

## Beth's CORNER

**Beginning February 22** and continuing through **March 29** the children will be studying about **Holy Week and Easter**. Parents, this is a great time to support the Sunday School teachers' efforts by continuing the educational opportunities at home.

There will be **no Sunday school on Easter Sunday, April 5**, due to the sunrise service, breakfast and our regular service.

**God's Eden** schedule for Holy Week and Easter:

- February 22: Art
- March 1: Drama
- March 8: Cooking
- March 15: Computer
- March 22: Games
- March 29: Video

**Children Church leaders for March:**

March 1: Brandy Milton + Helper  
 March 8: Tom & Melissa Bocchino  
 March 15: Carmen De Nicholas & Natalie Hullander  
 March 22: Maria & Madison Carr  
 March 29: Beth Brittain

**HCY** meets on Sunday, **March 8** from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm. Details to follow.

**Kids' Club** meets at **9:00 am on Saturday, March 21** here at the church to carpool to Zootastic at Lake Norman.

**Easter Egg Hunt** scheduled for Saturday, April 4th. Watch your bulletin and April newsletter for details.

**Beth Brittain, Christian Education**

## Choice Dollar Deadline

**The deadline for directing 2014 Thrivent Choice Dollars is March 31, 2015.**

The funds must be designated each year. Since 2010, eligible members have used this program to direct more than **\$225** million to churches and other nonprofits nationwide.

For eligible Thrivent products, visit *Thrivent.com* and select 'Choice Dollars.' You can also dial 1-800-847-4836 and at the proper time say 'choice dollars.'

**Thank you to the many Holy Comforter members choosing to select our Vision Fund...it grew by \$3118.**

**Myra Yount Hollar, 704-825-5885**

## WORKDAY AT HOLY COMFORTER

**Saturday, March 21**  
 8:30 am 'til finished.

The workday will include large projects:

- Landscaping Playground
- Cleaning Storage room

Contact Will Howard or John Koehler if you can help. Sign-up sheet available.



**Saturday, March 21**

**9:00 am Meet at Holy Comforter to Carpool to Zootastic at Lake Norman**



Lutheran Church of the

**Holy Comforter COMMENT**

216 N. Main Street P.O. Box 666 Belmont, NC 28012  
 704-825-2483 holycomforter@gmail.com

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: micahkearney@gmail.com

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education

Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications



*<sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.*

*<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.* John 3:14-16

## Communion Opportunities for March

March 8 The Third Sunday in Lent

March 29 The Sunday of Passion/Palm Sunday  
 (Following the Service on the 1st, 15th & 22nd)



Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager  
 Volume 36, No. 4

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



Grace and peace,

On **March 15** the Stewardship Committee is encouraging everyone in the congregation to come and hear about the opportunities for volunteering for the ministries of the congregation. I want to lift up the importance of this event and of your involvement with it.

We are a congregation of members that are bound together by a number of things: tradition, friendships, shared memories, love of music, loyalty to Holy Comforter, and more. Ultimately, however, what binds us together is our faith in Christ Jesus and the mission that we share in proclaiming the kingdom of God to the world in word and deed. The work that we do as a congregation should ultimately serve this purpose. We do this in various ways, like how we care for one another in times of need, our worship together, our fellowship and love shared with one another, and the service we take part in for the community.

All of these things take work and contribution from the members of the congregation. While we have paid staff, the work that we do is much bigger than our staff can do alone. The majority of the work and ministry done in this congregation is done by you; faithful volunteers giving of their time, money, and gifts in order to serve Holy Comforter, the community of Belmont and beyond, and ultimately the kingdom of God.

God has given all of us gifts that we are called to use in service of the kingdom

of God. Sometimes these are obvious gifts that stand out and are praised by all, and sometimes that are things that might seem to us as mundane, but that God uses no less than others. Some of us are incredible cooks and bakers, but setting up for dinners or cleaning up after them are no less of a service to God. As good stewards of the gifts that God gives us, including our time and talents, we should look for ways that we can use these gifts for the glory of God. The gathering on March 15 is an opportunity to hear from committees about the ways in which this congregation lives into our call to be disciples of Christ, and to discern how you might feel called to use your gifts in these various areas.

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.” Romans 12:1

***Yours in Christ, Pastor Micah***

**The Young Adults of Holy Comforter** are planning to attend a presentation/ conversation with Nadia Boltz-Weber on **March 5 at 7:00 pm** At Lenoir-Rhyne University.

The event is **FREE**, and anyone is welcome to attend. Those desiring to carpool will leave the church at 5:30 pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Warren Heller)	
Report for Month	January
Budget Expenses:	\$19,925.83
Actual Expenses:	22,434.52
Offerings Received:	20,502.00
Gain (Loss) for Period:	(\$ 1,932.52 )

CHURCH SCHEDULE:

**Sunday, March 1    2nd Sunday in Lent**  
9:30 am    Sunday School  
10:30 am    The Service

**Tuesday, March 3**  
7:00 pm    Property Committee meeting

**Wednesday, March 4**  
1:00 pm *Morning Circle* meets in fellowship hall

**Saturday, March 7**  
7:00 pm    *Staying Connected* meet at church to plan meal for Ronald McDonald House

**Sunday, March 8    3rd Sunday in Lent**  
9:30 am    Sunday School  
10:30 am    The Service w/HC, Council meets after  
5:00 pm    HCY

**Tuesday, March 10**  
12 Noon    *Agape Lunch Bunch*  
Bring Bible & Potluck or Sandwich

**Saturday, March 14**  
*Confirmands* carpool to Resurrection, Kings Mt.

**Sunday, March 15    4th Sunday in Lent**  
9:30 am    Sunday School  
10:30 am    The Service  
*Volunteer Luncheon* after the service

**Saturday, March 21**  
8:30 am    *Workday at HC*  
Landscape playground, Clean Storage room  
9:00 am    *Kids' Club* meets to go to Zootastic Park

**Sunday, March 22    5th Sunday in Lent**  
9:30 am    Sunday School  
10:30 am    The Service  
Social Ministry Comm. after the service

**Sunday, March 29    Palm Sunday**  
9:30 am    Sunday School  
10:30 am    The Service w/Holy Communion

**REGULAR MEETING TIMES:**  
**Sundays:** 4:00 pm    Children's Ensemble  
5:00 pm    Adult Handbells  
6:00 pm    Church Choir  
8:00 pm    Nar-Anon  
**Tuesdays:** 7:00 pm    Nar-Anon  
**Wednesdays:** 6:00 pm    Lenten Dinner  
6:45 pm    *Holden Evening Prayer*  
Chamber Choir after

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

**LECTORS:** Billy Joye, Chief Lector  
March 1: Andrew Bryant  
March 15: Brian Achor  
March 22: Need Volunteer

**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:** Need Volunteers

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 4)  
Diann Halvorson, Co-Captain  
Dean Halvorson, Co-Captain  
Carmen Buell    Barbara Kasmer

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:** (Team C)  
Sherry Alexander, Courtney Gatlin + Volunteers

**EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:**  
March 8: Paul & Tracey Nault  
March 29: Shelia & Tim Kelly

**GREETERS:**  
March 1: Melissa Bocchino  
March 8: Barb Kasmer  
March 15: Natalie Hullander  
March 22 & 29: Need Volunteers

**TELLERS:** Janet & Brian Achor

**USHERS:** Shelia & Tim Kelly

**FLOWERS:**  
March 1: Sarah, Elizabeth, Laura & Jack Tench  
One vase available  
March 8: Faye & Warren Heller (both vases)  
March 15: Carmen & Merritt De Nicholas  
Cher Grant & Linda Grimsley  
March 22: Beth & Reid Passer  
March 29: The Nault Family  
Mark & Rebecca Yount, Luke & Alec

**NURSERY:** (9:30 am-11:45 am)  
March 1: Misty & Emily Koehler  
March 8: Ashley & Tyler Ange  
March 15: Jill Leitner  
March 22: Melissa Bocchino  
March 29: Need Volunteers

# MUSIC NEWS



We filled 19 of the 21 rooms available at Isle of Palms for our 26th Annual Retreat, April 30-May 3. The rooms are submitted back to the retreat center in order to fill the vacancy. **Contact the retreat center if you would like to consider a room during our retreat.** There are sometimes last-minute cancellations. If you would like to be placed on the waiting list, let us know.”

The church choir members with to thank all the members of the **Appreciation Committee** for the wonderful meal that you provided for us in mid-February. We enjoyed the fellowship time, and certainly came away “filled” with the spirit of friendship and kindness.

The *A Capella Choir* of Lenoir-Rhyne University will present a Home Concert on Saturday, March 7 at 7:30 pm. The concert will be held at the new Grace Chapel located in the center of campus. A free-will offering will go to support the choir’s upcoming Music-Mission to Costa Rica.

**Greg Cline**



## Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary Auxiliary Drive

The auxiliary enhances, supports, and strengthens the welfare and progress of the Southern Seminary community by providing non-budgeted needs through membership. Support the LTSS Auxiliary with your contribution to help with the following:

1. Spiritual support and guidance when needed,
2. Upgrades to student spaces on campus,
3. Summer Camp Scholarships for children of seminary students, and
4. Student aid for those who need financial assistance for their education.

**Your contributions will be accepted on Sundays March 8th & 15th.**

Make your checks **payable to Holy Comforter with LTSS Auxiliary** on the memo line. Place in offering plate or give to an usher. Donation forms available in the narthex or from an usher.



Holy Comforter Council announces the **Annual Volunteer Luncheon**, Sunday, **March 15**, in the fellowship hall immediately following the worship service. Hosted by the Stewardship Committee, the purpose of the luncheon is to invite all congregants to consider how to serve our faith community with their time and talent.

While everyone enjoys a pot-luck dinner, committee chairs will provide a brief message on what his or her committee does, what it most needs, and when it meets. Everyone will have an opportunity to talk afterward with each committee chair.

We promise that everyone who attends will enjoy not only a great meal, but a good time. With St. Patrick’s Day only two days later, do not be surprised if a rainbow, pot of gold, a few shamrocks, and maybe even a Leprechaun or two appears.

**The church will provide meat and beverages.** Everyone else, please bring a side dish that may feed your family plus one.

**Steve Bingham, Stewardship Committee**



It’s time to remind you of the **Lillian E. Lineberger Scholarship** available to the members of Holy Comforter.

The **Lillian E. Lineberger** Scholarship was established as an endowment by Mrs. Lineberger to the congregation to reinforce students of the church in their learning and in the accomplishment of an undergraduate or graduate degree. Her hope was that this bequest would help improve your lives, and in turn, serve and enrich the lives of others.

The awards will be made once a year from the interest accrued on the endowment. That amount will be distributed equally among accepted applicants who must apply the funds toward tuition or books. Checks will be made out to the applicant’s school.

To apply, you must meet the following requirements:

- Be a member of The Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter for at least one year
- Participate in Communion and contribute to the church during the time you are receiving the grant
- Submit the following by the deadline of **April 24<sup>th</sup>**:

1. Your completed application
2. A transcript from your most recently completed semester
3. A typed essay (at least one paragraph) describing yourself, career plans, and life goals

The Scholarship Ministry, authorized in January, 1996, by the Church Council, will review your completed application. You will be notified of acceptance of your application in mid-May and an announcement will appear in the church newsletter. To have other questions answered, please call the church office.

You may request an application form via email from the church office by filling in *Lineberger Scholarship* in the subject line. Send your request to [holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto:holycomforter@gmail.com).

**All completed applications along with the required transcript and typed essay must be returned to the church office by the April 24<sup>th</sup> deadline.** Any received after this date will not be considered. Send your request to [holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto:holycomforter@gmail.com).

*Best wishes to you in your educational journey.*  
**Carmen De Nicholas,  
Scholarship Ministry**



It is hard to believe, but it is time to start planning for summer camp. Holy Comforter is hosting **Camp Agape July 13-17**. *Agape* is a day camp for **rising 1st to rising 8th graders** and is sponsored by Kure Beach Ministries.

This year we will again include 6th-8th graders. The kids in this age group will participate in service projects throughout the week at Holy Comforter as well as off-site. **We must have a minimum of 6 middle school aged kids in order to offer this expanded camp.**

Registration forms are available at the back of the church or from Misty Koehler. **The cost is \$130 per camper and is due at the time of registration.** There is only room for 20 campers, so register soon. The spaces will be filled on a “first come, first served” basis.





Please contact Misty if you have any questions about camp.

**Misty Koehler,  
Holy Comforter Camp Coordinator**





# March 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>2nd Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir Worship & Music Comm. 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	2	3	4 1:00 pm <b>Morning Circle</b> Fellowship hall  6:00 pm Dinner 6:45 pm <b>Wednesday Evening Prayer</b> Chamber Choir after	5	6	7   7:00 pm <b>Staying Connected</b> Meet at church to Plan the meal for Ronald McDonald House
8 <b>3rd Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service w/HC 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble 5:00 pm Handbells HCY /details later 6:00 pm Church Choir 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	9	10  12 Noon <b>Agape Lunch Bunch</b> Bible Study/Lunch  7:00 pm Nar-Anon <b>Tellers Meeting</b>	11  6:00 pm Dinner 6:45 pm <b>Wednesday Evening Prayer</b> Chamber Choir after	12	13	14  8:30 am <b>Confirmands</b> meet To carpool to Resurrection, Kings Mountain
15 <b>4th Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service <b>Volunteer Luncheon</b> after 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	16	17  <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>  7:00 pm Nar-Anon	18  6:00 pm Dinner 6:45 pm <b>Wednesday Evening Prayer</b> Chamber Choir after	19	20	21 8:30 am <b>Workday at HC</b> Landscape playground Clean Storage room 9:00 am <b>Kids' Club</b> meets at Church to carpool to <i>Zootastic Park</i> at Lake Norman.
22 <b>5th Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service Social Ministry meeting after 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	23	24  7:00 pm Nar-Anon	25  6:00 pm Dinner 6:45 pm <b>Wednesday Evening Prayer</b> Chamber Choir after <b>Christian Ed Comm.</b> after the service	26	27  7:00 pm <b>Evangelism Comm.</b> Meet in the parlor	28
29 <b>Palm Sunday</b>  9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service w/HC 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir 8:00 pm Nar-Anon	30	31  7:00 pm Nar-Anon				(April 4)   Watch in bulletin and April Newsletter for information concerning Easter Egg Hunt.

We recognize and celebrate these birthdays in the month of March. 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.



March 2 Khloe Tench  
March 4 Dean Halvorson  
March 5 Rob Ratchford  
March 6 Ann Ashe  
Debbie Baker  
Jo Singleton  
  
March 7 Holly Harper  
March 8 Graham Baakko  
March 10 Dee Smith  
March 11 Tom Kasmer  
March 12 Arden De Nicholas  
March 13 Raini Kimball  
March 14 Tyler Ange  
Tracey Nault  
Nancy Powell  
  
March 20 Mike Wesson  
March 21 Riley Fleming  
March 22 Louise Day  
March 24 Tim Baakko  
March 25 Pat Koehler  
March 26 Hailey Ange  
Cheryl Grant  
March 31 Pat Long

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