

May Disciples in Action

6th – 6th Sunday in Easter (white)

Reader: Cynthia Mills
Flowers: Cynthia Mills
Communion Prep: Cindy Misenheimer
Communion Assistant: Cynthia Mills

13th - 7th Sunday in Easter (white)

Reader: Kyle Manus
Flowers: Cynthia Mills

20th – Day of Pentecost (red)

Reader: Sherry Donaldson
Flowers: Cynthia Mills
Communion Prep: Mary Cress
Communion Assistant: Mary Cress

27th – Holy Trinity (white)

Reader: Libby Palmer
Flowers: Cynthia Mills
Communion Prep: Cindy Misenheimer
Communion Assistant: ?

Fold Bulletins: Libby Palmer
Lawn Care: Robert & Jim Misenheimer
ALTAR GUILD: Chrissy Chandler, Tonia & Mollie Icenhour, Cynthia Mills
Sign Help: Cynthia & Wayne Mills

111 E. Church Street
PO Box 86
Richfield, NC 28137
Church - 463-7280

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

May 2018 – 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 APRIL: Macaroni & Cheese, rice, pasta, stuffing, instant potatoes, tomato sauce

ANNIVERSARIES:

19 – Mickey & Bonnie Smith – 50

BIRTHDAYS:

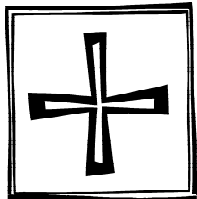
6 – Willene Moss
15 – Robert Shoe
16 – Shirley Culp
17 – Bonnie Smith
26 – Connie Gordon
27 – Cobrin Icenhour

Thanks to:

- + to **Kay Cosgrove** for leading Midweek Prayer and to **Cindy Misenheimer** for leading worship while Pastor Ruth Ann was on vacation.
- + to **everyone who helped with the Mobile Food Pantry on April 12.** Volunteers from several local churches, with help from the special education class at North Stanly High School, distributed food to over 150 families.
- + to **June Almond, Chrissy Chandler, Bonnie Smith, and everyone** who contributed information for the **2018 Yearbook** and helped get them printed and ready to distribute!
- + to **Sam & Tim Honeycutt** from St. Stephen's for the special Good Shepherd children's sermon!

Congratulations...

- + to **Milas Icenhour** who was recently named a Student of the Month (Citizenship) at Richfield Elementary.



We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family of the Rev. Clarence "Bud" Walck following his recent death. Before his retirement, he served as pastor of St. Martin's Albemarle and chaplain at Trinity Place (*formerly the Lutheran Home*) in Albemarle.

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!

Council Highlights:

During the regular April meeting, the congregation council:

- + Reviewed minutes from the March council meeting.
- + Received the treasurer's report for March. Our annual insurance bill and copier contract are paid, but we now have a YTD deficit.
- + Received a good report from the annual review of our financial records and approved a gift of \$200 to the Fisher Wilhelm Fund in honor of Terry Fisher for his work reviewing the records.
- + Designated the first quarter social ministry funds (\$400) for the Mary and Martha Center.
- + Received the pastor's report including prayer concerns, thanks, and upcoming events.
- + Discussed ongoing property issues.
- + Planned a called congregational meeting for May 6, to vote on the proposed change in worship time and proposed building projects, including the repair to the wall behind the altar and replacing the front doors.
- + Discussed the need for two voting members to represent Mt. Zion at the NC Synod Assembly, which will be held June 1-2 in Raleigh.

There will be a called congregational meeting following worship on Sunday, May 6 to vote on recommendations from the congregational council on shifting our worship time from 11:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and on some building improvement projects, including repair to the wall behind the altar and replacing the front doors. ***Please plan to attend this important meeting!***

Financial Update for March 2018:

Annual Budget	\$ 105,075.00
March Regular Giving	8,243.47
March Actual Expenses	<u>(15,478.47)</u>
	\$ (7,235.00)
YTD Deficit	\$ (4,051.47)

(Note: March expenses include our annual insurance bill and copier contract.)

Other Updates:

Volunteers are needed to serve as voting members to represent Mt. Zion at the NC Synod Assembly in Raleigh on June 1 and 2. *Please talk with council chair Kyle Manus if you are interested in attending.*

Copies of the 2018 yearbook are available in the narthex. *If you would like a PDF version let Pastor Ruth Ann know!*

The Lord be with Y'all! Our t-shirts are on order. If you have not already paid for yours, *please place your payment (\$5 each) in a special offering envelope, marked 'T-Shirts'.*

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

We will receive a special **Second Sunday Offering** on May 13th for the Building Fund.

Please give information for the June Glad Tidings newsletter to Chrissy Chandler or Pastor Ruth Ann by Friday, May 25th.

May Events:

We will be hosting the **Spring Conference Meeting** for the Rowan and Cabarrus/Stanly Conferences on Tuesday, May 1, beginning with light refreshments at 6:00 p.m. Pastors and voting members for the NC Synod Assembly from congregations in these counties are expected to attend this information meeting; but everyone is invited. *Please talk with Pastor Ruth Ann or Marilyn Robertson if you can help with refreshments.*

Weekly Bible study on the Acts of the Apostles continues this month. We meet here on Tuesday evenings (May 8 thru 22) at 7:00 p.m. and Wednesday afternoons (May 2 thru 23) at 12:45 p.m. after Midweek Prayer. There is also another session on Tuesday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's. *Please join us for one of these opportunities to study the word and learn about the early Christian church together!*

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. Bring a bag lunch and stay for a time of fellowship!*



Members of Mt. Zion will provide the evening meal for **Community Inn** on May 6.

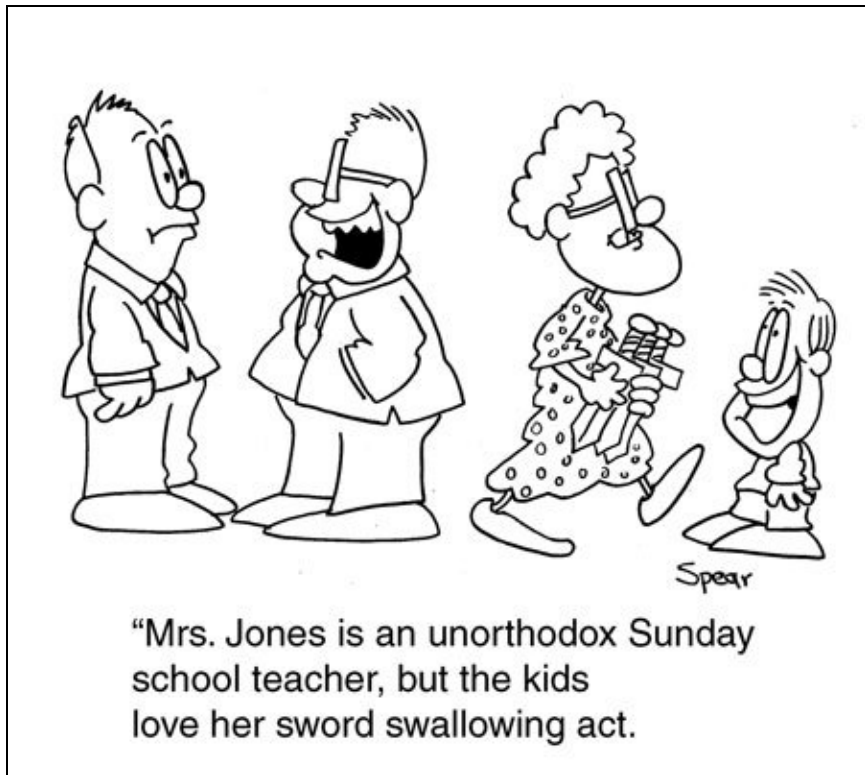
Handbells will rehearse on Wednesday nights, May 9 and May 23 at 5:30 p.m. **Choir** practice will follow at 6:00 p.m.



Congregation council will meet Sunday morning, May 13. Breakfast begins at 7:00 a.m. and the meeting begins at 7:30 a.m.

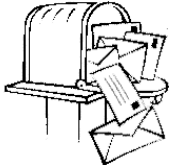


will meet Monday, May 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the church.



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FROM THE MAILBOX



Thanks from the Rev. Jim Allred for the opportunity to preach on April 8 and for the generous support of **Bridge to Recovery** with our Lenten offerings.

God's Work. Our Hands Update

We continue to support many ministries through our donations of everything from quarters to rags! *Check out the jars, boxes, and baskets in the fellowship hall and narthex to see the ministries we support.* Here are just a few recent updates:

Our final Backpack Buddies delivery to North Stanly Middle School for the 2017-18 school year will be May 25. Thanks to everyone who helps pack these bags, and those who support this program through donations of cash and food items.

The latest newsletter from **Homes of Hope** included a list of needed items. The list includes: Disinfectant spray, disinfectant wipes, bottles of water, body wash, and shampoo. *Place donated items in the Homes of Hope box in the fellowship hall.*

The ministries of **Lutheran Services Carolinas** – including services for children, families, senior adults, refugees and immigrants, and disaster response - are celebrated in congregations across the state during the month of May. *Look for more information coming soon!*

**God's Work. Our Hands:
An Update on Kairos**

"I was in prison and you visited me..."
Matthew 25:36

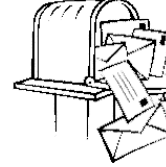


Thanks to all of you for your generous support of this ministry during the past several years! Plans for Kairos #10 at Southern Correctional Institution in Troy were well underway, when the Kairos advisory council learned about significant upcoming changes from the Department of Public Safety. The women currently incarcerated in Troy will soon be relocated to eastern NC, and Southern will be used as a men's facility. That means that the retreat weekend already being planned for this fall will NOT be held. Eventually, most of these women will be moved to Lanesboro Correctional Institution in Polkton. It is possible that the women's Kairos may resume at that location in the future. *For more information about the DPS plans, see <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/article208325554.html>.*



Ask the Pastor will return.
*Please share your questions
with Pastor Ruth Ann
so they can be answered here.*

FROM THE MAILBOX



NOTE: We sent \$350, given in memory of Patsy Johnson, in lieu of postage for Christmas cards delivered within the congregation.



Dear Friends,

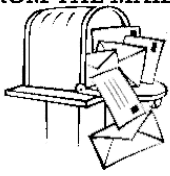
Thank you for your gift to Heifer International. Your generosity means a struggling family will now be able to start earning income to feed their families, improve their shelter, and pay for health care and school for their children.

Before you know it, they'll be so successful that they'll be ready to share with their neighbors as they Pass on the Gift, and the simple act of giving an animal will go on to help an entire community. You can share in their joy as they share the offspring of their animals, their knowledge, resources, and skills with others, in an expanding network of hope, dignity, and self-reliance.

That's the power of your support! You are helping us bring lasting change to some of the poorest places on the planet. We couldn't do it without you. Thank you for joining with us!

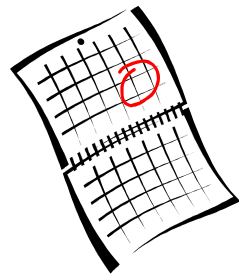
Sincerely,
Pierre U. Ferrari
Pierre U. Ferrari
President and CEO
Heifer International

FROM THE MAILBOX



THANK YOU FOR ALL THE PRAYERS & CARDS FOR ME & BONNIE DURING MY LUNG TRANSPLANT. IT WENT WELL BECAUSE OF THE ALL THE PRAYERS. PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR NO COMPLICATIONS WITH MY NEW LUNG.

THANK YOU,
LAMAR AND BONNIE MOORE



Coming Events –
Mark your calendar now!

Our next Give and Take Event is planned for June 16. *You may bring items now and place them in the room next to the computer room.*



New on the Bulletin Board:

The April 2018 **Hope Update** from **Homes of Hope**.

The **2018 Spring Update** from **Christian Tours**.

Community Events:

The **Pork Barbecue Benefit for Carter Blake** will be held Friday, May 4 from 11:00 a.m. until, at both Palestine United Methodist Church and West Albemarle Baptist. Plates are \$8 each and delivery is available for (5) or more plates. We have also been asked if we can provide pound cakes (by May 2) for this event. *If you can provide a cake, please sign up on the clipboard in the front pew.* A delivery order form for this event is also available in the front pew.



It's Time for Homes of Hope's Spring
HEARTY BREAKFAST
FUNDRAISER

Friday, May 4
6:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
Central United Methodist Church
172 N. Second Street, Albemarle

Enjoy a hearty breakfast of:

- | | | |
|----------------|----------|----------|
| Scrambled Eggs | Cereal | Bacon |
| Grits | Biscuits | Pancakes |
| Gravy | Sausage | Juice |
| | | Coffee |

Donations accepted!



Enjoy dinner at the Rosebriar Restaurant on Friday, June 1 and support Crisis Assistance Fund! Look for more details soon.

From the Pastor

*As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you;
abide in my love.*

John 15:9

On nearly every Sunday of this Easter season, we will read a passage from the Gospel according to John. Along with descriptions of Jesus as the Good Shepherd and the True Vine, we hear two words echoing again and again in these passages: abide and love.

We have all probably heard enough sermons on this love - *agape* in Greek – to know that it is not just the sometimes-fickle human feeling of being ‘in love,’ but God’s abundant and lasting love for all the world, shown to us in the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ that is discussed in these passages. In our lives, it is shown most clearly through our actions, rather than our words. It is challenging enough for us to comprehend, much less to do!

The word we may struggle with even more in these passages is abide. *Meno* in Greek, it is often translated in scripture as remain or dwell. According to the **Merriam-Webster Dictionary**, to abide is to bear patiently, to endure, to await, or to continue. We might say that it means to ‘hang around’ or ‘stay put’! In **The Message**, Eugene Peterson translates this verse: “*I’ve loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love.*”

I invite you to make yourself at home both in God’s love and in Jesus’ words this season. Take time to read Chapters 15 through 17 of John’s gospel again in preparation for these weeks – not just for worship on Sunday morning, but for life at work, at school, and at home Monday through Saturday, too.

In the words of an ancient hymn:

*“Where true charity and love abide, God is dwelling there.”
Ubi Caritas et Amor, ELW # 653)*

May you let love and charity remain in your hearts and lives and know that God is certainly present.

In Christ’s love,
Pastor Ruth Ann



Simply fill a grocery bag with staple food items and place it at your mailbox on Saturday, May 12! Donations in our area will go Stanly Community Christian Ministry to help feed our neighbors in need! The most needed items are canned vegetables, canned pasta meals, mac and cheese, canned meats (tuna and chicken), and soups.

May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Notes: Next Backpack Buddies delivery is May 25		1 6:00 pm Spring Conference Mtg NO Bible Study	2 10:00 am Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 noon Midweek Prayer 12:45 pm Bible Study	3	4 3:00 pm Pastor's Office Hours	5
6 6th Sunday in Easter 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion 6:30 pm Community Inn Meal	7 <i>Pastor Ruth Ann at</i>	8 7:00 pm Bible Study <i>Continuing Ed Retreat</i>	9 10:00 am Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 noon Midweek Prayer 12:45 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Choir	10 Ascension of our Lord	11 3:00 pm Pastor's Office Hours	12
13 7th Sunday in Easter 7:00 am Council Breakfast 7:30 am Council Meeting 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship Service	14 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 7:30 pm WELCA	15 7:00 pm Bible Study	16 10:00 am Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 noon Midweek Prayer 12:45 pm Bible Study	17	18 3:00 pm Pastor's Office Hours	19 <i>Fellowship Hall Reserved</i>
20 Day of Pentecost 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion	21 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	22 7:00 pm Bible Study	23 10:00 am Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 noon Midweek Prayer 12:45 pm Bible Study 5:30 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Civitans Bd Mtg	24 ~ ~ Pastor	25 <i>June Newsletter Information Due</i> Ruth Ann on vacation	26 through Wednesday ~ ~
27 The Holy Trinity 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion ~ ~ Pastor Ruth	28 Memorial Day Ann on vacation	29 NO Bible Study through Wednesday	30 12:00 noon Midweek Prayer NO Bible Study ~ ~	31 ~ ~ Pastor Ruth Ann	June 1 & 2 at Pre-Assembly Event & NC Synod Assembly ~ ~	