

November Disciples in Action

5th – All Saints' Sunday (white)

Reader: Sherry Donaldson
Flowers: Jim & Brenda Barringer
Communion Assistant: Cynthia Mills
Communion Prep: Cynthia Mills

12th - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Reader: Kyle Manus
Flowers: Jim & Brenda Barringer

19th – 24th Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Reader: Libby Palmer
Flowers: Jim & Brenda Barringer

26th – Christ the King Sunday (white)

Reader: Wayne Mills
Flowers: Jim & Brenda Barringer
Communion Assistant: ?
Communion Prep: Bonnie Smith

Lawn Care: Mary Manus & Brad Cress
Fold Bulletins: Bonnie & Laura Smith
ALTAR GUILD: Chrissy Chandler, Cynthia Mills,
Angie Robertson

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PO Box 86
Richfield, NC 28137
Church - 463-7280*

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

November 2017 – Glad Tidings

To submit articles to the newsletter contact Pastor Ruth Ann or Chrissy Chandler or leave them in the mailbox outside the Pastor's office. All submissions must be in by the Friday before the last Sunday of the month.

- SCCM item for NOVEMBER: CANNED MEAT (tuna, chicken, salmon, spam)

ANNIVERSARIES:

13 – Ray & Ruth Ann Sipe – 41
18 – Sandy & Larry Phillips – 22
26 – Kevin & Stacy Almond – 23

BIRTHDAYS:

7 – Teresa Misenheimer
Lisa Roseman
12 – Starla Whitt
22 – Eddie Parker
23 – Mary Ann Fisher
Mollie Icenhour
24 – Taylor Chandler
27 – Sherry Donaldson
Lillian Huneycutt
29 – Phillip Huneycutt
30 – Abby Roseman
Laura Smith
Rex Smith

Council Highlights:

During the regular October meeting, the congregation council:

- + Reviewed minutes from the September council meeting.
- + Received the treasurer's report for September.
- + Received the pastor's report including prayer concerns, thank you notes, and upcoming events.
- + Noted that the new sign has been installed. Because of the large covers, help will be needed when the message is changed.
- + Reviewed the proposed calendar for November and December and approved building use requests for December 6/7 and December 15.
- + Discussed possible nominees to fill three council positions for 2018-2020.
- + Began discussion of the 2018 budget.

At a called meeting later in October, the congregational council:

- + reviewed a salary proposal based on a continuing collaboration (but not a formal yoking agreement) with St. Stephen's/Gold Hill
- + approved a budget for 2018
- + reviewed a slate of nominees for council

The **proposed budget for 2018** will be distributed following worship on November 5 for your review prior to our annual congregation meeting on December 3. *Please talk with Cindy Misenheimer or Marilyn Robertson if you have questions.*

Financial Update for September 2017:

Annual Budget	\$ 112,300.00
September Regular Giving	15,541.88
September Actual Expenses	<u>(7,444.19)</u>
	\$ 8,097.69
YTD Surplus	\$ 4,153.99

Other Updates:

We will receive a special **Second Sunday Offering** on November 12th for the Building Fund.

Please give information for the December Glad Tidings newsletter to Chrissy Chandler or Pastor Ruth Ann by Friday, November 17th.

Our next Backpack Buddies delivery to North Stanly Middle School of the 2017-18 school year will be January 12. *Please talk with Emily Misenheimer if you can help!*

Kids Celebrate children's bulletins, **ELCA Prayer Ventures** for November, and **Christ in Our Home** devotionals for October, November, and December are all available in the narthex.

It's not too late to order from the **Reformation 500 Bookstore**. *Talk with Pastor Ruth Ann by November 10 if you would like to place an order!*

Our stewardship campaign continues this month. *Look for another reflection on this verse as we Celebrate Generosity: "On the first day of the week, each of you is to set something aside and store it up, as you may prosper, so that offerings need not be made when I come." (1 Corinthians 16:2)*

Volunteer sign-up sheets for 2018 are available in the front pew. ***Please prayerfully consider how God is calling you to serve our faith community and sign up to prepare or assist with communion, read the lessons, provide altar flowers, fold bulletins, serve as teller, help update the sign, or care for our grounds during the coming year.*** There are plenty of unclaimed opportunities and training is available for all of these necessary tasks!

November Events:

Members of Mt. Zion will provide the evening meal for **Community Inn** on November 5.

Midweek Prayer begins each Wednesday at noon. We gather to pray for all those on our prayer list and everyone in the congregation by name. *Even if you can't be here, please join us in prayer at 12:12 p.m.*, remembering Romans 12:12: Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.



Our **Ever-Reforming Bible Study** of scripture, Reformation history, and our Lutheran heritage, celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, will conclude early this month.

Handbells will rehearse the second and fourth Wednesday nights (November 8 and 22) at 5:30 p.m. **Choir** will follow at 6:00 p.m.



Congregation council will meet Sunday morning November 9. Breakfast begins at 7:00 a.m. and the meeting begins at 7:30 a.m.



Women of the ELCA will meet Monday night, November 13 at 7:30 p.m.

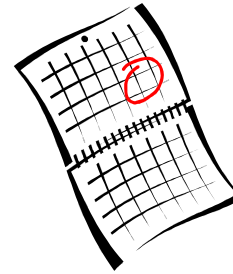
Pastor's Support Committee will meet Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Our Annual Stewardship Sunday will be November 19. Join us for a Chicago Folk Mass service, followed by a delicious lunch! The main course is provided. Please bring a dessert or drinks to share.

Our **Community Thanksgiving Service** will be held Sunday, November 19, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Richfield Methodist Church. A reception will follow.

We will soon enter Advent, the season of hope and expectation. **Join us for a special four-session bible study**, based on the weekly lectionary texts. We meet on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. following Midweek Prayer, beginning on November 21 & 23. (There will also be a Tuesday afternoon session at St. Stephen's.) The last three sessions will be held in December.

Coming Events – *Mark your calendar now!*



The **Sunday school Christmas party** will be Saturday evening, December 2.

The **annual congregation meeting** will follow worship on Sunday, December 3.



"We've been wandering around in the wilderness for forty years. I'm sick of filling out change-of-address cards!"

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God's Work Our Hands Update

We recently delivered many donated items to the ministries we support, as we were cleaning out the fellowship hall. Thanks to several volunteers, including Kay & Rich Cosgrove and Cynthia Mills for helping with these deliveries to **Homes of Hope, Stanly Community Christian Ministry (SCCM), Pregnancy Resource Center, and Esther House.**

Thanks to everyone for their support of the Quarter Project for the **Mary & Martha Center.** We have already donated over \$90 in quarters!

We also made our first delivery of Backpack Buddies bags to North Stanly Middle School for this school year. Our next turn will be in early January – donations for this project are ALWAYS welcomed!

As always, there are many ways we can serve our own congregation and the community beyond our walls!



If you still have a yellow **Caring and Sharing** cup, ***please return it as soon as possible, filled with loose change, dollar bills, or a check (payable to SCCM) - or even if it is empty!*** All donations will go directly to client assistance at Stanly Community Christian Ministry. **We have already turned in over \$600 in cash and checks!**

Our next project for **SCCM** will be the annual **Helping Hands** project to help provide Christmas gifts for children and seniors in need. *Look for more information about this project coming soon!*

You will soon be able to bring items for our next **Give & Take Event.**

Homes of Hope is holding two special events this month!

The first is a **Hearty Breakfast Fundraiser**, which will be Friday morning, November 10 from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Central UMC in Albemarle. Donations are accepted for a delicious, hearty breakfast.

The second is a **Volunteer Appreciation Drop-In** on Thursday, November 16 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. in their office at 1816B East Main Street in Albemarle. All volunteers – including those who provide meals for the Community Inn – are invited to attend!

Thank You:

- + **to Cynthia Mills** for leading Midweek Prayer recently.
- + **to Emily Misenheimer and everyone** who helped pack **Backpack Buddies** bags for North Stanly Middle School students.
- + **to everyone** who helped host the **Reformation 500** service!
- + **to everyone who participated in Trunk or Treat!** Together, we welcomed about 75 children (plus many adults) from our community.

Congratulations...

- + **to Taylor Chandler and the entire North Stanly HS football team** for winning the YVC Championship and going undefeated in conference play (7-0) and for winning the 2017 Stanly Cup
- + **to Brad and Mary Cress** who were married here at Mt. Zion on November 4. *Please hold them in prayer as they begin married life together!*

Do you know someone we should thank, congratulate, or offer our sympathy?
Please tell Chrissy Chandler or Pastor Ruth Ann, because we don't want to overlook anyone!



You might soon be asking, “*What is that information about a saint (like Martin of Tours) doing in our bulletin?*”

During the past year, our bulletin has included quotes from Martin Luther as we prepared for Reformation 500. In the near future – perhaps for the next year – as space allows, our bulletins will now include information about at least one of the saints being remembered in the coming week.

For the November 5 bulletin, that meant some information about Martin of Tours, for whom Martin Luther was named. You can find a list of the saints that we honor, along with the dates of their commemorations, in the front of the **Evangelical Lutheran Worship** hymnal, beginning on page 15.

As Lutherans, we do not believe that we must pray to the saints to intercede with God on our behalf. But we do honor them and remember the faith and work of these saints of the church. Martin Luther wrote that we should give thanks for the saints, use their stories to strengthen our faith, and honor them by imitation of their faith and other virtues.

He used the Apostle Peter as an example, writing: “When we see Peter forgiven after his denial, we, too, are encouraged to believe that grace truly superabounds much more over sin.” (Apology of the Augsburg Confession, Article XXI, The Invocation of Saints)


I hope you will be inspired by these examples of faith throughout the history of the church and perhaps want to learn more about the saints!

Please share your questions with Pastor Ruth Ann so they can be answered here.

Manage Your Giving Online!

Secure online giving is available! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet.

Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much needed donation consistency for our congregation. You will no longer need to write out checks a year or prepare envelopes. And, when you are not able to attend worship, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

Visit www.mtzionrichfield.org and click on  to set up a one-time or recurring donation to our General Fund, Building Fund, Fifth Sunday Offering, or the Fisher Wilhelm Fund)

OR

simply scan this QR code with your smart phone to set up an online payment.



NOTE: Please use your bank routing number and checking account number to create an ACH transaction and avoid additional charges to the church which result from credit or debit card transactions.

To contribute to other funds, please use a special offering envelope, marked with the purpose of the donation, such as the Memorial Fund or other special appeal.

When the offering plate is passed, you may place an online giving card in the plate to participate in this act of worship. These cards are available in the pew racks.

Community Events:



Homes of Hope is hosting a **Hearty Breakfast Fundraiser** Friday morning, November 10 from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. at Central United Methodist Church in Albemarle. *Enjoy a hearty breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon, pancakes, fruit,*

grits, cereal, biscuits, sausage, juice, and coffee. All donations support the work of Homes of Hope!

You are invited to the annual **Homemade Chicken Dumplin' and Noodle Supper** at St. Stephen's Lutheran (4400 St Stephen's Church Road, Gold Hill) next Saturday, November 11 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$5 for children age 6-10, and children 5 and under eat free. *For more information, call 704/279-3768.*



Mourning's Dawn: Healing and Living with Grief

This three-day retreat will be held at Saint Francis Prayer Center in Stoneville, NC. Retreat leaders are Margaret Fields and Rev. Leslee Wray. Whether your loss is recent or you've been on this journey for some time, you're invited to join in this time of

support, remembrance and reflection. *See Pastor Ruth Ann for a registration form, e-mail lindentreeministries@gmail.com, or visit Linden Tree Ministries on Facebook for more information.*



Christ the King Christian Academy Fall Fundraiser

Rada Cutlery makes excellent Christmas gifts!

Black handles are dishwasher safe.

American made / Lifetime Guarantee

Thank you for your support.

Alexandra Cabus

During our All Saints worship service, we dedicated these new or updated items, purchased with memorial funds:

New Information Sign

given in memory of

Allen Z. Culp Jr. and Helen S. Culp

Nancy Laughlin

Ben Misenheimer

Sue Misenheimer

New Breezeway Doors

given in memory of

Ben Misenheimer

Bruce E. Stiles

Sanctuary Lighting Upgrade

given in memory of

Allen Z. Culp Jr. and Helen S. Culp

*If you would like to join others across the ELCA in daily prayer for specific concerns, including missionaries and other ministries of the church, pick up a copy of the current **Prayer Ventures** in the narthex.*

From the Pastor:

Have you thanked the Lord? Have you praised God's name?
Don't you know that no tomorrow is quite the same?

Have you thanked the Lord? Have you knelt in prayer,
and rejoiced that, rain or sunshine, our God is there?

Have You Thanked the Lord? (ELW #829)

Text and tune by Bill LaMotta

When my family first moved to North Carolina from the Midwest over thirty years ago, I found November here to be a gray, rainy, and thoroughly depressing month. The weather has been beautiful so far this month, which definitely lifts my mood – but I also know that we urgently need rain, so now I find myself praying for the weather that once caused me distress this time of year!

These days, I find myself energized by the variety of events and worship services that fill the month of November, and I know that rainy weather won't dampen that energy. From **All Saints Sunday** to our **Stewardship Sunday Folk Mass**, the **Community Thanksgiving service**, and the festival of **Christ the King**, there is a wide range of worship opportunities and something different happening nearly every Sunday!

There are many traditional hymns that fit the season, like *Praise and Thanksgiving*, and newer ones like *Have You Thanked the Lord?* which I quoted above, but a brand new song captured my attention last year about this time. It captures the essence of All Saints, along with Thanksgiving, and I encourage you to listen to the entire song if you get the opportunity. Here is just one verse, with the refrain...

For those that came before my turn
Oh, from whom I've gathered lessons learned
That light the path that lies ahead
I see them as I bow my head.

Yes, I'm thankful for the Lord above
The gift of His unending love
The promise kept that there is something more
These are the things I'm thankful for.

What I'm Thankful For (The Thanksgiving Song)
by Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood

From the Pastor (continued)

This month, we will remember the saints who have gone before us and those who still work beside us; we will complete our journey through Exodus with the people of Israel; we will *Celebrate Generosity* on Stewardship Sunday; and we will acknowledge Jesus as the ruler of all on Christ the King Sunday.

We will also complete our **Ever-Reforming** study as we look forward to Reformation 1000 and we will begin our study of the Advent lectionary texts a bit early, so that we can fit in all four sessions before Christmas.

I invite you to participate in all the special worship services (and bible studies) that November and December have to offer. I promise that you will hear a familiar hymn (or maybe discover a new favorite), hear the Good News from God's own word, be fed at the Lord's Table, and enjoy the fellowship of others.

You might even find some surprises along the way!

Giving thanks for many things,

+ *Pastor Ruth Ann*

p.s. Our journey through Exodus with the people of Israel ends this month. Here are the texts (and the corresponding psalms) for our last two Sundays in case you are reading along in the Old Testament:

November 12	Exodus 33:12-23	Psalm 99
November 19	Deuteronomy 34:1-12	Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

Mt. Zion Lutheran

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Next Backpack Buddies delivery will be January 12</p>			<p>1 All Saints Day</p> <p>10:00 am Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 noon Midweek Prayer NO Bible Study</p>	2	<p>3</p> <p>12:00 pm Pastor's Office Hours <i>Fellowship Hall Reserved</i> ~ Campfirmation (Lutheridge) ~</p>	<p>4</p> <p><i>Fellowship Hall Reserved</i> Daylight Saving Time Ends</p>
			<p>5 All Saints Sunday</p> <p>10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship w/ Holy Communion 6:30 pm Community Inn Meal</p>	<p>6</p> <p><i>Pastor's Day Off</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>Outside Office Hours 7:00 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 am Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 noon Midweek Prayer 1:00 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Choir</p>
<p>12 23rd Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>7:00 am Council Breakfast 7:30 am Council Meeting 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service</p> <p>Second Sunday Building Fund Offering</p> <p>~ ~ Pastor Ruth Ann at Lutheran-</p>	<p>13</p> <p><i>Pastor's Day Off</i></p> <p>7:30 pm WELCA</p> <p><i>Moravian Women in</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>Outside Office Hours 7:00 pm Bible Study</p> <p><i>Ministry Retreat ~ ~</i></p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 am Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 noon Midweek Prayer 1:00 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm Pastor's Support Committee</p>	16	<p>17</p> <p>12:00 pm Pastor's Office Hours</p> <p><i>December Newsletter Information Due</i></p>	18
<p>19 24th Sunday after Pentecost</p> <p>10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service Stewardship Dinner 7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service (at Richfield UMC)</p> <p>Stewardship Sunday</p>	<p>20</p> <p><i>Pastor's Day Off</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>Outside Office Hours 7:00 pm Advent Bible Study</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 am Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 noon Midweek Prayer 1:00 pm Advent Bible Study 5:30 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Civitans Board Mtg</p>	<p>23 Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>24 Thanksgiving Holiday</p>	25
<p>26 Christ the King Sunday</p> <p>10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service</p> <p>~ ~ Pastor Ruth</p>	<p>27</p> <p><i>Pastor's Day Off</i></p> <p><i>Ann on vacation</i></p>	<p>28</p> <p>NO Bible Study</p> <p><i>thru Friday ~ ~</i></p>	<p>29</p> <p>12:00 noon Midweek Prayer NO Bible Study</p>	30		