

Beka's Buzz

Last week, Pastor Micah and I took Bella, Arden, and Tyler to confirmation camp at Lutheridge. This week always teaches me so much. The first thing I learned is that sometimes I am more embarrassing than cool. Bella gently reminded me that sometimes my goofy and funny personality can be over the top. (Not that any of the other youth would agree.) The second thing I learned is that I have no clue what is popular amongst middle and high schoolers; I learned that the slang words I used at their age have the same meaning as the slang words they used today. The third thing I learned is that there is a small group of young people that think the Dukes of Hazard's are cooler than Beyoncé, which truthfully blew my mind. The last thing that I learned that blew my mind was how curious and absorbent our kids were when we discussed Bible studies and "why we do what we do".

The materials we use are based on the seasons of the church year, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. On our Lent day we talked about the significance of the Cross. We watched a video where Nadia Bolz-Weber talked about our different views of it, and the different ways they look. That 7-minute video sparked so many different questions and ideas. Our young people are asking questions and thinking on ideas that both Micah and I said we wrestle with too. I feel like we spend so much time trying to find age appropriate things to expose our kids to. I feel like in the society we live in that, that is so important. I felt like this video was a bit thick to swim through, but I was truly in awe of how our young people are attempting to wrestle and wade through the sticky things in their faith.

On Friday we had a conversation about what confirmation is, and how all week long they have been living into what this step is. I am so proud of our young people taking this step in faith, for being curious and asking questions, but most importantly for being present and showing up for their faith and themselves. Ultimately, that what our faith is, even for us adults.

Beka
Youth & Family Ministry



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Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster
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¹[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits.

Mark 6:1-2, 6-7

Communion Opportunities for July

July 8 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 22 The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

(Communion on other Sundays after the service)



Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager
Volume 39 No. 7

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,

Fairly often I hear it said that religion and politics should stay separate from one another. And I understand that desire, especially these days. Politics are divisive, often drawing lines in order to establish who “the other” is, and especially these days, politics points fingers of blame at whoever is that “other.” There is a reason politics aren’t brought up much with my extended family during holiday meals together, because we’ve learned we get along much better if we don’t talk about it. People, including me, want and expect their places and communities of faith to be peaceful places, working to reconcile the divisions made in other areas of society. The easiest way to have that is to do what my extended family does; don’t talk about it, and keep politics and their faith separate.

But the fact of the matter is if our faith is anything to us beyond worship on Sunday mornings, faith and politics cannot be separate, because our faith sends us out into the world to be people who live out that faith. As the body of Christ in the world, Jesus calls us to feed the hungry, heal the sick, and welcome the stranger. His work doing the same made him an adversary of people in both religious and political power of his time. As we strive to do be the body of Christ, we will have conversations that include the political as we try to figure out what living out our call to discipleship looks like. It might look like advocacy if we see people who are op-

pressed or devalued. Feeding the hungry will require conversations about who we give to, whether someone must “deserve it,” and whether our methods are responsible, and these conversations will sound political. When we talk about how to offer healing, part of that conversation will include whether or not that means healthcare should be available to everyone or only those who can afford it, or what kind of healthcare is included in that. When Jesus calls us to welcome the stranger, the political conversation becomes about whether this is means only Christians, only people who look like us, or only people who are here legally.

As a community of faith, we cannot avoid the conversation, but instead should be a place where we can have these conversations as a community founded in our faith and mutual love for one another, recognizing that we are bound to one another in the Spirit. We may not arrive at the same conclusions about what is a faithful witness, but we must not avoid conversations as we work to faithfully live out our discipleship as Christ’s body in the world today. We should not let our political climate silence our Christian witness.

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

BCO July Items of the Month:



Mac N’ Cheese



Instant Potatoes



MUSIC NOTE

Music Week is July 8 - 14 at Lutheridge. This year’s participants from Holy Comforter are **Erin Cassel, Leah Koehler, Justin Koehler, Kaylin Leitner, Elizabeth Bruchon, and Greg Cline.** For the children and youth campers music is the theme of the week, but they fully participate in regular camp activities such as swimming, canoeing, hiking, crafts, Bible study, vespers, and much more. Friendships are often made that last a lifetime.

VBS CDs and song sheets are available for all participants. See Greg Cline to pick up your family copy. We encourage the children to drive their parents crazy with the recordings. Getting familiar in advance with the songs will prove most helpful to all the children when we gather each evening during bible school.



We still have unfilled music opportunities during July and August. Preludes, offertories, and music during communion may be shared by individuals, small groups, perhaps whole families. **Don’t hide your talents under a bushel.**

The church choir bids a reluctant **farewell and Godspeed to Deb and Steve Bingham.** Relocating to Jamestown, Steve is taking a position at High Point University. Steve and Deb both have been so involved in many aspects involving multiple ministries here at Holy Comforter. They will be sorely missed.

***Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster***



**Join Us for
Vacation Bible School
July 29-August 2.**

Vacation Bible School is for
Pre-K to rising 6th graders.

Registration forms are available
online or by contacting Beka.

Dinner is provided from
5:45—6:15 pm
Program is from
6:15—8:00 pm

Theme for VBS is
Hero Central



Faithful Families' Tip

Lord's Prayer:

Sometimes praying with kids can be really awesome, and sometimes they say something about poop. It's important to teach your kids how to pray, Jesus taught us how to pray with the Lord's Prayer. The Lord's Prayer, gives you the words to start your day and end your day. Try finding two different times of day, like the beginning and the end of the day, to say it as a family. Take time to talk about what you are saying in the Lord's Prayer, that can lead to helping kids pray freely with some direction.

prime
timers

Meet at
Amber Jack's Restaurant
July 12 at 11:30 am for
Lunch & conversation

Did you get caught in the rain and wonder where your umbrella was? Missing your favorite travel mug? Or just can't find your "My Little Pony" lip gloss? Check the Lost & Found Box in the narthex and they might be there!



Holy Comforter is hosting Camp Agape July 15-20.

Agape is a day camp for rising 1st to rising 8th graders and is sponsored by Kure Beach Ministries.

Registration forms are available at the back of the church, from Misty Koehler or Beka. **The cost is \$130 per camper and is due at the time of registration.** There is only room for 25 campers, so register soon. The spaces will be filled on a "first come, first served" basis. Please contact Misty if you have any questions about camp.

The camp is from 9 am-3pm Monday through Friday. Closing program is Thursday night.

We have volunteers for all counselors' meals. **Children need to bring a bag lunch.**



Lost Something?
Please check the **Lost & Found Box**
in the Narthex.

CHURCH SCHEDULE:

Sunday, July 1 6th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Thursday, July 5 HolyC Men's Group

7:00 pm Location TBA

Sunday, July 8 7th 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

Leave for **Music week at Lutheridge**

Monday, July 9-Saturday July 14

Music Week at Lutheridge

Thursday, July 12th Prime Timers Luncheon

11:45 am Meet at Amber Jack's Restaurant for food and conversation

Sunday, July 15th 8th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church choir prep
10:30 am The Service

Monday, July 16-Friday July 20

9:00 am—3:00 pm **Agape Day Camp**

Sunday, July 22 9th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church choir prep
10:30 am The Service w/Holy Communion

Sunday, July 29th 10th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church choir prep
10:30 am The Service with **Noisy Offering**

Sunday, July 29-August 2nd - Vacation Bible School

5:45 pm Dinner
6:15 pm VBS program

REGULAR MEETING TIMES:

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

Tuesdays: Nar-Anon

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Report for the month	May, 2018	Year-to-Date
Budget Expenses:	\$24,055.08	\$120,275.42
Actual Expenses:	22,349.11	115,975.54
Offerings Received:	19,000.00	110,701.03*
(Loss) for Period:	(\$ 3,349.11)	(\$ 5,274.51)
Offerings less Expected Expenses (... if negative	(\$ 5,055.08)	(\$ 9,574.39)

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

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTORS: Billy Joye, Chief Lector (Communion)

July 1: Volunteer
July 15: Judy Caldwell
July 29: Elizabeth Bruchon

ACOLYTES & CRUCIFERS: Volunteers

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 1)

Bev & Charles Mauney, Co-Captains
Carmen De Nicholas Deb Williams

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: (Team C)

Donna Bean Volunteers

EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS:

July 8 & 22: Volunteers

GREETERS FOR THE MONTH:

July 1: Volunteer
July 8: Carmen Buell
July 15: Volunteer
July 22: Jill Cassel
July 29: Volunteer

TELLERS: Fran Holland, Trudy Whitener

USHERS: Volunteers

ALTAR FLOWERS:

July 1: Brad & Brandy Milton (1 vase)
July 8: Carmen & Arden De Nicholas (1 vase)
July 15: Both vases available
July 22: Marsh & Jill Cassel
Carmen & Jim Buell
July 29: Mark & Rebecca Yount, Via brothers (1 vase)

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:












July 1: Rebecca Yount
July 8: Volunteer
July 15: Lauren Shoemaker
July 22 & July 29: Volunteers

NURSERY: (10:30 am-11:45 am)

July 1: Volunteer; July 8: Lauren Shoemaker
July 15, 22, & 29: Brandy Milton

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.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 6th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service	2	3 7:00 pm Nar-Anon	4 Independence Day 	5 HolyC Men's Group 7:00 pm Location TBA	6	7
8 7th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service with Holy Communion Church Council after	9  Music Week at Lutheridge	10 7:00 pm Christian Ed meets Nar-Anon	11	12 Prime Timers Outing 11:30 am Amber Jack's Restaurant 	13	14  Staying Connected Staying Connected will NOT meet in July. Contact Krystyna for summer schedule.
15 8th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service	16 9:00 am Agape Day Camp Begins 3:00 pm Agape Day ends 	17 7:00 pm Nar-Anon	18 	19 Agape Program for family Time TBA	20 9:00 am Agape Day Camp Begins 3:00 pm Agape Day ends 	21
22 9th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service with Holy Communion	23	24 7:00 pm Nar-Anon	25 St. James the Elder, Apostle	26	27	28
29 10th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service with Noisy Offering Collection 5:45 pm Dinner 6:15 pm VBS program begins	30  5:45 pm Dinner 6:15 pm VBS program	31  5:45 pm Dinner 6:15 pm VBS program 7:00 pm Nar-Anon	 5:45 pm Dinner 6:15 pm VBS program	 5:45 pm Dinner 6:15 pm VBS program		

We recognize and celebrate these birth-days in the month of July.
 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.

- July 3 Amanda Kelly
- July 4 Ann Miller
- July 8 Merritt De Nicholas
- July 9 Chase Lineberger
- July 10 Marcus Fleming
Hailey Ratchford
Laura Tench
- July 13 Don Robinson
- July 14 Beka Forst
Beverley Mauney
- July 15 Russell Fleming
- July 16 Sierra Hollander
- July 18 Steve Bingham
- July 19 Lynne Sudarich
- July 20 Tyler Cassel
Garret Fox
Brian Mitchell
- July 21 John Crist
Caroline Nault
Ashton Nault
Alex Sarrazin
- July 22 Melissa Bocchino
- July 24 Cathleen Allen
- July 25 Brayden Alvarez
- July 26 Emilie Bruchon
Gary Clark
- July 30 Madison Morton



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