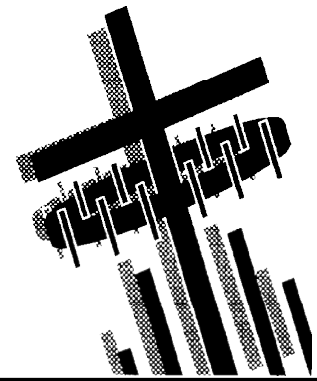


Comments



324 2nd Avenue, SE ~ Hickory, NC 28602 ~ 828-328-1483 ~ May 2024

Inviting Community

Paul writes to the Christians in Ephesus: *But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus* (Ephesians 2:4–7).

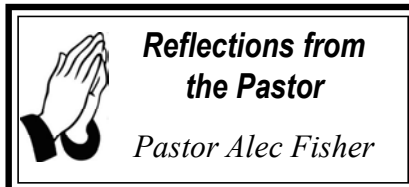
When God sent his Son into this world, born a child of humble estate, he extended to humanity—to all his creation—an olive branch. Jesus came to make peace between God and his creation thereby inviting us into his own family. Through this act of love, we have been reconciled to God. He invites us—welcomes us—into community with him. What a joy it is to be in communion with our God!

We enter relationship with God through the invitation that extends to us, and the way by which we enter the community of God is itself a glimpse of what that community is like. Since God invites us through his grace, then the community is one characterized by grace. Since he invites us through his word, then his community is one that gathers around his word. God's disposition toward us is then directly

displayed in our own dispositions toward one another. The hospitality and invitation that God has extended to us is one that we extend to each other. Paul writes this to the Christians in Rome: *May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God* (Romans 15:5–7). As God welcomes us into life, we welcome one another into our lives and the life that we receive from him.

It is only when we all look to Christ that we can truly live in harmony and with one accord.

Paul writes this to the Christians of Philippi: *So, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus* (Philippians 2:1–5). Sharing in the mind of



**Reflections from
the Pastor**

Pastor Alec Fisher

CLC Notes and News

(continued from page 1)

Christ, Paul calls us to set ourselves aside for the sake of one another. That's what God himself did for us when he invited us into community with him.

The writer of Hebrews reminds us of the connection between the invitation that God extends to us, the invitation that we then extend to one another within the church, and the invitation that we as a Christian community extend to the community around us: *Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares* (Hebrews 13:1–2). The Christian community has been invited by God, is inviting to one another within it, and is inviting to the community around us. The Christian church from its own beginning is an inviting community.

After Pentecost, we will begin a whole new worship series called “Inviting Community”, in which we consider what all of this means for us. What does it look like in our daily lives? What does it look like for our devotional lives and our lives in fellowship with one another? How are we called to be an inviting community in a culture of consumerism and never-ending technological advancements and constant division? How does an inviting community practice both sanctuary within a troubled world and hospitality to those unknown to us? All of these things we will consider as we cling to the invitation that our God has extended to us in and through Christ Jesus our Lord.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all (2 Corinthians 13:14).

In Christ,
Pastor Alec



The LWML will meet May 1 in the multipurpose room. Bring your latest quarterly for the topic. Do please come as there might be cookies. This will be our last meeting until September. Bring mites and free will offering.

Guiding Through God's Love



Christ Lutheran is *hosting* a neighborhood **Block Party!** Mark your calendars for the Kenworth Association/Mt Zion/Christ Lutheran Block Party set for **Saturday, June 15, from 12:00 until 4:00pm.** There will be a DJ, good food, children's activities, a bouncy house, TV raffle, representatives from our friends at the Hickory Fire Department and Police Department, other vendors, **and it's all FREE!** Consider volunteering for an hour or two or more welcoming our neighbors through our hospitality. If you would like to volunteer or help in any way, please contact Robie Hillhouse, Mary Puett, or Kyle Donovan.

The Tucker Family would like to thank the members of Christ Lutheran Church for all the prayers, cards, visits and calls given to us during the passing of our dad, Thomas R. Tucker. God's Blessings on wonderful church friends.

Mary Puett and Pastor Richard Tucker



HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

Dear Friends:

Thank you for partnering with us in ministering to the needy in our community. Generous gifts like yours make it possible for us to help meet the increasing needs of those who are hungry in our area. We depend upon faithful friends like you to enable us to continue to address their needs. You help make all we do possible and are a blessing for our guests!

Sincerely,
Austin Pearce, Exec. Dir.
Hickory Soup Kitchen



Vacation Bible School 2024! This year our Vacation Bible School will look a little different! We will be meeting on

Wednesday mornings, July 3, 10, and 17th. Each morning will begin with a Bible story led by Pastor Alec, followed by crafts, games, fun, and a light lunch to end our time together. Mark your calendars! Tell your friends! Watch for more details to come!

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

MAY 2ND
3PM - 7PM
HICKORY ON THE SQUARE

Sponsored by:



A Sacred Call To The Body Of Christ
Theme:

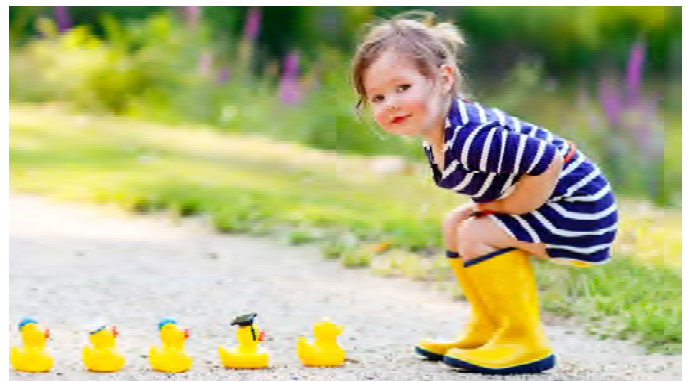
*“Lift up the Word,
Light up the world”*

2 Samuel 22: 29-31



In memory of Thomas Tucker

- Alan & Sandra Banner
- James & Peggy Fulbright
- Diann B. Icenhour
- Juanita Isenhower
- Timothy & Mary Ann Isenhower
- Betty J. Link
- Pastor David & Kathy Ludwig
- Bill & Pat Powell
- Robert F. Sloop
- Jerry E. White



Mother's Day Brunch – May 11



Sign-up at the Welcome Center!

All *MEN* who would be willing to help, please contact Dale Matthews (828-612-5159), sign-up at the Welcome Center, OR call the Church Office (328-1483).



FREE Outdoor Concert

Sunday, May 5

2:00-5:00pm

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Hickory

Entertainment from 2-4pm: Enjoy Christian music performed by soloists & groups from the Hickory area.

Featuring Headliner, Shellem Cline!

Beginning at 4:00pm, a national award winning Inspirational Country Artist!

Get a ticket for **every can of food** you bring to register for door prizes. The more cans you bring, the more chances you have to WIN! Canned food will go to the Salvation Army Food Pantry.

Food & Drinks sold by: Dawg Pound Hot Dogs, Brother John's Events (pizza), Sweet Tooth of Lincolnton, Nana's Southern Sweets, Pooter Pop Kettle Corn, and Cold Drinks will be sold by Mt. Olive Hospitality Team with proceeds going to the *Kindness Project of Hickory*.

Games for Children of ALL ages!!!
Drawing/coloring table, face painting, sidewalk chalk, corn hole, and more!

Bring a yard chair and/or blanket to enjoy the afternoon. Please park in the **upper lot** on Hwy. 127 OR **overflow parking** in the field on 27th Avenue. Please do **NOT** park in *Publix* parking lot. Concert will be in the lower parking lot behind the church.

Rain or shine! If rain, the event will be indoors!

Sponsored by:

The Mt. Olive Lutheran Church ELCA
2780 North Center Street, Hickory



MAY IS FOOD MONTH AT CLC

Remember to bring staples for the *ECCCM Harvest Table* in the narthex during the month of May. The basic items for the Ministry are listed below. Please note the items with an * are in demand.

- * 24 oz. beef stew
- 16 oz. canned pasta dinners (spaghetti, Ravioli, etc.)
- 16 oz. dry spaghetti or macaroni or lasagna
- 16 oz. spaghetti or tomato sauce
- * 6 oz. tuna
- * 16 oz. rice
- * 12 oz. Spam, Treet, or chicken
- 16 oz. green beans
- 16 oz. green peas
- 16 oz. corn
- 16 oz. canned pinto beans, etc.
- 16 oz. dry beans or peas
- * 16 oz. applesauce
- 16 oz. other fruit
- 10 oz. soup
- * 7 oz. macaroni & cheese
- * 16 oz. peanut butter
- * box saltine crackers
- 16 oz. Pork & Beans or baked beans
- 16 oz. sweet potatoes
- box powdered milk
- box oatmeal, grits, cereal

Miscellaneous items are given as available: flour, sugar, cooking oil, shortening, salt, personal care items, coffee, tea, juice, cleaning supplies, laundry soap, dish soap, and toilet paper. We still accept empty egg cartons and are now taking the plastic recyclable grocery bags.

Eastern Catawba Cooperative Christian Ministry continues to be so thankful for the response from the community.

THE CHURCH FAMILY

JOYS, PRAYERS, & CONCERNS

Mission outreach for:

- our ministry of Guiding through God's Love
- local outreach ministers: CCM, Soup Kitchen, University Christian High School, Pregnancy Care Center
- Mid-Atlantic Lutherans in Mission (malim.org)
- Lutheran Heritage Foundation

Rehabilitation: Robert Sigmon (4/14 Mooresville Nursing & Rehab); Carolyn Smith (4/14 at Conover Rehab); Jim Starkey (4/28 at Valley Nursing & Rehab, Taylorsville)

Testing: Mary Stillwell (4/14 niece of Charles Beeker)

Recovering: Carmen Divers (3/31); Jimmy Gantt (4/28); Britt Griffith (4/21); Lois Hunt (3/24); Bob Rinehart (3/24)

Undergoing treatments: Judy Baker (3/31); Teresa Mays; Doris Smith; Paul Cates (3/31 husband of Angela Cates); Courtney Brown (4/7 friend of Jim & Pat Hamby); Barbara Jones (4/7 sister of Lois Hunt); Michael Pannell (4/7 friend of Jim & Pat Hamby); Glenn Campbell (4/21 friend of Phyllis Kane)

Under doctors' care: Charles Beeker (3/24); Bill Borchardt (3/31); Becky Rimmer; Rita Roseman; John Sigmon; Virginia Crew (sister of Jim Starkey); Angela Hallman (4/7 daughter

of Jimmy Gantt); Rita Crotts (4/7 sister of Tony Lail); Carolyn Bradford (4/21 friend of Phyllis Kane); Waylon Mosteller (infant relative of Sylvia Lail); Pastor Rudy DeRosa (4/28 friend of Michael & Phyllis Kane)

For shut-ins: Brandon Caldwell; Juanita Isenhower at Trinity Village; David & Donna Lumb at Abernethy Laurels; Peggy Mays; Randy Smith; Alice Yount

If not otherwise updated, prayer requests will remain on the Prayer List for four (4) weeks. Some dates are listed next to names to indicate when a person has been added to the Prayer List. Please update the church office with any changes within four (4) weeks to help us keep the Prayer List current.

Offerings



March 31, 2024, 2024: \$ 3,409.00
Maundy Thursday, March 28: \$ 494.00
Good Friday, March 29: \$524.00

April 7, 2024: \$ 5,306.00
Joyful Response 3-31 to 4-7: \$ 445.00

April 14, 2024: \$ 5,025.17
Joyful Response 4-8 to 4-14: \$ 1,195.00

April 21, 2024: \$ 3,729.00

The average required weekly budgeted amount needed: \$ 6,243.00

Capital Improvement Fund
published weekly in bulletin

Total: \$ 20,127.17

May 2024

Christ Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:30a LWML 1:00p A-Z Bible Study	2 7:00p CMT (FLC) Church Council	3 10:00a Zumba 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	4 8:00a Men's Group (FLC) 9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm)  MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU
5th Easter 9:00a 1 st Service ☩ & Small Group 9:15a Children's SS 10:10a Fellowship 10:30a 2 nd Service & Small Group 5:15p Family Night	6 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC) 1:00p NT Survey	7 9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 9:00a Circuit Mtg (Winkel) 10:30a PEEPS 6:00p Women's Bible Study (zoom)	8 Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 1:00p A-Z Bible Study 	9 7:00p CMT (FLC)	10 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	11 9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 9:00a Mother's Day Brunch (FLC) 
12th Easter 7 th Easter 9:00a 1 st Service & Small Group 9:15a Children's SS 10:00a Fellowship 10:10a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a 2 nd Service ☩☩ & Small Group	13 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC) 1:00p New Testament Survey	14 9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 10:30a PEEPS 1:00p Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	15 Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Soup Kitchen 1:00p A-Z Bible Study	16 7:00p CMT (FLC) 	17 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	18 9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm)
19th Pentecost 9:00a 1 st Service ☩ & Small Group 9:15a Children's SS 10:00a Fellowship 10:30a 2 nd Service & Small Group 11:45a Voter's Assembly	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC) 1:00p New Testament Survey 6:30p Kenworth Mtg. (CLC)	21 9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 10:30a PEEPS 6:00p Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	22 Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 1:00p A-Z Bible Study	23 7:00p YMT (FLC) 	24 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	25 9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 11:30a <i>Feed the Needy</i>
26th Holy Trinity 9:00a 1 st Service 9:15a Children's SS 10:00a Fellowship 10:10a Choir Rehearsal 10:30a 2 nd Service ☩☩	27 Church Office <u>Closed!</u>  Memorial Day	28 9:00a Yard Sale Donations Accepted (PH) (till 1:00pm) 10:30a PEEPS 6:00p Women's Bible Study (Zoom)	29 Bulletin Deadline 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 1:00p A-Z Bible Study	30 7:00p CMT (FLC)	31 10:00a Zumba (FLC) 11:00a Chair Zumba (FLC)	Holy Communion ☩ - early ☩☩ - late

May 2024 Birthdays and Anniversaries

Congratulations and may God continue to bless you!!!

1	Mary Puett Jonathan Ross	20	Joel Lackey Richard Tucker, Sr.
3	Mark Kiziah Betty Link Phoebe Wall	21	Adeline Fisher Sarah Helmick
4	Glenda Setzer	22	Chris Mundy Lisa Smith
5	Bob Rinehart, Sr.	23	Lois Hunt Anna Lail
8	Alison Matthews Candace Moore		Karsyn Warren
9	Raegan Hicks David Terry	25	Sam Isenhower Steven Parlier
11	Angela Parlier	25	Carolyn Smith
12	Judy Baker	27	Billy Barnes Dycie Bolick
13	Aubrey Clemons		Rose Martin
15	Ken McLeod	31	Maggie Bates Tim Brewer
16	Terry Hefner		Lucy Fisher
19	Daniel King Logan Kraay		Robie Hillhouse
20	Britt Griffith		

<i>Anniversaries</i>	
7	David & Wendelynne Pearson
8	Calvin & Janice Buchanan
12	Byron & Debbie Yarbrough
15	David & Mary Puett
17	David & Donna Lumb
21	Chris & Lauren Harms
29	Roger & Betsy Downs Mike & Robie Hillhouse



	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26	
Preaching	Pastor Fisher	Pastor Fisher	Pastor Fisher	Pastor Ludwig	
Lector	Adeline Fisher	Zach Rose	Kyle Donovan	Robie Hillhouse	
Distributor	~*~	Angie Ewing	~*~	~*~	
Acolyte	Jack Fisher	Aiden Turner	Alison Matthews	Adeline Fisher	
Elder	Bill Lail	Nancy Rinehart	Tony Lail	Maria McKinney	
Counters	Darryl & Dot Grater	Jim Hunt Cam Davis	David & Shawn Terry	Darryl & Dot Grater	
Audio/Video		Kyle Donovan		Cam Davis	
Media	Susan Fulbright	Rick Lail	Kyle Donovan	Karla Bolch	
Host	Anna Newton	Betty Link	Mary Puett	Pat Hamby	
Altar Guild	Anna Lail	Anna Lail	Anna Lail	Anna Lail	
Security Team	Rick Lail	Chris Mundy	Randall Mays	Jimmy Gantt	

Connection

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On Sunday, May 19, we celebrate Pentecost. Pentecost was originally a Jewish festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. The Christian Church celebrates Pentecost 50 days after Easter Sunday.

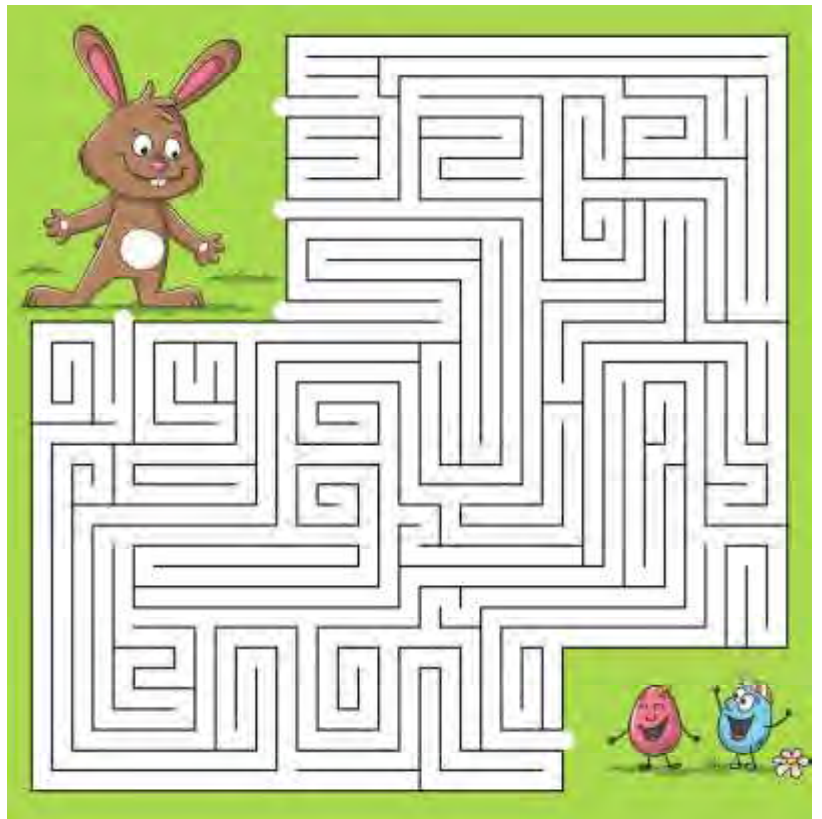
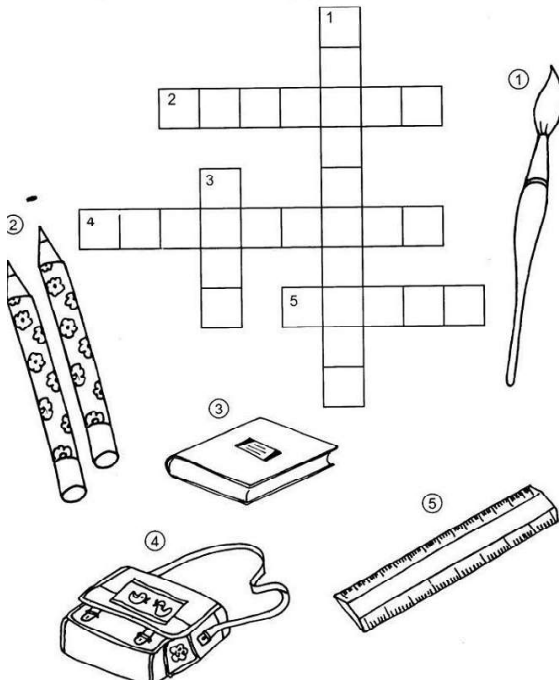
Read Acts 2:1-21. On this particular Pentecost, the Holy Spirit poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and scriptures had prophesied. We pray:

Almighty and ever-living God, you fulfilled the promise of Easter by sending the gift of your Holy Spirit. Look upon us as we pray and open our hearts to receive the Spirit's flame. May it come to rest within us and heal our divisions of word and tongue, that with one voice and song we may praise your name in joy and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (ELW, p 36, edited)



Crossword

Use the picture clues to help you fill in the crossword:



Christ Lutheran Church

324 2nd Avenue, SE
Hickory, NC 28602

Comments

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Our Mission Motto is

Guiding Through God's Love

CHURCH STAFF

Adm. Pastor.....Rev. Alec Fisher
Assoc. Pastor.....Dr. David Ludwig
Assistant Pastor..Rev. Richard Tucker
Organist.....Danny Foster
Secretary.....Jill P. Lafone
Adm. Assistant.....Nancy Rinehart
Newsletter Staff.....Nancy Rinehart
and Jill Lafone
Contributors: CLC Family & Friends

Christ Lutheran Church

