

Beka's
Buzz

As you know in September, I started seminary at Wartburg Theological Seminary, and I thought I would give you an update and some insight on my journey. First of all, I want to thank you for partnering with me in ministry and my education. Your support and participation is essential, I am thankful for your prayers, your encouragement, and the dinners you have given me when I haven't had time to cook for myself. Your generosity and faithfulness are a large piece of what is making this happen.

This first year flew by, it's amazing to see the application already. This first year of Seminary has given me a deeper knowledge of the Bible, better roots in our Lutheran faith, and a growing confidence of my identity in ministry. One of the many things that came out of this year is the opportunity to encourage discerning students to follow their call to ministry.

Wartburg has invited me to speak to our prospective students about the program that we are a part of because there is no one doing what we are doing. We are the first participate in this new curriculum for students and congregations to partner together. This collaboration we're a part of is inspiring other congregations and students to lift up and teach new leaders in Word and Service and Word and Sacrament. It is an honor and a privilege to share my call from God, the support from Pastor Micah and council, and the support from you, my church family. The collaborative program is designed to help leaders who are already serving a church, work towards rostered leadership, the part of this program that is a necessity is the congregation. Together we are building a model for other churches and students to partner

together to create healthy leaders. We are pioneering for the Church. We are the body of Christ and together, we are participating the Kingdom of God. So, with all of this being said, I ask for your prayers. I cannot express to you enough how grateful I am to have this church be my church family and walk with me in this exciting adventure.

Faithful Families Tip: Spontaneous Worship

Take a nature hike or walk and take time to point out all the things that take your breath away, make you excited to be on the walk and have a moment of praise. At camp we called this spontaneous worship.



July 15th - 19th

Rising 1st grade-Middle School
Registration forms are in the office.

In Search Of Volunteers

**For VBS
July 28-31**



**Dinner offered at 5:45 pm
Program at 6:15-8:00 pm**

 Lutheran Church of the
Holy Comforter **COMMENT**
216 N. Main Street , Belmont, NC 28012
704-825-2483 holycomforter@gmail.com

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: mkearney@holyc.org
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster
Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office
Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse



¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Acts 2:1-4

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager
Volume 40 No. 6

Communion Opportunities for June

June 9 The Day of Pentecost

June 16 Holy Trinity Sunday

(Communion on other Sundays after the service)

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



FROM THE PASTOR

I grew up in a neighborhood that had a decent amount of kids around my age. When it gets close to summer time and kids start get out of school I often think back on that time in my life. We lived only eight or so blocks from downtown Salisbury, and for years a handful of us would almost daily hop on our bikes, round the corner, toss our helmets into a bush to pick up later so our parents thought we were wearing them, and spend the day at our local soccer store, eating hotdogs from *Hap's Grill* and Ice Cream from *Spanky's*. We played all sorts of sports in "the field" around the corner from our houses, which I've since realized was barely more than an empty lot that was not at all flat, but it was all we needed. It was a fairly carefree and joyful time of my life, not better than now, but certainly with less responsibility and stress. And most of these days started with one of us kids showing up at another's house, knocking on the door and asking, "Can _____ come out and play?"

As we grow older we are taught to become very task-oriented. Both at home and at work I have to-do lists that never get cleared out, with something always hanging over me and making me feel like I haven't been productive enough. As a faith community we fall victim to this as well, feeling like any time we spend together must be very task-oriented, with a clear purpose and goal. Otherwise it doesn't seem valuable enough to get us to show up when there are plenty of other things on our to-do lists to accomplish. And this task-oriented approach has us not looking for many opportunities to play together.

My family went on the Isle of Palms retreat again this year, and it was a wonderful reminder that we need to play together, to have time together when we are not working to accomplish a task, or having any real sort of expectation on one another.

Sitting on a beach with no agenda but keeping the kids alive and sun screened provides great opportunity for unprompted conversations and sharing with one another about our lives, not to mention create shared stories. Playing cards or boardgames together gives us a chance to play and laugh together. Since the trip, I've heard a number of people talk about how much they enjoyed someone there that they hadn't known well beforehand, because they hadn't spent time around them. It has ben a wonderful reminder of our need to play together, and how play has a powerful ability to bind us to one another. There is a lot of work to be done, surely, but we cannot forget the importance of play for our own sake, and for community.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Micah

Congratulations TO OUR GRADUATES

Claire Mitchell

South Point High School
Attending Dartmouth this fall

Garrett Fox

South Point High School
Attending NC State this fall

As part of our process to shape our congregation's purpose and guiding principles, beginning in mid-June and going through the summer our Planting Hope team members will be meeting with folks to build relationships and get to know more about you and your hopes for Holy Comforter. We would love for you to be a part of this! We will have sign ups after worship the first two Sundays in June, or you're welcome to email the church office to volunteer to be a part of this.



Recently, I've been noticing that a LOT of folks (myself included!) have been suffering symptoms of seasonal allergies – sneezing, itchy eyes, runny noses, etc. According to the folks who watch the pollen counts, the counts have been extremely high this season and even folks who've never suffered before are suffering now. Here are a few hints to help you cope with seasonal allergies:

Pollen. Check the pollen counts with the local weather station. Generally, pollen counts are worse in the early morning and on windy days. Take these steps to minimize exposure:

- Have someone else do your yard work while you stay inside with the windows closed.
- If you have to work outside, wear a face mask.
- Leave all gardening tools - including clothing - outdoors, and shower immediately after working outdoors.
- Plant low-allergenic grasses, trees and shrubs. Generally, flowering plants that rely on insect pollination are best, since their pollen are too large and heavy to become airborne.

Molds. If you're allergic to molds, avoid areas and items that harbor them, including:

- Moist, shady areas outdoors, garden compost piles, and greenhouses.
- Damp basements and closets, bathrooms, places where fresh food is stored, air conditioners, humidifiers, garbage pails, mattresses, upholstered furniture and old foam rubber pillows.
- Open a window or use a fan after a steamy shower or bath, to allow the humidity to escape.

Dust Mites. The best way to reduce exposure to dust mites is to reduce the dust in your home:

- Consider replacing wall-to-wall carpeting with wood, laminate, vinyl or tile floors.
- Use a vacuum cleaner equipped with a HEPA filter.
- Dust mites are most prevalent in the bedroom, so attack that room first. Remove blinds, down-filled blankets and feather pillows. Encase your bedding in zippered, plastic, airtight covers and wash all sheets and bedding weekly in the hottest water available.

Animals. All pets cause allergies, even Chihuahuas and so-called "hairless" cats. But, if you simply can't bear to find another home for your pet:

- Have someone else bathe your pet weekly and brush it outdoors several times a week.
- Use a room air purifier.
- Wear a face mask while cleaning house.
- Wash your hands after touching or handling your pet to avoid spreading the dander.
- Keep pets out of your bedroom.

While it's impossible to avoid airborne allergens entirely, implementing these things can greatly reduce their affect on you and your family. Of course, if things get unbearably out of control for you, seek help from your doctor as to what medication regime you may need to use. Good news is that the seasonal types of allergens should be nearly done popping out and soon settle down!



MUSIC NOTES

Hard to believe that half the year is nearly behind us. Discovering what some wiser folks have told me over the years..."Time moves faster the older you get." How true!

I was pondering a bit again about our past 100 Years. What is even more amazing is that 30 years ago this congregation was in the midst of a very ambitious campaign to replace our failing pipe organ. We stepped out in faith and raised nearly \$250,000.00 to acquire the world class instrument that has served us since that time. There were a number of firsts, including engaging the assistance of a foundation who guided us through the giving process. This was, after all, a bigger financial decision than was the actual construction of the church site in the 1950s.

Gifts and pledges began arriving. One retired member canceled her newspaper subscription and gave those funds toward the project, another couple gave a used car to the youth of the church. The vehicle was sold by the youth and proceeds given to the cause. Other members gave gifts from wills and estates, and vacant land. All this is to simply say that it taught us to not be afraid to take that leap of financial faith. We were a congregation at that time who had been debt free for 25 years, and were very comfortable with just making the annual budget. And, by the way, this same pipe organ in today's dollars... \$900,000.00.

If you have never seen the video of the installation of the pipe organ project, go to our web site and view. The quality is a bit grainy, but fast forward and see what all went into preparing our tiny balcony to

house 22,000 lbs. of pipe-work with a total of 1883 pipes.

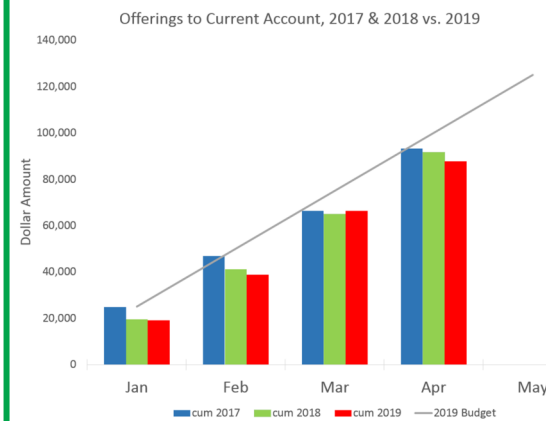
Here is how to get there...

holyc.org. Click on Resources, Click on Audio/Video, Scroll down to the 10th Video.

Blessings, Greg Cline

Treasurer's Report (Warren Heller)

Report for Month	April, 2019	Year-to-Date
Budgeted Expenses:	\$25,022.17	\$100,088.67
Actual Expenses:	26,578.90	101,962.21
Offerings Received:	21,358.45	87,860.46
Gain (Loss) for Period: (\$5,220.45)		(\$14,101.75)



Baby Bottle Blessings

Change for Change

Pick up a baby bottle from the narthex and fill it with your loose change.

This is a special project that will CHANGE countless lives.

Collection is for The Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County

Turn in the bottles on Father's Day, June 16th.

To give online and to learn more go to cpcgaston.org or cpcgaston.com



CHURCH SCHEDULE:

Sunday, June 2 7th Sunday of Easter

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

Tuesday, June 4

7:00 pm Chamber Choir
Nar-Anon

Sunday, June 9 Pentecost Sunday

9:30 am Africa Mission Trip presentation
Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church choir prep
10:30 am Worship Service w/Holy Communion
Lunch after
Church Council after

Tuesday, June 11

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Thursday, June 13

11:00 am Prime Timers Bible Study
12 Noon Lunch

Sunday, June 16 Holy Trinity Sunday

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

Tuesday, June 18

7:00 pm Christian Ed meeting
Health Ministry
Nar-Anon

Wednesday, June 19

6:45 pm Women's Bible Study monthly meeting

Sunday, June 23 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

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

Tuesday, June 25

6:00 pm Worship & Music Committee meets
7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Sunday, June 30 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am Adult Sunday School
10:10 am Church choir prep
10:30 am Worship Service w/Noisy Offering

Kickball starts Mid June.

Let the office or Tom Bocchino know if you are interested in playing. 18 years or older to participate (16 with parental consent).

Games are on Mondays and Thursday evenings at Belmont Central.

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTORS: Billy Joye, Chief Lector (Communion)

June 9 & 16: Billy Joye
June 2 & 23: Julia Gunter
June 30: Volunteer

ACOLYTE: Volunteer

CRUCIFER: Catherine Carr

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 2)

Brad Milton, Co-Captain
Brandy Milton, Co-Captain
Donna Bean
Beverly Robinson

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Volunteers

EUCCHARIST PRESENTERS: June 9 & 16: Volunteers

GREETERS FOR THE MONTH:

June 2: Katie Howard
June 9: Volunteer
June 16: Debbie Mendez
June 23: Sue Lahr
June 20: Deb Williams

JUNE TELLERS: Fran Holland & Trudy Whitener

USHERS: Volunteers

ALTAR FLOWERS:

June 2: Both vases available. (Call office)
June 9: Brian & Janet Achor (Both vases)
June 16: Debbie Mendez
1 vase available

June 23: Pat Long (Both vases)

June 30: Cher Grant & Linda Grimsley (Both vases)

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

June 2: Jenn Kearney
June 9: Volunteers
June 16: Rebecca Yount

June 23: Volunteers



June 30: Jenn Kearney

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

June 2: Jill Cassel
June 9: Volunteers
June 16: Volunteers
June 23: Volunteers
June 30: Volunteers

A nursery is provided for your convenience. We encourage you to use the nursery if your children become restless and/or vocal.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 The 7th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service	3	4 7:00 pm Nar-Anon	5	6 7:00 pm Tai Chi final session	7	8 2:00 –4:00 pm Dallas Foscue Memorial Celebration in fellowship hall
9 Pentecost Sunday 9:30 am Shelia Kelly's presentation of mission trip to Africa 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC Lunch after Council after	10	11 St. Barnabas, Apostle 6:30 pm Social Ministry 7:00 pm Nar-Anon	12	13	14 Flag Day 	15
16 Holy Trinity Sunday 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service w/HC <i>Happy Father's Day!</i>	17	18 7:00 pm Christian Ed meeting Nar-Anon	19  6:45 pm Women's Bible Study Meet for Fellowship (monthly during summer)	20	21	22
23 2nd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service	24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist	25 The Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530 6:00 pm Worship & Music meets 7:00 pm Nar-Anon	26	27	28	29 St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles
30 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Adult Sunday School 10:10 am Church choir prep 10:30 am The Service Noisy Offering						

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 3 Ginny Shoemaker
- June 6 Kaylin Leitner
- June 10 Greg Garrison
- June 11 Tonya Zander
- June 12 Martha Hogge
- June 16 Cooper Burwell
- Sarah Helms
- June 17 Marsha Kinley
- June 19 John Koehler
- Megan Sulak
- June 18 Dawn Fleming
- Shaelie Scharpenburg
- June 23 Eric Scholler
- June 25 Wil Carpenter
- June 27 Reid Passer
- June 29 Gabriel Kearney
- June 30 Leah Koehler

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

