



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.

July 2023

Christiana Courier

Keith Less, Interim pastor
704-279-4655 (Office)
443-480-3075 (Cell)

From where I sit...

Our fellowship hall is very nice. It is in constant use and that's great, but we all need to be on the same page.

Whatever we use, we are expected to put it back where we found it. Every week a lot of time is spent looking for items because they were not put back where they were found. Some items just disappear, never to be seen again.

- Keep the counter free.
- Take out ALL trash.
- Replace tables to their original spots.

When you follow these guidelines and you use the kitchen next time, you will know where everything is.

News you can use

- ◆ Our next Blood Drive is Sunday August 13, 2023, 12:00 to 4:30pm. Please mark your calendars and reach out to Madeline Zieverink at 704/213-4181 to make your appointment, or go to www.redcrossblood.org and sign up. Donors of all blood types are needed. Blood is a perishable product that can only come from volunteer blood donors.
- ◆ Pastor's weekly Bible Study will continue each Monday evening in July except July 3.

VBS 2023
July 12, 13, 14
6:00—8:00 pm
Agnes 2—Grade 5



Contact Laurie Ritchie to volunteer

Christ still calls us

*The rugged hills of Galilee drop down to meet the sea
Where burly men still mend their nets,
still fish there eagerly.*

*The sea's the same place where Christ said,
"Lay down your nets and heed
My call to love all people, and serve
them in their need."*

*"I'll help you fish for humankind," he told
them long ago.
His call's still heard, His help's still real
today, as we well know.*

*Yes, people still are leaving "nets" wherever
they might be,
And as disciples still go forth to serve
Christ willingly.*

—Peggy Ferrell



STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

As Christians, what is important to us?

How much did you spend on your last birthday party, weekend trip, your wedding?

Clear off your dining room table. Use your 'good' china.' Set out candles and linen napkins. Pray before you eat.

When was the last time you helped someone who needed food, clothing, transportation to the doctor or to buy food? When was the last time you used your talent to repair something for a friend or the last time you supported a good cause?

Jesus gave us his compassion, generosity, and love. Can we do any less?

July Children's Church

July 2 April Smith

July 9 Marsha & Dale Beaver

July 16 Laurie & Laura Ritchie

July 23 April Smith & Diane Smith

July 30 Charlotte Pacilio & Tara Beaver

July Worship Support

Reader: Madeline Zieverink

Head Usher: Brian Barringer

Greeters: Jenny Roberts, Eddie Eller, Marlene Pethel, Frances Peeler

Communion Assistants: Judy Stoner & Todd Koontz

Lock Up: Terry Ritchie

Altar Guild: Marsha & Dale Beaver, Jeniffer Honeycutt, Angie Fleming, Linda Duncan

June Attendance

June 4

Sunday School: 35

Worship: 77

June 11:

Sunday School: 54

Worship: 91

June 18

Sunday School: 42

Worship: 81

June 25

Sunday School: 47

Worship: 98

July Birthdays

5 Vickie Keene
 8 Linda Haynes
 12 Larry McKenzie
 16 Jeff Fleming
 16 Matthew Morris
 17 Cindy Thomas
 17 Teresa McKinney
 18 Ashley Coffey
 22 Ansley Lyerly
 22 Colten Hawkins
 23 Joseph Pryor
 24 Sandra Fesperman
 25 J Wood
 27 Dean Crouch
 27 Blessed Thompson

27 Blessing Thompson
 29 Vance Lapish
 30 Savannah Lyerly
 31 Kathy French



July Altar Flowers

July 2 Gail Koontz

July 9 Vickie Keene

July 16

July 23 Joyce Cavanagh-Wood

July 30 Becky Morris

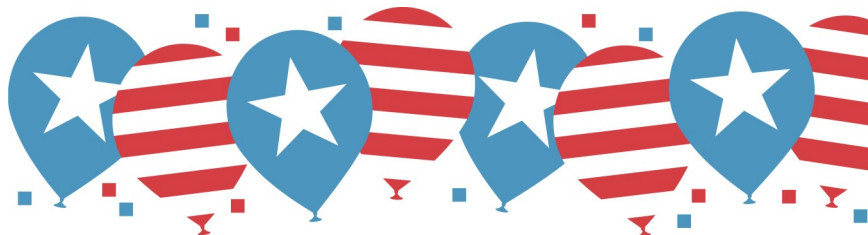




11 Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all.
1 Chronicles 29:11

July is the time of year where patriotism is high on the list of things to be concerned with. Parades, fireworks, outdoor gatherings, all highlight the pride we have in our country. Have another look at the verse above. The world is the Lord's. Our focus should be on Him as creator and redeemer. After all, He is the one who controls the history around us. Our leaders serve at His discretion. It all works because God is active in His creation. That actually should be a great comfort to us. To know that what is happening isn't random but has a purpose. Yes, there is evil and evil intent in the world. Not all leaders are people of integrity. Some are out and out evil. There is a lot of evil in general out there. People don't always do the right thing. Some seem to be bent on doing as much damage as they can. How can God be in control you ask? Well, He is. He takes the garbage of the world and the evil that people do and turns it to good. He comforts and presents ways for us to serve the broken of the world. We have a calling. It is focused on God and His will. We honor God as creator, and we work in the physical kingdom we are placed in to be the servants and witnesses of God to others. God takes the junk and turns the evil intent to His divine purpose. Have a great time celebrating God's world.

Pastor Keith



This month's prayer concerns



Sympathy is extended to Jim and Linda Duncan upon the death of their granddaughter.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Ann Meacham who died June 20.

Glenn Wilson, declining health. Betty Rose Witty, Autumn Care. Mikala Vinson (Mariah House-Morris' mom). Onetia Bruce's daughter, injured in fall. Barbara Crouch, at home. J Wood's daughter, Mary Beth Mursch, multiple myeloma. Mariah House-Morris, broken arm. Ann Teague's friend, pancreatic cancer. Diane Smith's cousin, Deanna Shue, cancer returned. Tammy Hill. Earlene Ritchie's sister, Dottie McLaurin, metastatic cancer. Ear-

lene's other sister, Theresa, tumor on ear nerve; some hearing loss. Families of those affected by gun violence. Di-
anne Hall's husband, Doc. Chris Coletta, terminal cancer. Teresa McKinney's husband, esophageal cancer. Pastor
Bruce Sheeks, blood clots. Bonnie Sechler, at son's; chemo treatments. Vickie Hill. Scott Hayes, prayers for recov-
ery. Jenny Roberts, ALS. Becky Preslar's father, at home. Linda Cline's neighbor, Ann Mitchell, tests. Kay Aber-
nathy, at home. Don Dedmon, The Laurels. Patti Holshouser, TOHAR. Elizabeth Ritchie, Liberty Commons.
Vaughn Hatley, immunotherapy. Kathie Albright, neck and shoulder pain.

July Scripture Lessons

5th Sunday after Pentecost, July 2

Jeremiah 28:5-9
Psalm 119:153-160
Romans 7:1-13
Matthew 10:34-42

6th Sunday after Pentecost, July 9

Zechariah 9:9-12
Psalm 145:1-14
Romans 7:14-25a
Matthew 11:25-30

7th Sunday after Pentecost, July 16

Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm 65:(1-8) 9-13
Romans 8:12-17
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

8th Sunday after Pentecost, July 23

Isaiah 44:6-8
Psalm 119:57-64
Romans 8:18-27
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

9th Sunday after Pentecost, July 30

Deuteronomy 7:6-9
Psalm 125
Romans 8: 28-39
Matthew 13:44-52

Gifts to the Church

To the memorial fund in memory of Carl H Thomas and Mary E Thomas by Patricia and Kaitlin Pena

To Christiana Preschool in memory of Carr Peeler, Jr. for Father's day by Reggie & Bill Hardister

To the Nehemiah Group in memory of Tonia Duncan by LaVaughn Beaver

To the Endowment Fund in memory of Ann Meacham by Madeline Zieverink

LCW

Miss Katherine Lyerly Group will meet at 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 13 at the home of Marlene Pethel

Sister Lucille Group will meet for dinner at El Patron on Tuesday July 18 at 6:00 p.m.

Remember those in nursing homes:

The Laurels of Salisbury:
Don Dedmon

Liberty Commons:
Elizabeth Ritchie

Trinity Oaks Health & Rehab:
Patti Holshouser

Autumn Care:
Betty Rose Witty



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And as disciples still go forth to serve Christ willingly.

—Peggy Ferrell

**Council Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2023**

Present

Richard Crouch, Pres. Banks Kluttz
David Preslar, V. Pres. Mike Keene
Brittney Ritchie, Sec. Karen Goodman
Laurie Ritchie, Treas. Kevan Barringer

Charlotte Pacilio
Tara Beaver
Terry Ritchie
Harry Agner

Linda Duncan
Pastor Keith Less

Absent

Jeff Fleming
Todd Koontz

May Council Meeting Minutes: Council approved as presented.

May Treasurers Report:

May Envelope Offering: \$17,041.56
May Offering Variance: \$5,477.11

Total May Income: \$17,191.56
Total May Income Variance: \$5,655.30

YTD Envelope Offering: \$113,143.02
YTD Envelope Offering Variance: \$549.67

YTD Total Income: \$114,942.02
YTD Total Income Variance: \$707.72

Total May Expense: \$20,336.90
Total May Expense Variance: \$2,573.70

YTD Total Expense: \$101,843.32
YTD Total Expense Variance: \$12,689.68
Cash on Hand: \$36,063.13
Cash on Hand Money Market: \$150,000.00
Treasurer's report approved by council as presented.

May Pastor's Report:

Pastor Keith reported that his moving process is complete and that with being sick when he came back he is a bit behind on shut-in calls. The first Sunday in July will be receiving new members, adult confirmation, junior confirmation, and first communion.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: Giving is down. The men's group funds will be moved to designated fund until the men choose to use.

Christian Ed: Laurie requested committee chairs and representatives let her know who will be setting up a table at the committee fair.

Property: Request to move Blessing Box to the shade was approved.

Worship: Discussed homecoming and looking to decide on potential homecoming speakers.

Social Ministry: The baby bottle campaign began on Mother's Day and ends on Father's Day. A meal of taco salad was provided at RHM this month.

Evangelism: Planning next meeting to determine next steps and plan a new round of Loved Bible Projects.

Fellowship: Meeting to discuss helping with the committee fair in August.

Landscape: Annual flowers are growing well. Mowed the extra property that the church owns.

Brighten the Beacon: Sound system for fellowship hall vote today. Looking for a replacement to run the BTB meals.

Youth: Pool Party today from 2-5 pm.

Pastoral Call: Met on Thursday to finalize any profile edits and discuss feedback from the congregation. Pastor Keith also gave his feedback and approval. On Friday the profile was sent to Pastor Shelley Schultz and she added it to the NALC website. It is also posted on Christiana's website.

LCW SLC Group: Donating \$100 to the baby bottle campaign and helping with snacks for VBS. Lining up LCW Sunday service.

LCW MKL Group: Made and gave out Mother's Day gifts and will make Father's Day gifts as well. Also working on LCW Sunday.

CRS Group: Next meeting at Cagney's in Granite.

Preschool: Preschool finished financially in the plus. Meeting with the board for suggestions and plans for next year, with almost a full list of enrolled for the upcoming year.

Other Council Matters:

Vote for the sound system today. The floor will be open for discussion, with request of a minute each to those wishing to speak.

Letter of transfer received for Emma and David Apple with a motion made for membership acceptance. Motion approved as presented.

Letter of resignation received from Ann Teague as Office Administrator and Financial Secretary due to some health reasons, effective September 1st. She has graciously volunteered to help with training a replacement and transition. Cam Ritchie will head a three-person committee to head up search for a replacement. Request for a reception for Ann to thank her for her service to our congregation.

July Lock-Up, Devotions, and Closing Prayer: Terry Ritchie
Next Meeting: July 9th at 8:00 am in the fellowship hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brittney Ritchie, Council Secretary



The book of Revelation is written to seven churches. Which list includes a city that is not among those seven?

- A. Ephesus, Thyatira, Philadelphia
- B. Smyrna, Laodicea, Galatia
- C. Pergamum, Thyatira, Smyrna
- D. Sardis, Ephesus, Laodicea

Answer: B
(See Revelation 2-3.)

6190 US Hwy 52
Salisbury NC 28146
Address Service Requested

Mailed June 28, 2023

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

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

Council President: Richard Crouch
Council Vice-President: Cam Ritchie
Council Secretary: Brittney Ritchie

Interim Pastor: Keith Less
Church Admin.: Ann Teague
Email: christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com
Church Treasurer: Laurie Ritchie
Organist/Music Director: Becky Morris

Chancel Choir
Becky Morris, Director
Selected Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

Handbell Choir
Marsha Beaver, Director
July 9 & 23

Puppet Team
Becky Morris, Director
On summer break

www.christianalutheran.org

Join us on Facebook



Carolinas Mission District 1st Annual Men's Retreat announced

This retreat will be a time of faith and fellowship with the theme "*Living Faith,*" by Brack East. The cost is \$125/person. Reservations and a \$25 deposit are due by August 31. Contact Bruce Zander: bzander5@att.net.

Reservation forms are available in the church office.



Card Ministry continues

Christiana's card ministry is still seeking names, addresses and the need (sympathy, get well, whatever the need) and we will send the card. Signed by Gg Card Ministry, Your friends/family at Christiana Lutheran Church, Sister Lucille Circle **Send request by email to Gail Koontz** at: gisk81@aim.com, or text to Gail's cell phone: 704-773-4439.

