

THE GRAPEVINE

THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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 and Peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ!

Sunday, April 9th is, of course, Easter. You will hear a particular word quite a bit that day. It is based on a Hebrew word found often in the Psalms. It is a word that we have not said for a while. It is “alleluia” or alternately “halleluiah”. And it means “Praise the Lord”. Not singing or saying “alleluia” during Lent has been a long standing tradition that began ages ago in the Roman Catholic church long before there was a Lutheran church. The idea was that to say “alleluia” was to join our voices with the angels, yet in Lent we should refrain from that to focus on our need for forgiveness. But Easter changes all that. It is the appropriate time to sing out “Praise the Lord!”

The symbol of Easter in our stained glass is the *Agnus Dei* which means “The Lamb of God”, a synonym for Jesus. This symbol portrays Christ literally as a lamb, yet always holding a flag or pennant. What is the flag about? It is the flag of victory. A risen Christ demonstrates Christ’s victory over sin, death and the devil. It is what Christ has gained by his resurrection and promised to each and every one of us. Many cultures celebrate Easter with massive fireworks displays. I wish that would catch on here. It is a more fitting response that baskets, eggs and candy. There nothing wrong with those traditions, but they just do not scream out “Alleluia”.

Praise the Lord!
Pastor Lance



**COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS
March 2023**

- Income for February 2023 was good.
- The wallpaper in various parts of the church, especially in the narthex, needs replacing either with paint or with new wallpaper.
- Approximately 50 people participated in the Shrove Tuesday supper. The new menu seemed to go over well. Melodie Capole, Mary Havens, and their crew did a wonderful job entertaining the crowd.
- The church's Automated External Defibrillator (AED) needs to be inspected regularly. It currently needs a new battery but is still usable if plugged in to a wall outlet. The battery will be replaced.

RAZBERRIES

Due to Easter being on April 9, we are moving Razberries to Friday April 14 at 6:30 pm at the River Rat Brewery.

April Razberries
Friday April 14, 2023
6:30 pm
River Rat Brewery
1231 Shop Road Columbia

Please let Rebecca or Francis know if you are planning to attend by Monday April 10, 2023.

Rebecca 803-230-2218
Francis 803-926-9293

**WHAT'S NEW WITH THE YOUNG
ADULT/YOUTH GROUP?**

It has been a busy semester for our young adults but they have managed to not only continue in their education but grow in their faith by contributing to worship services and Our community Shrove Tuesday entertainment.

They will be adding joy to the Eggstravaganza by taking part in all of the activities provided for the children such as face painting, story time, balloon animals, arts and crafts, and other activities. It will be a lot of fun! Come and join us!



Now, to highlight what our youth have been up to--they facilitated their own arts and crafts project which highlights what they have learned from

story time. The project encompasses Jesus' death on the cross and His never-ending love for us. Most importantly, Jesus' death on the cross is God's way of showing how great His love for us is! The little ones continue to be eager and excited for their next story time. We enjoy having them join us in worship and sharing their pure love and joy!!



THANK YOU

Pastor Lance & Church Family,

A special thank you for all that you did for Greg and me after having very bad cases of Covid in late January. The special cards, calls, special prayers, delicious meals, and everything was greatly appreciated.

Your visits later meant a lot to us. To those who sent soup from the soup kitchen, thank you. It is delicious.

We miss being able to worship at church, but we're there in spirit. We couldn't be members of a better church.

May our Lord's peace, healing, love, and blessings be with all of you.

In His Name,
Jeannie & Greg Chapman & Family

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE

February 26-March 19

WORSHIP—40

APRIL MINISTRIES

FLOWERS

Apr 2 Wayne & Marie
Lybrand

9 Easter Lily

16 Easter Lily

23 *Need Volunteer

30 *Need Volunteer

GREETERS

*Need Volunteer

David & Linda
Griffith

*Need Volunteer

*Need Volunteer

Sylvia Ford

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Apr 2 Marie Lybrand

9 David Griffith

16 Gail Marcum

23 *Need Volunteer

30 *Need Volunteer

LECTORS

Wayne Lybrand

David Griffith

*Need Volunteer

*Need Volunteer

Sylvia Ford

APRIL

USHERS

Chief Linda Griffith

Isma Boland

ALTAR GUILD

*Need Volunteers

OFFERING PICKUP

David Griffith

TELLERS

Linda Griffith &
Gail Marcum

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

*Need Volunteer

MAY

*Need Volunteer

Gary Black

Gail Marcum &
Linda Griffith

Isma Boland

Beth Cleland &
Linda Hill

Jim Garner

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 9
Dietrich Bonhoeffer,
Theologian
(1906-1945)

German Lutheran Dietrich Bonhoeffer became a pastor and teacher during the Nazi Party's rise to power. Pastor Bonhoeffer joined the Confessing Church, which opposed Hitler's policies, and he directed its seminary at Finkenwalde until the government closed it down. In 1939, Bonhoeffer spent time in the US and considered staying on but returned to Germany because he felt duty-bound to share the tribulations his countrymen were enduring. He was ultimately arrested for participating in rescues of Jews and a plot against Hitler's life. In prison Bonhoeffer was a pastor to fellow inmates and his guards. He was hanged just before Hitler's downfall. See ELW hymn 626 ("By Gracious Powers") for words he wrote shortly before his death. Bonhoeffer's legacy inspires Christians to guard against "cheap grace" and to understand, to use the title of one of his books, the "cost of discipleship."

April 19
Olavus Petri, priest
(1493-1552)
and
Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala
(1499-1573),
Renewers of the church

These two brothers from Sweden came under the influence of Martin Luther when they studied at Wittenberg. Olavus, in fact, was very likely present at Wittenberg when

Luther posted his ninety-five theses. Olavus, the elder brother, became a deacon and teacher and later, senior pastor at the cathedral in Stockholm. Like Luther, he brought worship to the people in their own language as he preached, translated the Bible (with his brother's help), and published hymnbooks. Laurentius was a teacher, priest, and later, archbishop at Uppsala—the first Lutheran archbishop of the Church of Sweden. He had great influence on the spiritual life of his country and the way in which the Reformation took hold there. Writings by Laurentius, like those of Olavus, contributed much to the liturgical and educational resources of the emerging Lutheran church in Sweden.

April 23
Toyohiko Kagawa,
Renewer of society
(died 1960)

Born into a wealthy Japanese family, Toyohiko Kagawa was disowned when he became a Christian. He attended the Presbyterian Seminary in Kobe and became convinced of Christians' duty to combat social ills. He worked for several years in Japanese slums. Later, he went to America for additional study and returned to Japan even more determined to work for social change. Kagawa's pacifist stance during World War II led to his imprisonment. After the war he became a leader in promoting democracy within his country.

ELCA PRESS RELEASES



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

- 2/24 A pastoral message in support of our Jewish neighbors
- 3/10 ELCA Conference of Bishops discusses exchangeability, Cuba, and more
- 3/20 Bishop Easton issues statement on anti-transgender legislation

Our JOINT CIRCLE MEETING IS THIS MONTH. Please plan to attend on Tuesday, April 18th at 6 PM. (*Don't plan to keep you after dark!*) Please have all reports handwritten as we do not have an official secretary and this will certainly help the person taking out notes.

Linda Hill and Linda Griffith attended the *Saxe Gotha Conference* meeting last month in Sandy Run where there were 33 present from 10 of our 11 conference churches. Sharolyn Carter from the CASA (Citizens Against Sexual Assault) spoke about domestic violence and sexual assault. Business rounded out the event with \$146 collected bringing the balance to \$201.08. A \$100 donation was made by the conference to the CASA ministry that supports Orangeburg, Bamberg, and Calhoun counties. Details were discussed about our conference providing hospitality at the SCWELCA Convention. OSLC needs to provide six ladies to serve as greeters. I would like to ask each circle to provide a health kit for Tanzania, and make a monetary donation to Camp Kinard as projects of the convention. More on ALL this at our Joint Meeting.

Action-Lydia hosted the annual retreat Saturday, March 11 in the church fellowship hall. Dawn Smith Jordan was our speaker. She shared her testimony with us and spoke on forgiveness.

HOW FAR MUST FORGIVENESS GO?

Key Scripture: "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ has also forgiven you." (Ephesians 4:32)

Dawn took us from learning how to truly trust the Lord with the hurts of life to the place of forgiving the very ones that have hurt us. Dawn shared how God brought her to the place of understanding and how true healing from the hurts of life cannot take place apart from the supernatural act of forgiveness in our own lives. She chooses daily forgiveness in her life as a path to healing and wholeness. She did a wonderful job speaking and singing! We also enjoyed lunch catered by Momma Rabbit's of Lexington. There were 51 ladies representing 15 different churches-nine Lutheran churches as well as Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and New Heights Community!

Lydia thanks those who attended and to those who helped. Special thanks to Pastor Henderson for helping with our technology. It was a VERY successful day! Lydia Circle continues its monthly devotions from the Joyce Meyers's book BE JOYFUL. **Lydia Circle asks you to PLEASE remember to give your \$10.00 to Ann Satterwhite for Hospitality if you have not.** We are presently looking at program/ dates for our Service Project. At this time we are hoping to offer a free workshop (Sunday afternoon) in the fall.

GIVING TO

DAWN SMITH JORDAN MINISTRIES

Jordan Ministries is a 501c3 non-profit organization and all contributions are tax deductible. To contribute, you can do so on her website under the **Contact Us** tab, by scanning the QR code, Venmo (@Dawn-SmithJordan), Cash App (\$DawnSmithJordan) or mailing a check to: PO Box 2846 Irmo, SC 29063.

Community-Rebekah will make a full report on the *Eggstravaganza* next month. We continue to meet with Cameron and plans are underway for a social event possibly in the fall.

Growth—Cameron will continue meeting with Rebekah Circle this year. Members have replenished the bags for children to use during worship and are planning a 'spring' cleaning in the nursery soon.

2023 Events

- April 1 10-11:30 AM Easter '*Eggstravaganza*' by Rebekah Circle in Fellowship Hall
- April (TBA) OSLC-Newberry College Women's League Sunday (Cameron Circle)
- April 18 6 PM (Tuesday) Joint OSLC-WELCA Devotional/Prayer—Cameron Refreshments—Rebekah
- May 5-7 (Friday-Sunday) SCWELCA Isle of Palms Retreat Center
Leader—Risse Snelgrove (www.scwelca.org)
business (circle leaders/unit off)
Opening Prayer—Ann Satterwhite

GRAPEVINE QUIZ

(answers on page 7)

Let's have a quiz on this curious bible book of Jonah!

1. God wants Jonah to go to a great city. What is its name?
 - a. Babylon
 - b. Jerusalem
 - c. Nineveh
 - d. Nashville
2. How did the sailors determine the life-threatening storm was the fault of Jonah?
 - a. Prayer
 - b. Signs in the sky
 - c. Casting lots
 - d. A Magic 8-Ball
3. Inside the belly of the great fish, how did Jonah pass his time?
 - a. Prayer
 - b. Building a fire to keep warm
 - c. Looking for fish to eat
 - d. Having a swell conversation with Pinocchio
4. Who else, in addition to the people of Nineveh, made atoning acts?
 - a. The people of Jerusalem
 - b. The priests of Baal
 - c. The cattle of Nineveh
 - d. Murry Goldblatt and family
5. What did God send destroy Jonah's beloved shade giving vine?
 - a. An army of Jebusites
 - b. A worm
 - c. A horde of locusts
 - d. Some Round-Up ©

BONUS: What mid 20th Century movie and TV actor did Pastor Lance say would be the perfect Jonah if they had made a movie of it?



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.

Krissy Boyd (granddaughter of Inez Black)
Greg Chapman
Jeannie Chapman
Katie Doble
Don Ford
Dolores Hopkins
Jack Hopkins

Nancy Marsela (friend of Gary & Kay Black)
Ann Moyer
Steve Rucker
Willette Satterwhite
Marie Shealy (National Health Care, Rm 225)
Mary Stocker

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Matthew Lybrand	4/01
Cal Raszewski	4/08
Hutton Raszewski	4/13
Russell Dawkins	4/15
Bob Graham	4/15
Sandra Hughes	4/21
Henry Henderson	4/30

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Bobby & Kelly Heid	4/10
Trey & Amy Wallace	4/16
Phil & Sonya Urban	4/17
James & Melissa Vagts	4/19

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.



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 by **Monday, April 24.**

Answers: 1, c. Nineveh; 2, c. Casting lots; 3, a. Prayer; 4, c. The cattle of Nineveh; 5, b. A worm; BONUS Don Knotts



Holy Week Schedule

- April 2: Palm Sunday Worship—10:30 am
- April 6: Maundy Thursday Worship with Stripping of the Altar—7:00 pm
- April 7: Good Friday Service—7:00pm
- April 9: Flowering of the Cross-10:00 am
Easter Festival Worship—10:30 am