



August
2021

WORSHIP Together

Online/Recorded Worship

Our weekly services live-streamed each week and may be viewed on our website and on our YouTube channel. Prior services are available on our website for about 2 weeks. A more complete list of prior services can be viewed on YouTube.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church
11020 NC Hwy 801
Mt. Ulla, NC 28125

(postage)

(Address Label)

August 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 7:45 am—LMM Family Breakfast 9:30 am – Worship 10:30 am – Adult Sunday School 6:30 pm—Committee Night	2	3	4	5 10 am Pastor's Study Group WELCA 6:30 pm	6	7
8 9:30 am – Worship 10:30 am – Adult Sunday School 6:30-7:30 pm – Kingdom Kids 6:30-7:30 pm – SLY	9	10 GriefShare 5:30pm	11 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	12	13	14 Cookout 6:00pm
15 9:30 am – Worship & Congrega- tional meeting to follow 10:30 am – Adult Sunday School SLY Pool Party—TBD	16	17 GriefShare 5:30pm	18 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Blood Drive 1:30-6:30	19 10 am Pastor's Study Group	20	21
22 7:15 am - Cong. Council Meeting 9:30 am – Worship 10:30 am – Adult Sunday School 6:30-7:30 pm – Kingdom Kids 6:30-7:30 pm – SLY	23	24 Newsletter article Deadline	25 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	26 10 am Pastor's Study Group	27	28
29 9:30 am – Worship 10:30 am – Adult Sunday School	30	31				

Upcoming Activities and Events			Next Month
8/14	Cookout Fellowship	6pm+	Blessing of the animals—TBD
8/15	Congregational Meeting	After Worship	Parents Night Out –TBD
8/15	SLY Pool Party	TBD	
8/18	Blood Drive	1:30-6:00 pm	

Pastor's Message

Hmmm... Its mid-late July. Nearly August. Hot days of summer. I wonder, did Jesus follow any seasonal travel pattern with the disciples? Today's weather in Jericho, Israel is sunny and 107. Well, so much for wanting to walk around the arid low-lands wilderness of the Dead Sea area in the summer. Great winter retreat, though, since it is a nice 75 or so in December. So maybe the "Galilee" area with Nazareth hills and valleys or down to the Mediterranean coastline – a much more pleasant 80 or so at the moment. I don't know. Scripture doesn't really say much, other than that Jesus did move through all of these, walking of course.

One really neat method of Biblical study and prayer is the really try and imagine "being there" – with all the sights, sounds, smells, temperature, humidity, sand and trees and dust and rain, etc, etc. That can make the simple words of scripture come alive in ways we might not expect, and might open us up to new ideas.

Like the idea, but not sure how to do that?

I recommend you join our Adult Sunday School for the most excellent and wonderful video and discussion series "That the World May Know." Walk that land. See the texture. Learn about the wilderness and crops and hills and highlands and so much more. I assure you, it is powerful. Come, join us on that journey....

Pastor Scott

Special Announcements

Catherine Hoffner Career Advancement Scholarship: We are honored to announce that the Catherine Hoffner Career Advancement Scholarship has been awarded to Savannah Morgan, Grace Hodge, and Brooklynn Hoffner .

Caring Center: A information station has been set up in the breezeway entry. This station has information about local support groups and other organizations that offer support services. If you know of any other information to add to the station, please contact Lela Ijames at the church office.

New Mother's Group: We are in the process of starting a new group for mothers in our congregation and community. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the group, please contact Lela Ijames. If you are not interested in being part of the group but would be willing to provide childcare for mothers during meetings, please contact Lela. Meeting times are TBD.

Fun Food & Fellowship

Saints on the Go

Got something you think sounds fun to do? Invite others to go along with you! Make some new friends & build relationships. Simple and informal. Let us know, we will post it. Folks contact you for details.

Prayer and Spiritual Life

Teresa of Avila (1515-1582) is one of the best known writers and guides on the Christian spiritual life. Writer, nun, a leader of the Carmelite order within the Roman Catholic tradition, a founder of many new abbeys, a champion for reform, named a Doctor of the Church (one of only 4 women with that honor), etc.

Her most famous work is titled "**The Interior Castle**" and is very readable. She shares the idea that our faith life is like that castle of God with many mansions/rooms, each one being a deeper stage of our relationship with God.

In her discussion of the "fourth mansion" or stage she speaks of **The Prayer of Quiet**. The prayer of quiet is "a quiet, deep and peaceful happiness in the will." This happiness remains even though the soul does not understand what it going on. Here the will is so occupied in contentment and joy in God that not even the memory or intellect can interrupt it. Like supernatural recollection, the prayer of quiet is "infused" (not by our own efforts). It grows our virtue and reduces our desires for worldly things. We desire prayer and to persevere in it, all while becoming more selfless for God.

St. Teresa lists three conditions for continued spiritual growth:

- Never give up the habitual practice of prayer.
- Continue to detach from everything that is not of God.
- Seek greater solitude (without neglecting work or duty), in imitation of Christ.

2021 Ingathering Projects

Let the Holy Spirit lead your imagination – what might be good candidates for ingathering projects for 2021? Individuals and committees are encouraged to imaginatively consider projects that can add to, improve, renovate our buildings, equipment, decorations or any other element of St Lukes. Hmm... Could an Ingathering Project be the core elements needed to start a new ministry? Could it be something that contributes to the spiritual life of the congregation? Let the Holy Spirit lead your imagination.

Worship

Homecoming Sunday - Followup

With joy we celebrated 152nd Homecoming with Rev William Connelly as our guest preacher, and enjoyed a wonderful fellowship lunch afterward out in the shelter. Great thanks to all who helped clean and prep the shelter, plan and host the meal and Micki for arranging and being MC for our Golden Age awards.

Summer "Worship in the Grove" – Continues Until??

It has been a mostly delightful summer, just a bit of weekend rain. Our outdoor worship pattern continues with indoors being the bad-weather alternative. Worship & Music and Council are discussing when to head back indoors again. August can be hot, but September can be much more mild.

Worship Video Streaming

Unfortunately some nearby lightning storms created a bit of havoc with some of our audio-video gear that took us offline a couple times while we were getting some replacement parts, etc. Most everything was covered by warranty, but that still takes a bit of time and effort. We've ended up getting a UPS/surge protector/power conditioner to help reduce or avoid some of those kinds of problems in the future.

STAFFING NEEDS

We continue our search for candidates to serve as (1) pianist/keyboardist (short term) and as organist/choir director (long term). If you are aware of any possible candidates please contact Jody Perrell or Pastor Scott.

Worship Audio/Video Servants Needed!

We so very much appreciate our crew of A/V operators during worship – but we really, REALLY need a few more folks that can share that effort so everyone can take vacations or participate in worship in other ways. Will you please consider joining that rotating team? Anyone can learn! 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 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 ourselves, we strengthen our faith in love and service.



Martha Ann Barringer	<i>friend of Sandy Arrowood</i>	Tim Peede	<i>bro-in-law of Debbie Clary</i>
Bill Hall		Diane Rivers	<i>friend of Alice Weaver</i>
Don Killian	<i>cousin of David Arrowood</i>	Billy Sigmon	
Karen Knox	<i>friend of Lori Corriher</i>	Doris Strickland	<i>mother of Debbie Clary</i>
David Lentz	<i>relative of Eleanor Ijames</i>	Ron Turbyfill	<i>friend of Jennifer Perrell</i>
Danny Marsh	<i>father of Angie Connelly</i>	Michael Walker	<i>cousin of David Arrowood</i>
Cindy Morgan	<i>dau. of Reid & Margaret</i>	Kim Watkins	<i>friend of Alice Weaver</i>
Jerry Overcash	<i>cousin of Bonnie Russell</i>	Cindy Webb	<i>sister of Kathy Webb</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>

The Church in the World

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) LDR brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. LDR is one the most well respected disaster and relief agencies in the world, recognized for very efficient use of donations and for working on long-lasting assistance, recovery and strategic change rather than just short-term impact. Some of the areas that LDR is very active in at the moment include:

Asia-Pacific Disaster Response, U.S. Severe Storms, Hurricane Response, Middle East Crisis, U.S. Wildfires

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), U.S. Tornadoes, U.S. Flooding, South Sudan Relief, Middle East and Europe Refugee Crisis, AMMPARO: Protecting Migrant Minors. LDR is a ministry of the whole ELCA and its many congregations. For more information or to make donations go to www.ldr.org

Thank You to US

The family of Axel Clough would like to thank the congregation of St. Luke's for your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. - Christina and Bobby Myers & Hannah Cox

OFFERINGS AND FINANCE

OFFERINGS AND ATTENDANCE			
	Current	Benevolence	Worship
June 6	\$5,362.40	\$150.00	106
June 13	\$2,027.00	\$25.00	63
June 20	\$5,559.00	\$25.00	-
June 27	\$2,738.48	\$174.023	110

TREASURER'S REPORT	Current	Benevolence	Restricted	Total
Beginning Balance 6/1/21	\$39,341.72	\$274.23	\$176,701.64	\$216,317.59
Receipts June 2021	\$15,956.88	\$374.23	\$800.00	\$17,131.11
Charges/Fees June 2021	(\$18.22)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$18.22)
Transfers June 2021	(\$1,768.62)	\$1,851.54	(\$82.92)	\$0.00
Disbursements June 2021	(\$13,750.12)	(\$2,500.00)	(\$3,382.97)	(\$19,633.09)
Ending Balance 6/30/21	\$39,761.64	\$0.00	\$174,035.75	\$213,797.39

DISCIPLESHIP

“Children’s Church” Our younger children gather for Bible story & activity for a portion of our worship, and then join us again for prayers and communion. *Please share your time and faith joining the rotating team to lead our kids.*

Adult Sunday School gathers every Sunday after worship in the Fellowship Hall, currently studying a video & discussion series about the land and people of the Bible.

Prayer & Spiritual Direction Group is on pause during this time.

Thursday Study Group – “Christian Mystics”

Thursday study group has begun a series on Christian Mystics over the Millenia. Pastor Scott leads this study. Join us Thursdays at 10am via Zoom or at the church. Drop in as you can.

SLY Youth

Our youth group has a lot of fun things coming up in the next couple months. We have a pool party planned for August 15th to celebrate our summer coming to an end and starting a new school year. We are planning a “Parents Night Out” for the end of September and a lock in for late October. Be on the look out for Youth Gathering information in the coming weeks as planning will be in full swing for that.

Confirmation

Youth Confirmation continues to work on “catching up” after COVID. During July, Marian led sessions on “Overview of the Gospel” and the “Apostles Creed”. Grover led sessions on the “Life and Lessons of Jesus” and “Early Church: Acts and Letters”

August sessions coming up include “Doubt” by Jason Connelly on Aug 8 and “Big Picture of the Bible” by Joe Hampton on Aug 29.

Celebration of Confirmation is planned for Reformation Sunday in late October. Lutheridge is planning to re-start Faith Alive Confirmation mini-camps this fall, but has not yet shared new dates.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Beverly Terry	1
Glenn Hoffner	1
John Michael Presley	5
Larry Poteat	8
Scottie Clary	10
Mark Kennerly	15
Deanna Allison	18
Kallie Clawson	20
Kristen Frederick	20
Tanner Putnam	24
Alice Weaver	27
Margaret Faust	29

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

Ryan Clary	4
Cathy Wright	7
Lori Corriher	7
Jack Weaver	10
Todd Wright	12
Evan Massey	14
Mary Beth Stanley	15
Grey Braddy	17
Steve Massey	22
Shelly Braddy	23
Wade Jones	23
Adam Gardner	24
Alison Clawson	24
Eric Corriher	25
Belinda Corl	26
David Parrish	26
Faye Peeler	27
Beverly Terry	30

Council and Leadership Section

June 13 Congregation Council meeting information and actions of council. Full minutes are available through the office. *And a reminder* – all Council meetings are open for all to attend, except for rare legal, personnel or similar matters.

- Parsonage – conversations continue. A task force has been formed to research options. No presentation for council at this time. Will have a report for the Congregation Informational Meeting on Saturday, August 14th.
- \$5,000 Grant for Activity Building door has been completed. Pallet jack has been ordered.
- 2021 Ingathering project suggestions:
 - Ice maker for the activity building
 - Funding for the 2019 Ingathering Fire Alarm project

August 14 & 15 Congregational Meeting : Parsonage, Activity Building & Worship Time

On Saturday August 14, during the Congregational Cook-out, time will be set aside for information and discussion and on Sunday August 15, after worship, there will be a Congregational Meeting for final discussion and vote on the three topics.

- Parsonage Plan: Decision on options and costs
- Activity Building Flooring Decision: Recommended multi-purpose flooring and cost

Next meeting will be August 22 at 7:15am

GriefShare Ministry— Pastor Scott and Deacon GeoRene Jones are leading a small-group ministry for those that grieve the loss of a loved one, whether that is very recent or a bit further back in time. We gather in the Parlor for 60-90 minutes for a video and discussion based series. Please contact Pastor Scott or Deacon GeoRene if your heart and Spirit feel that this may help you or someone you know, or for current schedule of sessions so you can join us. GriefShare group has paused for a couple weeks during mid-summer for vacations, gardening, canning and general business and will resume August 10 and complete with either 4 or 5 sessions.

Meals on Wheels

Volunteer Schedule for August

3	Sally Morgan
6	Nancy Harris
10	Sally Morgan
11	Debbie Clary
13	Jeff Poteat
17	Alice Weaver
20	Nancy Harris
24	Alice Weaver
25	Paula Owen
27	Linda Clodfelter
31	Diane Davis