



Pastor's Message

I'm back, and glad to be home! And back, and thinking there was still so much more to see, do, hear, and learn!

Jason and Angie Connelly, as well as Kim and I and another 30 folks connected to Trinity Lutheran Seminary have returned from our trip to the Holy Land (Israel, West Bank, Golan Heights, etc) and it was, indeed, a wonderful and powerful experience. Thank you for letting and helping me go on this special trip.

Two solid weeks of experiences with people, visits to places of OT and NT history and events, as well as so much that has happened since then up to our current day. Just as our Bible contains history, but isn't just history, our trip walked through history, but is more importantly filled with stories of people, God, faith, conquest, promise, hope, resilience, changes.... What happened 2000 years ago is important – but what it means to us, and for us, is so much more important.

The four of us are talking about various ways that we might be able to share this experience with you all. No final decisions yet, so stay tuned!

Pastor Scott

Upcoming Sermons

Feb 3: Variety is a Gift from God

Feb 10: First Things First

Feb 17: Of Ruins, Relics and Faith

Feb 24: Special guest Katie Elkins, ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission

ST. LUKE'S YOUTH

Feb 1-3: Middle school retreat to Lutheridge for Confirmation. Micki and Marian will be chaperones.

February 10th: regular meeting

February 16th at 6:30 pm: Game Show, How Well Do You Know Your Valentine.

Join us for an entertaining evening of experienced Valentine couples competing for who knows who best! Finger foods will be served.

February 23rd: Winter Jam, Greensboro. Leave at 2:00 pm. Cost to Youth is \$20 a ticket. Give to Marian by 2/16.

February 24th: regular meeting

Thursday Study Group

Our 10 am study group is continuing the exploration of what daily life was like in the time of Jesus. We will likely finish the topic in mid February. The next topic will be focused on a specific book of the Bible, probably Esther.

Prayer & Spiritual Direction

1st Wednesdays at 2 pm

Our Prayer and Spiritual Direction group is beginning a new topic of discussion, using the book "The Furious Longing of God" by Brennan Manning and short devotions from "Jacob the Baker". Consider joining us on the first Wednesday of the month at 2 pm for a time dedicated to growing our spiritual lives, practices to help us listen for the voice of God, and sharing how we see God working in and around us.

St. Luke's Women of the ELCA will meet on Thursday, Feb. 14, at 7:00 pm to set up for the Rowan District Retreat to be held at St. Luke's on Saturday, Feb. 16, from 9 am-2 pm. Please contact Kathy Holt by Feb. 3 if you plan to attend this retreat. Registration is \$10.

Our 2019 Events Calendar is available in the Narthex, and already has many events planned – some with firm dates, others TBD. Take a copy for yourself, or your team or committee, and see what we might need to add or update! New versions published periodically.

St. Luke's Vine

February, 2019

Volume 53, Edition 6

www.stlukesmtulla.org

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(704) 278-2710

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

February:

- 3: Gracie Morgan
- 10: Shana Putnam
- 17: Grover Holt
- 24: Robin Hampton

ACOLYTE

Payton Holt

ALTAR GUILD

Louise Cashion Alice Weaver
 Jennifer Perrell Jody Perrell

Council Tellers

Grover Holt Mark Parrish

USHERS

Linda Pruet Russell Pruet
 Clyde Harkey Chase Hovis

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

- February 3: Deanna Allison
- 10: Julie Hoffner
- 17: Jennifer Perrell
- 24: Guest, Katie Elkins

GREETERS

- February 3: Sandy Arrowood
- 10: Jennifer Perrell
- 17: Alice Weaver
- 24: Mary Harkey

USHERS AND GREETERS will have a lunch/ meeting after worship on March 3.

Update: Sanctuary Doors

ALMOST DONE! Almost. Almost....

Printer Cartridges – Recycle Credit

Have you got any empty computer printer ink cartridges? Drop them off at the church office or box in the narthex Info Center. Staples will give us credit to spend on office supplies.

Meals on Wheels

Volunteer Schedule
for February

- February 1: Ted Holt
- 5: Sally Morgan
- 7: Joan Kennerly
- 8: Nancy Harris
- 12: Sally Morgan
- 13: Karen Moore
- 15: Ted Holt
- 19: Alice Weaver
- 21: Joan Kannerly
- 22: Linda Clodfelter
- 26: Dianne Davis
- 27: Alice Weaver

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ALTAR FLOWERS (\$60)

- February 3 – Mrs. Margaret Getchell
- 10 – Mrs. Alice Weaver
- 17 – Mrs. Faye Peeler
- 24 – M/M Joe Hampton

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Youth Meals

- Feb. 10 – Sally Morgan
- Feb. 24 – Todd & Stephanie Holt

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Fish Fry Community Support – Request for Funds page may be found in the Info Center in the narthex. We love hearing about your proposals to help the community. Please complete and return the form by February 13. Council will review proposals at the February meeting, so we can share with the congregation and publicize the March 16 Fish Fry/Yard Sale.

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FAITH BASICS – March 10

Save the date!! Next Faith Basics is tentatively scheduled for March 10, after worship. Topic: "Worship" – Sundays. Every day. This place. Every place. Liturgy. Life. This is a NEW date, pushed out a few weeks from the original.

Council Meeting Notes

Council's meeting on the morning of Sunday Jan 27, was too late to be included in this issue.

Summary notes from that session will be included in next month's newsletter.

Thank You to Pastor Scott and St. Luke's congregation for the prayers, words of encouragement, and many other deeds of kindness shown this past year. The love offering relieved a great burden and helped pay my medical expenses. You are truly a blessing to me!
Judy Getzlaff

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COMPLIMENTS! From you, to you.

Here's your notes of compliment and thanks to each other:

- Laurie and all Cantata musicians for an uplifting and wonderful cantata. It was terrific!
- Everyone who helped with Christmas in the Mountains for being so generous and thoughtful. It was very successful with some funds left over for next year.
- Pastor Scott for sharing the Gospel SandStory –Miracle at Christmas—at our Christmas Eve service. It was very inspiring!

The Spiritual Side of Life

There's a real fun little book called "Crazy Talk-A Not So Stuffy Dictionary of Theological Terms" by Rolf Jacobson. Here's one. Used with permission. May they make you laugh, or think, or both! Pastor Scott.

Word of God \wuhrd-uhv-gahd\ n. or v.

A person, a book, and an event – all at the same time.

We dare you to ask ten people to finish this sentence: "The Word of God is..." You'll get eleven answers. Or one answer: the Bible. But it's more complicated than that. The Word of God refers to (1) Jesus, God's word to us (see John 1:1-4); (2) the Bible; and (3) any spoken witness that the Holy Spirit uses to create faith and change hearts and lives. On top of that, the Bible says that the Word is living and active (Hebrews 4:12), unstoppable (2 Timothy 2:9) and gets things done (Isaiah 55:11). So watch out: you might hear the Word of God, and then who knows what'll happen to you?

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION invite all the congregation to their breakfast meeting on Feb. 3 at 7:45 am.

St. Luke's Music Ministry

The Chancel Choir invites anyone in Middle School and above to join us on Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:15 pm for rehearsal. We would enjoy having your voice raised in worship with ours on Sunday mornings! Make a commitment just a season at a time – now through the end of May!

NO Choir Rehearsal on Feb. 6

Disciple Explorers

Our small discussion/study group exploring being and making disciples of Christ has chosen to meet 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 7 pm, at St. Luke's. The core of our conversation this year is talking and walking through the short chapters of "Growing in Jesus – From Disciples to Disciplers" by Carl Simmons. Disciple Explorers will resume meetings in February.

Kairos Prison Ministry

Pastor Scott will be serving at a Kairos Prison Ministry weekend at the Morganton Correctional Institute at the beginning of May. Kairos teams of about 40 share the gospel message of God's love, repentance and forgiveness. If you feel God calling you to serve as well, or just explore how Kairos works, please contact Pastor Scott.

Friends and Relatives on our Prayer List



We thought it might be helpful if all of us know the relationship to our congregation of the people on our friends and relatives prayer list. We ask that as names need to be added or removed, you contact the church office. Prayer is a powerful entity and as we pray for our church members and others, we strengthen our faith in love and service.

Dorothy Baker	<i>sister of Russell Pruett</i>	Darlene Lavin	<i>sister of Laurie Klaus</i>
Lennie Cauble	<i>sister of Bonnie Russell</i>	David Lentz	<i>relative of Eleanor Ijames</i>
Erika Chastain	<i>friend of Sandy Arrowood</i>	Jennifer McDaniel	<i>Mt. Ulla Postal</i>
Liam Clary	<i>grandson of Ty & Debbie Clary</i>	Margaret McDonald	<i>niece of Marian Lytle</i>
Betty Click	<i>sister-in-law of Ruth Hodge</i>	Marketta McIntosh	<i>sister of Tracy Phillips</i>
Drew Davis	<i>brother of Lane Lauder</i>	Pam Miller	<i>niece of Nancy Harris</i>
John Davis	<i>cousin of Lane Lauder</i>	Greg Morgan	<i>son of Gerald Graham</i>
Ted Deal	<i>nephew of Margaret Morgan</i>	Cindy Morgan	<i>dau. of Reid & Margaret</i>
Kim Denning	<i>sister of Grover Holt</i>	Carol Null	<i>sister-in-law of Margaret Morgan.</i>
Todd Getzlaff	<i>son of Judy Getzlaff</i>	Jerry Overcash	<i>cousin of Bonnie Russell</i>
Kay Hammill	<i>friend of Sandy Arrowood</i>	Diane Rivers	<i>friend of Alice Weaver</i>
Debbie Hampton	<i>sister-in-law of Joe Hampton</i>	Stephanie Robinson	<i>sister of Tracy Phillips</i>
Glenn Hester	<i>friend of Jason Connelly</i>	Chris Shiflett	<i>step-sister of Lisa McBride</i>
Elvin Holt	<i>father of Grover Holt</i>	Kate Smythe	<i>niece of Angie Connelly</i>
Mildred Huffman	<i>mother of Micki Karriker</i>	Betty Stewart	<i>aunt of David Arrowood</i>
Coyt Karriker	<i>cousin of Joe Hampton</i>	Dot Walker	<i>aunt of David Arrowood</i>
Don Killian	<i>cousin of David Arrowood</i>	Kim Watkins	<i>friend of Alice Weaver</i>
Lisa Lauder	<i>daughter of Lane Lauder</i>	April Weaver	<i>wife of Jonathan Weaver</i>

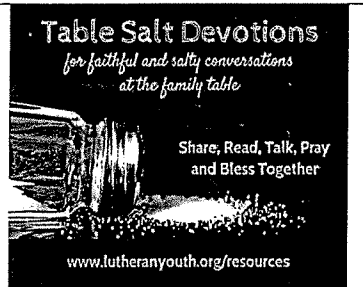
Members and Friends Serving in the Military

Eric Corriher	<i>husband of Dana Corriher</i>	Vince Price	<i>nephew of David Arrowood</i>
Jon Faust	<i>son of Margaret Faust</i>	David Terry	<i>son of Beverly Terry</i>

Discipleship/Christian Ed Resources for All

Table Salt Devos--new & improved!

Check out our new and improved family table devotions--now called *Table Salt Devotions*. Please feel free to copy and use these lectionary-based family devotions for faithful and salty conversations at the family table. Use them at home or in your congregation. Each is one page, has short sections Share, Pray, Bless, Read & Talk Year C is ready and available for downloading--for free! <https://lutheranyouth.org/resources/table-salt-devotions/>



150th Anniversary

Only 6 months away! Time to get busy! The planning team has put together quite a few ideas, some detailed, some not so much. We'll need to form a few small groups to help on specific events, such as the fun/fellowship day, etc. At the Ingathering we hosted a conversation about making a "150th Gift to the Community" – a thing, an event, one time or ongoing, that we could give to and share with the Mt. Ulla community. Here's a few of the ideas that folks offered up (duplicates combined):

- Sponsor a Habitat for Humanity house in the area.
- Prepare and serve meals for a Habitat for Humanity work group
- Create display/archive/museum of historical items from the community
- Some kind of exercise facility
- Set up a coffee lounge
- Provide literacy mentoring at a local school (kids and/or adults?) or after-school tutoring (kids)
- Partner with Mt Ulla Elementary for Backpack Buddies
- Host a food bank.

Could you ponder those a bit? Some we could do mostly on our own, which is sometimes easier. Others in partnership, which is great outreach, and needs a bit more coordination. All deserve some conversation and some evaluation of need and resources required. Regular tutoring has been considered and evaluated, and council just heard from Evangelism and Christian Ed about how partnerships already are in place. We have folks here that are very involved in the Mt. Ulla Historical Preservation Society. Great relationships with local businesses. Whatever we might do, it doesn't have to be done and finished by June. Might be a great time for an announcement, though, do you think?

Capital Campaign update

2017 "Mortgage Free & A Blessing Be" Cap Campaign had an original goal of raising \$150,000.

We were blessed to receive pledges totaling \$87,988. As of Dec 31, St. Luke's had received \$102,896, pledged and unpledged.

The outstanding mortgage was \$63,870. The Capital Campaign savings account has a balance of \$25,563.

Wouldn't it be great to be mortgage free by our 150th Homecoming!

We thank you all for your generous gifts, and look forward to each new milestone as the outstanding debt gets closer and closer to being paid-off!

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report

	Current	Benevolence	Restricted	Capital Campaign	Total
Beginning Balance 12/1/18	\$8,289.53	\$0.00	\$87,845.26	\$25,067.24	\$121,202.03
Receipts December 2018	\$19,462.19	\$515.60	\$2,658.22	\$2,896.02	\$25,532.03
Charges/Fees December 2018	(\$15.00)	\$0.00	(\$100.00)	\$0.00	(\$115.00)
Transfers December 2018	\$515.60	(\$515.60)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Disbursements December 2018	(\$22,217.78)	\$0.00	(\$8,109.90)	(\$2,400.00)	(\$32,727.68)
Ending Balance 12/31/18	\$6,034.54	\$0.00	\$82,293.58	\$25,563.26	\$113,891.38

OFFERINGS AND ATTENDANCE IN DECEMBER



	Current	Benevolence	Worship	S S
Dec. 2	\$ 4,394.03	\$131.00	99	23
Dec. 16	6,867.01	142.40	114	36
Dec. 23	4,141.90	134.20	121	26
Dec. 30	5,630.83	108.00	109	24

** No Worship on Dec. 9 – Snow

* Attendance Dec. 24 eve.– 165



February

- 1-3 Youth/Confirmation retreat at Lutheridge
- 16 NC WELCA one-day Retreat (snow date/2-23)
- 16 Youth Game Show 6:30 pm
- 23 Youth Winterjam in Greensboro

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					8-10:30 am 1 Walk in Gym	2
4th Sunday after the Epiphany 3 7:45 am – LMM 9:15 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship 5:00 pm – Handbell Choir	4 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 6:30-7:30 pm Aerobics Exercise	5	6 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 2:00 pm Prayer/Spiritual Dir	7 10:00 am Pastor's Study Group	8 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym	9 Retreat -----
5th Sunday after Epiphany 10 9:15 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship/Communion 5:00 pm – Handbell Choir 6:00 pm – Youth Meal 6:30-7:30 pm – Kingdom Kids 6:30-7:30 pm – SLY	11 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 6:30-7:30 pm Aerobics Exercise	12	13 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	14 10:00 am Pastor's Study Group 7:00 pm St. Luke's WELCA	15 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym	16 9 am – 2 pm WELCA Rowan District Retreat at St. Luke's 6:30 pm Youth Game Show
6th Sunday after Epiphany 17 9:15 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship 5:00 pm – Handbell Choir	18 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 6:30-7:30 pm Aerobics Exercise	19	20 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	21 10:00 am Pastor's Study Group	22 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym	23 Leave at 2 pm Youth Winterjam in Greensboro
7th Sunday after Epiphany 24 9:15 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship 5:00 pm – Handbell Choir 6:00 pm – Youth Meal 6:30-7:30 pm – Kingdom Kids 6:30-7:30 pm – SLY	25 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 6:30-7:30 pm Aerobics Exercise	26	27 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	28 10:00 am Pastor's Study Group		

March

- 3 Ushers/Greeters Meal after worship
- 5? Shrove Tuesday – Pancakes & Party? 6:30 pm
- 6 Ash Wednesday Worship 7:00 pm
- Mid Week Lent Meal/Devotions 6:30 pm
- Mar. 13, 20, 27, Apr. 3, 10
- 10 Daylight Savings – Spring Forward +1 hour
- 10 Faith Basics Lunch/Study after worship
- 16 Fish Fry/Yard Sale 11 am – 7 pm

Adverse Weather Closings- Whether rain, snow, sleet or shine St. Luke's normally expects to gather for worship. However, if particularly unsafe weather conditions requires us to cancel worship services or other events we will endeavor to inform folks via TV, internet and phone. St. Luke's will publicly announce the cancellation via: OneCall (phone, txt, email), our website, and WSOC TV (channel 9, www.wsoc.tv.com).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Drew Frederick 1
- Paul Graham 2
- Philip McNeely 4
- Lisa Burns 6
- Betty Gillespie 6
- Connie Hoffner 8
- Gina Bond 8
- Whitney Burns 8
- Gracie Morgan 9
- Jonathan Weaver 10
- Colton Graham 10
- Michael C. Stanley 12
- Janice Poteat 12
- Linda Pruett 13
- Leah Duganne 13
- Craig Corriher 14
- Ted Holt 16
- Warren Myers 17
- Randall Clary 17
- Gerry Smith 19
- Gail Kerr 20
- Alan Hoffner 20
- Gerald Ann Graham 20
- Frances Hoffner 22
- Tara Getzlaff 23
- Wesley Jones 25

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

- Tim Beaver 3
- Preston Houston 6
- Mary Lou Howe 6
- Jennifer Kennerly 7
- Eddie Poteat 7
- Allison Williams 12
- Evelyn Foster 15
- Robert Hodge 18
- Robbie Graham 20
- Ryan Connelly 21
- Alice McDaniel 24
- Linda Clodfelter 24
- Gail Kerr 24
- Linda Pruett 24
- Carol Parrish 27
- Lela Ijames 27