

Beka's  
Buzz

I am super into knowing about myself. I like to learn about my personality, name my strengths and weakness'. I have taken the Enneagram, *Myers Briggs* and the Color test. I like to know where I fall in these kinds of things. Not only do I take them once but I take them periodically just in case something changes, which rarely happens. Something changed this time. Let me start of saying if I don't feel like the test results are accurate to me then I tend to write off the test. It immediately becomes less relevant and I am in disbelief. *Myers Briggs* has been that way for me before. So, I retook it and it said I was an IFSJ?! Which to you means nothing. This test said I was Introverted, Feeling driven, Sensing driven and Judgmental. All of which are a strength and weakness but let's go back to that whole introverted thing. Never in my whole life have I been told I was introvert. I grew up with my mom telling me that I was so animated and had a larger than life personality. So immediately I was hesitant to believe it. I then decided that I would read about these results and sure enough, I couldn't believe how accurate it was. If you ask me what I would call my personality is an extroverted introvert, I like hanging out with people and social situations but in doses.

So how does this relate to Jesus? Well I spent some time thinking about how does this affect my relationship with God. Does this change how I function or how I could become closer now that I have this newfound view on life? I searched online for devotions, ideas and different strategies to try and connect better. After spending some time doing that I came to the realization that God has always met me where I am, in scripture, in

quiet times and in community. Every year for Lent I say to people, "I am really going to connect, I am going to be better about my intentional time that I spend with God". This year I am going to really connect, but the difference is instead of trying to talk to him more, I am going to do a better job of listening. I want to listen better and I want to be better at being still. I want to acknowledge that God consistently meets me where I am. Where does God meet you? Where do you feel closest to God? How do you really connect? As Lent approaches how can we share this with our family?

Places to get connected around here are easy to find! This month is a full one as we enter Lent. Join us for our **Lenten meals at 6 pm, worship starts at 6:45.** Youth will continue to meet this month on the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays** of the month. This month we are talking about what we want to be remembered for. **Kids' Club** is meeting on the **18<sup>th</sup>** and we are going to talk about being fishers of men. Look for **Agape Day Camp** details in the narthex. The **Seekers** are excited to be starting a new curriculum for Lent, Mandi Kline is teaching "Making Sense of the Cross". **Christian Education** will meet on **March 21**. Lent devotions for adults and kids have arrived and if you would like to pick them up, they will be available in the Education building...see Beka for any questions you may have. Prayers for your Lenten journey.

**Beka Forst**  
Director of Youth & Family Ministries



All information for the  
April Newsletter is due to  
Dianne in the church office by  
March 20.



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>15</sup>The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."*

Genesis 2:15-17

## Communion Opportunities for March

March 1: Ash Wednesday

March 12: The Second Sunday in Lent

March 26: The Fourth Sunday in Lent

(Communion on other Sundays after the service)



Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager  
Volume 38, No. 3

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



## Pastor's Page

Grace and peace,

It has been a weird few weeks of weather lately. Temperatures we are used to seeing in late March or April have been getting people outside in shorts and t-shirts much more than we're used to for February. My family was invited for a boat ride on the lake in mid-February, something I'm sure I've never done before, and it was beautiful. Looking out my office window there are beautiful pink and red flowers in bloom, and it seems people's allergies are getting bad. We're used to these things happening in a month or two, but it seems Winter has gotten jealous of Spring, and much of the renewal and growth we're used to in Spring has already begun.

March 1 is the beginning of Lent, the 40 days that lead up to Easter, minus Sundays which are our "little Easters" that we celebrate each week. The season of Lent is often a more somber season where we hold a mirror to ourselves and think about how our lives need to change. Often we take part in a spiritual discipline to help us in this work, but it added scripture study, new prayer practices, or fasting (not talking about the diet you've been meaning to do anyway!). It is a time when we recognize we are not who God created and saved us to be, and so we repent, and turn again to God.

This process is not wholly a somber one, however. The word "Lent" originally came from the word for "Spring." Just as Spring is a time of renewal and growth, Lent is a time of renewal in our

commitment to discipleship and growth as a Christian. And that is a good and joyful thing, something to celebrate, even. So yes, we should do the hard work of repentance, being honest with ourselves about our sinfulness. Ash Wednesday is a good reminder of our mortality and sinfulness, the starting point for our faith walk through Lent. And then we repent, we recommit, and we grow as Christians, daily remembering our baptisms and our dying and rising anew as beloved children of God.

And so this weird weather and blooming seems like maybe a fitting prequel to the season of Lent, when our walk of faith invites us to blossom and grow as we turn again to the new life we have in Christ.

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



**Join us June 25<sup>th</sup> – June 28<sup>th</sup> from 6pm – 8pm, for our Annual Vacation Bible School!** 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 will be available soon for children in rising grades K through 5<sup>th</sup>. We invite our middle schoolers & high schoolers to volunteer to help! Please reach out with any questions!

## MUSIC NEWS

**Music Week at Lutheridge is Sunday, July 9-Saturday, July 15:** Last year we had a record number of campers attend from Holy Comforter. Due to the generosity from families and friends of the music ministry here at HCLC we are currently **able to offer 50% scholarships to our members who desire to attend.** This makes one of the most expensive camping weeks the most affordable.

Early registration has already begun. Costs are the lowest before spring arrives. Questions? Catch Greg Cline after the Sunday postlude! Pastor Micah served as a counselor during some summers in his past. He can share and also answer many questions from a personal perspective.



**Greg Cline**  
*Organist/Choirmaster*

### The Tommy Causby Family

Wishes to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, and concerns during Tommy's recent illness and death. We wish to especially express words of appreciation to Pastor Micah and Staff, our church choir members, and those participating in the service of worship and the reception.



We will host the Lenoir-Rhyne University **A Cappella Choir** on **Sunday, March 12 at 7:00 pm.** That evening the choir and brass ensemble will present a hymn festival (1 of 3) across the state of North Carolina commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.



A freewill offering will be received. No ticket is necessary. Come early to get a good seat.

We still need accommodations for an overnight stay of **"Bed & Breakfast."** Contact Greg Cline if you are willing to host one or more choir members.





## Lenten Worship Wednesdays March 8, - April 5

6:00 pm Dinner  
6:45 pm Lenten Worship  
7:30 pm Chamber Choir



## Saturday, March 11

6:30 pm Dinner at Mayworth's  
In Cramerton  
7:45 pm *Escape Room* at the Mill  
6325 Wilkinson Blvd.  
Belmont, NC  
Cost: **\$15/person** for 1 hour



## Kids' Club

will meet at the church on  
**Saturday, March 18 at 10:30 am**



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

On **March 26**, following the service, we will provide lunch and will pack personal care kits for **Lutheran World Relief**. Throughout the month of March we will collect items for those kits. The items need to be new, and are as follows:

**lightweight bath-size towels, unopened soap, adult size toothbrush, sturdy comb, and metal nail clippers**

These kits will then get sent around the world to people in desperate need of them. We appreciate your generosity to provide for others out of the abundance God provides for us.



## The Lillian E. Lineberger Scholarship Ministry

Applications for the 2017-2018 academic year are now available in the church office or via email. To receive an application via email, please email [holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto:holycomforter@gmail.com) and include *Lineberger Scholarship* in the subject line. The office manager will send you an application that you can complete in Word. (Please note that because the application requires your and your parent or guardian's signature we cannot accept the completed Word file via email.)

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 their lives, and in turn, serve and enrich the lives of others. Modest scholarships will be awarded to students of the congregation from the fund.

Authorized by the Holy Comforter Church Council, the Scholarship Ministry accepts applications from candidates who have been communing and contributing members of the church for at least one year. The annual deadline is the last Sunday in April and the awards are announced in May or early June.

The amount of the award depends on the following:

- Number of students applying for, and receiving, an award
- Total amount in the fund
- Recent fund performance

Other donations to this fund can be made as memorials or tributes to friends and family on their special occasions. Please make checks payable to Holy Comforter and write *Lineberger Scholarship Ministry* on the memo line to ensure your gift is credited appropriately.

As the fund grows, we will be able to give more help to students.

**Thank You, The Scholarship Ministry**

## CHURCH SCHEDULE:

**Wednesday, March 1**

7:30 pm **Ash Wednesday Service**  
With Holy Communion

**Sunday, March 5 1st Sunday in Lent**

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am The Service

**Saturday, March 11 Staying Connected**

6:30 pm Meet at Mayworth's Restaurant; 7:45 pm at  
Escape Room at the Mill, Belmont

**Sunday, March 12 2nd Sunday in Lent**

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion  
Council meets after  
2-4 pm **Confirmation** at Philadelphia LC in Dallas  
5:00 pm **HCY** meets

**Tuesday, March 14**

6:00 pm Stewardship Committee meeting

**Saturday, March 18 Kids' Club**

10:30 am Meet at the church

**Sunday, March 19 3rd Sunday in Lent**

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am Worship Service

**Tuesday, March 21**

7:00 pm Christian Education meeting

**Thursday, March 23**

7:00 pm Evangelism Committee meeting

**Sunday, March 26 4th Sunday in Lent**

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion  
5:00 pm **HCY** meets

## REGULAR MEETING TIMES:

**Sundays:** 10:10 am Church Choir prep  
4:00 pm Children's Ensemble  
5:00 pm Adult Handbells  
6:00 pm Church Choir

**Tuesdays:** 7:00 pm Nar-Anon

**Wednesdays:** 6:00 pm Lenten Dinner  
6:45 pm Lenten Worship  
7:30 pm Chamber Choir

**Thursdays, 1st & 3rd:** 6:00 – 7:30 pm Girl Scouts

## TREASURER'S REPORT: (Warren Heller)

**Report for Month January 2017**

Budget Expenses:	\$24,511.17
Actual Expenses:	\$25,581.38
Offerings Received:	<u>\$24,967.00</u>
Gain (Loss) for Period:	<b>(\$ 614.38)</b>

## ASSISTING MINISTERS:

**LECTORS:** Billy Joye, Chief Lector  
March 5 & 19: Julia Gunter

## 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:

March 1, 12 & 26: Volunteers

## GREETERS FOR THE MONTH:

March 1 (Ash Wed.): Sherry Alexander  
March 5: Sherry Alexander  
March 12: Carmen Buell  
March 19: Becky Richards  
March 26: Katie Kessen

**TELLERS:** Rochelle & Danny Potter

**USHERS:** Volunteers Needed

## FLOWERS:

March 5: Both vases available  
March 12: Dianne Lail  
1 vase available  
March 19: Both vases available  
March 26: Cher Grant & Linda Grimsley  
Horace Bean  
**(Call the office to reserve)**









## CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

March 5: Rebecca Yount  
March 12: Volunteers  
March 19: Volunteers  
March 26: Jill Cassel

## 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.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			 7:00 pm <b>Ash Wednesday</b> Service with Holy Communion Chamber Choir after	 6:00-7:30 pm Girl Scouts		
5 <b>1st Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service  4:00 pm Children's Ens. 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir	6	7       7:00 pm Nar-Anon	8  6:00 pm Lenten Dinner 6:45 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 pm Chamber Choir	9	10	11  6:30 pm Mayworth's Restaurant Cramerton 7:45 pm <i>Escape Room</i> at the Mill in Belmont
12 <b>2nd Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC Council after 2- 4:00 pm Confirmation 4:30 pm HCY helps w/meal for LR Choir 7:00 pm <b>LRU Choir Concert</b>	13 7:00-9:00 am LRU Choir Families Student Return	14     6:00 pm Stewardship Comm. 7:00 pm Nar-Anon	15  6:00 pm Lenten Dinner 6:45 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 pm Chamber Choir	16  6:00-7:30 pm Girl Scouts	17 <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> 	18  10:30 am Meet at church
19 <b>3rd Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service  4:00 pm Children's Ens. 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir	20 <b>St. Joseph, Husband of Mary &amp; Guardian of Our Lord</b>  <b>1st Day of Spring</b>	21   7:00 pm Christian Ed Nar-Anon	22  6:00 pm Lenten Dinner 6:45 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 pm Chamber Choir	23   7:00 pm Evangelism Comm.	24	25 <b>The Annunciation of Our Lord</b>
26 <b>4th Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC  4:00 pm Children's Ens. 5:00 pm Handbells, <b>HCY</b> 6:00 pm Church Choir	27	28   7:00 pm Nar-Anon	29  6:00 pm Lenten Dinner 6:45 pm Lenten Worship 7:30 pm Chamber Choir	30	31	

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 Debbie Baker  
           Jo Singleton  
 March 7 Roger DiBiase  
           Holly Harper  
 March 10 Dee Smith  
 March 11 Thomas Kasmer  
 March 12 Veronica Bryant  
           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 Mollie Caldwell  
 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 church office.