



**Sunday, November 30 is the
First Sunday in Advent.**

**Our Advent Worship begins
Wednesday, November 30**

6:00 pm Dinner
6:45 pm Worship with
Holy Communion

Advent worship is scheduled
for each Wednesday night
through

December 21 following the
above schedule of

6:00 pm Dinner
6:45 pm Worship with
Holy Communion

All are invited to attend this
Mid-week Advent worship.

NEW STAFF POSITION

In mid-October we were excited to welcome Beka Forst to be our Director of Youth and Family Ministry for Holy Comforter. Beka will coordinate and lead our Sunday School programs, our children and youth ministries, as well as grow some projects with a focus on "faith in the home." As ministry in the church is largely based on relationships, as Beka begins her work in large part her work will be getting to know folks and learning what we are already doing in her areas of focus. We look forward to seeing how God will use Beka for ministry in this place!

Thinking About Christmas presents?

How about a cookbook
from Holy Comforter!

We have copies of
Heavenly Creations
available for \$10 each.

Write your check to
Holy Comforter and put
on memo line
"cookbook."

Place in offering plate or
take to the church office.

As Christmas approaches, often there is that person who is hard to buy for because they just don't want much, but you still want to make that gesture for them. Consider buying a gift through an organization like *Heifer International*, where you can buy a gift for families in need around the world. In seminary I spent a couple weeks in Honduras with Heifer and saw the incredible ways these gifts change lives and communities for the better. (www.heifer.org/catalog) This work is also happening through our own ELCA through *ELCA Good Gifts*, which you can find through the Church's website, ELCA.org.



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

Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Dianne Lail, Communications



⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.
⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour." **Matthew 24:42, 44**

Communion Opportunities for November

November 6: All Saints' Sunday

November 20: Christ the King Sunday
(the last Sunday after Pentecost)

Communion on other Sundays after the service



Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager
Volume 37, No. 11

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,

Our illustrious musician, Greg, and I recently sat down and quickly looked at the calendar for Advent dinners and worship. Every year it seems like it sneaks up on me, and all of a sudden the holidays are coming fast and hard.

It's a busy time of year, for the church and for everyone else it seems. Holidays are a combination of wonderful breaks in our normal routines when we spend time with our families and our church family in fellowship and worship, and also, for many folks, times of added chaos and anxiety on top of already chaotic and anxious lives. We get nostalgic for wonderful meals eaten among family and friends, for traditions kept when so many seem to fade. We also get anxious about presents to buy, travel schedules among heavy traffic, and for family dynamics that can be tricky. For many folks holidays are also a reminder of who is not around the table this year, whether because of people living far away, because of broken relationships, or because of sickness or death.

The life and community of the church echoes this same pattern of the approaching holidays as both a wonderful break in routine and also added anxiety in the midst of busy schedules. We remember those who have died and live in in Christ on All

Saints Sunday in November. We gather together for a Thanksgiving meal the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day and Wednesdays in Advent. We have special worship services like our *Hanging of the Greens*, Advent Wednesday worship, and of course our Christmas Eve services.

I urge you all, in the midst of busy schedules and anxious times, to come to fellowship with the community, a time when nothing is expected of you except to love and be loved by others. I urge you to take advantage of added worship opportunities, especially in the season of Advent, when in the midst of life's chaos we get a chance to stop, to spend time in prayer, in song, and receiving the promise of God's grace in the bread and wine of communion, and to be reoriented as we're sent back out into the world. This is a busy time of year, when we can get overwhelmed by all of the expectations on us, which is why it is all the more important for us to find our way to participate in community and worship in Christ, a place where we can be reminded that no matter what we are anxious about, that we are loved, valued, and cared for by our God who created, redeemed, and sustains us.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Micah

Children's Church Volunteers:

November 6: Trudy Whitener
November 13: Shelia Kelly
November 20: Brandy Milton
November 27: Volunteers

Welcome Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Beka is a graduate of Lenoir-Rhyne University, with a degree in Human and Community Services and Psychology. She is a North Carolina native, growing up in Raleigh and Mocksville. Prior to working in full-time youth ministry she worked at Agape Kure Beach Ministries as a counselor and a team leader. That role has encouraged and affirmed her desire to be in youth ministry. In her spare time Beka loves to try new things. She enjoys yoga, DIY projects, hiking, hammocking, and hanging out with her pup, Felix.



Beka's

Buzz



I am so excited to be at Holy Comforter. I look forward to meeting you all and your families in the coming weeks and months. I am grateful for the opportunity to be in this community. Within my first weeks here I have loved being a part of worship, Sunday school, bible study and *Trunk or Treat*.

I came to *Trunk or Treat* with one job, picture taking. I love that job because as you all can relate, that means I am not in any pictures. I watched 10 plus kids eat donuts off of a string without using their hands, lots of cake walking and hot dog consuming, and of course lots of candy eating. I even somehow got roped into having my face painted into a cat by the talented Lucy Bocchino, after the day was over I guess you could say I took a little cat nap to recoup. Then next day I did my first children's sermon and I leaned over to Jack Bryant and said "I am nervous" and he said "Why, it's going to be okay". I am thankful for the love of Lucy, Jack and the other delightful and gentle young people of the church. I am thankful for what they give me, joy, laughter and grace. I am lucky because I get to

learn from them all the time, every interaction is filled with something new and exciting. I am looking forward to many more.

Speaking of new and exciting, just a few reminders in the coming weeks, we will have **youth group on November 13 at 5:00 pm** in the fellowship hall. We will be talking about what it means to be filled with grace. **Kids Club will be meeting on November 19 at 10am** for a terrific Thanksgiving themed gathering. Lastly there will be a **Christian Ed meeting on November 29 at 7pm**, this is a great place to get involved. If you or your child are looking to get involved in youth programming please don't hesitate to contact me.

Beka Forst
Youth & Family Ministries





November 5th at 7:00 pm

Krystyna Sarrazin's House
5901 Gilchrist Circle Belmont, NC

Ladies, you are invited to get together for a relaxing evening at Krystyna's home to plan the group's events for the coming year. Krystyna has taken on the role of planning this great series and would like YOUR input on what you would like to do this next year. A decision will also be made about a December meeting. Bring an appetizer or sweet treat to share. Beverages will be provided. RSVP to Krystyna at 262-497-4046 or sarrazin1230@hotmail.com

MUSIC NEWS

All Ensembles are working diligently in preparation of upcoming festivals through the remainder of 2016.

On a personal note, and on behalf of my mother and stepfather, Tommy & Shirley Causby, our sincere appreciation for your prayers of concern and acts of kindness over the past 2 months. For the most part, in the past, we have not had to deal with as much of the crisis that falls to folks among our church family. Through times that almost seemed overwhelming we always felt sustained, uplifted,, and supported by Holy Comforter church. For this, and so much more, we give thanks to Almighty God for all of you.

Blessings! Greg Cline

All information for the December Newsletter is due to Dianne by November 21.

BCO NOVEMBER ITEMS OF THE MONTH:

Ingredients for a Thanksgiving meal

One or more of the following:

Frozen turkey	Pumpkin pie mix
Dressing mix	Instant Potatoes
Canned beans	Sweet potatoes in can
Canned corn	Monetary donations
Cranberry sauce	



RECIPE



CHURCH SCHEDULE:

Saturday, November 5 *Staying Connected*

7:00 pm Meet at Krystyna Sarrazin's home to plan

Sunday, November 6 25th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

3:00-5:00 pm Confirmation at St. Paul's

Tuesday, November 8

6:30 am Polls Open for Voting

12 Noon Agape Lunch Bunch/Bible Study

7:00 pm Property committee meets

Sunday, November 13 26th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service, Council meets after

5:00 pm HCY meets in fellowship hall

Tuesday, November 15

6:00 pm Stewardship Committee

Thursday, November 17

7:00 pm Evangelism Committee

Saturday, November 19 Kid's Club

10:00 am Thanksgiving festivities in fellowship hall

Sunday, November 20 Christ the King Sunday

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

Thanksgiving/Advent luncheon & decorate

Thursday, November 24 Thanksgiving Day

Have a Safe and Enjoyable Day!

Sunday, November 27 1st Sunday in Advent

9:30 am Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am The Service

REGULAR MEETING TIMES:

Sundays: 4:00 pm Children's Ensemble

5:00 pm Adult Handbells

6:00 pm Church Choir

Tuesdays: 7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Wednesdays: 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Warren Heller)

Report for Month	September 2016	Year-To-Date
Budget Expenses:	\$21,751.00	\$195,759.00
Actual Expenses:	\$18,783.97	\$183,108.71
Offerings Received:	\$15,738.35	\$191,635.81
Gain (Loss) for Period:	(\$ 3,045.62)	\$ 8,527.10

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTORS: Billy Joye, Chief Lector
November 6: Billy Joye
November 13: Jim Buell
November 20: Billy Joye
November 27: Andrew Bryant

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:

Need Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 2)

Brandy & Brad Milton, Co-Captains
Donna Bean

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

Need 4 volunteers

EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:

November 6 & 20: Volunteers

GREETERS FOR THE MONTH:

November 6: Katie Kessen
November 13: Barbara Kasmer
November 20: Debbie Bray
November 27: Carmen Buell

TELLERS: Sherry Alexander, John Koehler

USHERS: Volunteers Needed

FLOWERS:

November 6: Julia Gunter
Debbie Bray
November 13: Dianne Lail
Harold & Jo Singleton
November 20: Jean Ferguson (both vases)
November 27: Sylvia Miller
1 vase available. Call office.




CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

November 6: Trudy Whitener
November 13: Shelia Kelly
November 20: Brandy Milton
November 27: Need Volunteers

NURSERY: (9:30 am-11:45 am)

A nursery is provided for infants and a separate nursery for the toddlers. Let an usher know if you need assistance.

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Fall Back Sunday, November 6 		1 All Saints' Day	2	3	4	5  7:00 pm Staying Connected Meet at Krystyna's home to plan for next year. Bring an appetizer or treat to share.
6 All Saints' Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC 3-5 pm Confirmation 4:00 pm Children's Ens. 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir	7	8  6:30 am Polls Open for Voting 7:30 pm Polls Closed 12 Noon <i>Agape Lunch Bunch/</i> Bible Study 7:00 pm Chamber Choir Property Committee Nar-Anon	9 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study	10	11 Veterans' Day 	12
13 26th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service Council after 4:00 pm Children's Ens. 5:00 pm Handbells, HCY 6:00 pm Church Choir	14	15 6:00 pm Stewardship Comm. 7:00 pm Chamber Choir Nar-Anon	16 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study	17 7:00 pm Evangelism Committee	18	19  10:00 am Kid's Club Thanksgiving Activities & devotion in the fellowship hall
20 Christ the King Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service with/HC Thanksgiving lunch & Decorate for Advent Children's Ens. after lunch 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir 	21	22 7:00 pm Chamber Choir Nar-Anon	23 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study	24 	25	26
27 First Sunday in Advent 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service with 4:00 pm Children's Ens. 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir 	28	29 7:00 pm Chamber Choir Christian Ed meets In Fellowship Hall Nar-Anon	30 St. Andrew, Apostle  6:00 pm Meal 6:45 pm Advent Worship 7:30 pm Chamber Choir			

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

November 1 Donna Bean
November 2 Beckham Bryant
November 3 Brad Milton
November 5 Debbie Mendez
November 6 Debbie Bray
Jenn Kearney
November 8 James Buell
Matthew Heilig
November 11 Ashley Ange
Richard Holden
November 12 Libby Joye
November 15 Laurel Mauney
November 16 Dylan Fox
Bob Wiegand
November 18 Brian Achor
November 19 Nathaniel Kearney
November 20 David Bruchon
Jessica Martin
Lucy Mitchell
November 21 Greg Byrum
November 22 Olivia Sarrazin
November 23 Cheryl Fox
November 25 Mallory Morton
November 27 Sue Lahr
November 29 Rick Neagle

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