

# The Lamplighter

of Saint Luke's Lutheran Church, Prosperity, South Carolina

MAY 2008

Dear Friends,

Since we're in the beginning of the gardening and grass cutting season, I thought you all would appreciate this little story! God bless and have a blessed Spring. Christ is Risen! Alleluia! Pastor Hallman

## GOD'S GARDEN

**GOD:** St. Francis, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there in the USA. What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistle and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect, no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and multiply abundantly. The nectar from the long lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honeybees and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But all I see are these green rectangles.

**ST. FRANCIS:** It's the tribes that settled there, Lord. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers "weeds" and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

**GOD:** Grass? But it is so boring. It's not colorful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees, only grubs and sod worms. It is temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?

**ST. FRANCIS:** Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

**GOD:** The spring rains and warm weather probably makes grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.

**ST. FRANCIS:** Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it, sometimes twice a week.

**GOD:** They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

**ST. FRANCIS:** Not exactly Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

**GOD:** They bag it? Why? It is a cash crop? Do they sell it?

**ST. FRANCIS:** No, sir-just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

**GOD:** Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

**ST. FRANCIS:** Yes, sir.

**GOD:** These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and save them a lot of work.

# The Lamplighter

of St. Luke's Lutheran Church  
4056 St. Luke's Church Rd.  
Prosperity, S. C. 29127

Phone: 803-364-4093

Fax: 803-364-5151

Email:

Secretary@stlukesprosperity.com

Web Site: [www.stlukesprosperity.com](http://www.stlukesprosperity.com)

Christi Gibson, Editor

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 9:00-12:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00-10:00am

**ST. FRANCIS:** You aren't going to believe this Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

**GOD:** What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves form compost to enhance the soil. It is a natural circle of life.

**ST. FRANCIS:** You had better sit down, Lord. The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

**GOD:** No. What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter and to keep the soil moist and loose?

**ST. FRANCIS:** After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

**GOD:** And where do they get this mulch?

**ST. FRANCIS:** They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch.

**GOD:** Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore. St. Catherine, you are in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

**ST. CATHERINE:** "Dumb and Dumber," Lord. It is a real stupid movie about.....

**GOD:** Never mind. I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.

**MAY 2008**

**BIRTHDAYS**

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1 Wade Morris**
- 2 Amanda Kunkle**  
**Bobby M. Morris**  
**Harriett Kesler**
- 3 Reba Lester**
- 4**
- 5**
- 6 Hazel Hawkins**
- 7 Rachel Swygert**
- 13 Joshua Cumalander**
- 14 Emma Brandt**
- 16 Robby Lester**
- 19 Amanda H. Bickley**
- 21**
- 22 Bobby Taylor**
- 23**
- 24 Sharon Turner**
- 27 Lucinda Kunkle**
- 29 Steven Lake**

**Pastor Henry & Rose Brandt**

**Wayne & Linda Sheppard**

**Al & Donna Turner**

**Bobby & Wanda Taylor**

**Mitchel & Harriett Connelly**



Thanks to all the members of St. Luke's that made the Day Camp Hamburger and Bingo Night a success. This goes to show you that we are blessed to be members of a church that really supports the children of this church and what they are wanting to do. A very special thanks to all the parents and Linda and Kara Sheppard for the help in preparing the supper, and for the guys who cooked the hamburgers. Again this year, we will have a full house for the week of Day Camp. Again, thanks for your continued support in this activity that the children of St. Luke's thoroughly look forward to every year.

In Christian Love,

Tracy Fulmer and the Day Camp Committee

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Your gifts made a difference! Thank you for participating in Gifts of Hope in 2007. Purchases made through Gifts of Hope provided \$3,497.00 for South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers. Your gift brought joy to the person who received it, and now, we have some extra resources to make your Retreat Centers even better places. We will soon be able to add our rocking chair fleet at Camp Kinard. And, thanks in part to Gifts of Hope, we have completed our reforestation project at Camp Kinard. Your gifts also allowed us to add to our collection of ELW books for both centers. We are grateful that the gifts provided some funding for our soon-to-be-built worship and assembly space at the Coastal Retreat Center.

We join the other agencies and institutions in thanking you for participating in Gifts of Hope!

Blessings,

Dallas Shealy, Executive Director

**All Committee Night, Sunday May 25th at 7:00 p.m.**

All Committee members, Council liasons or those who have an interest in any committee are encouraged to attend.

## NEW HORIZONS

New Horizons members and friends met at the church to attend an Easter Musical at the Newberry Elementary School. It was created by Sue Smith and Jonathan Crumpton and presented by the Newberry Community Choir, under the direction of Mary Ann Hayes. Maggie Connelly is a member of the choir. Mrs. Ethel Rikard and Rev. and Mrs. Pierce Evans joined us for the trip. While on our way, we stopped at Pizza Hut for supper.

We thoroughly enjoyed the musical. We missed those who were unable to join us.

**The New Horizons** is planning a trip to the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, NC on May 14th. The Library tracks the history of worldwide evangelist, Billy Graham, from a county boy raised on a dairy farm to one of the most respected men in history. The Library contains a vast collection of his books and inspirational materials which you can purchase, a gift shop, and a dairy bar. Please let Catherine Boozer (364-2780) or Linda Kunkle (364-3134) know if you would like to go. We will leave the church at 7:30 a.m. for a scheduled tour at 10:30 a.m. You are invited to bring your camera.

## **"Special Thanks" To The St. Luke's Church Family"**

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the many prayers, calls, and cards after the passing of Dennis' mother. Your thoughts are deeply appreciated and make one realize how special it is to be a part of this congregation.

Sincerely,  
Dennis and Michelle Long

To My Church Family,

Many thanks to all of you for a wonderful Christmas Season. Thanks to the Kid's Club for the delicious meal they prepared and delivered and to their leaders for the wonderful work you do.

Thanks to the ladies of the ELCA for their useful items and the Christmas cards from many members of my church. I enjoyed Karen Steele's visit so much.

Thanks to the LCY for the basket of special items and to Charlene Pitts and all the leaders for their work with our

youth. I will continue to think of you as I use these gifts and especially when I view the Sunday Morning Worship Service and see your beautiful faces.

To Linda Kunkle goes special thanks for her weekly visits to bring the video and for all the many little things she does for me while here. Many thanks to the video committee for this wonderful ministry! I am truly thankful to Pastor Hallman for his visits, dedication, and leadership. A special thanks to those who bring communion—Dean and Cindy, Doliene and Bobby. To my church family, I miss you and appreciate all that you do.

May God continue to bless our Church and all its' members.

Mary Edith Bedenbaugh

**A big THANK YOU TO ALL** who helped make our Relay For Life FUN-D raiser a Whooping Big Success. All money taken in was clear profit. We raised \$1,114.57. Again—together, we can make a difference. Thanks again.

## March Financial Report

Doliene Bedenbaugh, Treasurer

<b>Budget Needed To Date</b>		<b>\$ 63,595.74</b>
<b>Budget Received To Date</b>		<b>\$ 54,670.97</b>
<b>Disbursed To Date</b>		<b>\$ 56,934.73</b>
<b>Balance General Fund</b>	<b>1/1/08</b>	<b>\$ 7,908.24</b>
<b>Balance General Fund</b>	<b>3/31/08</b>	<b>\$ 5,644.48</b>

The Bake Sale on April 13th at Grace for Tornado Victims raised around \$500.00. Thanks to all who baked for this cause.

**The total profit from the Steak Supper:** \$2,587.41

**The total profit from the Bake Sale:** \$1,380.00

**Total Raised:** \$3,967.41

Thrivent Financial For Lutherans provided \$400.00 in matching funds. Thanks to everyone who purchased plates, helped with the supper, and those who baked for the sale. It couldn't have been done without everyone's help.

**The total raised for the Day Camp Hamburger supper was \$1,513.33.**

**The total raised for the Leslie Rankin Love Offering was \$3,577.01.**

**A big thanks goes to everyone who donated to these causes.**



<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	
<b>4</b> Graduate's Brunch 9:30 am Sunday School 10 am The Service 11 am Children's Church Love Offering for ICS & Free Medical Clinic First Communion Class 3 pm	<b>5</b>  Scouts 6:30 pm	<b>6</b> Essie Hawkins Circle 10 am  Stoney Hill Center 7:30 pm	<b>7</b> Margaret H
<b>11</b> Sunday School 10 am The Service 11 am Mother's Day SisterCare	<b>12</b>  Scouts 6:30 pm  LMM 7:30 p.m.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> New Horizo (to Billy Gr
<b>18</b> Sunday Morning LMM 8:30 am Sunday School 10 am The Service 11 am Children's Church Congregational Council 7 pm	<b>19</b> Scouts 6:30 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Barbara Ri  Thomas Su
<b>25</b> Sunday School 10 am The Service 11 am Children's Church All Committee Meeting 7 pm	<b>26</b>  Scouts 6:30 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>

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	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Stoney Hill Center Reunion 10 am
Stoney Hill Center 7:30 pm	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Adopt-A-Hwy Pick-up 8 am
7:30 am (Mayer Memorial Library)	<b>15</b> Heartland Conference LMM @ Mayer Memorial 7 pm	<b>16</b> NEWSLETTER INFOR- MATION DUE IN OF- FICE	<b>17</b> "Join Hands Day"
Stoney Hill Center 7 pm Stoney Hill Center 7:30 pm	<b>22</b> Partnership For Survival (Jerry Fowler to speak) 7 pm	<b>23</b> WELCA CONVENTION (Lutheridge) thru Sunday	<b>24</b>
	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

*Congregational Sympathy is extended to*

-Al Turner and family on the death of his Grandfather, John Kinard, who died Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. Funeral Services were held Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> in Chapin.

-the family and friends of Margaret Murrah Sheppard who died Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Funeral Services were held Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at Whitaker Funeral Home with burial in Newberry Memorial Gardens.

-the family and friends of Judy Meetze, who died Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. Funeral Services were held Thursday at St. Phillip's Lutheran Church.

*Our prayers are with you all.*

St. Luke's will have a Fall Bazaar in October. Think about preparing your crafts, plants, jellies, jams, etc. now! Look for more information to follow.

**Musicians Wanted!**

Summer is coming soon, and there will be two services at St. Luke's again this year. If you would be willing to share your musical talent during the early service this summer, please contact Cheryl Lucas or Ingrid Carr.

**The total collected last week** for Newberry College Women's League was \$374.00. Thanks to everyone for your participation.



**Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®**  
**Let's thrive.™**

**Let's 'Join Hands' and generations  
to improve our communities**

*Be part of a national volunteer day!*

JOIN HANDS DAY is a national volunteer effort that  
brings youth and adults *together* to improve  
communities and have fun while helping others.

Please join with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans  
members of all ages as we make a difference

on this special day:

Walk For Interfaith Community and  
Walk For FREE Medical Clinic

Activity:

May 17, 2008      10:00-12:00 PM

Day, Date and Time:

Location:

Tommy E. Wicker      Call Faye Hawkins to  
order lunch of Hot Dogs

For information, contact:

Hosted by members of the Newberry Chapter  
of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

***Join hands and see the power of membership grow!***

*JOIN HANDS DAY is sponsored by America's 76 fraternal  
benefit societies, including Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, the  
nation's largest fraternal benefit society. Thrivent Financial and  
its members, who belong to 1,357 chapters nationwide, are  
strong supporters of this day. Last year, Thrivent chapters  
conducted nearly 3,000 JOIN HANDS DAY activities, resulting  
in nearly 590,000 volunteer hours of service.*



**JOINHANDSDAY**  
it starts with us SM

# FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

The Free Medical Clinic of Newberry County has depended heavily on the churches of the county for support in this outreach ministry opportunity ever since the Clinic opened its doors in 2004. Those in charge of the day-to-day operation of the Clinic are extremely grateful for contributions from all of the churches. Since the Clinic first opened, 40 churches have contributed over \$70,000, with amounts ranging from \$10 to \$16,354 per congregation.

However, contributions from congregations were down by nearly 50% for the first half of 2007, compared with the same period in 2006. Also, only 13 congregations have contributed \$5,736 so far in 2007, compared with 18 contributing \$10,771 during the same period of time in 2006. Additional congregational financial support is needed for the Clinic to be able to serve the growing number of patients who are in need of care but without any kind of medical insurance.

Members of congregations are invited and encouraged to visit the Clinic, either as a group or individually, to learn more about it and to better understand its mission in the community. (2568 Kinard Street, across from the hospital) Volunteers, either with or without medical training, are needed. Students, who are at least 16 years old, on summer vacation, are welcome at the Clinic to perform a community service project.

Another way for congregations to assist in the work of the Clinic is to inform members who might be eligible for its services. To qualify, an individual must (1) be a resident of Newberry County, (2) earn below 140% of the Federal Poverty Level, and (3) be without Medicaid, Medicare, or any other type of health insurance. It is important for those who are eligible not to wait until they get sick to ask for help from the Clinic because the qualification process may take several days. To contact the Clinic, phone 276-6665. Further information may be found on the Clinic's website at [www.newberryclinic.org](http://www.newberryclinic.org).

On Saturday, March 22nd we had an Easter Egg Hunt at St. Luke's. Everyone had a wonderful time. Pictured below are the children who participated.



# WORSHIP TRENDS

APR. 6	225	\$4,158.50
APR. 13	211	\$3,917.00
APR. 20	197	\$3,790.00

Offering needed each Sunday in 2008 to meet Budget: \$ 4,891.98

## MAY 2008

### SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

#### ACOLYTES

MAY 4 APRIL CUMALANDER & NICOLE BOOZER  
MAY 11 CONRAD MINICK & ADAM LESTER  
MAY 18 BETH FULMER & JUSTIN HAWKINS  
MAY 25 ASHLEY LAKE & HANNAH FLOYD

#### CRUCIFER

ADAM STEELE  
AMBER STONE  
ALDEN TURNER  
LESLEY TAYLOR

#### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

MAY 4 FRAN MERCHANT & SARAH EARGLE  
MAY 11 CHRISTIE GARDNER & DEANN MCMANUS  
MAY 18 MICHELLE LONG & KELLY HAWKINS  
MAY 25 TINA NICHOLS & SUSAN LAKE

## **FLOWERS**

MAY 4 MIKE, DAPHNE, & AVERY DUBOSE  
MAY 11 BECKY KINARD, CHRISTIE GARDNER, & JAMES KESLER  
MAY 18 DAVID & CATHERLINE AMICK & JULIA TURNER  
MAY 25 DEBBIE MINICK & RACHEL SWYGERT

## **GREETERS**

MAY 4 ENOCH BOOZER & MARGARET KOON  
MAY 11 JOE BOOZER & LINDA SHEPPARD  
MAY 18 BERNICE CONNELLY & DEBBIE MINICK  
MAY 25 BETTY DOMINICK & EDITH HITE

## **LECTORS**

MAY 4 JOYCE LESTER  
MAY 11 CAROLINE BRANDT  
MAY 18 KAY BEGGS  
MAY 25 MIKE HAWKINS

## **CLOSING THE CHURCH**

CARROLL LESTER  
JOE BOOZER  
CARLTON HITE  
HENRY BRANDT

## **USHERS**

MAY 4 TIM CONNELLY, KEVIN KUNKLE, BERT LUCAS, AND CHESLEY  
MINICK  
MAY 11 HENRY KUNKLE, JR., JIM BALLANTYNE, RUSSELL HENDRIX,  
ENOCH BOOZER  
MAY 18 STEVEN LAKE, JOE KUNKLE, LEE LIVINGSTON, JOHN W. PUGH  
MAY 25 JOE BOOZER, JODY GREEN, REGGIE BECKHAM, JOEY LONG

## **ALTAR GUILD**

MAY 5-11 FAYE & JUNIOR SHEALY  
MAY 12-18 NEAL, ADAM, & LAURA LESTER  
MAY 19-25 RANDY & JUDY NOBLES  
MAY 26-JUNE 1 MITCHEL & HARRIET CONNELLY & WANDA CROTWELL

## **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

MAY 4 DANA GREEN, BECKY KINARD, & JENNER LONG  
MAY 11 NO CHILDREN'S CHURCH  
MAY 18 DEANN MCMANUS & SUSAN LAKE  
MAY 25 PENNY BALLANTYNE, SANDRA BARNETT, & SARAH EARGLE

## ABOUT OUR MEMBERS. . . .

-MacKenzie Crotwell, Alana Eargle, Elise Mills, Ben Hawkins, Alex Lake, Calen McManus, Carter Mays, Ivey Horne, Ashley Turner, Jonathon Bickley, Grant Mays, Duncan Crotwell, Drew Moore, Justin Lever, Anabel Barrnette, Ingrid Trotter, Rachel Turner, Marshall Horne, and April Cumalander are on Prosperity-Rikard Elementary School's Third Nine Weeks Honor Roll.

-Michael Fulmer, Haleigh Cumbi and Ashely Turner are Lifeskills Leaders at Prosperity-Rikard Elementary School.

-Justin Clevenger, Calen McManus, and Drew Moore were chosen to have their writings displayed at the Newberry County Reading Council's "Fair of Expert Writing Celebration."

-Ivey Horne is an Awesome Author at Prosperity-Rikard Elementary School.

-Duncan Crotwell and Justin Hawkins are members of the Mid-Carolina Mustangs U11 baseball team. Scottie Hawkins is coach.

-Justin Clevenger is an honor roll student at Newberry Elementary School.

-Ben Hawkins placed second in Newberry County Memorial Hospital's Weekend of Wellness Junior Jog.

-Newberry YMCA Swim Team qualified for the Upper Southeast Regional Championships. Kaitlin and Matthew Kunkle are members of the team.

Congratulations to all of you!!!

Have something you would like posted on our website ([www.stlukesprosperity.com](http://www.stlukesprosperity.com))? Just email your photo(s) or text to Bobby Morris at [bobby54@earthlink.net](mailto:bobby54@earthlink.net).

## Rachel's Day

Drugs. Gangs. Abuse. Neglect. Illness. Poor education. Hunger. The list goes on of the concerns today's children face. You can make a difference.

Rachel's Day, a day to mourn the loss of our children and to renounce the forces of evil and fear that plague our nation, is observed on the first Sunday of May each year. Women of the ELCA encourage you to observe Rachel's Day on May 4 this year.

St. Luke's will emphasize this awareness through songs by the children's choir, the sermon and litany.

If there is a time when you can't reach Pastor Hallman at the office or at home, please contact any Church Council Member. They are there to assist you.

**Everyone** is invited to join us for Vacation Bible School on July 20<sup>th</sup>-July 25<sup>th</sup>. Watch your newsletters and bulletins for more information.