

Lutheran Church

CIC NEWS

April 2022

Serving the Lake Norman area since 1977

A newsletter published for the members and friends of Community In Christ Lutheran Church, 7621 Norman Island Drive, Cornelius, NC 28031704-892-0120 email: swheeler@communityinchrist.net www.communityinchrist.org



Alleluia! Christ is Risen.

1But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. 2They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3but when they went in, they did not find the body. 4While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. 5The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. 6Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." 8Then they remembered his words, 9and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. 10Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. 11But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened. ~Luke 24:1-12

The resurrection accounts in the gospels are full of theatrical elements enhanced by our knowledge of the story's end. We recognize Jesus and know that the angels' resurrection message is true even when the disciples do not. In Luke's account, the women find the tomb empty, are "terrified," then are told by two men in "dazzling clothes" that their Lord "has risen." Sometimes Christ's light is dazzlingly obvious and sometimes it seems a little confusing. It can be helpful at times to set aside our knowledge of the end of the story to remember the unexpectedness of that first Easter morning. The risen Christ still meets us where we least expect him. Sometimes, we may not immediately recognize Jesus' presence, but if we take a moment to look around, then we realize we see him everywhere in our midst.

We have heard about Christ's dazzling light in people's lives throughout the season of Lent. From our midweek speakers, we have continually heard about Christ's presence in their lives in big and small ways ... and how, sometimes, it took them a little while to realize the light really was Jesus working in their lives. It's made us stop and think throughout the month where we see Jesus in interesting places, perhaps where we aren't always expecting him.

We've seen Jesus in hand sanitizer. Keeping ourselves and one another healthy is an act of love for ourselves and others. Having hand sanitizer allows us the opportunity to practice that love as we continue to gather anew in Christian community to share in worship, coffee and fellowship, and relationship with one another.

We've seen Jesus in plastic bags. Throughout Lent, thousands of plastic zip bags were gifted to support Angels & Sparrows Community Table. Having those supplies handy, allows the organization to focus on preparing nutritious meals for those in need of their daily bread.

We've seen Jesus in introductions. With two services, an extended pandemic, and a re-locating working community, saying "Hello, my name is _____" is an act of hospitality in helping all feel welcome as they enter into an intentional time of worship living in the promise of Christ's life, death, and resurrection.

We've seen Jesus in softball games. We live in the gift of creation with others enjoying camaraderie, fun, and a common bond who is at the center of what brings us together. In support, cheers, and concern for our own team and the other, we give thanks that Jesus introduces us to others in fun ways who are living out the kingdom here on earth.

Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of Jesus' female followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection. In Jesus' resurrection, it may not be immediately clear to us where Jesus is, but if we look closely, we will recognize Jesus' presence in interesting places.

In hand sanitizer and ziplocks, in introductions and welcomes, in big hits and catches, in joy and in sadness, in strength and in weakness, in hope and in fear ... Christ comes among us in and through so many things, turning our work into worship, our wailing into dancing, and our mourning into rejoicing. Christ's light shines! Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Michael & Pastor Lisa

Office & Staff Information

We encourage calling and emailing to schedule appointments.

Pastor Lisa – pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net

Pastor Michael – pastormichael@communityinchrist.net

Stephanie Wheeler, Church Administrator – swheeler@communityinchrist.net

Sandy Barefoot, Director of Music Ministries – sandy@communityinchrist.net

Finance - Madalyn Wilkinson—financedirector@communityinchrist.net



Ways to Give of Tithes and Offerings at CIC:

- 1. Online/Direct Withdrawal
- A. Go to www.communityinchrist.org & click on the "donate now" button in the upper right-hand corner.
- B. Select "Create Profile"
- C. Provide your email address
- D. Create your profile and provide the various pieces of information. Once your profile is created, you can select what types of giving you would like sign-up for.
- *When considering this option, please note that church incurs an additional service charge for credit card fees.
- **2. Mail In:** We have a locked mailbox at CIC that is checked frequently. CIC's address is 7621 Norman Island Drive, Cornelius, NC 28031
- **3. Offering Plate:** The ushers provide a contact-free opportunity for you to place your offering in the offering plate during worship.

Stock Account—Have you ever thought about giving the gift of stocks, mutual funds, or IRAs? CIC has a resource available through Thrivent Financial to transfer these funds to the church into a charitable, tax-free gift account. If you would like to learn more about this possibility or have questions please contact Gary Samuelson (704-506-3234) and/or Madalyn Wilkinson at financedirector@communityinchrist.net.

Easter Plants



This year our Easter plants will be a variety of Spring plants. If you would like to order one (or more) please fill out the form in the Sunday bulletin or call or email the church office to place your order. Plants are \$10 each and will be available to take home

Easter Sunday after the last service or during the week, Tuesday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. Please order by April 10th.



Over the last several Sundays, you have heard the news about the Lutheran Services Carolinas Be The Light campaign. We have learned about three significant unmet needs in North Carolinas and LSC's plans to address those needs. We hope you will join us in supporting the campaign. If you have not been able to watch the campaign video, please go to https://lscarolinas.net/be-the-light and you will find the video on the campaign page.

Prayers

Prayers for Members: Gary Salzman, Suzette Iskander, Jim Carney, Joan Garn, Renate Von Dohlen, Lee Tillman, Janet Shuping, Dane Horna, Susan Hill, Betty Classey, Don Snyder, Louanne Schweitzer, Pat Hamby, Luther Beaver, Chuck Decker, Gregg Bottemiller, Lucy Price, Joyce Phelps, Blaire Hart

Prayers for friends & relatives of members: Gary Finlay Jr. (Deborah Lowe's cousin); Dana Heidelberger (friend of Pat & Scott Wood); Linda Wallace (Melissa Martucci's mother); Margaret Orendorff (Diana Elsass's mother); Volosin Family (extended family of Diana Elsass); Sam Fair (Deborah Lowe's nephew)

Prayers for all active duty military personnel and their families, healthcare workers, first responders and public servants (Community In Christ thanks you and continues to pray for you)

The Lay Pastors meet monthly to pray for all people on the list. They also send out cards letting them know they have been prayed for. Please provide addresses to send the cards. Please submit all prayer requests to the office at 704-892-020 or swheeler@communityinchrist.net.



Things to take note of:

Tuesday Morning CIC Bible Study: Join the weekly Bible Study that meets in the narthex on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Please note that there will be NO Bible Study on Tuesday, April 19th.



Help Wanted!: The Coffee Cart is looking for hosts! Contact Carol Moser to learn more or sign-up at cbmoser@aol.com.

Usher and A/V Teams: Are you interested in learning more about being a worship usher or about what role you could play on the A/V team? Both groups are looking for more volunteers to add to the rotation. Contact Pastor Michael, pastormichael@communityinchrist.net, if you'd like to learn more!

Volunteers Needed for Altar Guild: Let the church office know if you are interested in becoming an Altar Guild volunteer. Contact Stephanie Wheeler at swheeler@communityinchrist.net.

Softball: CIC's softball season has started out strong! (And most players' muscles and joints are strongly reminding them that it's been a few years since the last season!) The team's remaining known schedule is Sundays, April 3rd at 4 p.m., April 10th at 3 p.m., and April 24th at 4 p.m. Play offs begin May 1st. Watch Take Twos and Worship Announcements for game updates as more information is made known. All games are played at North Mecklenburg Park! Come join the fun on the field or on the bleachers!

March Madness Bracket Challenge: March Madness has proven to be madness! While positions in the CIC Bracket Challenge have had some jockeying for the top spots amid the runs and upsets, the top three positions going into the Final Four weekend in April are: 1- Luka Schoen, 2- Chris Spano, and tied for 3rd are: Shari Gomilla and Dean Miller. Good luck and congratulations to the leaders of the brackets and to the teams for championing into April!



Big Red Bus: A Thank You from One Blood: We value our partnership with CIC and thank you for all you do as the chairperson to help make the blood drive a success. We are pleased to share with you that the recent blood drive resulted in 7 units of blood. Remember, each donation can save up to three lives so that means 21 patients could benefit from the lifesaving efforts of blood donors at. Please pass along our gratitude for their lifesaving efforts. One Blood's Big Red Bus will be returning to CIC on Sunday, June 12th.

Save the Date: Annual Meeting: CIC's Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, May 15th. Documents for review will be distributed in the weeks closer to that date.

Office Update:

- ⇒ Office Administrator, Stephanie Wheeler, will be in the office from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday, April 4th through April 8th.
- ⇒ Please note that the Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 18th.
- ⇒ The pastors will be out of the office April 18th through 25th.

Group Ministry News.....

WELCA



If you are a female member of the Congregation, you are automatically a member of WELCA. We hold Monthly meetings at the church on the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Our current study material is "Bible Women, All Their Words And Why They Matter" by Lindsay Hardin Freeman.

The April meeting will held on Monday, April 11th, at 6:30 p.m.. At this time we have no study leader for April or May, if you would like to volunteer please contact Laverne at 704-576-8675 for additional information. I can arrange to get the study book to you.

Let's H

Happy Time Luncheon

Happy Times seniors April luncheon will be hosted by Pat & Scott Wood at Duckworths Grill & Taphouse located at 16609 Statesville Road, Huntersville, N. C. 28078 (704) 237-4387 at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 20th. RSVP by April 17th to Pat & Scott Wood at 304-707-4506 or otolith87@gmail.com. Questions about the group? Contact Ron Major at 704-622-0517 or HunterRon35@hotmail.com.

CIC Prayer Shawl Ministry



The CIC Prayer Shawl Ministry prayerfully weaves God's love and peace into hand crafted shawls, scarves, hats, blankets and prayer cloths for those in need. If you like to knit or crochet, or would like to learn how, please join us! The group and its activities are open to all CIC members, friends, and visitors regardless of age or ability. Join us and share in this ministry! Just contact Kathy Dutton at mamabissy@gmail.com

In April, we will be making fleece blankets for CIC's graduating seniors, while we continue to focus on building our supplies of prayer shawls, baby blankets, and hat/scarf sets for those in need.

We will continue to meet in person in the CIC Spirit Center on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 pm. Plan to join us if you can for some fellowship, idea-sharing, and fun! If you are interested in coming to the in-person meetings, please contact Kathy Dutton and she will send you the necessary information. Of course, you can also participate in this important ministry at home by crafting items, and bringing them to CIC.



Card Ministry News

We'd love for you to join the card ministry team! No experience necessary! The CIC Card Ministry creates cards that serve as physical reminders of God's love, support and presence in our lives.

We will meet twice in April: Tuesday, April 12th, at 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, April 26th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Spirit Center. Participants are asked to enter through the doors nearest the Spirit Center. Need more information? Contact: Kathy Shugarman at shugs02@gmail.com or 940-300-2290. Thank you to everyone who supports the card ministry through your prayers, working hands and purchasing cards.

April Grocery Cart Collection



Angels & Sparrows is a Community Table and Resource Center for families and individuals who need assistance with food, health, education, housing, finances, and more. Thank you to everyone who is helping support Angels and Sparrows through our grocery cart collections. During the month of April we will be collecting POTATOES. Russet, Red and Yukon Gold are the requested varieties. While you're out shopping this month why not pick up a bag or two of potatoes to put in the CIC grocery cart. The potato race is on.....which variety will be the favorite?



Preschool, Sunday School & Youth News:

Preschool Registration for the 2022/2023 School Year Is Open!

- \Rightarrow Tuition for 2022/2023: \$270.00 for 2-year-old and 3-year-old students and \$305.00 for 4-year-old, PK and TK students.
- \Rightarrow There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$75 due at the time of enrollment.
- ⇒ Child must be classroom age by August 31st, 2022 or by December 31st, 2022 for the TK class
- ⇒ To schedule a tour contact Sharon Fuller at 704-892-0120 ext 104 or (<u>sfuller9564@gmail.com</u>.)
- ⇒ Visit our website for the link to the registration form—Communityinchrist.org click Youth tab click Weekday Preschool. Link to registration form *here*.

Our February Little Free Library Book Drive Was A Sucess!!!!

On March 6th the Sunday School students did a fantastic job of writing Thank You notes and putting CIC stickers inside over 300 books. They then organized them so it will be easy to select a variety of books for the LFLs. Our generous CIC family and friends donated a total of 890 books for this outreach project. The Ada Jenkins Center LFL will be overflowing for months, as will the LFL located in our parking lot. Thank you so much for your support.

Sunday School Schedule:

Children's Sunday School



April 3rd – PreK-1st Grade: Spirit Center; 2nd-5th Grade Fellowship Hall April 10th – PreK-1st Grade: Spirit Center; 2nd-5th Grade Fellowship Hall

April 17th – Easter Egg Hunt starting at around 10:15 a.m.! Meet by the ark!

April 24th – PreK-1st Grade: Spirit Center; 2nd-5th Grade Fellowship Hall

First Communion Instruction:

The final First Communion Education class takes place on Sunday, April 10th following the second service. Continue to work on your at-home activities as well as chalice and paten making before this upcoming class. First Communion takes place on Thursday, April 14th at the 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday worship service.



First Communion

Having received instruction on God's gift of grace and learning how God shares love with us in this meal, the following youth will celebrate Holy Communion together on Maundy Thursday, April 14th, and in the weeks following.

Bryce Beery Wyatt Cunningham Hannah English Abigail Forsythe Wyatt Nadeau Elsa Schulhaus

The apostle Paul writes "I pray that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." ~Ephesians 3:17-19

Confirmation:

Confirmation students continue working on their Lenten Projects of "taking something on" service project and memorization work.

Senior High:

- \Rightarrow Stay tuned for an upcoming volunteer opportunity at Angels & Sparrows! Date and time are being finalized.
- ⇒ Summer Mission Trip: 5 Youth from CIC will be attending Lutherock's Boundless Adventure July 24th 30th.



TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED FOR A QUEST TO

ADVENTURE ISLAND!

July 31-August 4

We need you to join us on our way To Discovery on Adventure Island VBS! Please prayerfully consider Joining us as we explore the Quest for God's Great Light!

Roles Available:

Station Leaders: Lead one of the stations the Explorers will visit each day.

Station Assistants: Lend a helping hand to the Station Leader

Island Guides: Greet and Shepherd your group of Explorers safely between stations while building a strong bond with them.

Island Volunteers: Help out in any way you can...even from home.

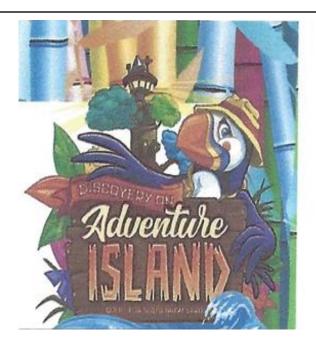
Decoration Volunteers: Lend helping hands to the Decoration Chief

CONTACT: Kathy Shugarman at shugs02@gmail.com
OR

Suzi Hinrichs at <u>suzihinrichs@gmail.com</u>

To sign up for opportunities to serve, lead, and most of all, HAVE FUN at Discovery on Adventure Island!

Arise! Shine! Your light has come: the LORD'S glory has shone upon youth (Isaiah 60:1)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL-SAVE THE DATE

Discovery on Adventure Island will take place Sunday, July 31 through Thursday August 5, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Children 4 years old through 5th grade are invited to join the Quest for God's Great Light.

Registration will open on May 1, 2022.



Agapé Day Camp

Agapé Day Camp is coming to CIC, June 20-24! Agapé Kure Beach Ministries counselors travel to bring outdoor ministries to us. The camp runs 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mon through Thurs and 9 a.m. to Noon on Fri, June 21-25, at CIC and is for youth entering grades 1 to 5 in the 2022-2023 school year. Cost is \$150 and can be paid on the church website or in a check written out to CIC with "Agapé Day Camp" in the memo line.

This year's theme is: Boundless! The camp will explore boundless Goodness, Love, Welcome, Forgiveness and Generosity that God has for all of us! More information will be available throughout the Spring.

Contact Pastor Lisa with questions or for a registration form, pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net. Invite a friend!

The registration form can be found here:

https://www.communityinchrist.org/files/ugd/9a405d a149934f4e634c54937ccab7ad8934a9.pdf



Be part of the first Synod Gathering, EVER!

Bring a group from your congregation

ALL are welcome to attend. Come for one, two, or all three days!

Learn More at: nclutheran.org/event/2022-synod-gathering/ Register by April 26 and SAVE!



Keynote Speaker, Dr. Jacqueline Bussie, author of Love without Limits



Preaching Thursday, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton



Preaching Friday, the Rev. CeCee Mills, NC Synod Asst. to the Bishop



Preaching Saturday, the Rev. Tim Smith, Bishop, NC Synod

50th Anniversary (+2) Celebration of the Ordination of Women Worship, Fellowship, Learning Opportunities, and More

Event Location: Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory, NC

You're invited to the NC Synod's first ever Synod Gathering! In an every other year rotation with Synod Assembly, Synod Gathering is all the worship, learning, fellowship, and faith formation found within Assembly but without any of the business meetings. Congregations don't have assigned delegates. Everyone is welcome and invited to attend all or parts of the Assembly. Varying registration rates reflect time spent at the Gathering. For more information, click on the Synod's link: 2022 Synod Gathering - North Carolina Synod (nclutheran.org)

From the Finance Team

In February offerings came in at \$35,557. YTD our financial gifts are at \$327,130, which is 6% behind Budget. Our operating results are being bolstered by solid performance from the Preschool (registration for summer camps and the next school year are going strong). Expense items of interest: We had a broken pipe near the Ark, which led to a higher utility bill and cost of repair. Also, our electricity bill was higher again due to cold weather usage. This is typical at this time of year. The church van needed to be towed to have a dead battery replaced. It also required the annual inspection and registration. Finally, we had an annual inspection and maintenance of our Fire/Security system. Additionally, we paid for the installation of artificial turf in the Preschool area (covered by the Capital/Emergency account), new gutters, and removal of sick trees (covered by Prior Year IN funds). YTD we still show an Operating Surplus of \$7,893. ~Madalyn Wilkinson, Director of Finance.

Office Communication Please be in touch with Stephanie in the church office (swheeler@communityinchrist.net) about the following:

- If you read the newsletter online and prefer that it no longer be mailed to your physical address.
- If you have switched to giving primarily through digital means and no longer have a need for physical envelopes.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR CREDIT CARD EXPIRATION DATE IF YOU ARE SET UP FOR AUTO DEDUCTION ON OUR WEBSITE.

Community in Christ Lutheran Church Ministry Plan Revenue		Jul21-Jun22 Budget			% of Budget
				b22 Actual	
Revenue	\$	532,500	\$	327,130	61%
Operating Budget offerings				2.58	
Other Revenue	\$	185,898	\$	152,274	82%
Facility Usage, Preschool tuition and fees, Bank interest, PPP loan					
Total Revenues	\$	718,398	\$	479,404	67%
Expenses			101		
Worship	\$	2,425	\$	2,988	123%
altar supplies, devotionals, substitute pastors		10.00		200	
Witness	\$	1,870	\$	504	27%
offering envelopes, family life, evangelism, giving garden					
Serve	\$	53,250	\$	33,395	63%
Synod benevolence					
Administration	\$	41,337	\$	44,100	107%
computer software, copier lease, insurance, internet, postage, office					
supplies, telephone, payroll service, credit card fee, ERC processing fees					
Mortgage	\$	80,424	\$	53,616	67%
principal and interest on mortgage					
Property	\$	55,234	\$	39,988	72%
building maintenance, janitorial services, utilities, lawn care, fire/security					
alarms, exterminating, floor/carpet cleaning					
Staff	\$	323,008	\$	203,218	63%
salaries, taxes, and benefits for four full-time and two part-time					
employees; staff development					
Music Ministries	\$	4,409	\$	3,096	70%
guest artists, music for choirs, copyright fees					
Youth Ministries	\$	9,525	\$	1,423	15%
youth mission trips, retreats, activities, VBS, Sunday school, campfirmation					
Preschool	\$	146,909	\$	89,184	61%
activities, supplies, maintenance					
Total Expenses	\$	718,391	\$	471,511	66%
Budget Surplus			\$	7,893	



Thank you!

to the members of

Community in Christ

of the North Carolina Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

in grateful appreciation for giving

\$53,866.08

for Mission Support beyond the congregation for synod and churchwide ministries of the ELCA

Bishop, North Carolina Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Pastor Michael Beery Bastormichael@communityinchriat.net
Office Administrator, Stephanie Wheeler
(swheeler@communityinchriat.net)
Music Director, Sandy Barefoot (sandy@communityinchriat.net)
Preschool Director, Sandy Barefoot (Schiller9564@gmail.com)
Finance - Madalyn Wilkinson (financedirector@communityinchriat.net)

<u>Staff</u> Pastor Lisa Beery pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net Pastor Michael Beery pastormichael@communityinchrist.ne

Youth
Adult Faith Formation (Mark Myers)
Finance (Madalyn Wilkinson)
Technology (Scott Brooks)
Outreach (Kathy Dutton)
Inviting Ministries
Property (Stephanie Wheeler)
Stewardship
Stewardship
Stewardship
WELCA (Laverne Waskielis)
Stewardship

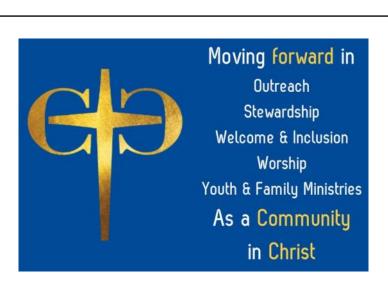
Dean Miller (Treasurer)
Deborah Lowe
Matasha Nadeau (Secretary)
Adam English
Debbie Davidson
Susan Kullstam (President)
Paul Miller (VP)
Paul Handrock

Church Council Team Leaders

7621 Vorman Island Drive Cornelius, MC 28031 I –77, Exit 25 2 miles west on HWY 73 (704) 892-0120 e-mail: swheeler@communityinchrist.net

Community in Christ Lutheran Church

US Postage Paid Mon-Profit Organization Cornelius, NC 28031 Permit #5



Worship Times

9 a.m. & 11 a.m.—Sanctuary

Livestreamed on Facebook & YouTube

Please note that announcements for the bulletin, newsletter and Facebook pages are for church related items only. Anything non-related to the church will be deleted. Thank you for adhering to this policy. Submissions for the bulletin must be received in writing to the church office by Thursdays at 10 am. Submissions for the newsletter must be received in writing to the church office by the 20th of the month.

Are you getting our E-Mails?

Each week we send out an e-mail to the congregation sharing what's going on and what's coming up. If you have not been receiving these e-mails, please let us know. Write your e-mail down in the black book and put a note by it asking us to include you in our weekly e-mails. You can also sign up for e-mails at our website. www.communityinchrist.org