

THE GRAPEVINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 2019

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The Grapevine is a monthly newsletter published by the staff & members of

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The Rev. Lance Henderson—Pastor
Brent Holcomb—Organist/Choirmaster
Melodie Capole—Handbell Director

Grace to you and Peace in the Name of Our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

On April 21, we celebrated Easter. And it was a wonderful celebration. The sanctuary was packed; there was wonderful music. It just all felt vibrant and alive. Pound for pound, I like to think our small congregation can worship with the best of them. (Of course, worship is not a competition, I am just saying IF it was...) What was notably absent from our worship was any notion of fear. It simply does not occur to us that we will be violently attacked for our Christian faith. Yes, occasionally there is the incident like Sutherland Springs attack, which was really rooted in a domestic dispute. Or the 2015 violence on the Bible Study of Emmanuel AME church in Charleston, which was rooted in racism more than an anti-Christian sentiment. But by and large, we do not have much reason to fear as Christians.

Even as Christianity declines in the U.S, and has all but collapsed in Western Europe, it still holds a significant importance in the culture. Due process and individual rights remain bedrock because every person carries within them the *Imago Dei* or Image of God (Gen 1:27). Our Christian holidays are the culture's major holidays. We all watched in horror as the Notre Dame cathedral burned, knowing that this building was of incalculable value. I will not go so far as to say Western Christians are in a privileged position. But, if the greatest persecution we suffer is that a judge rules that the big plastic Nativity scene can no longer be displayed on the lawn of City Hall, we are doing okay.

cont'd on page 3—>

OSLC NEWS & NOTES



HOLY WEEK 2019



Of course, April 21, Easter Sunday also marked a horrific attack in Sri Lanka that targeted Christians in churches and Westerners in hotels killing over 350 people. And while ISIS may not discriminate between Christians and Westerners, there are plenty of places in the world where non-western Christians are routinely attacked, tortured, or have a dubious legal standing. Curiously, Christians have been in many of these places since the time of the apostles. The tradition holds that St. Matthew took the Gospel into modern day Syria, that St. Mark established the church in Egypt, and that St. Thomas went as far as India and brought people into the faith. The point is that these Christian communities are as old as Christianity itself. Also interesting that as much as China tries to thwart Christianity within its borders, Christianity is growing at a phenomenal rate there.

So what do we do about these persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ? There are several charities you can support, but I think this is the exact sort of thing we need to pray and leave in God's hands. It seems unlikely that there is any thing anyone of us could do about Christians in Bhutan who risk losing their citizenship except pray. While we are at it, we might also offer a prayer of gratitude that we can worship in peace. It's not so common a thing.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lance

MAY MINISTRIES

FLOWERS

May 5 **Available*

12 *Mark & Ann
Satterwhite*

19 *Albert & Sue Drafts*

26 *Caroline Raszewski*

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

May 5 *Isma Boland*

12 *Gail Marcum*

19 *Rebecca Fingerlin*

26 **Need Volunteer*

MAY

S.S. SUPERINTENDENT

**Need Volunteer*

NURSERY MONITOR

Elizabeth Shealy

USHERS

Chief Barney Keitt

Loleta Keitt

Horace Meetze

ALTAR GUILD

*Isma Boland &
Melba Murphy*

ACOLYTE

Claire Fingerlin

CRUCIFER

**None Needed*

OFFERING PICKUP

Barney Keitt

TELLERS

*Beth Cleland &
Barney Keitt*

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Barney Keitt

GREETERS

Horace & Betty Meetze

Robin Henderson

Barney & Loleta Keitt

Frank & Linda Yonce

LAY READERS

**Need Volunteer*

Caroline Raszewski

Loleta Keitt

Marie Lybrand

JUNE

Isma Boland

Kay Black

Chris Boland

Beth Boland

Jason Powell

*Wayne & Marie
Lybrand*

**Need Volunteer*

**Need Volunteer
(6/9 and 6/16)*

Frank Yonce

**Need Volunteers*

Bill Aull

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Ann Satterwhite, Council Secretary
April 2019

- The Forty Days of Lent devotion has been received very well by the congregation. Pastor Lance will be scheduling "Gathering Input: Listening Group" meetings after Easter.
- Saluda Gardens Neighborhood Association will be meeting in the fellowship hall, on occasion.
- Gift cards will be mailed to the college students during exam week.
- Shred Day event was a big success. We collected 350 pounds of food, \$650 and 1 1/2 tons of paper was shredded.
- Quotes are being obtained for repairs to the roof, lighting and air conditioning.
- Lenten offerings will be divided between the Pastor's discretionary fund and God's Helping Hands.
- June 30th is the next fifth Sunday of the month. A noisy bucket offering will be collected. This will be used to mail the Christmas shoe boxes in November.
- Due to expense and lack of critical issues, OSLC will not send representatives to the SC Synod Assembly in Spartanburg.

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

From March 31-April 21

Sunday School—22

Sunday Worship—78



2019 Officers w/contact info:

President Linda Griffith (lindagriffith2@aol.com)
Vice President/Advisor Pam Hanfland
 (phanfland@gmail.com)
Treasurer Ann Satterwhite
 (annsatterwhite2@gmail.com)
Secretary Kelly Heid (kheid@sc.rr.com)



Growth — Cameron, too is busy with WELCA Sunday and the Newberry College Women's League Sunday. They continue to check on the Nursery and Spiritual Gifts in case we have any OSLC 'Little Angels' appear.

Thank you all for coming to the Joint Meeting last month and thank you for your written reports. They really help the meeting run smoothly and quickly.

By the time you get this newsletter, Kelly will have distributed the minutes from the Joint Meeting and some 30 of us will be getting ready to go on retreat at the Coastal Retreat Center.

School will be letting out soon, vacations are all planned, and before you know it, fall will be here. Since most, if not all circles, do not meet during the summer, I hope you all have a great summer with lots of fun and sun planned. I FINALLY am retired and hopefully I can get the newsletter in before the deadline.

All the committees are still busy and will be making reports after the summer.

There's still time to make plans to attend the SC WELCA Convention...

GRACE IN COMMUNITY
 Please consider attending June 7-8 (Friday/Saturday).



Thanks to everyone for your support of the convention projects — Freedom Bags and Service cards and photographs. They will be taken to Convention to share.

Friday: Reg opens at 8:30; 10:00 Pre-conv. Workshops; 11:00 conv committees meet; 11:30 lunch; 12:30 orientation for all and begin convention; 6:30 Banquet/Entertainment.
Saturday: 8:30 Reg opens; 9:00 Conv Reconvenes; 12:00 lunch; 1:15 reconvene; 3:00 closing



2019 OSLC-WELCA Calendar

- May 3-5** OSLC-WELCA Retreat/Isle of Palms (Lydia Circle)
- June 7-8** SC-WELCA Synodical Convention St. Stephen (119 N Church Street, Lexington)
- October 6** 3-5 PM Joint Circle Meeting (Officers Elected)
 Devotion/Prayer – Lydia
 Refreshments – Cameron
- December 1** 11:45 AM Executive Board Meeting immediately following Worship Service (Circle Leaders with Unit Officers)
 Opening Prayer: Isma Boland



Action—Lydia has the Hospitality and are keeping busy with meals and Leta will stay busy with the cards! The Bible Study/Retreat for 2019 has been planned and we'll soon be off to the beach! They are still working on an idea for the Service Project.



Community — Rebekah has also been busy this year and plan to take some time off this summer. They planned the Social Event and the Easter Project all this spring and are working on next year's retreat!

Hopefully, they will be sharing soon with us.

CIRCLES MEET

Cameron – 2nd Monday at 10 AM at Church
Lydia – 2nd Monday at 6 PM at member home
Rebekah – 1st Monday at 10 AM at Church

COMMEMORATION PROFILES

Ruth Nicholson

The Lutheran Church, as part of its worship, celebrates the lives of notable Christians of the past. Our hymnal provides a calendar (pp. 15–17) for us to follow which recognizes these individuals on the anniversary of their deaths.



April 4

**Monica, mother of Augustine
(c. 331-387)**

Widowed at age forty, mother of three, Monica especially hoped that the eldest, Augustine, would convert to her beloved Christianity. Augustine's ways were not her ways; he had, for example, fathered a child out of wedlock. It was only after he and Monica traveled to Italy to be with Christian leaders there that Augustine's conversion and baptism took place. Before they could finish the return trip to North Africa, Monica became sick and died. Augustine wrote at length in his "Confessions" about the pious life his mother had led and the example she had given for others to follow.

May 8

**Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church
(1342- c. 1416)**

History has given us few facts concerning Julian's life. She was one of medieval Christianity's female mystics. Her visions of Christ were collected in a book, "Sixteen Revelations of Divine Love." Julian was a nun living alone in a room attached to a church in Norwich, England. Her revelations came to her, she said, during an illness. In them, Julian sees Christ as a mother-figure whose love, like the ideal mother's, lasts forever in spite of children's disobedience and the need for parental discipline from time to time. To Julian, love is central to religious experience.

May 21

**Helena, mother of Constantine
(c. 250-330)**

After the Roman emperor Constantine the First converted to Christianity, Helena, his mother, embraced it, too. Not a convert in name only, Helena devoted the rest of her life to helping the poor. She also traveled to the Holy Land and had churches constructed on sites associated with Jesus' birth, death, and ascension.

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

Lent and Holy Week are a special time for our tradition. And it is a co-operative effort. Many thanks to all who contributed their time and talents this season. Thanks to those who prepared Lenten meals, cleaned the property, performed the music, attended Lenten worship, gave generously, provided lilies, and assisted in worship.

Your ministries blessed us all!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lance



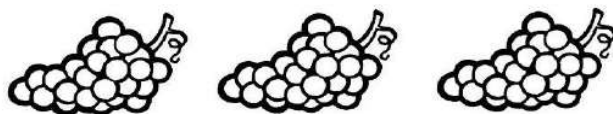
GRAPEVINE QUIZ

(Answers on page 10)

May is for Mother's Day. Let's look at some biblical moms.

1. Isaac and Rebekah had two boys. Genesis 25 clearly says Rebekah loved this son more.
A. Jacob
B. Esau
C. Rueben
D. Beaver
2. In Exodus 2, Moses' mother put him a basket and floated him down the Nile. Why?
A. Pharaoh was killing the Israelite boys.
B. Moses had a disease
C. His mother could no longer feed him
D. It was an accident. OOPS!
3. In Luke 7, Jesus meets a woman from Nain. Her son has a problem that Jesus miraculously fixes. What's the problem?
A. He's blind
B. He's lame
C. He's dead
D. He's being audited
4. In John 19, Jesus assigns this disciple to take care of his mother Mary. Who is it?
A. Matthew
B. Andrew
C. John
D. She don't need no help!
5. In 2 Timothy 1, Paul commends Timothy for this gift which he had received from his grandmother and mother. What was it?
A. His leadership
B. His preaching
C. His faith
D. His wavy brown locks

BONUS: In art, the virgin Mary holding the infant Jesus is frequently called Madonna and Child. Other artwork shows Mary holding Jesus' body after he's taken down from the cross. What is this artwork commonly called?



ELCA PRESS RELEASES



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

- 4/09 ELCA Church Council approves measures addressing sexism, embracing authentic diversity
- 4/16 ELCA presiding bishop delivers Easter message



ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS AND GUESTS

The South Carolina Women of the ELCA will be sponsoring a **MURAL PROJECT AT CONVENTION** June 4-5, 2019 at St. Stephen/Lexington 'honoring those who served or are currently serving in our Armed Forces. They can be in uniform or civilian attire. All branches of the services are welcome — Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines, Navy'.

As part of this Mural, the convention committee is requesting that congregations bring with them photographs (copies acceptable). Please put those photographs in the box located in the Narthex so that Linda can take to Convention and display. Please tape/glue the label below to the back of the photograph.

Service member name & relationship

Rank

Branch of Service



MORE OSLC NEWS & NOTES



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



We are starting off early this year collecting items for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. We will be highlighting different types of items each month, between now and November.

For May we are collecting "ACCESSORIES." Examples are: hair bows and bands, compact, scarfs, bandanas, sunglasses, flip-flops, small tote bags, coin purse, and nail clippers (no pointed edges). A collection box will be in the Cameron Hallway.

Many of these items can be purchased at Dollar Stores and at Walmart. Look for bargains!

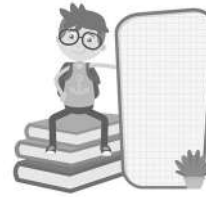
We will do noisy offerings on June 30th and then again in November to help with shipping costs of the shoeboxes. So start saving your change now!

Our 2019 goal is to pack 150 shoeboxes. If you need a personal shopper, see Loleta Keitt.

RAZBERRIES

Sallie and David Hutto will be hosting Razberries, Saturday, May 11.

ELDERBERRIES UPDATE



We had a wonderful time visiting with the Satterwhites at the Heritage at Lowman Home in March and we want to especially thank Elizabeth for the wonderful outing to the new LEX2 Innovations Center in April. We treated ourselves with lunch at Henry's down by the railroad tracks in Cayce. We hope some of you can go with us to the Saluda River Academy of the Arts for breakfast on May 2nd at 8:30.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Starting on May 5th, Pastor Lance will begin leading the Farming Church Vision Sessions during the Sunday School hour. Sign up today in the narthex.

GOD'S HELPING HANDS

God's Helping Hands has a need for jello, peanut butter, and crackers. In addition, there is a need for sugar, canned peas, juice, and toothpaste. Items may be brought to the church and placed in the boxes which are located in the Cameron Hallway.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Those listed below have special prayers needs at this time. We keep the entire congregation in our prayers at all times, but sometimes special prayers are needed. If your name is on the list or you have added someone's name and they no longer need to be on the list, please contact the church secretary so the name can be removed.

Inez Black
Isma Boland
Lindsey Capps
(niece of Barney & Loleta Keitt)
Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Dolores Hopkins
Beth Martin Koin
(friend of Barney & Loleta Keitt)

Merna Long
Anne Moye
Mary Riddle
(sister of Jeannie Chapman)
Marie Shealy
(Morningside Ret Ctr., Apt. 131)
Blair Tidmarsh
(son-in-law of Jeannie Chapman)

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Brent Holcomb	5/04
Patsy Horton	5/05
Doris Wessinger	5/14
Kaitlyn Sawyer	5/18
Wayne Haltiwanger	5/30
Isaac Havens	5/31

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

David & Sallie Hutto	5/02
Wayne & Marie Lybrand	5/03
Stephen & Sue Bush	5/06
Albert & Sue Drafts	5/21

GRAPEVINE ARTICLES

If you have articles, reports and/or pictures that you or your group would like printed in the next Grapevine, please send them to the Church Office on or before Wednesday April 22.

Please Note: if there are any errors or omissions in birthdays or anniversaries, notify the church office. We want to make sure our records are correct.



ANSWERS 1., A. Jacob; 2., A. Pharaoh was killing the Israelite boys; 3., C. He's dead; 4., C. John; 5., C. His faith; BONUS: The pieta

APRIL PICTURES

SPRING CLEANING

Thank you to all who helped out!



SHRED DAY 2019 What a success!



X
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
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of our Saviour***

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A PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

Dear Father, we approach your throne on behalf of the mothers whom you have entrusted with the care of your most precious little ones. We thank you for creating each mom with a unique combination of gifts and talents. We thank you for the sacrifice of self each mom gives for her children. For the late nights spent rocking a colicky infant. For the hands calloused from washing, wiping, scrubbing, mixing, baking, stirring, hugging, patting, disciplining, holding, writing, erasing, painting, and pouring.

We thank you for the gift of time moms give for their kids, whether it's stay-at-home moms, working moms, and moms who have some combination of the two. We thank you for the flexibility of moms, for their tirelessness, their perseverance, and their devotion.

We pray you give each mom strength. Help her to see in every mundane task the eternal, cosmic significance that you place on motherhood. Help her to understand that the most radical, world-changing events may be happening anonymously in her home. Help her to forgive those who undermine her significance.

We especially pray for single moms, who must lean solely on you for the fathering of their children. We thank you that you're big arms surround children who may never know their earthly father. We also pray for mother who never had the honor of bearing children, but whose nurturing extends to the many poor and needy who cross the threshold of their lives. pray the rhythms of repentance and forgiveness shape every home.

Lord, give each mother a worshipful reverence of you, the Creator and Sustainer of life. Help each mother to rest in the knowledge that they are but stewards of your children and that only your Spirit can produce change into the hearts of each boy and girl. May each mother find rest in you.

Most of all, Lord, on this day in which we honor mothers, may we love and cherish the special women who have born us, who have nurtured us, and who have prayed for our well-being. May our hearts overflow with gratitude to you, who formed and knitted each of us in a mother's womb.

AMEN.

X