

Beka's  
Buzz

In college I was in a sorority. I was an active member in Kappa Delta, but if you had asked me when I started college if I was going to join Greek life I would have told you no. I saw it as a way to pay for your friends, and I was social enough to not need to pay for them. I ended up joining fall semester of my sophomore year. They wooed me with my friends, cupcakes, and genuine friendship and love for one another. I thought it would be good for me, and it was. We would have recruitment twice a year where we would try to show the best aspects of Greek life and our organization to potential new members (PNMs). We would practice conversation topics, how to transition girls around our house so that they could meet everyone, and how to show our most authentic selves. We tried to have it down to a science. The best way I could explain Greek life to people was "from the outside looking you don't understand it, from inside looking out you can't explain it". This phrase seems to best describe my feelings toward the Youth Gathering.

As I reflect on the process of getting ready for the youth gathering, and all of the attention it took I can't believe that two years' worth of prep work is over. I could have never imagined that it would've been that incredible. I have never seen 31,000 people worship together, get along so easily, or being so genuine as to why they are there. I was amazed every night at Mass Gathering; the speakers were so real and the grace they shared was touching. There is no great description for how awesome it really was. I whole-heartedly believe that the Youth Gathering changes lives and our faith. The theme, "This Changes Everything" was more than a

theme, it was an expectation. Our group of 7, were funny, kind, smart, flexible, but most of all loving. I could have spent a whole other week with them. What an incredible faith forming experience!

A couple of my favorite quotes from the week were,

"I know 31,000 people is a big number, but that is a LOT of people"- Emily Koehler.

"There are so many people, and they are all Lutheran."-Noah Rawlins.

"All these people love Jesus, like me."- Bella Ince.

"I enjoyed making the people that I see happy even when you're strangers" - Catherine Carr

"Mass Gathering made me realize that God is felt, not seen."- Matt Carr

**Beka**  
**Youth & Family Ministry**



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Dianne Lail, Communications/Office



<sup>35</sup> Jesus said [to the crowd,] "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>47</sup>Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life.

John 6:35, 47-48

## Communion Opportunities for August

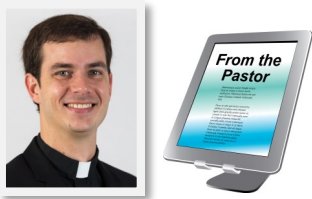
August 12 The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 26 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

(Communion on other Sundays after the service)

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager  
Volume 39 No. 8

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



Grace and peace,

I had a conversation with someone recently, not a member of this church, to talk about their journey of faith and where they are at this point in their life. Everyone's story is different, with their own experiences and people influencing how they see and experience God and God's grace in this world and in their lives. This person had been a part of a faith community that had very clear expectations about what members should believe, about God and about the world God made, and how people should behave because of those of beliefs. Part of me gets the appeal of this approach. We want clarity in the things that we believe. We want to know exactly what God wants of us, what we are meant to believe, and what that means for our behavior and relationships. This person was questioning some of those assumptions, however, and did not feel welcome once that happened.

The conversation I had with this person made me thankful that I am a part of the Lutheran tradition, particularly the ELCA. Not that we're inherently better than any other tradition or that we are not without our faults, but that our tradition tends to allow people room to wrestle with their faith, recognizing that there is much that remains unclear. The Apostle Paul said that, "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know

fully, even as I have been fully known." (1 Corinthians 13:12). Questioning and wrestling with our faith often leads to growth, both individually and for the community. It allows for people of different minds to gather together in worship and service to our neighbor, bound by the Spirit and not divided by differences. I think allowing room for questioning and healthy debate through the years has allowed our theology to become more Christ-centered and reflective of God's love.

It's not that our faith isn't founded in anything, of course. Martin Luther wrote a Large and Small Catechism to teach both laity and clergy about their faith. The Book of Concord is a compiling of Luther and other early Lutheran theologians that our church claims as a faithful exposition of our faith. The ELCA has numerous Social Statements, developed through prayerful conversations and voted on by the Churchwide Assembly, that we use as teaching documents. And of course all of these things lean heavily on scripture, the norm of our faith, and our clearest revelation of God's redemptive love for the world in Christ Jesus.

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



## MUSIC NOTE

### Children's ensemble families...

We are always thinking ahead. Before you know it school will be back in session, as well as many of the ministry classes and ensembles at Holy Comforter.

We have been doing a bit of brainstorming between staff and individuals who have voiced opinions on a variety of topics. At the top of the list is the children's ensemble. For some time we have met at 4:00 on Sundays throughout the school year. For a number of years we actually met, successfully I might add, prior to Sunday school.

I would like to propose that we consider trying this again. While 4:00 seems to be good for many, some folks are unable to make an additional trip to the church on Sunday afternoon. Some positive aspects of this schedule is that: (1) It requires no return afternoon trip...(2) It allows for a smooth transition into the Sunday school hour...(3) children will be able to adequately prepare for anthems or whatever worship activity may be presented on a given Sunday. Feel free to contact me regarding age range. Some children are able to sing at earlier ages than others, and some older children may desire staying in the group and functioning as leaders and assistants.

There are not a lot of schedule choices if we eliminate school nights, Sunday afternoons and certainly Saturday is not an option. With this all in mind I would like to propose that we consider the following two best options:

#### 1. Sunday mornings 8:45-9:30

Try it for a 12-week commitment and reevaluate.

#### 2. Leave things as they are at 4:00 on Sundays.

**NOTE:** Neither of these scenarios would begin until after Labor Day.

These are very special children and I would love to see them more actively participate in the worship life of the church, as well as in the life of our extended community. Please prayerfully consider encouraging your child to participate. Please send me feedback. We need everyone to have a voice!

Thank you all for your gifts to Christ and His Church, for the sake of the Kingdom.

**Greg Cline**

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### ALTAR FLOWERS

You can contribute to our worship service by providing altar flowers. Available dates are listed on the signup sheet in the narthex. Sign your name at the date you would like to provide the flowers.

One vase is \$22.50.

Both vases are \$45.00.

Make check payable to Holy Comforter with *Altar Flowers* on the memo line.



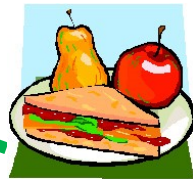
## Faithful Families' Tip

### Bible Babble:

As a family, pick a Bible verse that would help bring your family closer to God. Memorize your Bible verse and say it together in the morning and before bedtime.

prime  
timers

August 9th - Meet at Noon  
In the Fellowship Hall  
For Lunch & conversation



**Agape Day Camp** was a huge success again this year! The kids spent the week talking about how God's free gift of Grace has changed everything about our lives - Our Hearts, Our Identities, Our Purpose, Our Perspective, and Our Community. They enjoyed songs, skits, nature activities, games, and team building activities.

**Thank you** to all of you who donated snacks and meals for our campers and counselors. We couldn't do it without you! A special thanks to **Tim and Shelia Kelly** for graciously opening your home to our counselors.

**Misty Koehler, Beka Forst**



The ladies of  
***Staying Connected***  
will meet on  
**Saturday, August 11th**  
6:30 p.m. at the  
*Table and Market Restaurant*  
in McAdenville.  
We are looking for new people  
to join us.  
Please RSVP with Krystyna at  
[sarrazin1230@hotmail.com](mailto:sarrazin1230@hotmail.com)

**Thank You** to all  
the folks who  
helped with this  
year's camp!



## CHURCH SCHEDULE:

**Thursday, August 2 HolyC Men's Group**  
7:00 pm Location TBA

**Sunday, August 5 11th Sunday after Pentecost**  
9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am Church choir prep  
10:30 am Worship Service

**Thursday, August 9th Prime Timers Luncheon**  
11:45 am Meet in Fellowship Hall

**Saturday, August 11 Staying Connected**  
6:30 pm Table & Market Restaurant, McAdenville

**Sunday, August 12 12th Sunday after Pentecost**  
9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am Church choir prep  
10:30 am Worship Service w/Holy Communion  
Church Council after  
4:00 pm **HCY** Pool Party at the Carr's home

**Saturday, August 18 Kids' Club**  
10:00 am Pool Party at the Koehler's home

**Sunday, August 19th 13th Sunday after Pentecost**  
9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am Church choir prep  
10:30 am The Service

**Tuesday, August 21 Christian Ed meeting**  
7:00 pm Meet at the church

**Sunday, August 26 14th Sunday after Pentecost**  
9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am Church choir prep  
10:30 am The Service with Holy Communion

## REGULAR MEETING TIMES:

**Sundays:** 9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am Church choir prep  
10:30 am Worship Service

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

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

Report for the month	June, 2018	Year-to-Date
Budget Expenses:	\$24,055.08	\$144,330.50
Actual Expenses:	23,158.79	137,702.33
Offerings Received:	20,864.00 *	131,565.03*
(Loss) for Period:	(\$ 2,294.79)	(\$ 6,137.30)
Offerings less Expected Expenses (...)	if negative (\$ 3,191.08)	(\$ 12,765.47)

\*Estimates (Final amounts will be several hundred dollars less)

## ASSISTING MINISTERS:

**LECTORS: Billy Joye, Chief Lector (Communions)**  
August 5: Jim Buell August 12: Billy Joye  
August 19: Brian Achor August 26: Billy Joye

**ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS:** Volunteers

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

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:** (Team A)  
Bev Mauney, Fran Holland, Sherry Alexander

**EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:**  
August 12th & 26th.: Volunteers

**GREETERS FOR THE MONTH:**  
August 5: Volunteer  
August 12: Carmen Buell  
August 19: Pat Long  
August 26: Teresa Keller

**TELLERS:** Janet & Brian Achor

**USHERS:** Volunteers

**ALTAR FLOWERS:**  
August 5: 2 vases available  
August 12: 2 vases available  
August 19: 2 vases available  
August 26: 2 vases available

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:**  
August 5: Volunteer  
August 12: Carmen De Nicholas  
August 19: Volunteer  
August 26: Lauren Shoemaker

**NURSERY:** (10:30 am-11:45 am)  
August 5: Sherry Alexander  
August 12: Volunteer  
August 19: Lauren Shoemaker  
August 26: Volunteer

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.

# AUGUST 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 <b>11th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service	6 <b>The Transfiguration</b>	7     7:00 pm Nar-Anon	8	9 <b>Prime Timers Meeting</b> Noon Fellowship Hall Lunch ordered in 	10	11  <b>Staying Connected</b> 6:45 pm Table & Market Restaurant, McAdenville
12 <b>12th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service with Holy Communion Church Council after 4:00 pm <b>HCY Pool Party</b> Carr's home 	13	14     7:00 pm Nar-Anon	15 <b>St. Mary, Mother of Our Lord</b>	16	17	18 <b>Kids' Club</b> 10:00 am Pool Party Koehler's home  
19 <b>13th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service  6:00 pm Church Choir	20	21     7:00 pm Chamber Choir Christian Ed meets Nar-Anon	22	23	24 <b>St. Bartholomew, Apostle</b>	25
26 <b>14th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service with Holy Communion  6:00 pm Church Choir	27 <b>Back To School</b> 	28     7:00 pm Chamber Choir Nar-Anon	29 <b>The Beheading of St. John the Baptist</b>	30	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

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