



Union Lutheran Church

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October 2024

Union Messenger

Volume 10

From Your Pastor...

REFORMATION REST

Have you ever felt like you didn't know whether you are coming or going? Some might say they feel like a dog chasing its own tail.

This often happens when our schedules are just too cluttered or when we have been either physically or emotionally displaced. The risks are great when this is our "mondus operandi". Living in this state constantly can literally steal our joy, cheat our hearts and eat up our souls.

So what is the solution? We cannot be chopping off our "tails" but we can "shut the door" on some things that have us "coming and going". Paul writes, "...an apostle—not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—and all the brothers who are with me, to the churches of Galatia: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen." (Galatians 1:1-5).

We can briefly pick up two things from him here: 1) he is all about God, 2) grace bestowed upon us by Jesus Christ gives clear perspective and direction.

A few weeks ago, I got to spend time with a couple who were sharing about their ministry in Tanzania, followed by another couple who had just returned from their trip to Italy. While these may seem like worlds apart (which in many ways they are), there was one common observation; the people in each of these countries stopped in the middle of their days to rest. They also seemed more content, finding joy in their days and the people around them.

I'm not advertising a nationwide siesta but, am keeping in mind that Martin Luther believed that resting is a form of worship, and that it is possible to worship God better when resting than when working. Luther believed that resting



Continued on the next page

allows people to cast their cares on God, and to honor God as the creator who works for people even when they are resting or sleeping. To take time to evaluate what really matters to us. When we consider God first in all we do, even in the most minuscule areas of our lives, things will become clearer to us. The battles we choose to fight and the activities we put on our schedules will be less about trying to keep everyone happy, or about matters pertaining to ourselves, which ultimately are all only temporary and lead to dissatisfaction and self-reliance.

During Luther's time the church was the greatest culprit of "chasing its own tail". Martin Luther wrote: "Various holy orders have been launched for the purpose of securing peace of conscience through religious exercises, but they proved failures because such devices only increase doubt and despair. We find no rest for our weary bones unless we cling to the word of grace" (Commentary on Galatians, the third verse of the first chapter. And there it is... the Word of Grace!

God's grace, His Word restores our souls, our joy and our hearts, letting us lie down beside still waters instead of chasing our tails or constantly coming and going.

Wishing you all a wonderful Reformation Rest.

*Joyful Blessings,
Pastor Heidi*

*In October, Union will be providing
Chapel Time at Autumn Care at 2:00
p.m. on Wednesday, October 2.*

*All are invited to come join in on the
fellowship, fun, and sharing God's Word!*



Confirmation

Catechism for Teenagers and Adults
Wednesdays at **6:30 p.m.**
October 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

October Focus: 10 Commandments

October Choirs Schedule

**Wednesdays,
October 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30**

6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus

*Belles & Beaus will be ringing during
worship on Sunday, October 13.*

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Sundays,

October 6, 13, 20 & 27

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir

*Kids Choir will be singing during
worship on Sunday, October 6.*



Make It Simple Small Group Facilitators

Thursdays, October 3, 10 & 17
6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 22
6:30 p.m.

More information on page 8.



43rd Annual Autumn Jubilee

Dan Nicholas

Saturday, October 5 & Sunday, October 6

Autumn Jubilee attracts more than 50,000 visitors from across Rowan County and the state. The Autumn Jubilee celebrates the season with family fun, food, and craft vendors.

*Dan Nicholas Park will donate \$1,000 to the **Union Youth Fund** for assisting with **parking**. Please contact Thad Mulkey or Dusty Morgan, Sr., if you can participate all day or for a few hours on **Saturday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.** or **Sunday from 12 noon-4:00 p.m.***

Sunday, October 6

8:45 a.m. Light Breakfast with Greet & Meet

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir
(5th grade and under) in Sanctuary

9:35 a.m. Sunday School
Joseph the Favored Son
Genesis 37:2-28; Matthew 5:21-22a
When his brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him. (Genesis 37:4)

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class
Joseph the Favored Son

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class
Prayers of Repentance and Confession
2 Samuel 11; Psalm 51;
2 Corinthians 7:5-11

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
Genesis 2:18-25; Psalm 128;
Hebrews 2:1-18; Mark 10:2-16

10:30 a.m. Rev. Carl Haynes,
250th Anniversary Guest Pastor

12 noon-4:00 p.m.
Autumn Jubilee at Dan Nicholas Park

4:00 p.m. Little Lutherans and
Blessing of Domestic Animals

*Janet Overcash has reserved the Altar
Flowers for Sunday, October 6.*

Coat Drive

The Mary and Martha Missionary Group of Union Women will be collecting CLEAN, GENTLY USED Coats, Jackets, Hoodies, and Sweaters suitable for men or women, even children of all ages and sizes.

Now would be a good time to clean out your coat closet and donate any items you have that someone else can stay warm this winter.

Please bring your items for donation and put them in the Old Pine Center, a basket will be placed near the Union Women Bulletin Board.

The project will start on Sunday, October 6th and end on Sunday, October 20th so the items could be distributed by the time cold weather is here.

Thank you!



CMR Clergy Retreat

Monday, Oct. 7-Wednesday, Oct. 9

The Carolinas Mission Region is pleased to welcome Dr. Robert Benne as our guest speaker this year. He will be speaking on his book "Good and bad Ways to Think About Religion and Politics."

CMR Clergy retreat will be held at Laurel Ridge Camp, Conference, and Retreat Center.

Pastor Heidi will be attending the retreat.

Doris Shepherd will be hosting the next **Mary & Martha Circle's** gathering on **Tuesday, October 8, at 2:00 p.m.** at the church.

All Ladies are invited for fellowship, fun, and digging into God's Word.

Budget Team will meet Tuesday, October 8, at 6:15 p.m.



Mark your calendars now...everyone is invited to **Good Timers** on **Thursday, October 10, at 10:00 a.m.** in the **Old Pine Center.**

Guest: Katy Luther

The group will eat lunch at Lakeview Restaurant.

The Blessing of Domestic Animals

Many people bring their pets to the church to be blessed on St. Francis' feast day (October 4, 2024) because of his love for animals. You can pray for and bless your pets and animals at home too.

On **Sunday, October 6, at 4:00 p.m.** during the Little Lutherans gathering, the congregation is invited to bring their domestic animals from home to be blessed!

Pastor Heidi Punt will be out of the office from Friday, October 11-Monday, October 14.

Sunday, October 13

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir
(5th grade and under) in Choir Room

9:35 a.m. Sunday School
Joseph Explains Dreams
Genesis 40:1-23; John 8:31-36
They said to Joseph, "We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret them." (Genesis 40:8)

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class
Joseph Explains Dreams

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class
A Plea for Deliverance
Psalm 22; Psalm 107:23-32; Daniel 3

10:30 a.m. Worship only
Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Psalm 90:12-17;
Hebrews 3:12-19; Mark 10:17-22

10:30 a.m. Belles & Beaus
ringing during worship

2:00 p.m. Christian Education Umbrella

4:30 p.m. Union & Salem Youth

*Altar Flowers are open for reservations
for Sunday, October 13.*

the
JOY
OF THE
LORD
-IS-*my*
STRENGTH
- NEHEMIAH 8:10 -

CLW Convocation

Saturday, October 19, at 10:00 a.m.

Theme: God's Unfailing Love

Please bring your Bible.

Carolinas Lutheran Women (CLW) invites the Union Women to their 14th Annual Convocation on Saturday, October 19, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 805 S. York Street, Gastonia, NC 28052.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the Convocation begins at 10:00 a.m.

The CLW encourages each congregation to send representatives.

Please contact the church office for registration form and other information regarding the event.



*October is observed as **National Clergy Appreciation Month** (also known as **Pastor Appreciation Month**), and **Pastor Appreciation Day** — a day set aside within the month to celebrate pastors — this year it is **October 20**. The month recognizes the contributions and services of pastors, priests, reverends, ministers, and all other clergymen.*

Welcome Bags

This summer our Mission & Outreach Team have assembled **Welcome bags** for our first time church visitors with useful items as well as a special welcome.

The Ushers are an integral part of this ministry but so are YOU!

If you see a new face, please welcome them and let the Ushers know.

Contact persons for Welcome Bags:
Robyn Arey or Cheryl Kluttz

Sunday, October 20
Clergy Appreciation Sunday

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir
(5th grade and under) in Choir Room

9:35 a.m. Sunday School
Moses and the Burning Bush
Exodus 3:1-15; Mark 12:26-27a
“Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.” (Exodus 3:10)

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class
Moses and the Burning Bush

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class
Praise for Deliverance
Isaiah 25; Daniel 6:10-28;
Ephesians 1:3-14

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
Ecclesiastes 5:10-20; Psalm 119:9-16;
Hebrews 4:1-13 [14-16]; Mark 10:23-31

1:30 p.m. Executive Committee

2:00 p.m. Church Council

Newsletter articles deadline.

Deadline for coat drive.

*Altar Flowers are open for reservations
for Sunday, October 20.*

*November Messenger will be printed on
Thursday, October 24.*



TRUNKS, TREATS & MORE!
**TRUNK
OR TREAT**



SPREAD THE WORD!

The entire community is invited on **Friday, October 25, at 6:00 p.m.** for **Union Lutheran Church's Trunk or Treat**. Our parking lot will be turned into the BEST PLACE to Trick or Treat in Salisbury!

Come on by and walk from car to car to get great candy, car trunks decorated for the holiday and just all around good, safe fun!

Our Union Youth will be selling food during the Trunk or Treat Event! Proceeds towards Youth Missions/Retreats.

Volunteers are needed to prepare trunks and for the event!

Contact Person: Dusty Morgan, Sr.

Trunk or Treat Setup: *Thursday, October 24, at 6:30 p.m.*

Friday, October 25

Third Annual Lecture Series

“The Role of Theologians In and For the Church”

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

Pastor Heidi Punt and Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support, will be attending the lecture series on Friday, October 25, at Gordon-Conwell in Charlotte.

The church office will be open during regular business hours .

Sunday, October 27

Reformation & Confirmation Sunday

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir (5th grade and under) in Choir Room

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

The Parting of the Red Sea ~ Exodus 14:6-31; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4
Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind. (Exodus 14:21)

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class
The Parting of the Red Sea

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class
Trust in God Alone ~ Psalm 62; Jeremiah 17:5-11

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
Revelation 14:6-7; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

10:30 a.m. Confirmation of Caylea Cline and Mallory Eagle

12 noon Earnhardt Reunion

4:00 p.m. Luther League at Holy Trinity, Troutman

Altar Flowers are open for reservations for Sunday, October 27.



Confirmation Sunday, October 27, 2024

What is Confirmation? Confirmation is a significant spiritual rite during the lifelong journey of faith in which a person publicly confirms the faith given to them in their baptism.

The Confirmation Journey unites parents and the church to lead Confirmands towards a full life in Christ.

Our Confirmation Program is focused not only on “head knowledge,” but also “heart knowledge.”

On Sunday, October 27, 2024, Caylea Cline and Mallory Eagle will affirm their baptisms.

In the November *Messenger*, will include more information about our Confirmands.

Make It Simple

This year our congregation is participating in a stewardship program entitled *Make It Simple*. We will focus on this theme in four weekly sessions.

The four weekly themes are:

- 1 *Make It Simple: Following Jesus*
Tuesday, October 29, at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, October 30, at 10:30 a.m.
Thursday, October 31, at 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 3, at 9:30 a.m.

- 2 *Make It Simple: Facing the Truth*
Tuesday, November 5, at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 6, at 10:30 a.m.
Thursday, November 7, at 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 10, at 9:30 a.m.

- 3 *Make It Simple: Acting Together*
Tuesday, November 12, at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 13, at 10:30 a.m.
Thursday, November 14, at 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 17, at 9:30 a.m.

- 4 *Make It Simple: Sharing Enough*
Tuesday, November 19, at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, November 20, at 10:30 a.m.
Thursday, November 21, at 2:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 27, at 9:30 a.m.



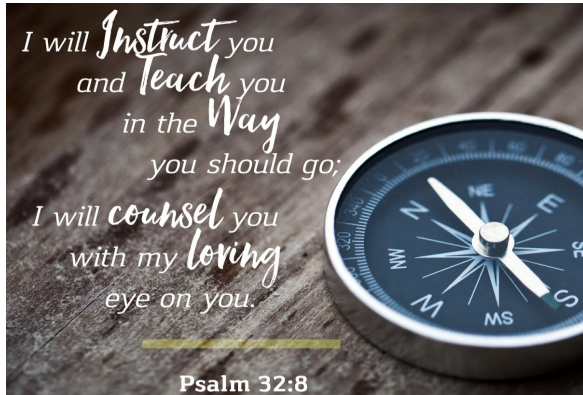
The theme for *Make It Simple* provides opportunities for study, reflection, and discussion about the choices we make in our daily lives. It is biblically centered to help us grow in faith and our daily living as a disciple of Jesus. There are congregational learning events, small group Bible studies, and children's activities.

We invite and encourage you and your family to participate in the *Make It Simple* program!

Small Group Facilitators will meet in advance to prepare for the weekly sessions.

Thursdays, October 3, 10 & 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 22, at 6:30 p.m.



Psalm 32:8

**Union Youth
Middle & High School Youth**
Upcoming Activities

Autumn Jubilee Parking

Saturday, October 5
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 6
12 noon-4:00 p.m.

Sunday School

October 6, 13, 20 & 27
9:35 a.m.

Union & Salem Youth

October 13
4:30 p.m.

Confirmation Catechism

Wednesdays, October 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
6:30 p.m.

Trunk or Treat Setup

Thursday, October 24
6:30 p.m.

Trunk or Treat

Friday, October 25
6:00 p.m.

Luther League

Sunday, October 27
4:00 p.m.
Holy Trinity, Troutman

Little Lutherans
5th grade and younger
Upcoming Activities

Kids Choir

October 6, 13, 20 & 27
9:15 a.m.

ATTENTION Kid's Choir:

You will be singing on October 6.
Remaining rehearsals are very important.
Miss Dawn looks forward to seeing you
on Sunday mornings.

Sunday School

October 6, 13, 20 & 27
9:35 a.m.

**Little Lutherans and the
Blessing of the Animals**

Sunday, October 6
4:00 p.m.

Trunk or Treat

Friday, October 25
6:00 p.m.

*Congrats to Jesse Morgan, Jr. for
being selected to participate in All
County Chorus.*

*Jesse, who is a member of the Kid's
Choir, follows in the footsteps of Sam
Nguyen who as a 5th grader was selected
to sing with the Salisbury Symphony in
the Nutcracker.*

*Very proud of two Kid's Choir
Members.*

*Dawn Merrell
Interim Music Director/Organist*

Union Lutheran Church you are invited to the marriage of Pastors Heidi & Dieter's daughter, Nadia.

The wedding ceremony of Alexander McCoy and Nadia Punt will be held at **1:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 9, 2024**, at Holy Trinity, Troutman

A cake reception will follow the service.

250th Anniversary T-Shirts were available in September for pick up.

To order, please contact Kimbal Screen Print & Embroidery in Granite Quarry.

On Sunday, September 29, during the worship service we recognized the 90 Days Participants: Participants: Tara Davis, Lucinda Fraley, Brad and Jan Huffman, John and Susan Knight, Betty Sue Lowder, Lisa Morgan, Pete, Nikki, Micah, and Sam Nguyen, Cathy Painter, and Debbie Rinehart

Those Serving in October

Acolytes: Jesse Morgan, Jr. and Adam Thompson

Altar Guild:

Sonya Mulkey and Janet Overcash

Communion Assistants: Tara Davis, Frank Merrell and Sonya Mulkey

Lay Readers: Tara Davis, Frank Merrell and Doris Shepherd

Ushers: Phil Cauble, Micah Nguyen, Addison Queen and Ron Vellines

Offering Counters: Tara Davis, Cathy Painter and Ron Vellines



The 250th Anniversary Committee sponsored a successful Community Fair on Saturday, September 21, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The event was a delightful celebration of the bountiful autumn season.

A large collection of plants and other items were for sale from vendors including members of the community and Union!

Our Union Youth sold hamburgers, hotdogs, and BBQ as a Mission Trip Fundraiser during the event.

*Proceeds as of September 26: **\$2,852.50** towards Youth Missions/Retreats.*

Thank you to everyone who donated items for Faith Charter Academy and North Rowan High School during the month of September.

Altar Flowers

HELP! There are many vacant Sundays for the rest of the year with no reservations. Each week in the Union news is listed whether someone has signed up or not.

If you would be willing to donate flowers or to provide flowers on Sundays where no one has signed up, please let the church office know.

Gladiolas, small stemmed sunflowers (the larger stems tear up the oasis), cleomes, zinnias, snap dragons, tall marigolds, coxcombs, roses, even pretty foliage is welcomed.



Eagle Scout Project at Union Playground Touch Up and Little Library

Hello, Union Friends and Family! My name is Andrew Baker. I'm a Junior in high school and a Boy Scout. I've been a part of the Boy Scout program since I was six years old.

I have visited Union with my Aunt G and met a wonderful community of family with you. All which is why I want to do my Eagle Project at Union Lutheran Church.

I've learned many things from scout's not just camping skills but also life skills like personal finance. With the scout's I have learned how to lead as well as be led.

I want to impact a church important to me and my mind decided on Union.

My project will be fixing up the playground then adding a little free library which implements a take and leave system for the kiddos to read.

I could really use your help whether its donations (money or supplies), youth and adults involvement with the project itself.

Thanks for reading and I hope to bless the Church Family that has blessed me.

More information coming soon!

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

A gift was received for the Narthex Expansion Fund in honor of Troy and Cathy Kluttz Painther from:

Jennifer and Scott Curlee

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Arnold Cauble by:

Pierson and Glenda Plyler Dean

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Vernon and Zarah Plyer by:

Pierson and Glenda Plyler Dean

A gift was received for the General, Benevolence, Cemetery, and Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Funds in memory of James M. "Red" Swicegood, Sr., and Dorothy "Dot" Potts Swicegood by:

James "Macky" Swicegood, Jr. and Jo Bame Trousdell

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Effie Vellines by:

John and Kathy Barringer

OFFICE BUILDING RENOVATION UPDATE – July 21, 2024-Present

On Sunday, July 21, Phil Cauble, Facility Manager, was made aware of a water leak covering several rooms in the office building. After further exploration it became apparent that the church was experiencing water damage and mold.

Beginning on Friday, July 26, a crew from Divine Restoration Group, Mt. Pleasant, NC, an IICRC-certified, insured and licensed Restoration Company, began the tedious chore of drying the hallway with Phil Cauble, Facility Manager, with them every step of the way.

With the Southern Mutual Adjuster (church's insurance company) and Divine Restoration Group, the Church Council faced a larger challenge still. The floor and paneling had asbestos and lead.

The asbestos lead flooring and paneling were removed the week of August 19-23, 2024 with an Abatement Crew.

In advance of the abatement, the church office was moved temporarily on August 14 to the hallway at the double glass doors entrance while work was taking place in the office building. The office will continue to function normally in the hallway during regular business hours during the week and will return to the office building when work has been completed enough to do so.

Thank you to Jimmy Plyler and his co-worker, Bob, for stringing 100 feet of wires so the church office could stay connected and function appropriately!

Pastor Heidi Punt is always available by cell phone and generally hangs out in the large fellowship hall to allow Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support, one less distraction.

Work is underway in the office building and we are hopeful to be near the end of construction soon!

Please do not enter the building to check on the progress due to liability and safety concerns.

Thank you to Phil Cauble, Facility Manager, Property Committee, and Church Council for their leadership during this renovation!

New Neighbors Gifts

We all know when moving, there is so much going on it can feel overwhelming. To add to the stress when moving you are not familiar with the place or the people.

Our Mission & Outreach Team have begun assembling helpful items to welcome new neighbors but not impose on them.

If you have new faces moving into your neighborhood, please contact Robyn Arey or Cheryl Klutz. They will in turn contact the Team to begin assembling a specialized gift. When the gift is ready, a member of the Team will contact you and work with you to reach out and deliver the gift.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Homes – Brenda Mahaley (Autumn Care Room 815), Ruth Monroe (Autumn Care Room 818), Jean Ray (Autumn Care Room 201) & Jay Rusher (Autumn Care), Pat Kluttz (Brookdale Room 56)

Homebound/Shut-ins Members – Sarah Bame, Rachel Earnhardt, Teresa Kesler, James Kluttz, Rev. TC & Mary Plexico, Macky Swicegood, Billy Waller & Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery –Brenda Cauble, Lynn Coughenour, Kiki Deaton, Linda Hartley, Glenn Honeycutt, Jr., Steve Hutchens, Jean Kluttz, John Knight, Glenn Lowder, Kay Morgan, Pastor David Nuottila, Patsy Sigmon, Wayne and Pam Vellines, Rindy Watkins, & Rev. Bob Young (son of the congregation)

Continual Prayer –Addison Pardella-Barton (Debbie McPherson’s friend), Shonna Lanning Black (Jack and Deena Lanning’s daughter), Bill Broadway, Sharon Peeler Bullock (Sylvia Peeler’s daughter), Jill Brooks (Judy Boyd’s cousin), Michael Curlee (Scott Curlee’s brother), Billy Hutchens (Steve Hutchens’ brother), Evelyn Hutchens (Steve Hutchens’ mother), Darrell Johnson (Friend of The Punts), Betty Sue Lowder, Dr. Sean Malone (Pam Vellines’ doctor), Chandra McCoy (In Africa on Mission Trip - Friend of Steve & Malynda Peeler), Mary Catherine McCoy (Robin Huffman’s daughter -in-law), Merkins Family (Friends of The Punts), Jonathan Merrell (Frank Merrell’s cousin), Fay Miller (Pat Kluttz’s friend); Della Morgan (Pam Vellines’ mother), William & Doris Page, George Roof (Frank Merrell’s friend), Ben Smith (Cathy Painter’s brother-in-law), Glen Wall (Frank & Dawn Merrell’s friend), Pat Wiles (Genevieve Baker’s friend), Union Fire Department #76, Global Missions (Congo, Slovakia, and Haiti) & those affected by natural or political disasters

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!

Please let us know...church staff are not automatically made aware of you or your family members and loved ones who are in the hospital, Hospice, a nursing home or shut-ins at home. This means we cannot minister to them without you letting us know. Please contact the church office (704) 636-5092 to keep us informed.



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.

October Benevolence Teaching Moment: Rowan Helping Ministries

Rowan Helping Ministries operates with a budget of \$2.8 million, with only 5.2 percent of funds going to administrative costs. Typically, nonprofits spend from 15 to 40 percent of revenue on administrative costs. The 50 volunteers who serve each day, 365 days per year, make this possible.

The Long street campus consists of the Ralph W. Ketner Center Crisis Assistance Center, the Robertson-Stanback Center and Jeannie's Kitchen; three remodeled permanent supportive houses for families, two Eagle's Nest apartment buildings, for guests to be able move out of the shelter into transitional housing. In addition, there are two satellite Food Pantries in Rowan County: Rowan Helping Ministries West and Rowan Helping Ministries East.

Programs include: Shelter Services, Jeannie's Kitchen, the Clothing Center, Food Pantry, Crisis Assistance Network, Transitional Housing Programs, Rowan Helping Ministries-West, Rowan Helping Ministries-East, New Tomorrows, Food For Thought.

Rowan Helping Ministries, now celebrating its 35th year, works to move people out of crisis, poverty, hunger, and homelessness in Rowan County. The organization was built, and continues to thrive on the generosity of volunteers, who give their time, talents and treasures.

Our Mission is to serve, through cooperative community action, our neighbors in Rowan County who are in crisis, by providing essential life needs and educating and empowering them to break the cycle of crisis.

Each year the congregation approves certain benevolences as part of the yearly Ministry Support 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 monthly newsletter highlights one of these benevolences in order to tell you the story of what they do and what difference your giving makes.





*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 – “Love God and love our Neighbor.”

Avenues of Giving:

- *Weekly Sunday Offering*
- *Mail*
- *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 Memorial Scholarship Fund), 3rd Sunday (Building & Repair Fund), 4th Sunday (Youth Missions/Retreats Fund), and 5th Sunday (Current).

Attendance Update

August Sunday School

4	37	
11	26	
18	49	Step Up
25	<u>53</u>	
Total	165	
Average	41	

September Sunday School

1	52	
8	46	
15	49	
22	46	
29	_____	

August Worship & Holy Communion

4	103	
11	200	Homecoming
18	97	
25	<u>100</u>	
Total	500	
Average	125	

September Worship & Holy Communion

1	109	
8	90	
15	105	
22	92	Worship only
29	_____	

UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

A charter congregation of North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

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

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Heidi Punt, Pastor - 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

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



Lay Ministers:

Judy Boyd (704) 279-5378

Tara Davis (704) 637-9334

Steve Hutchens (304) 545-5160

John Kesler (704) 633-5702

Elbert Kluttz (704) 633-3484

Deena Lanning (704) 637-0810

Card Care Team

Pat Kluttz and Kay Morgan

OUR MISSION:

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

OUR 2024 VISION:

“Love God and Love our Neighbor” (**Mark 12:30-33**)

OUR 2024 ACTION PLAN:

“By feeding, clothing, visiting, helping...” (**Matthew 25:35-40**)

*For more
information on
the ministries
and life of ULC
please scan the
QR code*



Written by Faith West

Faith matured from a college student and music worship leader at Christ United, while I served there into a beautiful woman and mother.



For some reason I feel compelled to share what I found myself typing into my notes at 3:00am this morning, as I rocked my sweet boy back to sleep. If you have kids I'm sure you'll recognize what my sleepy mind was trying to capture, as simple as it may be. ❤️

I breathe in deeply,

as I pull myself out of my comfortable bed. My ear is so well-tuned to your voice, that even the smallest sound wakes me from my deepest sleep. There's a part of me that wants to cry, as I shuffle my way to your crib. If only I could have one more hour of rest...

But then I breathe in deeply,

as I see your face searching for mine. This breath is different. As I pull you up into my arms I want to cry. Not for another hour of rest, but because I'm suddenly reminded how much I love THIS hour with you.

So, I breathe in deeply.

I hold you close. I would get up every hour for you. Some nights I do. I almost cry. Pulling myself out of bed at 3:00am is hard, but the moment I see your face it becomes the easiest thing in the world.

As I breathe in deeply,

you fall back to sleep. I watch peace wash over your face as you melt back into me. You're home. I'm your home. My heart is so full that I start to cry. I've never felt more whole than I do when I have you in my arms.

I breathe in deeply,

as I tell myself I can go back to bed. But now I want nothing less. All I can think is that I have the rest of my life to sleep through the night. And those days will be here sooner than I want to believe. So I hold you for another precious hour... because I can.

I breathe in deeply.

And, yes, I cry as I thank God for you.

I'm so glad you need me right now...

at 3:00am...

I need this too. ❤️

Good Timers

The Good Timers met on September 12, 2024 in the Old Pine Center with Frank Merrell presiding. Frank had the devotions on secret idols and prayer.

September birthdays: Gladys Morgan (10), James Kluttz (12), Jean Kluttz (14), Brenda Mahaley (26), John Kesler (27)

No September wedding anniversaries.

The door prize was won by Faye Kesler.

We had 19 members and 2 visitors (Phil York and Katie Greene) in attendance with an offering of \$29.00 being received.

Trivia Report on this day in:

1857 The SS Central America sinks in a hurricane off Cape Hatteras (about 400 died in the wreck)

1954 Lassie premiers on TV

2024 First spacewalk by commercial astronauts

Sick Report: Pat Kluttz has moved from Autumn Care to Brookdale, Doris Page

The October program will feature a special guest.

Our program today was given by Phil York, head of the Rowan County RoCo 911 and assisted by Katie Greene. Phil is the son of Mickey York, a former member of Union.

RoCo 911 was started in 2001. It covers 4 divisions: EMS, Fire, 911 and Em divisions. It moved to a new building in 2013. The 911 center is located in Salisbury. Rowan 911 dispatches for various departments, such as the fire department, sheriff's dept., to name a few. When to call 911: emergency, non-emergency, locked cell phone.

RoCo alerts enables you to be provided with critical information on a variety of situations: such as severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons and evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods.

Reminder to the Good Timers: form a committee to compile a list of officers for the year 2025.

Deena Lanning had the blessing before we went to lunch at Lakeview.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruby Leazer, Secretary

Good Timer's Treasurer's Report for September

Beginning Balance	\$239.26
Received in September	\$ 29.00
Ending Balance	\$268.29

Respectfully submitted,
Dickie Shue, Treasurer



MISSION TRIP REPORT – JULY 2024



Theme: **“The Resurrection of the Body”**

Rev. Dr. Stéphane M. Kalonji
Congo Mission International
1208 Fifth Street
Rosenberg, TX 77469

Phone: (252)876-5192
Email: kalonjist@aol.com

OVERVIEW

We, Pastor Stephane Kalonji and Pastor David Nuottila, were scheduled to travel to Congo from Houston, on July 8. For health reasons, Pastor Nuottila was advised by his healthcare provider not to travel. Because of hurricane Beryl, the trip was postponed to July 10 when I left Houston for Congo, via Chicago and Brussels. I arrived in Kinshasa on July 11. I began mission work in Kinshasa, flew to Mbuji-Mayi (Kasai-Oriental province) where I served, traveled to the Merode-Cilundu village, returned to Mbuji-Mayi before flying back to Kinshasa where I concluded the work.

MISSION WORK AREAS

- Kinshasa (capital city of Congo)
- Mbuji-Mayi (a city in the central province of Kasai-Oriental)
- Merode-Cilundu (a village in Kasai-Oriental)

MISSION COMPONENTS

1. **Seminar on “The Resurrection of the Body”:** Approximately 1,200 individuals including pastors, lay leaders (women and men), and the youth attended.
2. **Preaching:** I preached every Sunday (three Sundays) but also in three services during the week.
3. **Freeing Babies:** A total of forty-seven (47) babies and their mothers were “freed” in three clinics, in Kinshasa, Mbuji-Mayi and Merode-Cilundu. Each baby also received clothes and a blanket. Each mother was given \$5 to help with transportation to go home.
4. **Feeding Children:** We fed approximately six hundred (600) children in all three locations of the mission work. In Kinshasa, for the second time, we also provided a meal to orphaned children on a military base called “Camp Kokolo.”
5. **Bibles:** We locally purchased 45 bibles in Tshiluba and French, and gave them to pastors and lay leaders in Mbuji-Mayi and Merode-Cilundu.
6. **Eyeglasses, clergy vestments, pin crosses:** These items were distributed in all three locations of the mission work.
7. **Biblical Counseling:** I provided biblical counseling in the last week at “Paroisse Christ Vainqueur” (Christ Victorious Parish) in Kinshasa.
8. **Church Construction:** After an initial visit of the church construction project in Mbuji-Mayi, on July 16, a group of leaders and I returned to the site on July 20, and held a worship service at which we named the church “**Paroisse Nouvelle Jérusalem**” (New Jerusalem Parish). There is a lot of excitement around this project. I was particularly impressed with the men who sleep on site to guard the building materials. Many women and the youth also volunteer by traveling about two miles to get water from wells for the construction work.

FINANCIAL REPORT

1. Visas, photos + shipping fees:	\$324
3. DGM form	\$350
3. Plane Tickets + seats (USA):	\$3,831
4. Extra Luggage/box shipping:	\$400
5. Toiletries, batteries...:	\$200
6. Suitcases & boxes:	\$312
7. Supply Pastor – St. Paul:	\$700 (not included in subtotal & grand total)
Subtotal:	\$5,417

9. Hotel – Kinshasa + Mbuji-Mayi:	\$2,710
10. Airfare Kinshasa-Kasaï Oriental:	\$800
11. Extra luggage fee in Congo:	\$250
12. Airport tolls + fees (Congo):	\$250
13. Car rental – Kinshasa:	\$1,100
14. Car rental – Mbuji Mayi:	\$1,250
15. Fuel:	\$1,500
Subtotal:	\$7,860

16. Food + water:	\$750
17. Food – Kinshasa:	\$850 (seminar participants)
18. Food – Mbuji Mayi:	\$1,550 (seminar participants)
19. Food – Mbuji-Mayi:	\$1,250 (feeding the children program)
Subtotal:	\$4,400

20. Handout & certificate copies:	\$380
21. Freeing Babies:	\$3,848
22. Bibles:	\$2,550
23. Worship space in Mbuji-Mayi:	\$700
24. Local projects' support:	\$2,000
- Camp Kokolo:	\$500
- Convocation:	\$500
- Sisters (Merode):	\$500
- Mbuji-Mayi:	\$500
25. Chair rental (Mbuji-Mayi):	\$500
Subtotal:	\$9,978

26. Clergy items (cinctures, shirts...)	\$309
27. Western Union fees:	\$100
28. MoneyGram fees:	\$100
29. Miscellaneous:	\$400
Subtotal:	\$909

Grand Total: \$28,564

This report was prepared by:

Pastor Stéphane M. Kalonji



The Chronicles

October 2024
Volume 12

What God Has, Is, and Anticipating the Future!

Union Lutheran Church is excited to have Pastor Carl Haynes as our last 250th Anniversary Guest Pastor on Sunday, October 6.

8:45 a.m. Light Breakfast with Meet & Greet
Dutch Meeting Hall

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Invite family, friends and former members now to be with us for this special occasion. This is a wonderful time to renew old relationships, update what is going on in the lives of others that have been special to us, and to form new relationships.



Pastor Carl Haynes is a native of North Carolina. He grew up in Rowan County and attended South Rowan High School where he met his wife Kathy. They were married at Concordia Lutheran Church on June 19, 1977. A 1978 graduate of Catawba College, Carl attended Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary graduating in May of '82. He was ordained June 6, 1982. Pr. Carl has served two congregations: Our Saviour, Dallas from June 1982 until December 1991; and Christiana, Salisbury from January 1992 until June 2022.

Pastor Carl became a part of the North American Lutheran Church in December 2010. In May 2011 he was elected Dean of the Carolinas Mission District which encompassed South and North Carolina. He served two terms. Pastor Carl serves on the advisory board for Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, and the Board of Advisors for the Lutheran Studies Program located there. He is currently serving as Dean of the Piedmont East Mission District of the Carolinas Mission Region.

Pastor Carl and his wife Kathy are retired and members of Concordia Lutheran Church in China Grove, NC. They have three daughters and two granddaughters. In his spare time, he enjoys spoiling his granddaughters, reading, woodworking, yard work and playing Bass Trombone in the Salisbury Swing Band.

Community Fair Thank You

The 250th Anniversary Committee sponsored a successful Community Fair on Saturday, September 21, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The event was a delightful celebration of the bountiful autumn season.

A large collection of plants and other items were for sale from vendors including members of the community and Union!

Our Union Youth sold hamburgers, hotdogs, and BBQ as a Mission Trip Fundraiser during the event.

Proceeds from the Community Fair as of September 26: **\$2,852.50** towards Youth Missions/Retreats.

Thank you to everyone who participated and volunteered!

Old Timey Air-Conditioning is available in the pews for use. If you would like to take one home or share, please make a small donation (**Label: Fans**) in the white envelope provided in the pew and on your way out place the envelope in the wooden box located in the Narthex. **Please do not place donation in the offering plate.**

Coming Soon!

250th Anniversary Celebration Guest
Rev. Carl Haynes
October 6, 2024

History and 250th Anniversary Booklet
Historical Supplement
1999-2024
More information coming soon!

250th Anniversary Committee Members:

Kay Morgan, Co-Chair
Dusty Morgan, Sr., Co-Chair
Frank Merrell
Susan Knight
Tara Davis
Elbert Kluttz
Pastor Heidi Punt

250th Anniversary T-Shirts Update

250th Anniversary T-Shirts were available in September for pick up.

To order, please contact Kimbal Screen Print & Embroidery in Granite Quarry.

Thank you to Dusty Morgan, Sr., and the 250th Anniversary Committee for sponsoring T-Shirts souvenirs in honor of our 250th Anniversary!

The Chronicles Thank You

Thank you to Kay Morgan, Susan Knight, Frank Merrell, and Genevieve Baker for contributing and sharing information for Union Lutheran Church and community through *The Chronicles*.

October 2024 edition concludes *The Chronicles*.

Union Lutheran Church
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<https://ulcsalisbury.org/>



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October Birthday Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Revised as of 9-26-24		1	2 Harold Miller	3 Kiki Deaton Doris Page	4 Deckard DeWolf Robin Huffman	5
6 Micah Nugyen	7 Megan Cline Luke Morgan	8	9 Derrick Thompson	10 Chelsey Gibbs Harlem Jones Rev. TC Plexico	11	12 Elbert Kluttz
13 Brad Huffman	14 Columbus Day Jennifer Curlee	15 Charles Hartley	16	17 Johnnie Moore Mariann Rodgers	18 Morgan Deaton Steve Hutchens	19
20	21 Ruth Myers	22	23 Emily Jones Janet Overcash	24	25 Drue Davis	26 Ashley Deaton Susan Knight
27 Reformation & Confirmation Sunday Jason Earnhardt	28 Mark Hunter	29	30	31		

October Anniversaries:

- October 1 Ron and Janie Vellines
- October 2 Thad and Sonya Mulkey
- October 4 Jimmy and Karen Plyler
- October 10 Rev. Dieter and Rev. Heidi Punt
- October 13 Marvin and Phoebe Nunn
- October 16 Brandon and Hannah Barbee
- October 25 Phil and Linda Cauble
- October 28 Scott and Jennifer Curlee

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

