

Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter

216 N. Main Street • Belmont, NC 28012 • Sunday, June 2, 2019

The Seventh Sunday of Easter



Micah Kearney
Pastor

Greg Cline
Organist/Choirmaster

GATHERING /WELCOME

PRELUDE: *Walk in the Light* Marrolli

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C Amen.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

P We give you thanks, O God, O Living One, for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly. Oceans and aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you.

All life is sustained by you, our Source. We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead, who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life. Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God. Here, death is washed away forever. Here, we are grafted into the tree of life, with leaves for the healing of the world.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly, into this community, and throughout all creation. Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions. Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Thine the Amen* All Stand & Sing



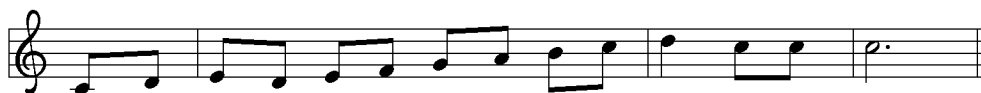
1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be
 3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
 4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
 thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929

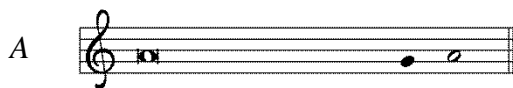
Text and music © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

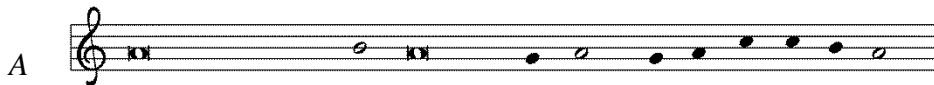
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



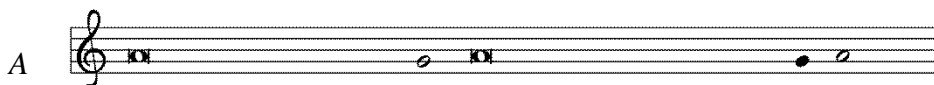
Lord, have mer - cy.



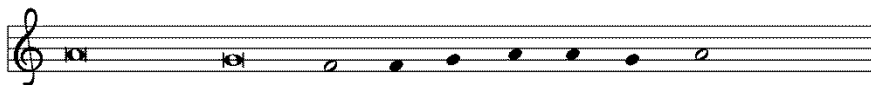
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



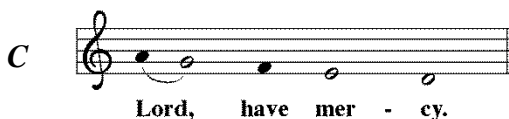
Lord, have mer - cy.



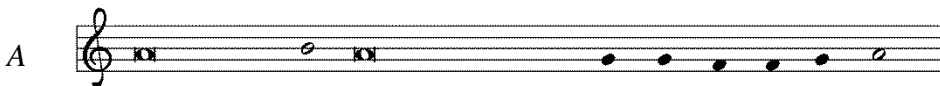
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



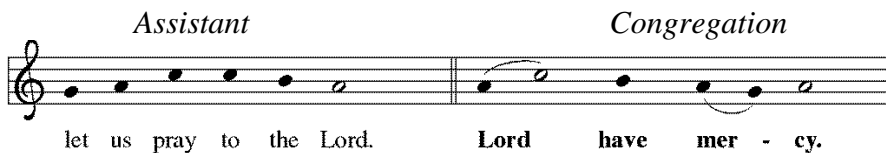
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

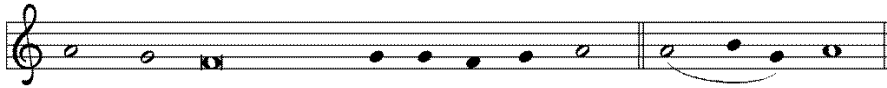


let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.

Assistant

Congregation



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

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



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,



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

*Congregation is Seated and are invited to **sing “Jesus Loves Me”**
as the children come forward.*

CHILDREN’S TIME

Children ages 4 to 8 years-old are invited to go to the Education building for a 20-minute (or so) time together **immediately after the Children’s sermon**. *Children will return to their parents during the hymn of the day.* Children **birth through 3 years-old** are invited to join others their age **in the nursery**.

FIRST READING

Acts 16:16-34

A reading from Acts, the sixteenth chapter.

The owners of a slave-girl who used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for “healing” her and, consequently, ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

¹⁶One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, “These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.” ¹⁸She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰When they

had brought them before the magistrates, they said, “These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.” ²²The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. ²⁷When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted in a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” ²⁹The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰Then he brought them outside and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” ³¹They answered, “Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” ³²They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 97 All Sing

¹The LORD reigns; let the | earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the | isles be glad.

²**Clouds and darkness sur- | round the LORD,**
righteousness and justice are the foundations | of God’s throne.

³Fire goes be- | fore the LORD,
burning up enemies on | every side.

⁴**Lightnings light | up the world;**

the earth | sees and trembles.

⁵The mountains | melt like wax
before the Lord of | all the earth.

⁶**The heavens declare your righteous- | ness, O LORD,
and all the peoples | see your glory.**

⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight | in false gods!
Bow down before the LORD, | all you gods.

⁸**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice,
because of your judg- | ments, O LORD.**

⁹For you are the LORD, most high over | all the earth;
you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.

¹⁰**You who love the | LORD, hate evil!**

**God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand | of the
wicked.**

¹¹Light dawns | for the righteous,
and joy for the hon- | est of heart.

¹²**Rejoice in the | LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's | holy name.**

SECOND READING

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

A reading from Revelation, the twenty-second chapter.

*The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray,
“Come, Lord Jesus,” with all who respond to this invitation.*

¹²“See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone’s work.

¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁶“It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.”

And let everyone who hears say, “Come.”

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

²⁰The one who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.”

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

John 17:20-26

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."



P The gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Congregation is seated.

SERMON Pastor Micah

Silence is kept for reflection.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Rise, o Sun of Righteousness* All Stand & Sing

1 Rise, O Sun of right - teous - ness; with your
2 Rouse our hearts from slum - ber deep; may your
3 Gath - er in your scat - tered flock; give us
4 Burst the bars of stub - born pride; make the
5 Hon - or, praise, and glo - ry be to the

might cre - a - tion bless. Shine up - on your church to - day,
word with - in us leap. Give us voic - es to pro - claim
wa - ter from the rock. Bless the u - ni - ty we share
heav'n - ly path - way wide. Raise us up from sin and death
ho - ly Trin - i - ty! May your gra - cious will be done:

show - ing all your gen - tle way. Have mer - cy, Lord.
prais - es to your ho - ly name. Have mer - cy, Lord.
in our shep - herd's lov - ing care. Have mer - cy, Lord.
with your Spir - it's liv - ing breath. Have mer - cy, Lord.
make us one, as you are one. Have mer - cy, Lord.

Text: Christian David, et al.; tr. Frank W. Stoldt, b. 1958

Music: SONNE DER GERECHTIGKEIT, Bohemian Brethren, *Kirchengeseng*, 1566

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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 ANTHEM: *Children of the Heavenly Father* Church Choir

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



OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Bless diversity in worship and ministry across all nations and cultures. Unite us in Christ and keep us faithful in our calling to show your love to the world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pour out over all the earth the water of life as a gift. Wash the wounds of creation and restore all living things to wholeness. Protect ocean habitats, river ecosystems, and wetlands. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Give a spirit of collaboration to leaders of the nations, so that all people know safety, security, and dignity. Heal victims of torture and liberate those who are wrongfully imprisoned or detained. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Come quickly to the aid of your people. Give wisdom and the gift of calm to military, prison, hospital, and hospice chaplains who stand as signs of your abiding presence. Refresh all who thirst for love, hope, or healing (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Let your word fill our hearts and our homes. Bless all who teach us the faith: pastors and deacons, Sunday school and confirmation teachers, public theologians, mentors, curriculum writers, and publishers. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Hold all the saints in the grace of the Lord Jesus. Sustain weary souls with the promise that the morning star is coming soon to lead us into light. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen 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 blessing of the living God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *Son of God, Eternal Savior* All Stand & Sing

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,

Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:

you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,

fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

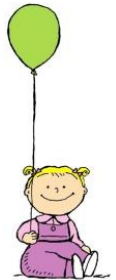
SENDING

- A You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
- C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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A CORDIAL WELCOME is extended to all our visitors on this **Seventh Sunday of Easter**. 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. A nursery for children (**infants through 3 years old**) is 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 board, please fill out a form from the prayer book or fill in the form on line at www.holyc.org.**

Attendance & Budget Report for Sunday, May 26, 2019:

Attendance: 80

Budget Report

	<u>May 26, 2019</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Offering	\$ 2,552.00	\$105,510.46
Expenses	\$ 5,774.35	\$123,409.78
Offering less Expenses	<u>(\$ 3,222.35)</u>	<u>(\$ 17,899.32)</u>
Expected (Budgeted) Expenses		<u>\$121,536.24</u>
Offering less Budgeted Expenses		<u>(\$ 16,025.78)</u>

Sanctuary Roof and HVAC Status as Of: 5/26/19

Goal: \$225,000
Received to Date: 150,620
Additional Amounts Promised: 35,000
Remaining Needed: \$ 39,380

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

LECTOR: Julia Gunter

GREETER: Katie Howard

ACOLYTE: Volunteer

CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Jenn Kearney

CRUCIFER: Catherine Carr

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

Jill Cassel

ALTAR GUILD: (Team 2)

Brad Milton, Co-Captain

Brandy Milton, Co-Captain

Donna Bean

Beverly Robinson

TELLERS: Fran Holland
Trudy Whitener

USHERS: Volunteers

BIRTHDAYS FOR THIS WEEK: June 2-8

June 3 Ginny Shoemaker

June 6 Kaylin Leitner

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS:

Today, Sunday, June 2

9:30 am Adult Sunday School

10:10 am Church Choir

10:30 am The Service

Thursday, June 6:

7:00 pm Tai Chi session in
Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, June 4:

7:00 pm Nar-Anon

Next Sunday, June 9, is Pentecost Sunday.

9:30 am Presentation of Africa Mission Trip by Shelia Kelly & fellow missionaries

10:10 am Church Choir prep

10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion

Lunch after (Congregation brings side dish or dessert to share)

Meat & drinks provided

Church council meets after lunch



PRAYERS FOR OUR FAMILY OF HOLY COMFORTER

Cathleen Allen
Cynthia Buchanan
Brenda Dabrowski
Becke Featherstone
Sarah Tench Helms

Kay Holden
Zac Hullander
Sue Lahr
Ben Moose
Sherry Perry

Marguerite Shive
Denise Taylor
Beverly Reynolds
Jerri & Mike Wesson

GREATER FAMILY OF GOD

Sue Barbee
Amy Beale Blythe
Doug Brewer
Ron de la Vega
Nancy Dickson
Qemal Fazlin
(Halide's husband)
Carol Fox
Earl Gardner

Larry "Poss" Garrett
Meredith Hovis
Adam Kincaid
Steve Leonard
Jennifer Lineberger
Ronnie Lunsford
Ruth Lyerly
Cookie Lynn
Jane Marino

Clarence McLain
Zak Merzouki
Anne Murdy
Linda Nichols
Sara Nichols
Tommy Smith
Brody Thornburg
Dennis Yates
Doris Wade

OUR SERVICEMEN

Beau Carroll

Tom Kasmer

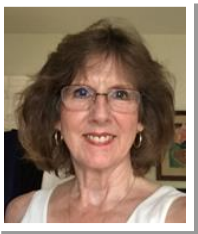
Leo Kasmer

Colton Parker



Please remember these people in your prayers.
**If anyone has a person who needs to be added or removed from this list,
please inform the church office.**

The sign-up prayer forms are in the narthex and online at www.holyc.org.



Walk With God to Wherever, Whenever!

A Journey of Spiritual Faith and Physical Exercise

What is it?

An imaginary walk. The west coast is approximately 2250 miles from Holy Comforter Church. We will attempt a collective walk to the west coast – and back – approximately 4500 miles. Mary and Joseph walked to Bethlehem for the birth of Christ. Jesus walked to Jerusalem for the crucifixion. Of course, Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, didn't start from Belmont which is why this walk will be a collective effort - we will pool our miles. That way, no one has to go terribly far, but hopefully far enough to increase health.

What if I hate to walk?

Well, what do you like to do? Any moderately-paced activity done for 20 minutes that gets your heartbeat up counts. Hiking, biking, rowing, swimming, gardening, raking leaves, golfing, running up/downstairs to do laundry, all count.

Can I sign up my neighbor who wants to participate with me?

Of course. The more walkers, the better. Neighbors, family, boy scout troops...all good! The Parish Nurse has nightmares of nobody signing up and being faced with trying to average 375 miles a week all by herself!

What do I get?

Well, hopefully healthier. But also, a participant packet which includes an instruction sheet, logs to track and report your mileage, weekly words to ponder upon, and a health tidbit loosely related to the scripture.

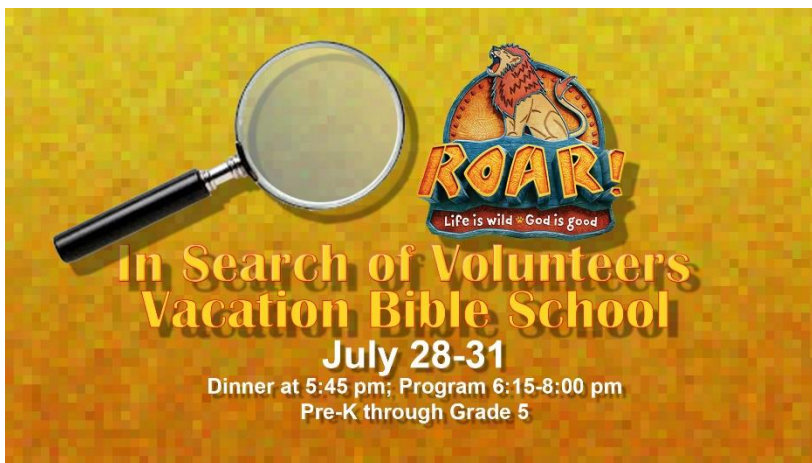
When does it start?

You may, of course, start at any time. However, the miles begin to count on June 9th. This gives us 12 weeks to complete our journey in time for the end of the program (last miles to be turned in on August 31st) and you can join in at any time.

How do I sign up?

You will need to get a participant packet, either at church at the sign-up location near the coffee in the fellowship hall – OR – by contacting the Parish Nurse who will send it to you via email. If you decide to participate, be sure to sign up so we know you are one of the “collective bunch!”

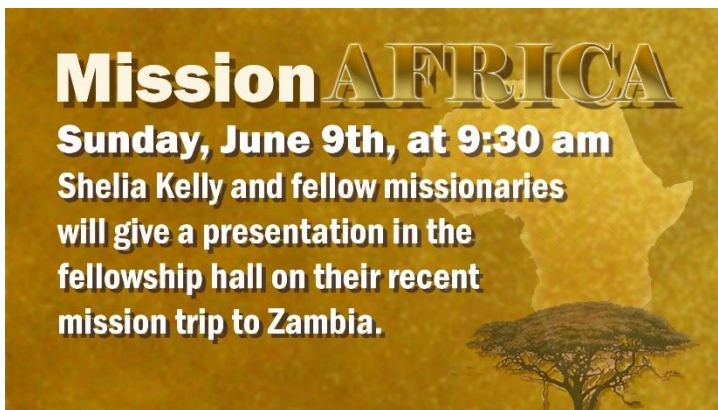
As part of our process to shape our congregation's purpose and guiding principles, beginning in mid-June and going through the summer our Planting Hope team members will be meeting with folks to build relationships and get to know more about you and your hopes for Holy Comforter. We would love for you 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.





Holy Doodles

NOTE: To ensure inclusion in the bulletin all information is due to Dianne in the office by **12 Noon on Wednesdays**.



Holy Comforter Lutheran Church

216 N. Main Street Belmont, NC 28012 704-825-2483
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: MKearney@holyc.org
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster
Beka Forst, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager
Teresa Keller, Parish Nurse