

Beka's
Buzz

beautiful crafts. We are so thankful to have this ministry.

Agape Day Camp is a week like no other. Our kids spend time learning about God, his creation and how to live Christian lives. This week the kids learned about *Living Water* and learned the verse Isaiah 43:2, “when you pass through the waters, I will be with you.” If you see any of the kids from the pictures ask them to *sign* that verse for you! They spent time talking about nature and making

Thank you to Misty Koehler and all of you who made this week possible!




Lutheran Church of the
Holy Comforter COMMENT
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Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster
Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
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²⁸Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Matthew 14:28-33

Communion Opportunities for August

August 13: The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

(Communion on other Sundays after the service)



Dianne Lail, Communications/
Office Manager
Volume 38, No. 8

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



FROM THE PASTOR

Grace and peace,

Despite the fact that it is nearly 100 degrees as I write this article, with the coming of August comes the winding down of our summer routines. People are squeezing in their last vacations before school starts back, school supply lists have come out, which my family is having to take part in for the first time as Gabriel starts kindergarten this year, and we're planning things for 2018. The signs of a change back to our regular routines are certainly beginning to occur.

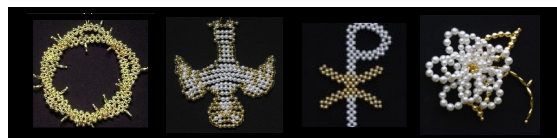
Often folks think of summer as a time off at church, as we go on hiatus from many of our Sunday school classes, certain committee meetings, and a few other of our regularly scheduled things. The truth is ministry has remained active and exciting. For instance, *Lutheridge* has seen a lot of Holy Comforter as we took kids for campfirmation, sent kids as well as Greg Cline and Elizabeth Bruchon to Music Week, as well as had a number of our kids attend throughout the summer. We had more than 20 kids engaged in both Vacation Bible School and the *Agape Day Camp* we host both for our kids and kids in the community. I attended Synod Assembly, we've made beautiful *Chrismons* for our tree during the Advent and Christmas seasons, Bible studies have continued, we've welcomed new members, and supported families as they've mourned the death of loved ones. Ministry at Holy Comforter doesn't take time off, we just shift routines.

There have been innumerable people involved in making all of these things a success, and I am immensely thankful for all of those folks, from the staff to the volun-

teers to the parents who bring their kids, and even the kids who have come and joyfully engaged.

As ministry here begins to shift back into our schedule for the school year, we have a number of things that will be coming. The Sunday School program starts back next month, so staff and volunteers have been and continue to be hard at work bringing that together and getting ready for kids and adults to come and learn about our faith. Youth group will soon ramp up as kids settle back in to their routines. We look forward to Centennial celebrations such as planting a tree on our grounds to be a sister tree to the one we sponsored in the garden in Wittenberg and our celebration with worship and a banquet in December. We continue the work we do with Bible studies, monthly service projects, and support of Belmont Community organization. There are always opportunities to grow our ministry, and we continue to discern together where the Spirit is calling us to proclaim Christ in word and deed, but I give thanks for all of your faithful work and devotion to Christ's ministry through Holy Comforter.

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



You are invited to join with us as we work to repair the old and create new *Chrismons* for our Christmas tree. No experience necessary...learn as you go.

Meet at the church, August 27 at 4:00 pm.

**All information for the
September newsletter is due to Dianne
in the church office by August 20.**

MUSIC NEWS

The church choir, handbell choir, and chamber choir will resume rehearsals beginning on August 20 (see August calendar).

We will begin with a reading session as we attempt to get a bit of a head start. We are in the middle of our 100-year celebration, so a demanding fall schedule is not too far away. We will appreciate the jump start by the time September rolls around.

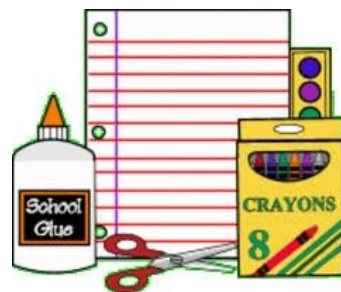
Members interested in becoming a part of our musical ministry here at Holy Comforter should **contact Greg Cline** directly.

Greg Cline

Congratulations!

After eight years in the Marine Corps Infantry, **Dillon Kasmer** left the Marines as a captain and will be starting an MBA at Harvard Business School in August.

BCO August Items of the Month: School Supplies



Recently, we had our upholsterers come by to repair and re-attach some of the buttons on the pew cushions.

If you ever have a button come off a cushion, please give it to an usher. If the *button cover* comes off, give that to the usher but also let them know which cushion it is from. The cushion will be flipped so no one gets hurt from the button base.

Thank you,
**Carmen Buell,
Worship & Music**

If you would like to contribute to our worship service by providing altar flowers, please sign your name at the one of the dates available. Also, list who/whom you wish to have the flowers in honor or memory of.

Cost of one vase is \$22.50, both vases cost \$45.00. Make your check out to Holy Comforter with a notation on your check that it is for altar flowers.

Available dates in August:

August 6: 1 vase available
August 13: 2 vases available
August 20: 2 vases available



Columbarium for Holy Comforter

Our centennial celebrations continue in the midst of summer heat. Throughout the year many folk have been reflecting upon the history of Holy Comforter over the last 100 years; the hopes, dreams, and visions of this congregational family working through the power of the Holy Spirit to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our community and world. In the first 50 years we witnessed growth from a tiny seed planted by less than 2 dozen charter members. By faith they founded what to this day is still the only Lutheran congregation in the North Carolina Synod that bears the name, "Holy Comforter."

Our current site location has been home now for more than half of our past century. The architecture was truly a marvel in design in the 1950's. By our 75th Anniversary the congregation took a bold leap when we installed our beautiful pipe organ, which has led us in songs of praise to God ever since. Today we once again engage in prayer and dialogue, asking God for direction in providing for our needs, and our neighbors. Conversations abound among individuals and committees regarding future expansion of ministry space. One part of vision plans involved the addition of a columbarium for the interment of ashes.

Recently Shirley Causby approached the congregational council with a generous gift in memory of her husband, Tommy, which would underwrite the construction cost of a columbarium on our church grounds. For years ashes have been scattered/interred on this site, but with no specific designated location. A member of our church, Mark Kline, gave

his time and talents to come up with a design that has since been approved by council, which will be built just out from the bell tower. We believe the design from Mark will compliment the church architecture well, as if it were part of the original plans for the church grounds.



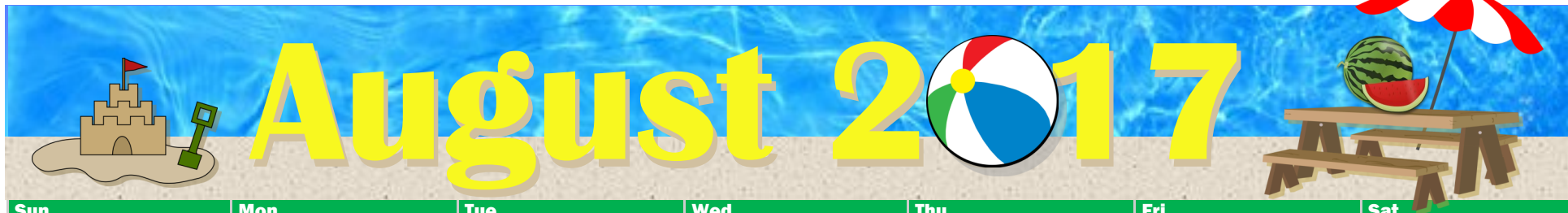
The project will begin this month, and the current build will provide 192 "niches" in which ashes can be placed, with an ability to expand with future need. We will also include a memorial where the names on our current memorial will be placed, as well as names added of those who wish to place their ashes elsewhere on the grounds in the future. We continue to discern specific plans and policies surrounding the columbarium, and that information will be made known at a future time. We are delighted that this timely gift enables this project to be a part of our centennial year celebration.

CHURCH SCHEDULE:

- Tuesday, August 1**
7:00 pm Property Committee meeting
- Sunday, August 6 9th Sunday after Pentecost**
9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am The Service
- Thursday, August 10**
6:00 pm Stewardship Meeting
- Sunday, August 13 10th Sunday after Pentecost**
9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion
Church Council after
- Tuesday, August 15**
7:00 pm Christian Ed Committee meets
- Sunday, August 20 11th Sunday after Pentecost**
9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am The Service
4:00 pm **HCY** Pool Party
5:00 pm Adult Handbells
6:00 pm Church Choir
- Tuesday, August 22**
7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Nar-Anon
- Thursday, August 24**
7:00 pm Evangelism Committee meeting
- Saturday, August 26**
10:00 am **Kid's Club** Pool Party
- Sunday, August 27 12th Sunday after Pentecost**
9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am The Service
4:00 pm *Chrism*on workshop
5:00 pm Adult Handbells
6:00 pm Church Choir
- Tuesday, August 28 - 1st Day of School/Gaston Co.**
- SUMMER MEETING TIMES:**
Sundays: 9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church Choir prep
10:30 am Worship Service
Tuesdays: 7:00 pm Nar-Anon
- TREASURER'S REPORT:** (Warren Heller)
- | Report for Month | June, 2017 | Year-To-Date |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Budget Expenses: | \$24,511.17 | \$147,067.00 |
| Actual Expenses: | \$22,577.34 | \$143,592.62 |
| Offerings Received: | \$22,434.50 | \$128,662.25 |
| Gain (Loss) for Period: | (\$ 142.84) | (\$ 14,930.37) |

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

- LECTORS:** Billy Joye, Chief Lector
August 20: Jim Buell
- ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:**
Need Volunteers
- ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 2)
Diann Halvorson, Co-captain
Dean Halvorson, Co-captain
Carmen Buell
Barbara Kamser
- COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**
August 13: Need 3 volunteers
- EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:**
August 13: Need 2 volunteers
- GREETERS FOR THE MONTH:**
August 6: Kathy Graves
August 13: Carmen Buell
August 20: Lyn Miller
August 27: Pat Long
- TELLERS:** Janet & Brian Achor
- USHERS:** Volunteers Needed
- FLOWERS:**
August 6: Rebecca Yount, Luke & Alec Via
1 vase available
August 13: 2 vases available
August 20: 2 vases available
August 27: Charles & Bev Mauney (both vases)
- CHILDREN'S CHURCH:**
August 6: Volunteers
August 13: Veronica Bryant
August 20: Volunteers
August 27: Jill Cassel
- NURSERY:** (9:30 am-11:45 am)
A nursery is provided for infants and a separate nursery for the toddlers. We encourage you to use the nurseries if your children become restless and/or vocal. Let an usher know if you need assistance.



August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 pm Property Committee Nar-Anon	2 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study	3	4	5
6 9th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service	7	8 7:00 pm Nar-Anon	9 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study	10	11	12
13 10th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC Church Council after	14	15 7:00 pm Christian Ed meets Nar-Anon	16 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study	17	18	19
20 11th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service 4:00 pm HCY Pool Party 5:00 pm Adult Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir	21	22 7:00 pm Chamber Choir Nar-Anon	23 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study	24 7:00 pm Evangelism meets	25	26  10:00 am Pool Party 
27 12th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service 5:00 pm Adult Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir	28	29  7:00 pm Chamber Choir Nar-Anon	30 6:45 pm Women's Bible Study	31		

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



August 2 Alyssa Buchanan
August 4 Kathy Graves
 Mark Yount
August 6 Eric Carpenter
 Justin Koehler
August 11 Cynthia Buchanan
 Jill Leitner
 Ginger MacDonald
August 15 Brenda Dabrowski
August 17 Theo Bruchon
 Mark Dabrowski
August 18 Katie Baker
 Henry Bocchino
 Alex Bocchino
August 21 Andrew Robinson
August 22 Becke Featherstone
 Allison Wallace
August 27 Dillon Kasmer
August 29 Matthew Bruchon
August 30 Eric Ange

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