

The Best Drive-Thru Ashes EVER

by: Pastor Chasity Wiener

Five years ago, I “pitched” this crazy idea to the congregation that we should go to the Fallston Park and Ride and have a “Drive-Thru Ashes” for people. And, even though it was five years ago, I still remember your collective faces of hesitation and surprise (maybe terror?), as if to say, “Are you out of your right mind, Pastor?!” That year, in 2015, nine brave souls froze our butts off (sorry for the crass explanation, but there is no other way to adequately describe it: it had snowed the day before and the windchill made it feel like -2 degrees). To add injury to insult, we only had 12 “takers” to have ashes placed on their heads. We all left that place with the same question (but were too kind and perhaps not bold enough to actually say it): Was it really worth the time and the hypothermia to do this?

Fast forward now to February 26, 2020, with five years of doing “Drive Thru Ashes” at the Fallston Park and Ride. I arrived to Fallston Park and Ride at 6:25AM, after picking up a “Box of Joe” coffee and four dozen donuts to hand out to the public. Even though I was 5 minutes early, when the people saw us get out of our cars, three cars pulled over behind my car, asking if they could have ashes. Here’s the big point: our signs were not up yet and our supplies were not yet unpacked—there was nothing visible to indicate what we were doing. They just expected us to be there.

But here is what makes the 2020 Drive-Thru Ashes the BEST EVER: We met a woman who—after receiving her ashes—shared how grateful she was for us. Apparently, she received ashes last year when we were there. At that time, she confided in us that she was going through a painful divorce. She told us that we circled around her and we prayed for her on the spot and those words that we said really got her through a very tough year. She wanted to come to the Drive-Thru Ashes just to tell us that.

Then, we met Chris: he noticed that his dump truck (that was also hauling construction equipment) was acting funny, so he pulled in to the Park and Ride. As he did, we heard a loud explosion, saw billows of smoke, and then flames of fire! We ran over to Chris, who was trying to put out the growing fire with a little fire extinguisher. We called 911,

really do help when you are waiting for the fire department), and secured the area until the fire department arrived to prevent any other bystanders or incoming cars from going too closely to the truck’s smoke and flames. Chris later made this comment to us: “I think God is trying to tell me something. I cannot believe you all were here. Thanks so much for your hospitality and your help. Your church is just so great.”

I tell you this not to toot our own horn or to inflate our ego.



I share this with you because *everything you do in and for our church is important and has an impact, even if you don’t see it directly.* Your generosity matters: Giving your time matters, whether you come to grow in faith at worship or are on a team to lead/guide our ministry. Giving your offering matters, because that money equips us to do the ministry that we do—in small ways like buying the coffee, donuts, and the huge signs we now have for Drive-Thru Ashes, or in bigger dollars that allows us to “Reach out to Share Christ’s love” in so many ways. So, thank you for being you!

And now, I want to share with you my “top ten things” that I am learning because of our Drive Thru Ashes experience (maybe this might resonate with you, too?):

10) *Even the grumpiest of morning commuters appreciate free donuts and coffee and prayer.* So, it helps to be equipped for ministry with the right tools.

9) *We can’t decide if it is better for Drive-Thru Ashes’ weather to be cold and sunny, or warm and rainy.* So, we will stop fixating on what we cannot control and—instead—appreciate what God has given us for the day.

8) *Shelley Dix was right and I was wrong: We have been doing this*
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ministry for five years. Marking time is a sacred thing. Do it often and bear witness to it.

7) *New ministries take boldness to start and take time to grow.* We started with 12. Now it's a "thing." So, say "yes" to crazy new opportunities—the potential is limitless.

6) *...but when you say, "yes" to crazy, new opportunities, you better expect God to show up in big ways.* So, expect the unexpected. Be nimble in ministry. Churches die and ministries collapse because they forget to be nimble. God is always making things "anew." And, while traditions are important, some traditions are just simply peer pressure from dead people. Discern which is which.

5) *Repeat: New ministries take boldness to start and take time to grow.* Famine started with 3 kids. Drive-Thru Ashing with 12. The Appalachian Service Project (new this year) is 2. So have patience. Thank God for all those bold "early adopters" who say they will go first.

4) *Numbers don't always measure success, so have different metrics for success.* If we only base our success in numbers, then we might be missing the point. Our first year of Drive Thru Ashes was NOT LESS successful than this year. While we only had 12 in our first year, we were the MOST successful in mustering up our boldness to do this new thing. Without that success, we wouldn't have this ministry.

3) *Appreciate that people have different metrics for success (which is quite different from #4).* Ask Mel Sullens and she will tell you she always wants to "ash" more people than she did the previous year. That drives her. I am amazed how this sweet, normally quietly reserved woman becomes ravenous to go out of her way, meeting people (she even unpacked her supplies as we were leaving because she saw "one more person" who *might* need an ashing). For you "numbers people," she got 21 this year; up 2 from her 19 that she got last year. If you ask Carl Henderson what success is, who faithfully holds our "ASHES" sign on the busy roadside, he would say that he gets "honked at" from drivers driving by. For others, it is meeting people and connecting with their stories. But always, success is "Reaching Out to Share Christ's Love."

2) *People—those impacted by the good that we do here—expect us to be there.* Just like those people in their cars who were there early, waiting for us to arrive, just so they can receive their ashes, we have people who expect us to be there, too: whether it is the staff we support or those senior citizens, veterans, youth, seminarians, college students, homeless people or hungry people, every ministry we have impacts people who expect us to be there. So give some of your precious time: it's important for you, but your presence it is

important to them. And, give some of your generosity, too: if you haven't already, please consider setting up regular contributions automatically through your bank, so that we can have sustained support even when you are not here on Sundays. Why? Because they are praying that we are there for them... they have hopeful expectation. ...and finally...

1) *Five years ago, we wondered: "Is this crazy idea of Drive-Thru Ashes really worth the time and the hypothermia to do this?"* The answer is yes...and, we learned not to ask that question anymore.

Reaching Out to Share Christ's Love,

Pastor Chas



 **HOLY WEEK
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

Palm Sunday, April 5th: 8:30A & 10:15A with dramatic reading and music

**Stations of the Cross and Pot Luck Supper
5:00P-7:00Pat
St Marks Catholic Church**

Maundy Thursday 6:15P Dinner Church with foot washing

Good Friday TBA, in partnership with Fallston United Methodist

Easter Sunday: 8:30A & 10:15A

Hard and Holy Conversations

We (the ELCA) are the whitest denomination in the United States. Do we “hide” racism—do we smother inclusion—in our church worship spaces? Before we answer too quickly, Martin Luther King, Jr. said that “it is appalling that the most segregated hour of Christian America is...on Sunday morning.” Look around on Sunday. Do you see a segregated hour? How are we intentionally and unintentionally contributing to systemic racism?

Lent calls us to go deeper in faith and ask the hard questions. Join us for another “Books and Broth series,” as we read *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.*”

About the author? The Rev. Lenny Duncan is an unlikely pastor. Formerly incarcerated, formerly homeless, and formerly unchurched, he is now a black preacher in the whitest denomination in the United States: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Shifting demographics and shrinking congregations make the headlines, by Duncan connects the church’s lack of diversity to its lack of Vitality. Part manifesto, part confession, and all love letter, *Dear Church*, offers a bold vision for the future of the church (from the back cover).



*Books are now available if you advance ordered. The cost of the book is \$15. If you did not pre-order a book through our church, this book is available—in both kindle and print version—via Amazon or other book stores. Please note that you may also borrow a copy through the public library using your personal library account.

Books and Broth Reading Schedule:

Dear Church, by Lenny Duncan

- March 4:** Discuss Intro through Chapter 3
- March 11:** Discuss Chapters 4-5
- March 18:** Discuss Chapters 6-7
- March 25:** Discuss Chapters 8-9
- April 1:** Discuss Chapters 10-11

After each discussion, join us at 7P, where we will take to heart these hard and holy conversations. What better way to let the Holy Spirit move us by carving out sacred time of peace, stillness, and contemplation!?

Unraveled: A sermon series!

Lent-Easter	
What We can Learn from:	Growing in our Faith, as we move:
Zacchaeus (3/8) Luke 19:1-10	From Greed to Generosity
Samaritan Woman (3/15) John 4:1-29	From Isolation to Welcome/Belonging
Thomas (3/22) John 20:19-29	From Feelings of Despair to Awe
Pharaoh/Moses (3/29)	From Slavery to Liberation
Nicodemus (4/5, Palm Sunday)	From Certainty to Discovery
Exile (4/9, Maundy Thursday)	From Hopelessness to Possibility <i>Part 1: Sitting in the darkness of our current reality</i>
Resurrection (4/12, Easter)	From Hopelessness to Possibility <i>Part 2: God transforms ALL!</i>

The word “unraveled” holds a lot of anxious, exhausted energy. It reminds me of someone trying desperately to hold everything together on their own while threads begin to wear and break. Do you ever feel like you are coming “unraveled?” Join us for a new sermon series that **continues through Lent**.



Bonus! Because our sisters and brothers of Fallston Presbyterian Church are also engaging in this sermon series with us, Pastor Chasity Wiener and Kimberly Secrist Ashby will do a “pulpit switch” on Sunday, March 22, 2020. That means that on that Sunday, Pastor Chas will be preaching and presiding with the Presbyterians and Pastor Kimberly will be preaching and presiding at HCLC.

Thrivent Choice—Act Now!

As a reminder, if you have Thrivent investments or insurance policies you can still direct 2019 Choice Dollars. Act now before the 2019 Choice Dollars* expire.

Directing Choice Dollars online is fast and easy. Simply visit www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice and click the “Get Started” link to begin. If you have any questions about directing Choice Dollars you can contact our Member Connection Center at 1-800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” at the prompt.



Don't miss this opportunity to recommend where Thrivent gives back!

Teller Needed

Teller needed for Sunday mornings to help count the offering. No experience is necessary! If this activity is something that interests you, please call Nancy Campbell at 410-836-7688 for more information.



**Don't forget to
order your
Easter flowers!**

See bulletin insert for all the details



**All orders due
by March 29th!**

Home Safety for Older

Falls are a leading cause of injury and death in adults over the age of 65. Injuries directly impact the independence, mobility and quality of life in the elderly. Hip fractures result in hospitalization with only one half of the injured older adults returning home to live independently. Diminished mental abilities, impaired reflexes, sight and mobility contribute to the number of falls and injuries in the elderly's homes. Simple changes in the home and the manner in which tasks are accomplished can reduce the incident of falls by 50%. An older adult may neglect or refuse changes due to financial limitations, inability to recognize the need for help, unsure where to get help, or failure to admit advancing age. The following lists are safety considerations for every home:

- Smoke detectors and Carbon dioxide detectors
- Eliminate or soften sharp edges
- Grab bars in bathtub and next to toilet
- Raised toilet seat and shower stool
- Lights! 100 watt for reading/ 60 watt elsewhere. Use lights in hallways
- Remove tripping hazards- no throw rugs, slippery floor surfaces, furniture, clutter
- Use non-skid wax and cleaners, use extra caution with furniture polish
- Stairs should always be kept clear and have sturdy railing
- In the kitchen use two handled pots and avoid wearing loose clothing with long sleeves
- Keep items you need low and easy to reach, avoid stepstools



Take the time to check your home today for safety concerns. Ask a family member or friend help you modify your environment for optimum safety. For a comprehensive checklist with ideas for improvement check out www.cdc.gov/injury or www.eldercare.com.

Barb Huber RN, CSRN, FCHN

The Junior Apprenticeship

The Junior Apprenticeship is geared toward building leadership skills and work experience for students ages 14-16, especially at a time in their lives when they are too young to get a job and are often too old for summer camps. This experience would enhance team building skills, while gaining work experience in a safe and supportive setting that gives grace!

Expectations:

- Students would be expected to dedicate one day a week in the church office, preferably Mondays, from 9A-2P.
- Students are expected to dress for a business office setting and pack their lunch.
- Students will work in the front office while also being mentored by other members of the congregation, while reporting to the pastor.
- Each student will be expected to lead a project, of their own design and choosing, that will better our church community. The student will need to submit their ideas for approval, gain appropriate committee permissions (if applicable), and assemble a team within our church community to complete the project before August 19. It is expected that the student will be the Project Team Lead and will have all authority in the planning and executing process. It would, however, serve the student well to seek the input from their assembled team, as this is the overall objective of team building.
- While it is expected that the students hold weekly office hours, we also expect that students should be flexible to work on their project—at their own flexibility and planning—during the week to facilitate meetings, follow up on phone conversations, etc. We expect the total office time commitment to be 8-10 hours weekly, including five hours of office hours.
- Students will need to submit to a formal application process. A select committee will help to oversee this process.
- The first day will be Monday, June 28 and the last office day will be August 16, with their project completion by August 19.

At the end of the program, each student will be recognized for their work, which also includes a “launch” congregational party celebrating their accomplishments. Additionally, each student will receive, upon request, a letter of recommendation highlighting their skills strengths and growing areas.

Please see the attached application!

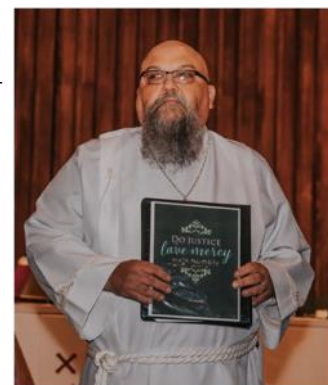


All completed applications should be turned into Pastor Chas, or the church office.

Introducing our New Vicar: **Ernie Lehr!**

Ernie Lehr will be serving as our Vicar for his internship for United Lutheran Seminary, beginning March 4. You will meet him on March 15 (his first official Sunday)! Ernie graduated from the Youth Ministry Certification School at Gettysburg Seminary in 2011 and was installed as the Youth Minister at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Perry Hall where he served until 2020. In 2014 Ernie felt called to ordained ministry and began pursuing a Master of Divinity (at the then known as), Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg.

Ernie works full time for the Maryland Department of Transportation as a Traffic Safety Manager. He is responsible for Maryland's Motorcycle Safety Program. Ernie has been married to his wife Kelly since 1992 and they have three children. Delaney, Abigail and Steven.



They share their home with two dogs, two parrots and two ferrets. When Ernie isn't spending time with family, he enjoys woodworking, music, reading and hunting and fishing. He is guided in his life and ministry by his faith in the Triune God and Micah 6:8 “ He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to DO justice, and to LOVE kindness and to WALK humbly with your God?” Which he shortens to DO, LOVE, WALK! (because it's easier to remember).



Holy Communion Lutheran Church

Summer Apprenticeship Application 2019

Applicant Information

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Last First M.I.

Address: _____
Street Address Apartment/Unit #

_____ City State ZIP Code

Phone: _____ Email _____

Education

Please rank your top three (3) areas that you would like to serve in. If you have an idea of a focus for an apprenticeship that is not on the list, that's great! Please write it in the "Other" section!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry and Building | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Ministry & Visitations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Ministry (VBS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Speaking & Teaching |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication (Design) | <input type="checkbox"/> Storytelling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication (Photography) | <input type="checkbox"/> Theology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication (Social Media) | <input type="checkbox"/> Visual Arts (creating holy spaces in worship) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication (Video) | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship Arts (Dance, Music) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship Arts (Tech & Visuals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & Landscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interior and Space Design | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach (Community Involvement) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outreach (Social Justice) | |

Do you have a laptop (preferred) or tablet that you could use for your apprenticeship? Yes No Maybe?

References

Please list three professional references.

Full Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Full Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Full Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Strengths and Faith

What do you think some of your strongest gifts are? How have those gifts grown or been strengthened lately?

What has God been doing in your life lately? How have you been seeking God?

Expectations

What are you hoping to get out of this apprenticeship?

Do you have any questions about apprenticeships?

Declaration of Intent & Signature

For these apprenticeships, Mondays will be the main work days. We will have a special meeting on Monday that will be part small group, part leadership training and part staff meeting. Since apprentices will be making a real, lasting difference at Holy Communion, we are asking for a commitment from our apprentices. We understand that you probably have vacations and trips planned. The apprenticeships begin June 24 and end August 12. That's 8 weeks. We realize that plans can change but by putting in this application, you are confirming that you can commit to at least 6 weeks of apprenticeship.

I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and have read and understand the Junior Apprenticeship Expectations.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Connecting Our Stars

by Larry Phillips

Last month I wrote an article for Bread and Wine about my Star - Reverence. I received a lot of appreciation for the article and some had indicated that they are struggling with the Star that selected them.

We at HCLC all joked about Margret Friedman getting Gentleness. Our fiery red-head that speaks her mind and lets you know from the get-go what is good and what is bad. She has a personality that is very well suited for her profession as a school teacher. In doing my internet research for this article I found this definition of Gentleness;

“Gentleness is produced when a softened heart abides in Jesus. It is being intentional and, most importantly, humble - always being compassionate toward the struggles and shortcomings of others.”

Over the last couple of years my wife Sue and I have come to know both Dave and Margret, and we have become very close friends. To listen to Dave and Margret’s stories about friends and family you will quickly observe that both have a very giving, supportive, kind and gentle nature to their personalities. I have never had friends like Dave and Margret that literally have an open door policy to their home. As the definition above states, *“always being compassionate toward the struggles and shortcomings of others.”*

God bless them both. The Holy Spirit did right by Margret by giving her the Gentleness Star.

Lynne Strausser sent me an email of appreciation for my article and she indicated that she was struggling with her Star – Sincerity. Lynne, you’re not alone with this struggle.

“Sincerity is the quality of being free from pretense, deceit, or hypocrisy. Sincere people represent themselves honestly, and their verbal expressions are free from double-talk, gossip, flattery or embellishment. The Bible places a high value on sincerity:” “Love must be sincere” (Romans 12:9; cf. 2 Corinthians 6:6). *“So also must faith be sincere”* (1 Timothy 1:5).

I struggle everyday with being sincere about my faith. When I listen to Pastor Chas talk about her faith, you can tell it is from the heart and sincere. Please, do not get the wrong idea that I don’t believe Christ is my Lord and Savior. I absolutely do. My issue is being sincere when telling other people about my faith, especially non-believers. It’s my pretense for people-pleasing, to not say anything upsetting.

“Sincerity is damaged by a preference for people-pleasing and the creation of a public persona to mask a private reality. Social media has become a breeding ground for insincerity, comparison, and playacting.”

Continued from previous column...

Christians can get caught up in this, too. We may fall into insincerity by becoming expert in Christian terminology, culture, and activities while being far from God in our hearts (see Matthew 15:8). God is not impressed. Insincere religious practices are a form of pride and detestable to God (Mark 7:6). He will often allow the insincere to suffer public downfalls in order to get their attention. “Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall” (Proverbs 16:18). Insincere pretenders are often exposed when their secret sins are discovered, and this is a blessing, because it is often that exposure that strips them of pretense and allows them to rebuild their lives on sincerity.

Lynne, thank you and God’s blessings to you. The Holy Spirit did right by giving you the Star – Sincerity. It was your email that opened my heart to the Holy Spirit which inspired this article.

Accessing the Online Membership Directory

- On the HCLC web site, click on the MEMBERS tab near the top of the page.
- To access the membership directory from your desktop or laptop computer select SIMPLE CHURCH CRM from the pull down menu. Click on the login image to go to the Simple Church login page.
- To install the app on your smartphone, select MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY: GET THE APP from the pull down menu and install it from the App Store or Google Play. (Our "domain name" is "holycommunionfallston")
- From either your PC or smartphone enter your username using the format: firstname.lastname
- When you first log in click on FORGOT PASSWORD and a temporary password will be e-mailed to the e-mail address we have on file for you.
- If you do not know your username, please contact our administrative assistant at 443-299-6134, and she will look it up for you.
- You can see your giving, as well. If you haven't received your copy of the directory, please notify our church office at 443-299-6134 or office@holycommunionfallston.org

Guardian Angels DO Exist (and, spoiler alert: they are at HCLC)

by: Ed Davis

In the popular Christmas-time movie “It’s A Wonderful Life”, Jimmy Stewart’s character, George Bailey, is a man who has given up his dreams in order to help others in his little community of Bedford Falls. His life was a series of disappointments and missed opportunities. He even gave up going to college so that his younger brother could go, while George stayed home to manage the family-owned Savings and Loan (S&L). Then, without warning, a careless error by his uncle caused the S&L to miss a crucial payment of \$8,000. With a “run” on with-drawals at the S&L, George knew the firm was on the verge of financial collapse and his arrest for mismanagement of funds would surely be waiting for him. George sees his life slipping away. He goes to a bar, gets drunk, and decides to commit suicide by jumping off the nearby bridge. Just before George manages to jump, a man unknown to him jumps off the bridge into the river below. This shakes George from his blue funk long enough for his natural good nature to kick in, and he manages to save the stranger from drowning. We learn the stranger is named Clarence, and he is George’s guardian angel, sent from heaven to thwart George’s suicide. He was exactly what George needed, when George needed him most.



Now there is much more to the story of course, but you probably already know the plot of the movie as well as I.

I mention this story of Clarence to illustrate my point that guardian angels certainly do exist. But did you know that there is a network of earthly guardian angels ready to be called into service as needed? Yep, it’s true, scattered in churches and synagogues around the globe, and even in our little Holy Communion Lutheran Church.

Our guardian angels reside in the Prayer Chain of HCLC. While we cannot perform miracles of healing like Jesus did, we do regularly offer prayers of healing, patience, strength and support for our fellow members and their families. Our prayers also seek divine guidance for the doctors, surgeons, nurses, counselors, and other caregivers upon whom our members and families depend. But there is more!

Guardian angels can frequently perform other useful tasks for those in need, such as taking members to/from appointments with doctors, cooking and delivering meals, or doing light errands such as picking up dry cleaning or returning items to the library.

Still other guardian angels choose to share their career-related skills by serving as care-givers for those single members who might not be in a position to care for themselves following a difficult illness, injury or surgery.

Guardian angels perform essential tasks for church members and our extended families. You can join the HCLC Prayer Chain by calling Hailea at 443-299-6134.

Items Requested for HCLC Blessing Box

Good news! Our Blessing Box has seen an increase in demand! That means that we have identified a real need in the community, and are blessing those around us...but we have run out of supplies! We are especially in need of spaghetti sauce, canned meats, sanitary pads/tampons, diapers and wipes, canned veggies and fruit, and toiletries. Thank you, Church, for your continued support and dedication!

- Canned meats
- Canned fish
- Canned vegetables
- Fruit (canned or dried)
- Granola bars
- Mini cereal boxes (one serving)
- Oatmeal
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Nuts/Peanut butter
- Pasta and low-sodium pasta sauce
- Mac n’ cheese
- Rice
- Low-sodium soups
- Applesauce
- Powdered milk
- Diapers
- Diaper rash cream
- Baby food
- Powdered Formula
- Basic toiletries
- Feminine hygiene products

Turnkey Shed Donations

While you are working on your spring cleaning, don't forget to bring your unwanted clothes, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, drapes, and stuffed toys (please no rags, fabric scraps, or household goods) to donate in our Turnkey Shed. Our church actually receives a check based on the amount (pounds) of items donated. So, you will be helping our church while simultaneously helping those in need! Please help keep your donation dry and clean by placing your donations in a closed plastic bag. Thank you for your generous support of this wonderful ministry!



Youth News

From the Youth Director

by: Heather Henderson

Have you ever wondered what we talk about at Friday Night Faiths or Illumin8? Recently we talked about a cake, its ingredients, and how that relates to faith and prayer. We all know the ingredients of a cake - flour, sugar, baking powder, eggs, butter, vanilla, and maybe some cocoa powder. And most of us would agree that a finished product cake tastes pretty darn fabulous. Yet, have we ever thought about the ingredients by themselves? I think you would agree that flour, baking powder, vanilla, the uncooked eggs, and cocoa powder by themselves aren't very good. Except, for the sugar which is tasty by itself. However, it's kind of incredible what happens when we put all of those ingredients together. The end product is a delicious cake. We tested that out and I think the kids would agree. So, how does that apply to faith and prayer? Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, and have been called according to his purpose." In our lives there are some difficult times, some bitter times, and some bland times. While there are also some happy times and rich times. And with God's help if we combine the good and the not so good ingredients of our lives it gives us the opportunity to create a life that is meaningful, useful, and tasty!

Join us for Friday night faith, a spiritual journey to learn more about ourselves, God, our faith, the Bible and how we experience faith and God through our everyday lives for 4th – 6th graders. We meet on the third Friday of the month. Our exploration will encourage *Think.Believe.Do (TBD)*. Join us on Friday, March 20, 2020 from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

Join us for First Sunday's (first Sunday of the month) from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM for 4th – 6th grades and 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM for high schoolers. Come, hang out, talk, play games, share faith, and get to know one another. We encourage you to bring friends! See you on Sunday, March 1, 2020.

Join us for Illumin8 on the first Sunday of each month during Sunday School for our 3rd graders. By providing a foundation of knowledge, Illumin8 helps them understand what God has in store for them and the many ways that he is already working through them in their everyday lives. Illumin8 aspires to strengthen kids' faith as they participate in fun events, crafts, fellowship opportunities and even good service works within our community.

We will be hosting a Spring Lock-In for the high school youth March 13-14, 2020 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 AM. Dinner will be served. The theme for the retreat is Revisionist Religion: Finding Your Voice in God. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Henderson at youth@holychommunionfallston.org or via cell at 443-528-3553.

Sunday School -

Come Join the Fun and Discover God's Love!

by: Carrie Dorsey

The month of March will take us through the season of Lent. This is a time of prayer, fasting and giving as we prepare our hearts for the resurrection of Jesus on Easter morning. In addition to our lessons, there will be a few special activities during Sunday school to help our young disciples prepare. The kids will be learning about "The First Sin," "Abram's Call," the "Woman at the Well," the "Pool of Siloam," and we will end the month with the story of Lazarus being brought back to life by Jesus. Everyone is welcome to join us. If you have a shy kid please feel free to come along and stay in class with your child. You will be amazed what the kids can teach you. Interested in teaching Sunday school but afraid you lack experience? No need to worry. No experience necessary just a desire to share of the Love of Christ with our young disciples. Drop in and see how easy and fun it is. No need to register ahead of time.

If you have not registered for Sunday school, please take a minute or two and use the link below to sign-up your child and yourself as a volunteer.

<https://vbspro.events/p/events/594eb7>

For questions or to volunteer contact: SundaySchool@HolyCommunionFallston.org

Spring Cleaning

While this might be the Lord's house, we live in it.
We will be giving the church a "spring cleaning" on

Sunday, March 29th after 2nd service.

Many hands make light work, so please plan on joining us
as we prepare for our Lenten visitors!



Member Spotlight

by: Sharon Heimiller

What brought you to HCLC?

"I came to HCLC seeking a church that acted on the gospel-demonstrating "Love in Action" for each other and for others in the community; collaborating in an ecumenical manner to make a difference in people's lives."

What do you see as your gifts to serve God, God's people, and the church?

"I have professed Christ as my savior since seven years of age and have been blessed with loving Christian family, friends and co-workers. When I retired after 36 years as a registered nurse and manager I was led by God to focus on hospitality and caring ministry."



Favorite ice cream flavor?

"Chocolate"

What is something people may be surprised to know about you?

"I was a quiet only child who over the years has been mentored by others to be more bold in advocacy for the sick or unfriended."

What bible verse is meaningful to you?

"The Disciple Bible Study has expanded my love of scriptures. Psalm 27:1 comes to mind; "The Lord is my light and my salvation- whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life-of whom shall I be afraid?"

How do you serve at HCLC?

"I have professed Christ as my savior since seven years of age and have been blessed with loving Christian family, friends and co-workers. When I retired after 36 years as a registered nurse and manager I was led by God to focus on hospitality and caring ministry. My husband Tom and I look forward to having fun with many folks as part of the Fellowship Team-Reaching out to promote Christian Growth through Hospitality. May we gather this Lenten Season and share Christ's love through fellowship and caring for others (soup/study, Blessing Box)."

Your Kingdom Come

by: Pastor Bob Ridenour

"God's Kingdom rules over all" - Psalm 103:19

"Come O blessed of my father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you." - Jesus

Each week we pray, "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

What are we praying for? What and where is God's Kingdom?

First of all, to pray like this means the Kingdom is already here—"as it is in heaven." We do not prepare for it. We do not build it. It is already given to us. We receive it. We thank God for it. It is here and given to us, if we will only accept it.

What kind of kingdom is it? It is not a kingdom like the kingdoms of the earth. They are built on power and on armed might, on wealth and privilege. They are often selfish and coercive. They are not necessarily given by God. They are false attempts by humans, both weak and incomplete.

The Kingdom God gives is one in which love and community reign. It is one in which lies and armed power are the "losers," and not the "winners." It is one where racism and sexism and all the other "-isms" which exclude and demonize others; in which pain and self-centeredness are not assumed to be normal, or logical, or are accepted as "just the way of the world." The Kingdom of God on earth and in heaven is one in which the Beattitudes (Matthew 5:1-16) are the guide and rule for us all, and not just an impossible dream" as so many believe and proclaim. In the true Kingdom of God, everyone lives in forgiveness and generosity and peace. Not just some, but all.

The Kingdom of God is our gift today. When we pray, "Your Kingdom come, ...your will be done on earth ..." we affirm that the hope of God's Kingdom on earth is not impossible, but is in our midst at this very moment. When we pray the Lord's prayer, we are asking God to open our hearts and lives to the Holy Spirit, that we and all people may begin a new, joyous and loving life in that Kingdom that is here even now, all around all of us, and within each and every one, just waiting for us to receive it.

It is a glorious gift from the God who loves all creation and who seeks our joy and salvation.

Let that Kingdom come to fruition this Lent in you, if it has not already entered, and gladden your heart.

Lovin' Life Seniors

LOVIN' LIFE SENIORS

Our goal is to offer friendship and support to one another through social events. Please join us! Invite your friends! Our 2020 schedule and sign-up sheets for upcoming events are posted on the senior's bulletin board in the hallway. Please read the Sunday bulletins and Bread and Wine for any changes to the schedule below. All activities take place on 2nd Tuesdays of the month unless otherwise noted.

2020 CALENDAR

Tuesday, March 10

The Lodge Restaurant—Hickory

Tuesday, April 14

Greek Village—Rte. 1, Bel Air

Tuesday, May 12

Bayou Restaurant—Rte. 40, Havre de Grace

Tuesday, June 9

Conrad Restaurant, Abingdon

Tuesday, July 14

Fisherman's Catch—Bowling Lanes, Forest Hill

Tuesday, August 11

Friendly Farm, Upperco

Tuesday, September 15

Crab Feast—Church

Tuesday, October 13

Stonebridge Grille—Freeland, MD

Tuesday, November 10

Wargo's Restaurant—Forest Hill

Thursday, December 10

Union Hotel—Susquehanna River Road

We welcome new ideas as well as new members. Contact Ellen Priebe 410-679-8655; Frances Gosnell 410-893-4622; Nancy Campbell 410-836-7688.

March Birthdays



03/02	Bea Sherrill		
03/02	Kelly Bark		
03/03	Carolyn Dickerson		
03/03	Diana Appel		
03/03	Vanessa Perkins		
03/04	Craig Bark	03/19	Scott Taylor
03/04	Evan Snyder	03/24	Aubrey Shaver
03/05	Aiden Bowling	03/24	Eleanor Schissler
03/05	Liam Thanner	03/24	Neil Huber
03/09	Jerry Ey	03/26	Candiss Dominick
03/10	Janet Wirtanen	03/26	Larry Phillips
03/12	Christine Krieger	03/27	Nancy Campbell
03/13	Chris Phillips	03/27	Ronald Campbell
03/14	Justin Plott	03/28	Ethan Smith
03/15	Eric Thompson	03/28	Robert (Bob) Reed
03/15	Paul Airey	03/29	Abigail Reed
03/16	Debbie Mueller	03/30	Adrienne Bove
03/17	Diane Ogle-Sullivan	03/30	Noah Bark
03/19	Bob Kruelle	03/31	Kimberly Deems

Happy Birthday

Do you have a **March** birthday but do not see your name printed here? That means we do not have your complete information on file. Please contact Hailea in the church office to update your information.

Church App

Did you know you can listen to sermons and access calendars, events, an electronic Bible, and the newsletter on our church app for your smartphone? Here's how: Download the Church app (Tithe.ly) in the Google Play or Apple Store and then select Holy Communion Lutheran Church as your default church. You can read our facebook posts and see pictures posted on Instagram even if you do not subscribe to Facebook or Instagram. There is also space for you to write prayer requests on our prayer wall. Take us wherever you go!



Holy Communion Lutheran Church

Council Members



Eric Thompson,
President



Dave Frieman,
Vice-President



Jon Perkins,
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Joann Theys,
Treasurer



Sue Phillips,
Council Member



Jane Jackson-
Kolstrom,
Council Member



Larry Phillips,
Council Member



Candiss Dominick,
Council Member



Arlene Weber
Council Member



The Rev. Chasity L.
Wiener,
Ex-Officio Member