

JOY
PEACE
HOPE
LOVE

**DECEMBER 2017
NEWSLETTER**

**Sunday: 8:30 am Worship Service
10 am Sunday School Hour
11 am Worship Service
Wednesday: 5:30 Homework Help**



Amazing Grace

Lutheran Church

**Interim Pastor Michael Millum
3305 Lawrenceville Highway
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
770-381-1293 www.tisgrace.org**



FROM THE PASTOR

ADVENT II: THE SEQUEL

Immediately after the suffering of those days

the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light;

the stars will fall from heaven,

and the powers of heaven will be shaken.

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see 'the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven' with power and great glory. ³¹ And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other (Matthew 24:29-30).

Sounds exhilarating, doesn't it? People willingly pay \$15 a head to see these kinds of cosmic scenes portrayed in a movie.

The Advent season is here, a four-week period of preparation for the coming of Jesus. That's what Advent means: coming. And the Gospels plead with us to be ready, remain awake and alert, for the coming of the Lord.

Most people in our culture, including most Christians, view this as a time to prepare for the celebration of Christmas. And the way most people observe this period of preparation is by taking advantage of Black Friday and Cyber Monday deals, and over the next four weeks they shop quite literally until they are ready to drop! Besides, the commercial observance, there are the obligatory office parties, Christmas concerts at school, putting up the lights, and the tree, and all the ornamental trappings. We feel obliged to take part in all of this, though very little that is of any benefit to our faith is gained. More than anything else, it intensifies the pace of life to a frantic, frenzied level! The peace that we long for is not to be found amid the long lines, the traffic, lights, and Christmas muzak piped relentlessly through store speaker systems.

In the church, most people observe Advent as a time to prepare for the celebration of Jesus' coming as an infant, laid in a manger; an event from the distant past. Celebrating the birth of Jesus is part of what the Advent season is preparing us for. But the Gospels tell us of an Advent sequel, what most Christians refer to as the second coming of Jesus. Advent is as much a forward-looking season, as it is looking to the past. This is why for the last few weeks leading up to the First Sunday of Advent we have been hearing passages from the Gospel concerning the cosmic coming of Jesus as judge to establish God's reign in it's fullness.

So what kind of a sequel could successfully follow-up the beloved story of Jesus' birth? One with plenty of action and CG special effects, such as a darkened sun and

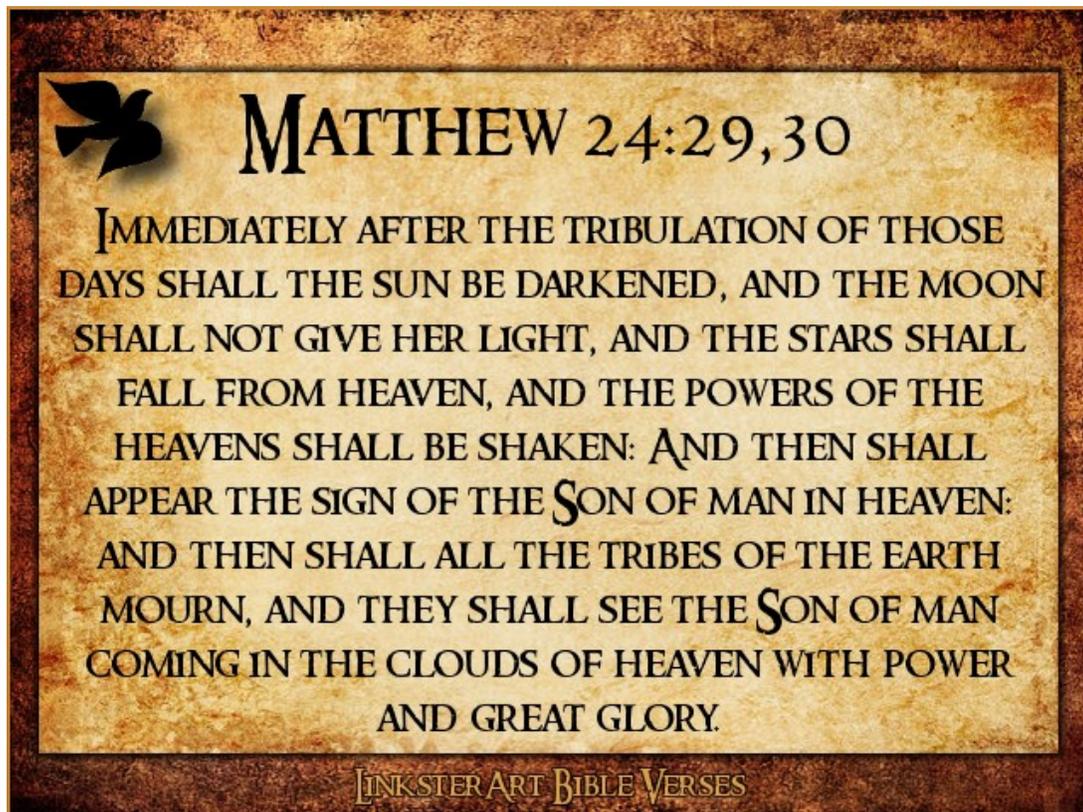
moon, and stars falling from the heavens. So many Christians prefer to focus on the return of Jesus as an instrument of God's vengeance and wrath. We are naturally drawn, it seems, to dystopian visions of the future, where the world as we know it has been decimated. Hollywood just keeps churning out these flicks, and people keep paying a hefty admission price to see them.

Personally, I am not expecting the coming of a vengeful Christ surfing on a cloud. I believe that Jesus comes to us all the time, in a great many ways and situations, and the Advent message we most need to hear is "remain alert! Wake up!!" This means, extricate yourself from the frenzied cultural observance of this season, with all of its enticements, and distractions, lest you miss Jesus when he comes. Bombarded as we are by the glitz and the tinsel, we can easily overlook the coming of Jesus, for example, in the children in our school system locally who are without adequate nutrition, whose families do not have anywhere to live, or who are teetering on the verge of homelessness. Never mind that they will have little or nothing under the Christmas tree.

Who can say how Jesus will elect to come to you this Advent and Christmas seasons? But he has promised that he *will* come. Therefore remain awake, alert, eyes peeled and eager to receive and welcome him!

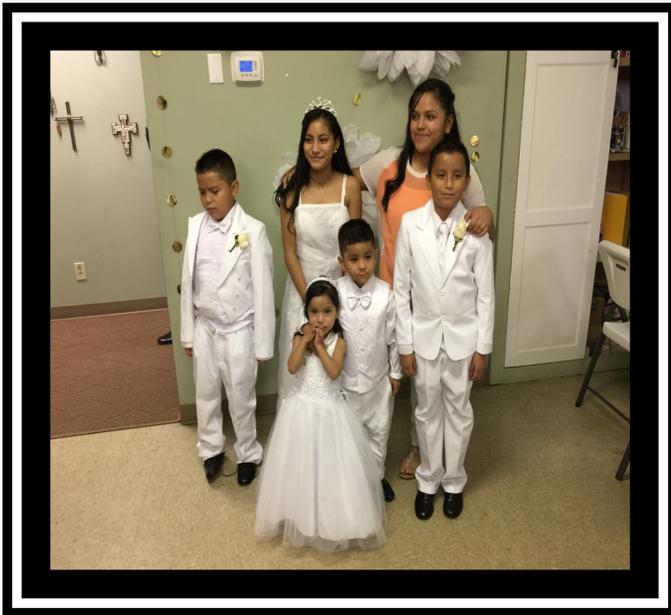
Don't let grandma getting run over by a reindeer for the millionth time, distract you from what truly matters this season.

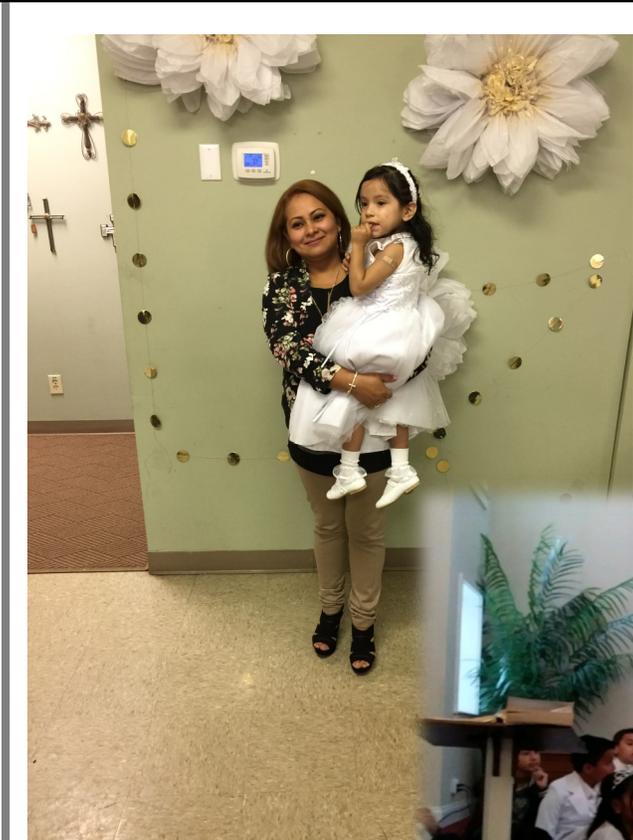
Blessings to you during this special time of year!
Pastor Mike



Celebration of Baptism and First Communion on November 12, 2017









Join Us for Christmas Eve Worship!

Please join us on **Sunday, December 24th**, as we celebrate the exciting arrival of the Birth of Jesus! This year we are offering three worship services. We offer traditional candlelight worship services @ 5 pm and 10 pm, both services will have communion. **Also, this year we will be offering a 10 am worship service as well.** 10 am worship will be a Lessons & Carols service.



Angel Tree

Amazing Grace is sponsoring needy children from Chesney Elementary this Christmas. Counselors have currently received holiday assistance requests from twelve homeless families. Gift suggestions include age appropriate toys, clothing or gift cards from Wal-Mart.

Pick a gift tag from the Christmas tree in the Narthex and return the wrapped gift(s) along with the tag(s) by December 15. Counselors will deliver the gifts to the families. Thank you for your generosity in making Christmas special for these families. Contact Kathy Berfield @ 678-662-7546 for more information.



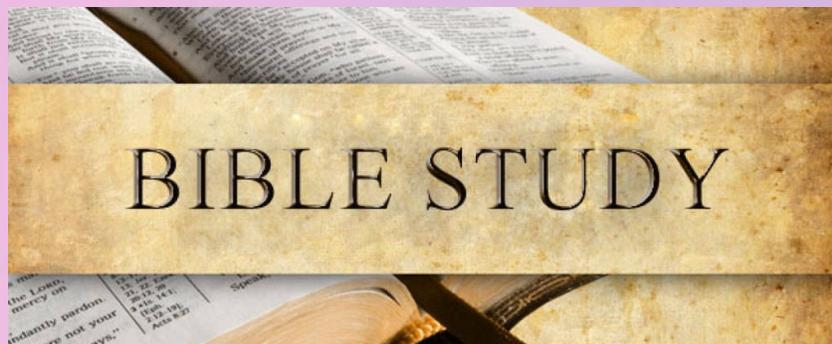
ELCA GOOD GIFTS

We here at Amazing Grace do a good job of local outreach in our community. Now I would like to expand our vision and show God's love and grace to the poor and needy people of the world. Each year, Americans spend over \$300 billion on Christmas shopping. Imagine what would happen if we could redirect some of that spending toward the things that really matter, like putting an end to hunger. With ELCA Good Gifts, you can do just that. Choose from more than 50 charitable gifts to give in honor of loved ones – from goats to water wells, school uniforms to food for refugees. I will be placing some ornament tags in the Narthex that can help you with your gift selection. Please consider starting a new tradition by giving these gifts in honor of friends or loved ones this Christmas. For more information please pick up the literature in the Narthex or speak with Wayne Linke. You can shop now by visiting ELCA.org/goodgifts.



Bible Study

Please join us on **Tuesday evenings @ 6:30 pm** for a Bible Study led by Pastor Mike. In Advent, we will study the Birth stories of Jesus from the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. We will compare the differences and the distinct messages of these Gospels. Please consider joining us for this special time of the year!



UPCOMING Events

All are Invited for These Ministry Events!

- + **December 10**, Christmas Pageant @ 11 am worship
- + **December 17**, Cantata Service @ 11 am worship, Semi-annual meeting after
- + **December 24**, 10 am service, Christmas Eve Service @ 5 pm and 10 pm
- + **January 26 - 28**, Men's Retreat @ Lutheridge

Amazing Grace Worship Schedule for December:

Sundays:

December 3, 8: 30 am and 11 am Worship

December 10, 8:30 am and 11 am Worship

December 17, 11 am Worship

December 24, 10 am and 5 pm and 10 pm Worship

December 31, 10 am Worship

Wednesdays:

December 6, 7 pm Worship

December 13, 7 pm Worship

December 20, 7 pm Worship

Please Join Us for Worship in December!



A decorative border of musical notation runs along the top, bottom, and sides of the poster. The notation is in a stylized, simplified form, possibly representing a specific musical score or a series of notes.

SING NOEL!

A Carol Service

DECEMBER 17, 2017

AT 11:00 am SERVICE

FEATURING

Charles Anschuetz, ORGANIST

CONGREGATION

FESTIVAL CHOIR

and STRING QUARTET



Sunday - Christmas Pageant

On Sunday, December 10 at the 11:00 a.m. service is the Christmas Pageant. It will be a simple pageant, with only a few rehearsals in advance. This is because we want the pageant to have an unrehearsed feel to it. Pastor Mike will also be tying the pageant into a children's story beloved from his youth with which some of you may be familiar: *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, in which the "Horrible Herdman's," an unchurched family, take over the annual Christmas pageant, with all sorts of mishaps and chaos. The message of the story of is: that the actors in the first Christmas Pageant, Mary and Joseph, and the Shepherds had no as little preparation for the roles they were to play in the birth of Jesus, as most Christmas pageants we are familiar with. This leads to consideration of what sort of role we play in welcoming the Christ child into our hearts and world. **December 9 Practice will be at 2 pm.**



Rock of Ages Concert

The Gary Motley Quintet will offer a free concert on **Sunday, December 3rd at 5:30 pm**. The performance will be presented as part of a vespers service at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church. The performance will be lead by pianist Gary Motley, Professor of Performance and Director of Jazz Studies at Emory University and recent inductee into the Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame. The one hour concert will feature new arrangements of classic holiday songs as well as sacred music. Players will include Emrah Kotan (dr), Neil Starkey (bs), Randy Hunter (horns) and Veronica Motley (v). For more information, call 404-292-7888.

con**o**ncert

Wednesday – Advent Worship Begins

During Advent we will see the return of a midweek service on Wednesday evenings @ 7 pm. The theme for our Advent services and all of Advent really is "The Rush to Christmas--Let Advent Be Advent." We will explore the meaning of Advent and why we should think of it as a distinct season in the church year, and not merely a time for decorating and Christmas shopping. The Wednesday services will feature skits, written by pastor Mike. We are looking for volunteers to help to present these skits. The services will also feature the *Joyous Light*. In church everyone seems in a rush to put up the Christmas decorations and to sing Christmas carols. But in consultation with the Worship and Music Committee we have decided to make a concerted effort to observe Advent separate and apart from Christmas, by decorating the sanctuary gradually during the four weeks of Advent, and singing Advent music instead of leaping to "Joy to the World." Come and learn patience and experience the peace we so long for in the days that lead up to Christmas, as only time apart in worship, can help facilitate! **Join us beginning on Wednesday, December 6 @ 7 pm for Advent worship!**



Semi Annual Meeting

Amazing Grace's Semi-Annual meeting will be held on **Sunday, December 17, 2017** following the Christmas Cantata (11:00 service). Items on the agenda are approving the budget, appointing the audit committee, and approving the slate of names for the nominating committee.



WHY DO WE GO ON RETREAT?

Men getting together with other men is a good thing. When we are on retreat we have time to share in Bible study and how the topic for the retreat can apply to the men of AGLC. After the re-treat we return renewed and refreshed, a spiritual rejuvenation for those who participate. I was reading an article on Christian men's retreats and it mentioned "The rewarding experience of a Christian men's retreat has the added benefit of filling one with Christ's love, renewal of fellowship in parishioners, and the reward of great memories."

Our men's retreat Jan.26-28, 2018 is a time of Bible study, fun, and good food. The retreat is not overly structured and there is time for hiking, fishing, games, and fellowship. The laughter, joy, and fellowship experienced on a retreat are a few of the ways we can encounter Christ.

There are 25 beds at Holy Trinity House at Lutheranch. Ladies I would encourage you to talk to the men in your lives about attending the retreat.

Please be in prayer for the men's retreat.

Last year Pastor Tom Kenny Led us with "God for us. God with us. God in us." Retreat theme this year "Real Men..." Our devotions will be led by Tom Balog. **"It's God using men like us to reach men like us." From the internet.** Please consider joining the men of AGLC on our winter retreat.



Women's PJs & Robes for SaltLight Center Women's Shelter

We have had such a great response to the PJs and Robes outreach drives in the past for the SaltLight Center, we want to do it again **starting January 7th and ending January 28th**. The SaltLight Center is in Lawrenceville. The Mission of the SaltLight Center is to provide opportunities for the community to meet the immediate needs of homeless single women, and women with children in Gwinnett County. The PJs & Robes may be gently used or new. Therefore, while you're cleaning closets or dresser drawers and you find these items that you no longer use, or they have been replaced by new sleepwear, please donate them. Also consider shopping at the clearance sales or Thrift Stores too. We will have a collection box in the Narthex for your donations. Contact Debbie Teal if you have any questions. Thank you. <http://familypromisegwinnett.org/saltlight-center/>



Secret Sisters Drawing

Ladies, for all of you who have signed up to participate in the Secret Sisters ministry, **please join us today in the Fellowship Hall after the 8:30 am worship or the 11 am worship services on December 3.** We will have snacks and a drawing for the "Secret Sisters". As the name implies, the name you receive should be kept a secret. In January the fun will begin with the sending of cards and small gifts to your chosen "Secret Sister".



Decorating the Church

The Altar Guild invites you to participate in an Advent Celebration on Saturday, **December 9 @ 10:30 am.** We will be fluffing and staging the Christmas decorations for putting up in the church this season. There will be food, laughter, and fellowship! Please join us!





Name	Birthday
Linke, Jennifer	12/2
Lee, Richard	12/4
Berfield, David	12/8
Page, Sandee	12/8
Haselow, Gary	12/9
Irwin, Annette	12/17
Palma, Kimberly	12/19
Templeton, Michele	12/24
Linke, Linda	12/25
Donahue, Pamela	12/26
Rodela, Roxana	12/29
Brady, Debby	12/31
Hoffmaster, Emily	12/31
Snyder, Larry	12/31

The Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry Food Bank

Hello, Everyone at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church! I bring news of the Lawrenceville Cooperative Food Bank that I thought I may never get to tell you about!

The Coop will sometime in the near future be moving to a bigger and better place in Lawrenceville! The Coop has need of 'spreading its wings and expanding' for the needs of our neighbors who may need a little help now and then! Also, the City of Lawrenceville is looking into some things for the present site.

The new location will be at 52 Gwinnett Drive across the street from Central Gwinnett High School's football field and next to Lawrenceville Elementary School!

When something as exciting as this happens in a community, there are many things that we of Lawrenceville can do to help!

First and foremost, the Director of the Food Bank, Tom Balog, is asking for all of us to pray for this big undertaking to transform the building to be just as warm and inviting as the present building has been for many years!

Also, all of us are asked to support the move with our volunteer hours to help with Space Planning and Construction Assistance to modify the building's interior to best meet its needs. There is also a need for painters, gardening and lawn care folks. Trucks and vans will be very needed for the actual move of the Coop Food Bank also! And, of course, there is always those things that have not even been thought about yet that may come up and help will be needed just because!

Please, please, please, if anyone is eager and able to help with any of the things involved with the move of the Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry Food Bank in the near future, please contact the Director, Tom Belog at lawrencevillecoop@gmail.com.

Also, if anyone would be interested in donating to a 'building fund' for the new and improved location of the Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry Food Bank, your contribution can be mailed or sent through online banking to the Lawrenceville Co-Op, P.O.Box 1328, Lawrenceville, GA 30046. Please be sure to indicate that it is for the "Building Fund." To donate on Pay Pal, please go to the Lawrenceville Coop online website and follow the instructions there!

Please do not forget to keep this wonderful expansion of the Coop Food Bank in your thoughts and prayers! If the Spirit moves you, please send a donation to support our neighbors in this glorious outreach for our neighbors who may need a little help!

God Bless You, Amazing Grace
Linda MacKinnon

The Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry Food Bank

The end of the year is coming quickly! I imagine that most of us are out there finding the perfect gifts for everyone on our Christmas lists! Or perhaps you are a shopper that picks up things starting with the December 26th bargain clearances for next year's gifts! It does not matter; either way, your family and friends will be appreciative of whatever you give them with your love! As we get older, people generally do not want anymore 'stuff' that they do not need! But, we do seem to want to receive something for Christmas!

I get more joy out of giving than receiving at Christmas! The Coop Food Bank Ministry is almost the only 'charity' I support! I thank God every day that there is the Lawrenceville Coop not too far from where we are located! I feel blessed every time we take our 'offerings' (Amazing Grace's) of food, personal items, soaps, and many other things to the Coop! I have never needed any 'help.' But, I know that I feel a special Blessing when I help others in our community!

Right now, the Coop is advertising that it is low on canned meat, canned fruit (all kinds), oatmeal, and instant potatoes! With Christmas coming, canned hams and other meat items would be a nice addition to our neighbors' dinner! Canned sweet potatoes would also be a real treat at this time of the year! Other items needed are personal items like shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, dish soap, laundry detergent and feminine items are always needed!

Bob is taking our latest items to the Coop on Wednesday, the 29th of November. There is still plenty of time to pick up everything that would make a Christmas meal for some of our neighbors! Please help make a family's Christmas a little brighter with some canned hams or other meats!

Since my last report, we have taken 43 items to the Lawrenceville Food Bank! Please open your hearts and share some of your God given 'bounty' with the people who come to the Food Bank! Thank you very much!

There will be one last Orientation meeting at the Lawrenceville Coop located at 176 Church Street on December 21st at 7:00 p.m.! Anyone who is interested in volunteering at the Coop please come and see where you would best fit into the Coop Family of volunteers!

Please look for the article about the new location of the Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry Food Bank in another area of the newsletter! There will be so much to do to help with the move to the new building and setting up the Coop! Help is greatly needed and appreciated!

The verse I have chosen this month is Matthew 19:19. Jesus reminds us "...Honor your father and mother. Love your neighbor as yourself. ..." If we truly love our neighbor as we love ourselves, we should help them when they need a little help! That is where our donations to the Coop come into the picture! Everyone needs a little help now and then! Please donate your goods and your time; and if the Spirit moves you, donate what you can financially!

Once again, I am ending with the Co-Op Mission Statement!

The mission of the Co-Op is to glorify God and to demonstrate God's love. The Co-Op is an intentionally Christian organization seeking to honor the Lordship of Jesus Christ in word and deed by following His example in sharing and caring for neighbors in need. The Co-Op seeks to preserve clients' dignity while encouraging self-responsibility and spiritual growth.

May all of us at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church be God's examples in sharing and caring for neighbors in need! God Bless You Always! Thank you for all of your donations!

Love always,
Linda MacKinnon



In Attendance: Elaine Schwartz, Lisa Larsen-Moss, Liz Linke, Trish Ladd-Thomas, John Ferguson, Wayne Linke, Marilyn DelCampo, Debbie Teal, Pastor Mike Millum
Absent: Lee Bennett, Bob Lee
Opening devotional by Pastor Mike
Spiritual Autobiography: Debbie Teal

Consensus Decision Making The council has adopted Consensus decision making to run our monthly meetings. The hope is that moving from Robert's Rules to consensus decision making will streamline our procedure and result in shorter meetings.

Secretary's Report: Council approved the October minutes via email through consensus vote on October 22 2017.

Combined Treasurer and Financial Administrator's Report

October 2017 Regular Giving was \$18,422.25, which is \$77.75 under budget. Expenses were \$18,381.00, which was \$929.82 under budget.

October 2017 YTD Income was \$15,382.83 more than October 2016 YTD Income.
October 2017 YTD Expenses were \$11,647.78 less than October 2016 YTD Expenses.

2017 Year to Date Giving/Income is \$16,757.46 over budget.
2017 Year to Date Expenses are \$25,201.33 under budget.

Dedicated Accounts – We have a balance of \$37,444.97 in various accounts, which includes October 2017 receipts of \$3,110.36 and expenses of \$7,584.44. Expenses were higher than budgeted due to expenditures from the Building/Capital Campaign Fund.

October 2017 cash on hand is \$111,093.93 which includes \$37,444.97 in Dedicated funds; therefore, not in reserve/not liquid for general expenses.

THE COMBINED REPORTS ARE APPROVED BY CONSENSUS VOTE

Pastor's Report

- 10 Home Visits
- 4 shut-in visits
- No hospital visits
- 7 Office Visits
- 5 Sunday services, preaching and presiding at the Lord's Table
- 5 church Meetings
- Leadership Convocation
- 2 Bible Studies
- First Communion Classes (3)
- Assisted with Sunday school three Sundays
- Five weeks of Homework Help
- Fall Fair for Children
- Reformation video with Charles Anschuetz as Martin Luther
- Stewardship video with Sandee Page
- Reformation Sunday and Feast of Indulgences following
- All Saints Sunday
- First Communion Sunday
- 5 Baptisms

- No funerals or weddings
- Assisted with bringing the meal to Lutheran Campus Ministry at Georgia Tech.
- We have formed a newly active and effective Worship and Music Committee under the capable leadership of Debbie Teal. The members have met and had a good, creative exchange of ideas. I appreciate the creative input very much.
- I thought Reformation Sunday and our Reformation 500 celebration was extraordinary. Everyone pitched in and came together to make for a spectacular celebration. Special thanks, to Connie Ferguson and Janet for the decoration of the sanctuary that day!
- I also felt very good about our All Saints Day celebration. I thought all the elements of the service, the lighting of the votive candles, the reading of the names, the slide presentation, came together to make for a very meaningful celebration.
- We have some exciting and challenging things ahead where worship is concerned. Consecration Sunday – I am hoping for a good turn out, and positive response to the stewardship message we have tried to put out there with Jimmy Herchek’s temple talk and the stewardship video we shot.
- Special plans have been made for Christ the King Sunday as well.
- I am hoping for the Council’s support in holding a Thanksgiving service on the evening before Thanksgiving. I have already talked to Lois about it, and she is on board.
- Then we are into Advent and life gets very busy around the church.
- We are preparing for the return of Midweek Grace in Advent: The theme will be “The Rush to Christmas: Let Advent be Advent!”
- I will be leading the Christmas pageant this year

COMMISSION REPORTS

Nurture – Marilyn DelCampo

No report submitted.

Discipleship – John Ferguson

Nothing to report this month.

Outreach – Wayne Linke

- We are in the process of assembling 50 more Grace Bags. Lud is in charge of this outreach.
- We are planning a PJs & Robes Drive for SaltLight Center Women’s Shelter in Lawrenceville starting January 7 thru January 28, 2018. Debbie Teal is leading this outreach.
- We are again this year supporting the Foster Families of Lutheran Services of Georgia and the Magi Conference Project to provide gas cards as appreciation gifts.
- AGLC has given 192 items to the Lawrenceville Food Co-op since last month! The next Orientation for new volunteers will be on Tuesday, December 21, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Co-op. The Co-op is preparing to move into bigger quarters at 52 Gwinnett Drive next to Lawrenceville Elementary School!
- We had a great turnout for the Lutheran Campus Ministry Dinner.
- We had a big turnout for the Kid’s Fall Festival.

Worship & Music – Debbie Teal

- Pastor Mike’s Installation as our Interim Pastor was October 8 at the 11:00 service.
- First Communion Class held October 8 – Several Children attended. There will be a few Baptisms and First Communion given to these children on November 12.
- Worship & Music Committee (Lois, Charles, Pastor Mike and Debbie T.) plus Connie F. and Debi L. met on 10/30. Discussed the following:
- All Saints – 11/5 – Pictures arriving. Candles and other special touches during the service are planned.
- Consecration Sunday – 11/19 – No special W&M committee duties

- Christ the King Sunday on 11/26 – Plan to say Nicene Creed and confirming it is translated into Spanish
- Wednesday Advent Services – We'll have 7:00pm services starting Wednesday Dec. 6th with a thread for Wed. & Sunday services to focus on "What Is Advent?". We'll use Joyous Light service content for Wed. services
- Advent Decorating (e.g. First Sunday of Advent is 12/3) – Connie and Pastor have begun planning and will continue to do so.
- Christmas Decorating – Connie's going to handle along with Judie Lee and Volunteers
- Christmas Pageant with Sunday School Kids – 12/10
- Choir Cantata at 11:00 service 12/17 – Briefly discussed whether to have 8:30 and 11, or only 11. Not yet determined.
- Christmas Eve Service plans (i.e. any morning services or just Night ones?) since Sunday is the 24th. ANSWER: We plan to have 10AM service, 5:00pm & 10pm services.
- PowerPoint process– No longer need Bible or Psalm Page #s. Will continue to enter in Bulletin. Trying to provide Musical Notes on Screens when we have songs that are not in Hymnals
- Communicating Announcements verbally in Spanish doesn't always take place so Lois suggested, and volunteered, to write announcements in Spanish as a print-out, as part of her Spanish homework.
- February 14th is Ash Wednesday, so our next full W&M Committee meeting will be Early January 2018
- Magnetic Name Tags for Council and Hospitality – Materials have arrived. I've gotten the logo and I am working to create them.
- Hospitality – We have revamped the 8:30 hospitality teams to have a minimum of two members assigned for each Sunday. 11:00 and 8:30 5th Sunday teams need to have additional members assigned.

Property – Lee Bennett

- Repaired the lock and crash bar to the door to the fellowship hall, again.
- Met the Fire Extinguisher rep to inspect our extinguishers. All are current.
- Called the cleaning company to share our list of issues. Management to accompany the cleaners and go over the items discussed. Also communicated with Pam Rink and asked her to reinforce our urgency on this subject to the cleaners.
- Pam Rink also ordered and resupplied our paper towel supply. Thank you, Pam.
- Purchased replacement blinds for the two lower windows in the Choir loft. The old blinds have started to fall apart. Will install ASAP. Please note that it will be after I return to town on November 18.

COMMISSION REPORTS APPROVED BY CONSENSUS VOTE

New Business

- Semi-Annual Meeting – December 17, 2017 after the Cantata
- Nominating Committee - 5 members + E Schwartz (president)
- VP, Secretary, Discipleship, Property
- Elaine will contact potential members this week
- 2018 Budget – Bob Lee sent the proposed budget to executive council, and will send to the rest of council the week of Thanksgiving. The 2018 proposed budget will be available for congregant review before the semi-annual meeting.
- Living Lutheran Legacy Campaign – Tabled until December meeting
- Check Requests – all council members need to make sure that they know the check request policy. When someone needs to be reimbursed, they need to complete a check request form that must be signed by a council member. Requests *should* be signed by the leader of the commission that ministry falls under. Make sure that the request is valid, ask questions and make the appropriate decision. Bob Lee only writes the checks, he does not determine the validity of a check request.

- Paper Bulletin – discussion about potentially discontinuing a paper bulletin, and transitioning to only printing out the announcements. No changes made at this time.
- Clean-up/Organization of basement closets/reading room/play room – someone/a group needs to take some time to straighten up these areas, and the flowerbeds out front need weeding. These items will be taken to the property chair
- Nursery Attendant – Wayne is going to take the topic of a nursery attendant to the November HR committee. Elaine has some information regarding companies that provide certified staff; she will send that info to Wayne to take to the HR meeting.
- Spanish Bibles – there has been a request to purchase Spanish Bibles. Debbie Teal will contact Judie Lee and let her know that council has approved up to \$200 to purchase Spanish bibles.

Old Business

- HR Committee Update: There was an error in the October minutes regarding the terms for members of the HR committee. Terms are as follows:
 - Rudy Beilfuss will complete his term June 2018
 - Wayne Linke will complete his term June 2018
 - Parry Moss will complete his term June 2019
 - Sandee Page will complete her term June 2019
- Church Password Policy
- Update on Call Process – Elaine and Liz drafted letters to send out to potential members of the call committee. Members of council signed them and they will be sent out in the coming weeks.
- Update Constitution & Bylaws – Debbie and Lisa have met and reviewed the constitution and by-laws. Lisa is going to update the constitution and Debbie is going to update the by-laws. The synod must approve both before they are presented to the congregation. Lisa has looked into the current Churchwide guidelines and will be using that moving forward with our update.
- Staff Reviews Update – HR committee is going to have conversations with each member of the staff to serve as a “review” until spring when Pastor Mike will hold formal reviews with staff.
- Consecration Sunday – November 19 – We have distributed estimated giving cards that members will turn in on 11/19 during the closing hymn.
- Cleaning Crew - See property report

Thank You's

- All those involved with Reformation Sunday worship on October 29, including Brass Quartet (all members), Choir, and Church Decorating Team, including Connie Ferguson for climbing the big ladder to hang banners!
- Council members, Lud, DJ, Connie and Pastor Mike for the huge success of the Feast of Indulgences.
- Jennifer Hernandez for translating during our worship services!
- Thank you to all who helped with the outreach functions in October.
- Spiritual Autobiography for next month: Marilyn DelCampo
- Closing Prayer

CONSENSUS TO ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted by Liz Linke.

DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 8:30 am Men's Group	2 12:00 pm Christmas Pageant Practice
3 Advent Begins 8:30 Worship; Secret Sister drawing; 10 am Sunday School Hour; 11 am Worship; Secret Sister drawing; Rock of Ages concert @ 5:30 pm	4 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort ; 7pm Prayer Discernment Group	5 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 6:30 pm Bible Study	6 9:30 am Alleluia Girls; 3:30 pm Staff Meeting; 5:30 pm Homework Help; 7 pm Worship	7 7 pm Men's Barna- bas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	8 8:30 am Men's Group	9 10:30 am Church decoration; 2 pm Christmas Pageant Practice
10 8:30 Worship; 10 am Sunday School Hour; 11 am Worship and Christmas Pageant	11 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort	12 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 7 pm Council Meeting	13 9:30 am Alleluia Girls; 5:30 pm Homework Help; 7 pm Worship	14 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	15 8:30 am Men's Group	16
17 11 am Cantata Worship; Semi- annual meeting after 11 am service	18 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort ; 7pm Prayer Discernment Group	19 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 6:30 pm Bible Study	20 9:30 am Alleluia Girls; 3:30 pm Staff Meeting; 5:30 pm Homework Help; 7 pm Worship	21 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	22 8:30 am Men's Group	23
24 Christmas Eve! 10 am Worship; 5 pm Worship and 10 pm Worship	25 Christmas Day!	26 No Ministries	27 No Ministries	28 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	29 8:30 am Men's Group	30
31 New Year's Eve! 10 am Worship						