



How is that we somehow are entering July? I have to tell you a secret, this kind of heat is not my favorite. I find that it makes me outside hard to enjoy and being around good people make it better. As I have been planning VBS for the summer, I have been reflecting on last summer's VBS. We did our entire programming under the tent, and it was hot and delightful. We laughed, did crafts, science experiments led by youth, and played with puppets and games. When I think about last year's VBS, I think about all of those wonderfully joyful memories and not the heat.

As we look forward to the months to come, the fun to be had, and the heat that lies ahead I can't want to make more memories. I can't wait to play, and get dirty, and learn with our young people. In July there is so much to get excited about.

There is Movie on the Lawn on the 8th, my first ordination anniversary on the 16th, our mission trip to The Dwelling at the end of the month and before you know it VBS will be here in August. This year our VBS program is Compassion Camp, and our theme is Lovingkindness. We will spend the week talking and learning about compassion in action. We will learn from Miriam, Elijah, the Disciples, and Jesus. We are looking for volunteers to help make this week a faithfully fun success, if you are interested in helping out please contact me.

~Beka Forst



## July Newsletter

***Worship with us Sundays at 10:30 am.***

*Each 10:30 am service is livestreamed on the website and transmitted to the parking lot over the radio and communion is served to those present.*

**Micah Kearney, Pastor**  
**Email: [mkearney@holyc.org](mailto:mkearney@holyc.org)**

**Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster**

**Beka Forst, Deacon of Discipleship**

**Sandra Askey, Office Manager**

**Church Office Hours: Monday—Friday: 8:30 am-2:00 pm**

**216 N. Main Street, Belmont, NC 28012**

**Phone: 704-825-2483**

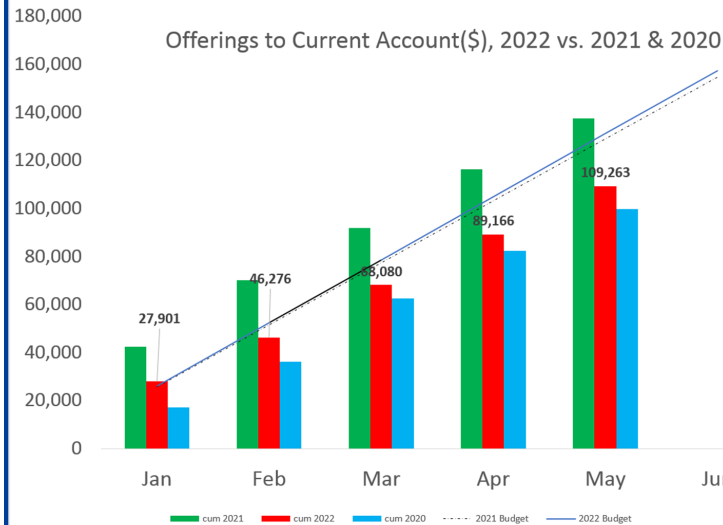
**Email: [holycomforter@gmail.com](mailto:holycomforter@gmail.com)**



### **Faithful Families Tip—*Sock Puppet show!***

Each member of your family makes a sock puppet, and then you create a puppet show retelling a bible story.

## Treasurer's Report for May 2022



\$9,534.99. Year-to-date spending was \$12,312.01 below the amount planned in the 2022 budget. The adjacent chart compares this year's offering income, by month, with that of the two previous years. This and last year's budget tracks are also presented in the graph. ~Warren Heller

### Events to Note:

*The schedule below is our expected weekly programs and meetings. When exceptions happen they will be posted on the website calendar and in weekly emails.*

#### • **Sundays:**

10:10 am– Church & Chamber Choir

10:30 am–Worship in Sanctuary

*\*Service livestreamed on website and transmitted by radio to parking lot.*

#### • **Tuesdays:**

7:00 pm- Nar-Anon

#### • **Wednesdays:**

4:00 pm- Adult Faith Formation afternoon video

- Movie on the Lawn– 8pm– July 8th

-Prime Timers– July 14th 10:30am.

-Outreach Meeting– 7pm– July 21st

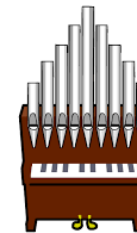
-Summer Camp shenanigans – July 20-22nd

- Mission Trip- Jul 22- 24th

## Music Notes

From Greg Cline

Music Week at Lutheridge will be July 10 - 16. This year I will be attending all the weekly sessions as a tenor in the choir, participating in many workshops, as well as concerts and hymn festivals. Erin and Tyler Cassell will be representing Holy Comforter this year. Their experiences include all the normal camp activities from swimming pool, crafts, games, bible time, as well as musical events. We look forward to returning and sharing our experiences.



As shared in previous newsletters we are remembering with fondness the demolition and restoration of our pipe organ which took place 30 years ago. On Pentecost Sunday, 1992 we heard the old pipe organ for the last time. On the last hymn of the service that day the choir processed along with the entire congregation to the front of the church. We borrowed a fog machine from Belmont Abbey theatre. During the postlude I literally pulled out all the stops and the entire balcony, pipe organ, and organist vanished into a vapor of smoke. Actually, what more appropriate way to go, than

on Pentecost Sunday.

We then removed the pipe work, some of which were shipped to Indiana to be incorporated into the new instrument. Some pipes were donated to other churches to add depth to what they possessed. Volunteers from our church family shared in the demolition, using everything from sledge hammers, to carefully removing delicate woodwork that could be transformed into small pieces of furniture. That summer involved the removal of pews, carpet, and all of the fabrics were covered in order to pressure wash the entire Sanctuary from floor to ceiling. The balcony was expanded, steel beams were installed by cranes to carry the additional 22,000 lbs of the new organ.

We got by with pianos/keyboards from June until December of that year. More to share about the building process in the coming months. It was an amazing time to watch the instrument come together. Needless to say that this organist got little accomplished that summer. Building a pipe organ is very similar to constructing a house, with the nuances, detail, and decisions that have to be determined.

Holy Comforter Church took a huge leap of faith with our 75th Anniversary project. It truly has been a joy to lead congregational singing in our house of worship. God has blessed us beyond measure!

Greg Cline, Music Director





# MOVIE ON THE LAWN!

July 8th  
STARTS AT 8PM



Worship Volunteers Needed!

Consider signing up to be apart of our worship experience on Sunday mornings! You can sign up using the ipad located in the

## July Birthdays

*We recognize and celebrate these birthdays! 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 2

July 3

July 4

July 9

July 13

July 14

July 15

July 16

July 18

July 19

July 20

July 21

July 22

July 26

July 28

July 31

Elaine Moose  
Ellie Holloway  
Amanda Kelly  
Rachel Bailey  
Ann Miller  
Eugenia Smith  
Finn Nance  
Don Robinson  
Beka Forst  
Beverley Mauney  
Russell Fleming  
Sierra Hullander  
Matt Piscatelli  
Lynne Sudarich  
JoAnne de la Vega  
Winters Hogge  
Tyler Cassel  
Brian Mitchell  
John Crist  
Mellissa Bocchino  
Gary Clark  
Linda Cox  
David Povinelli  
Don Doctor

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

### Prime Timers Bible Study

Our Prime Timers group, those of retirement age and up, will gather again for Bible Study in person on **Thursday, July 14th at 10:30am**. We will meet at the church in the fellowship hall. We will be looking at the gospel of **Luke**. We look forward to a time of Bible Study and fellowship together!

### JOIN US FOR COMPASSION CAMP

AUGUST 7TH-10TH  
6PM-8PM  
CONTACT BEKA FORST TO REGISTER!



### Outreach Committee Meeting



Join Outreach on July 21st at 7pm, in the fellowship hall.

For more information contact Brittany Lewis.



## Spark & Dwell Mission Trip

July 24-29

For more Information, contact Beka





Grace and Peace,

As we head into July, I am thinking about the groundwork that we're laying. That's happening literally, as in July we're expecting to see some significant work begin on our courtyard project, and we are literally laying groundwork as the old pavers are torn up and we will lay new ones down over the next few months, along with new lighting and landscaping.

It will make a difference as our outdoor gathering spaces are safer, first of all, as well as more welcoming for members and visitors alike as it is revitalized space. I look forward to seeing this work get underway, and invite everyone to contribute to that work by pledging financial support for it either through the weekly email or the card in the narthex at church. But that isn't the only groundwork that we're laying lately. We're also working to get input from folks about our faith formation programming at Holy Comforter, hoping to learn both the kinds of programs folks can be involved in, as well as when they can happen.

We plan to introduce a small group program that will center around devotions, prayer and mutual support, and community together. We are committed to providing faith formation for our members, though in the busyness of these days the time that it happens may shift, and we're trying to discern what is best for our adults and children alike. We're doing this work with our new purpose statement and core values in mind, the groundwork that we've laid to shape the ministry we do in Christ's name at Holy Comforter.

Our purpose statement is "Journey through faith in a joyful, safe community, welcoming and serving Belmont and beyond." Our core values are "Embrace, Grow, Connect, and Give." Both "Embrace" and "Connect" are about relationships, making connections with others and being a place where all people feel like they are seen and have a place. Our small group program is one way we are working to live into those core values moving forward, and we would love for everyone to be a part of a small group.

Our faith formation commitment is centered around our core value of "grow." Our commitment to growth is not centered around numbers, but around faith. We want to be a community that gives people a safe place to wrestle with their faith, as well as challenges them to grow in their faith and relationship with Christ. We do this by engaging in faith formation opportunities, and by engaging with one another, as we know the Spirit works through each other in our lives. Even our courtyard project is a work to be a more welcoming place for people.

There is more groundwork being laid than just these things. Our outreach committee is working to establish new relationships and new projects for ways we will serve "Belmont and beyond," for instance, and I am thankful for all the work folks are doing to make this work happen. Keep an ear out as we build on this groundwork and invite you to be a part of living out our purpose and values as Christ's disciples through Holy Comforter.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Micah

### Purpose Statement and Core Values Finalized

Our council has officially adopted both a new mission/purpose statement for the congregation, which is both descriptive and aspirational at once, and core values, which are the guardrails that keep us true to ourselves as we follow this purpose. We look forward to weaving these into the work that we do to organize, focus, and energize our work together in Christ's name!

***Purpose Statement:*** Journeying through faith in a joyful, safe community, welcoming and serving Belmont and Beyond.

#### ***Core values:***

**Embrace-** God creates a diverse and beautiful creation. We are here to be a community in which all people are seen and affirmed.

**Grow-** God calls us to journey in faith. We strive to build and strengthen the faith of all who are part of the Holy Comforter community.

**Connect-** God calls us together as a community of faith and belonging. We seek to nurture relationships and fellowship within the Holy Comforter family.

**Give-** God created a world of abundance. We give generously of ourselves, our time, our talent and our treasure.