We are a Christ-Centered congregation committed to the authority of the Bible as the inspired Word of God. We follow His Word, which commands us to reach out to all people with the saving power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, witness and service.

Christiana Courier Carl Hayr 704-279704-223-

Carl Haynes, pastor 704-279-4516 (Home) 704-223-1468 (Cell)

InFaith Community Foundation vote set

On Sunday, January 8th at 10:20am there will be a called congregational meeting in the sanctuary of Christiana Lutheran Church, for the purpose of voting on whether or not to join the **InFaith Community Foundation.** Information regarding this foundation can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.



Council Officers for 2017 & Retreat Date

The Congregation Council Officers for 2017 are: Richard Crouch - President, Madeline Zieverink - Vice President, Bruce Wilhelm - Secretary. The new council members serving the term 2017 - 2019 are: Vickie Keene, Dale Beaver, Branson Pethel, Cam Ritchie, Terry Ritchie.

The council retreat is set for January 7 beginning at 8 am in the Smith Assembly Hall. Members should dress comfortably and bring with them their council notebook, a writing instrument, and Bible. There will be coffee, and lunch will be provided by the outgoing council members.

The Church Office will be closed December 26-30 and January 2.



January 22nd is Food for the Poor Sunday

A clergy representative will bring us the message at worship and give us an update on the latest project Food for the Poor is involved in. There will also be a joint Adult Sunday Class at 9:15am in the Smith Assembly Hall.

Youth to lead worship in January

During the month of January, Christiana youth will be taking part in various aspects of worship and will serve as readers, ushers, and greeters during the entire month. On January 29, the youth will lead worship and be responsible for the sermon time as well. We are blessed with many children and youth here at Christiana and it is wonderful to see them growing in their faith as well as taking part in leading worship.



The earth has grown old with its burden of care, but at Christmas it always is young, the heart of the jewel burns lustrous and fair, and its soul full of music breaks the air. when the song of angels is sung.

- Phillip Brooks





- Thrive @5 January 8 & 22 at 5 p.m.
- Thrive Youth Choir January 8 & 22 at 6 p.m.
- Thrive Tots choir January 8, 15, & 29 at 4:00 p.m.
- Little Thrive choir January 8, 15 & 29 at 4:30 p.m.
- Youth Sunday is January 29 followed by Souper Bowl Lunch

Thrive Tutoring is every Tuesday and Thursday from 4—5 p.m. Need help on homework, projects, etc.? We would love to help. Snacks are provided and it's free!

Those Who Serve in January

Nursery Attendants

Jan. 1 S Paskiewicz & E Barnes

Jan. 8 Wendi & Caylee Hawkins

Jan. 15 Jason & April Smith

Jan. 22 Joe & Denise Koehn

Jan. 29 Chris & Katie Sease

Children's Sermon Part 2

Jan. 1 B Barnhardt & youth

Jan. 8 K Haynes & K Goodman

Jan. 15 Wendi & Caylee Hawkins

Jan. 22 Jason & April Smith

Jan. 29 No CS Pt. 2

Offering Counters

Jan. 1 M Zieverink & L Haynes

Jan. 15 Marsha & Dale Beaver

Jan. 22 R Crouch & E Eller

January Birthdays

- 1 Erica Isley
- 3 Scott Isley
- 5 Emily Barnes
- 10 Megan Lyerly
- 12 Matt Fleming
- 13 Pr. Carl Haynes
- 13 Sheryl Lyerly
- 14 Camille Abernathy
- 14 Eddie Eller
- 14 Denise Koehn
- 16 Emmett Shank
- 18 Charlie Beretsky
- 18 Roy Pethel, Jr.
- 19 Katie Sease

- 20 LuAnne Scott
- 20 Joshua Stokes
- 21 Kent Cozart
- 21 Dollie Lingle
- 21 Cassie Klimas
- 22 Chase Hawkins
- 23 Marshall Shank
- 24 Dylan Kluttz
- 24 Teresa Ward
- 25 Hannah Isley
- 25 Riley Isley
- 29 Lynda Pethel



Jan. 8 Laurie & Cam Ritchie

Jan. 29 D Smith & K Goodman

January Altar Flowers

Jan. 1 Emily Barnes

Jan. 8 available

Jan. 15 Emily Barnes

Pedestal: Suzanna Paskiewicz

Jan. 22 available

Jan. 29 available

Please notify Kathy Haynes if you would like to provide flowers for any available Sunday.



To Know and Do God's Will

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." James 4:13-15 (ESV)

A brand new year! We get one every time January 1 rolls around. It is a gift from God! What will we do with it? How shall we spend our days? On ourselves? On others? Will we live through the year? Will the Lord return? What will happen to us? Good things? Bad things? We don't know.

Each day is a gift. That's why it call the present. In the above passage from James 4 the author reminds us that we are not guaranteed tomorrow. We can make all the plans we want, but only God knows if they will be fulfilled. So rather than brashly stating what we are going to do in the coming days, James says *since we are just a mist that appears for a while and then vanishes, we should say "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."*

"If the Lord wills..." What is God's will? That is what we want to know and do as faithful disciples of Jesus. Jesus tells us in John 6:40 "For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

There it is – God's will – plain and simple – is for all people to believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and have eternal life. In the third petition of the Lord's Prayer we pray "Thy will be done." Martin Luther, in his explanation to this petition tell us "In fact, God's good and gracious will will be done without our praying for it, but we ask in this petition that it may be done by us."

If God's will is for all people to believe in Jesus and have eternal life, and we pray that his will might be done by us, then we need to be telling others about Jesus. That's our number one priority. By doing so we know for certain we are in the will of God.

Now, we as a congregation have hopefully prayed and discerned it to be God's will that we build the Beacon Center – a combination shelter/fellowship hall. If we are building it for ourselves, it is not God's will. If we are building it to be a "beacon" to the community, a place for folks to come and hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, then I believe it is the will of God. In the beginning days and months of 2017 it will be crucial for us to be in prayer about all the different uses and ministries we want this building to house and for us to be united on the uses and ministries.

The same is true for our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. Our lives are to be used to minister to the needs of others – spiritual and physical. As we make our individual plans for 2017 we need to follow James' advice and think: "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." None of us knows what tomorrow brings, but we know Jesus is already there. None of us knows what our future holds, but we know Jesus holds the future. May God bless us to know and do his will in 2017.

Pastor Carl

Where's your security?

When *A Charlie Brown Christmas* debuted in 1965, religious references were unheard of on television. Yet the show's climax features the Christmas story verbatim. As Linus begins reciting Luke 2, he's clutching his ever-present blue blanket. Yet, as pastor Jason Soroski points out, Linus drops it right as he utters the words "fear not" (Luke 2:10).



Soroski believes the timing is intentional and that "Peanuts" creator Charles M. Schulz sends a simple, brilliant message. "The birth of Jesus separates us from our fears," Soroski writes. It "frees us from the habits we are unable (or unwilling) to break ourselves. The birth of Jesus allows us to simply drop the false security we have been grasping so tightly, and learn to trust and cling to him instead."

Annual Reports due January 1

All persons responsible for a written annual report should have the report to the church office no later than January 1.

E-mailed reports are preferred at christianal@charlotte.twcbc.com

Packing Away the Christmas Decorations

On Thursday, January 5 at 6:30 pm., Christmas decorations will be taken down, carefully packed, and put away. This is a big job that takes a lot of help. The Worship Committee & Altar Guild of Christiana invite all who will come to help with this endeavor



WINTER SNOW SCHEDULE

- If it snows or ices on Sunday morning and the
- roads are too dangerous for travel, <u>worship</u> services will be cancelled and the church
- phone tree will be activated to notify you.
- You may also watch WBTV or WSOC television stations for cancellation notices. You can get a quick list of all cancellations by going to
- www.wbtv.com or www.wsoctv.com. Also check our website or Facebook page or call

Congregational Concerns



Genesis: Carolyn Barringer

Corl

Liberty Commons: Elizabeth

Ritchie

Brookdale: Juanita Hovis

Trinity Oaks Health & Rehab: Katherine

Lyerly

NC State Veterans Home: Gib Russell

The Meadows of Rockwell: Pat Ramsey

Carillon Assisted Living: Pauline Lyerly

January 2017

Angel, which means "messenger" in both Hebrew and Greek, is a spirit-being God created to perform tasks for him. In the Bible, angels appear



in human form (always as men) to deliver divine messages. Angels appear separately to Joseph and Mary, announcing Jesus' upcoming birth, and "a multitude of the heavenly host" (Luke 2:13) tells shepherds of the Savior's arrival. Scripture offers

little information about angels, though we know some rebelled against God. Among the holy angels, categories include cherubim and seraphim.



The Church Office is in the process of compiling the 2016-2017 Annual Report Booklet and Church Directory. If your personal information was in-

correct in the last directory or if you have a new address, phone number, E-mail address, or if your birthday was not listed or was incorrectly listed, please fill out the following form and return to church office or place in the offering plate. The information may also be e-mailed to: christianal@charlotte.twcbc.com.

X Name:	><	*	*	><	}< ——
Address:					
Phone:_					
Email:					
Birthday	:				

Scripture Lessons for January

1st Sunday after Christmas, Jan. 1

Isaiah 63:7-14 Psalm 111 Galatians 4:4-7 Matthew 2:13-23

The Baptism of Our Lord, Jan. 8

Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 29 Romans 6:1-11 Matthew 3:13-17

2nd Sunday after the Epiphany, Jan. 15

Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 40:1-11 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 John 1:29-42a

3rd Sunday after the Epiphany, Jan. 22

Isaiah 9:1-4 Psalm 27:1-9 (10-14) 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-25

4th Sunday after the Epiphany, Jan. 29

Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12

SILENT AUCTION

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*	BRIGHTEN THE BEACON	米
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Dear Fellow Members of Christiana,

Earlier this year our Christiana Church Council unanimously approved a recommendation from our Brighten The Beacon Committee to present the congregation with a proposal to establish a relationship with the **In-Faith Community Foundation**. Our purpose would be to allow the In-Faith Community Foundation to assist our committee with our Brighten The Beacon campaign and help provide various estate and financial planning services to interested members of the church. Between now and the first of the year, we will provide you with a summary of information, including a series of questions and answers, which we hope will help educate and inform the congregation about the Foundation and the services it can offer. This is the first in a series of Questions and Answers (Q&A's).

Q. What is- the In-Faith Community Foundation?

A. The In-Faith Community Foundation, formerly known as the Lutheran Community Foundation, is one of the largest Christian organizations established to assist churches and other religious organizations with a variety of estate and financial planning services for the church and its members.

Q. What kind of services are available?

A. Christiana and our members will be able to take advantage of many different services which are available, but not limited to assistance with our campaign, investment management services, financial planning advice and estate planning services such as wills, trusts, annuities, life insurance and other services. Thrivent first recommended this program to Christiana and our Brighten The Beacon Committee.

Q. Who will manage or help make decisions with the Foundation?

A. Christiana will establish a separate committee or board of directors who will help administer the program for the church and congregation.

Q. Is there a cost or a fee for this service?

A. In order to join the foundation and start taking advantage of the various foundation services, a minimum refundable deposit of \$25,000 is required. In addition, a management or administrative fee of 1% of assets on deposit or under management is paid annually to the Foundation. Christiana has secured a grant of \$25,000 for this initial deposit.

Q. How will this program benefit Christiana and our members?

A. Christiana will be able to select from the available services, including various investment management accounts which can pay interest or earnings to the church. We can also establish separate funds or accounts for special projects such as our Brighten The Beacon campaign, Capital Fund, Cemetery Fund, etc. Members can also contribute to these funds. In addition, various other estate and financial planning services such as wills, trusts, annuities and insurance will be available to members.



Your Brighten the Beacon committee feels this may be an excellent opportunity for Christiana to take advantage of the available financial planning services for our church and congregation. Please see members of the Brighten the Beacon committee if you have any questions. More information will be forthcoming. We hope to vote on this proposal early next year.

An Important Message from our New Treasurer

It would be very helpful to me and to all who help count and record the offerings if you would do the following:

- 1. Please use the envelopes you were given for 2017. *PLEASE DO NOT USE OLD ENVELOPES* because in most cases, the numbers have changed.
- 2. Please put your *NAME* on the envelope.
- 3. If you make a contribution to the Brighten the Beacon Fund, Cemetery Fund, etc., please write a **SEPARATE CHECK** as these monies are deposited into a separate account from your regular envelope offering.
- 3. **PLEASE** use one of the special envelopes for your contributions to any fund other than the general fund.

Do not use your general fund envelope for contributions to special funds.

These procedures will help ensure that your contribution gets posted to your name and to the proper account. Thank you for your help and if you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Laurie Ritchie

Thank You...

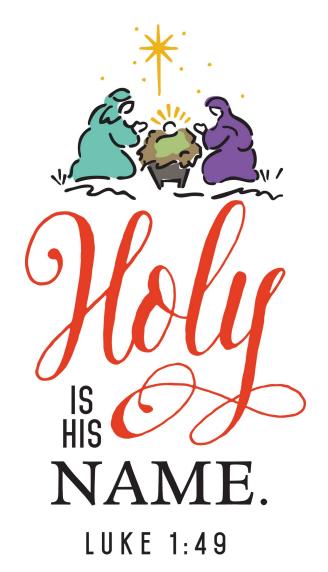
The New Life Bible Sunday School Class would like to thank all members of the congregation that donated to the Family Crisis Council Holiday Store (Oct/Nov Loose Offering). The Holiday Store event was held Tuesday night and was very successful. FCC had a total of 55 individuals enjoy a Christmas to remember. They were able to provide 260 gifts - moms shopped for their children and children shopped for their moms. Every child and mom got a set of gloves, hat, scarves, and socks. Moms could choose as many books as they'd like for their children. The gifts were then wrapped for them. All attendees enjoyed a delicious meal from Olive Garden with homemade desserts. We applied for Thrivent Funds and received \$250 which was used to purchase gift items for the Holiday Store. Thanks to all who contributed, we were able to raise a total of \$653 for this project.

Thank you and the church for helping me with my utilities on 12/1/16. I really appreciate it and I will repay the church.

Thank you,

Zach Smith

(recipient of Pastor's Discretionary Fund assistance)



LCW Happenings

Group #1 will meet at the church on Tuesday, January 3 at 10 a.m. Lunch at Breakfast Time restaurant

Sister Lucille Group will meet at 7 p.m. on January 3 at the home of Kathy Haynes, hostess and program leader



Gifts to our church

In memory of Mark Smith by Madeline Zieverink, LaVaughn & Alan Beaver, Ronnie & Janis Smith, Onetia Bruce, Jay & Karen Goodman, Group #1, Don & Rose Dedmon, Doris Ritchie, Mike & Kate Beretsky

In memory of Naomi Cates by Group #1

In honor of Ronnie & Janis Smith by Woodrow and Zelia Frick

In honor of Madeline Zieverink by Jay & Karen Goodman

In honor of Sue Wall, Harry Agner, Brian Barringer, J Wood & Robbie Robinson by the Men's Bible Class

In memory of Harry & Miriam Fox by Donna Fox

Men's Prime Rib dinner will be Feb. 11

Only 80 tickets will be sold for the annual dinner to insure the comfort of all attending and will be available for purchase on January 15.

Don't delay, don't wait, don't be left out!

Tickets are \$25 per person and profits will go to the Brighten the Beacon campaign.

This is one of the most popular events of the year; remember only 80 tickets will be sold!



Prayer concerns

Vaughn Hatley's mother Gearlean hospitalized, not doing well. Carl Yost hospitalized w/possible reaction to medication. Ed Clark taking chemo for liver cancer. Bone scan showed no cancer. Jenny Roberts declared cancer free. Dale and Marsha's daughter's friends, the Grunwald family in Wasilla, AK, son, age 16, found murdered. Marsha Beaver, taking PT for elbow. Juanita Hovis, back at Brookdale. Janis Smith's friend Sharon Whittington at TO-HARC. Wanda Smith, stage 3 kidney disease is now stage two; spinal stenosis not at severe and blood pressure coming down. Zach Thompson, ERHS grad and SRHS teacher diagnosed

with stage 4 brain cancer. Patti Boles, Cushing's disease. Pat Ramsey, back at the Meadows taking rehab therapy. Joyce Ketchie's daughter Tonya recovering from brain surgery to remove cancerous tumor. LaVaughn Beaver's husband Alan, renal dialysis. April Smith's brother, Chase Deal, continues to improve and gain strength. Dee Smith, at home, on oxygen. Linda Connell's co-worker, Michael Socorro, paralyzed in motorcycle accident. Denise Koehn's friend Sandy Morris, stage 3 breast cancer. Pauline Lyerly, Carillon, rm. C13. Gloria Cross, kidney issues. Marsha & Dale's friend, Gail Reynolds, stage 3 pancreatic cancer. Miles Rhodes, prostate cancer. Ann & Bill Meacham in poor health.

Our Sympathy is Expressed to:

Ed and Barbara Clark at the death of Barbara's son Tim.

Christiana Lutheran Church Council Minutes December 11, 2016

Members Present: Laurie Ritchie (President), Bruce Wilhelm (Secretary), Jeff Fleming (Vice President), Pastor Carl Haynes, Jason Smith, Richard Crouch, Robbie Robinson, Glenn Wall, Jenny Roberts, Banks Kluttz, Charlotte Pacilio and J. Wood, Harold Morris, Joe Koehn, Glenn Wall, Madeline Zieverink, Leanne Kluttz

New Members Present: Dale Beaver, Vickie Agner Keene, Branson Pethel, Cam Ritchie, Terry Ritchie

Also Present: Dale Beaver (Treasurer), Brittney Barnhardt (Youth Minister), Jim Duncan (Brighten the Beacon Committee)

Invocation: Pastor Carl Haynes

Prayer of Blessing: Council members in unison.

Council Business

Concerns, Receptions and Approvals

Welcome new council members.

November 13, 2016 council minutes were approved as submitted.

Financial Report for November, 2016 was presented and explained by Dale Beaver, Treasurer. The financial report was then approved as submitted.

Pastor and Youth Director Reports were accepted as submitted.

Committee and Auxiliary Concerns / Reports

Property Acquisition

Branson Pethel, attorney representing Christiana, reported that the church's purchase of the adjoining property closed on Friday. The deed is on two tracts of land and has been recorded.

Cemetery

50% of the cost of the new columbarium has been paid.

Pastor's Report

The Reformation 500 Committee is a group of pastors and lay people from Lutheran churches in the East Rowan area that was organized to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Starting in February there will be special events at the local participating churches with an event being held every other month. It will end in October with a joint Reformation service at Organ Lutheran Church. Pastor Carl asked council to approve a special service to be hosted by Christiana on April 30th at 4:00. Council gave its unanimous approval.

Youth Report

Thrive served 50 meals to those in need on Thanksgiving Day with the help of Jason Smith.

Prayerful Consideration of Council Matters

Election of Council Officers for 2017

President - Richard Crouch was nominated for the position of president by Madeline Zieverink. Richard accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations and council unanimously voted to elect Richard as the new council president.

Vice President – Banks Kluttz was nominated for the position of vice president by Jenny Roberts. Banks accepted the nomination. Richard Crouch then nominated Madeline Zieverink for the same position as vice president. Banks Kluttz then withdrew as a nominee, leaving Madeline unopposed. Council unanimously voted to elect Madeline Zieverink as the new council vice president.

Secretary – Bruce Wilhelm was nominated to continue in the position of council secretary by several individuals. Bruce accepted the nominated. There were no other nominations and council unanimously voted to elect Bruce as the new council secretary.

Property Committee Report

Jason Smith updated the council on the status of the flooring for the women's Sunday school classroom. The moisture problem has been fixed and the carpet has been pulled back and the area cleaned. This however has not solved the odor problem. The odor is apparently coming from the additional A/C unit that was installed. An estimate of \$476 was presented for new flooring similar to that in the nursery to be installed. Labor would be provided by men from the church.

Madeline stated that some church members were not coming to services because they could not walk through the lobby where the women's Sunday school class was being held. Madeline then made a motion to spend no more than \$500 from the building fund to install the new flooring in the classroom. Jenny Roberts seconded the motion. The motion then passed unanimously.

Pastor Carl informed council that the exterminator found termite damage to the bottom of the front entry doors. This area has not been treated for termites. It was decided by council to have the entire property inspected for termites and treated as necessary.

Laurie Ritchie asked about the motion controlled light switches proposed for the education building during a previous council meeting. Jason reported that it would be too cost prohibitive to retrofit the electrical wiring to accommodate motion sensor switches.

Laurie also noted the need for a list of guidelines for the Smith Assembly Hall and the basement kitchen. These will be prepared and presented at the next council meeting.

Brighten the Beacon Report

Richard Crouch reported that a congregational meeting will be scheduled for January 8th to present and approve InFaith Community Foundation plan.

Health Care Committee Report

Joe Koehn reported that the recent blood drive collected 35 pints of blood.

Seniors Group Report

Jenny reported that the seniors would have their Christmas party at K&W cafeteria.

Valentine Day dinner

Jason reported that there will be only 80 tickets available this year for the annual Valentine Day dinner and that each ticket will be \$25. The dinner will be on Saturday February 11th.

Trinity Oaks

Pastor Carl reported that Trinity Oaks is undergoing a \$5 million renovation project entitled "Changing Spaces". They have raise \$2.6 million and are looking for \$250,000 to be matched. Because Christiana is in the middle of its own capital improvement campaign, the suggested was made to let someone from Trinity Oaks come and do a presentation to the congregation. Individuals could then make their own contributions if the desired.

House Project

The restoration and possible uses of the newly acquired house and property adjacent to the church was briefly discussed. Jason stated that the time and talents of the scouts and parents could be used to help rebuild the house. J Wood inquired as to how to how the house was going to be used. He also stated that if the scouts were going to use it as a scout hut, then a lot of the materials they currently have stored in the church should be moved to the house. It was decided to poll the congregation in January and then let a committee decide what to do with the property.

Madeline told council that we need to get insurance on the property before we do anything with it. She then stated that she will take care of getting insurance on the property. She also noted that it will need to be cleaned up and secured to prevent unauthorized access and limit liability should someone get injured on the property.

Bible Study – "Growing in Christ"

Council Retreat /January Council Meeting: The council will meet on Saturday January 7, 2017 from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm for its annual training and planning retreat. This meeting will also include the regular monthly council meeting for January.

Church Lock up: January – Cam Ritchie: February – Jeff Fleming

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Wilhelm

Council Secretary

6190 US Hwy 52 Salisbury NC 28146 Address Service Requested

Phone: 704-279-4655 Fax: 704-279-1595

Sunday School 9:15 AM Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Pastor: Carl M. Haynes

E-Mail: pastorcarl@charlotte.twcbc.com Council President: Richard Crouch Council Vice-President: Madeline Zieverink Council Secretary: Bruce Wilhelm

Church Secretary: Ann Teague Email: christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com Church Treasurer: Laurie Ritchie Organist/Music Director: Becky Morris Youth Director: Brittney Barnhardt

Lutheran Church Women: Sue Wall Christiana Lutheran Men: Jason Smith Christiana Rowdy Seniors: Jenny Roberts

Chancel Choir

Becky Morris, Director Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Handbell Choir Kathy Haynes, Director Sundays at 5:00 p.m.

Children's Choirs
Becky Morris, Director
Sunday afternoons; times & days vary

Mailed Dec. 21, 2016



Join us on Facebook





Volunteers are needed as nursery assistants and Children's Sermon Pt. 2 leaders for 2017.

Please contact Pastor Carl or the church office if you are willing to help.

Blood Drive January 15 12-4:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Call Denise or Joe Koehn at 704-642-1658 to set up appointment Walk-ins welcome!



Calling all hands with hooks and needles!



If you crochet, knit, or want to learn and have a desire to use these talents for community service, please join me in establishing a group to make chemo caps for ladies that lose their hair after chemo treatments.

Supplies will be furnished. Your only investment is your time and talent.

If interested, please call Cynthia Lingle at 704-223-9905 or 704-729 -4382. If no answer, please leave a message.