

# HE IS RISEN

*celebrate the savior*

## April 2019 NEWSLETTER

### 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**

Pastor Michael Millum  
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**Easter**  
2019



*Amazing Grace*

*Lutheran Church*



# FROM THE PASTOR

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain...For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied (1 Corinthians 15:12-18).

In the above passage, the Apostle Paul argues that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is the core of the Christian faith. If it were not for Easter, Jesus would be just one more flamed out idealistic martyr; and it is unlikely that anyone would still speak his name, let alone follow him. The essence of the Easter message is that death and failure do not have the last word with us. Death always gives way to life, not the other way around. Thus, this Easter I would like you to join me, in finding this fundamental truth in your own experience.

As you know by now, I experienced a stroke just after Christmas in 2015, which resulted in a three month convalescence, first in the hospital, then in a rehabilitation facility, and finally at home, before I could return to the work of pastoring a congregation. In fact, there was a time when I feared I might not be able to return to pastoring at all. All things considered the stroke was minor, and left me with no pronounced disabilities. However this time of convalescing after the stroke was for me a trip into the Lenten wilderness, a Good Friday experience of separation from my family and from my congregation. I had to examine myself, my habits and my lifestyle, and come to terms with the truth that I had not been caring for myself, eating or managing my stress as I should. It was a sobering, humbling time.

However, I also experienced the truth and hope of Easter in a profoundly personal way as I recovered and returned to work. I was given a new beginning for which I remain incredibly grateful; a new lease on life and ministry, a personal awakening that led to a new determination to be more vigilant about my life and health, and no longer ignore the warning signs that should have convinced me that I am not indestructible. More than just being converted to a new approach toward living life and protecting my health, an important piece of this personal journey through Good Friday to Easter has been trying to let go of my failure, as a person, a husband, a father, and as a pastor. So this Easter, please allow me to challenge you, with God's help, to pursue changes in your habits that will make you a healthier and happier person. Letting go of denial that there are changes you must make, for your sake and the sake of those you love is

an essential place to start. Furthermore, let this Easter season be a time when you earnestly seek reconciliation in a relationship that has been damaged for some time. Too often I have encountered broken marriages and family relationships, and where one is, waiting for the other person to make the first move at repair. Many wait too long. When a marriage ends, or a loved one dies, one must live with the regret that one did not act within the crucial window of time that could have allowed for renewal in the relationship. It takes faith in the core message of Easter, and in God's power to triumph over death and hopelessness. Never again should we find ourselves saying, "he'll/she'll never change;" "that'll never work." It is easy to see why we think these things and say these things, because death, futility, and failure are omnipresent to us.

But, I think if you look within your own experience you will find proof of Easter as well, and this experience will give you a personal look at the core of our Christian faith. **"If Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain" (1 Cor. 15:15).**

A few years ago, I happened upon this prayer, as I was writing the Easter bulletin. I found it to be beautiful and so true; and though I did not find a way to use it in that year's Easter service, I include it here:

**God of the living and not the dead:**

**You do not give up on the fractured or the shattered  
or the dying or the dead.**

**You do not give up on the fearful or the hateful  
or the impossible.**

**You do not give up when there is no heartbeat left or no heart at all. You do not  
give up!**

**You do not leave us for dead Thank God. Amen.**

**HAVE A BLESSED EASTER!**

**PASTOR MIKE**

## **PALM SUNDAY**

**Sunday, April 14, is Palm Sunday.** We will observe Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem by having a procession. **We are inviting everyone to bring an musical instrument for the procession.** Everyone is invited to play their instrument in whatever way or pitch they like (no pressure :)), and if you don't have an instrument of your own, we will have some rhythm instruments on hand. "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice" (Psalm 98:4) and "Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!" (Psalm 100:4).



## **April 7, PALM WORKSHOP**

At 10 am, instead of Sunday School Hour, there will be a workshop led by Mike Calabrese to teach whoever interested in making palm fronts into crosses.

## **EASTER EGG HUNT**

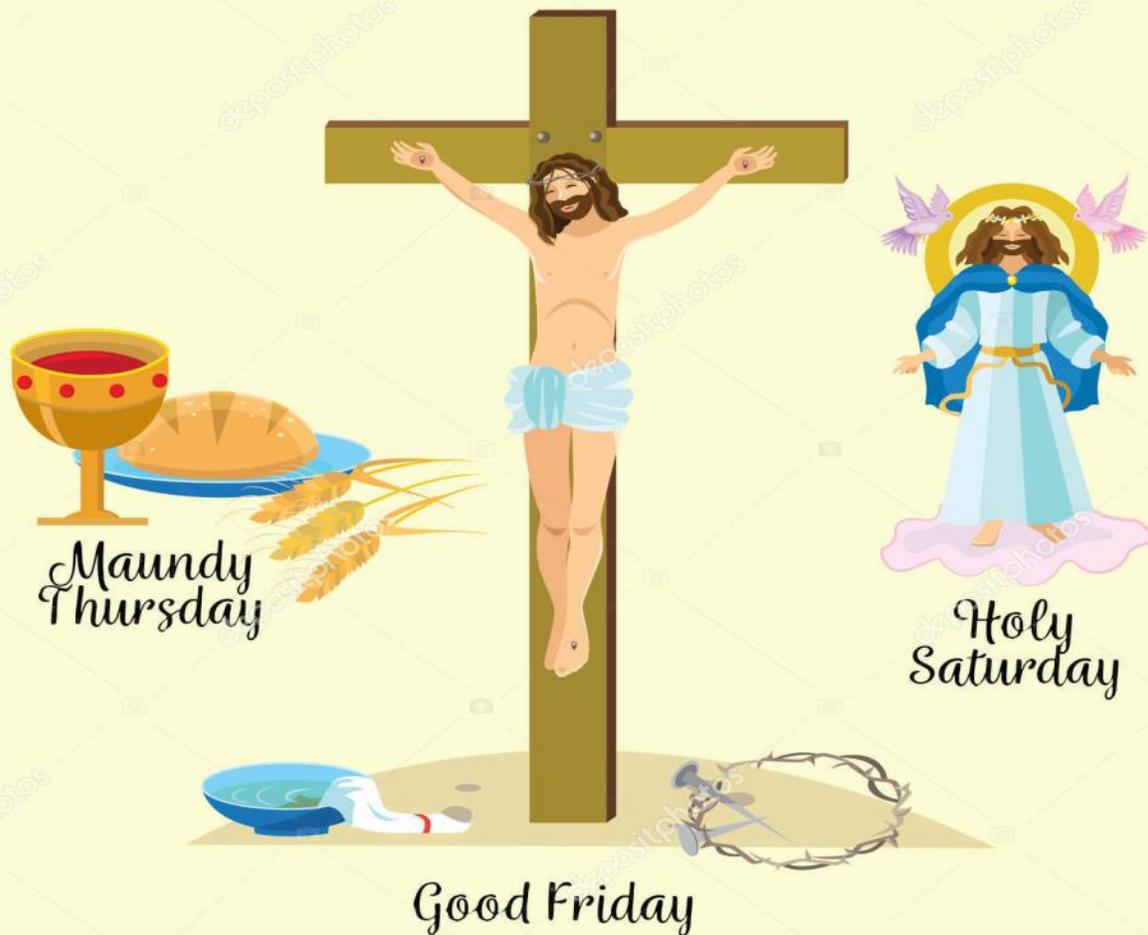
In case you were wondering, there will indeed be an Easter egg hunt for the children in between the services on Easter Sunday. However, we have been remiss thus far in publicizing it. So we are asking once again for people to provide plastic eggs as well as candy for the Easter egg hunt. You can provide either or both, and we are also asking people to volunteer to fill the eggs so they will be ready for Easter morning. This is something the children look forward to every year, and since Easter is the biggest celebration of the year in the life of the church, we want to be able to hold this traditional fun activity for them. Thank you for your help!



## **EASTER WORSHIP**

Easter worship services will be on **Sunday, April 21 at 8:30 am and 11:00 am.** Please bring your family and friends to join us for the resurrection of Jesus!

HAPPY  
**HOLY WEEK**  
MAY THE ANGELS PROTECT YOU



**HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

April 7, Workshop of how to make Crosses with Palm @ 10 am

**Palm Sunday**, April 14, @ 8:30 and 11:00 am

**Maundy Thursday**, April 18 @ 7:00 pm at All Saints Lutheran Church

**Good Friday**, April 19, @ 7:30 pm at Amazing Grace Luther Church

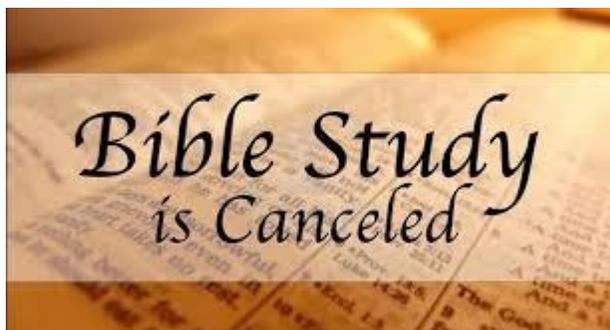
**Easter Sunday**, April 21, @ 8:30 am and 11:00 am

**\*\*CORRECTION for MAUNDY THURSDAY\*\***

In the Sunday announcement sheet as well as the weekly email, we have been announcing the Holy Week Schedule. This year we are joining forces with All Saints Lutheran Church to observe Holy Week together. Maundy Thursday service will be held at All Saints Lutheran Church, located at 722 Rockbridge Rd Sw, Lilburn, GEORGIA 30047. Good Friday will be here at AGLC. Previously we published that the Maundy Thursday service would take place at 7:30 p.m. That is incorrect! Maundy Thursday will be at 7:00 p.m. Good Friday service will begin at AGLC at 7:30 p.m. Our apologies for the miscommunication and confusion.

## **PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY SUSPENDED**

The Pastor led Bible study which has met on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. has been suspended while the small groups are meeting. Happily we have three small groups meeting regularly. Pastor Mike has sat in on all three groups, and there has been wonderful hospitality and fellowship as well as lively discussion in each group. So as not to compete with the small groups, however, the pastor's Bible study will be on hiatus for a time. Please stay tuned though, because the pastor's Bible study will rise again in the future!



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are asking for volunteers to provide meals for the Hernandez family, one of our homework families. Norma just gave birth to a baby boy, Elias, and due to a complication was diagnosed with breast cancer. She will soon be undergoing chemotherapy, and the family could use help with prepared meals. We are asking volunteers to prepare casseroles that can feed a large family. If you want to help prepare meals for the Hernandez family please sign up on the sheet we have in the narthex. We are hoping to be able to provide three meals a week. You can prepare them and deliver them personally, or place the meals in the freezer in the fellowship hall kitchen, where they can be picked up by the family. Thank you in advance for your compassion for this family and your generosity!



## **SECRET BROTHERS**

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church will be starting the First Annual Secret Brothers event 2019, directed, produced and created by Michael Calabrese.

The Sign up is due by Easter Sunday, this is for all men of our congregation. The sign up sheet will be located in the Narthex lobby.

If you have any questions don't ask Michael Calabrese, ask Magic Mike!

**ORDER YOUR EASTER LILIES  
FOR THE SANCTUARY**



*I/We wish to donate \_\_\_\_\_ Lily (Lilies) to adorn the chancel area for the Easter services, to the glory of God and:*

*In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_*

*In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_*

*Given by: \_\_\_\_\_*

**Make your check payable to: “Amazing Grace Lutheran Church” for \$15.00 each, earmarked: “Easter Lilies”.**

Forms and checks may be placed either in the offering plate or brought/mailed to the church office.

**Deadline to order is: April 14<sup>th</sup>!**

***Lilies can be picked up after the 11:00 Easter service!***

## **Weekly Ministries at Amazing Grace:**

**Prayer Discernment Group**, meets on the 2nd & the 4th Mondays of the month in the Sanctuary @ 7 pm

**Piano Class**, meets on every Friday @ 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

**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

**Alleluia Girls Bible Study**, will resume every Wednesday starting on September 29 @ 9:30 am

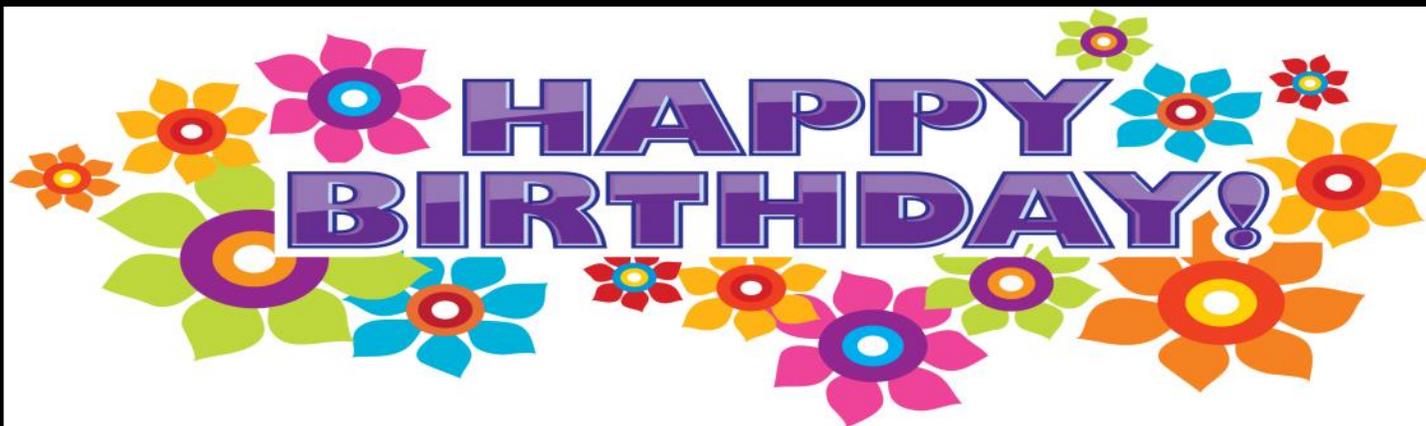
**Homework Help**, meets every Wednesday in the Fellowship Hall @ 5:30 pm

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

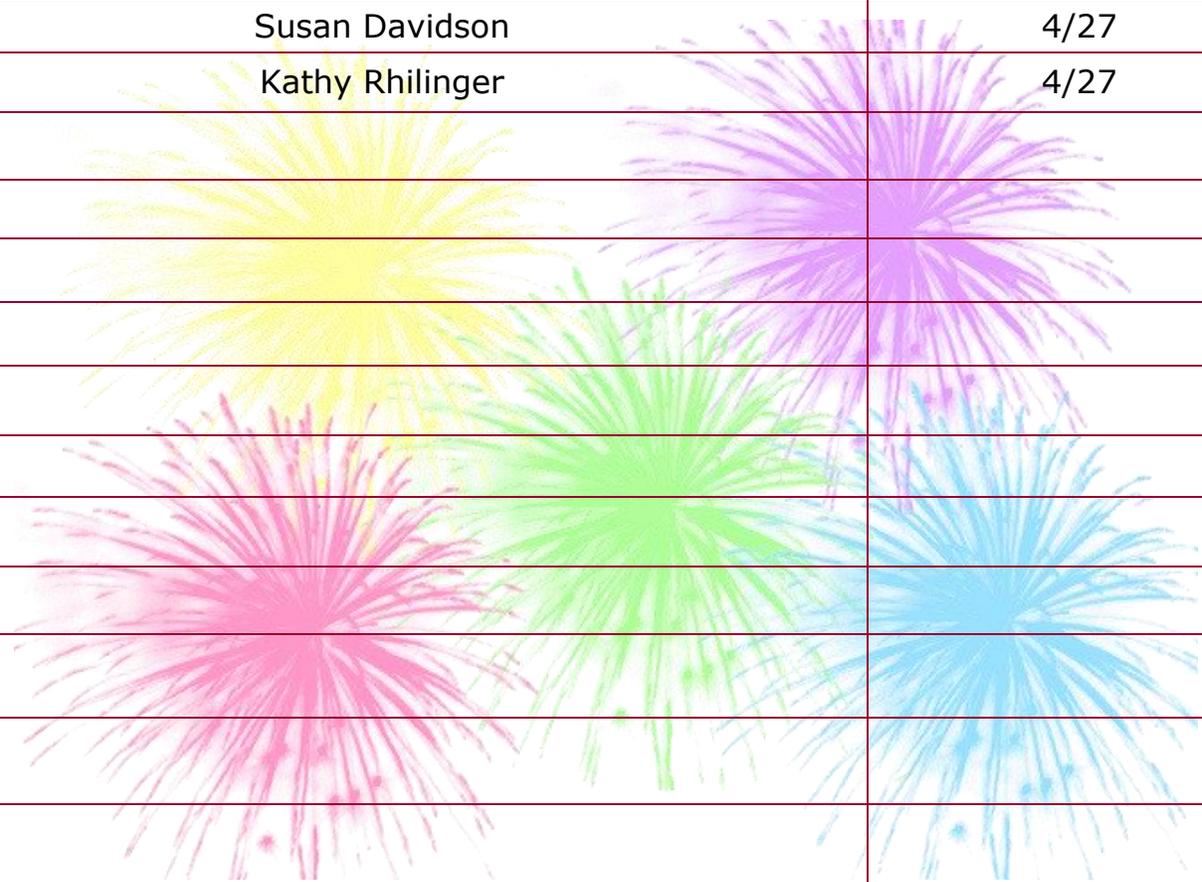
**NA Group**, meets every Thursday in the Fellowship Hall @ 7:30 pm

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





<b>Name</b>	<b>Birthday</b>
Bob Lee	4/7
Parry Moss	4/7
Connie Ferguson	4/16
Sebastian Miranda Reyes	4/20
Marlen Palma-Rodela	4/21
Nancy Sterrett	4/22
Bob Koch	4/24
Brooke Simon	4/24
Al Pichetto	4/26
Susan Davidson	4/27
Kathy Rhilinger	4/27



## LAWRENCEVILLE CO-OP

We want to celebrate a recent \$10,000 donation we received towards our building fund. This gift helped us reach the \$30,000 mark that will allow us to receive \$15,000 in matching funds from the Community Foundation of Northeast Georgia. This has motivated us to reach out to our community to move toward eliminating our debt. Why is this important?

God has truly blessed us with our new facility and ministry partners. With our mortgage paid off, we will have additional funds in which to bless our clients and community.

We are asking all our current supporters and potential new supporters to consider a monthly donation toward this effort. Any amount will help! For example, if we had 1,000 people donate \$10/month for the next three years, we would be debt free.

You can donate by mailing a check, through online banking, or by using PayPal (more information at <http://www.lawrencevilleco-op.org/donate/>).

We appreciate your continued support of our ministry. Please share. #ittakesacomunity

In the meantime, we are running low on our food donations and the number of clients being served is continuing to rise. If you already have a Food Drive planned, please let us know that date. Also, it would be helpful, if you could add something in your communications asking for food donations to the Co-Op. Our website is updated weekly with the most needed items.

### Current Needed Food Items

- OATMEAL
- BAKED AND REFRIED BEANS
- BROTH
- CEREAL



### Most Needed Personal Care Items

- LAUNDRY DETERGENT (SMALL SIZE)
- DEODORANT
- TAMPONS
- SHAMPOO

# Hunger Walk/Run

**Sunday, April 28, 2019**

**Gates open at noon. Walk and run begin at 2 p.m.**

**Home Depot Backyard (adjacent to Mercedes-Benz Stadium)**

Fight hunger with Inspiritus, formerly Lutheran Services of Georgia, by registering for the 2019 Hunger Walk/Run. Each dollar raised will benefit Inspiritus, the Atlanta Community Food Bank, and hunger prevention efforts in your own community. This year's Hunger Walk/Run will feature food trucks, kids activities, music and more leading up to the main event - a 5k walk through downtown Atlanta.

Please visit this website to register or join a team: <https://weinspirit.org/events>

≡ MENU



LOGIN

**Sunday, April 28, 2019 • The Home Depot Backyard**



**Thank you for supporting Inspiritus (Formerly Lutheran Services of Georgia)**

Lutheran Services of Georgia, a non-profit social service agency, has officially changed its name to Inspiritus after joining forces with Lutheran Services in Tennessee. Inspiritus works with thousands of individuals and families each year to provide disability, foster care, family intervention, adoption, refugee, and disaster response services

With over 35 years of providing critical services, Inspiritus has impacted the lives of more than 100,000 individuals across Georgia and the southeast. Over the past several years, Inspiritus has expanded both the scope and geographic reach of its services and, hence, impact. Inspiritus serves the Atlanta Metro area, Northwest Georgia, Northeast Georgia, Southwest Georgia, Coastal Georgia and now Middle Tennessee with offices in Atlanta, Athens, Albany, Columbus, Rome, Savannah and Nashville.





In Attendance: Lisa Larsen-Moss, Liz Linke, Pastor Mike Millum, Wayne Linke, Debbie Teal, Bob MacKinnon, Vickie Speddon, Bob Lee, Lee Bennett, Trish Ladd-Thomas

Absent: Pam Rink  
Guests: Joanne Calabrese, Sarah Calabrese  
Opening devotional: Wayne Linke

**Secretary's Report:** The February minutes were approved via email consensus on March 7 2019. There are no updates or corrections to the minutes.

**Combined Treasurer and Financial Administrator's Report for February**

February 2019 Regular Giving was \$17,611.98, which is \$251.98 over budget. Expenses were \$17,169.41, which is \$289.27 under budget. February was a bit more prosperous than January, so we are headed in the right direction.

February 2019 YTD Income was \$127.05 less than February 2018 YTD Income.  
February 2019 YTD Expenses were \$688.19 more than February 2018 YTD Expenses.

2019 Year to Date Giving/Income is \$1438.02 under budget.  
2019 Year to Date Expenses are \$225.23 under budget.

Dedicated Accounts – We have a balance of \$35,959.01 in various accounts, which includes February receipts of \$815.00 and expenses of \$440.00.

February 2019 cash on hand is \$91,340.76 which includes \$35,959.01 in Dedicated funds; therefore, not in reserve/not liquid for general expenses.

*THE COMBINED REPORT IS APPROVED BY CONSENSUS VOTE*

**Pastor's Report for February**

1. Hospital Visits – 5
2. Home Visits – 8
3. Homebound Visits – 4
4. Office Visits – 4
5. Church Meetings – 4
6. Homework Help sessions – 4
7. Worship Services/Preaching – 8
8. Special Services/Mid-Week Services = 1 (Ash Wednesday)
9. Youth Events – 1, Jr. Youth + Youth Fellowship Bowling at Brunswick Lanes
10. 1 Funeral, 0 baptisms, 0 Weddings
11. 2 Staff Meetings
12. Lent got off to a good start I feel on Ash Wednesday. The day began with Wayne Linke and I standing up by the church sign. Wayne was holding up a sign made by Liz that read, "Drive Thru Ashes." We were up by the driveway entrance for about 2 hours from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. when the staff meeting was scheduled to start. It was brisk outside, in the 30s temperature wise. If you judge this activity quantitatively by the number of people who stopped to receive ashes you would undoubtedly regard this as a waste of time. But I think it represents something that AGLC is going to have to do moving forward. In New England, our bishop Jim Hazelwood called this sort of activity "holy experimentation." In order to interface with our culture, churches are going to have to experiment with getting out of their church building and into the community, and with what works and what doesn't. This requires taking some chances. In the end we only had two people stop for ashes. I administered the ashes and prayed for the two individuals, that they might have a holy and meaningful Lent, and that God would guide and protect them and their families, and use them in God's service in their work and in all that they do. Wayne and I discussed the reality I think we deal with in the south that most Christians simply don't know what Ash Wednesday is. Among Protestants, receiving ashes was long ago regarded as being too vain and too Catholic, therefore even Protestants that observe Ash Wednesday and Lent, often do not observe the practice of imposing ashes. So that might account in part for the small number of people who stopped to receive ashes. Still I think it was a worthwhile experiment! Nothing ventured, nothing gained!

13. We had a good turn-out overall for Ash Wednesday I thought. The prayer stations lagged a bit in my estimation. Probably because the set up wasn't as functional as it could have been, and people were backed up waiting to be able to use the stations.
14. We are in the process of launching our small groups once again. We have hosts identified, and have begun to structure the groups. Each group will have to decide when they are going to meet. The books are ordered. I ordered them from Amazon, and ordered used copies because they were considerably cheaper. But this also means they will be slower to arrive. The order was delayed somewhat, because I wanted to have a fairly firm idea of how many people would participate or if we were even going to be able to get this off the ground again, before ordering books. Because it took people such a long time to commit, I only felt comfortable placing the order for books last week. My plan is to circulate and drop in on the various groups as they meet. I will remain as inconspicuous as possible so as not to disrupt the dynamics of the groups. We have a potential of four groups. One will meet at the church, the others will meet in the host's home I believe. It is possible that I will ask David Trevino's help to produce short introduction videos to each week's discussions, and place them on the web site for participants to view prior to their group meetings.
15. I continue to deal with complaints concerning the length of the 11:00 a.m. service. There was a series of email exchanges with a person who appears to be very upset about the changes made to the service to try to trim some time from worship, such as the elimination of the psalm and the creed, stating that the measures taken were bad choices that didn't really impact the bottom line of the service length. This person also seems to think that the service length has adversely affected worship attendance, and may in part be responsible for the dismal giving over the last few months. On the positive side this person did make some constructive suggestions, one of which we have implemented, by changing the Peace to a Greeting time and moving it to the beginning of the service. This does seem to have streamlined things. We are also exploring having the choir sing during communion more often rather than during the offering, which of course takes no time at all to collect, and then the ushers remain at the back of the church, awaiting the end of the anthem before bringing the offering forward. If the choir can sing as communion is being celebrated, we are doing two of the elements of the service at one time, thus making more efficient use of time. We are also in the process of acquiring another communion chalice with the two compartments, one for juice and one for wine, so that we can have two stations for distribution and move the celebration of communion along more quickly. In addition I have made a more concerted effort to preach shorter sermons, trying to limit the written version to about 1,200 words which corresponds to about 12 minutes spoken. However, I do wish this were not such a pervasive issue. Because when I am leading worship I find myself feeling anxious if a portion of the service seems to be lagging, and I don't want to become one of the ones who is constantly watching the clock.
16. There was a vehement negative response to the moving of the chairs a few weeks ago. The decision to move the chairs into a new arrangement, came out of a staff meeting. A member of the staff thought this would be appropriate for the healing service we were going to have that Sunday, to give more of a communal vibe to the service. However the reaction to it was overwhelmingly negative. I can see that logistical problems were created. Many said they couldn't see the screens well, and that was the reason I decided the chairs needed to be switched back. I did give the configuration a slight horse shoe feel, rather than just placing the chairs back into linear rows. I have heard nothing further concerning the issue since the chairs were rearranged as they are now. However I was taken aback by the vehemence of the reaction. It was a relatively minor change in the scheme of things in my opinion, and it certainly didn't represent any intention to leave the chairs that way permanently. I was left feeling: if this is the way we react to a minor change, how are we going to deal with a decision that may require a major adjustment down the road? I do feel strongly however that the chairs being placed along the walls and in the back of the sanctuary is not good for AGLC as a community. It gives the impression that those who sit along the perimeter don't really feel a part of the congregation as a whole. I moved some of the chairs into the narthex, however there is no place to store the bulk of the chairs that are not being used in the sanctuary. As a result they keep finding themselves back in the sanctuary along the walls again.
17. There is an item on the agenda for tonight concerning a church town hall meeting I would like to schedule. I would like to bring someone in to talk to the congregation, who is more experienced than I am or than any of the folks at AGLC, with what it really takes to reach out meaningfully into a community, and invite new folks, especially unchurched people, into a congregation. I think this could be a very helpful discussion if people will make the time to take part in it. I believe it will force folks to think about whether they really want to grow or not? Because new folks coming into a congregation will necessarily change the makeup and dynamics of the congregation, and force some adjustments some folks may not want to make. I have someone in mind, and I would like to be able to contact that person and arrange a time when we might be able to call the town meeting. Obviously this would be after Easter at this point.
18. Midweek Lenten Services will begin this Wednesday, again featuring skits written by myself, and performed by willing AGLC folks. The series of plays is called, "Holy Week Tours." The lead character is a somewhat caustic tour guide in Jerusalem, conducting tours for people who wish to view the sights of the holy week events. The skits will give some historical background on these particular

sites and events, always with a view towards leaving us with the thought of how what Jesus did and said during Holy Week impacts our lives as Christians in the present. The musical setting will once again be Holden Evening Prayer. The services are designed to fit within a half hour time frame, so that the choir can begin their rehearsals by 7:45 p.m. We have also tried to plan Wednesday evening so that the mid-week service does not negatively impact Homework Help. Thus homework will be done between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. The meal to which all members of AGLC are invited will happen between 6:30 and 7:15 p.m., and the service will follow between 7:15 and 7:45 p.m. Hopefully people will turn out, and give these services a chance.

## **COMMISSION REPORTS**

### **Nurture – Vickie Speddon**

- Card Ministry will be started up again thanks to Deb Millum for taking over this ministry.
- Visitation Group has been keeping up with their visits to our homebound members.
- Prayer Request is available to anyone who is in need of prayers or knows someone who needs prayers. Thank you to Wayne Linke for continuing to work this ministry.
- Nursery ministry has been announcing its policies and the need to follow these policies. Thank you to those who have observed these policies and are making the effort to follow them, your help is appreciated.

### **Discipleship – Bob MacKinnon**

No report submitted.

### **Outreach – Wayne Linke**

- Last month our Facebook posts reached 353 people, 69 people visited our page, 11 people checked in at our church, and 358 people engaged our page. We have 296 people who are linked to our page – Wayne
- The next Thrivent Habitat Faith Build begins in July and ends in October. As always, they are seeking volunteers and there is a minimum suggested financial commitment of \$1200 for 5 people and 1 work day. In the past we have offered a smaller financial commitment and have provided 10-12 volunteers. I will discuss this with them but my question to council is: Are we able at this time to make any financial commitment? And if so, how much? – David
- We had a blood drive last Sunday, March 10, our next blood drive is scheduled for May 5, 2019 – Bob
- We have plans for the heart sign ministry to start up again - Wayne

### **Worship & Music – Debbie Teal**

- The Bulletin now includes Spanish translation of our announcements, as an effort to minimize, if not remove, verbal announcements during the church service.
- Ash Wednesday was March 6<sup>th</sup> – Pastor provide Drive thru Ashes.
- Ash Wednesday Service was pretty well attended, including 2 guests.
- As discussed during February's W&M Committee Meeting, Connie has worked her magic again and a display of crosses on the narthex wall has begun on 3/10.
- Lenten Services will start on Wednesday, March 13 at 7:15pm, after our 6:30pm dinner with Homework Help folks.
- Lenten Dramas – Pastor has set of skits.
- Holden Evening Prayer led likely by Liz & Lisa; Kathy & David; Bob S. & Robin C.
- Palm Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> – Drums/Noise makers are at church from last year and weather permitting, we'll have a parade this year. Pastor plans to show Video with David Trevino's help.
- Michael Calabrese has agreed to make and teach palm leaf crosses
- Holy Thursday – Amazing Grace members are invited to attend service at All Saints Lutheran Church at 7pm as part of our Shared Ministries initiative.
- Good Friday – Connie & Judie will recruit volunteers to strip the Alter. We hope to use Judie's window inserts. We'll use pictures on screens. We'll have 14 candles.
- Easter Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> – Placing items back on alter as part of the 8:30 and 11:00 services.
- Potential idea of a display of banners by groups or families (i.e. Homework Help kids)
- Hospitality teams will bring cheese, crackers, fruit, vegetables (no sweets) on Sundays March 10<sup>th</sup> until March 31<sup>st</sup> when we'll have a "Party" because Parables end with parties.
- Choir rehearsal during Lent occurs Wednesday nights starting immediately after the Holden Evening Prayer and Lent skits. We can always use more voices, especially for preparing for Easter music.
- Robin C. plans to contact parents to schedule Children's Choir rehearsals so they can sing very soon.
- We continually need more volunteers for Hospitality, Acolytes, Readers, Children Messengers,

PowerPoint Operators, Worship Assistants, etc., especially for the 8:30 service.

### **Property – Lee Bennett**

- The office heat suite pump required maintenance this month. Thermal Tech checked it out and found a Schrader valve had failed and the system leaked all the refrigerant out. Charged the system and adjusted the thermostat.
  - I checked the toilet in the Men's room for leaks and found none.
- COMMISSION REPORTS ARE APPROVED BY CONSENSUS VOTE*

### **New Business**

- Nominating Committee Update
  - President: Trish Ladd-Thomas
  - VP - Jimmy Herchek
  - Financial Administrator - Joe Murray
  - Nurture - Debi Linke
  - Worship & Music - Bob Schwartz
  - Outreach - we have someone who is considering the position, but has not made a commitment yet
  - Youth Representative - Sarah Calabrese is considering accepting this position.
- Outreach Speaker - Pastor Mike would like to invite another Lutheran pastor from the Atlanta area to talk about how reaching out to potential new members could look within the church, the changes we may be facing, etc.
- Updated Directory - Members of the visitation team have expressed a need for updated addresses/ directory. We think that there is a way to update the address part of the directory without having to make a new directory. Debbie Teal is going to look into this and report back.
- The next Thrivent Habitat Faith Build begins in July and ends in October. As always they are seeking volunteers and there is a minimum suggested financial commitment of \$1200 for 5 people and 1 work day. In the past we have offered a smaller financial commitment and have provided 10-12 volunteers. I will discuss this with them but my question to council is:
  - **Are we able at this time to make any financial commitment? And if so, how much?**
  - Council can commit to giving \$600. We will do some fundraising, and whatever we fall short, will be made up with money from the Great Commission Fund.
- After the "Straight talk" discussion, a member suggested that a way to save money is to move to only one service on a Sunday, that would save on the light bill, heat & A/C. Bob Lee and Lee Bennett said that they've discussed this before, and that there isn't a significant enough savings to justify moving to one service.

### **Old Business**

- Pest Control Update - there is no update at this time, this item will be tabled until April
- Shared Ministry: P. Mike, Holy Week with All Saints
  - Maundy Thursday service will be held at All Saints and Good Friday service will be at Amazing Grace
- Toilet in men's bathroom - Leak? Lee checked the toilet and he couldn't find a leak.

### **Thank You's**

- To all those who helped before, during, and after Ed Sterrett's funeral. The beauty of the Altar; for Charles playing and Lois & Choir members singing at the funeral; for Think's technical savvy when a family member gave him a thumb drive to show a pictorial slideshow and queuing up the video interview at the perfect time; the Ushers and Communion Assistant; Phyllis and Funeral team volunteers for preparing a wonderful looking fellowship hall the day before, and organizing and providing food for a very nice reception for family and friends.
- To all those who help create special imageries in the Sanctuary. For instance, Bob Lee for hauling the long and heavy ladder from the storage area to the sanctuary in order to remove the golden star like pieces from behind the Sanctuary Cross to then hang the purple cloth as we enter Lent.
- Thank you to Parry Moss for adjusting the flush mechanism on the left toilet in the women's bathroom.

Prayer & Devotion for April: Bob MacKinnon

Closing Prayer & Benediction

*CONSENSUS TO ADJOURN*

Respectfully submitted by Liz Linke.

# APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort	<b>2</b> 11 am Good Old Guys Meet	<b>3</b> 9:30 am Alleluia Girls; 5:30 pm Homework Help; 6:30 Lenten Dinner 7:15 Lent Service; 8 pm Choir	<b>4</b> 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	<b>5</b> 8:00 am Men's Group; 5:00 pm Piano Class	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 8:30 Worship Service; 10 am Palm Crosses Workshop; 11 am Worship Service	<b>8</b> 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort; 5:00 pm TASA Meeting; 7:00 pm Prayer Discernment Group	<b>9</b> 9:30 am Visitation Ministry; 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 7:00 pm Council Meeting	<b>10</b> 9:30 am Alleluia Girls; NO Homework Help; 6:30 Lenten Dinner 7:15 Lent Service; 8 pm Choir	<b>11</b> 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	<b>12</b> 8:00 am Men's Group; 5:00 pm Piano Class	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Palm Sunday 8:30 Worship Service; 10 am Sunday School Hour; 11 am Worship Service	<b>15</b> 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort	<b>16</b> 11 am Good Old Guys Meet	<b>17</b> 9:30 am Alleluia Girls; 5:30 pm Homework Help	<b>18</b> 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7 pm Maundy Thursday @ All Saints Lutheran Church; 7:30 pm NA Group	<b>19</b> 8:00 am Men's Group; 5:00 pm Piano Class; 7:30 pm Good Friday @ Amazing Grace	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Easter Sunday 8:30 Worship Service; 10 am Sunday School Hour; 11 am Worship Service	<b>22</b> 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort; 7:00 pm Prayer Discernment Group	<b>23</b> 11 am Good Old Guys Meet; 7 pm Peachtree Band of Jazz	<b>24</b> 9:30 am Alleluia Girls; 5:30 pm Homework Help	<b>25</b> 7 pm Men's Barnabas Group; 7:30 pm NA Group	<b>26</b> 8:00 am Men's Group; 5:00 pm Piano Class	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30 Worship Service; 10 am Sunday School Hour; 11 am Worship Service	<b>29</b> 6:30 pm Peachtree Trombone Consort	<b>30</b> 11 am Good Old Guys Meet				