



Union Lutheran Church

4770 Bringle Ferry Road
Salisbury, NC 28146
704.636.5092
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www.ulcsalisbury.org



2025 May Messenger

Volume 5



LITURGY & LIFE

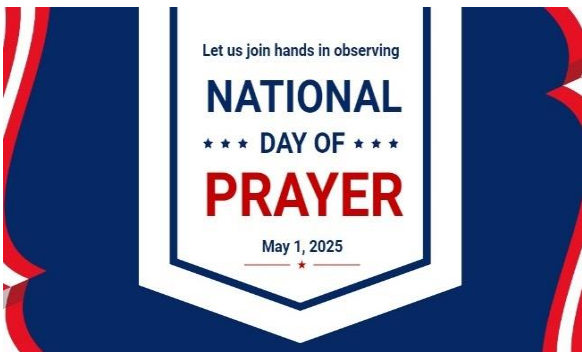
The air was crisp outside, and the little sanctuary hadn't yet warmed up sufficiently, but we were all comfortable. The sermon had been preached and the offering presented, with the choir sharing a heart-felt anthem preparing the congregation for the Sacrament of Holy Communion. As I stood behind the altar, holding the bread firmly between my hands, lifting it up high for everyone to see, I spoke the words given to us by our Lord "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me" (Luke 22:19). Looking over the congregation, they seemed excited, filled with anticipation and yet there was something else. What could it be? I continued, lifting the chalice saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you" (Luke 22:20), a little shadow moved behind me. Eager not to disrupt the flow of worship, I discretely glanced over my shoulder and there she was, little Ellie.

Her arms were up in the air, her face as serious as could be, her brown eyes gleaming with an inner light, reflecting joy and pure uninhibited faith. She was imitating my every move. “Practicing being a Pastor and share Jesus” is how she put it when I talked to her about it afterwards... and it forever changed the way that I approached children and youth ministries.

“Programs” designed for specific ministries might have their place in our congregations. But they serve no purpose if they are not relational and instead result in segregation. Programs need to be permission giving, spaces to adequately empower and equip whatever group you have gathered to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19), “to love God ... and love your neighbor with all you heart” (Matthew 22:37-39). Programs should be spaces and places where a beautiful ebb and flow between learning and sharing, listening and responding happens, a liturgy of life and faith in some ways!

Ever since that pivotal moment, it has become a core part of my ministry that all generations are given the opportunity to not only participate in the Sunday Services but that they fully understand and learn to lead parts of the service. The junior and senior high youth here at Union Lutheran Church lead worship frequently, even offering to “go on the road” and help congregations out who may not have anyone to fill the pulpit on a Sunday. Weeks before the service we practice prayers and worship setting from either the LBW or WOV. We study the Scriptures and unpack them until a message is formulated into a sermon. Everyone has a part, based on specific talents and developed skills.

Our Lutheran tradition has this beautiful theology that invites us to recognize that God is not separate from us but that He is indeed with us and that we get to be in relationship with Him. We get to “share Jesus” and if the calling is placed on our lives “practice being a Pastor”. So it might not come of any surprise to you that years after that pivotal moment with Ellie, I have 8 year old Jesse share the sending with me at the close of every worship service. The same boy who takes his Bible to school so he can tell his friend about Jesus, the same boy said only two weeks into my ministry here, “I am going to take your job one day Pastor,” with smile and enthusiasm so bright and confident that I can hardly wait for that day.



The following were elected to serve as Union Lutheran Church’s representatives for the Carolinas Mission Region & Piedmont-East District from Friday, May 2-Saturday, May 3, 2025 at Christ’s Lutheran Church, Stanley, NC, with Pastor Heidi Punt: Susan Knight (delegate) and Deena Lanning (alternate).

Sunday, May 4, 2025

The loose offering will go towards the Mission Outreach Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is North American Lutheran Seminary.

Please see a Mission Outreach member to purchase a \$10 ticket to reserve a BBQ Chicken Fundraiser plate on Friday, May 16.

During the month of May, the congregation is invited to collect items for Footprints in the Community. Please place donations beside the Choir near the pulpit.

*The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Adam B. Thompson on his 18th birthday (May 5) and high school graduation on 5/24/25, and in memory of my dad, Wade, on his May 13th birthday given by Sharon Leazer*

Sunday, May 4, 2025

9:20 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Children & Youth
Sunday School Opening (*Chapel*)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School
Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class
Thomas Believes Again
John 20:24-31; Jude 1:17-25

Jesus said, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:27)

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class
David's Sacrifice ~ 2 Peter 3:11-18; 1
Chronicles 21:1-22:1

9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday
School and Music
Thomas Believes Again

John 20:24-31; Jude 1:17-25

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
Acts 9:1-22; Psalm 30:1-12; Revelation
5:1-14; John 21:1-14, 15-19

Sermon: *Do you see what I see?* **Sermon**
Focus on Revelation & Acts scriptures

2:00 p.m. Christian Education Umbrella

4:00 p.m. Little Lutherans (5th grade and
younger) Program: *What a Mess*
(Please wear clothes that can get messy!)



In May, the congregation is invited to collect items for **Footprints in the Community**.

Footprints in the Community helps families of children with special needs access activities in their communities.

So many of these families are unable to provide community opportunities for learning and fun for their children due to the financial constraints of raising a child with special needs.

Will you help us today? **Items needed: 50** packs crayons **8-12** crayons per pack; **50** packs markers **8-12** markers per pack; **50** pairs child (blunt edge) scissors; **50** glue sticks; **10** rolls double sided tape; **50** packs Fruit snacks; **50** packs goldfish; **50** Water bottles; Capri sun any flavor – **200** drinks; **150** plates; **150** Gallon Ziploc bags; **150** 2.5 gallon **XL** Ziploc bags; **150** sandwich size Ziploc bags; Food lion **gift cards**; Amazon **gift cards**; Hobby Lobby **gift cards**; and Staples **gift cards**

JAMES BIBLE STUDY

Four-Week Series

Dates & Time: Tuesdays, May 6, 13 & 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Dates & Time: Wednesdays, May 7, 14 & 21 at 4:00 p.m.

Location: Conference #1

True faith produces fruit. A faith without action and without life change is ultimately a dead faith. The book of James speaks to the realities of a living faith in Jesus—the kind of roll-up-your-sleeves and get-your-hands-dirty discipleship that is borne out of an authentic relationship with the risen Lord. James writes to believers who know suffering, who've faced trials, and who ultimately desire a deep relationship with God.

Join us for a four-week series as we dig deep into each chapter, verse by verse by verse. James 1 talks about hard times and wisdom, informs us how temptation works and challenges us to be doers and not just hearers. James 2 leads us into thinking more intentionally about genuine faith. James 3 alerts us to taming out tongues and living in heavenly instead of earthly wisdom. James 4 lifts up the need to get along as God's people. The last chapter accentuates being humble, patient and enduring.

It is only once a week for four weeks. You can choose to either attend the Tuesday evening class at 6:30 pm or the Wednesday afternoon class at 4 pm.

Best of all, it is totally free! It will not cost you anything except 45 minutes of personal time, in God's Word with others of a similar mindset.

Lay Ministers will meet Wednesday, May 7, at 2:30 p.m. in Conference #1.

MAY CHOIRS REHEARSALS



Belles & Beaus

Dates: Wednesdays, May 7, 14, 21 & 28

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Sanctuary

Chancel Choir

Date: Wednesday, May 7, 14, 21 & 28

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Sanctuary

Union Youth Choir

Dates: Sundays, May 4, 11 & 18

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Choir Room

Kids Choir

Dates: Sundays, May 4, 11 & 18

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Chapel

CATECHISM CONFIRMATION

Dates: Wednesdays, May 7, 14 & 21

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Focus: Doctrine

Location: Conference #1

Contact Person: Pastor Heidi Punt



GOOD TIMERS

Date: Thursday, May 8

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Old Pine Center

Program: Bonnie Jones, Rufty-Homes Senior Center

Lunch: Lakeview Restaurant

Contact Persons: Deena Lanning and Doris Shepherd

Mission Outreach Umbrella will meet **Thursday, May 8, at 5:00 p.m.** in **Conference #1.** Business will include last minute preparations for the Chicken BBQ Fundraiser.

Sunday, May 11, 2025

Mother's Day

The loose offering will go towards the Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is North American Lutheran Seminary.

***Deadline** to purchase a \$10 ticket to reserve a BBQ Chicken Fundraiser plate for Friday, May 16.*

During the month of May, the congregation is invited to collect items for Footprints in the Community. Please place donations beside the Choir near the pulpit.

Recognition of Mothers and Mother figures during the worship services.

Recognition of Class of 2025 & Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Recipients.

*The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Rev. and Mrs. V. A. Frick and Franz Merrell by Franklin and Dawn Merrell.*

Sunday, May 11, 2025

8:00 a.m. Worship only (*Dutch Meeting Hall*)

8:30 a.m. Mother's Day Breakfast
(*Dutch Meeting Hall*)

9:20 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Children & Youth
Sunday School Opening (*Chapel*)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class
Witnesses for Jesus ~ Luke 24:36-53;
Ephesians 1:16-23

Jesus said: "Repentance and the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in [my] name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things." (Luke 24:47-48)

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class
Solomon Dedicates the Temple
2 Chronicles 6:12, 14-27, 7:1-20

9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday
School and Music
Witnesses for Jesus
Luke 24:36-53; Ephesians 1:16-23

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
Good Shepherd Sunday
Acts 20;17-35; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

Sermon Focus on Revelation & Acts scriptures

This year the **Class of 2025** graduates will be recognized during the **10:30 a.m.** worship service on **Mother's Day, May 11.** This is a very special day in our congregation as we will recognize and give thanks to God for various members of the **Class of 2025** who are part of our church or our church's extended family during worship.

If you are or are a family member of a high

school or college/tech graduate (whether or not you will be able to make it Sunday, May 11), please contact the church office with your graduate's full name, school from which they are graduating, and what the next steps are in life (enrolling in another school or degree program, headed to the workforce, or whatever may be next).



Adam Blake Thompson

Congratulations to Adam Blake Thompson on his high school graduation from East Rowan High School on May 24, 2025.

He obtained the rank of Major in his four years in the JROTC.

He plans on joining the Army after graduation.



Abbey Ellisa Deaton

Graduating with her Associate degree in nursing. She has already accepted a position in the pediatric emergency dept at Atrium Baptist Hospital in Winston Salem. She also plans to continue her nursing education with advanced degrees in the future.



Ellie Mae Wilhelm

Ellie Wilhelm graduated magna cum laude from Lenoir-Rhyne University in December 2024 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. While Ellie contemplates her path forward with this degree, she is honing her skills in the legal and accounting fields working at Shuford Caddell & Fraley, LLP. She and twin brother Ethan are also working on their professional fishing career.



Ethan Robert Wilhelm

Ethan Wilhelm graduated from NC State University on May 3, 2025 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems. Ethan hopes to win the lottery so that he can raise beef cattle and grow crops to feed the world. While

Ethan contemplates his path forward, he is working as mom's handyman and working on his professional fishing career with twin sister Ellie.



Joshua Yarbrough

Graduation June 6, 2025

West Davidson High School, Lexington NC

Future Plans - United States Coast Guard

Grandmother- Debra Cauble McPherson



Davis Alan Lomax

Graduation June 6, 2025

West Davidson High School, Lexington, NC

Future Plans - will attend UNC Charlotte to study Business and Finance

Grandmother- Debra Cauble McPherson

The Mary & Martha Circle will meet Tuesday, May 13, at 2 pm.

Susan Knight will have a special program for us and also will treat our bodies with refreshments! All women are invited!

Thursday, May 15, at 9:00 a.m. preparations will be underway for Friday's Chicken BBQ Fundraiser! If you can volunteer, please contact Janie Vellines.

Everyone is invited to financially support Mary Hutchens' July Mission Trip to Slovakia. Please mark on your check & envelope "Mary Hutchens Trip." (*Letter is included on page 10.*)

Deadline is May 15, 2025.

Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support, will be out of the office on Friday, May 16.

The church office will be open while she is away.

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.



Stewardship

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this," says the Lord of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it." (Malachi 3:10).

Tithing is not only a commandment but also a privilege. When we honor God with our finances, He honors us with abundance.

Avenues of Giving:

- Weekly Sunday Offering
- Mail
- <https://ulcsalisbury.org/give-online/> (*Please note a service fee is charged for online giving.*)

Sunday, May 18, 2025

The loose offering will go towards the Building & Repair Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is North American Lutheran Seminary.

During the month of May, the congregation is invited to collect items for Footprints in the Community. Please place donations beside the Choir near the pulpit.

The Altar Flowers have been reserved by Linda Kesler for May 18.

BBQ CHICKEN

Fundraiser

TAKE OUT ONLY

12 NOON-6 PM

FRIDAY, MAY 16

UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Mission Outreach Team of Union Lutheran Church (ULC) is excited to sponsor a BBQ Chicken Fundraiser (take out only) on Friday, May 16.

Please purchase a ticket in advance so you will be guaranteed a plate!

\$10 per plate includes: 1/4 chicken, slaw, baked beans, roll and cookie.

Proceeds towards raising funds for the two ULC Mission Trips to Western North Carolina this summer.



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SCAN ME

Please prayerfully consider volunteering your time and talents for this project! Contact, Janie Vellines or a Mission Outreach member, to learn more about how you can get involved.



SPiritUAL ORPHANS NETWORK

Connecting Spiritual Orphans* to the Global Family of Christ.

**In former communist countries, spiritual orphans are people left without a connection to God. YOU are that connection!*

ENGAGE. RECLAIM. TRANSFORM.

 SONetwork.org



Slovakia 2025

Once again, I have the opportunity to continue expanding the mission program in this country. I have made many new friends in my previous trips and look forward to making new ones as well.

I would like to invite you to be a part of sharing Christ's love to those in this country. The English Bible camps draw families that may have never heard that there is a God who loves them. The children come to learn and expand their English skills thru programs very similar to our Vacation Bible School format. Parents are invited to a cookout during the week and end of week program. This opens doors for the local pastor's and full time missionaries to expand their opportunities

As with everything, the cost of making these trips is increasing. This year's trip is expected to cost each participant \$3200. If you feel you can be a part of helping in this area, please use the information listed below to make your tax deductible donation.

Checks can be mailed to:

Spiritual Orphans Network 298/5901-J Wyoming Blvd NE Albuquerque NM 87109

If you chose to give a check directly to me, Still make it out to SONetwork

Or their Website at SONetwork.org The 2025 Team Member Support tab is on the front page.

(deadline is May 15th)

July 3-21

*God Bless!
Thank you
Mary*

Sunday, May 18, 2025

9:20 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Children & Youth
Sunday School Opening (*Chapel*)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class

Choosing a New Apostle

Acts 1:12-26; 1 Peter 5:1-4

They prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside..." (Acts 1:24-25)

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

Worship is Restored

Colossians 3:12-17; Ezra 3:1-13

9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday
School and Music

Choosing a New Apostle

Acts 1:12-26; 1 Peter 5:1-4

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 150; Revelation 21:1-7; John 16:12-22 *Sermon Focus on*

Revelation & Acts scriptures

2:00 p.m. Church Council

Sunday, May 25, 2025

The loose offering will go towards the Youth Missions/Retreats Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is North American Lutheran Seminary.

During the month of May, the congregation is invited to collect items for Footprints in the Community. Please place donations beside the Choir near the pulpit.

The Altar Flowers have been reserved by Debbie Rinehart for May 25.

Deadline of June Messenger articles.

Deadline to turn in information for the June Western NC Trip.

Sunday, May 25, 2025

9:20 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Children & Youth
Sunday School Opening (*Chapel*)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class

The Spirit Comes at Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21; 2 Corinthians 4:1-5, 13-15

Divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. (Acts 2:3)

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

A Covenant Renewal

Jeremiah 31:27-34; Nehemiah 8:1-10:39

9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday
School and Music

The Spirit Comes at Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21; 2 Corinthians 4:1-5, 13-15

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27; John 16:23-33 *Sermon Focus on*

Revelation & Acts scriptures

4:00 p.m. Luther League

History and 250th
Anniversary
Union Lutheran Church



1774 - 2024

Editor: Paul Baker

ULC History
Paperbacks are available from Amazon for purchase!

Cost is \$14.99 per book.



Join us this Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2025, as we honor the courage, sacrifice, and enduring legacy of the men and women who gave their lives in service to their country. We invite you to join us in this day of reflection and gratitude to visit Union Lutheran Church's Cemetery.

The Church Office will be closed Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

If you haven't already done so, please fill out the Medical Information Form to assist the Emergency Response Team if there is an emergency during the worship service or an activity/event. Thank you!



Ascension Day will be celebrated at Dunn's Mountain Park (1740 Dunns Mountain Rd, Salisbury, NC 28146) on **Tuesday, May 27, at 6:30 p.m.** and **Wednesday, May 28, at 4:00 p.m.**

As Jesus was taken up into heaven, his disciples looked on. They had just received final instructions from him, along with clarification of what he had already taught them. They understood a bit better now, having seen all they had seen. For those who believe in Christ, the hope of our calling is centered in his life, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven. Eternal life awaits us, but for now we work for Christ.

Union Lutheran Church will facilitate Chapel Time at Autumn Care on Wednesday, May 28, at 2:00 p.m. All are welcome to worship and commune with the residents!

Friday, May 30, the church office will print the June *Messenger* and Handouts.

Car Magnet

Suggested cost of \$5 per magnet

Location: Narthex



Those Serving in May

Acolytes: Sam Nguyen and Noah Trexler

Altar Guild: Jan Huffman and Nikki Nguyen

Communion Assistants: Brad and Jan Huffman and Nikki Nguyen

Lay Readers: Tara Davis and Vicki Hunter

Ushers: Phil Cauble, Caylea Cline, Elbert Kluttz, and Ronald Vellines

Sound System: Thad Mulkey, Dusty Morgan, Sr., and Dusty Morgan, Jr.

Live Streaming: Pete Nguyen

Offering Counters: Patsy Lyerly, Sonya Mulkey, and Vivian Sprinkle



*The Worship and Music Committee has decided that during the summer months, **one floral arrangement** of cut flowers may be used instead of the two standing altar vases.*

That being said, two heavy, low sitting, cut glass bowl vases have been donated to the church for use. These bowl vases will be much steadier than a tall, narrow vase.

If you remember, last year we used a bowl that had been used in the early 1900's as a flower vase in the church.

With two vases donated, there should not be a problem having access to one.

Remember that in addition to cut flowers, it is perfectly acceptable to use varied greenery for an arrangement. The bowls are located in the closet underneath the staircase as you enter from the canopy.

Please handle these carefully so that they will be available for many years to come. Thank you.

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 Judy Boyd or a Mission Outreach member. 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.



Welcome Bags

Mission & Outreach Team have assembled new **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 person for Welcome Bags: Judy Boyd.

WESTERN NC MISSION TRIPS

(June 2-7 and July 14-19, 2025)

Deadline for June trip information: May 25

Deadline for July trip information: July 6

We need YOUR help to minister to the people of Western NC! All that is required is to be willing to serve God's people and share His heart and hands.

For youth 16 years or younger, a parent/guardian adult must also attend.

Please share how you would like to help and indicate if you are well experienced or licensed in any of these areas: clean up, paint, construction, plumbing, electrical, other.

Registration, Commitment & Medical Insurance forms are available from the church office for those participating in one and/or both of the mission trips to Western NC.

Cost is \$450 per person per week (includes: accommodation, meals, and some supplies for the actual mission project that NALC Disaster has assigned ULC to.)

Please make Checks payable to Union Lutheran Church.

Scholarships are available upon request.

Rise Up with Jesus

Vacation Bible School at ULC

for all Ages

Monday, June 9-Thursday, June 12, 2025

6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Learn how to bake your own bread as you "Rise Up for Jesus." A light meal will be provided.

Financial support/donations are greatly appreciated.

Sign up, by contacting the church office!

Mid-Week Meals

June 25th, July 9 & July 30

6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Everyone, members and community, is invited to learn how to plan, prepare and serve cost-effective & healthy meals.

Financial support/donations are greatly appreciated. Please mark on your check & envelope: Mid-Week Meals.

Sign up, by contacting the church office! By signing up, this will assist those preparing for the meal.

May Benevolence Focus

North American Lutheran Seminary

Bolstered by an interdependent network of five campuses, the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS) is part of God's movement in this culture, time and place. Over the next decade, hundreds will be raised and formed in the Great Tradition of confessional and evangelical Lutheran Faith. The NALS is singularly focused on forming pastors and church leaders with an education that is shaped by Christian tradition and bound by the Holy Scriptures.

Upheld by world-class faculty, students have time and opportunity to reflect on the depth and beauty of their faith and be properly formed. The NALS has a commitment to truly cultivate the foundation and the deep roots necessary for tomorrow's pastors and church leaders to be the stewards of classic, orthodox, biblical theology in preparation for Word and Sacrament ministry in the North American Lutheran Church (NALC).

April Highlights at ULC...

Thank you to the Church Council (April 1) and Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class (April 8) for providing the Lenten Suppers.

Thank you to Pete Nguyen (April 1), and Cathy Kluttz Painther (April 8) for sharing the Word with us during the Lenten Evening Services.

We continued to call upon Sunday musicians both laity and professionals to lead the worship services while the church searches for Music Director/Organist. In April, Becky Lippard, Dawn Merrell, Sonya Mulkey, and Don Simmons provided the music.

Thank you to Brad Huffman, Kevin Huffman, and Elbert Kluttz for preparing the Cemetery for the Stations of the Cross.

April 6, ULC was honored to have Rev. Dr. Andrew Weisner officiate the worship service.

Tuesday, April 8, Lefler Electronics, Inc. installed 3 cell communicator to eliminate phone line, universal fire alarm communicator installed. Cost was \$731.26. Property and Council approved.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the church workday on Saturday, April 12, to prepare the facility and grounds for Holy Week.

April 13, ULC was honored to have Rev. Carl Haynes officiate the worship service.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Union Youth by purchasing pies and cobblers for their Mission Trip Fundraiser!

Thank you to our Union Youth for leading the Sunrise worship, April 20.

Thank you to Micah Nguyen for sharing the Word with us during Sunrise

Thank you to Sonya Mulkey and Jan Huffman for leading Sunrise's music.

Thank you to Cheryl Kluttz for the beautiful table decorations for Easter Sunday.

Thank you to Mike Cauble and Friends for the delicious Easter breakfast.

Thank you to the Choirs: Belles & Beaus, Chancel Choir, Kids Choir, and Union Youth Choir for sharing their musical talents with us during the Lenten and Easter services.

Kitchen convection oven stopped working on Easter Sunday, April 20. A technician has been called in to repair the modular ejection control. Approximate cost is \$1,000 to replace the part.

Air-conditioning unit in the Sanctuary was repaired on Thursday, April 24. No charge by Medley's Electric.

April 24, two directional arrow signs were ordered to assist community members. Cost was \$105.34 each for a total cost of \$210.68.

On behalf of Union Lutheran Church, we are grateful for the donation of two heavy, low sitting, cut glass flower bowl vases for use. These bowl vases will be much steadier than a tall, narrow vase.

Mission Outreach April Project: noisy offering collected on Sundays, April 13 & 27, for Lutheran Services Carolinas.

April Highlights at ULC...*continued*

April Benevolence Focus:
Lutheran Services Carolinas



thank you

shutterstock.com - 2451552023

Dear Union Lutheran Church and Pastor Heidi Punt,

On behalf of the entire team at Water Mission, thank you for your generosity and heart for helping others. Because of your partnership, people around the world have hope for a better future through access to safe water and the Gospel.

With Gratitude, Mandy Henderson

Dear Friends of Union Lutheran,

Thank you for the continued support of our Lutheran Studies program at Gordon-Conwell. We would not be able to equip pastors, counselors, and ministry leaders without the support of churches and local congregations. Thank you – please let us know if we are able to serve you in anyway!

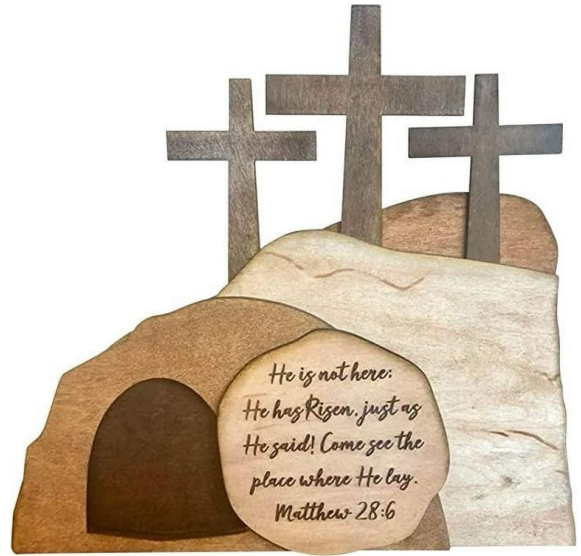
Mark Barrett

Union Lutheran Church,

A huge thank you from our family for the delicious meal that was provided for us. Your kindness helped to brighten a difficult time. We appreciate your thoughtfulness during our loss. Thanks again for everyone being so kind.

In appreciation,

Diane Roseman and Kelly Smith



The season of Easter is in stark contrast to the preceding season of Lent, with its muted decor and symbols of Christ's suffering and death. Easter bursts into our lives full of color, flowers, upbeat hymnody, and reminders of the new life we share in Christ. Not only are the sights around us energizing and uplifting, the lilies and other flowers touch our sense of smell and heighten our awareness that Jesus is alive! During the 50 days of Easter we are reminded of the blessing of our Baptism; through Christ who were once dead in sin have been made alive and restored to a right relationship with God.

"And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you..."

Ezekiel 36:26

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

March Sunday School

2	40	
9	34	
14-16	15	CMR Youth Retreat
16	35	
23	37	
30	<u>41</u>	
Total	202	
Average	40	

April Sunday School

6	35	
13	54	
20	22	Easter Egg Hunt
20	16	
27	<u>40</u>	
Total	167	
Average	42	

March Worship & Holy Communion

2	100	
9	93	
14-16	15	CMR Youth Retreat
16	74	
23	102	
30	<u>104</u>	
Total	488	
Average	98	

April Worship & Holy Communion

6	88	
13	112	Palm Sunday
20	65	Sunrise
20	170	Easter
27	<u>100</u>	
Total	535	
Average	107	

Lent

March 5	66	(16 at 4:00 p.m. & 50 at 6:30 p.m.)
March 11	40	
March 18	44	
March 25	48	
April 1	54	
April 8	40	
April 17	56	(9 at 4:00 p.m. & 47 at 6:30 p.m.)
April 18	<u>58</u>	(8 at 4:00 p.m. & 50 at 6:30 p.m.)
Total	406	
Average	51	

Each Sunday, the church office needs to establish a record of communion and giving.

How can you help? Please fill out a communion card and hand to the Usher and don't forget to use your offering envelopes!

This record also helps the office maintain accurate records of active membership.

The Pastor uses this to make note of any of her flock who may have strayed away.



Honorariums & Memorial Gifts
received during the month of April

A gift was received for the General Fund in honor of Adam Thompson's 18th birthday on May 5 by:

Sharon Leazer

A gift was received for the General Fund in memory of Sharon Peeler Bullock by:

Marvin and Phoebe Nunn

A gift was received for the Youth Mission Fund in memory of Sharon Peeler Bullock by:

Janet Overcash

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

Randy and Karen Cauble and Family

A gift was received for the Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of Todd Huffman by:

Frank and Dawn Merrell

Gifts were received for the Youth Missions Fund in memory of Todd Huffman by:

Ruth H. Brewer

Eric Brewer

Claudine O. Gale

Marvin and Phoebe Nunn

Jennifer Brewer-Young

William Young

Gifts were received for the General Fund in memory of Andrea Misenheimer by:

Scott Misenheimer

Gifts were received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of Bevis Norris by:

Ruth Goodman

David Hincemon

Vivian Sprinkle

A gift was received for the Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of Bevis Norris by:

Frank and Dawn Merrell

A gift was received for the Cemetery Fund in memory of William and Doris Page by:

John and Nancy Kesler

A gift was received for the Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of William and Doris Page by:

Frank and Dawn Merrell

A gift was received for the Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of William Page by:

Ruth Goodman

A gift was received for the Youth Mission Fund in memory of William Page by:

Janet Overcash

A gift was received for the Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Fund in memory of Steve Peeler by:

Frank and Dawn Merrell

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Leda Belk and Family upon the death of her brother, Romas Henry Shuping.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Pam Vellines and Family upon the death of her mother, Della Morgan.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to the Family of Bevis Ann Safrit Norris upon her death, April 3, 2025.

Eagle Scout Project

Saturday, April 5, the two Free Little Libraries were built (placed in driveway entrance and at the playground), old mulch and rubber (1 layer of rubber and 2 layers of mulch) were removed using two front end loaders, 6-8 inches of new mulch was laid down, playground equipment was pressure washed.

Andrew Baker with many of the boys from Boy Scout Troop #315 under the watchful eyes of the Troop Masters, Kolya and Elizabeth Baker (parents), and Phil Cauble, ULC Facility Manager, worked hard to complete the Eagle Scout Project in one day.

A special thanks to Matt Miller for providing the new mulch and removing the old.

Total cost of the Eagle Scout Project was \$1,997.00.

Dear Union Lutheran Church,

I would like to express my thanks one last time for your unwavering support not only with assisting financially but for your encouragement leading up to my Eagle Scout project and review.

I would not have been able to complete the project without you!!

Thank you, again, for giving me the opportunity to share my Eagle Scout Project at Union!

*Andrew Baker,
Boy Scout Troop 315, Eagle Scout*



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), Ann Tucker (Oak Park Retirement Room 236)

Homebound/Shut-ins Members/Special Needs – Sarah Bame, Tom Cole, Kiki Deaton, Rachel Earnhardt, Madison “Drew” Harrington, Linda Hartley, Pete Honbarrier, Howell and Teresa Kesler, James & Jean Kluttz, Glenn and Betty Sue Lowder, Doris Ludwick, Donnell Miller, Rev. TC & Mary Plexico, Macky Swicegood, Billy Waller & Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery – Steve Arey, Debbie Cauble-McPherson, Rev. Randall Cauble (ICU), Cheryl Kluttz, Patsy Lyerly, Richard Lyons, Jr., Brad Trexler, Jamie Troutman, Wayne & Pam Vellines

Continual Prayer – Bill Barringer (Larry Barringer’s brother), Rev. Cathy Fanslau (NALC Pastor), Rev. Doug Hefner Family (daughter died in car accident), Tommy Lamb (Pam Vellines’ uncle), Dr. Sean Malone (Pam Vellines’ friend), Jeff Matthews (cancer patient), Adam Osborne (Vicki Hunter’s co-worker), Union Fire Department #76, Global Missions (Congo, Slovakia, and Haiti), especially for our NC neighbors affected by natural disasters & those affected by political disasters

Prayers for Comfort: Pastor Eenok Haamer (founder of Tartu Academy of Theology in Estonia), Lela and Tyler Brooks, and Christian martyrs and persecution in the Congo

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.

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

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

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

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Lay Ministers

Tara Davis, Steve Hutchens, John Kesler, Elbert Kluttz and Deena Lanning

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Union Lutheran Church

Church Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Pastor Heidi Punt, Senior Pastor (pastor@ulcsalisbury.org)

Phil Cauble, Facility Manager

Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support (office@ulcsalisbury.org)

Pastor T. C. Plexico, Pastor Emeritus





Bevis Ann Safrit Norris, 90, beloved mother and friend, passed away April 3, 2025, at Novant Health Rowan Medical Center after declining in health for four months.

Born May 24, 1934, in Salisbury, she was the daughter of the late Mildred Katheryne Cauble Safrit and Otis Hobson Safrit. She graduated from Boyden High School in 1953 and had last worked at Salisbury Radiation Oncology transporting patients for radiation therapy. Prior to that, she worked at Carolina Maid and Century Place.

She was a member of Union Lutheran Church. She most enjoyed spending time with her family, working in her yard, cooking, and she loved animals, especially her little dog, Roddy. She was a fantastic cook and enjoyed serving her family's favorite dishes to include fried chicken, country style steak and gravy, potato salad, and pound cake. She was very faithful in caring for two of her grand dogs, Harley James, and Lilly-Ann during the week. She was loved by all who knew her, and she loved helping and caring for people.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Sylvester Norris on November 16, 2006; brothers, Robert Safrit, Jerry Safrit and sister, Sara Safrit Keith.

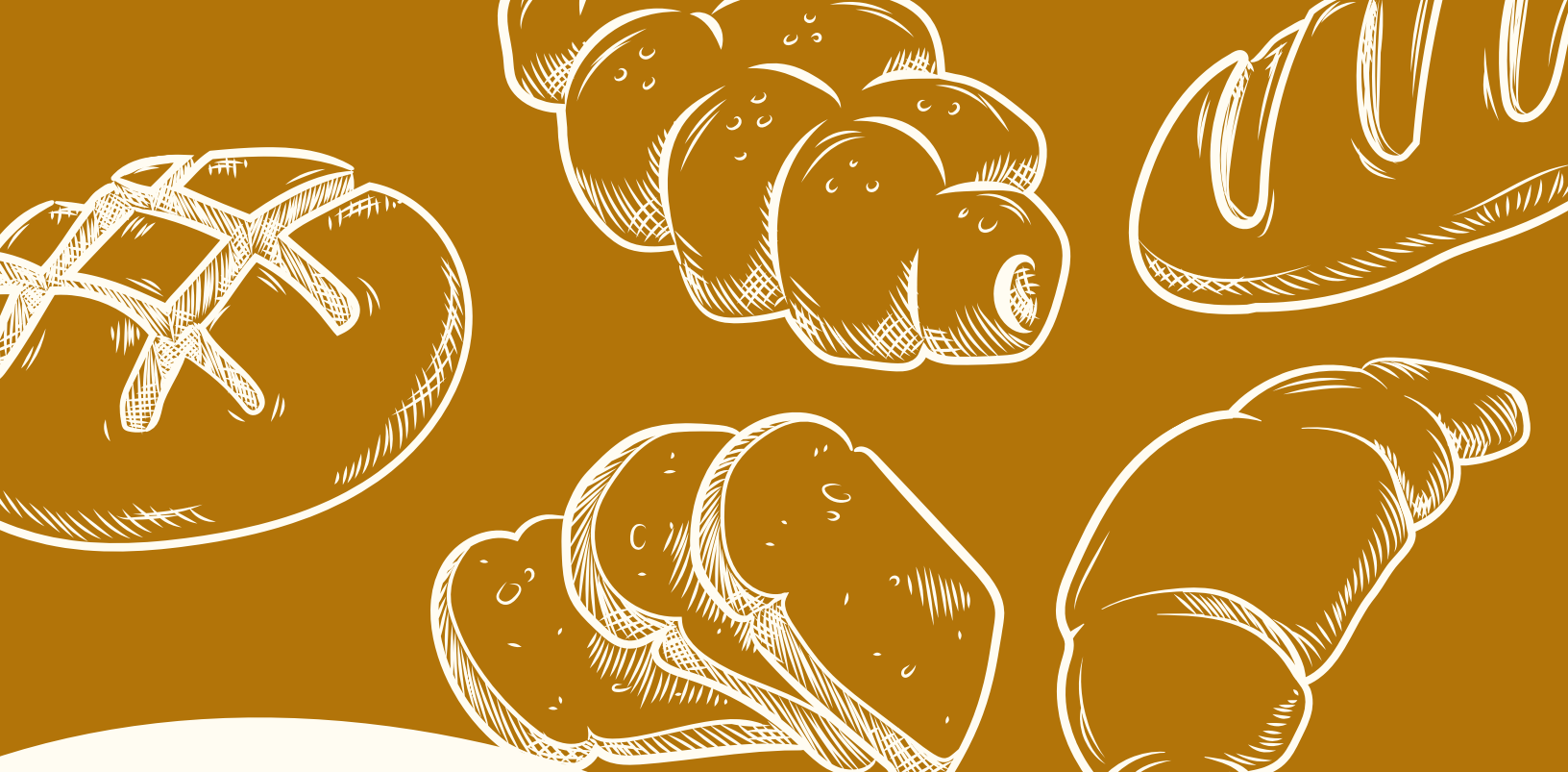
Left to cherish her memory are her daughters, Debra Feedback (Glen) of Conover, NC, Diane Roseman (Bill) and Kelly Smith (Todd) of Salisbury; brother, Bill Safrit (Linda) of Salisbury; special sister-in-law, Ruth Brewer, Greensboro; grandchildren, Timothy Smith (Von) and Greg Smith (Monique); three great grandchildren; and several generations of nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends on April 8, 2025, from 2:00 – 3:00 at Union Lutheran Church. The funeral service will follow at 3:00 in the church sanctuary. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Union Lutheran Church Cemetery Fund, 4770 Bringle Ferry Road, Salisbury, NC 28146, or Faithful Friends Animal Sanctuary, 220 Grace Church Road, Salisbury, NC 28147.

The family would like to extend special thanks and immense gratitude to the staff at Novant Health Rowan Medical Center, the Wallace Cancer Institute, Liberty Commons Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and Novant Health Hospice, for the care they provided to her, as well as her caregivers and special nieces and nephew, Karen Springer and Rindy Watkins for their devotion and loving care during her illness, Jeff Safrit and wife Candice for the many meals they provided, and great niece, Katie Watkins for her special night time visits while Bevis was hospitalized. The family also would like to also thank her faithful friend and neighbor, Wanda Mitchell, who cared for her dog.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Norris family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.



RISE UP

with *Jesus*

Learn how to bake your own bread as you learn to "Rise up for Jesus"

6PM-8:30PM

June 9-12, 2025

Sign up @ church office: 704.636.5092

• 2025 •

Summer

@
ULC

Events

WNC Mission Trips

June 2-7.....\$450 p.p
July 14-19....\$459 p.p

*All Ages invited
(16 yrs & younger,
need parent/guardian
to attend)*

Scholarships available.

Registration Forms are in the
Church Office: 704.636.5092

VBS Rise Up

June 9-12

Rise Up with Jesus!

Learn how to bake your
own bread as you
learn to
"Rise up for Jesus"

6pm-8:30pm

Lite meal provided.

*Financial
Support/Donations
would be appreciated.*

Sign up @ the Church
Office: 704.636.5092

Mid Week Meals

June 25th, July 9, July 30

Everyone may learn how
to plan, prepare & serve
cost efficient
& healthy meals.

*Financial
Support/Donations
would be appreciated.*

Sign up @ the Church Office:
704.636.5092

May Calendar – dates/times subject to change

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Revised as of 5-1-2025						
<i>Collecting supplies for Footprints in the Community</i>						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9:20 a.m. Sunday School Opening 9:30 a.m. Kids & Youth Teaching & Music 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion 2:00 p.m. Christian Education 4:00 p.m. Little Lutherans		6:30 p.m. James Bible Study (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>)	2:30 p.m. Lay Ministers 4:00 p.m. James Bible Study (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>) 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus 6:30 p.m. Catechism Confirmation (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	10:00 a.m. Good Timers (<i>Old Pine Center</i>) 5:00 p.m. Mission Outreach Umbrella (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>)	2 CMR Convocation (<i>Christ's Lutheran, Stanley NC</i>) May Messenger is printed	3 CMR Convocation
11 Mother's Day 8:00 a.m. Worship 8:30 a.m. Mother's Day Breakfast 9:20 a.m. Sunday School Opening 9:30 a.m. Kids & Youth Teaching & Music 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion <i>Recognition of Mothers & Mother Figures Recognition of High School, Tech, & College Graduates and Gerald Bame Scholarship Recipients</i>	12	13 2:00 p.m. Mary & Martha Circle 6:30 p.m. James Bible Study (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>)	14 4:00 p.m. James Bible Study (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>) 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus 6:30 p.m. Catechism Confirmation (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir	15 9:00 a.m. Preparing for Mission Trip Fundraiser	16 12 noon-6:00 p.m. Mission Trip BBQ Chicken Fundraiser (<i>take out</i>) <i>Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support, out of the office.</i>	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:20 a.m. Sunday School Opening 9:30 a.m. Kids & Youth Teaching & Music 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion 2:00 p.m. Church Council		6:30 p.m. James Bible Study (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>)	4:00 p.m. James Bible Study (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>) 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus 6:30 p.m. Catechism Confirmation (<i>Drew Wise SS Conference #1</i>) 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9:20 a.m. Sunday School Opening 9:30 a.m. Kids & Youth Teaching & Music 9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion 4:00 p.m. Luther League <i>Deadline for June articles Deadline for June Western NC Mission Trip information</i>	Memorial Day <i>Church Office is closed.</i>	6:30 p.m. Ascension Service (<i>Dunn's Mountain</i>)	2:00 p.m. Autumn Care Chapel Time 4:00 p.m. Ascension Service (<i>Dunn's Mountain</i>) 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir <i>No Catechism Confirmation</i>	Ascension	<i>June Messenger is printed (Constitution & By-Laws)</i>	

May Calendar – dates/times subject to change

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Revised as of 4-30-2025						
4	5 Felisaty Hunt Adam Thompson	6	7	8 Glenn Lowder	9 Corbin Kesler Luke Whitley	10 Sarah Holshouser
11 Mother's Day Mary Plexico	12	13	14	15	16	17 Pr. Tonya Brittain Faye Kesler Katrina Peeler Koons Jack Lanning
18 Bobbie Kesler-Corleto Pastor Heidi Punt	19 Joe McDaniel	20	21	22	23 Catlin Knight Freeman	24 Tim Kesler
25 Kevin Huffman	26 Memorial Day	27	28 Linda Kesler Caden Madden	29 Ascension	30	31 Kristin DeWolf

May Anniversaries:

- May 7 Troy and Cathy Painter
- Tim and June Pryor
- May 15 Don and Tara Davis
- May 19 Patrick and Sharon Miller
- May 20 Tommy and Janice Goodman
- Glenn and Betty Sue Lowder
- May 21 Rodney and Robyn Arey
- May 24 Pete and Nikki Nguyen
- May 26 Jeff and Dawn Holshouser

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

