Holy trinity lutheran church newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2023



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Little Mountain, South Carolina

Office 345-2841 OR 945-7336 Website: www.holytlc.org Email: office@holytlc.org



Come Worship With Us Each Sunday Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m.

From the Pastor

"As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let's cross to the other side of the lake.' So they took Jesus in the boat and started out, leaving the crowds behind (although other boats followed). But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with water. Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up, shouting, 'Teacher, don't you care that we're going to drown?' When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Silence! Be still!' Suddenly the wind stopped, and there was a great calm. Then he asked them, 'Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?' The disciples were absolutely terrified. Who is this man?' they asked each other. 'Even the wind and waves obey him!'" – Mark 4:35-41

Dear Holy Trinity Family,

It may be an obvious part of the story, but it's worth mentioning anyway: the disciples are experienced fishermen.

They are experienced fishermen who know these waters in the Sea of Galilee better than anyone. They fished in these waters all of the time, and they had been in many, many storms. So it's a bit ironic that these experienced fishermen would expect a carpenter to be able to help them with the storm – but they did. However, when Jesus gets up, He does the last thing they'd expect. He says, "Silence! Be still!" And the storm stops.

The text tells us that the disciples were still terrified – no longer terrified of the storm, but rather terrified because of Jesus' power. He had done something that NO ONE should be able to do. The only One in Scripture who has power over storms is the Creator God. But Jesus just did what only the God of creation can do.

And so the disciples begin to wonder, "Who is this – that even the wind and the waves obey him?" They were frightened of the outside storm, but now they are frightened of the One who commands it. They were facing the wind and the waves, but now they are facing the internal storm of fear, questions, and uncertainty.

What the disciples need to understand – and perhaps what we need to be reminded of – is that, just as Jesus calmed the outside storms, He can change us on the inside and also calm the internal storms of our lives. Maybe this is a life lesson you know all too well. Everything seems to be going so good and then the phone rings and the doctor gives you the bad diagnosis; the phone rings and you get news that a dear loved one has passed away; and your whole life changes in an instant. This leads us to ask the question: where do we turn in the midst of the storm?

But if you really think about it, when we are sinking down in the midst of the storms of life, where else can we go but to God?

In Christ,

Pr. Randy

Upcoming Events



Join us for Card/Game Night on Thursday, September 7th at 6:00 p.m.

Please bring a dish to share and we will have dinner together. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

First Communion

First Communion Instruction Sundays, September 17, 24 – 9:15a.m. (Conference Room) Sunday, October 1 – 9:15a.m. (Sanctuary)

Here at Holy Trinity, parents and guardians help determine when a child is ready to receive Holy Communion.

- This 3-session class is designed for children who are preparing to commune for the first time. Any child who already communes but would like a refresher on significance of Holy Communion is also welcome to attend.
 - Parents or guardians may attend all classes with their child and must attend the beginning of the first class on September 17th.
 - First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, October 1st, during 10:30a.m. worship.

• If you have questions about your child's readiness, please contact Pastor Randy and/or pick up a copy of "Holy Communion: Discerning Your Child's Readiness" from Pastor Randy's mailbox just outside the church office door. Please note: children 3rd grade and above who haven't had First Communion instruction are strongly encouraged to attend.

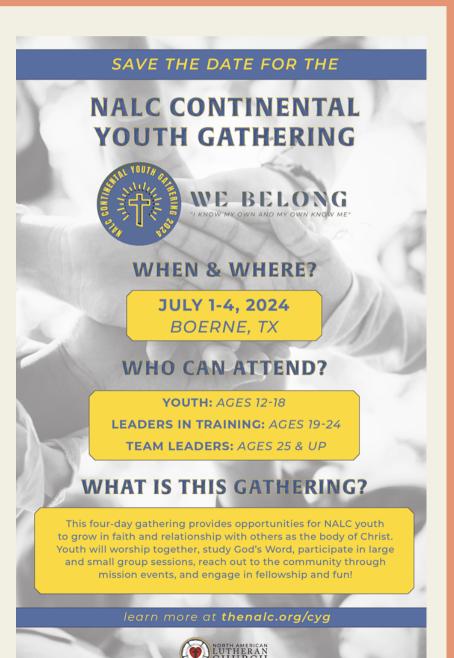
You may register for this class by contacting Pastor Randy or by calling the church office. Please register no later than Sunday, August 27th to allow us time to prepare adequate materials. Thank you, and we look forward to journeying to the table with you!





It's time to start getting your crafts and other items ready for the annual bazaar which will be held on Saturday, November 5th.

Save the Date



Evangelism Corner

Evangelism is the work of the whole church – not a singular person or committee. So often we confuse evangelism with apologetics. (Apologetics is the discipline of defending the Christian faith and Gospel message from arguments against it.) You do not need a seminary degree to evangelize. Evangelism is simply telling what we have seen and heard in regard to God's work in our life through the person of Jesus Christ. Each of us is equipped to do this because each of us has a personal story to tell.

Maybe this illustration will help. If you think of a courtroom scene, you have a judge, jury, prosecutor, defense attorney, plaintiff, defendant, and witnesses. So often we think of ourselves as everything but the witnesses, but that is exactly who we are. We aren't trying to prove anything or defend anyone; we are simply telling what we have seen and what we have heard.

We invite you to submit a short story or blurb of ways that you have seen and heard God at work in your life – "God Sightings" if you will. An example will be included below. Please send yours to Pastor Randy or contact the church office. We'd like to include these stories in future editions of the Herald to help remind all of us that we CAN witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ. Please indicate if you would like your submission to remain anonymous.

"My God Wink"

Once when I had just started working, I managed to run over some trash on the road and get not one but multiple flat tires. The tires I had were already well-worn and could not be patched, so I was looking at replacing all 4. The problem? The cost of the tires and my bank account didn't match. I needed the tires, so I spoke with my wife and we did the only thing we could do: put it on the credit card.

I arrived home that night and couldn't sleep for worry. Worry over how I was going to pay off that credit card with such a low income; worry over it happening again; worry over being able to provide for my family. The next morning, I saw my neighbor in his driveway getting ready to leave for work. He noticed that I was a little more frazzled than usual and asked me what was going on. I shared with him my frustration from the day before and my worry over our financial strain.

He listened intently and then asked me, "Have you prayed about it?" Despite all the time spent worrying, I realized I hadn't prayed at all. I had just worried and fussed.

"Time spent in prayer is never time wasted," he told me. "Life throws us lots of curves. But God is good. He will provide for you and your family. Just trust Him." We then went on about our day.

Within the week, I arrived home and checked the mailbox, only to pull out a card with a check for more than the amount needed to cover the cost of the tires. The card wasn't signed but I had a feeling I knew who it was from. The amazing thing was that we had never spoken about the cost of the tires.

I tried thanking my neighbor but he denied having anything to do with it. So I figured I would do the next best thing: pray and thank God for the provision and for placing neighbors like mine in my life.

It was a definite 'God-wink'.

--Anonymous

Happy Mountaineers

Happy Mountaineers met Thursday, July 27, 2023, in TLC with 22 regular members and 5 visitors present. Janet Fulmer welcomed everyone and Becky Chapman had devotions. Minutes of June meeting were read and a Treasurer's Report was given.

"Happy Birthday" was sung for Jim Sanders and Lucy Peters. Updates and concerns of Happy Mountaineers and others were shared. We were reminded that there would be no "regular August meeting" as we would be attending the annual "Four Churches Meeting" hosted by St. Jacob Lutheran Church on August 10. The group decided to make a donation to "Screaming Eagles" as one of the founders, Jenny Bowers, was expected any moment as our guest speaker. A memorial was made in memory of Myrtie Wessinger. Judy Bedenbaugh led us, working as a group at each table, in a Bible game finding books of the Bible hidden in a paragraph.

Our guest speaker arrived and we devoted our attention to her. Jenny Bowers, wife of Little Mountain and Holy Trinity born and bred Patrick Bowers, shared the story of "Screaming Eagles". They are run by a board of 15 volunteers and have purchased 34 acres in Little Mountain near Cotton Press event facility. The following is taken from their brochure.

"Who We Are - Seeing the Mission!

Many children and young adults have special needs and challenges in developing a full and well rounded life. Founded in 2018, The Screaming Eagles began with a vision of providing the special needs community unique athletic experiences through partnering with local elementary, middle and high schools and with colleges and universities. The vision became a calling to build an oasis where we will not just exist but thrive as a family.

We also serve young adults with special needs. There is no age limit on having fun and learning new skills and making new friends!

Screaming Eagles is a 501-3c organization and receives no governmental funding. 100% of donations are used in the development of The Nest (complex currently under development) and sporting activities. The dream is to make a facility open to all but beholden to none, serving this and future generations."

Jenny was a powerful speaker, knowledgeable in her mission and goals. We appreciate her time with us and many of our group made private contributions in addition to our group contribution.

A delicious covered dish meal was enjoyed by ALL.

August 10, 2023, 12 Happy Mountaineers attended the annual "Four Churches Meeting" at St. Jacob. Chapin Chirpers provided entertainment and we enjoyed visiting with folks from Mt. Tabor, Macedonia and St. Jacob. A covered dish meal was enjoyed with St Jacob furnishing the main dish meats of fried chicken and BBQ. Mt. Tabor issued an invitation for 2024 which we'll look forward to.

Watch Sunday bulletins for Happy Mountaineer news and meetings and plan to attend.

September Birthdays



September I **Caroline Weaver** Morgan Kaihara September 4 Caleb Brewer Curtis September 5 David Fulmer Owen Dreher Shealy September 6 Anna Mae Kednocker September 8 Cindy Dana September 9 Anna Arnold September 10 Hilary Caldwell September 11 Paula C. Frick September 13 Cindy Frick September 14. Amber Arnold September 15 Rudell Lester **Benjamin Corley** Elizabeth Arnold September 17 Shannon Corley September 18 Betty Cumalander **Bobbie Jo King** September 19 Robby Barnes Joanie Leigh Billingsley Linda Chapman Hannah Drafts September 22 Ray Cumalander Fred Fulmer September 23 Nyla Kiera Cannon September 24. Denise Fulmer Morales **Stacy Stoudemire** September 25 George Stoudemire September 28 Dana Crawford

September Serving Assistants

Acolyte 03 Cooper Morales 10 Cooper Morales 17 Dustin Winn 24 Dustin Winn <u>Crucifer</u> 03 David Rodgers 10 David Rodgers 17 Tanner Shell 24 Tanner Shell Lector 03 Margaret Livingston 10 Phillip Allison 17 James Wieters 24 Mary Spires

Bulletin Folders 03 Blake Ballentine 10 Blair Cromer 17 Ava Kate Weaver 24 Daniel Williams <u>Greeters</u> 03 The Armstrong Family 10 Nick & Hannah Huffstetler 17 The Kednocker Family 24 TBA <u>Nursery</u>

03 Paula Frick, Jenna Lake

10 Anna & Ava Kate Weaver

17 Brittany Frick, Glenda Hentz

24 Melissa & Eva Kednocker, Jessica Lindler

<u>Flowers</u> 03 Christopher & Nichole Winn 10 Audrey Caldwell 17 Rodger & Karen Winn 24 Spyros & Mavy Lezimis <u>Altar & Parament</u> Sheri Wicker & Kim Stiver <u>Communion Assistants</u> 03 Joe Boland, Sharon Shealy

Ushers

Chairman: Spyros Lezimis

Elevator: *

3, 10 Christopher Corley, Edwin Havird, Lane Attaway* 17, 24 Blake Derrick, Rodger Winn, Chris Crouch*

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 14th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am-Sunday School 10:30am- Worship/Communion	4 Labor Day Church Office Closed	5 Faith Circle 2pm	6 Bible Study- Exodus 25 10am	7 Card Night 6pm	8	9
10 15th Sunday after Pentecost 7:30am-Council Mtg 9:15am-Sunday School Jamboree 10:30am-Worship 5:30pm-Teens for Christ	11	12	13 Bible Study- Exodus 10am	14	15	16
17 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am- First Communion 9:15am-Sunday School 10:30am-Worship 6pm-Lutheran Men		19	20 Bible Study- Exodus 10am	21	22	23
24 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:15am-First Communion9:15am- Sunday School 10:30am-Worship 5:30pm-Teens for Christ	25	26	27 Bible Study- Exodus 10am	28 Happy Mountaineers 10am	29	30

Bible Verse of the Month

10 "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.[d] 12 What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? 13 And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. 14 So it is not the will of my[e] Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish." Matthew 18:10-14

Memorials & Honorariums

Building Fund

In Honor of Willow Robinson's Third Birthday given by Charles & Kaye Shealy. In Honor of Cole & Carless Shealy given by Jerry & Annette Shealy. In Honor of Micah Drafts given by David & Nancy Frick. In Honor of our freedom given by Rodger & Karen Winn. In Honor of Alaina & Bryson Lever in celebration of their wedding. In Memory of Carolyn Bishop given by Gray, Shannon, Christopher, & Benjamin Corley, Charles. In Memory of Jessica Grooms on the anniversary of her 31st Birthday given by Larry & Renae Grooms. In Memory of Myrtie Wessinger given by Gray, Shannon, Christopher, & Benjamin Corley, Charles & Cindy Frick. Eleanor Bush, Keith & Janet Fulmer, Rodger & Karen Winn, Brenda Bodie. In Memory of Lt. Michael Wood given by Ashley Ballentine. In Memory of Janice Crowell given by Brenda Bodie. In Memory of Millie Gillespie given Blake Ballentine.

Cemetery Fund

In Memory of Myrtie Wessinger given by Happy Mountaineers, Annette & Jerry Shealy, Audrey Caldwell.

General Fund

In Memory of Janice Crowell for purchase of acolyte robes given by Terecia Wilson.

Holy Trinity Prayer Concerns

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be known to God. (Phil. 4:6)

Prayers: Les Kinard, Bobbie & Andy Bickley, Allen Williams, C.B. Mathis (brother in law of Patsy Frick), Junior Alewine, Patsy Frick, Broko Boland (nephew of Carmen Boland), Gerald Shealy, Amy Wicker (sister-in-law of Kevin E. Shealy), Marilyn Plampin, Nancy Webb (Mother of Terecia Wilson), Bob Whitlatch. Note: Out of respect for individual wishes and privacy, if you wish to have someone placed on the prayer list, please obtain their permission prior to submitting it for publication in the newsletter. Thanks for your understanding.

We remember those in nursing care centers and the shut-ins of our congregation:

White Oak of Newberry Junior Alewine

Going in the hospital? Having surgery? Recovering from an illness? Are you in need of spiritual guidance or maybe in need of prayer?

Pastor Randy and the pastoral care volunteers of our congregation will be happy to visit with you at the hospital, at home or just pray for your healing and well-being.

Please call Pastor Randy Drafts at (803)537-2303 or the church office and let us know of your need and we will be glad to visit and pray with you anytime.

Remember, the Pastor and pastoral care volunteers cannot respond to or meet your needs if they are not aware of them.

Holy Trinity Staff

Disciples of Christ Pastor Parish Office Administrator Director of Music Ministries Organists People of Holy Trinity Rev. Randy Drafts Mrs. Marie Shealy Mrs. Terecia Wilson Mrs. Lib Boland Mrs. Donna Fulmer Mr. Brett Lindler Mr. Ted Arnold

Sexton

9:15 a.m. - Sunday School 10:30 a.m. - Worship

How to contact us: PO Box 186 531 Church St. Little Mountain, SC 29075 Email: office@holytlc.org Website: www.holytlc.org Phone 803-345-2841 or 803-945-7336 Pastor Randy Drafts 803-537-2303