

September 2018 NEWSLETTER



Amazing Grace
Lutheran Church

Sundays:

8:30 am Worship Service

10:00 am Children and Adult Sunday School

11:00 am Worship Service

Wednesdays: 5:30 pm Homework Help

Interim Pastor Michael Millum

3305 Lawrenceville Highway

Lawrenceville, GA 30044

770-381-1293 www.tisgrace.org



FROM THE PASTOR

“Hallowed Be Thy Name”

The Lord’s Prayer is one we committed to memory in Sunday school, and now pray by rote. We don’t even have to think about what we are saying. But, I think there is value,

even for those who have been praying this prayer for decades, in examining some of the parts that go into making up this model prayer give to us by Jesus.

Now, what does it mean for us to say “hallowed be thy name” in the beginning of the prayer? Hallowed of course means holy, so we are acknowledging that God’s name is holy. That would certainly seem to be obvious. So how do we acknowledge God’s name as holy, aside from saying so when we pray the Lord’s Prayer?

This declaration that God’s name is holy would seem to be related to the commandment that we should not “take the Lord’s name in vain,” that is we should not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord God. To get confirmands to see the importance of this commandment I always ask them to talk about the way others have misused their names. All of us have been called something unflattering by someone else. Often, it is an alteration of our given names in a way that is intended to make fun of, and insult us. So I ask confirmands to think about how they feel when someone misuses their name. We have all found this hateful. Now try to picture how God must feel, when his name which is inherently holy, and deserving of respect, is mistreated by us; either by invoking it as “a swear,” or by attaching God’s name to something God would never support. In the reverse, God’s name is made holy when we choose to honor God with words and actions that bear witness to God’s holiness. In praying “hallowed be thy name,” we are called to live our lives in such a way that we make visible to all the world that the holy God reigns, that God has a rightful claim to all of creation, and God has regained some of his rightful territory from the enemy. God’s newly won territory is us—those who pray these words.

Every day it seems we hear the news that another professional athlete has been arrested or suspended for drug use, bringing dishonor not only on themselves but on the sport they play. So it was good to hear an interview with an athlete years ago, and for the life of me I can’t remember who it was, but when he was asked how he was able to avoid the temptations of using and selling drugs or falling in with neighborhood gangs while he was growing up, and how he has managed to resist the many temptations that go along with the success and celebrity he now enjoys, he answered, “My mother worked three jobs at once, she cleaned houses and scrubbed floors so that I would have the chance to go to college and play at the highest level. I’m where I am because of her, I’m here for her. I won’t do anything that would dishonor her or the sacrifices she made for me.”

This comes very close the way we uphold, or hallow the name of God. Christians don’t steal, don’t cheat in their marriages, and don’t bless war, not in order to get on the good side of God, since, in Christ, we have been made right with God. Because God is holy and because he has sacrificed to make us holy, we uphold, we hallow God’s name, by the way we worship, praising his name with our hearts, our spirits and our voices, and with our very lives.

In praying the Lord’s Prayer, daily we are reminded that we are not our own. We belong, not to ourselves and our desires, but to God. Each of us has been named by the God whom we name in this prayer, we have been forgiven, claimed, called and sent. We are owned.

Special Congregational Meeting

Please plan on attending a Special Congregational Meeting on **September 16th immediately following the 10:00 service.** This meeting is convening for the Congregation to vote on the Council's recommendation supporting Pastor Mike Millum as our Pastor for a two-year Term Call.



RALLY DAY IS COMING!

On **September 16** we will celebrate Rally Day at AGLC. Do you remember your High School days, when the cheer leaders and the school band got together to put on a Pep Rally for the big football game? Well this is the atmosphere we are aiming for this year. We want Rally Day to be a true rally, and get people excited about the return of Sunday school, and the launching of new ministries at AGLC. Worshipers are invited to come to worship that day dressed in their favorite team jersey, or team colors. Bear in mind that just as all are welcome and invited to the Lord's table, we will welcome all team wear and colors, even if it is not the Georgia Red and Black. We will have a brass band to lead some of our music. You may even see a cheerleader or two to lead us in cheering on God's work of mission and Christian education. There will likely be a tailgate party following the service, to celebrate the Christ's victory over the forces that oppose God's kingdom. This is a bit of a teaser. Stay tuned for more details. September 16 is the final Sunday where we will hold one service at 10:00 a.m. The following Sunday we will resume our two-service schedule of worship at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. with adult and children's Sunday school in between.



GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS 2018

This year God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is **September 9**. Our major project is helping with a Thrivent Financial Faith Build, hosted by Gwinnett Habitat for Humanity. We have signed up to participate on Saturday, September 8. The home site is located at 4195 Old Norcross Road, Duluth, GA 30096. There are also non-build activities that you can participate in if you like such as provide lunch, donate a microwave, create a Welcome Basket for the family, and more (see information coming soon a board in the Narthex). See David Berfield or Wayne Linke with questions. We are also planning a couple less rigorous projects on Sunday, September 9, after our worship service that will also be kid friendly. We are going to try a new project, painting rocks with encouraging words or phrases, even smiley faces, then placing them along walking paths in parks around our community. This idea comes from Trish Ladd-Thomas and Lisa Larsen-Moss. Please see them with any questions.



BLOOD DRIVE AUG. 12, 2018

Prospective Donors: 7

DEFERRED DONORS: 3

ACTUAL DONORS: 4

We did not have many donors for our last blood drive. LIFESouth continues to appreciate our support in their efforts to supply live saving blood to those in need.



Thank You From the Visitation Ministry

This month the Visitation Ministry was given two Traveling Communion Kits. One from Debi Linke and the other was an anonymous gift. These kits are used when we visit with members who are unable to join us at our worship service to share in the gifts of the Bread and Wine. We also spend time visiting and sharing events in the life of the church and those we visit.

"I was
sick and
you visited
me . . ."



—Matthew 25:36 NKJV

The Alleluia Girls are Back!

After a long summer break, the Alleluia Girls resumed meeting on **Wednesday, August 29 @ 9:30 am** in the Fellowship Hall. For those who may not be familiar with this ministry, we are a women's Bible Study who meets to study and discuss the Bible through related readings. We meet on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 - 11:30 am and then often our Bible Study is followed by a lunch outing to a local restaurant where we continue to have fellowship together. We have a great time getting to know each other while sharing in our discussions! We would love to have all women who are interested join us, even if this will be your first time in coming to the Bible Study!



Weekly Ministries at Amazing Grace:

Prayer Discernment Group, meets on the 2nd & the 4th Mondays of the month in the Sanctuary @ 7 pm (No meeting on Labor Day, Monday, September 3.)

Good Old Guys Group, meets every Tuesday at the Bethesda Park Senior Center @ 11 am

Pastor-led Bible Study, meets on the 1st, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays of the month in the Fellowship Hall @ 6:30 pm

Homework Help, meets every Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30—7:00 pm

Men's Barnabas Reunion Group, meets every Thursday in the Youth Room @ 7 pm

NA Group, meets every Thursday in the Fellowship Hall @ 7:30 pm

Men's Breakfast, meets every Friday @ the IHOP on Hwy 29 @ 8:00 am

Ministry Events for September and October

September 9 - God's Work Our Hands

September 16, Rally Day





God's Spa for Women 2018 Tea and Comfort

Worship and Bible Study Leader: Pastor Nancy Christensen
Massage Therapist: Jill Knueppel
Yoga Saturday and Sunday morning taught by: Jill Knueppel



Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. (Isaiah 40:1-2)

The reign of God is like a family reunion where we gather around a plate of cookies and a pot of tea, and everyone is welcomed home! We encourage and comfort, support and uplift one another, embracing the renewal of God in our midst. Together we know the rich blessing of poured-out love!

This year's God Spa weekend at Luther Ranch will offer wonderful opportunities for prayer and meditation, Bible study, worship, spa activities, jewelry making, fellowship and relaxation.

Massages will be available for an extra charge.

We will have a tea luncheon and ceremony.
Participants should bring their favorite tea cup!



Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:31)

**Friday - Sunday, October 26-28, 2018 • Before 9/20 \$150; After: \$180
To register: Registration@novusway.org or 828-209-6302**



Name	Birthday
Kart, Irene	9/1
Hernandez, Eduardo	9/2
Kilundu, Dan	9/5
Speddon, Nicole	9/5
Connor, Stacie	9/12
Mendez, Marvin	9/12
Ely, Denise	9/13
Schultz, Scott	9/16
Palma-Rodela, Dylan	9/17
Richardson, Betty	9/22
Spencer, Steven	9/24
Crowe, Jacob	9/26
Berfield, Kathy	9/27
Hoefler, Fred	9/27
Rink, Jackson	9/28
Reyes, Helen Miranda	9/29
Palma-Rodela, Christopher	9/29



Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry, in Loving Memory of Linda MacKinnon

For over ten years Linda MacKinnon faithfully wrote a monthly article about the needs of the Lawrenceville Cooperative Ministry. Linda's great passion for the Lawrenceville Coop was well known to all who knew her. Linda excitedly promoted the importance of specific donations and volunteers needed for the COOP. Each month, in Linda's articles, she closed with a scripture verse and of course the contact information for making donations to the COOP. From Linda's article in the February 2008 newsletter, she wrote of being inspired by 1 Corinthians 13 by writing, "I feel the love of God each time I open the closet at church and see there are some offerings to the Food Bank."

So on behalf of Linda, we hope you will continue to support the Lawrenceville COOP!

<http://www.lawrencevilleco-op.org/donate/> or mail your check to:

52 Gwinnett Drive, Suite C, P.O. Box 1328
Lawrenceville, Ga. 30046

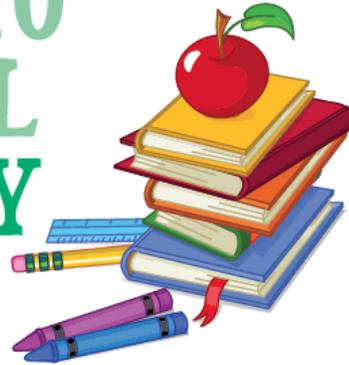


School Supply Night

Your generous donations made it possible for over 30 neighborhood children to receive new backpacks and school supplies for the start of the 2018 school year!

August 1 was a great night of comradery for children and adults, including a discussion of new information for the start of the Fall semester of Homework Help and ending with a wonderful Blessing of backpacks by Pastor Julie! Thanks to all who made this possible!

BACK TO
SCHOOL
SUPPLY
DRIVE



YOUR

ULTREYA

INFORMATION

The next Atlanta Via De Cristo Ultreya is scheduled for **Saturday, September 15** at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, 3305 Lawrenceville Highway, Lawrenceville, GA. All are invited to attend and bring a casserole, salad or dessert to share. This event begins at 4:30 pm and ends at 9:00 pm.

Mifta Abdo and Attegeb Wube

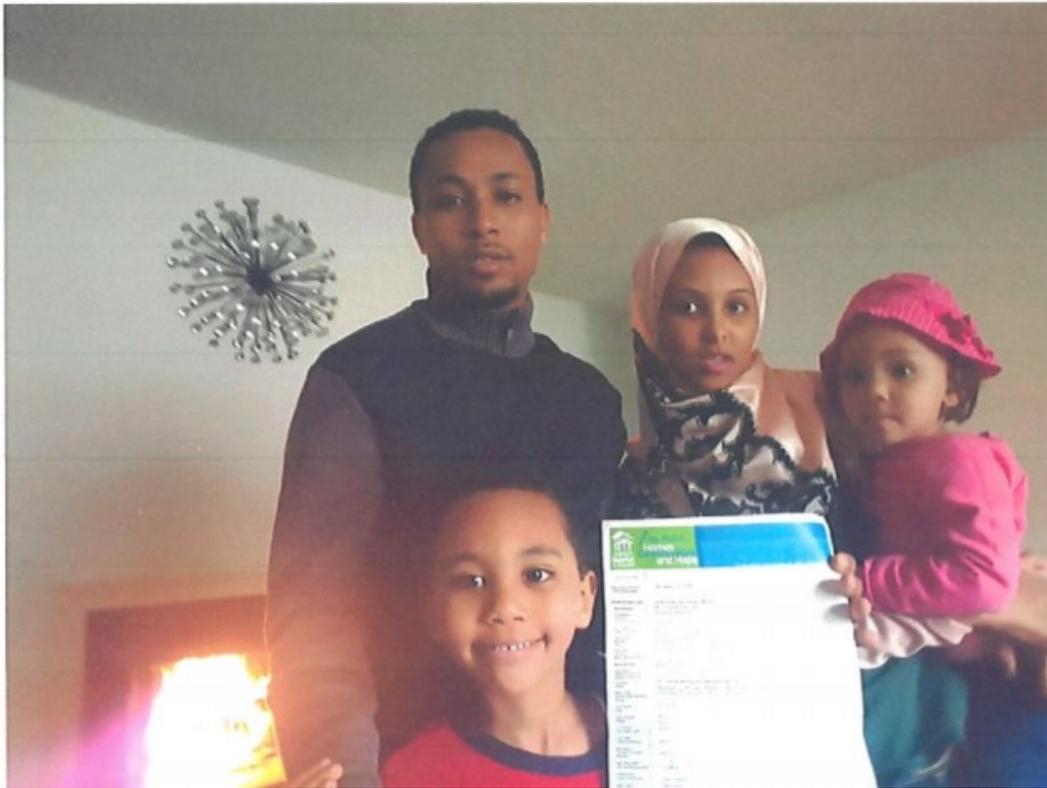
2016

My name is Mifta Abdo and my wife's name is Attegeb Wube. We are a family of 4, including our 2 children Mahi and Manha. They are 5 years old and 2 years old. Mahi attends head-start preschool.

My wife and I are from Ethiopia. I came to the U.S. in 2006 and she came in 2004. We came to escape political strife in Ethiopia and to seek out a better life.

I work in a hotel in downtown Atlanta as a valet. Attegeb doesn't work outside of the home right now. When I'm not working, I love to play sports, especially soccer.

Becoming a homeowner will change our lives. It is very important having a house. Our rent is high and owning a will allow us to save money. Our children will have their own rooms and yard to play in. We are very excited about being Habitat homeowners.



Habitat Humanity

Hello y'all:

We have been invited to bring 10 volunteers for the Habitat Build on September 8. So far we have 8 signed up; but only 2 have registered online using the registration webpage. All volunteers need to register yourselves. If you have already done so, great! If not, please go to the AGLC registration sight by clicking the link below and get registered. Also, when you register you must provide emergency contact info and watch the safety video (see link below) as well. Thanks for volunteering, David Berfield

Volunteer Registration Link: <https://habitatgwinnett.charityproud.org/VolunteerRegistration/Index/397>

Volunteer Requirements:

- All volunteers must be at least 16 years old with a parent signed waiver if under 18.
- Must wear closed toed shoes and clothes that you don't mind getting dirty.
- Must read and sign wavier.

Must watch safety video prior to volunteering. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NNkvearyFs0>

We will provide all tools and materials needed.

Teachers Requested!

We are still looking for another K-2nd grade teacher to help with children's Sunday School! Our goal is to have enough folks that teachers only have to commit to teaching once a month. Sunday school is broken up into 2 age groups, k-2nd grade and 3rd-6th grade. Sunday school lessons follow the lectionary, and we are looking into purchasing a new Sunday School curriculum! Rally Day is 9/16 and the first day for Sunday School is 9/23. If this is something you may be interested in or if you have any questions, please talk to Liz Linke or Pastor.



Youth Retreat

Informational Meeting: **Sunday, August 12 after Church Service**



YOUTH RETREAT KICK-OFF

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church is rebooting its youth ministry. For the last several years, it was believed that we had no youth in our congregation, or certainly not enough to have a viable youth ministry. But not long after my arrival, I became aware that we had a number of children who were on the verge of middle school, which I am finding in Georgia, begins with sixth grade. So it seemed that it should be possible to bring them together with the few middle school and high school age youth who were still active at Amazing Grace and form our own middle school/high school youth fellowship group. It turns out, one of our high school youth was equally motivated to get something started. She sent an impassioned letter to the Council, asking the church to put time and resources into providing a youth ministry, something that has been missing in her own faith development for the last several years. Many of us took this to heart. We had a lunch meeting one month ago, and made some plans for how we might reboot the youth fellowship group at Amazing Grace, and it began with a retreat, which has held August 24 -26 at the R Ranch in Dahlonega.

There were 10 youth in all and five adults in attendance on the retreat. The youth were 60/40 from families who are already active members of Amazing Grace. Four of the youth are from families active in our Homework Help ministry. I think we can see that Homework Help continues to be a source of growth in our congregation. The theme for the weekend was "Together," appropriate since we were trying to bring together kids from two cultures, many of whom did not really know each other prior to the retreat. The retreat was more of a success and a blessing than we could have hoped. The youth, all of whom attend different schools, interacted amazingly well with each other, and you could see new friendships starting to form!

The R Ranch offered a beautiful setting, horseback riding, a lodge with a big swimming pool that our youth loved. The cabins were very comfortable, and were located right next to a field where many of the horses roam free at different times of the day. As you can see in some of the pictures included with the article, our youth had the opportunity to pet the horses and feed them apples. In addition to horseback riding, and swimming, the youth took some time to look at 1 Corinthians 12:12-24, Paul's passage on the church as the Body of Christ. We talked about how each person is like a limb or an organ of the body, and has a unique place, special function or role, in the body of this new group that is being formed! Each of them is unique and special, created so by God, and we must try to celebrate and value each other's differences as a group. We are all part of the wonderful variety that God has created in this world. The push towards sameness and conformity is not God's intention. We must cherish our uniqueness and come together as a body with each person playing their own unique part if we are to have a healthy church and a healthy youth group.

It was exciting to learn on the final day that the youth had taken what we discussed to heart. We asked each of the kids what they had learned on the weekend, and for feedback on other questions, and in their own words, this is what they learned and what they liked about the weekend they spent together:

One said, "I learned that God gave us each a part to do in life."

Another wrote, "We are each part of the Body of Christ. We are his servants, job=love (together).

Others said, "To love God and work together."

"Everyone is special in their own way."

What did they like most about the weekend?

How we all had fun, and we met new people.

I liked how we all had fun by getting to know each other.

Free time, EVERYTHING, horses, the people – LOVE Y'ALL.

The fact that everyone is so kind.

The pool and food.

When asked what issues/problems at school, with friends/family or in the world would you be interested in discussing as a Youth Group? The youth replied, "Bullying, money issues, racial discrimination, peer pressure, asking for help." Four youth said bullying, and three said, "money or financial issues."

When asked, "What is your favorite Bible story?" one youth responded, "I don't know a lot. I want to learn more!" Now how often do you hear that from a teenager?!

What community service projects would this new group like to do? Many said, "Help provide for the poor;" "help the food co-op;" "make grace bags;" "feed the starving."

These answers were given mostly by middle school age youth and high school freshman. Wow!!

Later this fall there are plans for the Youth Group to help run the second Fall Festival for the children of AGLC, followed by a trip to a corn maze for the group members, and the youth will provide leadership for our Thanksgiving Eve service this year.

We should be excited, and proud of these youth, who have found at Amazing Grace a place and a community they want to be a part of!

Please pray for the group as we go forward.







Youth Retreat 2018





The Magi Conference Men's Retreat



Date: October 19-21, 2018

Place: Lutheranch: McKanna-Sandrock Retreat Center

Cost: \$166 per person (double occupancy)

Includes 4 meals (3 Saturday & 1 Sunday)

Includes 2 nights stay

Theme: "Being Kind" (How to find hope and meaning in a Spirit filled community.)

We all need a time set apart for renewal.

Join us at Lutheranch for a time of fellowship, Bible study, meals together and free time. Some free time activities are kayaking, hiking, fishing, exploring the local community or napping.

Register and Pay on www.transformlives.org.



In Attendance: Trish Ladd-Thomas, Liz Linke, Pam Rink, Bob Lee, Debbie Teal, Lee Bennett, Bob MacKinnon, Wayne Linke, Pastor Mike

Absent: Lisa Larsen-Moss, Vickie Speddon

Opening devotional: Pastor Mike

Spiritual Autobiography: Bob MacKinnon

Secretary's Report: The July minutes were approved via email by consensus on July 25 2018.
Combined Treasurer and Financial Administrator's Report for July

July 2018 Regular Giving was \$20,057.00, which is \$343.00 under budget. Expenses were \$16,807.46, which was \$1,117.71 under budget.

July 2018 YTD Income was \$701.02 more than July, 2017 YTD Income.

July 2018 YTD Expenses were \$3,020.11 more than July, 2017 YTD Expenses.

2018 Year to Date Giving/Income is \$6,931.19 over budget.

2018 Year to Date Expenses are \$3,445.99 under budget.

Dedicated Accounts – We have a balance of \$34,579.10 in various accounts, which includes July, 2018 receipts of \$260.00 and expenses of \$2,136.41.

July 2018 cash on hand is \$108,726.95 which includes \$34,579.10 in Dedicated funds; therefore, not in reserve/not liquid for general expenses.

THE COMBINED REPORTS ARE APPROVED BY CONSENSUS VOTE

PASTOR'S REPORT FOR JULY- AUGUST

1. 5 Hospital Visits, including Administering the Commendation of the Dying service for Linda MacKinnon
 2. 5 Home visits
 3. 3 homebound/shut-in visits
 4. 2 Office appointments
 5. 3 Bible Studies
 6. 4 Sundays leading worship and preaching
 7. 1 Funeral
 8. 3 Sessions of VBS
 9. Seven days of vacation, including one Sunday
- I drove up to Lutheridge to spend a day and night with the adults and children at Family Camp. Things didn't work out quite as I had planned, however. When I arrived on Thursday of that week I got to spend some quality time with the adults; but learned most of the older children were in their own groups and cabins. Therefore there wasn't much opportunity to interact with them. Then on Friday, I received the call that Linda MacKinnon had gone critical while at the hospital. I drove back to town as quickly as I could (Lutheridge is 3+hours away), but unfortunately Linda died before I was able to reach the hospital. So I gathered with the family around the bed in the ICU and led them in the Commendation for the Dying prayer

service post mortem. Still, I hope that my brief visit to Lutheridge was sufficient to demonstrate my support for the adults and families who went.

- Our experimentation with an Arts Camp before VBS on Wednesday afternoons this June and July, yielded mostly positive results I believe. I led craft projects related to the weekly VBS theme, whatever it happened to be. I also tried to do some legitimate art projects with the pre-teen, teenage kids who were present. We did some sketching together and I also taught some painting techniques, using mostly my own supplies of brushes and paints. It is my understanding that Lois had equally positive results from her piano lessons. So much so in fact, some of the moms of kids who took her class have petitioned her to keep the classes going during the school year, and I believe she is trying to accommodate that. I have a good feeling about expanding this into a full fledge mission objective of our congregation. The biggest challenge, as with everything we undertake, will be funding and leadership resources. We must pray about this, and trust that a way can be found for us to have adequate resources to launch this ministry. Nannette also should receive mention as the one who led music for the very young ones on the nights of VBS. This was very helpful!

- In response to Nicole Speddon's letter to the Council, and her speech (Together with Madelyn Ladd-Thomas) in worship following Affirm, as well as the interest and enthusiasm from Trish, an effort has been undertaken to revive a Middle School/High School Youth Fellowship at Amazing Grace. In late July Deb and I went to lunch with Trish, Nicole and Vickie Speddon, and Becky O'Brien. At this meeting we put together a list of potential youth age kids to reach out to and began discussing ideas for programs and activities we might do in the fall of this year. There are actually more youth in this age bracket connected to AGLC than one might think, with a number of them related to our congregation through Homework Help. Plans include a Youth Retreat the final weekend in August at a ranch that Trish is connected with. A Retreat theme has been chosen, and planning is underway. Trish visited Homework Help last Wednesday to talk about these plans with some of the teenagers who are not typically here on Sunday mornings. We also held a brief meeting after church on August 12, and spoke to a couple of families about the retreat as well as a number of potential youth participants. I will let Trish speak about the rest of the plans. I don't want to steal anyone's thunder. Potential adult leaders are Deb and myself, Trish, Becky O'Brien, and Vickie Speddon. We have also talked about approaching Sergio Reyes, Sr. to have another male besides myself and to avoid having an all gringo adult leadership team. Also Mike Calabrese has expressed interest in helping, since two of his children will be involved. Prospects are hopeful of being able to establish something. There are also a number of fifth grade children who will be eligible next year. So there is the potential of a growing group.

- Work on shared ministry thus far has yielded the invitation for members from AGLC to visit All Saints to present Homework Help to their congregation. Rudy Beilfuss, Judy Lee, Ana Reyes visited All Saints on August 12 to make a presentation during worship, and the plan was for them to be present during coffee and fellowship to talk informally with All Saints members and answer questions. I have not heard as yet how it went.

- Vickie Speddon asked me in her capacity as Nurture Chair, if there were any new member prospects. The answer, I believe, is yes. We have been having a number of regular visitors, including a couple of Hispanic families who come through Homework Help. I will be approaching these folks about joining. Sometimes this is a tricky tightrope to walk. You don't want to come off as pushy or pressuring people, and you don't want to speak too soon to people about membership; yet on the other hand after a certain period of time if membership isn't raised you give people the impression you don't want them to join and they may stop coming.

- Looking ahead to the fall, we need to recruit new Sunday school teachers for the children. I also wish we had a way to purchase some curriculum to make it easier for some of the teachers to plan their lessons. Additionally, I have been approached by a member of the congregation who would like to see more energy put into Adult Christian Education, a goal I support fully.
- I have begun thinking about Rally Day. The idea to change the name to Kick Off Sunday is a fine one, but my thought was to stick with naming it Rally Day and build on the image of a Pep Rally before a football game. We could do this by inviting people to come to church that day dressed in the jersey of their favorite football team. (As long as we can avoid fights between Georgia fans and those who wear the jerseys and colors of other collegiate teams). The band is always present for Pep Rallies, so I thought we might invite those who play brass instruments to play some Pep Rally kind of music during the service. I even thought about inviting some of the children in our congregation who are cheerleaders for their schools to wear their uniforms and do a cheer in church. All of this would be to create an atmosphere of fun and excitement for the coming of Fall, the return of Sunday school, and kicking off the various mission objectives we have been discussing. Above all, this needs to be fun and invigorating!! It makes no sense to call something Rally Day and then have another cookie cutter worship service, and little else for people to get excited about. Perhaps this is one of those times to have a church meal or picnic, plan specific games and activities for kids, etc.
- My family enjoyed a week of vacation on Tybee Island and Savannah. Two of our sons were able to join us. That was a great blessing to Deb and myself. We enjoyed a number of boat excursions, saw dolphins close up, learned about the bird life in the marshes on Tybee, and saw the Civil War Fort, Fort Pulaski. I found the welcome I received on Sunday August 12 quite warm. Many people remarked that it was good to have me back and I appreciate the sentiment.

COMMISSION REPORTS

Nurture – Vickie Speddon

Large Group has a few things in the planning stages right now. So far there is the upcoming Fish Fry and Rally Day events. Also some thoughts for a family bunko event in September, no date just yet. On September 15, AGLC will be hosting a Via de Cristo Ultreya and Lud will see to having that event covered. There is a working plan to do an Oktoberfest in mid-October and of course the Thanksgiving feast in November. Other events are hoped to be planned for.

Lud is looking for more help to join his group in hopes of getting those other events to happen. No details as to what the plan is for the Rally Day event at this time.

Homebound Visitation currently has 10 members that they make visits to as well as one member that only Pastor visits. The group works in teams of 2 going out to make visits to these members. Joining the ladies of the group are one couple as well as 2 men that go out to try and reach all of the church members in need. Members of the group always make visitations as a pair of 2, never alone when representing AGLC Homebound Ministry.

Prayer Request ministry is progressing well and steady with people contacting Wayne as needed and having him facilitate their need for prayer.

There is also a **Prayer Discernment Group** meeting the 1st & 3rd Mondays @ 7pm to get together and pray for AGLC and all needs.

Barnabas Group of men meet on Thursday's @ 7pm to have some fellowship and

accountability with each other. They also use that time for Bible study and prayer. This group also takes time to send out Praying for You cards to those needing some extra prayers and thoughts.

New Members have no one actively taking classes or making plans to join us here at AGLC however there are some potential people that Pastor will speak to at a future time when he feels the timing seems appropriate.

Discipleship – Bob MacKinnon

- Joe Murray has approached Pastor about making Adult Sunday school more of a priority for Amazing Grace moving forward. We are looking at ways to revitalize the adult education program.
- A request has gone out for more Children's Sunday School Teachers.
- Sunday School resumes 9/23/18.

Outreach – Wayne Linke

Nothing to Report

Worship & Music – Debbie Teal

- First Communion will be taught by Judie Lee and Pastor Mike likely in September and then a Sunday will be picked.
- Choir rehearsals will restart on Wednesday, September 5th at 7:15pm.
- Confirmation will be scheduled for Reformation Sunday, October 28.
- Worship and Music Committee will complete a Wish List of items needed and/or wanted prior to the Stewardship Campaign and before the 2019 Budget is created.
- Christmas Decorating will likely happen on Saturday December 8th, which is before the 2nd Sunday of Advent. We will be requesting volunteers.
- Choir Cantata and Children's pageant dates to be announced soon.
- Hospitality, Acolytes, Readers, PowerPoint Operators and Worship Assistants are scheduled for couple months at a time rather than month by month.
- We still need one or two Sound System Volunteers. Please let Debbie or Lois know if you're interested.

Property – Lee Bennett

- A work day was held on Saturday August 4. The landscaping in front of the church was reworked. Overhanging tree limbs were cut back, hedges trimmed, weeds pulled, pine straw spread and the driveway was cleaned up.

COMMISSION REPORTS ARE APPROVED BY CONSENSUS VOTE

Old Business

- Term Call Update
- Rally Sunday Discussion - See pastor's report. Also, council will reach out to large group about a meal afterwards (tailgate? stadium snacks?)
- Financials in Bulletin - there was some info needed that has been obtained, so the financials should be in the bulletin soon.
- God's Work Our Hands - Thrivent Build on 9/8/2018. Our \$1000 commitment allows us to bring 8 people to physically work on the site; in addition we will need folks to provide lunch for the workers. There will be a sign-up sheet, and there is also an opportunity to purchase items

for the house (microwave, other small appliances, etc.) More information will be forthcoming from David Berfield. We will also be painting inspirational/encouraging rocks, and writing notes and making snack bags for our local fire departments.

- VBS Update/Recap: VBS was well attended this year, and there were many more teenagers present than expected. We will need more adult volunteers next year to meet the demands of the number of children. Everyone had a great time and there were very special moments throughout the week. It was a blessing to all involved.
- Office Administrator Position
- We have a job description and salary information and will be looking at hiring someone to replace Tracie in the very near future. Nannette Stariha has volunteered to come in and help out in the meantime. Pastor Mike has taken on making sure that the office continues to run smoothly until we hire a new office administrator. Any other members who are available to help out in the office should talk to Pastor about where their time and talents would be best suited.

New Business

- Stewardship & Consecration Sunday
 - Stewardship Campaign will begin October 7 (2 weeks) and Consecration Sunday will be October 21.
- Farewell for Tracie - there are currently a few discussions in the works about how to celebrate Tracie's dedication to the church over the years. More info to come.

Thank You's

Thank you to everyone who shares their time and talents with us!

- David and Kathy Berfield, Debbie Teal, Roger Nagy, Butch Whitehead, Robin Clavijo, Pedro Gonzales and his crew for their help with the church clean-up day (and Lee Bennett!)
- Phyllis Moss for coordinating Linda Mackinnon's funeral reception. Also thanks to all the many others who helped out in various ways to make that happen for Bob and his family.
- Bob Schwartz for cleaning the filters in the projectors, and for helping Lee change the light bulbs in the chandeliers.
- Thank you Eduardo Hernandez for preaching on Sunday 8/5.
- Thank you to Lois Simon and Jennifer Hernandez for interpreting our announcements on Sundays.
- Thank you to Al Pichetto for installing a router so we have working wifi in the basement!

Spiritual Autobiography for next month: Vickie Speddon
Closing Prayer

CONSENSUS TO ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted by Liz Linke.



September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10 am Worship Service	3 	4 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 6:30 pm Bible Study	5 9:30 am Alleluia Girls ;5:30 pm Homework Help; 7:15 pm Choir Practice	6 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	7 8:00 am Men's Group	8 Habitat Humanity
9 God's Work Our Hand 9 am—1 pm Blood Drive; 10 am Worship Service	10 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort; 7:00 pm Prayer Discernment	11 9:30 am Visitation Ministry Meeting; 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 7:00 Council Meeting	12 9:30 am Alleluia Girls ;5:30 pm Homework Help; 7:15 pm Choir Practice	13 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	14 8:00 am Men's Group	15 4:30 Via de Cristo Ultreya
16 Rally Day 10 am Worship Service; After service: Congrega- tional Meeting	17 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort	18 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 6:30 pm Bible Study	19 9:30 am Alleluia Girls ;5:30 pm Homework Help; 7:15 pm Choir Practice	20 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	21 8:00 am Men's Group	22
23 8:30 Wor- ship Service; 10:00 Sunday School Hour; 11 am Worship Service	24 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort; 7:00 pm Prayer Discern- ment Group	25 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 6:30 pm Bible Study	26 9:30 am Alleluia Girls ;5:30 pm Homework Help; 7:15 pm Choir Practice	27 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	28 8:00 am Men's Group	29
30 8:30 Worship Service; 10:00 Sunday School Hour; 11 am Worship Service						