



*Christ Centered
Spirit Led
Ministry Focused*

Christiana Courier

*Keith Less, Interim
Pastor
443-480-3075*

An NALC Congregation that is Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded & Congregationally Focused

Holy Week & Easter Services

Palm Sunday, 10:30 am, April 2
Procession with Palms
Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday
7:30 pm, April 6
Living Last Supper

Good Friday
7:30 pm, April 7

Easter Sunrise
6:30 am, April 9
Breakfast following

The Resurrection of Our Lord
April 9
9:15 am Adult Sunday School
9:15 am Youth Easter Activities
for all classes in the Fellowship Hall.
Story, crafts, and an Easter Egg Hunt.
Be sure and bring your Easter Basket!
10:30 am Worship
Liturgy with Holy Communion
Concludes with singing of
The Hallelujah Chorus



spring cleanup

A spring workday is planned for
Saturday April 15 at 9:00 am
for people of all ages.

We need help with the landscape crew on the
outside and a cleaning crew
on the inside led by the LCW.

Lunch will be served
in the Fellowship Hall.



STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

God wants all of us – our whole being. God wants our hearts. We give not because our church needs the money, but because giving is an intrinsic need. Giving expresses or demonstrates our love for God. It acknowledges that we love Jesus. I need to give. We all need to give. It is part of who we are.

We give generously and sacrificially not because God needs it or even because the Church needs it – but we want to show our Love for Him. There was a pastor that noted the offerings had fallen short of the congregation’s need. On receiving the offering plates from the ushers, he turned and faced the altar and prayed. Well God this is what we think of You.

Worship giving – first fruit giving – is not designated. You don’t control it – you don’t direct it – you don’t tell God what to do with it. Joyful giving of our time, talents, and treasures to God is then an expression of our love for Our Lord.

March Attendance

March 5

Sunday School: 50
Worship: 93

March 12

Sunday School: 45
Worship: 88

March 19

Sunday School: 45
Worship: 101

March 26

Sunday School: 48
Worship: 93

Those Who Serve in April

Reader: Terry Ritchie

Usher: Brian Barringer

Greeter: Jenny Roberts, Eddie Eller, Onetia Bruce, Barbara Crouch

Communion Assistant: Madeline Zieverink, Mike Keene

Lock Up: Charlotte Pacilio

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

Intercessory Prayers: J and Joyce Wood

Children’s Church

April 2 Charlotte Pacilio & Tara Beaver

April 9 Becca Scarola & April Smith

April 16 Robin Adkins & Marlene Pethel

April 23 Marsha & Dale Beaver

April 30 Debbie & Eddie Eller

April Birthdays

3 David Apple	15 David Preslar
5 Gabriel Honeycutt	15 Don Smith
5 Melody Riddle	17 LaVaughn Beaver
8 Stella Kluttz	17 Laurie Ritchie
9 Robert Barringer	18 Linda Crouch
9 Abegail Thompson	18 Brandy Madison
10 Betty Hatley	19 Syler Hayes
10 Betty Weant	20 Kathy Haynes
10 Cam Ritchie	23 Doris Ritchie
10 April Smith	24 Leanne Kluttz
11 Onetia Bruce	24 Scott Lowry
12 Emmett Shank	25 Joyce Cavanagh –Wood
14 Terry Ritchie	26 Chris Fleming

Happy
Birthday!

April Altar Flowers

Apr. 2 *Lent, no flowers*

Apr. 9 Altar Guild

Apr. 16

Apr. 23

Apr. 30





2 Corinthians 5:21 "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

April and Easter this year meet in a crash of spring. Hopefully, the weather is warmer and there is enough rain to get the gardening started and the lawn in shape. Spring and Easter are resurrection triggers. Rebirth is all around us. It is a time of hopeful expectation. People even seem to regain some of the excitement and enthusiasm that they lost during the cold bleak times of winter after Christmas or maybe it just took this long to recharge after the exuberance of the Christmas season. Either way, it is good to see smiles and happy greetings replace hurried hellos as people dash to warmer places like car and house.

We should understand the significance of the resurrection verses the rebirth of spring. The resurrection of Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith. However, have you ever really sat and thought about the spiritual mechanics of it all? I know we understand the physical crucifixion, but what about the structure of the plan? What made the crucifixion work? I refer to the text from 2 Corinthians. God has to declare something as total sin and depravity to hold the place. To have the crucifixion work, the object had to be sinless itself. In this case Jesus HAS to be sinless. He has to be God. He has to be declared sin itself to have the righteousness of God count in our favor. God is the initiator of our salvation. He is the author of the great declaration of blamelessness that we need to become what we need to be. God willingly does what's needed so that we can become something we aren't capable of. He loves us that much. The blessing of the resurrection is undeserved and barely understood, but it is ours. Alleluia seems to be the best way to celebrate it. Blessings of the resurrection to you and yours this Easter season.

Pastor Keith

PRAY ROWAN

Event Details:

DATE: Saturday, April 1st (No Joke!)

TIME: 10-11AM

WHERE: North Rowan High School
300 N Whitehead Ave, Spencer, NC 28159

We are commanded to pray regularly in our life throughout the Bible:

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." (Ephesians 6:18)

"And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart." (Luke 18:1)

"Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving." (Colossians 4:2)

Pray for Christiana's NEW PASTOR to Model These Traits

The Call Committee gleaned these TOP 5 characteristics from the Congregational Workshop, Members' Survey and Prayer Team. They are listed here in order of importance.

Let's join together in prayer that our new pastor is:

LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Christ shines through in their words and actions.
Has no illusions about their own sinful heart.
Seeks Godly wisdom over human wisdom.

GROUNDING IN SCRIPTURE

Believes/teaches the Bible as written (orthodox).
Preaches the Gospel (our need for a Savior).
Seeks the Word for answers, decisions, and problems.
NALC core values.

COMPASSIONATE

Loves people and actively cares for them.
Has a shepherd's heart.

EVANGELISTIC

Has a heart for winning souls to Christ and developing disciples.

RELATIONAL

Personable (likeable, good listener, humble, sense of humor).
Relates well from the pulpit, in small groups and one-on-one.
Deeply engaged in the life of the church.
A natural leader.

Haiti Missions and Christiana Lutheran

Partnering together to feed the body, the mind and the spirit of the 1000 school children in the schools of Haiti Missions in the highlands of Haiti.

So grateful for the monthly prayers and financial support of our church.



How Jesus Says Your Name

It's been said that when someone loves you, they say your name differently. Your name is "safe" coming from their mouth.

Mary Magdalene found this to be true. Walking alone in the dark to Jesus' tomb, she wanted nothing less than for a concerned loved one to interrupt her private grief, crooning her name in pity: "Oh, Mary, there, there." Or worse, someone from her old life who would spit her name like a curse, not knowing that Jesus had cast out her demons. But then Mary saw the tomb open and panicked, ran to get Simon, hurried back to the garden. Angels addressed her — not by name, just "Woman ..." — and then a gardener: "Woman ..."

Except then — "Mary" — this man knew her after all, speaking her name so knowingly, tenderly, lovingly that she recognized him. "Mary." Her name was safe in his mouth, her life safe in his care. He wasn't the gardener. He was her teacher, her friend, her Savior.

Friend, your name also is safe in Jesus' mouth, your life safe in his care, for he loves you deeply.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

LCW April Events

Miss Katherine Lyerly Group will meet
in the Smith Assembly Hall on **April 4** at 10 a.m.
with Jenny Roberts program leader.

Sister Lucille Group will meet in the
Smith Assembly Hall on **April 4** at 6 p.m.
with Shelby Harwood, hostess
and Laurie Ritchie, program leader

Remember those in Care Homes

The Laurels:

Don & Rose Dedmon

Liberty Commons:

Elizabeth Ritchie

Trinity Oaks:

Patti Holshouser
Ann Meacham

Terra Bella memory unit:

Betty Rose Witty



Dear Christiana,

Thank you so much for all the prayers, calls, gifts and encouragement for Emma Scott during her recovery.

With appreciation,
The Scotts

Dear Congregation of Christiana Lutheran,
Thank you so very much for the prayers lifted up for Ed and I. They are greatly appreciated. We love this church and the fellowship you bring to our lives,

Thank you,
Vickie Hill & Ed Coughenour

Thank you so very much for your prayers and encouragement during my time of healing. I will be forever grateful you're your kindness and love

Eileen Full

To our wonderful church family,
Thank you so very much for exemplifying the Love of Christ that dwells in these walls. Thank you for the cards, calls, food and especially the prayers.

Our lives are enriched by the outpouring of love.
Karen & Jay

Christiana Council Minutes
March 12, 2023

Present:	Banks Kluttz	Charlotte Pacilio	Also present:	Absent: Terry Ritchie
Richard Crouch, Pres.	Todd Koontz	Karen Goodman	Interim Pr. Keith	Brittney Ritchie
Cam Ritchie, VP	Linda Duncan	Kevan Barringer	Less	Harry Agner
Laurie Ritchie, Treas.	Mike Keene	Tara Beaver		Jeff Fleming

Items of Business:

February Meeting Minutes:
Council approved as presented.

February Treasurers Report:

- o February Envelope Offering: \$20,535.14
- o February Offering Variance: \$1,983.53
- o Total February Income: \$20,830.14
- o Total February Income Variance: \$2,016.72
- o YTD Envelope Offering: \$45,344.30
- o YTD Envelope Offering Variance: \$306.96
- o YTD Total Income: \$45,928.30
- o YTD Total Income Variance: \$234.58
- o Total February Expense: \$19,497.37
- o Total February Expense Variance: \$3,413.23
- o YTD Total Expense: \$38,844.14
- o YTD Total Expense Variance: \$6,977.06
- o Cash on Hand: \$77,650.93
- o Cash on Hand Money Market: \$100,000.00

Treasurer's report approved by council as presented.

February Pastor's Report:

Performed one funeral.
Pastor's report approved by council as presented.

Executive Committee Items: None

Committee Reports:

Stewardship: Recommendation from the committee to approve \$200 from Pastors Discretionary Fund and donate to Rowan County Rescue Squad.

There are no funds available for Pastor Keith to attend the NALC Convocation. Stewardship suggested we use the Pastors line item on the budget for business expense.

Christian Ed: VBS is set for July 12, 13, and 14th from 6:00-8:00pm.

Worship: The baptismal font needs repair and an area on the altar. Quote received from Gary Parrish who made the flower stands is \$250 for the repair. Will need someone else to get a quote for the altar. Funds to be used from unbudgeted line item. This comes as a motion from the Worship Committee. The motion was seconded and approved.

Social Ministry: Souper Bowl collected \$579.00. March 23rd serving at the Homeless Shelter.

Fellowship: First Lenten meal with 59 people attending. Second Lenten meal will be the Chili Cookoff. Money collected for the food will go to BTB.

Landscape: Spring Workday April 15th at 9 a.m. Women's group will coordinate the inside cleaning.

Brighten the Beacon: Reviewed the list from the survey all are completed except the electronic sign. Still have monies set aside for the second floor of the Educational Building Face Lift. Request from several members to get or fix a coffee maker for the Fellowship Hall as the next project. Also discussed some type of shelter for the Security Team.

LCW – SL Group: Providing the food for VBS. Finished the Pastor’s Office. Had been donating \$50.00 to BTB and now are redirecting these funds to the Preschool. Amount to be \$75.

LCW - MKL Group: Made toiletry bags for Women’s Shelter. Project called Veterans Razors and collect 108 razors. Gathering supplies for shut ins for Easter Bags. Cards for the shut ins. Sent \$100 to St. Jude’s. Purchased a cart which works really well. Next Meeting April 4th.

CRS: Met at Cracker Barrel. Had 14 attend. March 21st will meet at Rockwell Diner.

Youth: Hosted Black out Night. Had a great turnout. Served the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Youth event coming on March 26th is Bible Based Bowling. Will include trivia. Next Meeting March 19th right after church.

Bus: Sunday School Class wants to use it for a trip out to dinner. Youth may want to use for the Bowling trip. Need to get it on the road and make sure it is ready.

Preschool: If all registrations come in will begin a wait list for all classes.

Pastoral Call Committee: Working on getting the video ready.

Other Council Matters: Motion to approve Letter of transfer for Scott Isley. Seconded and Approved.

New Copier: Lease on the current copier is coming to an end. Richard and Ann have been looking at copiers and have narrowed it down to 2 options.

Motion was made to go with the Synergy Systems and Solutions. This will be a lease for \$239/Month which includes maintenance, supplies and 4,000 copies. This includes Risograph maintenance. Currently paying \$447/month. The motion was seconded and approved.

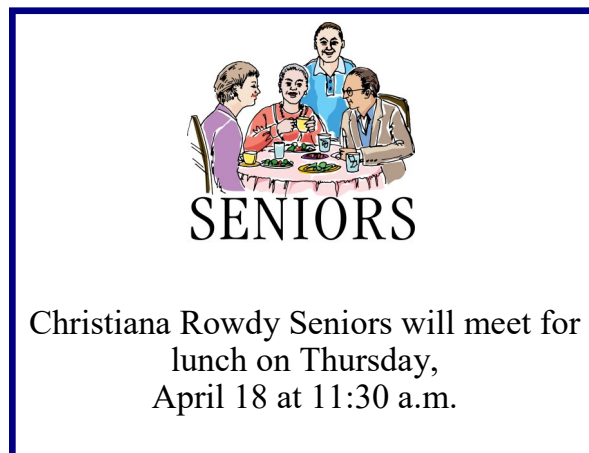
Banks presented Haiti Missions Day on Sunday August 27th, 2023. Would like to combine the Sunday School Classes on Sunday morning with Special Music. They would like to bring Pastor Alexis Baptiste to do the Sunday morning sermon. Sunday evening may have the Gospel Plowboys for a benefit concert.

April Lock-Up, Devotions, & Closing Prayer: Charlotte Pacilio

Next Meeting: April 9th at 8:00 am in the fellowship hall.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Ritchie, Treasurer, Acting Secretary





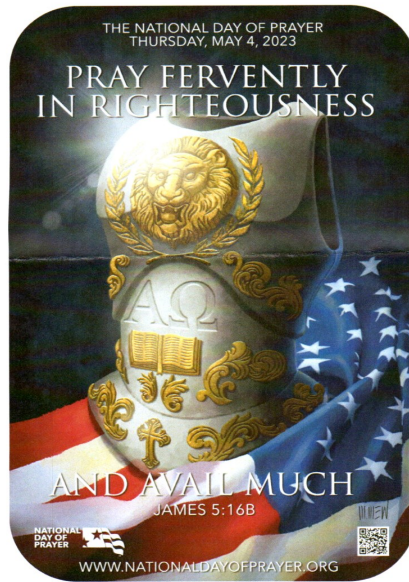
FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Join us for the **16th Annual National Day of Prayer Breakfast, May 4, 2023**. A gathering that includes breakfast, prayer, music and a message designed to spotlight the importance of prayer in our lives.

LOCATION
Outdoors at Atrium Health Ballpark
Doors open at 7:15am
Program begins at 8am

CONTACT
Debbie Owens, Director of Administration
704.216.9622 |
dowens@rocabymca.org

REGISTRATION now until April 15
Register at any Rowan-Cabarrus YMCA \$15 Individual Seat
\$150 Table Sponsor (10 seats)



Gift and memorials received this month

To the Memorial Fund in memory of Voight Basinger by John & Janet Haynes

To the Memorial Fund in memory of Eston Doyle by Mike & Vickie Keene

To the Memorial Fund in memory of Cardell Gibson by David Musick, Onetia Bruce, Kay Abernathy, Branson & Carmen Pethel, Nancy Massey, Sue Lyerly, Wayne & Delores Eller, Mike & Vickie Keene

To the Memorial Fund in memory of Steven Ray Abernathy, Ralph Thomas and Bob Own by Patricia and Kaitlin Pena

To Brighten the Beacon in memory of Cardell Gibson by Mike & Kate Beretsky, LaVaughn Beaver

Thank you!



SUNDAY, APRIL 16
12:00- 4:30 P.M.
CHRISTIANA

Update on handbells

Handbells will resume practice on Sunday, May 7 at 4:00 pm. We will practice the 1st and 3rd Sundays. Thanks for the patience and support that I have received from this amazing group throughout these two knee replacements and rehab.

Marsha



Call Committee Updates as of 3/26/2023

The Call Committee continues to meet every other Thursday, working diligently to complete the development of both the written and video profiles. The written profile is nearing completion and the video profile will be completed by the end of June. The profiles will then be forwarded to Pastor Shelly Schultz for review and posting on the NALC website.

Steps taken after the profile is completed:

- Profile added to list of vacancies

- Start receiving applications, then schedule and conducting interviews with potential pastors God is calling to Christiana

Ann continues to print and share the characteristics as:

- flyers in our weekly bulletins
- part of our weekly updates
- part of our monthly newsletter

Other items that have been reviewed and updated as part of the journey to call our new pastor include:

- Updating Christiana's Mission statement; Christ Center, Spirit Led, Ministry Focused

- Foundational characteristics that guide us on what we work to accomplish and be at Christiana every day

- Updating Christiana's Vision Statement; see below

- Foundational characters that guide us toward what we want to become



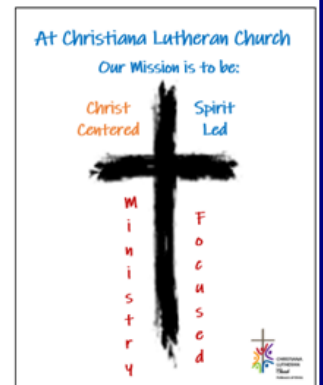
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Believes/teaches the Bible as written (orthodox). Preaches the Gospel (our need for a Savior). Seeks the Word for answers, decisions and problems. NALC core values.
- COMPASSIONATE**
Loves people and actively cares for them. Has a shepherd's heart.
- EVANGELISTIC**
Has a heart for winning souls to Christ and developing disciples.
- RELATIONAL**
Personable (likable, good listener, humble, sense of humor). Relates well from the pulpit, in small groups and one-on-one. Deeply engaged in the life of the church. A natural leader.

Pastoral Call Committee
Christiana Lutheran Church



Working to update Christiana's brochure/flyer to share with our community, visitor and others about God's work at Christiana. Stay tuned, more to come on this.

A continued special thanks to Jim and Linda Duncan for the foundational work that they have done and continue to do preparing our congregation for our new pastor by leading our prayer team. We ask that everyone be in prayer concerning this most important process.

God's peace!

David Preslar <>

Call Committee Chair



Spring Yard & Jewelry Sale

Saturday, April 29, 7—12

Christiana Lutheran Church

Sponsored by the Sweet Potato Queens

All proceeds to Wallace Cancer Institute



April Scripture Lessons

Palm Sunday, April 2

John 12:12-19
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 118:19-29
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:1-27

Good Friday, April 7

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9
John 18:1-19:42

Easter Sunrise, April 9

Exodus 14:10-15:1
Psalm 118: 15-29
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 20:1-19:42

The Resurrection of Our Lord, April 9

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 16
Colossians 4:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10

Second Sunday of Easter, April 16

Acts 5:29-42
Psalm 148
1 Peter 1:3-9
Matthew 28:1-10

Third Sunday of Easter, April 23

Acts 1:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-14
1 Peter 1:17-25
Luke 24:13-35

Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 30

Acts 2:43-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

Prayer Concerns

Frances Basinger, at granddaughter's home. Betty Rose Witty, Terra Bella memory unit C11. Robert Mead. Dee Smith, stent to be removed. Teresa McKinney's husband, treatment for esophageal cancer. Pastor Bruce Sheeks, recovering at home after hospitalization. Bonnie Sechler, at son's; continuing treatments. Vickie Hill, tests. J. J. Pryor, Janet Allen, Eileen Full, Marsha Beaver, Karen Goodman, Emma Apple, Onetia Bruce's daughter, Jennifer, all recovering from surgery. Scott Hayes, prayers for recovery. Jenny Roberts, Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS). Becky Preslar's father, at home with sitters; receiving physical therapy. Madeline's sister-in-law, at home. Smith's grandson, Rex, foot improving. Ricky Cross, at home. Linda Cline's neighbor, Ann Mitchell, tests. Kay Abernathy, at home. Don & Rose Dedmon, rm. 405, The Laurels of Salisbury. Patti Holshouser, Ann Meacham, TOHAR. Elizabeth Ritchie, Liberty Commons. Vaughn Hatley, immunotherapy. Kathie Albright, new neck and shoulder pain; her friends Maxine Campbell, improved condition and Chris McRady, under doctor's care.

Annual Walk for Life

sponsored by *Life Choices*

April 22, 9 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
Catawba College

Contact the church office for full details

6190 US Hwy 52
Salisbury NC 28146
Address Service Requested

Mailed March 29, 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 Secretary: Ann Teague
Email: christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com
Church Treasurer: Laurie Ritchie
Organist/Music Director: Becky Morris

Chancel Choir
Becky Morris, Director
Wednesdays at 5:00 pm

Handbell Choir
Marsha Beaver, Director
Will resume May 7

Puppet Team
Becky Morris, Director
Sundays after Confirmation



Join us on Facebook



Carolinas NALC Youth and Family Retreats information session planned

There will be an information session to give more details about some youth retreat opportunities for any family interested. The meeting will take place April 30th immediately following the church service. Please meet at the front of the church.

Wheels, Reels and Feels set for April 23

Join us on Sunday, April 23 from 3—5 pm in the church circle drive for fun activities including “Jesus, Take the Wheel” lesson, a big screen movie, outside games and sports and yummy snacks!

All youth invited! Bring a friend!