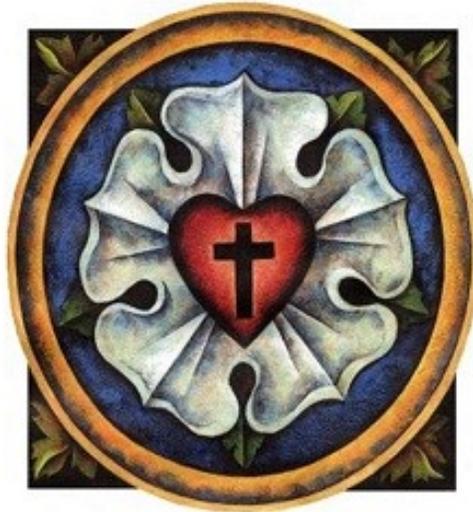


Scripture Alone

Grace Alone



Faith Alone

Glory to God Alone



Amazing Grace
LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Senior Pastor Scott Seeke
3305 Lawrenceville Highway
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
770-381-1293 www.tisgrace.org



Worship Sundays @ 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Sunday School Hour, Sundays @ 10 am
Wednesdays: Homework Help @ 5 pm
Worship @ 7 pm



Growing in Christ

Two months ago I wrote about the most important word in our new slogan, "Grow in Love, Love by Serving." That word is the only one to appear twice: the word love. Everything we do as a church and as people of God is rooted in God's love for us, and God's command and desire for us to love one another. That is, and always will be, most important.

But that is not all.

The first word in our new slogan is "Grow." One thing is for certain: we are all growing. No one stays the same over the course of their life. They might grow in good ways or in bad ways, but growth is unavoidable. It will happen. The question, therefore, is not if we will grow. The question is how we grow. What will we grow into? That is the question.

Most of the time, when we discuss growth in church, we talk about getting more people to come to worship and programs. The Greek word for a church building, *kuriakos*, appears twice in the Greek New Testament. That's it. And Jesus never used it. Jesus had no interest in building churches, nor did he seem to have interest in attracting people to them. While we typically think of growth in terms of adding people to church, this was clearly not Jesus's focus.

A word Jesus used a lot, though, is disciple. That word is all over the Gospels, and it is how Jesus treated the twelve: as disciples. Many of the ways he related to them that seem odd to us are perfectly normal when placed in the context of the rabbi/disciple relationship of the time (for a great video on this, go to YouTube and watch a video titled "Rob Bell 08 Dust Legendado." Trust me.) Jesus did not come to build church buildings or to attract people to them, but he did come to make disciples. This is how he calls the twelve to grow, and how he calls us to grow: as his disciples.

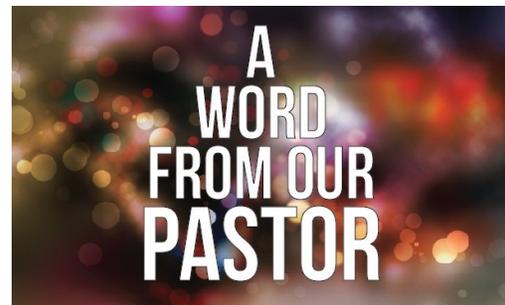
Discipleship is, essentially, learning to be like Jesus. The goal of the disciple is to know what Jesus knew, so we can do what Jesus did, so we can be like Jesus. The task of being a Christian, therefore, is the task of dying to self and rising to new life in Christ. Dying to who we want to be, who the world wants to make us, and making Christ our identity. New life in which are thoughts, behaviors, indeed our very self becomes more and more like Christ.

This is the call Jesus issues to each of us. This is what we mean by growing in love. Because of God's love, we are free to become more like Christ. We do so not out of shame or guilt, but as a response to God's love for us. Growing in love is a vital part of our walk with Christ.

How do we do that? That will be the topic for next month.

God loves you, and so do I.

-Pastor Scott



Articles by Pastor Scott

Do you receive either *Living Lutheran* magazine (formerly *The Lutheran*) or *Christ in Our Home* devotions? Pastor Scott is in both!

His article "Predictable Grace" appears in the "Reflection" column on page 24 of the current issue of *Living Lutheran*, and he wrote the November devotions in *Christ in Our Home*.

NEWS TODAY

Children and Youth Ministries

Please join us for Sunday School, Confirmation, Nomads and Youth Group! Here are the details on these ministries:

Sunday School is for children in pre-K through fifth grade. The class meets in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday mornings from 10-10:45. Teachers are Kristen Silveus, Duncan Johnson and Becky O'Brien.

Confirmation is for youth in sixth through eighth grade. It meets in the Youth Room on Sunday mornings from 10-10:45. The teacher is John Rhilinger.

Nomads is the Sunday School class for High School youth. It also meets in the Youth Room on Sundays from 10-10:45. The facilitators are Wayne Linke, Debbie Teal and Joe Murray.

Leading our **Youth Ministry** this year will be a joint effort. The group will continue the pattern set last year of gathering on Sundays for service, fun, and worship.

Our children are a vital part of our ministry and life together, and we are very excited to resume these ministries and to continue blessing the lives of our children and their families.



Blessing of the Animals Service

Our annual Blessing of the Animals worship will take place on **Sunday, October 2, at 2 pm.** It will be in front of the church, and the entire community is welcome, as are their pets. Share the word and let's bless all God's creatures, great and small!



NEWS **TODAY**

Family Promise

We are looking at becoming part of Family Promise of Gwinnett Co. We would serve as a supporting church, assisting another church that is acting as a host. The host church houses families for a week at a time two or three times a year. If anyone is interested in helping in this out-reach, please contact Pastor Scott (pastorscott@tisgrace.org) or Bob Mackinnon (roblin1@bellsouth.net).



Arts & Crafts Festival

We invite everyone to join in the festivities, as either a volunteer or to peruse the various vendors wares for the upcoming Arts & Crafts Festival on **Saturday, October 1**, from 9 am - 4 pm on Amazing Grace's front lawn.



Another Successful Project - PJs and Robes Donations

Your love for others continues to shine again. As of Sunday 9/25, this season's project collected 4 large kitchen bags of nicely folded gowns, robes, and PJs for the Salt Light Center Women's Shelter in Lawrenceville. The delivery of these items will be a heartwarming joy for me. I know we are truly providing a blessing to these women. Thank you ! Debbie Teal

SUCCESSFUL
projects

NEWS TODAY

Membership Inquiry Program

On **Sunday, October 16th** we will begin our fall Membership Inquiry Program. This class is designed for those who are considering membership at Amazing Grace and are wondering what is involved. The program will meet at 9:45 am on Sunday mornings at a location yet to be determined.

Pass the word, and email Pastor Scott (pastorscott@tisgrace.org) to sign up or sign up on the sheet in the Narthex!

Membership



First Communion Classes

First Communion Classes will be held on Sunday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm. The dates are **October 23, 30, and November 6**. Any child in second grade (age seven) or older is welcome to participate. Email Pastor Scott (pastorscott@tisgrace.org) or Judie Lee (jh_lee@bellsouth.net) to sign up or sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. RSVPs are requested so we can make sure we have enough materials.

Youth Sunday

The goal of our youth group for this year is to develop our youth into leaders. To that end **October 9** is Youth Sunday.

Both worships will be led by our high school youth. They will serve as ushers, readers, and worship leaders, including giving the sermon. Let's support our youth in their development as leaders and come with hearts ready to be led by them in worship.



NEWS TODAY

Reformation Sunday

Reformation Sunday is **October 30**, where we will celebrate our heritage as grace-filled Christians. Worshippers are invited to wear RED, in celebration of the Holy Spirit's fiery power of continually reforming the church.



Homework Help needs your help!

Recently Pastor Scott met with the folks at Bethesda Elementary School, and they passed out a flyer about Homework Help at parent/teacher conferences. This has resulted in approximately 10 new children on Wednesday afternoons for Homework Help! So now we have approximately 35 children coming for Homework Help on Wednesday afternoons.

All of these children are truly a blessing for Amazing Grace, but we need your help. If you have participated in Homework Help in the past, or have considered participating, **please come on Wednesday afternoons from 5–7 pm!**



God's Work Our Hands Card Ministry

I am so pleased to write this short and sweet report about the Card Ministry that took place at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church's God's Work Our Hands work day! Sisters Tracie Crowe and Stacie Conner as well as Lawson Conner joined me, Linda MacKinnon, in making cards for our sick and shut-ins as well as our list of relatives and friends in the Military.

We were working with God's Hands as He led us to complete about 30 cards to send to those we love and are praying for! It was a very touching afternoon as we worked lovingly for about three hours picking the right stickers and expressions of love to put on the cards to let all who received a card know how much Amazing Grace Lutheran Church loves them, prays for them and wishes they could be back to worship with us!

I want to thank Tracie and Stacie and Lawson for joining me in this very inspiring afternoon of sharing Amazing Grace's love and caring to everyone who received a card! Thank You does not seem like enough! I was inspired by their enthusiasm!

A big Thank You also to the choral group who serenaded at a nursing home! Before they left to sing, they shared their meal with us so that we did not have to stop our God's Work Our Hands activities! All in All, it was a very Blessed day for the Card Ministry!

God Bless You all!
Linda MacKinnon



NEWS TODAY

Men' Lutheranch Retreat 2017

The men's retreat at Lutheranch will be held on the weekend of **Jan. 27-29, 2017**. Mark your calendars and reserve the weekend for a time of food, fellowship, and worship. Pastor Tom Kenny will be joining us to lead a Bible study on Saturday and worship on Sunday. There is hiking, fishing, playing games, and food. The cost of the retreat will be \$70 again this year. There is space for 25 men.



MEN'S RETREAT

This is a laid back weekend, a time of fellowship and relaxation. Please plan to join the men of Amazing Grace for this retreat. If you have any questions just ask around and you will find someone who can fill you in on the retreat.

Alleluia Girls

Ladies of Amazing Grace, the weekly Wednesday morning Women's Bible Study, Alleluia Girls, has resumed for the Fall on **Wednesday mornings @ 9:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome to join us for Bible Study!



NEWS TODAY



Blood Drive

Your donations are very much appreciated for the upcoming Blood Drive being held at Amazing Grace on Sunday, **October 2** from 9 am - 1 pm in the Life South Blood mobile, which will be located in the Fellowship Hall.

Sign Help Needed

We are looking for someone to help change the letters on the sign out in front of our church. This ministry is one of the main ways we communicate with those beyond our church walls, but it is not rocket science. The staff is happy to guide and coach anyone who is willing to learn. Please pray and ask the Lord if you might be called to this ministry. If you have questions about frequency of changes, or anything else, please contact either Pastor Scott (pastorscott@tisgrace.org) or Tracie Crowe (office@tisgrace.org).



VEHICLE Donation



Vehicle Donation?

Do you have a used vehicle which you would/are considering donating to someone in need? If so, could you please talk with or send an email to Pastor Scott (pastorscott@tisgrace.org) or to Tracie Crowe (office@tisgrace.org). Thank You!

The Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry Food Bank

I can hardly believe that in a few days we will be in the month of October! The leaves have been falling very rapidly at my house for several weeks! My pool is full of leaves every morning when I look outside! I am still surprised when I put my hand in the water that it is still very warm and inviting!

I know the cooler weather is right around the corner and already I am thinking of our neighbors who may not have enough money to take the chill out of their houses as it gets colder in our near future!

My thoughts are for those of our neighbors who may need help when the weather turns colder!

I pray that all of the usual contributors will participate in helping to keep food and other necessities on the shelves of the Coop for those who need a little help now and then! Since last report, 92 items have been taken to the Coop Food Bank from us at Amazing Grace! I am sorry that I have not personally seen if anyone purchased and brought in potatoes or vegetable soups of any kind! However, all kinds of vegetable soups and dried or canned potatoes are always very good choices to purchase for the Coop Food Bank.

Canned meats and vegetables are needed all the time! It is not hard to buy an extra can or box of something to share with our neighbors who might need something to eat! I keep saying that if you use something, chances are so do our neighbors!

I have advertised the Volunteer Orientation dates before! Because there is a constant need for people to help out at the Coop, they are always asking that you consider helping out there! There is going to be another Orientation on **Thursday, October 2**. The Orientation is held at the Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry Food Bank Building located at 176 Church Street, Lawrenceville, GA 30046. All kinds of volunteer jobs are available from greeting the clients to interviewing clients. If you like to pray with people, there is a spot for you also! There is always a need for people to fill clients 'shopping lists' to taking their 'orders' to the clients' vehicles in the parking lot! A big smile would not go unnoticed either!

If you would like to be a part of this rewarding ministry, please consider volunteering at the Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry Food Bank! If you have any questions, you can talk to some of our own AGLC volunteers or call the Coop office at 770-339-7887!

I will end this month's article with a different kind of scripture. It is from Paul's letter to the Galatians 6:9-10 which states: ... "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. ..." AMEN

Remember too that God Loves a Cheerful Giver!
God Bless you always,

Linda MacKinnon



NEWS TODAY

Power Point Experience?

Do you have experience putting together Power Points? If so, we are interested in talking with you! We are looking for a person who is willing to put together the weekly slides for our worship screens. To learn more or to express your interest, please contact either Pastor Scott in person or via email (pastor.scott@tisgrace.org) or Tracie Crowe in person or via email (office@tisgrace.org).



Thank You!

A huge thank you to Ana, Roxana, Norma, Berta, Francisca, Francisca's mother-in-law and the children from Wednesday night for all of their great culinary skills of making the delicious tamales for Rally Day Sunday on September 11 and for everyone else who brought dishes for the Rally Day luncheon.

Thanks to your generous donations during the Rally Day luncheon, \$271 was raised to support the Homework Help ministry!





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LIVE A LIFE WORTHY OF LEGACY

“Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands. Their children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.”—Psalm 112:1-2

In the book of Genesis, God made a covenant with Abraham that included the promise of many descendants. Because of Abraham’s faithfulness, God made him the source of a great nation, and he was well-known and respected throughout the land. Abraham was a recipient of divine blessings, and through this, became an avenue of blessing to others.

Just as God promised, Abraham’s legacy continued with his children. Both his son Isaac and his grandson Jacob benefited from Abraham’s covenant with God. These blessings are still continuing through the people of God, generations later.

God’s blessings are for today and for generations to come. How can we live to be a blessing today and into the future? Consider these three things:

- **Assess what you value.** We learn from those who came before us and we instill values in those who come after us. What values do you hold dear? What would you like carried into future generations?
- **Live a life of service.** How can you share your talents and abilities with others? Consider taking a spiritual gifts inventory to discover more of your spiritual gifting so you can share it with others.
- **Bless future generations.** What great needs of the world are nearest and dearest to your heart? Think of ways you can respond with action and compassion. And remember, what may be considered a small action might one day make a huge difference in the lives of others.

We all dream of and want the world to become a better place. We can make a difference in bringing more of God’s goodness into the world by leaving a legacy of a well-lived, generous and joy-filled life.

This article provided compliments of Thrivent Financial, Don Goldsmith, ChFC®, RICP®, FIC and Kelly Goldsmith, CFP®, CASL®, CLTC®™, FIC at 770-982-0420 or eastmetroteam@thrivent.com.



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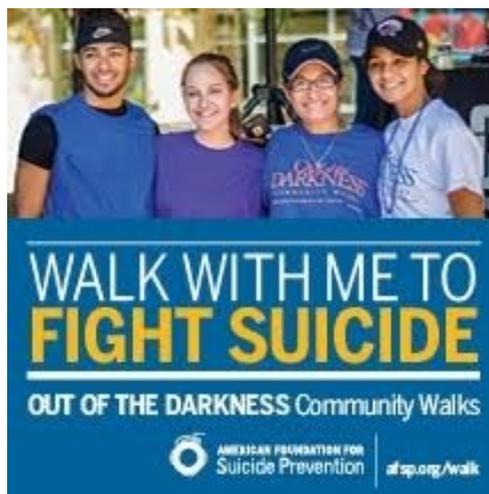
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OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK

Join our Amazing Grace's Team of Walkers for the Out of The Darkness Walk at Piedmont Park on Sunday, **November 6** at 2pm to support American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) and sponsored by Thrivent Financial. AFSP funds research, education, advocacy and support for those affected by suicide. Please consider walking or supporting our efforts and help make a difference for those who struggle with the loss of a loved one and who struggle with mental illness. Contact Kristen Silveus for more information 404-580-1488, Kristen.Silveus@yahoo.com



AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR Suicide Prevention



In Attendance: Pastor Scott Seeke, Mimi Layton, Elaine Schwartz, Debbie Teal, Phillip Speddon, John Ferguson, Bob MacKinnon, Trish Ladd-Thomas, David Rager, Liz Linke
Guests: Angie Rhilinger
Opening devotional: Pastor Scott
Spiritual Autobiography: Elaine Schwartz

Secretary's Minutes: A motion was made by Trish Ladd-Thomas and seconded by Phillip Speddon to accept the minutes, and the motion carried.

Motion made by Trish Ladd-Thomas to approve council minutes through email, as opposed to approving minutes at the next month's council meeting, so that minutes are approved by council before they are published in the newsletter; seconded by Elaine Schwartz, and the motion carried.

Combined Treasurer and Financial Administrator's Report for August

August 2016 regular giving was \$19,005.66, plus Rental Income of \$80.00 and Interest \$0.01, for a total of \$19,085.67, which is \$4,706.50 over budget. Expenses were \$18,771.61, which was \$932.48 over budget.

August 2016 YTD Income was \$3,425.69 more than August 2015 YTD Income.

August 2016 YTD Expenses were \$34,482.47 more than August 2015 YTD Expenses.

2016 Year to Date Giving/Income is \$5,715.24 over budget.

2016 Year to Date Expenses are \$8.893.93 under budget.

Dedicated Accounts – We have a balance of \$34,583.09 in various accounts, which includes August 2016 receipts of \$1,120.00 and expenses of \$1,512.93. Balance of Old Capital Campaign Dedicated Account, which is included in above balance equals \$2,584.88.

August 2016 cash on hand is \$111,846.85, which includes \$34,583.09 Dedicated; therefore, not in reserve/not liquid for general expenses.

We will continue to distribute offering envelopes to members who contribute through Simply Giving, since those include envelopes for special services (i.e., Lent, Christmas, etc.)

A motion was made by John Ferguson and seconded by Trish Ladd-Thomas to accept the report, and the motion carried.

Pastor's Report for September

Membership Changes

Tracey Gray has moved to New Jersey.

Simply Giving

Nine families have enrolled and the program continues. I will not be providing further monthly updates, going to perhaps quarterly instead.

Midweek Grace

We have settled into a liturgy that feels comfortable to both regular attenders and our Homework Help families. Charles is doing particularly well in adapting to play at this worship. Trish and I are in discussions to add even more to it.

Discipleship

I have been helping John get the fall Youth, Confirmation and Children's programs going. In particular, it is worth noting that our Sunday School classes could rise from three students last year to as many as fourteen if everyone came who attends worship. This is great progress.

Stewardship

Jimmy has a plan and requests approval. Also, which Council person has Stewardship under them? If there is no one, I would like to see that rectified.

Stewardship falls under the Discipleship Commission.

Hispanic Outreach Strategy Team

Has begun meeting, and is doing good work. Thanks to all who are serving!

Faith Community Network

This is proving difficult to pull together. It is taking more time to implement than it would save once implemented. We may not end up participating, I will keep church and Council updated.

Potential Youth Worker

Mimi, John and I met with a candidate. We agree that she would be good, but need to continue to pray about what God has in mind here and whether or not God wants us to hire someone for this position.

HR Committee

Had planned to bring to Council a new Employee Manual, only to discover we already had one. The committee is deciding how to proceed.

Vacation

I have an addition to my vacation schedule. I will be on vacation Thanksgiving week, the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and the week after Thanksgiving. I will return for worship on Dec. 4.

A motion was made by Trish Ladd-Thomas and seconded by David Rager to accept the report, and the motion carried.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Nurture

September 11th was Rally Day. Homework Help mamas made tamales and the congregation was asked to bring sides and desserts. Lunch was held downstairs following the 10:00AM service. Tables were set up for the congregation to sign up for the various groups and ministries. \$216 was raised through a goodwill offering at the lunch.

Alleluia Girls resume 9/14/16. Friday morning Men's Group has dissolved.

Small groups continue to meet as scheduled.

Discipleship

We are very close to having all the teaching slots full for the beginning of the season but we could use one or two more volunteers.

YOUTH

Leadership: Phil Speddon is willing to help lead. I think we are OK for now.

Organization: We will be having a meeting (9/18/2016) with parents, teachers and the youth to set the calendar for the next few months.

NOMADS

Leadership: Wayne Linke has stepped forward to lead and Deb Teal and Joe Murray are willing to help.

Organization: A meeting with the leaders is scheduled to help the leaders get on same page, discuss the vision for Nomads and their leadership in both Confirmation and Worship. Maybe we can break away towards the end of Rally Day and discuss the direction of this program.

CONFIRMATION

John Rhilinger is again leading this group during the Sunday School period.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Leadership: Kristen Silveus, Duncan Johnson and Becky O'Brien have all agreed to help. We could use more person, and the leadership structure and commitment level are not set.

Organization: The curriculum arrives Monday 9-12-16. Maybe we can have a meeting Wednesday right after homework help (9-14-16) to show to teachers?

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jimmy Herchek is still good to teach this class of experienced learners.

OPPORTUNITIES – Sandee Page has expressed interest in leading a class. Details to follow.

Outreach

Out of the Darkness Walk—Sunday Nov. 6, 2016

- Location—Piedmont Park, Picnic Shelters Area.
- Walk begins at 2:00 pm ends at 3:45 pm.
- Raises money and awareness for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP).

Kristen Silveus has requested we join in to support AFSP. She would be team captain and would put a team together for the walk and try to have serve as an action team with Thrivent.

Sue Murray has proposed that we look into starting a birthday box ministry. Someone would be needed to head this ministry (I haven't talked to Sue yet) and a place to donate them would have to be determined.

Pastor Scott and Wayne Linke and I visited Family Promise and visited Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church while they hosted Family Promise. From what I observed we would not be able to host, but we could be a supporting church. This would be another ministry looking for a coordinator.

On Sept. 6 we had a group provide a meal for the campus ministry at GT. Approximately 35-40 students were fed. Participants included Wayne Linke, Lisa Larson-Moss, Lud, DJ Ludvison, David and Kathy Berfield.

"God's work. Our hands." This Sunday we will be doing our service projects.

Upcoming blood drives are scheduled for October 2 and December 4.

Worship & Music

Wednesday night Midweek Grace Services are "still under construction", but we received some terrific feedback from our Regulars and our Hispanic families at the meeting. We had a large turnout for last week's Midweek Grace, and we are trying to determine the best format for all who attend. One thought was to have a Healing Service on the first Wednesday of each month, have Eduardo preach on the third Wednesday, and then have our traditional services for the other Wednesdays. We will have another meeting to discuss the possibilities.

For our Sunday services, we have discussed the idea of limiting the Spanish in the hymns to just one each service. We also discussed putting the Creed in Spanish, next to the English, as we do with the Lord's Prayer.

We have a need for Children's Bulletins, and also supplies for the Activity Bags for the children. I contacted the secretary at Peachtree Road Lutheran, and they have tons of Children's bulletins to give us! For future note, we can get them online at ChildrensBulletins.com. We will joyfully take their offering in the next few weeks.

Thanks: to our Council Members who spoke over the last several weeks, encouraging our congregation to serve on a committee or help with upcoming projects. The congregation appreciated their insight, information on available opportunities, and encouraging attitudes.

Property

Changing table in Nursery room was loose and has been fixed.

Door closer at Fellowship Hall door slamming. Needs to be replaced.

David Trevino conferring with Bob Schwartz on most cost effective option for replacing camera to televise sermon to Nursery.

Purchased 4 hand sanitizer dispensers to be installed in restrooms and in Narthex. Looking for volunteer to install them.

A motion to accept the commission reports was made by Elaine Schwartz and seconded by Bob MacKinnon and the motion carried.

New Business

- Synod Disaster Ministry Committee – Looking for someone to help put together resources about disaster preparedness at the Synod level. Anyone interested in this position talk to Elaine Schwartz; Bob MacKinnon will look into who participated in the disaster preparedness training to see if there are any interested parties.
- Stewardship Campaign – Oct 23, 30 and Nov 6 and 13 with a theme of Foundations of Faith. Jimmy has requested council approval of the stewardship campaign.
- *A motion to accept the Stewardship Campaign was made by Trish Ladd-Thomas and seconded by Phillip Speddon, and the motion carried.*
- New Member Class – Classes Oct 16, 23, 30, Nov 6, 13 between services, and new members will be welcomed during service on Nov 13, with a meal after for both New Members and Consecration Sunday.
- Changes to Spanish in Worship – discussed during worship and music report.
- Blessing of the Animals – October 2, 3:00PM

- Budget(s?) – we want to have 2 budgets; one is a “pay the bills” budget, and the other would be a “visionary” or “narrative” budget. The idea behind the visionary budget is to inspire people to give more by showing them the cool things that we can do with increased giving. Before the next meeting, commission chairs will need to submit both a “pay the bills” budget and a visionary budget to Bob Lee.
- Thanksgiving Dinner – Saturday November 19 Phillip will talk to Pam Angels and Lud about organizing the dinner; Elaine Schwartz said that the Jazz Band is available to perform after the dinner.
- Paper Product Ordering Procedures – Ideally the cleaning company lets David Rager know when we are running low on paper products (toilet paper and paper towels) and he lets Pam Angels know, who then purchases the products. There has been a breakdown in communication that has resulted in the church running out of these products. David Rager will inquire what the cleaning company will charge to provide paper products.
- Staff evaluations – Will take place between now and the next council meeting. Pastor Scott evaluates the staff using a self-evaluation form and meeting with each member individually. Pastor will bring staff evaluation summaries to council Oct 11. Council evaluates Pastor Scott, he will also complete a self-evaluation form and submit it to council; then council will meet with him to discuss his self-evaluation. Oct 18 at 7:00PM, council will meet to discuss Pastor’s self-evaluation, and a sub-set of council will meet with Pastor Scott on a date yet to be determined.
- Synod Reformation Service will be held at Rock of Ages on Thursday October 27. The service will be bilingual and is open to anyone who wishes to attend.
- Dave Linke has decided to retire from changing the message on the church sign by the street and we are looking for someone to take his place. If you feel moved to do this let the Council or Pastor Scott know.

Old Business

- HOST - One of our primary focus areas in the early stages of moving forward is to focus on communication. Improved communication could be a corner stone to expand our efforts in many ways. Ana indicated that she believes the Hispanic community is very interested in learning English. Many comments were made about resources that already exist in our area and online to give us help teaching English as a Second Language (ESL). We agreed that there may be needs for more funds to expand our efforts to increase the program’s success. We will look at options and investigate alternatives. Our next meeting is September 25 after church.
- Thrivent – Kristen Silveus has agreed to be our Thrivent coordinator.
- Bulletin Board in Narthex – Tracie Crowe and Liz Linke have agreed to help with keeping the board up to date. David Rager will show Tracie what we have in regards to bulletin boards and install.
- 1st Communion class – Pastor Scott will talk to parents and work out a schedule for meetings.
- Reconciling Works/Reconciling in Christ – Pastor Scott received information from Epiphany Lutheran in Suwanee: Information education sessions; statement of welcome to congregation; recommendation to council; congregational vote; ongoing education opportunities for congregation members. *A motion was made by Phillip Speddon to table this discussion until our January council meeting, seconded by Elaine Schwartz and the motion carried.*
- Action Plans – Where are we now? Tabled until October’s meeting
- Strategic Planning Committee - Vickie Speddon has agreed to be the 5th member, along with Lee Bennett, David Berfield, Gwyn Plaster, and Jacob Crowe.
- Capital Campaign/ Painting the Sanctuary – Sanctuary was last painted in 2009 at a cost of \$6000, however the quote was approximately \$4000 under the rest of the quotes received. Council has suggested that Property add \$10,000 for painting the sanctuary to the 2017 “Visionary” budget.

Council will think of some people that would be willing to head up a capital campaign to discuss at the October meeting.

Thank You's

- Parry Moss and Lisa Larson-Moss for fixing the changing table in the Nursery.
- Liz Linke for having a sign made with rules for the sanctuary.
- Dave Linke for his dedication to changing the sign by the street.
- Bob MacKinnon for looking to see if the door closer at Fellowship Hall can be fixed.
- Pam Angles for getting the hand sanitizers.
- Homework help Mama's for making tamales for Rally Sunday
- Everyone who helped with set-up for Rally Day.
- Pam Angles for her help with the Rally Day lunch.

Spiritual Autobiography for next month: Angie Rhilinger

Motion to adjourn was made by Bob MacKinnon and seconded by Trish Ladd-Thomas and the motion carried.

Closing Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Liz Linke.

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9am—4pm Arts & Crafts Festival
2 8:30 am Worship Service 10 am Sunday School Hour 11 am Worship Service 2 pm Blessing of the Animals	3 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort; 7pm Prayer Discernment Group	4 10 am Spanish Bible Study 10:30 am Staff Meeting; 11 am Good Old Guys Meet	5 9:30 am Alleluia Girls Meet 5 pm Homework Help 7 pm Midweek Grace	6 7 pm Men's Barna- bas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	7	8
9 Youth Sunday 8:30 am Worship Service 10 am Sunday School Hour 11 am Worship Service	10 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort	11 10 am Spanish Bible Study 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 7pm Council Meeting	12 9:30 am Alleluia Girls Meet 5 pm Homework Help 7 pm Midweek Grace	13 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	14	15
16 8:30 am Worship Service 10 am Sunday School Hour 11 am Worship Service	17 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort; 7 pm Bible Study 7pm Prayer Discernment Group	18 10 am Spanish Bible Study 10:30 am Staff Meeting; 11 am Good Old Guys Meet	19 9:30 am Alleluia Girls Meet 5 pm Homework Help 7 pm Midweek Grace	20 7 pm Men's Barna- bas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	21	22
23 8:30 am Worship Service 10 am Sunday School Hour; 11 am Worship Service	24 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort	25 10 am Spanish Bible Study 11 am Good Old Guys Meet	26 9:30 am Alleluia Girls Meet 5 pm Homework Help 7 pm Midweek Grace	27 7 pm Men's Barna- bas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	28	29
30 Reform Sunday, Please Red 8:30 am Worship Service 10 am Sunday School Hour; 11 am Worship	31 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort					