updates on city safety from the City of Columbia Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement.

Psalm 33:5 reminds us, "God loves righteousness and justice." Mark your calendar now for Monday, May 12 at 6 pm and join us for the Nehemiah Action!



MORE Justice Rally



Notes from: *Worship & Music Ministry*

Many people worked together to make the music for our worship services during Lent and Easter possible, blending their commitment and gifts in a wonderful way. The Living Springs Choir led the Holden Evening Prayer during all evening Lenten services, and they also learned three anthems for Holy Week (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday), and three for Easter. That's a lot of practicing and singing, but they took the challenge and sang well. Our Disciples of Harmony also learned two beautiful anthems (one for the last Sunday in Lent, one for Easter Sunday) to enrich our worship experience. Several guest musicians participated: an organist (Palm Sunday, Good Friday), cellist (Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter), guitarist (Lenten Sunday services, Maundy Thursday) and trumpet player (Easter), each adding something special to the mix. Some of our youth took part too, including Hunter Prest, Addi Hayden, and Gabriel Mason. Finally, as I've pointed out before, while the aforementioned folks provided musical leadership, the truth is that **all** of God's people make up the true choir, singing and worshipping together. As someone with a front row seat (at the piano) watching this all come together, I want to thank everyone who attended one or more of our Lent/Holy Week/Easter services. I also thank our great God for ordaining music as an essential part of how we express our praise and thanksgiving for our Savior Jesus Christ. HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Campus Ministry Sunday



Seminarian Jace's Sermon



JuBELLation



Midweek Lenten Drama – Young Timothy



Midweek Lenten Drama – Mother Theresa



Palm Sunday



Blessing & Healing



Mother's Day Worship

Next Sunday, be sure to be present for worship as we offer special prayers and remember the mothers, grandmothers, and other women who have provided motherly care in our lives.

Maundy Thursday



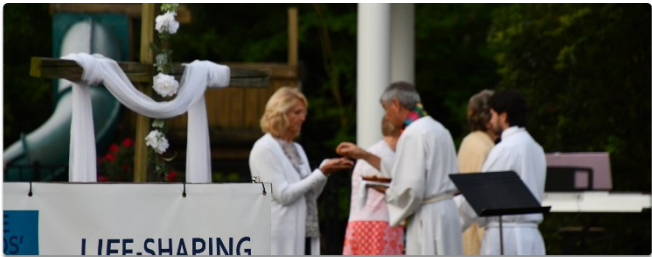
Walking of the Cross



Good Friday



Easter Sunday

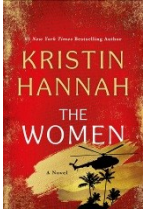


Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

LADIES BOOK CLUB

June 2 @ 6pm

Our next meeting will be at Jan Epperson's, 608 Cold Branch Dr. (North Springs) on June 2 at 6 pm. Our book is *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. This group welcomes all who enjoy reading - you don't have to join or RSVP...just come and enjoy our fellowship and discussions - please note we are now meeting at 6 pm.



Rachel's Day (*Women of the ELCA*)

Sunday, May 4

Rachel's Day is a day set aside to mourn the loss of our children and to renounce the forces of evil and fear that plague our nation. Since 1996, Women of the ELCA has encouraged congregations to observe Rachel's Day on the first Sunday in May. Learn more about Rachel's Day and how you can participate and download the new resource with a special Rachel's Day Litany, "A litany of determined resolve for Rachel's Day." [Learn more](#)



Notes from: *Men's Ministry*

There will be no Saturday breakfast in May. The men of Living Springs will meet at the Beer Den at Lowe's Foods in Sandhills on Thursday May 22 from 5:30 – 7:30 for a time of fellowship. Feel free to stop by anytime, but please come early to take advantage of some drink specials that will end at 6:00pm.

Upcoming SC LMM Events

- **Tues May 13** **Midlands Conference LMM** meeting at St Andrews Lutheran Church @ 6:00pm (1416 Broad River Rd. Columbia, SC 29210)
- **Sat May 17** **SC LMM Skeet Shoot** 9:00 am @ Palmetto State Armory Outdoors Shooting Facility Complex, 1201 Redmond Rd. Swansea, SC 29160 All are welcome. Participants 18 and under will receive one free box of shells. Lunch will be provided
- **Sat August 2** **SC LMM Tube Down the River** – River Walk Amphitheater 109 Alexander Rd W. Columbia



BOLD GATHERING

The BOLD GATHERING is a day for men to come together to learn, to network, and be equipped to BOLDY live out their faith!

Spring 2025 Bold Gathering is coming to you from Columbia SC on May 3, 2025!

[Registration is now OPEN!](#)

Hosted by Redeemer Lutheran Church, 525 St. Andrews Road, Columbia, SC.

Please check out the [video tab on the Bold Gathering website](#) to experience our speakers from 2024 and prior!

Notes from: *Jr. Youth*

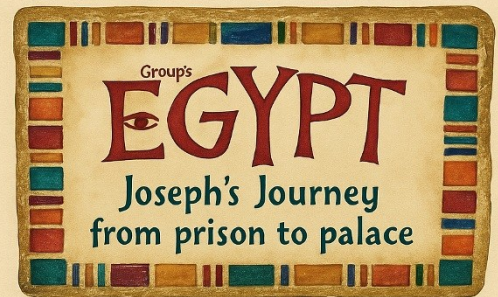


At their April meeting, the Jr. Youth at Living Springs Lutheran Church explored Jesus's awe-inspiring miracles, deepening their understanding of His divine power and compassion. In May, they'll gather one final time for the school year on Sunday, May 5th, to discuss the story of Pentecost and the presence of the Holy Spirit. It promises to be a meaningful wrap-up to a year of faith, fellowship, and spiritual growth.

G.I.F.T. Experience



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



**LIVING SPRINGS LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

COLUMBIA, SC

June 2, 3, & 4

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Age 3 - Grade 5

middle school and

high school help needed

More details to come.

CONTACT BECKY FOR MORE INFO

Easter Egg Hunt



Notes from: *Sr. Youth*



GraceWorks 2025 *Searching* July 13th – 18th

The GraceWorks Leadership Team is incredibly excited for our 12th annual GraceWorks Youth Servant Camp here in the Midlands!

Here's some key information for congregations, adult volunteers, youth, and parents. What is GraceWorks? GraceWorks is a local servant camp for Midlands Youth who are rising 6th graders through recently graduated 12th graders. GraceWorks develops servant leaders as these youth serve various agencies around the Columbia area. Most of these agencies serve vulnerable

children or adults. In addition to doing physical labor like painting, cleaning, yardwork, and organizing, youth also learn about the ministry of these agencies and often have opportunities to interact with those they are serving.

What does it cost: This year's cost will be \$25* per youth, this covers supplies, snacks, and our recreation day for all our participants.

**Cost should never be a deciding factor for any youth. If the cost is a barrier please reach out to Pastor Eric for scholarship information.*

Where is GraceWorks this year? Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 1301 Richland Street, Columbia, 29201. This will be our home base, most of our service experiences will involve traveling offsite via bus or by foot.

When is GraceWorks this year? This year GraceWorks begins **Sunday July 13th** with a meal and worship. We will gather at Ebenezer from 5:00-7:00pm to get to know each other, learn about our service agencies for the week, and worship together. **Monday through Friday, July 14th-18th**, we will gather between 8:00 and 8:15am to start our day and will be finished and ready for pickup at 5:00pm. Your congregation youth leader will make sure you arrive and depart on time.



For more Info contact your Pastor Eric
www.facebook.com/GraceWorksSC



Youth Ministry at Living Springs

May 4: Youth Sunday

May 4: Jr. Youth Faith Formation

May 7: Sr. Youth Gathering (Red Robin)

May 12: Nehemiah Action Assembly (Eau Claire HS)

May 18: Quillowing Milestone for HS Graduates

June 1: "End of Summer"/Community Celebration @ 4pm

June 2, 3, 4: Vacation Bible School

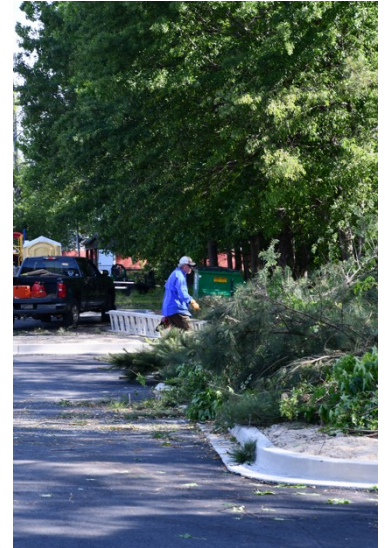


God At Work

Easter Breakfast



Work Day



Tripping Back...

While going through items she has collected over time, Marlene Jorgensen found one of the earliest Living Springs Cookbooks! Returning it to the church for us to archive, we thought...why not resurrect these recipes and share them! Each month, I hope to include a recipe or two from one of our cookbooks. Do you have a recipe you'd like to share? Send it to the office for a future Journal!!

Best Ever Pound Cake—submitted by Dottie Lowman

1/2 lb. butter	3 C. plain flour	1C. Sweet milk
3 C. sugar	1/2 tsp. baking powder	1 tsp. vanilla flavoring
1 Tbsp. (heaping) Crisco	1 pinch salt	1tsp. lemon flavoring

Cream butter, sugar an Crisco. Add eggs one at a time. Beat until it looks like ice cream. Add baking powder an salt to flour. Alternately add flour and milk, heating well. Add vanilla and lemon flavoring. Bake in tube pan at 300 degrees for 1 hour and 40 minutes.

Upcoming Opportunities at Living Springs

Worship Helpers Refresher/Training Session

Sunday, May 4, after each service

This is an invite to all disciples of Living Springs. Today we will provide a refresher/training session for all who are interested in (or are currently) helping with all our Sunday morning roles: Ushers, Lectors, Assisting Ministers, Welcome Table, Communion Assistants, Acolytes, Crucifers, Torchbearers, Parking Lot Ushers, Counters, Altar Guild, Coffee & Refreshment Training will be offered today after each service in the sanctuary. For more info, see Jim Zieche or Karen Kranz.

Ministry Leaders Gathering

Monday, May 5 @ 6:30pm

All Ministry Team leaders, group heads, etc. will gather for discussion about short-term ministry support & next-step plans (as we move forward from Pastor Carl's departure and prepare for longer-term discernment in months yet to come). If you cannot be present in person, here is a back-up online link: meet.google.com/qaj-knkk-mho (tel: +1 719-695-

[9413](tel:+17196959413) PIN: 416 414 871#)

MEMBER Welcome & INFO SESSION

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

NE COMMUNITY
END OF SCHOOL FEST
SUN., JUNE 1*, 4-6PM
***DEPENDING ON PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION**
FREE PIZZA FREE ICE CREAM
BOUNCY HOUSE
ACTIVITIES & GAMES
FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Spring & summer at Living Springs...Mark your Calendar!!

May 4: Youth Sunday

May 4: Jr. Youth Faith Formation

May 12: Justice Ministry Nehemiah Action Assembly (Eau Claire HS)

May 18: Quillowing Milestone for High School Graduates

June 1: "End of Summer"/Pentecost Kickoff Community Celebration @ 4pm

TBA: Vacation Bible School

June 8: Pentecost Sunday

June 22-26: Sr. Youth Mystery Mission Trip

July 13-18: Camp Week at Lutheridge

July 14-17: GraceWorks Youth Servant Week

MAIN SUNDAY SCHEDULE
815A WORSHIP (Sanctuary)
920A Adult Faith Formation

**1030A WORSHIP (Sanctuary/Online/
Parking Lot)** - includes Children's GIFT
Faith Experiences
(Growing in Faith Together!)

May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 Youth Sunday *See box above <i>After Services - Worship Helper Training</i> 12P Jr. Youth Faith Formation 12P Confirmation Class 4P Girl Scouts 5P Cristo Rey (carpool 415) 530 Campus Ministry Worship	5 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P LS Leadership Gathering (Sanctuary) 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout #737 <div>Week of the Young Child—LSCDC</div>	6 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 5P Sr. Youth 7P Handbells	7 10A Preschool Bible Time 1030A Ladies Bible Study 12 "Streams of Light" Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 6P Hope Ministry Team 630P Sr. Youth (Red Robin) 7P Exec Team	1 630P Recovery Comes First 7P Lifelong Discipleship	2 <div>Sr. Youth Lock-in, May 2-3</div>	3
11 Mother's Day—Quilt Blessing *See box above <i>After Services - Backpack Food Ministry</i> 4P Girl Scouts	12 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Nehemiah Action Assembly (Eau Claire HS) - buses start at 5pm 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout #737 <div>Teacher Appreciation Week—LSCDC</div>	13 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 530P Finance 6P Adult Bible Study 6P Lutheran Men Midlands Conf. (St. Andrews) Family Promise Meal	14 830A LS Staff Breakfast 10A Preschool Bible Time 1030A Ladies Bible Study 12 "Streams of Light" Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 715P "Made in God's Image" Adult Faith Milestone (online)	15 630P Recovery Comes First 7P Council Meeting <i>Children's Hospital Meal</i>	16	17 9A SC Lutheran Men Skeet Shoot (Palmetto State Armory/Swansea) 5P Rice Estate Dinner (set up @ 3P) *Backup date 5/31
18 *See box above 1030A HS Graduate Quillows 12P Confirmation Class 12P Child Protection Training 4P Girls Scouts	19 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P Worship Team 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737	20 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells <i>Family Promise Meal</i>	21 10A LSCDC Bible Time 1030A Ladies Bible Study 12 "Streams of Light" Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 715P "Made in God's Image" Adult Faith Milestone (online)	22 LSCDC—halfday 7A Men's Bible & Biscuits 530P Lutheran Men Gathering (Beer Den @ Lowe's Foods) 630P Recovery Comes First Celebration (FHall) <i>Palmetto Place Meal</i>	23 LSCDC closed	24 930A Crafty Ladies
25 *See box above 920A Pastor Bible Study	26 Memorial Day—Office Closed 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Boy Scout Troop #737	27 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P LSCDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	28 830A LS Staff Worship 10A LSCDC Bible Time 1030A Pastor Bible Study 12 "Streams of Light" Posted 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 715P "Made in God's Image" Adult Faith Milestone (online)	29 630P Recovery Comes First	30	31 *Backup date: 5P Rice Estate Dinner (set up @ 3P) Summer Kickoff Community Festival—6/1 VBS—June 2,3,4

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

May 4 Lindsey Pittman
May 6 Judy Lawrence
May 7 Bernadette Striggles
May 8 Ambrose Ulloa
May 12 Peter Creighton
May 13 Charles Pollard

May 21 Lina Mooney
May 23 ♥ Eric & Kris Fink
 ♥ Eddie & Daisy Rivera
May 25 ♥ Steve & Kathryn Padgett
May 29 Melody Hair



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!



May 1 Gay Walter
 Jim Zieche
May 2 Noah Mason
 Gabriel Mason
May 3 Caroline Berger
May 8 Kristen Mattson
 Karl Schmidt
May 10 Parker Thoma
May 14 Ruth Pollard
May 16 Maggie Pittman
May 17 Todd Gunvalson
May 20 Ron Ramsey
May 26 Collin Flores



CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers

Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor

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Tammy Mancuso- Dir. of Child Development Center

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Shirl Schiffman - Music Director

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Elizabeth Ulloa - 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

[Debbie Zvejnieks](#) - Vice-President

[Mia Rapport](#) - Secretary

[Mike Davidson](#) - Treasurer

[Bill Ramsey](#) – Financial Secretary

[Garrett Flores](#) - Youth Representative

[Rev. Eric Fink](#) – Senior Pastor

[Steve Bloss](#)

[Sue Bradham](#)

[Ed Brennan](#)

[Bob Gabbard](#)

[Ena Hagon](#)

[Lorenzo Hampton](#)

[Tom Willingham](#)

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Child Development Center

Deborah DePaoli

Children/Youth Ministries

Leslie Bloss/Jan Berger/Becky Flynn

Debbie Zvejnieks/Garrett Flores

Fellowship & Mutual Care

Trish Davidson/Jeanette Bloss

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

Pew Bears

Judy Lawrence

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Prayer Requests