

# ***THE GRAPEVINE***

***THE NEWSLETTER OF OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH***

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Brent Holcomb—Organist/ Choirmaster  
Melodie Capole—Handbell Director

Spring is unfolding all around us. The trees that stood bare all winter are beginning to bud. Flowers are pushing up through the soil. Birds are singing again, as if they know something we don't. I hope each of you has found a way to enjoy and soak in the quiet but definite resurrection happening in nature.

The natural world is clearing the path and guiding the church toward the most sacred days of the year - the **Triduum**. The Triduum is the three-day journey through **Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday**. These days carry us into the heart of our faith and are the culmination of the church year. The three days (from sundown on Thursday to sundown on Sunday) are seen and experienced as one liturgical day.

On **Maundy Thursday**, we gather around the table, just as Jesus did with his disciples. He breaks the bread, pours the wine, and kneels to wash their feet in an act of radical humility and service. This is more than a symbolic gesture; it is a command (*mandatum* in Latin) to embody love in action. As Jesus tells his disciples, "*Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another*" (John 13:34). This night marks the institution of both the **Lord's Supper** and the **new commandment** - a way of life shaped by self-giving love.

Then comes **Good Friday**. At first glance, it hardly seems "good." We stand at the foot of the cross as the weight of human sin and suffering is laid upon Jesus. He breathes his last. The world holds its breath. And yet, even in this moment of apparent defeat, the mystery of God's grace is at work. Christ's love does not recoil from suffering but enters into it fully, transforming the cross from an instrument of death into a symbol of redemption.

**Holy Saturday** follows - a day of stillness, uncertainty, and waiting. It is the in-between space, the pause between despair and hope. In the silence of the tomb, God is still at work, though unseen. This day invites us to trust in the unseen movements of God's grace, even when all appears lost.

*continued on page 3* →

# OSLC NEWS & NOTES



## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

March 2025

Secretary, Charles Nicholson

- There are new fixtures with LED lights in the Narthex.
- Jim Garner of the Property Team would like some help in weeding the shrub beds around the church.
- Wayne Lybrand of the Stewardship Team attended the Region 9 Treasurer Workshop and returned with ideas for better management of church funds.
- Plans are being made for Vacation Bible School again this summer.

## RAZBERRIES

Patsy and Don Horton are hosting the Razberries for the month of April on a new date, April the 5<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 6:30 pm at Zorba's Restaurant in the 7 Oaks Shopping Center at the corner of St. Andrews Road and Bush River Road. Anyone wishing to attend will certainly be welcome. Please let one of us know you can attend by end of day on April 2 so we can let the restaurant know how many will be there.

Call or email Don or Patsy:

Don: 803-606-1514 or [donh227@sc.rr.com](mailto:donh227@sc.rr.com)

Patsy: 803-608-2642 or [patsyh551@gmail.com](mailto:patsyh551@gmail.com)

Looking forward to a good crowd for some great food and fellowship

## GOD'S HELPING HANDS

God's Helping Hands current needs are: Jiffy mix, spaghetti sauce, regular cooking oil, juice, crackers, cookies, flour, sugar, jello, pudding, dry milk, mixed vegetables and ramen noodles. Please place donations in the designated container in the Cameron Hallway.

## WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Bible Study is going strong! Come be a part of the discussion. Our schedule is as follows: Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the conference room. We do not meet on the last Wednesday of the month when there is Community Lunch.

## EASTER EGG HUNT SUPPLIES NEEDED

The Cameron Rebekah Circle and young adults will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt at Our Saviour on Saturday, April 12th. We are asking for your help providing plastic eggs and bags of individually wrapped candies to fill the eggs. A basket for these items is in the Narthex. Also, there is a sign up sheet for children planning to attend. A big thanks for all your help and support.

## LENTEN WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN APRIL

April 3 12:00 pm: Mid-Week Worship  
April 6 10:30 am 5 Lent Worship  
Holy Communion

April 9 12:00 pm Mid-Week Worship  
April 13 10:30 am Palm Sunday  
Holy Communion

April 17 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday  
Holy Communion  
April 18 7:00 pm Good Friday

April 20 10:00 am Flowering of the cross  
10:30 am Easter Sunday  
Holy Communion

And then comes **Easter!** The impossible happens. Jesus is risen, and nothing is ever the same again. Resurrection is not just a return to life but the dawn of a **new creation**, where sin and death no longer have the final word. Easter is the foundation of our faith, the assurance that in Christ, life triumphs over death, love overcomes hate, and hope is never in vain.

These three days - the **Triduum** - are not just a remembrance of past events. They are a journey we step into each year, shaping our faith and our lives. Through them, we are reminded that love serves, grace redeems, and resurrection is the promise that changes everything. And the story continues! Easter isn't just one day - it's a whole season, **50 days long**.

On that first **Easter day**, the disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24) don't recognize Jesus at first. They're caught in their grief, their disappointment, and their wondering about what comes next. As the three of them walk together, Jesus opens the scriptures to them. But it isn't until they sit at the table and he **breaks the bread** that their eyes are opened. Christ is alive - and he has been with them all along.

This is the heart of **Easter tide**: resurrection is not just a past event - it's a present reality. Christ is still walking with us, still bringing new life to weary hearts and broken places.

So as we step into this Easter season, I invite you to look for resurrection moments at OSLC and in your own life. Where is God offering you a fresh start? Where is grace bigger than you expected? Where is Christ walking alongside you - even when you don't recognize him at first?

New life is in the season. New life is in Christ. And new life is ours!

Thanks be to God!

Preparing the way in Christ,  
Pastor Joanna Gragg

## APRIL MINISTRIES

### FLOWERS

Apr 6 *\*Need Volunteer*  
13 *Bill Aull*  
20 *Melba Murphy*  
27 *\*Need Volunteer*

### GREETERS

*Gary & Kay Black*  
*Sylvia Ford*  
*\*Need Volunteer*  
*Doris Wessinger*

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Apr 6 *Gail Marcum*  
13 *\*Need Volunteer*  
20 *\*Need Volunteer*  
27 *Marie Lybrand*

### LECTORS

*Marie Lybrand*  
*Sylvia Ford*  
*\*Need Volunteer*  
*Wayne Lybrand*

### APRIL

#### USHERS

*Chief Wayne Lybrand*  
*Jim Garner*

### MAY

*Gail Marcum*  
*\*Need Volunteer*

#### ALTAR GUILD

*Isma Boland & Melba Murphy*  
*Isma Boland & Melba Murphy*

#### OFFERING PICKUP

*Wayne Lybrand*  
*Pam Hanfland*

#### TELLERS

*Beth Cleland & Sandra Hughes*  
*Pam Hanfland & Gail Marcum*

#### PROPERTY COMMITTEE

*Steve Nivens*  
*Steve Nivens*

## AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

*March 2025*

*WORSHIP—35*

## 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 6**

**Albrecht Dürer, artist  
(1471-1528)**

Son of a goldsmith, who began the young man's training, Dürer became a leading artist of the German Renaissance. Though his paintings and drawings are well known, his greatest works are said to be his woodcuts and engravings. Dürer is known for the careful attention to detail in his portrayal of subjects from nature and from the Christian tradition. Though a Catholic to the end, Dürer felt sympathy for the Reformation and was a friend of Luther and Melancthon.

**April 6**

**Matthias Grünewald, artist  
(c. 1475-1529)**

Matthias Grünewald, a contemporary of Dürer, is another great painter of the German Renaissance. He was influenced by Dürer's style, and his greatest masterpiece, the Isenheim Altarpiece, was thought for a long time to be one of Dürer's creations. That altarpiece depicts the Annunciation, angels singing for Mary and her child, the crucifixion of Jesus, and Jesus' resurrection. Historians believe that Grünewald was a Protestant and a supporter of Martin Luther.

**April 6**

**Lucas Cranach the Elder, artist  
(1472-1553)**

The third great painter of the German Renaissance who is celebrated on this date is Lucas Cranach, called "The Elder" to distinguish him from his son Lucas, who was also an artist. Cranach the Elder probably learned engraving from his father. At about thirty years of age, he began painting portraits. In 1504, Cranach became court painter to Frederick the Third in Wittenberg, and he and Martin Luther became close friends there. Cranach painted portraits of Luther and other reformers, and some of his woodcuts were used to illustrate the first New Testament printed in German. As with Grünewald, Cranach's work shows the influence of other artists of his time. Parts of his creative output were mistaken for theirs until three or more centuries after his death.



## ELCA PRESS RELEASES

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

*God's work. Our hands.*

- 3/07 Interfaith Solidarity Statement on Refugees and Immigrants
- 2/27 Bishop Eaton Issues Response in Support of Jerusalem Patriarchs in Gaza
- 2/27 United Lutheran Seminary Transfers \$100 Million Endowment to ELCA Foundation's Ministry





#### OFFICERS

President—Linda Griffith (Rebekah)  
Vice President—Isma Boland (Cameron)  
Treasurer—Ann Satterwhite (Lydia)  
Secretary—Caroline Raszewski (Lydia)

## 2025 Calendar of Events

*Visit the SC WELCA website ([www.scwelca.com](http://www.scwelca.com)) monthly as important information regarding retreat speakers, new payment options for events, The Ripple, Bible Study ideas, and updated convention information is posted on a regular basis. It also has a new look with a helpful menu for you to search for specific information.*

April (TBA) OSLC-Newberry College Nursing  
Scholarship Donations (Cameron  
Circle)

April 15 6 PM (Tuesday) Joint Circle Mtg.  
Devotion/Prayer-Lydia  
Refreshments-Cameron/Rebekah

May 16 - 18, 2025—SCWELCA ISLE OF  
PALMS RETREAT

August 15-16, 2020—SCWELCA  
CONVENTION St. Paul Lutheran  
Church, 961 Trail Ridge  
Road, Aiken, SC 29803. *“Renew,  
Refresh, Remember”* is the theme this  
year.

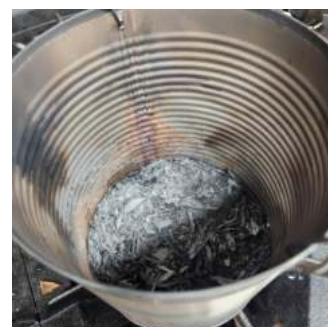
September (TBA) Saxe Gotha Conference Fall  
Meeting.

October 12 3-5 PM (Sunday) Joint Circle Mtg.  
Devotion/Prayer-Rebekah  
Refreshments-Lydia

December (TBA) Immediately following  
Worship Service WELCA  
Executive Mtg. (circle leaders w/unit  
officers)  
Opening Prayer: Treasurer, Ann  
Satterwhite



**FROM LAST YEAR'S  
PALMS  
TO THIS YEAR'S  
ASH WEDNESDAY  
ASHES**



# THANK YOU

Our Saviour WELCA & Church Family,

Sending heartfelt love and thanks for the Christmas and Valentine Gift bags. Reading the cards, seeing the signed names gave many wonderful and happy memories.

God's Blessings to each,  
Sandy Cook Graham



## Donations for God's Helping Hands collected at our Shrove Tuesday Event

Thank you to all who brought food and gave donations. Thank you also to Frank Yonce who delivers the food for us to God's Helping Hands.



**Shrove Tuesday Event**

## 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.

*Rosemary Abercombie (friend of Elizabeth Shealy)*

*Gary Black*

*Phyllis Calamas*

*Greg Chapman*

*Jeannie Chapman*

*Katie Doble*

*Sierra Dunaway (friend of Caroline Raszewski)*

*Carol Green (mother of Beth Cleland)*

*Horace Meetze*

*Anne Moye*

*Steve Rucker*

*Marie Shealy*

*DeLeon & Jane Wallace*

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

|                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| Matthew Lybrand  | 4/01 |
| Hutton Raszewski | 4/13 |
| Russel Dawkins   | 4/15 |
| Bob Graham       | 4/14 |
| Hales Johnson    | 4/20 |
| Sandra Hughes    | 4/21 |

### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

|                       |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| 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 28, 9:00 am.**







# JOIN OUR EGGSTRAVAGANZA

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025**  
**10 - 11:30 AM**

**OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**1500 SUNSET BLVD, WEST COLUMBIA**

*Have a fun time with us*

- Activities will begin in the Fellowship Hall at 10am
- Easter Egg Hunt and activities for children ages 2 - 10
- Games and activities for all other ages
- Light refreshments will be served

TO PREPARE FOR THE CHILDREN  
SIGN UP ON THE SHEET IN THE NARTHEX, CALL  
803-794-8180 OR EMAIL OSLC1957@SC.RR.COM  
NO LATER THAN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH.  
PLEASE INDICATE THE AGES AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN

## EASTER LILIES

The *Worship and Music Committee* would like to request your assistance this year by asking you to lend a lily for our Easter Service at a cost of **\$16.00 each (includes tax)**. Your check should be made payable to the church and marked for *EASTER LILY*. Please indicate in the space below the information you desire printed in the Easter bulletin. **Please place in offering plate or mail to the church with your check ON OR BEFORE SUNDAY, April 6<sup>th</sup>**

I desire the Worship and Music Committee to order \_\_\_\_ lily(ies).

I desire the following information printed in the bulletin:

Given \_\_\_\_ IN MEMORY OF or \_\_\_\_ IN HONOR OF or \_\_\_\_ OTHER

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PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

By \_\_\_\_\_

*Please attach check.*