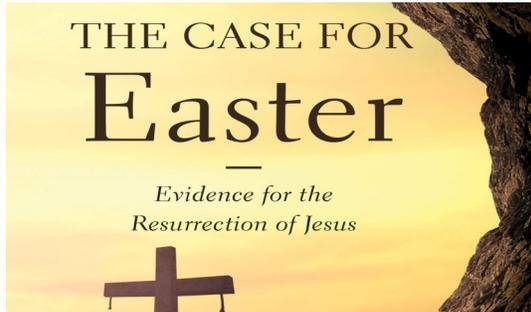




# The Union Messenger

April 2022

Volume 4



Lenten Series is entitled:  
**The Case for Easter**

Tuesday, March 29, at 6:30 p.m. and  
Wednesday, March 30, at 10:30 a.m.  
Evidence of the Resurrection  
Mark 14:55-64

Tuesday, April 5, at 6:30 p.m. and  
Wednesday, April 6, at 10:30 a.m.  
Now What?

Lee Strobel investigates the Bible's accounts of Jesus' resurrection to determine whether the resurrection actually occurred.

This "investigation" into Christ's death answers three crucial questions seekers ask: Was Jesus' death a sham? Was his tomb really empty? Was he seen alive after his death on the cross? Lee Strobel's award-winning skills as a legal journalist will persuade even the most hard-boiled skeptics to reconsider Jesus' death and resurrection.

We will meet every Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning with food and faith in the Dutch Meeting Hall!

*Approved by the Executive Committee, our Lenten Offering will go towards SON Network's work in the Ukraine.*

*Union Women are excited to attend the 11th Annual Carolinas Lutheran Women's Convocation on Saturday, April 2, at 9:30 a.m. at Faith Lutheran Church. We can't wait to share what we learn!*

*Those attending are: Judy Boyd, Lynn Coughenour, Deena Lanning, Janie Lesley, Betty Sue Lowder, Doris Shepherd, and Genevieve Baker.*

*Don't forget to bring your favorite mug and your Bible!*



**On Saturday, April 2, at 10:30 a.m.** a **Technology Training** will be led by Sandy Goodwin. With the new equipment that the Goodwin Family has given this will enable us to livestream as well as other Internet accessories.

*The Cemetery Committee asks that all **Christmas wreaths and/or Christmas floral arrangements** that are presently on monuments in the church cemetery be **removed before April 7**. Any holiday arrangements/flowers left after April 7th will be removed by the committee.*

## Easter Greetings from your Pastor

During a certain chapter in my life we lived on a small farm. We milked the cows, grandma would make the butter and Mom the cheese. We slaughtered hogs, made the sausages, grew the crops, baked the bread, raised the chickens and plucked the feathers. It was one of these self sustaining ventures even before it became a “thing.”



My favorite time was when the farm would produce the miracle of new life. Like when we had eggs hatching in the incubators. It seems the wild cats and predators were getting to the eggs before the hens could hatch them. So, we would gather them and lay them under a warm light, turning them about 3 times a day until about day 18 when life from within the crusty hard shell would peak through. It was like a reality TV show. I would be glued to the incubator watching how these little creatures would break free from their shell all sticky at first but eventually turning into fluffy little balls. It was simply amazing. I felt like we had saved the lives of these little creatures.

During this Lenten and Easter season I frequently go back to that chapter in my life. Rereading it in my memories and drawing analogies from it. For example, I think of the criminal on the cross beside Jesus who stood no chance of survival but in God’s mercy was granted eternal life. It seems the devil just couldn’t wait to snatch another life. However, Jesus saves him. The Holy Spirit turns his soul and heart a couple times and from within the crusty hard shell of a criminals existence, life peaks through...“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” (Luke 23: 42 NIV) and Jesus promised that he’d be with Him in paradise. It is simply amazing. Jesus saved the life of this forsaken criminal.

The same can be said for us too. The apostle Paul unpacks this way more eloquently than I ever could in in the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter to the Romans. Jesus saves us from certain death. The truth is that the devil prowls around just like the wild cats and predators did on our farm. The devil’s only goal is to get to us. But God gathers us and lays us under the warm embrace of His grace, turning us over a couple times until finally life from the within the crusty hard shell of our broken and sinfulness, life breaks through.

Who would have thought that all these years later that I get to watch the reality show of new lives being born into eternity by God’s grace in much the same way? As Pastor, I get to see God work in your lives (just as He does in mine). The church is the incubator where we might get turned over a couple of times and things aren’t always beautiful but eventually, I get to see how God helps us break free from the shell of sinfulness. At first, just like the chicks, we are all sticky but eventually turn into young disciples. It is simply amazing.

*Easter Joy*  
*Pastor Heidi*



**Sunday, April 3**

**9:15 a.m.** Middle/High School Youth  
(skit for Palm Sunday)

**9:15 a.m.**

Music Time with Preschool-5th Grade

**9:30 a.m.** Sunday School

**Children and Youth:** The Fish and  
Bread Sign ~ John 6:1-15

**Adult Sunday School Class:**

Triumphal Entry of the King  
Matthew 20:25-28; 21:1-11

**10:30 a.m.** Worship &  
Holy Communion  
Perfume (Luke 20:9-20)

Following worship a **brief meeting** of  
the **Christian Education, Sunday  
School, and Youth & Family**

**12:30 p.m.** Union Women

**4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.** Union & Salem  
Middle/High School Youth at Union

*During Lent, branches will take the  
place of Altar Flowers.*

**Executive Committee** will meet  
**Tuesday, April 5, at 5:30 p.m.** to  
prepare for the Council meeting on April  
10.

*Come join us for **Paint, Color, and  
Draw** on **Wednesday, April 6, at 2:00  
p.m.** This is a great opportunity for us to  
come together to be creative and fellow-  
ship with one another in prayer and  
conversation. You are invited to bring  
your supplies or use the supplies  
provided.*

**Confirmation Class** will meet on  
**Wednesday evening, April 6, at 6:15  
p.m.**



**Union Women**

*What's happening in  
April with the Union  
Women?*

*First, we will be  
sharing what we heard  
and learned at the  
Carolinas Lutheran  
Women's Convocation.*

*With all those going,  
who knows what they will share?*

*Second, the Women will be searching  
for ways we can support those who are  
Victims.*

*Third, cover business and then we get to  
the fun part! Devotions by Deena and a  
program cooked up by the dynamic Co-  
Leaders!*

In March, a financial need was brought  
to the Women's attention requesting the  
purchase of a new tea brewer. All are  
invited to support this financial need by  
making your checks out to the **Union  
Women** and handing to Lynn  
Coughenour or to the church office.



*April Rehearsals for **Belles & Beaus** at  
**6:30 p.m.** and **Chancel Choir** at **7:30  
p.m.** will be held on Wednesdays, April 6  
& 13.*

The **Gerald Bame Scholarships** are  
available again this year. Forms are  
located in the Narthex and to be returned  
to Doris Page by Sunday, April 24.



**Thursday, April 7, at 10:00 a.m.**  
Old Pine Center

Everyone is invited to attend the **Good Timers** meeting on **Thursday, April 7, at 10:00 a.m.** in the Old Pine Center (small Fellowship Hall).

Dr. Paul Baker, father of Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support, will be sharing Resurrection Teaching Ministries mission to the people of Cambodia.

Following the program the group will eat lunch at Dona Lupe in Granite Quarry.

***Breakfast with Phil!***

***Saturday, April 9, at 9:00 a.m.***

*The Middle and High School Youth are invited to eat breakfast with Phil on Saturday, April 9, at 9:00 a.m. at Breakfast Time. After food, fun, and fellowship the group will head to the church and assist Phil with various needs around the church facilities.*



***PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 10***

***10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion***

*As Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday we are drawn into the dramatic turn of events of the last days of Jesus' life. On Sunday he is welcomed into Jerusalem with shouts of joy and roaring "hosannas." By the end of the week he will be betrayed, arrested, and abandoned by Passover pilgrims and his closest friends. Things turn quickly from a parade to a death sentence which is carried out on a cross between two thieves.*

*Journey with us through Holy Week at Union Lutheran Church. We will begin with having palms available to place at the cross outside on Palm Sunday.*

**Sunday, April 10, Palm Sunday**

**9:15 a.m.** Music Time with Preschool-5th Grade

**9:30 a.m.** Sunday School

**Children and Youth:** A Healing Aide ~ Mark 7:31-37

**Adult Sunday School Class:** Passover with the King ~ Matthew 26:17-30

**10:30 a.m.** Worship & Holy Communion ~ Procession (Luke 19:28-44)

*Journey with us through Holy Week at Union Lutheran Church. We will begin with having palms available to place at the cross outside on Palm Sunday.*

**2:00 p.m.** Church Council

**3:30 p.m.** Mission Team and Social Ministry Committee

*Deadline for contacting the church office regarding Easter Potted Flowers booklet.*

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This year **beginning on Monday afternoon, April 11**, we will have the opportunity to drive to each Station of the Cross for meditation and prayer. Every station resembles the journey Christ took from Gethesemane to Golgatha. This can be a moving experience for individuals and families. Please plan to prayerfully participate in this very personal walk with Jesus. A booklet will be available before the first station to guide you.



### **MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14 10:30 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.**

Maundy Thursday recalls Jesus' last supper with his disciples where he institutes what the church knows as the Sacrament of Holy Communion. As a sign of his servant-love, Jesus washed his disciples' feet and gave them a new commandment, that they should love one another as he has loved them. We see ourselves in the disciples, who will abandon their Lord in various ways as Jesus makes his way to the cross.



### **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15 10:30 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.**

*This holy day recalls the last hours of Jesus' life as the suffering servant is nailed to the cross, fulfilling his mission as the sacrificial Lamb of God. The sinless One takes on humanity's sin as he is betrayed by his closest companions, arrested and sentenced to a shameful death, even as Pontius Pilate finds no fault in him. We see ourselves in the angry crowd and lament our own denial of our Lord.*

Following the evening Good Friday service, we will have a **PRAYER VIGIL**. A prayer vigil is a watchful, awake time set apart for the purpose of prayer. As an act of public witness, it offers the community a space to connect with God so that God's vision for love and justice can be carried out through us.

Union understands prayer vigils to be grounded in the power of the Holy Spirit to change people's hearts and minds and to strengthen us in our work and witness.

If you would like to participate please sign up on the sheet coming soon to the Narthex.



Also, on Good Friday, our youth will have a **Lock-in** at 7:30 p.m. We invite the Congregation to sponsor a youth member (funds will go towards Youth Retreats/ Trips).

If you would like to participate by sponsoring the youth or can assist with the Lock-in, please sign up on the sheet provided coming soon to the Narthex or contact Pastor Heidi. Thank you!

*Everyone is invited to bring spring into the Sanctuary this **Easter Sunday, April 17**. As we make our way through Lent to the glory of Easter morning we look forward to **members bringing their own beautiful spring potted flowers**.*

*Examples are tulips, hydrangeas, geraniums, peace lily, gerbera daises, etc.*

*Please remember to mark your potted flowers before you **drop them off** on **Saturday, April 16, between 11:00 a.m.-12 noon**.*

*The church office is offering to create an Easter Potted Flowers booklet of flowers placed in honor and/or in memory of loved ones. Deadline to turn in the information to the church office is Palm Sunday, April 10.*

## **EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17**

*The resurrection of our Lord ushers in a new reality for those who believe: a new life in Christ. God, who shows no partiality, offers salvation and forgiveness to all who believe. Our confession of faith in the resurrection of Christ is a commitment to a deeper walk with God: one characterized by worship, prayer, and an intentional living out of Jesus' kingdom principles. This Good News is something we have no choice but to respond to.*

**Easter Sunday, April 17**

**7:30 a.m.**

Sunrise Service

*Stoop, See and Believe*

**9:00 a.m.** Easter Breakfast

**10:30 a.m.**

Easter Service

*When the Impossible becomes Possible*

Deadline for May newsletter articles.

No Sunday School on Easter Sunday.

Please prayerfully consider reserving the Altar Flowers on Easter Sunday.



*Also, on Easter we invite you to come and bring your floral offering to decorate the cross. (Pick something from your yard...a branch, a flower – it's done to the glory of God.)*

Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 18, in observance of Easter.

*Lay Ministers will meet Wednesday, April 20, at 2:00 p.m. in Pastor Heidi's office.*

**Finance Committee, Scholarships, Endowment, & Franz Merrell Community Crisis Fund** will meet for their first quarterly meeting on **Thursday, April 21, at 6:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, April 24**  
**9:15 a.m.**

*Music Time with Preschool-5th Grade*

**9:30 a.m. Sunday School**

**Children and Youth:**

*A Mercy Full Message*

*Luke 10:25-37*

**Adult Sunday School Class:**

*Freedom in the King*

*John 8:31-38*

**10:30 a.m.**

**Worship & Holy Communion**

*The Commission of Christ*

*(John 20:19-31)*

**4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Luther League**  
*(Middle/High School Youth) at Salem*

**Deadline for Gerald Bame Scholarship Applications.**

*Nikki Nguyen has reserved the Altar Flowers for Sunday, April 24.*



**Acts Bible Study**

*Tuesdays, April 26, May 3, 10, & 17 at 6:30 p.m.*

*Wednesdays, April 27, May 4, 11, & 18 at 10:30 a.m.*

*Everyone is invited to join in on a four week Acts Bible Study. This Study will be picking up from earlier this year however if you didn't participate you can still catch up!*

**Union Middle and High School Youth** will be participating in the **Carolinas Mission Region Youth Spring Lock-in, Friday, April 29–Saturday, April 30, from 8 pm– 8 am, at Holy Trinity in Gastonia, NC .**

The youth will play games, have mid-night worship together, and fellowship with each other as we stay up \*most\* of the night!

Churches are requested to eat dinner Friday before they arrive and bring snacks to share with the whole group along with pillows/ blankets/ sleeping bags.

Breakfast will be served in the morning before departure.

Each church should bring at least 1 chaperone per 6 youth, and a designated location will be arranged for drivers to get sleep.

### **Chicken Dinner**

*Saturday, April 29, 6:00 p.m.  
Dutch Meeting Hall*

*Everyone is invited to a Chicken Dinner on Saturday, April 29, at 6:00 p.m. in the Dutch Meeting Hall. Menu: leg quarter, baked beans, slaw, roll, and variety of desserts*

*Proceeds will go towards the Narthex Expansion Fund.*



### **How Can You Serve?**

*The **Sunday School Classes** will be serving the **Community Care Clinic in Salisbury** during the month of April!*

*Please donate brown lunch bags. The clinic uses the bags for their diabetic kits.*

*Everyone is invited to participate in this month's Sunday School project!*

**The Family of Cathy and Troy Painter** invite you to share in the joy of their **50th Anniversary** on **Sunday, May 1, 2022** from **4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.** in the **Dutch Meeting Hall.**

Please no gifts.

*Pastors Dieter and Heidi Punt invite you to an Open House on May 7 to celebrate Nadia's graduation from ASU. She has accepted a position as Math Teacher at a school in Iredell County.*

#### **Corrections for the 2022 Yearbook:**

- Amendments to the 2021 Financial Information (Turquoise paper)
- Social Ministry Committee Report (Yellow paper)

If you have not already picked up the amendments on turquoise and yellow paper to be added to your 2022 Yearbook, copies are available in the Narthex.

#### **Church Directory Corrections for 2022 Yearbook:**

- Kevin Huffman – Birthday 5/25
- Sam Nguyen - Birthday 4/25
- Dusty Morgan, Sr. – Email: [dustinmorgan11@gmail.com](mailto:dustinmorgan11@gmail.com)
- Thad Mulkey – Cell# 704-798-3349
- Thad and Sonya Mulkey do not have a land line.
- Ruth Myers – Active
- Jay Rusher – Active

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.  
**2 Corinthians 9:7**



*The stewardship of our finances, service and time is an area of our lives where we can faithfully proclaim the gospel. **Giving** strengthens our devotion to Christ and frees us to live open-handedly with the gifts God gives us.*

*We trust in Him and His provision. As people of faith, we give faithfully and generously supporting the mission of the church – Bringing Christ to People.*

*Avenues of Giving:*

- Offering Basket
- Mailing Offering
- Online <https://ulcsalisbury.org/give-online/> (Please note a service fee is charged using online giving.)

**Loose Offering** on Sundays is distributed to: 1st Sunday (Social Ministry Fund), 2nd Sunday (Gerald Bame Scholarship Fund), 3rd Sunday (Building and Repair Fund), 4th Sunday (Youth Mission Fund), and 5th Sunday (Mission Church or Special).

## **APRIL BENEVOLENCE TEACHING MOMENT: NALC DISASTER RELIEF**

During the month of April, our Benevolence Teaching Moment will focus on the NALC Disaster Relief. **The Disaster Response Fund provides resources for:**

- respond rapidly when domestic natural disasters occur
- alleviate human suffering
- provide transitional assistance
- enable those affected to begin the rebuilding process

The Social Ministry Committee, Mission Team, and congregation is invited to work together to collect items to assemble **Health/Hygiene Kits** at Advent Lutheran Church, Kings Mountain, NC, in May.

Items needed:

- 100 nail clippers
- 100 combs
- 100 spools of dental floss

Please prayerfully consider also donating new or used Bibles, gift cards to Home Depot, Lowe's, or Walmart, new bath towels, baby diapers, and wipes.

Containers will be in the hallway on the left side of the church and on the front pew.

Please print a Bible verse and/or prayers to be placed inside each kit.

Thank you in advance for making this drive a success and aiding those suffering from a disaster!



**NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**



*If you wish to have access to our WiFi, please use ULC Guest.*

*Did you know that the **Mission Team** will mail out **cards** (get well, thinking of you, birthday, etc.) to members of the church? All you have to do is place your card and addressed envelope in the blue basket in the Narthex. The Mission Team will provide the postage and mail the card out for you.*

Two boxes of the Union Lutheran Church **225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary plates** are available in the Hallway Cabinet for a small donation of your choosing. Please mark on your offering envelope Archive.

Each year the congregation approves certain benevolences as part of the yearly Ministry Plan. Members are encouraged to give to this by earmarking their giving as **Benevolence**.

Every quarter, the fund's are equally distributed to the approved benevolence.

Please note that every month the weekly news and monthly newsletter highlights are of these benevolences in order to tell you the story of what they do and what difference your giving makes.

*Congratulations to Felisaty Morgan, Micah Nguyen, Caylee Cline, and Dusty Morgan for serving on the ULC Youth Committee!*

**150** of the **UNION HISTORY BOOKS** written by Pastor Lippard are available for a small donation of your choosing. Please mark on your offering envelope Archive.

**THOSE SERVING IN APRIL**  
**Acolytes:** Abbey and Morgan Deaton, Micah and Samuel Nguyen  
**Altar Guild:** Jennifer and Scott Curlee, and Cathy Painter  
**Communion Assistants:** Jennifer and Scott Curlee, and Cathy Painter  
**Lay Readers:** Jennifer and Scott Curlee, and Cathy Painter  
**Ushers:** Phil and Linda Cauble, Mike and Brenda Cauble, and Frank and Dawn Merrell  
**Offering Counters:** Jennifer Curlee, Doris Shepherd, and Wayne Vellines

*You're Invited to the Carolinas Mission Region  
Spring Mission-Fellowship Event  
Saturday, May 21, 2022, noon - 2:30 p.m.  
Advent Lutheran Church, Kings Mountain  
230 Oak Grove Rd. Kings Mountain, NC 28086*

Enjoy an afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship  
with fellow Christians from all over the Carolinas!

At this event we will:

- Assemble Health/Hygiene Kits for NALC Disaster Response
- Hear from Disaster Response Coordinator, Mary Bates, about how the NALC offers help and hope following disasters
- Dedicate the kits we assemble
- Enjoy lunch provided by the folks of Advent (If you have strict dietary restrictions, please bring a bag lunch.)
- Enjoy live music and lively fellowship
- And have a great time serving the Lord!

Sunday school, men's, women's, senior, & youth groups; friends, families, & neighbors  
- EVERYONE is welcome to participate!

This is an outdoor event.  
Bring lawn chairs, picnic blankets, bug spray, and sunblock.

### **Working Together**

*Each congregation will bring only certain items for the kits.*

You may also bring:

- printed Bible verses and prayers to be placed inside the kits
- new or used Bibles
- gift cards to Home Depot, Lowe's, or Walmart
- new or used blankets
- baby diapers and wipes.
- Donations will be accepted at the CMR Convocation on May 13-14.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS & SUPPORT!**

Please see page 9 for details on what Union will be collecting during April for the Spring Mission Fellowship Event.



Dear Union Lutheran Church,  
 To all who attended my 90th birthday party, I want to say Thank You for coming. You made the party a big and real success. May God bless you all.  
 To my Family that started this party, bless you too. I don't know what I would do without you.  
 My love to all of you that attended, sent cards, and made telephone calls.

Bill Broadway

*Dear Union Lutheran Church,  
 Words cannot express how grateful I am for the kind expressions of love while I'm recovering from knee surgery! Thank you for your encouragement, support, prayer, and food!*

*Genevieve Baker*

On behalf of the Church Council, we would like to thank Gladys Morgan for serving as President for the first quarter. We appreciate her leadership and quick wit!  
 Thank you to Ronald Vellines for serving for the rest of the term as President while Gladys is recovering from surgery.

*Thank you to the following for preparing and serving the Lenten Meals during Lent:*

- *Worship & Music Committee*
- *Pastor Heidi Punt*
- *Good Timers*
- *Genevieve Baker and Phil Cauble*
- *Union Women*
- *Don and Tara Davis*
- *Social Ministry Committee*
- *Judy Boyd*
- *Property, Cemetery, and Columbarium Committee*



**OTHERS THAT MEET DURING THE YEAR**

Throughout the year a Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday morning 10:30 a.m. **Bible Study** is offered.

**Confirmation Class** is offered at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday evenings during the school year.

Every Wednesday the **Belles & Beaus** at 6:30 p.m. and **Chancel Choir** at 7:30 p.m. rehearse.

## **TEAMS and COMMITTEES MEETING IN 2022 SCHEDULED**

At the Leadership Retreat in February, the group discerned that after reviewing our resources and faithfully discerning the reality of our congregation, this resulted in the goal of having at least quarterly, bi-monthly, and monthly meetings of all teams and committees.

This will facilitate administration, oversight, accountability, and authority (God's Authority). Therefore, we scheduled meetings of teams and committees, combining some of them based on common denominators and ministry functions.

Every meeting will begin with collective devotions (driven by the action plan to intentionally build our relationship with God). Then we will break up into our respective committees and teams to serve and build relationships with our neighbors.

**Union Women** ~ meet the first Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m.

April 3, May 1, June 5, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, and December 4

**Good Timers** ~ meet the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

April 7, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, and December 8

**Christian Education Committee, Sunday School, and Youth & Family** ~ meet on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday quarterly at 2:00 p.m.

May 1, August 7, and November 6

**Mission Team and Social Ministry Committee** ~ meet every second Sunday of every other month beginning in April at 2:00 p.m.

April 10, June 12, August 14, October 9, December 11

**Worship & Music Committee, Altar Guild, Sound, Facebook, Webpage, and Pictures** ~ meet quarterly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

June 9, September 8, and December 8

**Lay Ministers** ~ meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 21

**Property, Cemetery, and Columbarium Committee** ~ meet every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. every other month

May 26, September 22, and November 17 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday due to Thanksgiving)

**Finance Committee, Scholarships, Endowment, and Franz Merrell Community Crisis** ~ meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 6:00 p.m. quarterly

April 21, July 21, and October 20

**Committees that meet as needed:**

Long Range/Stewardship Committee

Archives

Hospitality & Decorating

Honorariums and Memorials Gifts Given  
to the Glory of God during March

A gift was received for the SMI Haiti  
Mission Fund in honor of Pastor Heidi  
Punt from:

Jennifer and Scott Curlee

A gift was received for the Youth Fund  
in honor of the church youth and for their  
faithful journey to follow Jesus Christ our  
Lord from:

Jennifer and Scott Curlee

A gift was received for the Cemetery  
Fund in memory of Anna Rose Cauble  
from:

Arnold Cauble

A gift was received for the Gerald  
Bame Scholarship Fund in memory of  
Darlene Drye from:

William and Doris Page

A gift was received for the Narthex  
Expansion Fund in memory of Darlene  
Drye from:

Janet Overcash

Blessed are  
those who mourn,  
for they will be



comforted  
Matthew 5:4

***OUR LOVE and SYMPATHY** is extended  
to Patsy Lyerly and Family on the death  
of her mother, Darlene Drye, in their  
time of grief. "Let not your hearts be  
troubled; believe in God, believe also in  
me" (John 14:1).*



Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,  
the shadow of a mighty Rock  
within a weary land;  
a home within the wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat  
and the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus  
mine eye at times can see  
the very dying form of One  
who suffered there for me:  
and from my stricken heart with tears  
two wonders I confess,  
the wonders of redeeming love  
and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow  
for my abiding place:  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of his face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss;  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all the cross.

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

**Nursing Home Residents** - Brenda Mahaley, Pat & Wayne Miller, Ruth Monroe, and Jane Peeler (Autumn Care), and Jean Ray (Brookdale)

**Homebound Members** - Rachel Earnhardt, Jean Kluttz, Frances Norris, Zarah Plyler, Billy Waller, and Michael Walton

**Sick/Surgery/Recovery** - Kathleen Agner, Melissa Arey, Genevieve Baker, Bill Broadway, Jake Cauble, Mike Cauble, Linda Hartley, Steve Hutchens, Tommy and Joan Kerns, Pat Kluttz, Nancy Kesler, John Knight, Margaret Lyerly, Eric Miller, Donnie Miller, Harold Miller, Dusty Morgan, Gladys Morgan, Kay Morgan, Marvin Nunn, William Page, Wyatt Thompson, Ann Tucker, Effie Vellines, Pam Vellines, and Wayne Vellines

**Continual Prayer** - Nancy Ballew (mother of Kat Clifton), Nancy Barringer (cousin of Larry Barringer, Evonne Batten (mother of Lisa Morgan), Gary Brown (friend of Karen Barringer), Jimmie Cagle (sister of Pat Kluttz), Vanna Calloway (friend of Kat Clifton), Arnold Cauble, Janet Dunning (sister of Doris Shepherd), Martha Eller (friend of Pat Kluttz), June Fraley, Pastor Gross (NALC Pastor in Ukraine with possible Russian invasion), Amy Lowder Harrison and Jesse Morgan, Jr., Emily Jones (sister of Jimmy Plyler), Teresa Kesler, Glenn and Betty Sue Lowder, Patsy Lyerly and Family, Joe and Sylvia McDaniel, David Mitchell (friend of Pete Nguyen), Della Morgan (mother of Pam Vellines), Dusty Morgan, Sr. Family (Dusty, Sr., Lisa, Felisaty, and Dusty, Jr.), Hong Nguyen (mother of Pete Nguyen), Laura Stokes (friend of Frank and Dawn Merrell), Mary Trexler (sister of Brenda and Linda Cauble and Margaret Lyerly), Brinley Rose Upchurch, Union Fire Department #76, Haiti (recent earthquakes), and those affected by natural or political disasters.

**Confirmation Students:** Mallory Eagle, Harlem Jones, Micah Nguyen (Faith Coach), Makenzie Poole, Emme Poole, Bailey Wilhelm, and Lucas Wilhelm

*Remember in Prayer List Note: We strive to list the prayer requests and names correctly. Please let us know if a correction is needed or you would like a name added/or returned to the list. If there is a name that can be removed, please contact the church office with that information as well. In an effort to keep the list current, we will update/remove prayer requests on a monthly basis, with the exception of known prolonged/ongoing issues. Thank you!*



## Good Timers

The Good Timers met for their monthly meeting on March 10, 2022 in the Old Pine Center with Dawn Merrell, presiding. Pat Beck had devotions “The Last Chapter” from a book written by Betty Feezor and prayer. The February minutes were read and approved. We had 15 members and 1 visitor (Pat Beck) present. An offering of \$24.090 was received. Ruby Leazer won the door prize.

March birthdays: Karen Morgan (3), Frank Merrell (14), Nancy Kesler (20), and Judy Boyd (30).

We extend our sympathy to the family of Patsy Lyerly on the death of her mother.

Sick report: William Page (auto accident), Ann Tucker, Karen Morgan (upcoming knee surgery).

Note: The next meeting will be on April 7, 2022 (the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday). Lunch will be at the Mexican Restaurant in Granite Quarry (Dona Lupes) located in the Brinkley Center.

Judy Boyd will have the devotions in April.

The program today was given by Dawn Merrell on several familiar nursery rhymes and their origins:

- (1) Mistress Mary, Quite Contrary (Queen Mary known as Bloody Mary).
- (2) Baa Baa Black Sheep (White wool was preferred over black wool).
- (3) Ring around the Rosies (plague of the 1400’s).
- (4) Jack and Jill ( a tax was put on liquor). The amount of liquor decreased but the price remained the same.
- (5) Three blind mice – Everyone had to be Catholic under Queen Mary
- (6) Rock-a-bye Baby (Rule: all officials were to be present when the queen was giving birth. This was to not have a baby born with a defect. If this happened, the baby could be switched with a healthy one. Queen Elizabeth put a stop to giving birth with an audience.

The most famous nursery rhyme was “Mary had a Little Lamb: Mary’s brother took her lamb to school to get Mary into trouble.

Pastor Heidi had the blessing before we went to Lakeview for lunch.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ruby Leazer

## 2022 HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES AT UNION

The following activities represent some of the special highlights and events of the year, but they do not cover many daily, weekly, and monthly ministries and activities of Union Lutheran Church that takes place in our endeavor to serve our Lord Jesus Christ and proclaim His gospel.

### MARCH

- The youth prepared, cooked, and served a delicious Breakfast for Dinner Pancake Supper on Tuesday, March 1. Proceeds went towards the Youth Fund.
- Wednesday, March 2, two Ash Wednesday services were held in the Sanctuary.
- Church Yearbooks were available beginning Tuesday, March 8, for the congregation. Thank you to Deena Lanning and Tara Davis for assisting Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support, in binding the books.
- Lenten Services on The Case for Easter began on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. beginning on March 8 and 9.
- Thank you to Worship & Music Committee, Pastor Heidi Punt, Good Timers, Genevieve Baker and Phil Cauble, Union Women, Social Ministry Committee, Judy Boyd, Property Committee, and Don and Tara Davis for preparing and serving the Lenten Meals.
- A congregational work day was held on Saturday, March 26, to prepare for Easter.
- On Sunday, March 27, the congregation had a brief called meeting to review and approve the 2022 Church Yearbook.
- Congratulations to Felisaty Morgan, Micah Nguyen, Caylee Cline, and Dusty Morgan for serving on the ULC Youth Committee!
- During the month of March, the Sunday School Ministry project collected coins for Congo Mother's and Newborn babies.
- Also, during the month of March, pennies were collected for the Narthex Expansion Fund.



## **Worship and Music Committee**

**March 10, 2022**

**6:00 p.m.**

The Worship and Music Committee met jointly with representatives from the Altar Guild and Sound/Technology group on March 10, 2022 with the following in attendance: Scott Curlee, Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt, Jan Huffman, Mary Hutchens, Steve Hutchens, Deena Lanning, Dawn Merrell, Frank Merrell, Sonya Mulkey, Thad Mulkey, Vivian Sprinkle, Pete Nguyen, Nikki Nguyen, Micah Nguyen, Sam Nguyen, and Pastor Heidi Punt.

Steve Hutchens opened the meeting with prayer.

The following items were discussed:

- Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed with no additions/corrections.
- Pastor Heidi went over the worship outline for Lent through the month of May.
- Sandy Goodwin is meeting with sound and technology folks on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30 a.m. to go over changes in the live-streaming.
- Children's Choir and Chancel Choir will process with palms on Palm Sunday (April 10<sup>th</sup>).
- Maundy Thursday is April 14<sup>th</sup> with stripping of the altar at the end of service. Altar Guild members will assist with placement of items as they are stripped from the altar. Judy Boyd will bake bread for this service.
- Good Friday is April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The congregation is invited to purchase and bring potted flowers/plants to the church for Easter. Please bring these to the church on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. If you'd like to designate in honor/memory of someone, please contact the church office with that information to be included in the bulletin.
- Easter Sunrise Service, Easter Breakfast, and 10:30 Worship Service will be April 17<sup>th</sup>. A cross will be decorated inside the sanctuary, and a cross will also be outside. Please bring flowers to place on the outside cross. Deena Lanning will organize the decorating. Jan Huffman and Sonya Mulkey will assist in organizing music for the sunrise service.
- Organ Subs have been secured for April 24<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> while Dawn Merrell is out of town.
- Rev. Amy Little, General Secretary of the NALC, has requested to join Pastor Heidi and assist with Worship on May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The next Worship & Music Committee meeting will be June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully,  
Sonya Mulkey

## **Mission Team**

On March 6, 2022, the Mission Team and Social Ministry Committee held a joint meeting. Ten members were in attendance along with Pastor Heidi. Pastor Heidi had devotions and led us in prayer.

Outreach projects were discussed by both committees and then the committees broke up into their own groups. Both groups discussed which items our congregation would collect for the NALC Disaster buckets.

The Mission Team proposed a mission trip for this summer to Bowling Green, Kentucky; an area damaged severely by recent tornados. The date for the mission trip will be June 6-11, 2022. Area churches will be invited to join us on our trip. Mary Bates, contact person for the NALC, will help co-ordinate the trip.

The Mission Team also proposed that during the month of November 2022, benevolence focus will be for Ukraine.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tara Davis

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

Social Ministry met March 6th with the Mission Team and discussed upcoming projects we will do together. We decided to work on the NALC DISASTER RESPONSE April project and help with a summer Firemen's Picnic and the Christmas Dinner. Afterwards we broke into two groups to plan additional projects we are doing.

In January and February, we helped several families with special needs and collected food for Rowan Helping Ministries.

Our future projects are helping with a meal March 23rd and March 29th at the Lenten Service. Autumn Care will bring some of our members and residents to visit March 23rd. We will provide 15 food bags to Community Care Clinic for clients, and fix Easter Baskets for Battered Women's Shelter.

A special Thank You for all of your help. All Praise to God our Father for these blessings.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cheryl Kluttz

## UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

A charter congregation of North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

### OUR MISSION:

*Christ Centered - Mission Driven - Traditionally-Grounded - Congregationally Focused*  
(Matthew 28:18-20)

**OUR VISION:** *One Relationship at a Time*

**OUR ACTION:** *Building Relationships — with God & our Neighbor*

4470 Bringle Ferry Road  
Salisbury, NC 28146

Phone (704) 636-5092 ~ Fax (704) 636-1022

Website: <https://ulcsalisbury.org/>

**OFFICE HOURS:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday

### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

### CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Heidi Punt, Pastor - [pastor@ulcsalisbury.org](mailto:pastor@ulcsalisbury.org)  
(815) 883-4883

Rev. T. C. Plexico, Pastor Emeritus

Interim Music Director and Organist: Dawn Merrell

Staff Support: Genevieve Baker - [office@ulcsalisbury.org](mailto:office@ulcsalisbury.org)

Facilities Manager: Phil Cauble (704) 213-0646 - [sexton@ulcsalisbury.org](mailto:sexton@ulcsalisbury.org)



### Lay Ministers:

Judy Boyd (704) 279-5378

Tara Davis (704) 637-9334

John Kesler (704) 633-5702

Elbert Kluttz (704) 633-3484

Deena Lanning (704) 637-0810

Gladys Morgan (704) 636-1977

Ann Tucker (704) 633-0271

## Union Women's Minutes

February 6, 2022 at 12:30 p.m. in the Drew Wise Sunday School Class  
(*Motions* in italics and **Actions** in bold)

The Union Women met for its second time on Sunday, February 6, 2022, at 12:30 p.m. Ten ladies were present.

Present: Genevieve Baker, Judy Boyd, Mary Hutchens, Deena Lanning, Janie Lesley, Betty Sue Lowder, Faye Kesler, Gladys Morgan, Pastor Heidi Punt, and Doris Shepherd

An agenda was handed out.

Pastor Heidi Punt began the meeting with prayer.

### DEVOTION:

- Janie Lesley read from Psalm 91 and shared from a book by Barbara Johnson. A funny story was read about a woman who was about to be mugged muttering to herself verse 4 of Psalm 91. "I am covered with feathers." She repeated the phrase over and over and the muggers decided she was crazy and left her alone.
- All Christians need to put on the armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-18). We don't want to be streakers with only our helmets on!
- Everyone was encouraged to create a stress sack of items: small bottle, adhesive tape, small scissors, handkerchief, greeting card, chalk, small pebble, nail, and thumb tack.

### ORGANIZATION NAME:

*A motion was made by Genevieve Baker, seconded by Janie Lesley, and in favor of all those present to name the women's organization "Union Women."*

### ORGANIZATION MEETING DAY AND TIME:

*A motion was made by Genevieve Baker, seconded by Judy Boyd, and in favor of all those present to meet monthly on the first Sunday of the month at 12:30 p.m. **12 noon the women will gather to eat a bag lunch and the first Sunday monthly meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m.***

*A motion was made by Genevieve Baker, seconded by Judy Boyd, and in favor of all those present to meet as one group until there is a need to split into groups.*

### ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP:

*A motion was made by Pastor Heidi Punt, seconded by Judy Boyd, and in favor of all those present for the following 2022 Union Women's Leadership: Janie Lesley and Genevieve Baker, Co-Leaders and Lynn Coughenour, Treasurer.*

### CAROLINAS LUTHERAN WOMEN:

- Carolinas Lutheran Women (CLW) Convocation on Saturday, April 2, at Faith Lutheran Church, Faith. Registration and light refreshments begin at 8:45 a.m. with the meeting beginning at 9:30 a.m. The theme is "Coffee Break – Time with God." Cost is \$8.00. **Janie Lesley will be coordinating the Union Women attending the CLW Convocation on**

**Saturday, April 2. All those going are requested to give her your \$8.00 and fill out the registration form at our next meeting on Sunday, March 6, at 12:30 p.m. Forms will be available to fill out.**

- What to bring to the Convocation: In-Kind Gifts, Convocation Offering to the NALC Disaster Relief (checks payable to CLW – mark Convocation offering), Bible, and a favorite mug to enjoy your morning coffee or other beverage.
- In participating in this year's CLW Convocation, the Union Women and congregation are invited to collect: feminine care products, soap/body wash, household cleaning products, toilet paper, diapers, baby wipes, backpacks, and school supplies for Family Crisis Council of Rowan. **Genevieve Baker will include the list in the weekly news and March newsletter for donations. Pastor Heidi Punt will bring a "pink" laundry basket and place in the Office Building hallway to receive donations.**

#### FINANCES:

As of January 31, 2022 the Union Women have a treasury balance of \$3,242.40. *A motion was made by Genevieve Baker, seconded by Judy Boyd, and in favor of all those present to cut two checks: \$100.00 to CLW and \$100.00 to Women of the NALC.*

#### POTENTIAL PROJECT:

Janie Lesley asked the Union Women if they would consider a Victims Assistance project. **At the March meeting Janie Lesley will share more information regarding Victims Assistance for the women to consider supporting.**

#### POTENTIAL PROGRAMS:

Three program themes were presented to the Union Women to consider using: Strings of Pearls (Bible Study connecting one story to another and collecting pearls at each meeting. These pearls could be made into jewelry, ornaments, etc., to give); Café Chocolate – where Women delight in God's Grace (originally to be used for a women's retreat focusing on God's grace however could be broken down.); and Laughter Out Loud (taking Barbara Johnson and other Christian Comedians works to use as a monthly program.) **After much discussion and prayer, the group decided to wait till the next meeting before selecting a theme.**

#### INVOLVEMENT:

Deena Lanning asked the women present to **consider how we can get women involved who can no longer attend the women's meeting.**

#### PURPOSE, MISSION, FOCUS:

Genevieve Baker asked the Union Women what the purpose of the women's organization is. Pastor Heidi asked each of the women to name with one word what they would like to receive from participating in the organization: service, unity, relationship, love, support, worship, prayer, laughter, and eating. Many of these words follow the four pillars of the NALC: Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally-Grounded, and Congregationally Focused. **At the March meeting the women will review this list and create a purpose and mission for the women's organization. In turn that information will be helpful in determining what monthly theme to participate in and the focus of the women's organization.**



## Union Women's Minutes

Sunday, March 6, 2022 at 12:30 p.m. in the Drew Wise Sunday School Class  
(*Motions* in italics and **Actions** in bold)

Present: Genevieve Baker, Judy Boyd, Faye Kesler, Deena Lanning, Janie Lesley, Betty Sue Lowder, and Doris Shepherd

A packet was handed out of the agenda, last meeting's minutes, and CLW Convocation.

Genevieve Baker began the meeting with a prayer.

### DEVOTIONS

Janie Lesley shared the devotions. Prayer is hard work and Jesus indeed answers our questions. A story was shared of a Captain at night in foggy rough ocean waters signaling to another light that a collision was inevitable. As the two lights cautioned the other and requested that the other move from their position. The Captain in a last minute effort informed the other that he was on a battleship and to get out of his way. The signal by a mid-shipman replied, "I'm a lighthouse, change your direction."

### WOMEN'S TREASURY

- Balance as of March 6, 2022 is \$2,989.62.
- Lynn Coughenour, Treasurer, has mailed a check to the Carolinas Lutheran Women (CLW) for \$100 and to the Women of the NALC (WNALC) for \$100. Lynn also has reimbursed the church's postage for \$52.78.
- If at any time a woman is unable to financially cover the cost for any outing, etc., please contact Genevieve or Janie and the cost will be covered confidentially.

### CAROLINAS LUTHERAN WOMEN'S CONVOCATION

- Saturday, April 2, at 9:30 a.m.
- Location: Faith Lutheran Church
- Registration: \$8
- Union Women's Coordinator for CLW Convocation: Janie Lesley
- Those representing Union at the CLW Convocation: Genevieve Baker, Judy Boyd, Deena Lanning, Janie Lesley, Betty Sue Lowder, and Doris Shepherd.
- **A brief meeting will be held on Sunday, March 13, following worship to collect registration forms and fees plus to review what to bring.**
- *Genevieve Baker made the motion, with Judy Boyd seconding, that the women cut a check of \$250 for the CLW Convocation Offering for the Disaster Response.*
- **A pink basket will be placed in the Office Building for donations for the Family Crisis Council to be distributed at the CLW Convocation.**

### BUSINESS

- The Union Women have been asked to prepare and serve the Lenten meal for Tuesday, March 22. Several the Ladies will not be available but have offered to donate financially or provide items. After discussion it was determined that the Women will reimburse the cost of the food purchased for the meal. Menu: hotdogs, buns, chips

- **Genevieve Baker will contact Tara Davis, Lenten Food Coordinator, to be present at our brief meeting next Sunday to discuss the meal.**
- Everyone was asked to prayerfully consider how we can get more women involved.
  - A recommendation was made that we will need to communicate the need of support, assistance, etc., of the congregation.
- The Union Women will begin collecting offerings at meetings. No set amount.
- Cards were handed out for everyone to sign to be mailed to the shut-ins and those with special concerns. Thank you, Deena, for providing the beautiful cards!
- Please remember the following in your thoughts and prayers: Amy Sue Harrison, Ann Tucker, Gladys Morgan, Karen Morgan, and Mike Cauble.
  - Direction for visitations to shut-ins or someone in need please consider only visiting for 30-45 minutes.
- **The following will share what they have learned from the various person(s) on how the Union Women may assist at our April meeting:**
  - Janie Lesley will contact Novant Health Patient Advocates regarding Victims Assistance.
  - Deena Lanning will contact Pastor Heidi regarding how the Union Women can assist with her next mission trip to Haiti.
  - Judy Boyd will contact the Shive Family to see if the Union Women can be of assistance.
  - Genevieve Baker will contact Frank and Dawn Merrell regarding the Franz Merrell Community Crisis Fund regarding Victims Assistance.

#### PURPOSE, MISSION, and VISION

The Ladies discerned from the following words our purpose, mission, and vision: Service, Unity, Relationships, Love, Support, Worship, Prayer, Laughter and Eating. These words represent our relationship with God and with Others.

Therefore, knowing our Purpose, Mission, and Vision we are planning but not limited to the following:

- Provide baby showers
  - **Genevieve Baker will contact Jill Miller to see if there's a Saturday in July that she and her family are available for the shower. Also, if there are any needs or dietary restrictions.**
- Review the list of college age members and see how we can be of support and encouragement to them.
- Provide gift cards (college, new parents, etc.)
- Considering freezing meals to have available at the church to be given when there is a need.

#### NEXT MEETING

Sunday, April 3, following worship with food and fellowship with meeting following at 12:30 p.m. Deena Lanning will be providing devotions and cards.

The meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Genevieve Baker, Union Women's Co-Leader

Union Women's Brief Called Meeting  
Sunday, March 13, 2022 following worship in the Sanctuary  
(**Actions** in bold)

Present: Genevieve Baker, Judy Boyd, Tara Davis, Betty Sue Lowder, and Doris Shepherd

The Union Women met for a brief called meeting following Worship on Sunday, March 13, following worship in the Sanctuary.

The purpose of the meeting: Carolinas Lutheran Women's Convocation registration form to be filled out and \$8 registration fee to be turned in to Janie Lesley, Coordinator, and to discuss the Lenten Meal on Tuesday, March 22.

Genevieve Baker had forms available for the women to fill out to attend the Convocation and reminded everyone who is going to bring a favorite mug and your Bible. **Forms and registration fees are to be handed to Janie Lesley by Sunday, March 21.**

Tara Davis requested that food for March 22 be at the church no later than 5:00 p.m. There are people who are available to cook the food.

All Union Women available are requested to assist in preparing and serving the meal at 5:45 p.m. on March 22.

**Genevieve Baker was requested by those present to ask Tara Davis to purchase the food and that the Union Women would reimburse the cost to the church.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Genevieve Baker  
Union Women Co-Leader

Union Women  
Email and Phone Conversation on Tuesday, March 15, 2022

Tuesday, March 15, 2022, Genevieve Baker sent out an email and contacted by phone a request made of the Union Women to purchase the \$679.00 Bunn 36700.0100 TBE1-LP Quick Brew Low Profile 3 Gallon Iced Tea Brewer. The church office with approval from the Church Council will purchase the Tea Brewer with the Union Women reimbursing the cost.

With discussion and concerns, the Union Women will open it up to others to assist with the purchase of the Tea Brewer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Genevieve Baker  
Union Women Co-Leader

**UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Congregational Council Meeting  
January 8, 2022

The Council met for its regular monthly meeting on Sunday, January 9th at 2:00 p.m. in the Old Pine Center. Members present were: Larry Barringer, Amanda Cauble, Lynn Coughenour, Jennifer Painther Curlee, Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt, Lucinda Fraley, Lisa Graczyk, Brad Huffman, Steve Hutchens, Matt Miller, Gladys Morgan, Sonya Mulkey, and Ron Vellines along with Pastor Heidi Punt. Tara Davis was absent.

Ron Vellines opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

\*\*\*A motion was made by Jennifer Curlee and seconded by Gladys Morgan to adopt the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

**COUNCIL MINUTES:** Sonya Mulkey

The Council Minutes from the December meeting were reviewed.

Lucinda Fraley requested a word be added under the Narthex information.

\*\*\*A motion was made by Lisa Graczyk and seconded by Jennifer Curlee to approve the amended minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Lucinda Fraley

Lucinda Fraley provided copies of the financial information and updated the Council on the status and progress being made. Fund Balance information will be printed in the February Newsletter.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY FUND:** Ron Vellines

Balance - \$2,651.93

**CEMETERY FUND:**

Balance – No Report

**UNION WOMEN'S FUND:** Lynn Coughenour

Balance – \$3,242.40

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Pastor Heidi

Pastor Heidi expressed thanks to everyone for the Christmas gift she received from church members and the wonderful support provided through Pastor Dieter's time in the hospital and recovery.

Pastor Heidi shared her Pastor's Report. As part of her report, she included the following:

- Office Visits - 12
- Home/Nursing Home Visits – 23
- Hospital/HOSPICE Visits – 10
- Other - 2
- Worship Services – 9 (4 Sundays/5 Midweek)
- Updated Vacation Days used and remaining

St. John's, Statesville, NC has requested to participate in a pulpit exchange in April.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Lynn Coughenour  
March Devotions – Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt

Lynn Coughenour noted the items that would be discussed under “Old Business”.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Jennifer Painther Curlee  
Jennifer Curlee noted that Tina Brown didn't sign a contract for 2022 and that the choir director's resignation letter would be addressed under “New Business”.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**CEMETERY:**  
No Report

**SOCIAL MINISTRY:** Ron Vellines  
Assisting Rowan Helping Ministries with the “Because We Care” Project collecting essential items for the homeless.

**MISSIONS TEAM:** Gladys Morgan  
The team has not met recently.

**YOUTH and FAMILY MINISTRIES:** Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt

- The Bible Study “Advent in the Barn” was offered in December at Salem Lutheran Church.
- The Youth will continue their normal schedule this month with Luther League meeting once, Union and Salem combined will meet twice per month (once at Union/once at Salem), the youth will meet with all families every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.
- Will be starting a Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade group in the near future.
- Confirmation classes start back this week.

**STEWARDSHIP/LONG RANGE PLANNING:** Brad Huffman  
No Report.

**PROPERTY:** Larry Barringer/Matt Miller  
Steeple work should begin soon.

**WORSHIP & MUSIC:** Steve Hutchens  
The next meeting is this coming Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. Some new members will be joining.

**FINANCE:** Jennifer Painther Curlee  
No report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**  
Pastor Heidi made a request to attend the NALC Pastor's Conference in Orlando, FL February 14-17, 2022 with expenses covered by the church.  
\*\*\*A motion was made by Larry Barringer and seconded by Jennifer Curlee to approve the request. The motion was unanimously approved.

\*\*\*A motion was made by Lisa Graczyk and seconded by Amanda Cauble to approve Isaiah Cornelius' resignation letter. The motion was unanimously approved.

\*\*\*A motion was made by Jennifer Curlee and seconded by Gladys Morgan to approve Dawn Merrell to serve as Interim Organist/Choir Director as needed. The motion was unanimously approved.

\*\*\*A motion was made by Brad Huffman and seconded by Jennifer Curlee to move forward with a full-time position for a combined Choir Director/Organist.

The Executive Committee will meet on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to begin the search process.

### OLD BUSINESS

The following people volunteered for three of the Executive offices:

Vice President – Jennifer Painther Curlee

Secretary – Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt

Treasurer – Lucinda Fraley

By Ecclesiastical Ballot, Gladys Morgan was chosen as the Council President.

Committee Liaisons:

Worship and Music – Steve Hutchens

Property – Larry Barringer/Matt Miller

Finance – Amanda Cauble

Social Ministry – Ron Vellines

Cemetery – Tara Davis

Missions Team – Tara Davis

Youth and Family Ministries – Lisa Graczyk

The Council Retreat will be Saturday, February 26, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Border Concepts' Showroom in Lexington. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

\*\*\*A motion was made by Lucinda Fraley and seconded by Brad Huffman to meet every second month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Executive Committee will meet Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in Pastor Heidi's office.

There will be a Council Meeting on Sunday, March 20, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. in the Drew/Wise Class.

The Congregational Council Meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sonya Mulkey, Secretary

**Mission:** *Christ Centered – Mission Driven- Traditionally Grounded – Congregationally Focused (Matthew 28:18-20)*

**Vision:** *Building One Relationship at a Time*

**Action:** *1x1x1 (One person in your family, one person in the congregation, one person in the community)*

## 2022 Annual Church Council and Leadership Retreat

The Church Council and Leaders met on Saturday, February 26, 2022 at Borders Concepts in Lexington from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Present: Pastor Heidi Punt, Genevieve Baker, Larry Barringer, Phil Cauble, Jennifer Curlee, Don and Tara Davis, Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt, Lisa Graczyk, Brad and Jan Huffman, Steve and Mary Hutchens, Janie Lesley, Matt Miller, Micah Nguyen, and Ronald Vellines

Pastor Heidi opened the meeting with prayer and devotions from Acts 2.

In 2021 Action – Building Relationships: 1x1x1 (based on Romans) of building trust, honesty, commitment, not playing the blame game, learning from the past and building for the future by building relationships with one person in the church, one person at home, and one person in the community.

Steps to discerning 2022 Action: 1) Revisit our Mission, 2) Explore our Vision, 3) Celebrate our memories and articulate our dreams, and 4) Take a look at our Resources (Financial, Structural, and Spiritual).

### OUR MISSION:

*Christ Centered - Mission Driven - Traditionally-Grounded - Congregationally Focused*  
(Matthew 28:18-20)

OUR VISION: *Building Relationships*

OUR ACTION: *Building Relationships with God and with our Neighbor*

### GOAL

To put in action in place we need goals. In order to specifically achieve our 2022 goal the group discerned that we do not have the same resources as before and need to streamline ministry. After reviewing our resources and faithfully discerning the reality of our congregation, this resulted in the goal of having at least quarterly, bi-monthly, and monthly meetings of all teams and committees.

This will facilitate administration, oversight, accountability, and authority (God's Authority). Therefore, we scheduled meetings of teams and committees, combining some of them based on common denominators and ministry functions.

### ACTION

Every meeting will begin with collective devotions (driven by the action plan to intentionally build our relationship with God). Then we will break up into our respective committees and teams to serve and build relationships with our neighbors.

**Union Women** ~ meet the first Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m.

March 6, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, and December 4

**Good Timers** ~ meet the second Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

March 10, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, and December 8

**Christian Education Committee, Sunday School, and Youth & Family** ~ meet on 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday quarterly at 2:00 p.m.

May 1, August 7, and November 6

**Mission Team and Social Ministry Committee**~ meet every second Sunday of every other month beginning in April at 2:00 p.m.

March 6, April 10, June 12, August 14, October 9, December 11

**Worship & Music Committee, Altar Guild, Sound, Facebook, Webpage, and Pictures** ~ meet quarterly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

March 10, June 9, September 8, and December 8

**Lay Ministers** ~ meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 21

**Property, Cemetery, and Columbarium Committee** ~ meet every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. every other month

March 24, May 26, September 22, and November 17 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday due to Thanksgiving)

**Finance Committee, Scholarships, Endowment, and Franz Merrell Community Crisis** ~ meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 6:00 p.m. quarterly

April 21, July 21, and October 20

**Committees that meet as needed:**

Long Range/Stewardship Committee

Archives

Hospitality & Decorating

Throughout the year a Tuesday evening at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday morning 10:30 a.m. **Bible Study** is offered.

**Confirmation Class** is offered at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday evenings during the school year.

Every Wednesday the **Belles & Beaus** at 6:30 p.m. and **Chancel Choir** at 7:30 p.m. rehearse.

At the next Council meeting, the Council will determine how often they meet with the Executive Committee meeting the Tuesday before at 5:30 p.m.

The retreat was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt

Council Secretary

**Called Congregational Council meeting  
Sunday, March 6, 2022 following worship**

Present: Larry Barringer, Amanda Caulbe, Jennifer Curlee, Tara Davis, Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt, Lucinda Fraley, Lisa Graczyk, Brad Huffman, Matt Miller, Pastor Heidi Punt, and Ronald Vellines

The purpose of the meeting was for the Council to vote on approving the 2022 Church Yearbook to be printed.

Genevieve Baker, Staff Support Specialist, had emailed the Church Council members the 2022 Church Yearbook without financial information included.

At the meeting Lucinda Fraley presented the 2021 financial information.

Larry Barringer, made a motion, Lisa Graczyk, seconded, and all approved the 2022 yearbook to be printed with the financial information report included.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt  
Council Secretary

## April Birthdays

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Revised as of 3-22-22					1	2
3 Daisy Martin	4 Don Davis	5	6	7	8 Noah Cauble	9 Steve Walton
10 Palm Sunday	11	12 Sabrina Eagle	13 Janie Lesley	14 Maundy Thursday	15 Good Friday	16 Dusty Agner John Knight
17 Easter Sunday Hannah Barbee	18 Easter Monday Ruth Monroe	19	20	21 Abbey Deaton	22	23 Marvin Nunn
24 Rachel Earnhardt Benjamin Miller Donnie Miller	25 Sam Nguyen	26 Ali Davis Alex Miller	27	28	29 William Page	30

### April Anniversaries:

April 11      Elbert and Cheryl Kluttz  
 April 15      Donnie and Melisa Miller  
 April 21      Joe and Sylvia McDaniel  
 April 28      Vernon and Janet Overcash

Have we missed your birthday or anniversary? Please contact the church office (704) 636-5092 – we don't want to leave anyone out!



## April Calendar – dates/times subject to change

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Revised as of 3-25-22					1	2 9:30 a.m. Carolinas Lutheran Women Convocation 10:30 a.m. Technology Training
3 9:15 a.m. Music Time (Preschool-5 <sup>th</sup> Grade) 9:15 a.m. Middle/High School Youth (skit) 9:35 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion Following worship Christian Ed meeting 12:30 p.m. Union Women 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Union & Salem Middle/High School Youth at Union	4	5 5:30 p.m. Executive Co 5:45 p.m. Meal 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service	6 10:30 a.m. Lenten Service 11:30 p.m. Lunch 2:00 p.m. Paint, Color, and Draw 6:15 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	7 10:00 a.m. Good Timers	8	9 9:00 a.m. Youth (Breakfast with Phil at Breakfast Time)
10 Palm Sunday 9:15 a.m. Music Time (Preschool-5 <sup>th</sup> Grade) 9:35 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion 2:00 p.m. Church Council 3:30 p.m. Mission Team and Social Ministry <i>Deadline for contacting the church office regarding Easter Potted Flowers booklet.</i>	11	12	13 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	14 Maundy Thursday 10:30 a.m. Maundy Thursday Service 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service	15 Good Friday 10:30 a.m. Good Friday Service 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Service 7:30 p.m. Youth Lock-in 7:30 p.m. Prayer	16
All are welcome to drive through the Cemetery and stop at each Station of the Cross during Holy Week.						
17 Easter Sunday 7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service 9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Easter Service <i>No Sunday School</i> <i>Deadline for May articles</i>	18 Easter Monday Church Office is closed.	19	20 2:00 p.m. Lay Ministers	21 6:00 p.m. Finance, Scholarships, Endowment, & Franz Merrell Crisis	22	23
24 9:15 a.m. Music Time (Preschool-5 <sup>th</sup> Grade) 9:35 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Luther League (Salem) <i>Deadline for Gerald Bame Scholarship Applications</i>	25	26 6:30 p.m. Bible 101 Acts	27 10:30 a.m. Bible 101 Acts	28	29	30 6:00 p.m. Chicken Dinner
					Middle/High School Carolinas Mission Region Youth Lock-In Holy Trinity, Gastonia 8p.m.-8 a.m.	