



**Community  
In Christ  
Lutheran Church**

# CIC NEWS

February 2025

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 28031 704-892-0120 email: [swheeler@communityinchrist.net](mailto:swheeler@communityinchrist.net) [www.communityinchrist.org](http://www.communityinchrist.org)

## Worship Update

**All Sundays in February** have the schedule of two services.  
9 a.m. Contemporary (livestream) & 11 a.m. Traditional with Sunday School  
and Fellowship between services.

### **Looking Ahead – Mark your calendars!**

Lent begins on the first Wednesday in March this year. Ash Wednesday is March 5th !



### **Sunday, February 2nd & 9th - Souper Bowl of Caring**

What is Souper Bowl of Caring? It's an annual event where communities come together, inspired by the Super Bowl, to tackle hunger locally. For over three decades, the Souper Bowl of Caring has empowered individuals, organizations, and schools to raise food and funds for food banks and community-based charities. Tackle Hunger is a national nonprofit that mobilizes communities across the U.S. to fight food insecurity through its grassroots, youth-driven fundraising events that support any local food charity. Since its humble beginnings in 1990, the organization has raised over \$198 million in food and funds, directly benefiting local hunger-relief charities. On Sundays, February 2nd and 9th, a special offering will be collected as we'll be participating in Souper Bowl of Caring for Angels & Sparrows in Huntersville. How does it work? Three "soup bowls" will be in the narthex on February 2nd and 9th. Place your donation in the bowl of the team you would like to win or are predicting will win this year's Super Bowl. An update on which team is in the lead will be given between Sundays. You can choose to place your donation in one of the Super Bowl "teams" bowls. Whether you will be cheering for either the *Philadelphia Eagles*, the *Kansas City Chiefs*, the *Commercials*, Angels & Sparrows is an organization we can all get behind! \*We encourage check and cash donations when possible to help our counters. An online option is available until the morning of Monday, February 10th, on the "Donate Now" button on the church website. Thank you!



## From the Pastors.....

*Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you drink, or a stranger and welcomed you...? Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me.'* -Matthew 25:39-40

1727. That was the year Nicholas Beery immigrated to Pennsylvania from Switzerland. Like so many who have journeyed to America, Nicholas and his family didn't exactly come here by choice. No, they left luscious farm land and vibrant, loving communities out of pure necessity. They were persecuted. At that time, the Beerys (or Bieris) were Mennonites and because of their understanding of the teachings of the New Testament, they would not participate in the military nor would they take any oaths of allegiance to the Swiss government. These views, as well as numerous others, conflicted with the Reformed Church which was the predominant religion of that region of Europe. As such, the Mennonite community became subject to a deprivation of their rights—there were arrests, imprisonments, heavy fines, forced military service, and eventually all businesses, farms, and property were confiscated by the government. The Beerys and their friends and neighbors became homeless.

After several short stays in places around Europe, Nicholas and many from his community had the opportunity to come to America. Grateful for that chance, he, his family, and hundreds of others boarded a ship called the Friendship and set sail for what they hoped to be a fresh start.

The Beerys first settled into life in Pennsylvania but, over time, Nicholas' people gravitated westward to the great land of OHIO and, after a period of intermingling with largely German communities, many converted to Lutheranism. That's a very abbreviated retelling of part of Pastor Michael's family history—if you're curious about hearing more, you know he'd be more than happy to fill you in later.

Pastor Lisa's family's immigration story(s) isn't all that different from Pastor Michael's ... except they are overwhelmingly Scandinavian and in the late 1800s. These stories probably aren't all that different from many of yours. Whether forced to immigrate or trying to escape extreme poverty and stagnate futures, many of your American origins have "Nicholas Beery" undertones.

In the most optimal of situations, today's immigrants and refugees would probably choose to stay with their families, in their communities, in their countries...but for the vast majority of them, they don't have a choice. Out of necessity, they are fleeing.

It's a disheartening, yet familiar pattern. A pattern many of our ancestors have experienced. A pattern our God has even experienced. You may recall that shortly after Jesus' birth, Joseph took the Holy Family to Egypt to escape from a massacre brought on by King Herod. They needed safety that could not be found within their homeland and they found that shelter through a neighbor.

When it comes to immigration and refugees, God gets it. God understands the desperation. God understands the fear. God understands the need. That's why it should come to no surprise that one of the most repeated commands throughout scripture is for us to welcome—welcome the "stranger" or welcome the "other..." For those people that seemingly have no place of their own we are to do what we can to give them a place.

Lutherans, who have predominantly come to the United States through waves of immigration from Europe, have placed this command of welcome as a paramount practice in our faith. Currently, Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) is the second largest resettlement agency in the U.S. Since World War II, Global Refuge has helped nearly a million immigrants and refugees rebuild their lives!

It certainly appears that this sacred work of welcoming is going to be much more difficult for us to participate in, at least from a national level. There are a range of challenges currently happening, however, one of the most pressing involves caring for immigrants who have recently entered the United States. These are individuals and families who have gone through a thorough vetting process (sometimes taking multiple years) and are legally in the U.S. at the invitation of the government. Federal funding to aid in their transition and integration into life here has been frozen. This jeopardizes and hinders their ability to receive ESL classes, employment training, school tutoring, and extended cultural orientation which will help them in thriving in life in this new home. And, these are people we have already been assisting by participating in LSC's New Americans program.

All of this, again, makes us think of Nicholas Beery. Nicholas' entry into America in 1727 occurred long before Lady Liberty was stationed off our shore inviting the tired, poor, homeless, huddled masses who were, "yearning to breathe free." Even still, I can't help but wonder, "What would life be like for us if we were not welcomed here?" What would life be like for you if your family were not welcomed here?

Now, if your current concern with immigration/refugees is with the safety surrounding who is allowed entrance into the country and who is not, we commend to you a few resources and additional items to ponder:

This concise video offers insight into how people are entered into the refugee status process. Here's the [LINK](#).



Lutheran Services Carolinas is the “boots on the ground” doing this work of welcome in the Carolinas. Since October, LSC has welcomed 400 refugees to North and South Carolina. LSC is able to continue serving these newly arrived neighbors using donated dollars only. Follow the link to contribute to this ministry or to learn more about legal refugee status and the ways LSC is able to help over 80% of the families become self-sustaining within 6 months of arriving in the U.S. Here's the [LINK](#).



After almost 300 years since Nicholas Beery's arrival to America, there's really no way of telling how Nicholas' neighbors treated him upon his arrival. If history is any indication, he and his family were likely, sadly, not overwhelmingly greeted with “open arms.” Regardless, Nicholas, as well as all our ancestors, still received entry into the “golden door” of Lady Liberty. And, in time, they also came to experience the love, joy, compassion, and freedom that the United States has striven to offer.

That's at least how our story goes. And that's probably quite similar to how many at CIC's story goes, too. The question is, what about their story? What about the current immigrants and refugees who are fleeing whatever horrible things they've desperately tried to get away from? What about them?

God calls us to be a welcoming people—to reach out to the lost, to the vulnerable, to the “other,” to those that need “a place.” There have always been obstacles to overcome in order to follow this command. Whatever those obstacles may be, it doesn't change what we're called to do. And, remember, whenever we do welcome others in such a way, we not only care for our many neighbors, we care for Christ himself.

God's peace be with you,

Pastor Michael & Pastor Lisa

### Office & Staff Information

We encourage calling and emailing to schedule appointments.

Pastor Lisa – [pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net](mailto:pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net)

Pastor Michael – [pastormichael@communityinchrist.net](mailto:pastormichael@communityinchrist.net)

Stephanie Wheeler, Church Administrator (Notary services available)– [swheeler@communityinchrist.net](mailto:swheeler@communityinchrist.net)

Finance, Madalyn Wilkinson—[financedirector@communityinchrist.net](mailto:financedirector@communityinchrist.net)

Music, Sherry Malia—[musicdirector@communityinchrist.net](mailto:musicdirector@communityinchrist.net)

Preschool Director, Sharon Fuller—[sfuller9564@gmail.com](mailto:sfuller9564@gmail.com)

### Office Update

- ⇒ **Director of Music**, Sherry Malia, will be out of the office, 2/17 through 2/19.
- ⇒ **Office Administrator**, Stephanie Wheeler, will be out of the office for a week and half beginning 2/26. Please reach out to her about any end of the month February or beginning of the month of March needs before that date.
- ⇒ **The staff** of CIC would like to offer our gratitude and thanksgiving to you for thinking of us during the Christmas season! Thank you for contributing to the staff Christmas gift, for your ongoing partnership with each of us, and for all of your many gifts you share not only at Christmas but throughout the whole year! ~Pastor Lisa, Pastor Michael, Sherry Malia, Madalyn Wilkinson, and Stephanie Wheeler~

## Ways to Give of Tithes and Offerings at CIC:



### 1. Online/Direct Withdrawal

- A. Go to [www.communityinchrist.org](http://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 debit and 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 an opportunity for you to place your offering in the offering plate during worship.

**4. Are you a Thrivent Financial member?** You may be eligible to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars to enrolled non-profits that you care about – including our church! Feel free to contact your Thrivent agent to check your eligibility! We appreciate your support of CIC’s ministry through Choice Dollars! **Undesignated 2024 Choice Dollars can be designated until the end of March 2025! Be sure to check your accounts!**

**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](mailto:financedirector@communityinchrist.net).

**Office Communication:** Please be in touch with Stephanie in the church office ([swheeler@communityinchrist.net](mailto: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.**



### Prayers

**Prayers for Members:** Gary Salzman, Suzette Iskander, Janet Shuping, Betty Classey, Gregg Bottemiller, Lucy Price, Joyce Phelps, Shirley McNeilis, Blaire Hart, Warren Hamby, Anne Randolph, John Iverson, Ron Major, Ron Raper, Deb Myers, Karen Frank, Bill Rockwood, Brenda Tripathi, Woody Barefoot, Carl Yost, Scott Wood, Rosalind Greenberg, Judi LaBuda, Bob Shugarman, Mary Anne Merkel, Dane Horna, Chuck Haley, Mary Beth Ball, J.J. McNeilis, Gary Kautz, Don Elsass, Linda Snyder, Alice Ritter

**Prayers for friends & relatives of members:** *With the beginning of the new year the prayer list has been cleared. If you would like someone to remain on the list please let the office know. Thank you!*

Jon Hearn (friend of Jim and Robin Konieczny), Scott Babcock (friend of Bob Shugarman), Barbara Elsass (family of Diana Elsass), Nancy Short (Rod Short’s mother), Dorothy Hoefflinger (Friend of Ed Bauer), Matt Woodell (Carol Moser’s cousin’s son-in-law), Joyce Kelly (Stelly Ryan’s sister)

*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: 704-892-020 or [swheeler@communityinchrist.net](mailto:swheeler@communityinchrist.net).*

## Group Ministry News.....

**Tuesday Morning CIC Bible Study:** Tuesday Morning Bible Study meets at 10:30 a.m. in the Narthex.

**February Grocery Cart:** In lieu of collecting physical items in the grocery cart during February we will be supporting Angels and Sparrows through the Souper Bowl of Caring collection. Please see Souper Bowl of Caring article for further details. Thank you for your continued support to our grocery cart collections. Your generosity is making a difference!

**Happy Times Seniors:** We will meet this month on Wednesday, February 19th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Spirit Center at CIC. Linda & Leif Johannesen are our hosts. They are "sharing" their 50th Wedding Anniversary with us! They are providing a luncheon of deli meat wraps and sandwich croissants. Perhaps a pasta salad of sorts and chips. Deserts and provide bottled water and sweet tea (possible substitutions). We provide the FUN Please join us! For more information contact Ron Major at 704-622-0517 or [hunterron35@hotmail.com](mailto:hunterron35@hotmail.com).

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Happy New Year!!! The CIC Prayer Shawl Ministry crafts prayer shawls, hats/scarf sets, blankets, and prayer clothes for those in need. If you like to knit or crochet - or would like to learn how - please join us! We could certainly use your help. No experience necessary!!!! The group and its activities are open to all CIC members, friends, and visitors regardless of age or ability. Just contact Kathy Dutton (see email address below) and she will add your name to the group email list and keep you informed. In February we will continue to focus on crafting hats/scarf sets to replenish our supplies for the upcoming winter season. We meet in person at CIC on Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the CIC Parlor, the room with the comfy furniture near the Spirit Center. Plan to join us if you can for some fellowship, idea-sharing, and fun! Of course, you can also participate in this important ministry at home by crafting items, and bringing them to CIC. If you have any questions, or would like more information, contact Kathy Dutton [mamabissy@gmail.com](mailto:mamabissy@gmail.com) or Diana Elsass [dianaelsass@gmail.com](mailto:dianaelsass@gmail.com).

**Card Ministry News:** Why not join the CIC card ministry team, where we create cards that serve as physical reminders of God's love, support and presence in our lives. All are welcome and no experience is needed! We will meet twice in February. We'll be meeting Tuesday, February 11th, at 2:00 p.m. and Tuesday, February 25th, 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 940-300-2290 or [shugs02@gmail.com](mailto:shugs02@gmail.com). Thank you to everyone who supports the card ministry through your prayers, working hands and purchase and sending out our cards.

**Quilting Ministry:** The quilt ministry will meet on Thursday, February 13th & 27th, at 10:00 a.m. in classroom 1. Visitors are welcome. We welcome anyone who can iron, cut or help to tie quilts. Come check us out. Everyone is welcome! Please call Barbara Eaker @ (704) 451-5922 with any questions or suggestions.

**The 5:11s (women's group):** All women of CIC are welcome to The 5:11s. Based upon 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:11, we are a women's group that "encourages one another and builds one another up, just as you are doing." Contact Jill Brooks or Tracy Lyon with any questions at [Jlbrooks@gmail.com](mailto:Jlbrooks@gmail.com) or [vikingtk@hotmail.com](mailto:vikingtk@hotmail.com).

- ⇒ The 5:11s will meet February 16th between services in the Fellowship Hall. Prayer Sister will be exchanged. If you haven't gotten a card, reach out to Frances Horna. You can also leave completed cards in her church box.
- ⇒ Our book study will continue for the month of February. We are reading Love Without Limits by J. Bussie and meet Mondays at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. Anyone is welcome to join at any point. You didn't have to start the book with us to finish it with us!
- ⇒ Galentine's Bunco Game Night is back. Join us Feb. 7th at Marci Langan's house. The fun will start at seven! Please RSVP on church center [community-in-christ-lutheran-church-430595.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2726217](https://community-in-christ-lutheran-church-430595.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2726217)
- ⇒ **Women's Retreat's Retreat, March 14-16, 2025:** We are excited that author, public speaker, professor, and all-around wonderful human being (and Lutheran!), Dr. Jacqueline Bussie, will be our keynote speaker and conversation partner at this year's Women's Retreat. Please try to read "Outlaw Christian" and "Love Without Limits" before the retreat. We will gather at Camp Agape March 14-16, 2025. Cost is \$200 per person. Register on Church Center and pay CIC on the "Donate Now" button or by check with "Women's Retreat" in the memo line.
- ⇒ Camp Agape is located approximately 15 minutes from downtown Fuquay-Varina, NC and 2 1/2 hours from Community in Christ. Questions? Contact Susan Kullstam [skulls01@me.com](mailto:skulls01@me.com) or Pastor Lisa [pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net](mailto:pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net). Camp Agape: [https://agapekurebeach.org/1369 Tyler Dewar Lane, Fuquay-Varina, NC](https://agapekurebeach.org/1369-Tyler-Dewar-Lane,-Fuquay-Varina,-NC)





## Angels & Sparrows Community Table

Our congregation has a long-standing relationship with regularly supporting Angels & Sparrows feeding programs through our grocery cart, Thanksgiving Meal, Souper Bowl of Caring, and committed CIC individual volunteers. In addition to providing nutritional needs, Angels & Sparrows, located in Huntersville off of Old Statesville Rd., also helps individuals with educational needs. They have reached out about two such opportunities starting immediately. If this doesn't work for your Spring schedule, but you would be interested in another season of the year, please talk with Angels & Sparrows about how you can stay informed. If you are interested or have questions, please reach out to Angels & Sparrows directly.

**Looking to share your love of literacy?** Angels & Sparrows' Pathway program has two urgent, but exciting volunteer opportunities available this Spring. Starting January 27th, we will be serving our largest cohort of students to date, and we need additional volunteers to support our impactful efforts.

**Literacy Leads:** We are looking for one volunteer to serve as a Literacy Lead on Tuesday evenings from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Literacy Leads facilitate group reads, discussions, and enrichment activities with a small group of upper elementary students. This is a great opportunity for teachers, librarians, counselors, and anyone looking to share their love of reading with our kids!

Please contact Traci at: [traci@angelsandsparrows.org](mailto:traci@angelsandsparrows.org) for more information.

**Reading Buddies:** Reading Buddies spend one hour each week from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. reading with our youth participants, ages pre-k through 2nd grade.

**\*\*Please note, we always appreciate substitutes if a weekly commitment doesn't work for your schedule\*\***

## Hurricane Helene

Lutherans have been active in Western North Carolina all Fall trying to help those in the area recover and rebuild from Hurricane Helene. If you want regular updates on what our wider church is doing, and seeing glimpses of how you can help, be sure to regularly check the NC Synod's social media accounts and website as well as Lutheran Disaster Response Carolina's Facebook page and blog. Here's just a sampling:

Lutheran Disaster Response was awarded a \$2 million (yes, you read that correctly!) grant from the Emergency and Disaster Response Fund (EDRF) from The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina to support their Bridging Together partnership with Mennonite Disaster Service. For more information about this partnership, visit [www.ldrcarolinas.org/bridging-together/](http://www.ldrcarolinas.org/bridging-together/)

The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina also awarded Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC) a grant of \$25,000 from its Emergency and Disaster Response Fund to help cover hurricane-related expenses. This grant has helped defray the cost of generator fuel, water deliveries in large tanker trucks while water was unsafe, and portable handwashing stations and toilets. LSC has worked diligently to make sure residents and clients are safe.

Lutheridge has acquired a portable lumber mill to turn fallen trees into usable lumber to rebuild and create new structures and signage all around camp. "The same trees that have stood watch over camp for generations will continue to provide shelter and hope for campers and guests. Thanks be to God!"

Congregations from around the NC Synod, including ours, have provided requested supplies to distribution sites as well as sent volunteers to help places like Lutheridge get to a place of being not only open for retreats but also being hubs for helpers.



## One Blood's Big Red Bus

Thank you to everyone who was able to donate on One Blood's Big Red Bus when it was in CIC's parking lot on January 26th! Three units of blood were collected! Stay tuned for more information about another drive when it is scheduled!



### Property News

The kitchen and nursery need a little sprucing up!

There will be a kitchen cleaning/organizing day on Friday, February 7th, at 10 a.m.

There will be a Nursery cleaning/organizing day on Friday, February 21st, at 10 a.m.

Please contact Stephanie Wheeler in the Church office if you can help out on either day.

[Swheeler@communityinchrist.net](mailto:Swheeler@communityinchrist.net) or 704-892-0120.

Remember, many hands make light work!

### Living Lutheran Magazine is back in print!



The ELCA has found a way to bring Living Lutheran back to print. Each issue (spring, summer, winter and fall) will feature the stories you know and love, along with updates on the church and your ELCA community. The cost for one year will be \$19.95 for an individual subscription. If you are interested, go here to sign up for a subscription: <https://www.livinglutheran.org/subscribe>



### Have you joined CIC's new online photo directory yet?



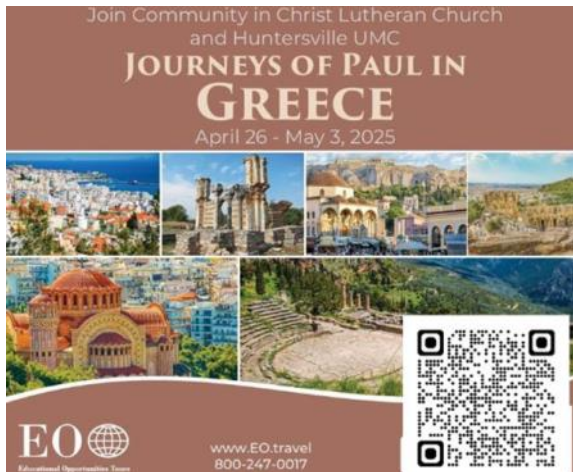
The directory is through a program called Church Center, which is also an app.

Follow the QR code to get started.

If you need assistance, reach out to the church office for help.



### Journeys of Paul in Greece



FINAL registration deadline is approaching! Register by February 10th!

CIC is co-hosting a trip following some of Paul's footsteps, Journeys of Paul in Greece, through "Educational Opportunities Tours" (EO Tours) in partnership with Huntersville United Methodist Church (HUMC). We have our own registration process through CIC, but we will be travel companions with HUMC.

The trip departs on April 26, 2025, for 8 days, traveling through Neapolis, Amphipolis, Philippi, Veria, Thessaloniki, Meteora, Delphi, Corinth, Acropolis, and Athens. An optional Greek Isle Cruise Extension BEFORE the land tour, making the trip a total of 11 days, also travels to Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, and Santorini and departs from the U.S. on April 23rd. If you are interested in learning more and registering, use the following link:  
<https://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/pa25042625a62347#eotours>

## Sunday School

Sunday School classes will meet every Sunday in February! Class begins at 10am with music in the sanctuary before heading to classrooms.



Parents: If you haven't filled out a new Registration Form for the Fall, please do so at this Church Center link:

**First Communion Instruction:** If your 2nd grader or older would like to receive First Communion instruction this year during the season of Lent, with First Communion taking place on Maundy Thursday (April 17th), please email Pastor Lisa ([pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net](mailto:pastorlisa@communityinchrist.net)) by February 16th so that we can begin making a class plan!



## Agape Day Camp is coming to CIC June 16th-20th!

**What is Agapé Day Camp?** Agapé Day Camp is run through the summer programming at Agapé † Kure Beach Ministries, an outdoor ministry of the NC Synod. The counselors travel to us to lead the campers in songs, games, Bible Studies, nature activities, crafts, and both Biblically- based as well as silly skits. They bring outdoor ministries to us! The Middle School program is an opportunity for youth to grow and give back to the community. Agape provides team building exercises and challenges while the congregation arranges at least three service-learning opportunities (TBD and likely off-site) throughout the week.

**When is Agapé Day Camp?** Monday, June 16th through Friday, June 20th, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Mon-Thurs) and 9 a.m. to Noon (Fri) at Community in Christ. There is an optional, but very fun, program on Thursday evening (the 22nd) where the kids have a chance to show off what they have learned throughout the week and you get to meet the counselors!

**Who attends Agapé Day Camp?** Children entering grades 1 to 8 in the 2025-2026 school year. Maximum capacity for the camp is 32 campers!

**How do I register?** Complete the attached form: Summer Day Camp Registration Form/Profile Information. Turn in the Registration Fee. **How?** A check written out to Community in Christ with "Agape Day Camp" in the memo line. Online under the "Agape Day Camp" selection in the "Donate Now" option at [www.communityinchrist.org](http://www.communityinchrist.org)



**Amount:** 1 child - \$100 for the week/ 2 children from same household - \$190 for the week/ 3 children from same household - \$275 for the week. \*The cost of Agape Day Camp is subsidized by CIC's Annual Golf Outing. Submission of the form and the payment completes registration. Paperwork and payment can be turned into the church office or to Pastor Lisa. A Health History Form will be completed at a later date. Find the registration form here!:

## Confirmation:

### **6th—8th graders:**

Sunday, February 2nd, 6:30-8 p.m. Class at the church

Sunday, February 23rd, 6:30-8 p.m. Class at the church

*Parents, please remember to sign up for class volunteering*



## **6th through 12th Graders! Register for the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Retreat Today!**

Join Lutheran youth from around the NC Synod in Greensboro for a fun and faith-filled youth-led weekend! The cost is covered for confirmation youth and is \$20 for Senior High youth thanks to CIC's Annual Golf Outing! Reserve your spot by February 5th!



# CIC

Weekday Preschool

Preschool Director: Sharon Fuller  
704-892-0120 ext 104  
[sfuller9564@gmail.com](mailto:sfuller9564@gmail.com)

**Preschool Registration for 2025/2026:** Priority registration begins on January 27, 2025, for currently enrolled students, siblings, and church members. The remaining spots become open to the public on February 4, 2025. \*\*Child must be classroom age by August 31st, 2025, or December 31st, 2025, for TK\*\*

**Tuitions for 2025/2026:** \$320.00 for 2-year-old classes, \$300 for 3-year-old classes, \$350.00 for 4-year-old & PK class and \$360 for TK class. Tuition is due on the 1st of the month, with September's tuition along with the supply fee of \$55, and is due on May 1st, 2025.

- CIC Preschool is not equipped to teach children with special needs.
- All 3-, 4- & 5-year-old children must be toilet trained by the first day of class.
- Scholarships are available for eligible families. Please see the director for details.
- We offer a 10% discount on tuition for families with multiple preschool children.



**\*\*\*The CIC Weekday Preschool also has CURRENT openings for the remainder of this school year: \*\*\*\***

One 2 year old, one 3-year-old, four 4-year-olds, three Pre-Ks, four TKs.

Please share with your friends and have them reach out to the preschool today to learn more! Currently enrolled families who refer a new family will receive a \$25 discount on their next month's tuition!

Referrals from non-preschool families receive a \$25 Amazon gift card!

### Summer Camp

Registration for summer camp is now open. Each camp session is \$170 with a \$85 non-refundable registration fee that will hold your child's spot in the camp. This fee will be applied to the total camp cost and the balance of \$85 for each camp is due 2 weeks prior to that camp.

**Camp dates & themes are: June 2-5—Beach Blast, June 23-26—Little Explorers, July 14-17—Tiny Picassos and August 4-7—Disney Adventures.** All camps run from 9:05 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please call or email Sharon Fuller ([sfuller9546@gmail.com](mailto:sfuller9546@gmail.com)) for more details, refer to our website ([communityinchrist.org](http://communityinchrist.org)) for an online registration form or follow the QR code above.

## Summer camp!

Summer camp registrations are open! Check out the summer schedules for the Lutheran camps in North Carolina and see what works for you! The pastors are always happy to talk camp with you if have any questions! Similarly, all camps are in need of great summer staff! If you know a college-age young adult looking for a meaningful and fun summer job, have them reach out to the camps or refer them to the pastors!

### Summer Camp - Agape Kure Beach Lutheran Summer Camps | Lutherock In North Carolina



Please  
**SAVE THE DATE!**

This is the time of year families begin to plan their summer activities.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025**  
**JULY 27 – July 31**

Watch for more details and registration information

Help Wanted: Station Leaders: to lead stations during VBS Drivers: travel with children to VBS stations Other opportunities to serve will be announced later. If interested in learning more, Please contact Suzi Hinrichs or Kathy Shugarman

[suzihinrichs@gmail.com](mailto:suzihinrichs@gmail.com) or [shugs02@gmail.com](mailto:shugs02@gmail.com)

## Finance Page

Back in December, a letter from the Church Council shared the budget deficit we faced at that point. After a robust response from the congregation, we are now in a strong financial position as we enter the 3rd quarter of our fiscal year. YTD gifts brought in \$265.7k (\$74.3k in December alone) which is right on target vs our budget. Preschool Revenues are at \$68.6k (\$13.1k in December) and registration has opened for summer Camps. Registration for the next school year will begin soon. Total Revenues YTD stand at \$329.8k. In the spending side, December saw regular maintenance expenses, Fire/Security maintenance (\$300), AC System maintenance (\$900), Utilities - Electricity (\$1.8k due to cold temps), mileage reimbursement (\$500), Pastor substitute fees (\$200), fees to Guest Musicians (\$275). YTD Expenses are \$340.3k (December total of \$56.4k). As a result of the generous response from Members, we have reduced our previous Deficit to \$4k, and we are on track to close the gap completely in the coming months. Please review your year end giving statements and attached pastoral letter which will be arriving soon in the mail. ~Madalyn Wilkinson, Finance Director

<b>Community in Christ Lutheran Church Ministry Plan</b>	<b>July 24-June 25 Budget</b>	<b>December 2024 Actual</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>
<i>Revenues</i>			
<b>Member Contributions</b>	\$522,000	\$265,781	51%
<b>Preschool Revenue</b> <i>Preschool tuition and fees</i>	168,415	66,355	39%
<b>Other Revenue</b> <i>Bank interest, Facility usage, credit card rewards</i>	23,910	4,229	18%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>714,325</b>	<b>336,365</b>	<b>47%</b>
<i>Expenses</i>			
<b>Worship</b> <i>Altar supplies, devotionals, substitute pastors</i>	5,250	2,278	43%
<b>Witness</b> <i>Offering envelopes, new member activities</i>	1,890	402	21%
<b>Synod benevolence</b>	52,200	24,343	47%
<b>Administration</b> <i>Computer software, copier lease, insurance, internet, postage, office supplies, telephone, payroll service, credit card fees</i>	44,239	23,055	52%
<b>Mortgage</b> <i>Principal and interest on mortgage</i>	69,348	34,674	50%
<b>Property</b> <i>Building maintenance, janitorial services, utilities, lawn care, fire/security alarms, exterminating, floor/carpet cleaning</i>	57,022	24,776	43%
<b>Staff</b> <i>Salaries, payroll taxes, and benefits for four full-time and one part-time employees; staff development</i>	342,961	164,916	48%
<b>Music Ministries</b> <i>Guest artists, music for choirs, copyright fee, handbells, AV maintenance</i>	5,000	2,270	45%
<b>Youth Ministries</b> <i>Youth mission trips, retreats, activities, VBS, Sunday school, camp/firmation</i>	3,150	535	17%
<b>Preschool</b> <i>Staff salaries and benefits, activities, supplies, maintenance</i>	132,833	63,137	48%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>713,893</b>	<b>340,385</b>	<b>48%</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>\$432</b>	<b>(\$4,020)</b>	


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 7621 Norman Island Drive  
 Cornelius, NC 28031  
 1 - 77, Exit 25 2 miles west on HWY 73  
 (704) 892-0120 e-mail:  
 swheeler@communityinchrist.net

**Church Council**  
 Dean Miller (Treasurer)  
 Jeff Moen  
 Carl Yeager (Pres.)  
 Susan Kullstam (VP)  
 David Crowe  
 Sharon Heckman  
 Tracy Lyon (Secretary)  
 Todd Rixman

**Staff**  
 Pastor Lisa Beery pastormicha@communityinchrist.net  
 Pastor Michael Beery pastormichael@communityinchrist.net  
 Office Administrator, Stephanie Wheeler (swheeler@communityinchrist.net)  
 Preschool Director, Sharon Fuller (Sfuller9564@gmail.com)  
 Finance - Madalyn Wilkinson (financedirector@communityinchrist.net)  
 Music—Sherry Malia (musicdirector@communityinchrist.net)

**Team Leaders**  
 Youth  
 Adult Faith Formation (Mark Myers)  
 Finance (Madalyn Wilkinson)  
 Outreach (Kathy Dutton)  
 Worship & Music  
 Inviting Ministries  
 Property (Stephanie Wheeler)  
 Women's 5:11's (Jill Brooks)  
 Stewardship  
 Support Staff (Stella Ryan)





Moving forward in  
 Outreach  
 Stewardship  
 Welcome & Inclusion  
 Worship  
 Youth & Family Ministries  
 As a Community  
 in Christ

## Sunday Worship:

**9 a.m.—Contemporary & Livestreamed**  
**10 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship and**  
**Children’s Sunday School**  
**11 a.m.—Traditional**

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 a.m. 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](http://www.communityinchrist.org)