

# Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, August 28, 2016

## The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Micah Kearney  
Pastor

Greg Cline  
Organist/Choirmaster

### GATHERING/WELCOME

**PRELUDE:** *This Is My Father's World* . . . . . Leavitt

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us,  
healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Just and gracious God,

**C** **we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**P** The apostle Paul assures us: "When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us live together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross." Jesus says to you, ☩ "Your sins are forgiven." Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

**C** **Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG: *What Is This Place* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



1 What is this place where we are meet-ing? On - ly a house, the  
 2 Words from a - far, stars that are fall - ing, sparks that are sown in  
 3 And we ac - cept bread at this ta - ble, bro - ken and shared, a



earth its floor. Walls and a roof shel - ter - ing peo - ple,  
 us like seed: names for our God, dreams, signs and won - ders  
 liv - ing sign. Here in this world, dy - ing and liv - ing,



win-dows for light, an o - pen door. Yet it be-comes a bod - y that lives  
 sent from the past are all we need. We in this place re - mem-ber and speak  
 we are each oth-er's bread and wine. This is the place where we can re - ceive



when we are gath - ered here, and know our God is near.  
 a - gain what we have heard: God's free re - deem-ing word.  
 what we need to in - crease: our jus - tice and God's peace.

Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

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## GREETING

**P** From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

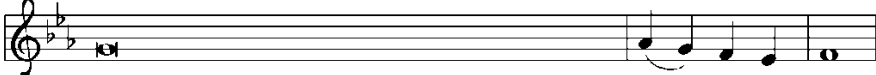
**C** And also with you.

## KYRIE

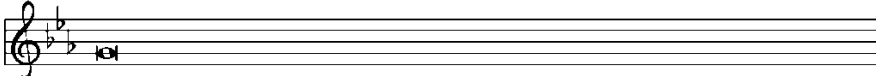


In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C   
 Lord, have mer - cy.

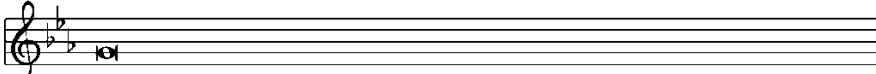
A   
 For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C   
 Lord, have mer - cy.

A   
 For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

  
 and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C   
 Lord, have mer - cy.

A   
 For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

  
 let us pray to the Lord.

C   
 Lord, have mer - cy.

A   
 Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

C   
 A - men, a - men.

## GLORY TO GOD



Glo - ry to God in the high -

est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

## FIRST READING

A reading from the twenty-fifth chapter of Proverbs.

<sup>6</sup>Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence  
or stand in the place of the great;  
<sup>7</sup>for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"  
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

**C Thanks be to God.**



6

and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.

**<sup>6</sup>For they will nev- | er be shaken;**

**the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;

their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.

**<sup>8</sup>Their heart is established and | will not shrink,**

**until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast forever;

they will hold up their | head with honor.

**<sup>10</sup>The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and | pine away;**

**the desires of the wick- | ed will perish.**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

A reading from the thirteenth chapter of Hebrews.

*The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.*

<sup>1</sup>Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

# GOSPEL VERSE ..... All Stand & Sing

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

*Repeat alleluia*

## GOSPEL

**Luke 14:1, 7-14**

**P** The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to mimic God's gracious hospitality to the poor and the broken.*

<sup>1</sup>On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

<sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner,



do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ..... Pastor Micah

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Gather Us In* ..... All Stand & Sing



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ers,  
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and

*Continues on next page...*



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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## **APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY:** *Bless the Lord My Soul* ..... Taize

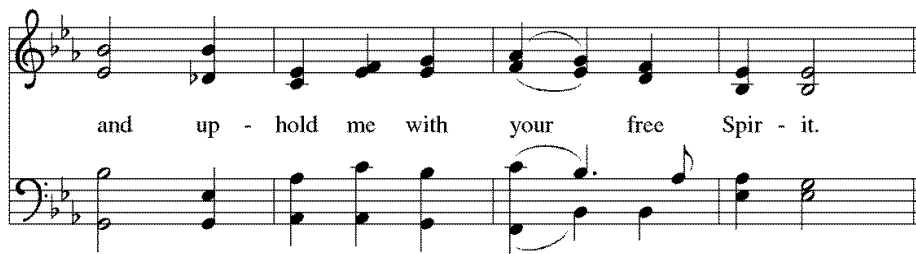
**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** *Create in Me* ..... All Stand & Sing

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in Christ and rising to serve, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

O God, guide leaders who speak your word to your people. Use your church's powerful witness and genuine invitation to welcome all to your banquet table. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We thank you for tables of abundant food. Bless crops, farms, and industries, that as co-creators with you, we may provide responsibly from the earth for the sake of all. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Break the bonds of captivity and injustice. Work in leaders and nations to bring peace and to advocate for the least of these. Hear us, O God

**Your mercy is great.**

Heal and comfort those we hold in our hearts and those who have asked for our prayers (*especially*). Bring hope to prisoners, refugees, and outsiders. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Strengthen marriages, families, and friendships with mutual love and respect. Bless our congregation to be a place of support and care for healthy relationships. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the promise of the heavenly banquet, we give thanks for all those who have died in faith. Join us, with them, at the resurrection of the righteous. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting your promise to hear us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

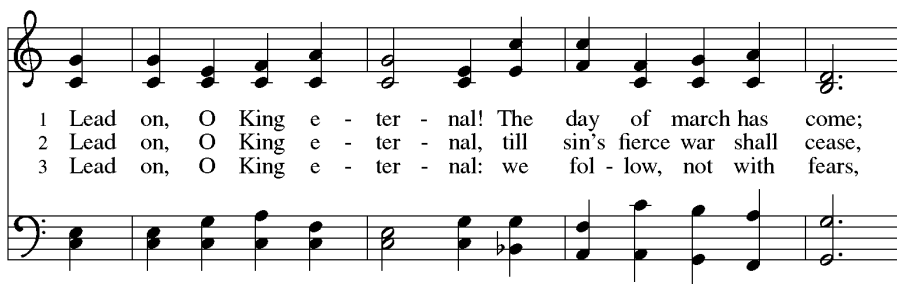
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

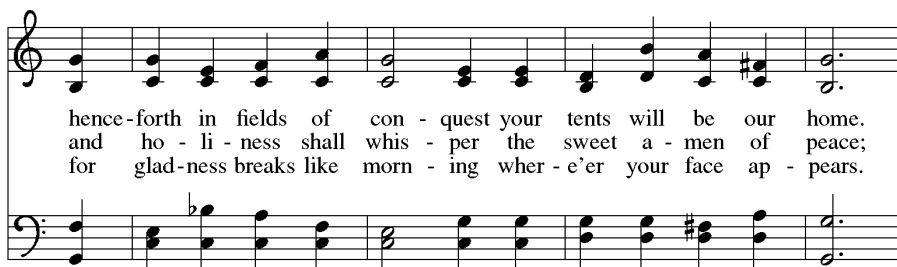
## **BLESSING**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

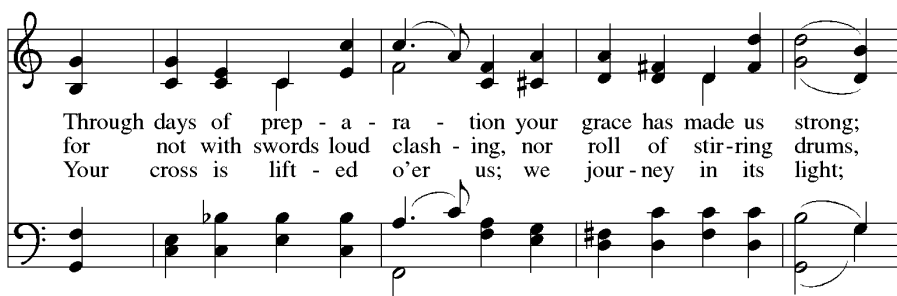
# SENDING SONG: *Lead On, O King Eternal* . . . . . All Stand & Sing



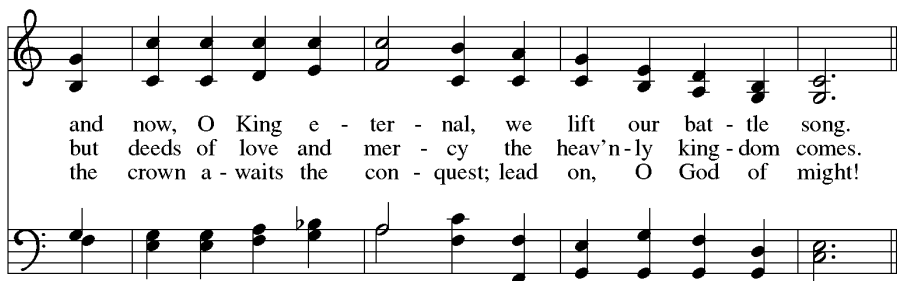
1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;  
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence - forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.  
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;  
 for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;  
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,  
 Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.  
 but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.  
 the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917  
 Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Proclaim the Good News!

C Thanks be to God.

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**A CORDIAL WELCOME** is extended to all of our visitors on this **The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**. We pray that you will find a warm fellowship while you are among us and that you will return home with a renewed sense of dedication to Jesus Christ. Please sign our guest register or a visitor's card so that we can become acquainted with you. If you are without a church home, we invite you to investigate membership in this family of God.

**CHILDREN** are welcome in worship. Jesus said, "let the children come to me!" Parents are encouraged to utilize the Kids Worship Kits found in the Narthex for older toddlers through early elementary age. Nurseries for children (**infants through 3 years old**) are located in the Education building. Let an usher know if you need assistance.



**KIDS' WORSHIP CENTER:** Pick up kits as you enter for worship! **Please return the tote bag** with the plastic bag of crayons, scratch pads, and pencils to the stand in the narthex. The children may take any papers home with them.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** A notebook has been placed in the narthex for your prayer requests during the week. The book will be in the narthex on Sundays and in the church office during the week. **If you wish a name to be added to our prayer list, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in a form online at [www.holyc.org](http://www.holyc.org).**

**THE FLOWERS ON OUR ALTAR TODAY** are given to the glory of God by Danny, Rochelle, Perri & Carson Potter in memory of Perry Kirkland, Rochelle's father; and by Greg Cline in honor of Tommy Causby's birthday.

**Those who have placed flowers on the altar** may use containers to take them home, but please return the containers to the church. ***Carmen Buell, Worship & Music***

## **Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, for August 21, 2016:**

Attendance: 115

## **Budget Report**

Current Offering Received  
Weekly Budgeted Expenses  
Offering, Year-To-Date (YTD)  
Offering less Actual Expenses Incurred, YTD  
Offering less Budgeted Expenses, YTD

**August 21, 2016**

\$ 3,960.00  
\$ 5,019.46  
\$ 172,061.39  
\$ 10,059.23  
\$ 4,759.76

## **ASSISTING MINISTERS:**

**LECTOR:** Andrew Bryant

**GREETER:** Jo Singleton

## **ACOLYTE & CRUCIFER:**

Need Volunteers

**NURSERY:** (9:30-11:45 am)

*Infants:* Staff

*Toddlers:* Volunteers Needed

## **ALTAR GUILD:**

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

**TELLERS:** Volunteers

**USHERS:** Need Volunteers

## **CHILDREN'S WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Amanda Kelly & Jill Cassel

**SOLO:** Ellen Fleming

## **BIRTHDAYS FOR THE WEEK: August 28-September 3**

August 29 Matthew Bruchon  
Tommy Causby

August 30 Eric Ange  
Becca Gatlin  
September 2 Preston Baker



## **THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:**

### **Today, Sunday, August 28**

9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
10:10 am Church Choir in Choir Room  
10:30 am The Service  
4:00 pm Children's Ensemble  
5:00 pm Church Choir Practice

### **Holy Comforter Youth**

(Grades 6-12) **Pool Party at the Buell's home**

### **Tuesday, August 30**

7:00 pm Nar-Anon



**The Finance Committee is in need of 3 more tellers.** If anyone would like to volunteer to assist with counting the contributions collected on Sundays, please contact Shelia Kelly at 704-718-6161. Tellers typically count 1 or 2 months out of the year.





**Rally Day 2016! Christian Education would like to invite everyone to attend Rally Day, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am** in the Fellowship Hall. Come hear about the classes we will offer this year, meet your teachers, and enjoy some delicious breakfast and fellowship.

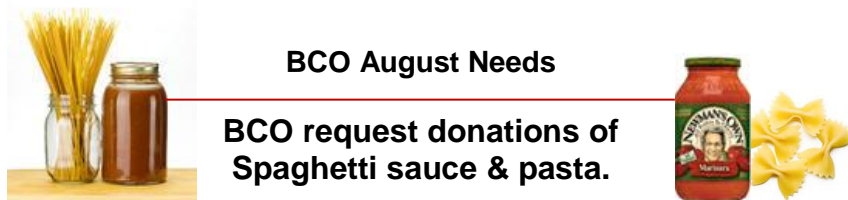
If you would like to contribute a dish to the breakfast meal, please email Melissa Bocchino at [melissa.bocchino@pwc.com](mailto:melissa.bocchino@pwc.com) to let her know what you plan to bring so we can make sure we have everything covered for a good meal for all.

**Sunday School for ages 3 and up begins September 18<sup>th</sup>.** If you are unsure which class to attend, come explore our offerings on Rally Day or ask Pastor Micah or a Christian Education team member for assistance.

Christian Education Committee members should watch your email for additional information regarding Rally Day, next in person meeting and other items.

Yours in Christ,  
Your friendly Christian Education Committee

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### **SPECIAL NEEDS FOR HERITAGE OAKS:**

In an email contact with Maribeth Pangilinan, the activities' director at *Heritage Oaks*, she made the following statement, "Some churches are still continuing doing group activities. However, **we need some churches or church groups that can come play the piano or do some games especially BINGO**".



Please consider this request seriously and contact Maribeth to schedule your activity at [maribeth.pangilinan@heritageoaks.org](mailto:maribeth.pangilinan@heritageoaks.org).

**Thank You Holy Comforter for \$534.39** received from the ***Baby Bottle Blessings*** project for **Crisis Pregnancy Center of Gaston County**. The total raised was **\$69,419.74**. You have helped touch the lives of families in need.

Do you have a special place in your heart for the unborn?  
What about a young woman facing an unplanned pregnancy?  
Has there been a desire placed within your heart to help others  
come to know the Lord's unconditional love for and acceptance  
of them?

If so, we have the place for you!



We would love to have you join us for  
the fall session of our  
**Volunteer Peer Counselor Training**  
to begin September 27, 2016  
At 700 Robinson Rd.  
Gastonia

Training last for 5 weeks and will be held every  
Tuesday night from 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm.

We have 5 locations around Gaston County  
That needs peer counselors like you!

Please contact Rhonda Gottfried at

704-867-3706 or

[rhonda.gottfried.cpc@gmail.com](mailto:rhonda.gottfried.cpc@gmail.com)

for more information.

The Volunteer Application can be  
downloaded on our website,

[cpcgaston.net](http://cpcgaston.net)





## **PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER**

Louise Austin  
Brenda Dabrowski  
Shawn De Nicholas  
Ardean Ewing  
Dot Holland

Zac Hullander  
Tom Irwin  
Chase Lineberger  
Holly Peche  
Sherry Perry

Marguerite Shive  
Mark Reese  
Beverly Reynolds

## **GREATER FAMILY OF GOD**

Richard Abernethy  
Paige Beaver  
Jenny Beer  
Barbara Bingham  
Emma Davis Bremer  
Graham Brezler  
Libby Byrum  
Father Frank Cancro  
Tina Capwell  
Clell Davis  
J. Don Devine  
Zachary Evans  
Carol Baker Fox  
Poss Garrett  
Ronnie Garrison  
Tammy Gordon

Brian Hedrick  
Stacy Hunsucker  
Dennis Jordan  
Steven Keating  
Marshall Kinley  
Laura Lanuto  
Jennifer Lineberger  
Terry Mahaffey  
Amy McGinnis  
Gene McRorie  
Don Moore  
Jean Peters  
Jim Poag  
Taylor Propst &  
Family  
David Prouty

Julio Quiros  
Tim Reid  
Dan Robinson &  
Daughters Breanna & Mikayla  
Anna Rudder  
Tangie Shingler  
Megan Sigler  
E. Taylor & Family  
Carson Thomas  
Sally Vanhoy  
Gloria Ward  
Olivia Wilcox  
Jeff Wiles  
Bruce Zander

## **OUR SERVICEMEN**

Matt Cisek  
Jason Gardner

Dillon Kasmer  
Leo Kasmer

Tom Kasmer  
Mike Kelso



## **OUR MISSIONARY**

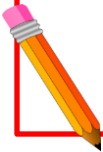
Alyssa Buchanan in Manzini, Swaziland, South Africa

Please remember these people in your prayers.

**If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list, please inform Kathy Graves.**

The sign-up prayer forms are located in the narthex and online at [www.holyc.org](http://www.holyc.org).

# Holy Doodles



## **Holy Comforter Lutheran Church**

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483

[holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto:holycomforter@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:30 am Sunday School, 10:30 am The Service**

**Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am — 3:00 pm**

Micah Kearney, Pastor email: [MicahKearney@gmail.com](mailto:MicahKearney@gmail.com)

Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster

Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor

Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager