

Beka's  
Buzz

As I prepare for the beach I can't help but not think. Greg Cline and I have been talking about this beach trip since the beginning of May. I can't help but think of sitting in the sand staring at the ocean- peace at its definition. While I am lucky enough to love my job, I cannot wait to get my toes in the sand. Anyone who works in, volunteers or supports ministry knows that it is never done, so that means there is no time for beach brain.

As we enter in the Summer, which means less school and more vacation I am excited for all the adventures that will take place in your lives. I didn't take many vacations as a kid, we just didn't go places. My parents believed that riding our bikes all day and jumping on the trampoline was good enough. When we did venture out we would usually go to the beach for the day. We would wake up early, pack the car and head to the beach for a day of sun. My favorite part of going to the beach was when my parents would swim with us in the ocean. My Dad would carry us on his back and act like a whale. What I am sure all parents know is that the car ride home is always silent because kids pass out. The sun took our energy and we took the sand home in our shoes. The next day we would still be groggy and whiney from the day before.

Thinking back on beach memories I can't help but think that "vacation" isn't always relaxing or rejuvenating. I am not saying I don't love the beach, I do. What I am saying is that now in a different stage of life I am so excited to relax at the beach but am I going to make it restful. Restful means having a quiet and soothing quality. I am not sure that I ever take time to make anything restful. Not everyone's rest looks the same. I know that when I am intentional about being at rest, I am intentional at connecting with Jesus. My brain isn't doing one million things at a time, it's doing like five. No seriously, it is focusing on chatting with God

and finding peace in Him. How will you and your family find peace and rest this summer? How will you connect with Jesus? I am challenging myself this summer to rest more, look for soothing quality. What kinds of things are good quality for you? I look forward to all of your summer pictures, and hearing all about your adventures!

Speaking of adventures, we have so much coming up in June! **VBS** is starting to decorate soon for **Maker Fun Factory!** Confirmation Camp is June 11-18. The **Gastonia Grizzlies** family night is June 23, sign-ups are on the office door. VBS kicks off on the 25<sup>th</sup> and goes till the 28<sup>th</sup>. Christian Ed meets on June 20<sup>th</sup> at 7. Join us for any and all of those exciting events.



### Say Cheese! Be included in Holy Comforter's 2017 Photo Directory!

**Four dates to choose from:**  
Monday, June 12 2pm - 9pm  
Tuesday, June 13 2pm - 9pm  
Friday, June 23 2pm - 9pm  
Saturday, June 24 10 am - 5pm

Contact Katie Kessen  
for information.  
815-762-5480



**BCO Items for June:**  
Grits, Pasta Sauce  
Dried Beans



Lutheran Church of the  
**Holy Comforter COMMENT**

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Micah Kearney, Pastor email: micahkearney@gmail.com  
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster  
Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries  
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office



*<sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.*  
Acts 2:2-4

### Communion Opportunities for June

June 4: Pentecost Sunday  
June 11: Holy Trinity Sunday

(Communion on other Sundays after the service)



Dianne Lail, Communications/  
Office Manager  
Volume 38, No. 6

**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,

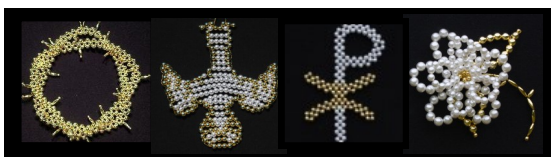
Summer is quickly approaching, a season of rest and time off for many as schools let out and vacations abound. It's also, for those and others, a time of transitions. The obvious example is for students and teachers, as they finish one year and await the next, a new grade, a new school, or a new class of kids. No year is quite like the one before, so there's always that bit of unknown. But also there are parents who welcome a kid back from school for the summer, who wrestle with soon sending their child off to school after summer, maybe even becoming empty nesters with no kids in their home for at least 18 years. Just this past week, even, I talked with people changing jobs and others soon expecting a child. This is a time of transition for many.

When I was recently at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary for the graduation of my cousin and some good friends, the sermon at the baccalaureate service spoke to transitions, as the graduates are in the midst of it themselves as they leave seminary and await calls to churches. Preaching from Easter scripture about the empty tomb, the preacher spoke about death and the joy of life, of tomb and womb, that takes place in almost all transitions. His point was that in almost all transitions there are both things that we mourn and no longer take part in, and things that we gain and celebrate. For students headed off to college they might mourn the loss of old friendships and community as people scatter, of the security of home, of patterns and routines that felt comfortable for them. But they also gain new friendships, new experiences, new levels of

independence, and hopefully a bit of education in there too. For teachers I would imagine each class has its own joys and challenges, so there is both relief and sorrow as one class leaves and the next soon comes. The birth of a child is a perfect example, as new life is such a wonderful gift and children are often our biggest blessing, but it means putting down care-free lives we once lived, not to mention nights when we slept uninterrupted.

Transitions are difficult, often scary, and the things we feel like we lose in them can be very hard. But in the resurrection of Jesus Christ we have seen the reality that God is always working new life and grace into our lives. That is a wonderful promise of the gospel, that even from the most difficult situations and transitions, God works to bring about grace and breathe in us new life. Whatever transitions you're in, be it with work, children, or things so dark as the death of loved ones, we have the promise that God is weaving grace and joy into our lives. May our eyes be opened to this gospel truth that we might see and believe in the abundant grace and new life God gives.

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



You are invited to join with the women of Holy Comforter as we work to repair the old and create new *Chrismons* for our Christmas tree. **Meet at the church on June 25 at 4:00 pm.**

**All information for the  
July newsletter is due to Dianne  
in the church office by June 19.**

## MUSIC NEWS

Our music ministers now enjoy a little bit of a break from regular rehearsal hours. Many members are traveling to various destinations around the globe. The church choir ministry technically never gets a break; as we always invite folks who happen to be in town, to assist with leading the assembly in song.

Summer offers us all a collective breath from such intense schedules during other seasons. But, as the editors of our lectionary planning guide states in *Sunday and Seasons...* "Summer may be when students and teachers are not interacting on a daily basis, but that doesn't stop the lectionary from spending time teaching us and sharing stories of Jesus teaching others. Summer during Matthew's gospel year may well be summer school for us all, teaching us how to be disciples and about the nature of the kingdom of heaven."

So rest, refresh, but remember to reflect, pray, worship and disciple. **Greg Cline**



Holy Comforter is hosting **Camp Agape July 17-21**. **Agape** is a day camp for rising 1st to rising 8th graders and is sponsored by Agape Kure Beach Ministries. During a day at camp the kids will participate in Bible study, crafts, games, skits, nature time and lots of other fun activities. The kids in the 6th to 8th grade 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**. The spaces will be filled on a "first come, first served" basis. **Please contact Misty if you have any questions about camp.**



**REGISTER SOON!**

### **Vacation Bible School 2017**

**June 25<sup>th</sup> – June 28<sup>th</sup> from 6pm – 8pm**

This year we will learn how God created each of us through song, bible discovery, games and the imagination station! We are in need of volunteers to help in many capacities through the evening activities. We will also provide a quick meal each evening for all participants & volunteers.

**If you are interested in volunteering to lead a group of kids, a breakout session or help prepare a meal, please email Melissa Bocchino at [melissa.bocchino@pwc.com](mailto:melissa.bocchino@pwc.com).**

Registration forms for children in **rising grades K through 5<sup>th</sup>** are available in the narthex (inside front doors of entrance to sanctuary). We invite our middle schoolers & high schoolers to volunteer to help! Please reach out with any questions!





## Congratulations to our graduates!

**Mollie Caldwell**  
from Stuart Cramer High School to  
NC State

**Ashton Grace Nault**  
from Forestview High School to  
UNCW

**Luke Via**  
from South Point High School to  
Western Carolina

**Julie Wiegand**  
Degree: Master of Science in  
Textile Technology & Management  
From NC State College of Textiles  
Accepted position with  
Kohl's, Milwaukee, WI as  
Product Development Coordinator

**The Staying Connected Group**  
will not meet during the months of  
June, July and August.

If you would like to be added to the  
email list for upcoming dates & times,  
please contact Krystyna at  
sarrazin1230@hotmail.com



## Baby Bottle Blessings

On Father's Day, June 18<sup>th</sup>, we will collect the  
baby bottles that you have been filling with your  
spare pocket change for the past month.

The baby bottles will be returned to The Crisis  
Pregnancy Center of Gaston County (5 loca-  
tions across Gaston County).

Thank you so much for your participation in the  
important project.



Congratulations to **Claire Mitchell**  
who is a sophomore in high school  
and has been selected to attend and  
reside at the North Carolina School of  
Science and Mathematics, the only  
public boarding school in North Caroli-  
na and the first public boarding school  
in the nation. It's a competitive pro-  
cess and an honor to be selected.  
The focus is for high school juniors  
and seniors in depth study of STEM  
courses.

Congrats to **Arden De Nicholas** on  
achieving the *A Honor Roll* at Oak-  
ridge Middle School in Lake Wylie,  
SC.

HolyC's  
TEAM



As part of the Gaston  
County YMCA's 2017  
fundraising campaign,  
Holy Comforter will sponsor a  
soccer team for the  
2017 Fall season.



## Gastonia Grizzlies Faith Night

**Friday, June 23** Gates Open 6pm  
Pregame Festivities Game 7pm

**Tickets \$15 each**, includes  
all-you-can-eat chicken, sandwiches,  
hamburgers, hot dogs, chips,  
water & soda.

Make checks out to Holy Comforter.

## CHURCH SCHEDULE:

**Sunday, June 4 The Day of Pentecost**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion  
**Pentecost Picnic**



**Monday, June 5**

6:30 pm Church Council meeting

**Friday, June 9**

8:00 pm *Movie on the Lawn*  
Showing *Moana*

**Sunday, June 11 Holy Trinity Sunday**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion  
Confirmants leave for *Lutheridge*

**Tuesday, June 13**

7:00 pm Property Committee meeting

**Sunday, June 18 2nd Sunday after Pentecost**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:30 am The Service  
**Happy Father's Day**

**Tuesday, June 20**

7:00 pm Christian Education meets

**Thursday, June 22**

7:00 pm Evangelism meeting

**Friday, June 23 Gastonia Grizzlies, Faith Night**

Pregame activities, **Game at 7 pm**

**Sunday, June 25**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:30 am The Service  
6:00 pm **VBS** begins

**Wednesday, June 28**

6:00 pm Last session of **VBS**

## 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	April 2017	Year-To-Date
Budget Expenses:	\$24,511.17	\$98,044.67
Actual Expenses:	\$23,363.53	\$95,544.06
Offerings Received:	<u>\$26,949.16</u>	<u>\$93,323.75</u>
Gain (Loss) for Period:	<b>\$ 3,585.63</b>	<b>(\$ 3,220.31)</b>

## ASSISTING MINISTERS:

**LECTORS:** Billy Joye, Chief Lector  
June 18: Jim Buell  
June 25: Volunteer

**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:**  
Need Volunteers

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 1)  
Bev Mauney, Co-Captain  
Charles Mauney, Co-Captain  
Carmen De Nicholas Deb Williams

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:**  
Need 4 volunteers

**EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:**  
June 4 & 11: Volunteers

**GREETERS FOR THE MONTH:**  
June 4: Katie Kessen  
June 11: Carmen Buell  
June 18: Pat Koehler  
June 25: Becky Richards

**TELLERS:** John Koehler, Fran Holland

**USHERS:** Volunteers Needed

**FLOWERS:**  
June 4: Horace Bean, Donna Bean  
1 vase available  
June 11: Debbie Mendez  
Jill Leitner  
June 18: Shelia & Tim Kelly  
Jane & Jeff Howard  
June 25: The Potters  
1 vase available

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:**  
June 4: Volunteer  
June 11: Jill Cassel  
June 18: Volunteer  
June 25: Volunteer

**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.

# June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1  6:00 pm Stewardship Meeting	2	3
4 <b>The Day of Pentecost</b> 9:30 am Sunday School Children make the Decorations for VBS 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC <i>Pentecost Picnic</i>	5  6:15 pm Church Council	6  7:00 pm Property Committee Nar-Anon	7   6:45 pm Women's Bible Study Study of Revelation	8	9   8:00 pm <i>Movie on the Lawn</i> Showing <i>Moana</i>	10
11 <b>Holy Trinity Sunday</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC  <i>Campfirmation begins</i>	12 <b>St. Barnabas, Apostle</b>	13  7:00 pm Nar-Anon	14 <b>Flag Day</b> 	15  7:00 pm Christian Ed meets	16	17   <b>Confirmands depart</b> <i>Lutheridge</i>
18 <b>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service  <b>HAPPY Father's Day!</b>	19	20  7:00 pm Nar-Anon	21   <b>It's SUMMER!</b>	22  7:00 pm Evangelism Meeting	23   <b>Gastonia Grizzlies</b> Pregame activities, Game at 7 pm	24 <b>The Nativity of</b> <b>St. John the Baptist</b>
25 <b>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service  6-8 pm <b>VBS begins</b> <i>Vacation Bible School</i> 	26	27  7:00 pm Nar-Anon	28  <i>Vacation Bible School</i>	29 <b>St. Peter and St. Paul,</b> <b>Apostles</b>	30	

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



June 9 Kaylin Leitner  
 June 10 Greg Garrison  
 June 11 Tonya Zander  
 June 12 Martha Hogge  
 June 16 Cooper Burwell  
 Sarah Tench  
 June 17 Marsha Kinley  
 Megan Sulak  
 June 18 Dawn Fleming  
 June 19 John Koehler  
 June 23 Eric Scholler  
 June 25 Wil Carpenter  
 June 27 Reid Passer  
 June 29 Gabriel Kearney  
 June 30 Leah Koehler

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