

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
11020 NC HWY. 801
MOUNT ULLA, NC 28125

St. Luke's Vine

January, 2019
Volume 53, Edition 5
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FAITH BASICS – Feb 17th?

Save the date!! (Or share if it doesn't work).
Next Faith Basics is tentatively scheduled for
Feb 17, after worship. Topic: "Worship" –
Sundays. Every day. This place. Every place.
Liturgy. Life.

Thurs. Study Group:

Our 10am Thursday Morning study group is continuing the exploration of what daily life was like in the time of Jesus. We will skip most of January, and 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 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.

Join Pastor Scott on first Wednesdays of the month, at 2 pm. (NO meeting in January)

Blood Drive at St. Luke's – Sun., Dec. 16.

37 presented and 36 pints of blood were collected. Thank you to all for your donations.
*Blood drives scheduled at St. Luke's in 2019::
May 8, Aug. 21, and Dec. 15*



Pastor's Message

Happy New Year! I got some books for Christmas! I love books. I have piles and stacks and shelves of them. Honestly, dozens I've not even got to start reading yet. Different spots all over at home. In the office. Some in my car. Carry one with me when I think I might be standing in line for a while. Paper versions. An electric Kindle version. I love to read. Theology, history, fiction, non-fiction, fantasy... I love libraries.

I love learning about new things and thinking new about old things I already thought I knew.

Think about how Jesus so often stated "You have heard it said...but I say to you..." when we was trying to help someone or a group see something new and think about things in new ways.

But, as much as I love books, and have lots, there is always so much more out there. More than would ever fit on my shelves. And more kinds of things – online books and articles, video, classes that are online. And the videos – those are great too, and sometimes much better than a book, with voice, movement, illustration, drama, visualization. The internet is filled with so many resources - so much more available, free or inexpensive. More than we could ever hold in a library here. More recent, more comprehensive, more voices and experiences.

I'm going to start a short little item in each newsletter about some kind of Discipleship/Christian Ed resource – mostly online, sometimes perhaps a regular paper book. Maybe you'll find one that fits your need or curiosity.

Our God is the great creator, and that creating never stops, and includes inspiring us mere mortals to think and write and create and share. Whether online, or paper, I encourage you to devote a bit of time to exploring and expanding, learning new things or ways to understand old things.

For the first batch, see the separate article Discipleship/Christian Ed Resources, this month on "Select Learning" materials from the ELCA. Good stuff!

Pastor Scott

Pastor Scott Vacation – Holy Land trip

Pastor Scott (& Kim, and Jason & Angie Connelly) will be in travelling in Israel with Trinity Lutheran Seminary, leaving town Jan. 2 and returning on Jan. 20. During Pastor Scott's absence, Rev. Ed Harper will be serving as emergency pastoral care backup. Rev. James Fore and Rev. Robert Howard will be serving as guest preachers.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

January:
6: Alice Weaver
13: Jody Perrell
20: Becky Edwards
27: Jeff Appplewhite

ACOLYTE

Brooke Kennerly

ALTAR GUILD

Sandy Arrowood Kaye Sheets
David Arrowood Larry Sheets
Gwen Graham Mary Harkey

Council Tellers

Grover Holt Chad Clawson

USHERS

Joe Hampton Craig Corriher
Johnny Moore Mark Parrish

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

January 6: Shana Putnam
13: Julie Hoffner
20: Jennifer Perrell
27: Judy Getzlaff

GREETERS

January 6: Dianne Davis
13: Peggy & Barry Curlee
20: Alice Weaver
27: Mary Harkey

Printer Cartridges – Recycle Credit

Have you got any empty computer printer ink cartridges? Rather than throw them away, drop them off at the church office or box in the narthex Info Center instead. Staples will give us credit of about \$2 a cartridge, which we can then spend on things like paper and other office supplies. *And recycling is good stewardship.*

Meals on Wheels

Volunteer Schedule
for January

January 3: Joan Kennerly
4: Jeff Poteat
8: Sally Morgan
9: Karen Moore
11: Nancy Harris
15: Sally Morgan
17: Joan Kennerly
18: Ted Holt
22: Alice Weaver
23: Ted Holt
25: Linda Clodfelter
29: Dianne Davis
30: Alice Weaver

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ALTAR FLOWERS (\$60)

*January 6 – Houston Family
13 - Grover Holt Family
20 – M/M Jody Perrell
27 - Tim Beaver*

Upcoming Sermons

Jan 6: Hymnsing Sunday
Jan 13: Rev James Fore, topic TBD
Jan 20: Rev Robert Howard, topic TBD
Jan 27: Pastor Scott, “Come, Holy Spirit”

CEMETERY MEMORIAL FUND

COMMITTEE would like to thank those who have contributed to the Cemetery Fund this year. It takes approximately \$9,000 yearly for cemetery and grounds upkeep. If you have loved ones buried in St. Luke’s cemetery and would like to ensure that those graves are maintained, consider a gift or memorial to the Cemetery Fund.

Thank you, Cemetery Fund Committee

December Council Meeting Notes

Council met on the morning of Sunday, Dec. 16. Summary of reports, actions and decisions. Full minutes available.
--Accepted minutes and treasurer’s report.
--Treasurer reported that end of year current fund is running a bit low due to major payment on mortgage, quarterly expenses, and missed Sunday due to snow.
--Property presented Job Description for Fellowship Hall/Activity Bldg. custodian, approved with minor changes, and to be shared with congregation within the next few weeks.
--Christian Ed & Evangelism recommended that St. Luke’s not pursue tutoring ministry further at this time, due to all local schools having existing tutoring relationships with other congregations. Council concurred with conclusion not to duplicate efforts.
--Ingathering projects costs and status reviewed, approval given to start with roofing.
--Joe Hampton presented status of Emergency Preparation & Response plan and team efforts, including draft template and some content. More to be done by teams.
--Discussed anticipated Christmas Eve security needs and agreed that St. Luke’s does not have a congregationally sanctioned plan that requests or requires volunteers to patrol the grounds.
--Endorsed recommending and sponsoring two of our high-school students (Gracie Morgan and David Parrish) to attend the Bishop’s School event in June.
--Reviewed list of needed Parsonage repairs, and directed Property to begin work on them prioritizing health and structural issues, using budgeted funds and Parsonage Rental funds.
--Directed Property to solicit quote/proposals for HVAC system maintenance/service contracts.

--Held council officer elections. Results: Jason Connelly (President), Beverly Terry (Secretary) and Jody Perrell (Treasurer). *Next meeting scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 27, 7:30 am.*

Congregational Meeting Results

On Dec. 2, St. Luke’s met for its annual congregational meeting. Summary of actions and decisions:
--The congregation elected Deanna Allison, Tim Beaver, Joe Hampton and Mark Parrish to serve on council, and thanked those whose terms have expired --Robin Hampton, Robert Hodge, Wes Jones and Wayne Kluttz.
--Congregation approved the 2019 Financial Plan/Budget
--Congregation approved the 2018 Ingathering projects in the following order: (1) Replace roof over narthex, (2) replace basement door, (3) repaint chancel walls, (4) replace metal railings, and (5) maintain and clean up playground area.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We have two adult curricula available. The traditional adult Sunday School class continues to use the Augsburg Sunday School resource. The second class – Con-temporary Topics in Christ – is using topics developed by The Wired Word which takes the approach of using contemporary events and relating those to scripture. Please join us for one of these and enjoy the fellowship of learning scripture.

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. Due to Pastor Scott’s travel to Israel, the Disciple Explorers will skip meeting in January, and will resume in February.

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 Nov. 30, St. Luke’s had received approximately \$99,500, pledged and unpledged.

The outstanding mortgage was approx. \$63,870. The Capital Campaign savings account has a balance of \$25,067.

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!

COMPLIMENTS! FROM YOU, TO YOU.

Look for that big white Compliments Box – usually in the narthex – and keep thinking about the folks that make this place special, and sharing your compliments with us so we can share them with all. Here’s your notes of compliment and thanks to each other:

- Thanks to everyone who stayed and helped wash dishes after the Ingathering. Fellowship Committee says they appreciate it greatly!
- To Eleanor Ijames, for beautiful Ingathering decorations
- Grover Holt, for taking point on the Fish Fry
- Jody and the Handbell Choir for playing bells for church and doing a great job
- Pastor Scott, for a wonderful & meaningful Blue Christmas service
- Grace Morgan, for doing a great job on Children’s message
- Laurie and the Choir providing us with wonderful music during church services
- Kathy Holt for Breakfast with Santa & Mrs. Claus. It was wonderful— thanks for your hard work!
- All the women that made potato salad for Ingathering. It was truly appreciated and tasted great!
- Marian and Shana and all the kids of all ages for the youth Christmas program
- The Altar guild for preparing and putting away every week for worship
- To Jayden & Seleia, and Robin Hampton, for helping with the installation of the new pew pen/envelope holders.
- Council members – new, returning, and retiring.

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?

St Luke’s Groupies(?), LetsGo (?), Adventurers(?)

Don’t know what to call it/us, but would you like to get out and go as a group to some fun events and activities? Some fun social time together.

How about a Kannapolis Intimidators Baseball faith nights – those are scheduled on April 19, May 17, June 22 and Aug 3.

A trip to the UNCC botanical gardens? Live theater? An Escape Room puzzler? Historical site? Wild Women’s Weekend at Lutheridge? Bowling? What sounds fun, that would be even more fun with more of us? Talk to Pastor Scott. Or maybe Robin Hampton (though she probably won’t talk much back until after tax day).

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.

Discipleship/Christian Ed Resources for All

St. Luke's Music Ministry

Thank you, thank you, to every singer, narrator, sound person, set up and take down crew, and musician who worked diligently - twice over! - to make our Christmas cantata, "Peace Has Come," by Mary McDonald, a beautiful act of worship! To those of you who made plans to prepare and bring food or work in the kitchen before the lovely snow changed those plans, I thank you for all the work and preparation you did that no one got to enjoy.

As with every new year, changes are afoot, and this year brings some changes to St. Luke's music ministry, as well.

We have a beautiful Chancel Choir that meets from 7:00 pm to about 8:15 pm every Wednesday evening in the choir room to prepare music that has the purpose of drawing those in a worship service closer to God. There are no auditions for this, only the expectation of attendance at most rehearsals and most services. Consider joining us during these winter months leading us towards Lent and Easter! You don't have to give us a lifetime commitment, but you may want to give us a few months at a time!

Laurie will still be working with Shanna and our Kingdom Kids when she is available to do so. What sweet children we have in that group!

Anyone interested in being a part of a Praise Band-type ministry, please seek out Joshua Ijames (husband of Lela Moore Ijames) personally. Josh is looking forward to starting this ministry, and with the change in Laurie's hours, he will be the "front man" for this now. Being relatively new to our church, he needs you to walk up to him, introduce yourself, and let him know you're interested in becoming involved. He'll be excited to talk with you!

Choir members, please note that we will only practice on the 9th, 16th, and 30th this month. Enjoy your New Year's week off and a week that Laurie is working out of town, too.

The Spiritual Side of Life

It's a new year. What might that mean to you? How might this year be different? Advent and Christmas are just over, Lent isn't very far away. How now, in this pause between those seasons, do you experience God and explore your walk and life of faith? What might you consider changing in this new year? What might you repent, or renew? Maybe a new-years resolution that isn't exercising more and eating less? What might that be for you?

"OneCall" Communications System

Thank you all for helping improve our congregational communications by sharing your preferred contact method and phone/email info.

If you've not already done so, please stop by the church office and fill out one of the little contact info cards and return it to Becky.

Select Learning" (www.selectlearning.org)

Select Learning provides access to quality theological learning experiences for personal, congregational and professional learning. Using outstanding seminary and college instructors and ministry practitioners, Select Learning combines high quality DVD-based video courses, customized study materials, proven textbooks, and online learning to create effective and flexible theological exploration opportunities. Select Learning is a member of the Lay School for Ministry Network of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

<https://www.selectlearning.org/content/podcasts>

Scan Remixed: Scan was a nationally syndicated radio program aired in the U.S. and around the world from 1975 to 1991. This program features first person stories of individual who share their lived out wisdom. Scan in its original broadcast form used progressive rock music to amplify and support the stories. However, due to the expense of music licensing, these stories have been remixed using copyright free music. These podcast are FREE. <https://www.selectlearning.org/catalog/scan-remixed>

NWS/LSM

The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA Lay School of Ministry (LSM) has for many years had an outstanding continuing education series open only to the graduates of LSM. Starting in the fall of 2012 this series of lectures became available through downloadable podcasts. Each topic and presenter has 4-5 sessions. These podcasts are all free courtesy of the Lay School of Ministry.

2011-12 Lutheran Answers to Real Questions

2012-13 Book of Faith Meets Missional Church

2013-14 Practicing Discipleship

2014-15 Torah

2015-16 Preparation for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation

2016-17 Acts

2017-2018 We have repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery. Now what?

Update: Sanctuary Doors

The new doors have been installed, stained, and part of the hardware mounted.

We hope to have all complete by mid-January.

NURSERY ASSISTANTS – Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you would like to volunteer to be a Nursery Assistant during our worship Service.

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>
Ted Deal	<i>nephew of Margaret Morgan</i>	Greg Morgan	<i>son of Gerald Graham</i>
Kim Denning	<i>sister of Grover Holt</i>	Cindy Morgan	<i>dau. of Reid & Margaret</i>
Gary Eller	<i>friend of Johnny Moore</i>	Carol Null	<i>sister-in-law of Margaret Morgan.</i>
Todd Getzlaff	<i>son of Judy Getzlaff</i>	Ann O'Connor	<i>niece of Russell Pruett</i>
Kay Hammill	<i>friend of Sandy Arrowood</i>	Jerry Overcash	<i>cousin of Bonnie Russell</i>
Debbie Hampton	<i>sister-in-law of Joe Hampton</i>	Diane Rivers	<i>friend of Alice Weaver</i>
Glenn Hester	<i>friend of Jason Connelly</i>	Stephanie Robinson	<i>sister of Tracy Phillips</i>
Elvin Holt	<i>father of Grover Holt</i>	Chris Shiflett	<i>step-sister of Lisa McBride</i>
Mildred Huffman	<i>mother of Micki Karriker</i>	Kate Smythe	<i>niece of Angie Connelly</i>
Coyt Karriker	<i>cousin of Joe Hampton</i>	Betty Stewart	<i>aunt of David Arrowood</i>
Don Killian	<i>cousin of David Arrowood</i>	Dot Walker	<i>aunt of David Arrowood</i>
Lisa Lauder	<i>daughter of Lane Lauder</i>	Kim Watkins	<i>friend of Alice Weaver</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>



2019 Worship Servants – Worship Assistant/lectors, acolytes, ushers, greeters, cantors & more: We are making our schedule of worship assistants for 2019. If you are not already serving in one of these roles, and are interested in doing so, please contact Pastor Scott, secretary Becky, or Music Director Laurie so we may arrange training and work to place you into the schedule.

COMMITTEE REPORTS for 2018 should be turned in by January 20, 2019. for inclusion in our congregational directory.

Whatever the weather, no matter the forecast:

When it's windy, remember that "a wind from God" came at Creation (Genesis 1:2),
and God's Holy Spirit arrived at Pentecost like a mighty wind (Acts 2:2).

- When it's sunny, remember that Jesus is the light of the world (John 8:12).
- When it's cloudy, remember that God often spoke to and guided his people from a cloud (Exodus 13:21-22.)
- During a thunderstorm, remember the thunder and lightning when God beckoned Moses to Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:16).
- When it rains or snows, remember that God's Word serves his purpose just as precipitation does (Isaiah 55:10-11).

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).

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Treasurer's Report

	Current	Benevolence	Restricted	Capital Campaign	Total
Beginning Balance 11/1/18	\$6,323.93	\$0.00	\$87,021.16	\$24,846.22	\$118,191.31
Receipts November 2018	\$14,690.63	\$439.00	\$9,310.75	\$2,621.02	\$27,061.40
Charges/Fees November 2018	(\$15.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$15.00)
Transfers November 2018	\$4,980.43	(\$439.00)	(\$4,541.43)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Disbursements November 2018	(\$17,690.46)	\$0.00	(\$3,945.22)	(\$2,400.00)	(\$24,035.68)
Ending Balance 11/30/18	\$8,289.53	\$0.00	\$87,845.26	\$25,067.24	\$121,202.03

Offerings and Attendance in November

	Current	Benevolence	Worship	S.Sch.
11/4	\$ 5,769.03	\$ 95.00	100	24
11/11	2,466.00	220.00	76	25
11/18	3,692.50	81.60	92	20
11/25	2,706.60	42.40	112	21



FEBRUARY
1-3 : Youth Confirmation Retreat
Lutheridge

MARCH
5 Shrove Tuesday
6 Ash Wednesday
16 Yard Sale/Fish Fry

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>Church office closed</i>	2 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym NO Chancel Choir	3	4 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym	5
Epiphany of our Lord 6 7:45 am – LMM 9:15 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship 6:00 pm – Property Committee	7 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 6:30 pm Aerobics Exercise	8	9 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	10	11 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym	12
Baptism of our Lord 13 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	14 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 6:30 pm Aerobics Exercise	15	16 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	17	18 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym	19
2nd Sunday after the Epiphany 20 9:15 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Worship 5:00 pm – Handbell Choir	21 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 6:30 pm Aerobics Exercise	22	23 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym NO Chancel Choir	24 10:00 am Pastor's Study Group	25 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym	26
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany 27 7:30 am – Cong. Council 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	28 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 6:30 pm Aerobics Exercise	29	30 8-10:30 am Walk in Gym 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	31		

Robert Hodge	1
Allison Williams	3
Lane Lauder	3
Natalie Allison	4
Jackson Keys	5
Eleanor Ijames	7
Brooke Kennerly	8
Taylor Garczynski	10
Margie Karriker	11
Barbara Bolick	12
Carrie Cameron	13
Elizabeth Applewhite	13
Ansley Kluttz	16
Ryan Garczynski	16
Lela Ijames	18
Amber Kennerly	19
Brad Massey	20
James Applewhite	22
Randy Schenk	23
Grover Holt	27
Gayla Schenk	27
Donna Frederick	29
Julie Poteat	31

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

Seleia Kerr	9
Carter Kluttz	9
Wayne Kluttz	11
Dianne Davis	11
Michael Kluttz	11
Katie Hoffner	13
Harper Duganne	22
Ava Jones	22
Torie Jones	22
Richard Hansen	23
Tyler Poteat	26
Aidan Connelly	28