



Thank you for all of the volunteers who help to make our Sunday School program happen each and every week.

Children's Church leaders for the month of February:

February 7: Trudy Whitener + helper
 February 14: Shelia Kelly + helper
 February 21: Judy & Mollie Caldwell
 February 28: Brandy Milton + helper

Staying Connected meets at 7:00 pm on **Saturday, February 6** at the church. All women are invited.

Our **confirmands** will meet at 9:00 am on **Saturday, February 13th** for their class at Resurrection Lutheran in Kings Mountain.

HCY will meet on **Sunday, February 14th at 6:00 pm**. The youth from Good Shepherd in Mt. Holly will join us for a *meet and greet* and a **Valentine's Day** celebration.

Kids' Club meets at **10:00** am on Saturday, **February 20** to go bowling at Textile Lanes in Belmont.

Christian Ed committee meets at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 23.

Mandi Kline, Christian Education



To date, there are four members from Holy Comforter in the process of registration for Music Week at *Lutheridge*. On Sunday, July 10 these folks will begin their journey through what is always an extraordinary experience; sometimes life changing. Two of these campers are as young as rising 2nd graders. If you would like to learn more, contact Greg Cline for details. Partial scholarships are available. If your child is interested you may also speak with Mandi & Mark Kline, who can personally share daughter Eva's first camp experience.

Deadline approaches for Isle of Palms Congregational Retreat. Please make checks payable to Holy Comforter Lutheran. Checks received during the month of February will reserve your room. Best insurance is to hand deliver to one of the tellers counting the offering after the service of worship. Be sure to clearly designate that the check is for *Isle of Palms Retreat*.

Isle of Palms Retreat 2016
 Friday, May 20—Sunday 22
 You have an optional day to **leave by 10:00 am** on Monday, May 23
 Cost is \$79 per room per night.

If you would like to be included on the list, let me know by sending your name, email address and contact number. Also, please confirm when your check has been submitted.

Greg Cline
gcline440@aol.com



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 704-825-2483 holycomforter@gmail.com

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: micahkearney@gmail.com
 Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster
 Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor
 Dianne Lail, Communications



²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21

Communion Opportunities for February

February 7 Transfiguration Sunday
 February 10 Ash Wednesday
 February 28 Third Sunday in Lent
 (and other Sundays after the service)



Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager
 Volume 37, No. 2

SUNDAY SCHEDULE 9:30 am Sunday School
 10:30 am The Service
Church Office Hours Monday-Thursday
 8:30 am—3:00 pm

FROM THE PASTOR



Grace and peace,

Somehow we are already face to face with the season of Lent. We've barely blinked since Christmas, we might have been distracted by a few days of snow, and now just around the corner is Ash Wednesday on February 10, when we are just forty days away from Easter, plus Sundays of course. During Lent we walk together on a journey that leads to the cross. In worship we read stories from the Gospels that have Jesus on a road leading to Jerusalem where, as we who have heard the stories for years know, he will be crucified because of the ways in which the Kingdom of God clashes with the kingdoms of this world.

During the season of Lent we are introspective, as individuals and as a community. We are honest with ourselves about the ways in which our sinfulness has aligned us more with the kingdoms of this world, characterized by greed, self-indulgence, and oppression of others, rather than the kingdom of God, characterized by generosity, self-sacrifice, and love of one another. We redouble our efforts to take part in Spiritual Disciplines such as prayer, worship, and fasting. These disciplines help to reorient us to a greater awareness of God's presence in the world and in our lives, and help us in discernment of God's call in our lives.

Many folks give up something during Lent, often something trivial or of a dietary nature, and I've been known to be cynical about this kind of fasting, at times. But fasting of any kind can be meaningful if it is done in way that helps you in your life of faith, and not just makes you grumble at church traditions when you can't drink your daily Diet Sundrop you gave up.

But while Lent is a somber journey to the cross, to the instrument of Christ's death, it also culminates on Easter morning in the Resurrection, in celebration of Christ's victory over sin and death. It is because of Easter that we realize forming ourselves more and more into citizens of God's kingdom, closer to the image of God we were created to be, is not a lonely process, but rather is one in which we are strengthened by the Spirit, poured into us at our baptisms, and supported by the Body of Christ in one another. The Spirit is at work, in our church and in each of us. Let us be open to the Spirit's continued work to mold us into people who live out God's love in the world.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Micah

All articles and information for the March newsletter are due to Pastor Micah by February 22.



HCY Updates: In celebration of the New Year, Holy Comforter Youth is making some changes! **In February HCY will begin meeting the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month from 6:00-7:30 pm.** The 2nd Sundays will consist of a fun outing/activity with the youth group at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Mount Holly. The 4th Sundays we will gather solo at Holy C for food, fellowship, and a short lesson. **Any middle school and high school youth are invited to attend. Friends are always welcome!**

Please email Kristen at keclanton@gmail.com if you have a child in middle or high school so that we can be sure to keep you notified of any upcoming HCY activities. Make sure to include your name and contact info, as well as your child's name, age, grade, birthday, phone number and email address.

HCY will help with the annual **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING** on Sunday, **February 7th.** HCY has participated in **Souper Bowl of Caring** since 1996, raising over \$3000 for local organizations and food pantries in need. Once again, immediately after worship, our youth will be posted outside the church doors holding pots for your contributions of food or monetary donations. **All donations will be delivered to BCO.**



Shrove Tuesday is February 9th. The youth have been asked to help with the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. Please let Kristen know if you are able to help.



HCY Valentine's Celebration with Good Shepherd Youth: On **February 14** we will gather in the fellowship hall with youth from Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd for introductions and icebreakers, as well as a **Valentine's Day celebration!** We hope you will join us to welcome them to our church and get to know them as we begin hosting events and trips together.



Snow Tubing at Moonshine Mountain: On **February 28th** we will be traveling to Moonshine Mountain in Hendersonville to go snow tubing! Cost is **\$25 per person.** We will meet for lunch immediately after church and will leave by 12:30 pm. We should return by 6:00 pm. **Parents must return the completed release form for their child to attend. Please RSVP by February 21st** to Kristen at keclanton@gmail.com or call 704-678-0137 so we can reserve transportation. Release forms available from Kristen and from the church office.



Kristen Williams
HCY Advisor

SAVE THE DATE!  **Mark Your Calendars!**
Vacation Bible School 2016

We are excited to announce the dates for this summer's Vacation Bible School:
Sunday, June 12 thru Wednesday, June 15th 6:00 pm - 7:45 pm

Each evening will include a quick meal at 6:00 pm and various activities from 6:30-7:45 pm **for ages toddler through high school.** This is a great opportunity for our church family and our community to come together!

In order for VBS to be successful we will need volunteers to assist in a number of ways...overall planning, meal preparation, various teachers (arts & crafts, games, devotion, music, etc.!) The more help we have the more we can offer and the less burden on any one individual.



If you are interested in volunteering, please feel free to reach out to any member of our current planning committee or email Melissa Bocchino at Melissa.bocchino@pwc.com. Be on the lookout for more details coming soon!

And, of course, we hope each of your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors, etc. will attend!

Your VBS Planning Committee,
Melissa Bocchino, Jill Cassel, Jenn Kearney, Debbie Mendez & Krystyna Sarrazin



Volunteer Luncheon scheduled for Sunday, March 6

Stewardship Committee invites you to **"Spring Into Action"** for our annual volunteer fair and pot luck lunch on **March 6th!** This is an opportunity for committees to present their responsibilities and goals in efforts to recruit volunteers. We ask that you reflect on your individual talents and willingness to give of your time.

The committees are: Christian Education, Evangelism, Finance, Mutual Ministry, Property, Social, Stewardship, Worship & Music, and Youth & Recreation.

CHURCH SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, February 3 Women's Bible Study
 6:45 pm Meet in the fellowship hall
Saturday, February 6 Staying Connected Group
 7:00 pm Meet at the church for fellowship
Sunday, February 7 Transfiguration of Our Lord
 9:30 am Sunday School
 10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion
Tuesday, February 9
 12 Noon **Agape Lunch Bunch**
 Bring Bible & Potluck or Sandwich
 6:00 pm **Shrove Tuesday** Pancake Dinner
Wednesday, February 10 Ash Wednesday
 7:30 pm Worship Service w/Holy Communion
Saturday, February 13
 9:00 am Confirmation at Resurrection in Kings Mt.
Sunday, February 14 First Sunday in Lent
 9:30 am Sunday School
 10:30 am The Service
 6:00 pm HCY Valentine's celebration
Saturday, February 20 Kids' Club
 10:00 am Meets at Textile Lanes in Belmont to bowl
Sunday, February 21 Second Sunday in Lent
 9:30 am Sunday School
 10:30 am The Service, Council meets after
Thursday, February 23
 7:00 pm Christian Ed Committee meets
Sunday, February 28 Third Sunday in Lent
 9:30 am Sunday School
 10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion
 HCY goes snow tubing after worship
 Return ETA is 6:00 pm
REGULAR MEETING TIMES:
Sundays: 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble
 5:00 pm Handbells; 6:00 pm Church Choir
 8:00 pm Nar-Anon
Tuesdays: 7:00 pm Nar-Anon
Wednesdays: Starting February 17
 6:00 pm Lenten Dinners
 6:45 pm Lenten Study, Chamber Choir after
TREASURER'S REPORT: (Warren Heller)

Report for Month	December	Year-To-Date
Budget Expenses:	\$19,925.83	\$239,110.00
Actual Expenses:	18,809.81	242,117.92
Offerings Received:	29,320.50	258,719.51
Gain for the Period:	\$ 10,510.69	\$ 16,601.59

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTORS: Billy Joye, Chief Lector
 Feb. 14 & 21: Brian Achor

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: Need Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 3)
 Fran Holland, Co-Captain
 Melinda Lingerfelt, Co-Captain
 Courtney Gatlin Stephanie Hinson
 Tracey Nault

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team A)
 Jo Singleton Jack Tench
 + 2 Volunteers

EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:
 February 7 (Ash Wed.):
 February 10:
 February 28:

GREETERS FOR THE MONTH:
 Feb. 7: Kathy Graves; Feb; 10: ...
 Feb. 14: Carmen Buell;
 Feb. 21: Sherry Alexander
 Feb. 28: Shirley Causby

TELLERS: Shelia & Tim Kelly


USHERS: Volunteers Needed

FLOWERS:
 February 7: Open (2 vases)
 February 14: Jane & Jeff Howard
 1 vase available
 February 21: Danny, Perri & Carson Potter (2)
 February 28: Open (2 vases)

NURSERY: (9:30 am-11:45 am) *Infants; Toddlers*
 Feb. 7: Infants: Misty & Emily K. ; Toddlers: Jill & Kaylin
 Feb. 14: Need volunteers
 Feb. 21: Lorry & Ella Caldwell; Need volunteers
 Feb. 28: Need volunteers

FEBRUARY 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Sunday, February 7 HCY collects food or monetary donations after the worship service	1	2 The Presentation of Our Lord 7:00 pm Chamber Choir Property Committee	3 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study	4 6:00 pm Stewardship Meeting	5	 7:00 pm Staying Connected meets at the church for fellowship
7 Transfiguration Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC Souper Bowl collection Children's Ensemble Immediately after church 4:00 pm Church Choir 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	8	9 12 Noon Agape Lunch Bunch/ Bible Study  6:00 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 7:00 pm Chamber Choir Nar-Anon	10 Ash Wednesday  7:30 pm Worship Service with Holy Communion	11	12	 9:00 am Confirmation Class at Resurrection in Kings Mountain
14 First Sunday in Lent 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir HCY-Valentine's 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	15	16	17	18	19	 10:00 am Kids' Club meets at Textile Lanes in Belmont to go bowling.
21 Second Sunday in Lent 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service Church council 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Third Sunday in Lent 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir, HCY 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	29		6:00 pm Lenten Dinner 6:45 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 pm Chamber Choir		 Remember Your Valentine February 14	

We recognize and celebrate these birthdays in the month of February. We are thankful for the life and Spirit of those we celebrate. May the blessings of God flow in the life of each of you.

- February 4 Scott Carr
- February 6 Julia Ratchford
- February 8 Chris Hullander
Scott Zander
- February 9 Shelia Kelly
Karen Rogers
- February 10 Jennipher McLaughlin-
Williams
- February 14 Will Howard
Noah Rawlins
- February 15 Leslie Crist
Sam Thompson
- February 16 Courtney Gatlin
- February 20 David Buchanan
- February 22 Cynthia Ashe
- February 25 Jack Tench
- February 27 Valerie Bruchon



NOTE: If we have unintentionally left any member's name off this list, or if there are any errors, please call the church office.