

Let's connect faith and life. *Together.*

## New Counseling Ministry Begins at St. John's *"Hope for Today" addresses pandemic, loneliness, and re-entry concerns*

By Pastor Rhodes Woolly

It's not easy living during a global pandemic, especially as we navigate the sometimes-lonely waters of quarantine and social distancing. In addition, anxieties are rising as we re-enter public space, trusting that our interaction with friends, family, and strangers will be safe.

Understandably, the country has been fixated on health data, hospitalizations, and vaccines. What is being less reported are issues surrounding mental health.

With that in mind, St. John's is launching a new counseling ministry that is focused on the good mental health and well-being of all those struggling with the affects of Covid-19. Called "Hope for Today," the ministry is available to those in the congregation and community *at no charge* so that those who need it most will not be discouraged by cost or the lack of insurance. The cost is being underwritten through September by two anonymous donors. Hoped-for grants will sustain the ministry until the end of the year.

The ministry is led by Lauren Stephenson, a professional counselor and member of St. John's. Lauren is currently a mental health counselor at Catawba, working alongside students with a variety of concerns, including depression, anxiety, and grief.

There are three counseling resources that will be offered:

### ***AfterTalk: Comfort and Sharing for those Experiencing a Loss***

– This support group meets in the Well weekly on Tuesday afternoons from 4:30 -6 pm, starting June 23. It is open to anyone within or outside of St. John's dealing with the loss of a loved one. This group will discuss the struggles of coping with their grief through group discussion, sharing, prayer, and meditation. Sometimes the best way to walk

through grief and loss is by connecting with others who can relate and support you.

### ***Finding Hope: Coping with COVID-19 and Our New Normal –***

This support group will meet in the Well weekly on Monday evenings from 5:30-7 pm and Wednesday mornings from 8:30-10 am, starting June 22. It is open to anyone within or outside of St. John's struggling with anxiety, depression, loneliness, stress, and/or fear due to COVID-19 and the related changes in our lives. Those interested are welcome to come once or come every week to share, connect, find support, and learn coping methods for dealing with our world today.

***Individual Counseling*** – Lauren is also available to meet one-on-one with individuals both within and outside of St. John's for 50 minute counseling sessions. These counseling sessions are best suited for anyone who feels uncomfortable meeting in a group setting, or who feels like they need more intensive, individualized counseling and support. These meetings will take place either in person in the St. John's prayer room or online via video chat, based on the individual's preference. Appointments are available Tuesdays-Fridays between 10 am-2 pm and can be made either by calling the St. John's Office Manager, Deborah Cross, at 704-636-3431 ext. 200 or online at [stjohns-counseling@youcanbook.me](mailto:stjohns-counseling@youcanbook.me). Since this is a ministry currently being offered for free, we ask that people follow through with appointments made or cancel/reschedule appointments 24+ hours in advance so that they can be offered to others.

**Note about COVID-19:** Please know that we will take every precaution necessary to help people feel safe while attending these groups and individual counseling sessions in person.





Dear friends,

As we set up for our “first” 9:27 service last week, we tried to create a feeling of warmth, comfort, welcome, and hominess. It’s easy to do in the Faith Center since there are no fixed seats, so we circled up the chairs (properly distanced), introduced lamps and comfortable seating, made sure the lighting had a warm glow. We were eager for folks to step into that space with a deep, satisfying sigh: “Ahh, this feels right.”

*“Abide in me,  
and I in you. As  
the branch  
cannot bear fruit  
of itself unless it  
abides in the  
vine, so neither  
can you unless  
you abide in me.”*

*John 15:4*

So many things just don’t feel right these days. As we work through critical issues like masks, social distancing, language, reentry, heightened sensitivities, and, yes, monuments, we find ourselves increasingly anxious, frustrated, and — I hate to admit this — judgmental.

Given all that, we knew that our worship space needed to be a non-anxious place. If physical space can look like a comfortable pullover, that’s what we were going for.

In these tumultuous times, we hope you’ll feel that way every time you log on or show up for worship at St. John’s .. because we want our hour (or 45 minutes) together to be your chance to step away from the anxieties of this world and enter into the joy of God’s presence.

A few things I’d like to bring to your attention:

**A vision for racial justice.** You’ll notice throughout this newsletter that a lot of attention is given to the issue of race and racial justice. It’s a topic that’s dominating the headlines these days, although it’s an issue that has challenged societies since the beginning of time.

Several weeks ago, NAACP leader Gemale Black and Police Chief Jerry Stokes made an important observation: that our work in police reform and racial justice is a marathon, not a sprint. No doubt, there’s a lot of “sprint work” going on these days, the reactive work of folks who are eager to “do something.”

That’s certainly okay, and a lot of sprint work is necessary. But it’s “marathon work” that affects culture change.

With that in mind, what is our vision for racial justice? What *is* racial justice? We’ve asked Ted Goins, Evelyn Medina, and Caroline Parrott to facilitate a congregation-wide discussion about that very thing. We’ll draw from Scripture and listen to our collective stories and develop a vision that will help shape our path of ministry in the years to come. Look for more information in the coming weeks, prayerfully considering how you might be a part of shaping that vision.

**This might take a while.** You’ve heard the news: this pandemic might take a while to get under control. We’ve spent these last 12 weeks trying to get through it; now, we’re trying to envision what ministry looks like for the next 9-12 months as we continue to mask-up and be socially distant from one another.

We don’t have a complete answer yet, but rest assured a lot of thought and prayer is going into it. No doubt we’ll have a robust online presence for a good long time; we’ll continue to host virtual worship and discipleship opportunities, even as we introduce live options along the way. We’re also trying to figure out how to engage with one another creatively and meaningfully outside of Zoom. Nothing wrong with Zoom — it’s been a blessing! — but we’re thirsting for a more intimate, personal why to interact. I know you are, too.

**Need to talk?** I hope you’ve read page 1 of this newsletter, because it introduces a new, highly important ministry at St. John’s. A growing number of people are struggling with loneliness, depression, grief, and other issues of mental health. If that’s you, please take advantage of this free but highly professional ministry. It’s especially designed for folks who have never been to a counselor but are finding that they need someone to talk to. Is that you? Let us know .. please.

Our very best to you. We miss seeing you face-to-face, but we’re still so thankful to be yoked as sisters and brothers.

+Rhodes

# Church-Wide Retreat Rescheduled

September 17-19, 2021

By Donna Groce

In the spirit of unity, the Congregational Retreat committee has been planning a weekend for this fall where all our members may gather for fellowship and worship surrounded by the beautiful outdoor setting of Lutheridge. Unfortunately, the plans have been interrupted by such uncertain times.

In the interest of the ever changing unknowns and of the well being of us all, the committee recently decided to reschedule the church-wide retreat to the same fall weekend of 2021 (Sept. 17-19). Many factors have been considered and we feel this is the best possible solution amid current health concerns.

We believe that this retreat is so important for the church and are saddened to think that at a time when we really could use some meaningful and spirit-filled time away at our beloved camp, we simply may not all attend together with complete peace of mind. The committee continues to plan and looks forward to the time when we will all be unified at camp to love and serve the Lord with praise and worship. This truly is something to look forward to!

Please keep all of our church members in your prayers, young, old and in-between, as we all are walking on our own paths through these unprecedented times. Pray too for the staffs of Lutheridge and St. John's, who remain devoted to serving others with such care and grace.

As you can imagine, the loss of summer camps at Lutheridge has significant financial implications. Now is a critically important time to support our Lutheran camps. You can do



*Donna and Doug Groce attended their first St. John's retreat in October 2015.*

so, by making a donation or by planning your family vacation at Lutheridge on select weekends throughout the summer. Learn more about this special offer at <https://lutheridge.org/summer-camps/>

We look forward to seeing you at the church-wide retreat next year. Save the date!

With love,  
Donna, on behalf of the entire Congregational Retreat committee

## Be of Good Courage

Hear from Stacey Shafer about Kingdom Kids "at Home"



Staying connected to Kingdom Kids families has definitely changed from the beginning of the pandemic to now, four months later. To be honest, families need a break from Zoom and emails. We are very blessed to have all of the electronic devices, internet connection, cell phones etc., but right now I pray families are able to take a break, catch their breath and feel the goodness in making summer memories together.

I will continue to send emails with the weekly bible story videos that Orange provides, and I will continue to encourage families anyway I can, but as my Children's Minister position is part-time I am blessed to say I will be taking a few weeks off to spend with my family. You can probably find us on our new deck eating fresh vegetables from our garden that has been very blessed by the rain!

### A Few Highlights

Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> we had our Kingdom Kids drive through! Our 3 & 4 year old First Look kids received a t-shirt, Ollie the Owl Activity Book, mini frisbee, graham crackers and a placemat that has the memory verse, weekly story bottom line, activity on the back and room to draw and make it their own!

The 252 kingdom kids received a t-shirt, popcorn bowl with popcorn to pop for a fun family movie night, graham crackers and their monthly handout with the memory verse and bible story readings for June and July that go along with the video's I send out. Also, I had three 5<sup>th</sup> graders who received a devotion book and their favorite sweet treat as I will miss them next season in my age group! Landon, Mallory and Bella you're going to do great things in middle school!

**"Be of Good Courage" T Shirts:** I hope you get to see our "Be of Good Courage" T-shirts around. I pray they help bring courage, love, support and hope to our community. A big THANK YOU to Thrivent Financial for their Action Team grant and all generous donations that were given to me to help make this, what I'm hoping to be inspiring for all, t-shirt possible. You are APPRICIATED!

**July Memory Verse:** "God's grace has saved you because of your faith in Christ. Your salvation doesn't come from anything you do. It is God's gift." Ephesians 2:8

**Bottom Line:** Trusting in what you can't see because of what you can see.



5th Graders graduating to middle school youth.

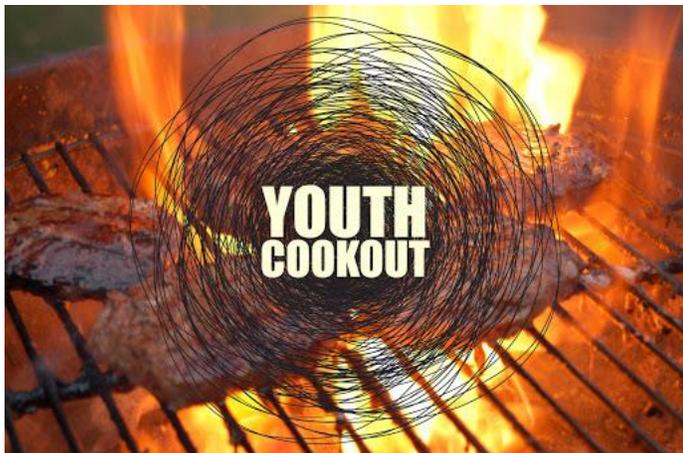


Drive-thru Kingdom Kids bag pick-up



## Be of Good Courage

*Pastor Laura Shares How Our Youth Are Engaging Online*



### **Youth Cookouts**

During the month of July, be on the lookout for more information about our youth cookouts. We will divide into smaller groups outdoors based on grades to enjoy some time together outdoors. If you are willing to host, contact Pastor Laura.



### **Grad Sunday**

We are looking forward to a special service to celebrate our Class of 2020. Once we know more from the governor in the next couple of weeks, there will be an announcement.

## Youth Auction Raises \$10,072

*Proceeds Support Mission Partners and Camps*

Even though our annual Youth Auction looked a bit different this year with an online format, you still came out to support our students and ministry partners. Thank you!

Thanks to you, we raised \$10,072, including 30 food bags and 10 at home learning kits! What a great response! We kept some money for the next year of retreats and trips but gave away 74% of what we raised to ministry partners

(GRACES, Lutheridge, and Camp Agape) that we would have been supporting this summer through those funds raised.

Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts for all you do to support our students and ministry partners!

-Pastor Laura

## Be of Good Courage

### *Diane Poole Shares How Senior Seasons is Connecting Digitally*

#### **Staying Connected, thinking creatively about faith formation**

The Senior Seasons group has continued to stay connected through the Call Ministry, lunch-n-learns, weekly email blasts, and Thursday's Facebook posts. While these will continue for the foreseeable future, our challenge is to think of other ways to build community.

- Let the church office know if you are sick and allow us to pray for you. I can tell you that it sure is wonderful to receive many well wishes through cards, calls, Facebook posts, etc. It is a way we can love on people from a distance.
- No one can dictate when you should or should not venture out. Just be sure to wear protective gear if you do. Communicate to all you come in contact with if you have been directly or indirectly exposed. If so, self-quarantine and be tested.
- Our **homebound meals** continue. One recent example was providing meals for Marilyn and Ron Smith. If you know anyone who is home from the hospital or sick at home, please contact [diane@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:diane@stjohns-salisbury.org) or call Cheryl Sjoblom at 704-433-7263. Meal delivery is an important part of our ministry.
- We had a successful **food drive** for the Cherokee **Living Waters** food pantry; so as other opportunities arise, we will participate, as we can do so safely.
- Zoom Bible Studies
- Support the community ministries of your choice.

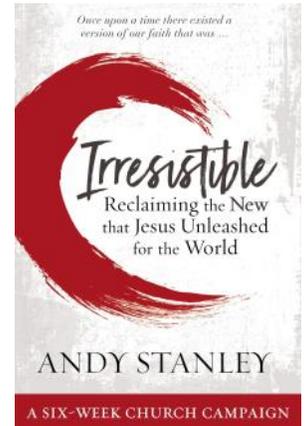
**Tuesday, July 14, 12-1 pm: Lunch-N-Learn** with Dr. Lynn Moody, Superintendent of Rowan-Salisbury School System. The State General Assembly passed Education Bill H986 in June of 2019, which paved the way for Rowan-Salisbury schools to participate in a "Renewal School System Model." Ms. Moody will discuss the program and its progress.

Another **Lunch-n-Learn** topic in the planning stages is the "history of the Catawba Indians and their pottery." If there are other topics you would like to hear more about, email [diane@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:diane@stjohns-salisbury.org).

#### **6-week Bible Study: Irresistible by Andy Stanley**

We will start a 6 week bible study beginning Tuesday, July 7 from 11 am -12 pm and continuing July 21, 28, August 4, 11, 18 at the same time.

The title is "*Irresistible, Reclaiming the New that Jesus Unleashed for the World*," by Andy Stanley. This study focuses on the new covenant that Christ established through His death and resurrection. It is thought provoking and it may step on your toes to begin with, but I encourage you to stick it out to the end, as he ties it all together in the last session. Study guides are available on Amazon for as little as \$4.81. Sign up today online or by emailing [diane@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:diane@stjohns-salisbury.org).



#### **Senior Academy September**

The tentative dates are Sept. 1 for the kick-off and Sept. 8 through Oct. 13 for the weekly Tuesday sessions. This may be adjusted to a later start date, depending on CDC guidelines for gathering in groups. Watch August's Eagle's View for Bible study and class information.

#### **Outings**

This will totally depend on our ability to gather in groups. One outing we have done in August is the Trolley Sculpture Tour, but this will also depend on the Trolley's ability to offer a group tour. Watch the Senior Seasons weekly email blast for the latest information on trips and the Academy.

*Email [diane@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:diane@stjohns-salisbury.org) to sign up for the weekly Senior Seasons email.*

## Be of Good Courage

### *An Update on Adult Discipleship from Danny Hines*

#### Upcoming Small Groups

We are looking to re-engage our small group ministry here at St. John's and have found some new and exciting ways to get this started. We will have to begin this in a Zoom format but can easily transition to meeting in person when we can safely do so. We will have 3-4 week studies/discussions on topics such as: How Moses let God determine who he was, who he should be and where he was headed and how we can apply that in our own lives; 20/20 – how Jesus brings clarity to our lives and how we can help others to see this; etc. We will provide more information about this through our weekly FaithLife email and social media in the coming weeks. If you are interested in being a small group leader, please email Danny Hines at [danny@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:danny@stjohns-salisbury.org).

If you are looking for thought provoking weekly Bible Studies, Bible Project.com offers some very insightful studies on their website. You can access the weekly Bible Studies at the top of the opening page. These Bible Studies are geared for individuals and families.

#### Women's and Men's Bible Study Continues

On Tuesday mornings, 8-9 am, the women of St. John's are meeting for the regularly scheduled bible study, led by Pastor Laura. The Men's Bible Study, led by Pastor Rhodes, continues to meet on Thursdays, at 8-9 am via zoom, as well. In the midst of a pandemic, we want to extend that invitation to YOU. If you would like to join either the Women's or the Men's Bible Study, email Deborah, [deborah@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:deborah@stjohns-salisbury.org) so that she can add you to the list. You will get the Zoom link and bible text for the week.

#### Just For Moms!

Stacey Shafer has started a Mom Support Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 8 pm. They talk, support, encourage, cry, laugh and pray together. If you would like to join the group, please send Stacey an email, [stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:stacey@stjohns-salisbury.org), and she will be happy to add you to her list! Whether you have a baby, toddler, elementary age, teenager or college student, this group is for you!

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## New Book Study Deals With Issues of Race

### Thursdays in July Via Zoom: *Dear Church*

A new book study, *Dear Church*, will be held on Thursdays beginning, July 9, 7 pm – 8 pm via Zoom. A link will be provided to participants.

The study, led by Danny Hines, Minister for Adult Discipleship, walks through Pastor Lenny Duncan's book, *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.*, available for purchase on Amazon or [christianbooks.com](http://christianbooks.com). Please send Danny an email at [danny@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:danny@stjohns-salisbury.org) if you are interested in joining this book study.

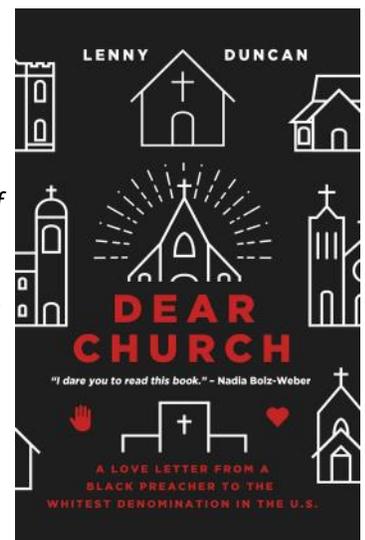
From the publisher:

*Lenny Duncan is the unlikeliest of pastors. Formerly incarcerated, he is now a black preacher in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Shifting demographics and shrinking congregations make all the headlines, but Duncan sees something else at work--drawing a direct line between the church's lack of diversity and the church's lack of vitality.*

*Part manifesto, part confession, and all love letter, Dear Church offers a bold new vision for the future of Duncan's denomination and the broader mainline Christian community of faith. Dear Church rejects the narrative of church decline and calls everyone--leaders and laity alike--to the front lines of the church's renewal through racial equality and justice.*

*Duncan gives a blueprint for the way forward and urges us to follow in the revolutionary path of Jesus.*

Join Danny and others for this vibrant study, beginning July 9.



# The Oceans of Life and Ministry and Worship



By Rob Durocher  
Minister of Worship and the Arts, Deacon

These last few weeks our worship staff and pastors have been diligently working together sorting through and planning for re-entry to worship. We together (like you) continue to deal with life, ministry and worship in continual transition with COVID-19 and a tense social-political climate, and I think that we have all shared a sense of deep concern and of being a little overwhelmed. So much of what we used to know and faithfully do continues to shift and change right before us like the sands of the oceans, but our prayer and hope is that these changes and shifting sands are being directed by the Holy Spirit!

A few days ago while sitting on the beach and watching the powerful ebb and flow of the Atlantic Ocean, I thought about the correlation between these transitions of life, ministry, worship to the sands slipping into the sea and was reminded of a worship song that we have been singing in our contemporary service for some years called OCEANS (*Where Feet May Fail*). I also thought of St. Matthew's text from chapter 14:28-29 when Peter sees Jesus walking on the water and Jesus calls to Peter to 'come', and Peter walks on the water to his Lord! The song 'Oceans' begins with the following words,

*You call me out upon the waters,  
the great unknown where feet may fail;  
And there I find You in the mystery,  
in oceans deep My faith will stand.*

*And I will call upon Your name.  
And keep my eyes above the waves,  
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in Your embrace  
for I am Yours and You are mine.*

The supernatural power of God was experienced by Peter to walk to Jesus because of his faith and trust. There in oceans deep, because of that faith was Jesus found 'in the mystery' by Peter, until he took his eyes off Jesus and felt the strength of wind, and his feet began to fail him. When Peter had faith, he walked on water. When he had fear, he began to sink in the water. He cried out to Jesus to save him, and Jesus stretched out his hand and saved Peter.

I'm pretty sure for those of us who minister in worship, music and the arts here at St. John's there is an urgency to do something now, do something more, begin all things again like gathering to worship, sing and witness in community and to 'walk together on the water of uncertainty – where feet may fail.' And yet, here we are in the third quarter of 'waiting on the beach' watching the ocean waves crash around us, watching the sands slip away into the ocean and still listening to the sounds of the seas. I wonder though if this is how God is speaking to us, and calling us to holy moments in the sounds of the ocean as God *calls us out upon the waters* into a new day and to remind us to keep our eyes upon him and to *find him in the mystery* of these moments.

Even the calmest of waters, the gentlest of waves or command of the ocean's tide or its ability to consume us is not in our control and yet in our worship we sing that God's love is like the ocean, filling the very void and space of our emptiness with power and completeness because it is powerful and complete.

If these were 'normal' days, we would already be settling into our summer worship and community activities, sharing upcoming worship and arts events for the rest of the season and preparation for Fall ministry. These are not normal days, though we continue to have great hope and expectation for a faithful and safe return of worship opportunities together and to continue streaming our 11 am worship service! Our choirs, ensembles and choruses, when it is safe for them to resume, will no doubt look and sound a little different even as our worship and music partners feel an empty space in their lives where such activities once thrived! Right now there's a feeling that like children at the beach we're running in and out of the ocean waves not yet able to dive back in, but we can still emerge ourselves into the awesomeness of God's presence each day through prayer, worshipping with family, small groups or however you can safely do this together!

*Continued...*

# Around the Congregation

The lyrical bridge in the song OCEANS has this plea:

*Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders,  
let me walk upon the waters  
wherever you would call me.*

*Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
And my faith will be made stronger  
in the presence of my Savior.*

Who would have thought that we'd still be living in a day of indecision about doing the right thing in life and worship matters and yet here we are, having been led to a time when our trust is without borders and we are being taken deeper than our feet ever thought to wander and still our faith is being made stronger in our Savior's presence!

As the Holy Spirit navigates us through rough currents and we look for a return to worship, slowly, safely but surely, let's continue to be bold in preparing ourselves to do things we might not have done before or aren't used to with a strong faith while keeping our eyes above the waves, and to walk out to where feet may fail, knowing God is always with us in our walk as he walks with us and as we worship!

(Link for OCEANS: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dy9nwe9\\_xzw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dy9nwe9_xzw))

## A Note About Worship:

Join us each Sunday for worship online at 11 am on Facebook Live, YouTube, and [stjohns-salisbury.org](http://stjohns-salisbury.org).

Join us for Contemporary Worship, Sundays at 9:27 am for a smaller, gentler gathering for prayer, song, and hearing God's Word. Please note that masks are required, seating is spaced, and you might want to bring your own bible. If re-entering public worship is right for you, join us! And be confident that we've worked with medical professionals to create the safest possible environment for our church family.

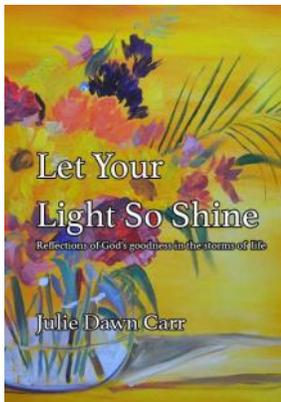
All other in-person worship services have been postponed until a later date, including the previously-scheduled Wednesday noon service.

Please watch for weekly email updates in the FatihLife. Contact [angel@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:angel@stjohns-salisbury.org) to sign up.

## Select Items from Seasons Gifts Available for Delivery



*Jesus Calling*: Daily Devotional, Julie Carr's book, *Let Your Light So Shine*, Prayer Crosses, as well as a few of the other items pictured here are available from Seasons Gifts! While the store remains closed for in-person shopping, these items are available for purchase and can be shipped directly to you! Interested? Contact [diane@stjohns-salisbury.org](mailto:diane@stjohns-salisbury.org)



## The Journey of Friendship *Through the Mountains and Valleys*



Stacey with Julie Carr, who passed away in May

By Stacey Shafer

When you see and feel Jesus at work it's a time to rejoice and be thankful. That's exactly what I am feeling right now as my sweet friend Julie is awaiting Jesus to call her name home. I can picture a Father embracing His beloved child as she carried her cross higher than I have ever witnessed. Yes I am sad, yes I have questions, yes I find it hard to understand why her friends and family have to hurt so deeply. But what brings me to a better place is that peaceful feeling I always get when Jesus' love shines through.

There is a story to every relationship. For Julie and I, we knew each other years before our friendship would ever form. I remember her being the first person in Center Celebration Service at St. John's, raising her hands high while singing, and thinking to myself, I want to praise Jesus like that! When she had Dawson, I remember praying for the miracle that God had blessed her and David with. We would sometimes be at the same gatherings and talk in church, but it wasn't until I got that phone call every person that has been through

cancer hates to get. When someone else, especially someone you know calls you and has questions about the pain they're having your heart sinks and says oh no, not them, please not them.

Julie knew her body, and that's one thing we had in common. Listening to that little voice in your head can make a big difference. We talked, prayed together and in that moment, our friendship was formed. At the time Julie was diagnosed with stage four lung cancer, I was a four year, triple negative breast cancer survivor. When diagnosed with cancer or any other sickness or life changing event, you lose all control of the person you were before. This is the part where Jesus connected our friendship that would continue to grow during the next three and a half years.

You see, Julie and I decided from the beginning of our cancer journeys that we had to continue to praise Jesus in this storm while giving all control to Him. If we spent what little energy we had during chemotherapy treatments, surgeries, radiation and doctor appointment's focusing on fear and anger, we would be so emotionally drained that we wouldn't have been able to use what little energy we had left on the goodness Jesus had put before us. What an opportunity we had before us to tell others how good God is and how having mountains to climb in life's journey can give you strength and courage like you never knew you had.

*Jesus Calling* was a devotion book Julie would read every day that kept her focused on Jesus and the positive. For me, when my hands had strength to work right, I would write in a journal. We both found fulfillment in praising through Contemporary Christian music. Being together singing and worshipping with our church family on Sundays is so uplifting to the spirit, but one song in particular we sang together during an appointment I accompanied her to was "Good, Good Father," by Chris Tomlin.

At the start of the pandemic, Julie's battle took on some major changes. The blessing of having Dawson home more also took on new challenges. After a morning of schoolwork, Julie would need to rest, but if you know eight-year-olds, they are ready to release energy! That's where this "Be of Good

*Continued...*



Courage” story takes a turn from my friendship with Julie to Dawson and Gabriel’s friendship.

Yes, they have grown up together in church and played here and there, but anyone who knows Gabriel knows he doesn’t let people into his “circle” easily. They had connected more recently, before the pandemic, at church. I could tell Gabriel was opening up and I soon realized this was part of God’s plan. We would pick Dawson up several times a week to come play while Julie went to appointments or rested.

We had trips to Snow Biz that have now become a standard in the boys minds, scavenger hunts around the neighborhood, video game FaceTime calls, outdoor football games where they both tackled me to the ground, but what I have witnessed the most is their courage, their giggles, their forgiveness (have you ever listened to friends battle together on a video game?), their love for each other. This whole time I have felt God is working on something big for them. The friendship has been brought together by their mother’s cancer journey’s, but what else is God working on? Maybe it’s just this story I felt so strongly pushed to write or maybe it has to do with the bible verse that showed up on several devotions I was blessed to have read to Julie from her *Jesus Calling* book. “We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his

purpose.” Romans 8:28 I don’t have the answers, but I will continue to choose to see the goodness of what is being formed.

In Julie’s last weeks, we talked about the boys and the sound of their giggles. What a smile it brought her to her sweet face. Through the hardest of days Dawson showed such great courage. Being honest with his emotions, leaning on family and friends for comfort- that’s where strength comes from. Julies motherly love will always shine through Dawson and as he wraps his prayer blanket around him I pray he feels her arms that have been healed by Jesus ever so tightly.

As I type the last few paragraphs compared to the first few, Julie is now in heaven. The day after she passed, I went for an early morning run to release my emotions. As the sun would come out and then go back in, I noticed it was extra bright at times. I looked up and took a couple pictures to capture the feeling of knowing it was Julie watching over me. Later, looking at the pictures I noticed a heart in the clouds along with a little angel dot, as I call it, to the side. Believe what you may, but Jesus and Julie blessed me with that feeling of peace in that moment. Julie and I connected through the Holy Spirit and in that moment, I knew she was telling me she was healed and home.

I love you big, my spirit sister, and until it’s my time to journey to heaven, I will continue to shine God’s light while using my servant’s heart.



# A Brief History of the 50th Anniversary of Ordaining Women in the Lutheran Church

By Susan Shinn Turner

During 2019 and 2020, the Lutheran church is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women, the 40th anniversary of women of color being ordained and the 10th year of LGBTQIA+ individuals being able to serve.

The ELCA's website and other sources provide us with information about the women behind these numbers.

On Nov. 22, 1970, Elizabeth Platz was ordained as the first woman to serve in the Lutheran Church of America. Just one month later, on Dec. 22, 1970, Barbara L. Andrews was ordained in the American Lutheran Church. In 1988, these two Lutheran bodies merged to form the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Platz spent her entire career as chaplain at the University of Maryland and retired in 2017. Born with cerebral palsy, Andrews served the church in a variety of roles, both as a parish pastor and a nursing home chaplain. She died in a fire in her Detroit apartment in 1978 at age 42.

On March 4, 1979, Lydia Rivera Kalb became the first Latina woman ordained by the LCA. She served West Indian, Latino, Euro-American, and African-American parishioners in the Chicago area and was director of the Multicultural Center at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago.

On Aug. 26, 1979, Earleen Miller was the first black woman to be ordained by the LCA. Ordained in North Carolina at her first call, Prince of Peace, she also served parishes in Gary, Indiana; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Chicago, Illinois; and Columbus, Ohio. She died in 2014.

On Jan. 22, 1990, Ruth Frost and Phyllis Zillhart were the first openly lesbian women to be ordained into the ELCA. According to the ELCA website: "Because of the ELCA's policies on clergy in same-gender relationships, the congregation that called them, St. Francis, was put on ecclesiastical trial, suspended from the ELCA for five years and then expelled in 1996. Frost and Zillhart were formally received back into the ELCA in 2010."



*Elizabeth Platz, the first woman ordained in the Lutheran Church*

In 2013, Elizabeth Eaton was elected as the first female presiding bishop of the ELCA. Ordained in 1981, she was re-elected in 2019.

Pastor Laura reflects, "As we look back on these amazing women who trailblazed a path for all women in ministry today, I am grateful for their courage and grit. It is hard to be the first to do something. I appreciate their trust in God to lead and guide them in a way that some thought wasn't possible. I am sure it was lonely at times. When I look around the landscape of colleagues, I look at the richness that my female colleagues bring to ministry."



## **“Conversations that Matter” Podcast Honors the 50th Anniversary of Ordaining Women in the Lutheran Church**

St. John's podcasts are now available on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and iHeart Radio. Listen to St. John's sermons on the sermon channel, updated weekly. You'll also discover a new podcast called "Conversations that Matter," in which Pastor Rhodes interviews individuals who have made a significant impact in our community.

"We have some remarkable leaders in our community whose stories need to be heard," says Pastor Rhodes. "We also have some folks doing some really hard, necessary, sometimes controversial work. This podcast is a platform for their voices to be heard."

In July, Pastor Rhodes interviews four women-in-ministry, in honor of the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women in the Lutheran church. You'll hear from Pastors Laura Henrik, Danielle DeNise, Adrienne Martin, and Adrienne's mom,

Debbie Martin Purpur, who served as a pastor's spouse for 45 years.

In August, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton joins us in conversation. Eaton is the first female presiding bishop of the ELCA.

New content is uploaded on the first day of every month.

Catch up on last month's podcast, where you'll hear Pastor Rhodes interview Marvin Moore, who was just appointed the new principal of Salisbury High School.

To listen, just search "SJLC" on your preferred podcast platform. Make sure to subscribe!

# Be of Good Courage



*Kingdom Kids show off their "Be of Good Courage" t-shirts!*



# Taylor Hutchins Leads Efforts To Stream Online Worship

By Susan Shinn Turner

After St. John's closed its campus in mid-March because of the coronavirus, the media team had to step up its efforts to provide a Sunday service which solely relied on the livestream.

Fortunately, the team had started live-streaming in November 2018, according to Taylor Hutchins, who leads the team.

"We used the current equipment we had, which was basically a camera on a tripod," he says. "It wasn't great quality, but it was a start."

Several months later, the team acquired better equipment, with multiple cameras that would zoom and include more areas of the sanctuary, along with better image and audio quality.

"It's something we had been talking about for a while," Taylor says of the upgrade. "In the beginning, we were livestreaming audio only. It was hit-or-miss and wasn't great quality. There was no reason not to do video. It was just a matter of figuring it out. We were ahead of a lot of other churches, so we ended up being ahead of the curve when COVID-19 started."

The church staff decided one Friday that St. John's wouldn't have services for the foreseeable future, and the media team has been working together since. Besides Taylor, the 11 am team includes Mike Agee and Cory Gebhardt. Normally, Taylor says, he has 16 to 20 volunteers who rotate among the three services.

"It's been interesting to see how creative we can be on delivering audio and video," Taylor says.

The service is streamed live through the St. John's website as well as its Facebook page. It's also posted on the YouTube channel, so folks can watch later in the week.



St. John's has also started a monthly podcast called "Conversations that Matter," Taylor notes. "We're continually trying to do new things. People have been so incredibly patient and thankful about what we are trying to do."

There have been a couple of glitches in the past few months, Taylor says, "but we just do our best with what we have."

"It's been a collaborative effort," Mike says, "and behind all that is Taylor. We would not be where we are without him. He truly is the one who puts it all together and makes it flow. It's a lot of work to bring it to the

screen.

"Taylor plays a key role. You won't find anybody who doesn't appreciate him. He's humble and funny, and we have a lot of fun. He's great to work with."

On July 1, Taylor will observe his fifth year on staff. He saw an ad in the paper for a contemporary worship leader at St. John's, posted just before the Faith Center opened in September 2015.

"I knew I wanted to serve in the church," Taylor says. "I contacted the church and said, I cannot lead worship, but I can do sound, video, media, and lighting. They brought me in for a meeting and here I am."

Three years ago, Taylor and a friend formed their own web design and production company, which now has 65 clients.

"But it will never replace my love for St. John's," Taylor says. "I just love this place."

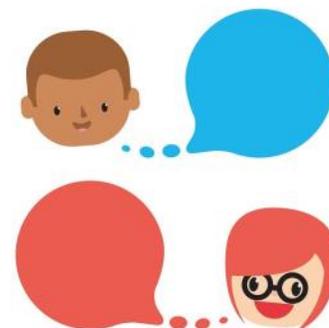
## Talking to Your Kids About Race

*A new Zoom conversation for parents*

Join Pastor Danielle DeNise and Lauren Britt for a safe place to process, learn, and discuss how to talk to your kids about race.

In this 5 week discussion group, the conversation will be centered around a short article, picture book, or podcast. It is not a high level of commitment prior to each class.

We know you are busy raising humans. The group will meet starting July 7 from 8-9 pm. If you would like more information or the Zoom link, please contact Pastor Danielle at [ddenise@nclutheran.org](mailto:ddenise@nclutheran.org).



It's a simple process: We'll amplify a voice from the Black community, give time for participants to listen intently, and then ask: "What did I learn?"

The zoom link will be emailed out in the weekly FaithLife. Or contact the church office for the recurring link.

## Conversations that Matter

*Racial Justice Resources*

At St. John's, we believe the church is a place for conversations that matter — a place where we're willing to be a part of open, sometimes difficult, conversations, approached in genuine love.

Our website includes a variety of resources that highlight the history and complexity of racial justice, including books, movies, documentaries, TED talks and other educational resources. Visit St. John's website and select "Conversations that Matter" under the *Resources* tab.

## 2 Groundwater Workshops in July

*Workshops address the "groundwater" issues surrounding racism in the United States*

Racial Equity Rowan (RE Rowan) is hosting two online workshops this July to address systemic issues of racism. The virtual workshops are packed with the raw data and history that help participants better understand the fundamental nature of race and racism in the US.

The workshops will be on Saturday, July 25 (9:00-12:00) and Thursday, July 30 (1:00-4:00). Registration is \$25 and is limited to the first 50 participants per workshop. For more information and to register, please visit [www.racialequityrowan.org](http://www.racialequityrowan.org).

Of note: Full scholarships are available to anyone who is unable to pay the registration fee.

## Pictorial Directory Photos in August!

It is **Pictorial Directory** time again! Save the following dates for the photography sessions:  
Wednesday – Friday, August 19-21, 2-8:40 pm  
Saturday, August 22, 10 am to 4:40 pm  
Tuesday – Friday, August 25-28, 2-8:40 pm  
Saturday, August 29, 10-4:40 pm

### Why now?

- **Our last pictorial directory is from 2016.** Many members have asked for an updated directory, especially during this time of quarantine. It is a good tool for new and old members alike, as well as a tool for those in leadership roles.
- **We have the space and ability to follow CDC guidelines during the photography sessions.** Each session will take only 10 minutes, but participants should plan to be on campus for 60 minutes.

### Benefits:

- **Lifetouch and Shutterfly have merged**, so you can move the photos you purchase into your Shutterfly account.
- **You are not obligated to purchase photos, BUT** you will receive a free directory and a complimentary 8 x 10 photograph, and a password protected mobile directory.



- **20% Senior /Military /1st Responder Discount, plus a \$10 off coupon for everyone who brings a food item for Rowan Helping Ministry.**

### A Note on Safety and Sanitization Protocol

Every Lifetouch employee must complete health and safety training before returning to either an office environment or church, and they must attest to feeling in good health every day before work. We're equipping every photographer with a thermometer, face coverings and sanitization kit. We are training our photographers on no-contact posing techniques so they can capture smiles while remaining behind the camera. We will also follow protocol to enable social distancing between the photographer and the family being photographed, as well as between families waiting for their appointment. Finally, we have established rigorous sanitization protocols that require cleaning of all equipment throughout the day.



Register online at <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/ch7ljdn0/>

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## Share Your Talents:

### *Volunteers Needed for Church Directory*

We are creating a new family directory and need your help with possible volunteer assistance. I would like to help by:

- Contacting our families
- Helping with photography appointment sign-ups
- Greeting our families during photography
- Gaining student community service hours

## “Do Justice” — A Letter to the LSC Family

*The following is a letter written by Ted Goins, President of Lutheran Services Carolinas and St. John's member. It was first published on the Lutheran Services Carolinas blog.*

Dear Lutheran Services Carolinas Family,

Communication is hard. LSC does a great job of sharing, even over-sharing, but it can never be enough. The death of George Floyd and the international demonstrations for justice underway are a good example.

When African American's faith in humanity is in doubt, or any group is marginalized, LSC needs to respond. LSC has been responding for years, but I need to communicate even better! LSC has a long history of justice, diversity, and inclusion. Black lives matter. That statement doesn't dismiss anyone or any other group; it acknowledges four hundred years of injustice and white privilege. I realize to some those words may be triggers, but when Jesus left to look for the one sheep it didn't mean the lives of the other sheep didn't matter, it meant he needed to focus on the one in immediate danger. Let us not forget our brothers and sisters in Christ that are in danger. Their lives matter. Sadly, in this world we need to say it.

LSC's response begins, as always, with our Vision Statement from John 10:10, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." Christ called for abundant life for everyone! He did not reserve abundant life for one group over another. Our Mission Statement, "Empowered by Christ, we walk together with all those we serve," puts our vision into action, again with Christ leading as we walk together with all. Our Vision and Mission guide everything we do. All of our positions, policies, and actions flow from those headwaters. One doesn't have to be a Lutheran or Christian to be served by or work for LSC; our guide star is Christ. LSC serves without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, disability or veteran status, or any other legally protected status. The world will, like the song says, "know we are Christians by our love."

Many initiatives flow from our core beliefs, like our values: Faith, Integrity, Respect, Excellence, Collaboration, and Compassion. LSC's Dignity and Respect Statement was developed from this to tell the world:



At Lutheran Services Carolinas, we believe our family of residents/clients, their families, teammates, and friends each have the right to be treated with dignity and respect. If you ever feel you have not been treated with dignity and respect, we encourage you to discuss this with a supervisor or the administrator/executive director immediately. Everyone's active participation is necessary for us to live by Christ's admonition to "do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Our Dignity and Respect Statement is polite, but be assured the words carry great weight. LSC unequivocally denounces racism, discrimination, intolerance, and oppression. We have a zero tolerance for any form of racism, discrimination, or oppression.

LSC's initiatives span inclusion of diversity and inclusion in LSC's strategic plan; creating The LSC Way, a strong culture of service for all teammates; the LSC Diversity Council, open to every one of LSC's over 2,000 teammates; adoption of the Just Culture philosophy to console the teammate who makes a mistake, to counsel a teammate exhibiting at-risk behavior, and to punish the reckless; a strong Cultural Competence plan; the creation of Lutheran Services University to lead and share diversity training for all teammates including all supervisors.

LSC's justice and diversity efforts don't stop at the front door. We are a corporate citizen, and each member of the LSC Family is a member of their community. LSC has been

*Continued...*

actively involved with the N.C. Lutheran church's African Descent Strategy Team since 2003. Multicultural ministries, LGBTQ efforts, and Hispanic outreach have all influenced LSC. A few years ago, the Ku Klux Klan leafleted our Columbia, S.C office neighborhood to protest LSC's refugee services. We were okay with being targeted by the KKK; we are on the right side of history. All those collaborations and events have influenced LSC's learning, sharing, and serving. Our national Lutheran church has likewise been a leader in justice and diversity. LSC's first response to the death of George Floyd was to widely share Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton's statement affirming the Lutheran church's commitment to combat racism and white supremacy. Bishop Eaton began her statement by quoting Micah 6:8,

"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Since that has been my personal mission statement for many years, her statement spoke to me deeply. I am a person of

privilege, which is all the more reason to use my voice to lift up those who are less privileged and who have been marginalized.

Please let me end with a call to action. I urge every member of the LSC Family to mourn the death of child of God George Floyd and others that have died and been brutalized; pray for our country; learn and study more about Black Lives Matter, justice, diversity, inclusion; and, if you are called to it, to stand up or lie down in peaceful demonstration for liberty and justice for all as is our first amendment right.

Peace be with you.

Ted W. Goins, Jr.  
President, LSC



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## A Thank you from the NC Synod

Thank you for the ways that you invested in our work together through your 2019 Mission Support. Together we are cultivating and celebrating vital congregations; Identifying, equipping, and nurturing whole and healthy leaders; embracing and engaging in collaboration; and proclaiming the resurrection with a prophetic voice. There is value in the ministry we do together; our partnership makes a difference. Thank you.

We rejoice and give thanks for the long and continuing legacy of St. John's being an essential leader in synodical mission

support and in so many other ways through stellar local ministry. We see you. We appreciate and need you!

Bishop Tim Smith

*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."*



## Guatemala: Compassion and Solidarity

The first time I truly learned what solidarity meant was from my mother. A family at our church had lost their young girl, and my parents were going to her funeral. I remember I had to babysit for another couple that was going as well, and I told my mom, “I’m glad I have to babysit because going to that funeral would be too hard.”

I remember my mother, in her loving way, reassuring me that it was most definitely not about myself, but that it was about showing compassion and sharing in the suffering of our community.

The second time I learned about solidarity was from my Guatemalan brothers and sisters, unfortunately also from the death of a child. My dear friend Sandra’s niece passed away only one week after she entered this world. I remember the sadness of that week of her life as her family cared for her, and how cruel their treatment was in the hospital because of their race and class. I also remember the funeral.

In Guatemalan villages, wakes last for about 24 hours in the family’s home. Family and friends grieve, and neighbors and community members come and bring food, embrace in long hugs and weep together. Following the wake, the body is carried to the church where they have the service. The family then carries the coffin overhead in a community procession through the streets, to the cemetery where the person will be buried.

Watching a tiny coffin being carried by a grieving mother is one of the most heartbreaking things I have witnessed in my entire life. But, what I also witnessed was that the mother



didn’t carry the coffin alone—she lifted and carried the tiny body with the help of her village.

Together they carried the pain, sorrow, injustice and heartache.

These moments taught me so much. If you have visited Guatemala, I am sure you also learned about the importance of relationships and human connection—Guatemalans are fabulous teachers in this area. In a world that continues to hurt, it is

important to act out of both solidarity and compassion with our brothers and sisters, near and around the globe.

I hope that I can continue to live this out in my own life and to carry other burdens (1), to hurt alongside my community (2), to make judgments based on truth, justice and peace (3) and to speak up for those less privileged than myself (4).

Thank you to each and every one of you who have demonstrated solidarity and compassion with the families we work with in Guatemala. Your support is one way that they tangibly feel and know Divine love.

May you be blessed,

Hannah, Executive Director of GRACES  
*GRACES is the stateside non-profit organization that supports our ministry partner, the Escuela Integrada school in Antigua, Guatemala.*

P.S. Be sure to listen to Hannah’s interview by Pastor Rhodes on the September “Conversations that Matter” podcast.

### Meal Support Campaign

During times of crisis or additional need, the support of the Meal Support fund provides continued meal support and nutrients for the children of Escuela Integrada. The children eat two full meals at school and we want to ensure that a disruption in school does not result in increased famine or disease for our families. A fund matching campaign will be taking place until the end of August at [www.wearegraces.org/mealsupport](http://www.wearegraces.org/mealsupport)!



## Bright Stars of Bethlehem: An Upcoming Zoom Webinar July 27, 12 pm

Can art pave the way for justice?

In recent months, we've witnessed a global cry for justice in face of systemic racism. How can art be a catalyst for social change?

Join Bright Stars for a webinar on July 24 titled, "Pandemic and the Creative Response." We'll hear from Dar al-Kalima professor Faten Nastas Mitwasi and graphic design student Carla Gedeon, as they share how art provides a social justice lens in which to critically reflect on reality while imagining new futures. Learn how the students are navigating the unique challenges and opportunities of a pandemic learning environment.



*Bright Stars is the US-based advocacy and fundraising arm for our partner school in Bethlehem, Dar al-Kalima University College. Dar al-Kalima is a school of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.*



## St. John's Kindergarten Fence

*New security fence installed*

By Jon Koppe, facilities manager

A new fence has been installed for the Kindergarten playground. The fence is 6 feet tall, black in color and has decorative tops. The entrance gate is equipped with access control so that our Kindergarten and CDC children are able to play in a safe and secure environment. The fence includes a camera and a two way communication so the kindergarten can “buzz” in people after talking with them. It can also be scheduled to be locked or unlocked during certain times of the day.

The new fence is an excellent and much-needed security addition for our children and staff.

It was critically important that we update our old fence, which was insecure, was short in height, and didn't provide a secure perimeter for the kindergarten and playground area. The Security Task Force had several meetings regarding what needed to change and looked at several samples of secure fencing before making their recommendation.

The task force was created to ensure proper security around the campus and to continue to improve the safety of each and every person who comes on the campus. We will continue to meet and discuss future improvements for our campus.

## St. John's Leadership

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL

2020 President .... Cindy Fink  
Vice President .... Rosalind Hines  
Secretary .... David Phillips  
Treasurer .... Tommy Page  
Financial Secretary...Cory Gebhardt  
Personnel Secretary ... Jeanie Moore

#### Term Expires 2020

Larry Cesario  
Cindy Fink  
David Phillips  
Wesley Rhyme  
Aleksandr (Sacha) Witt

#### Term Expires 2021

Randy Overcash  
David Hord  
Mike Agee  
Mary Wymbs  
Larry Britt

#### Term Expires 2022

Christopher Derrick  
Mike Edwards  
Penny Moss  
Dennis Rogers  
Rosalind Hines

#### Youth Members

Grace Shafer and Elizabeth Jones

#### Benevolent Foundation Trustees

John Henderlite, Chair  
Chip Bridges  
Chris Agner  
Margaret Kluttz  
John Denker

### MINISTRY GROUP STAFF CONTACTS

Worship & The Arts – Rob Durocher  
Discipleship – Pastor Laura Henrik  
Mercy & Justice – Pastor Rhodes Woolly  
Congregational Life – Diane Poole  
Stewarding God's Resources – Ruth Ann Diehl



Dear St. John's Church Family,

We would like to sincerely thank you for your outpouring of love and kindness following the recent loss of our dear Howard. The delicious food, phone calls, cards, memorials, and other expressions of sympathy have all been a huge comfort to our family during this difficult time.

When our family first came to St. John's, we were a little concerned about how difficult a move this would be for Howard, who had attended the same church in Spencer his whole life. Those fears, however, vanished, when he was immediately taken into the St. John's flock, and felt accepted and loved. He commented many times, especially recently, about how many good people he had met and grown to love at St. John's, and about how much he enjoyed the services and the people. He truly loved his Lord, and we are so thankful that he is now rejoicing with Him in heaven! We look forward to worshiping with you all again in person as soon as it is safe, and until then, we once again thank you for all the kind expressions of sympathy you have shown our family.

With love,

Diane Everhart and family

## Happy Birthday!

*Congratulations to our Octogenarians*

*July Birthdays:*

Pat Fahey, Bill Hillegass, Roger Hull, Peggy Mowery, Mary Nelson, Harold Overcash, Peggy Taylor, Kay Wilson

### Consolation

Barbara and Julius Waggoner, Rosalind and Danny Hines, Dan Waggoner, and family, on the passing of Barbara's brother, John Robinson, on June 8.

Trixie Martin and family on the passing of her mother, Brenda Martin, on Saturday, June 13 in Alabama.

Sandy and Stan Jordan and family on the passing of Sandy's brother, Allen Duke, Jr. on Saturday, June 13. He was 53 years old and died unexpectedly from a heart attack.

*Giving to God's Work*  
Ways to Give

-  **Offering Envelope**  
Drop-off or Mailed
-  **GivePlus App or Text**  
Text Amount to 704-802-1349
-  **Online Giving**  
[stjohns-salisbury.org/giving](http://stjohns-salisbury.org/giving)

## St. John's Ministry Staff

### Pastoral Ministry

Senior Pastor .....Rhodes Woolly  
Pastor of Youth and Discipleship.....Laura Henrik  
Visitation.....Wade Rouzer

### Worship and Music Ministry

Minister of Worship and the Arts.....Rob Durocher, deacon  
Associate Parish Musician.....Rosemary Kinard  
Director of Music Emeritus.....Karl Kinard, deacon  
Director, St. John's Men's Chorus..... Jason Harwood  
Assisting Organist.....Deanna Boksleitner  
Bell Choirs.....Kimberly Lentz  
Production Manager.....Taylor Hutchins  
Contemporary Worship Leader.....Bradley Chestnut

### Program Ministry

Adults.....Danny Hines  
Children.....Stacey Shafer  
Youth .....Laura Henrik  
Senior Adults .....Diane Poole  
St. John's Kindergarten (4 and 5 year olds) .....Teresa Stoner  
Child Development Center (infant -age 4 and after school).....

### Administrative Team

Business Manager .....Ruth Ann Diehl  
Office Manager.....Deborah Cross  
Accounting.....Mark Bias  
Communications Specialist ..... Angel Owens  
Writer .....Susan Shinn Turner  
Facilities Manager.....Jon Koppe  
Maintenance.....David Ellenburg

The Rev. Dr. Timothy M Smith, Bishop of the NC Synod  
The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

### The best way to contact staff at this time is by email.

Staff Email: first name@stjohns-salisbury.org  
Visit us on the web at stjohns-salisbury.org  
Kindergarten 704.636.4404  
Kindergarten@stjohns-salisbury.org  
Child Development Center 704.636.6756  
cdc@stjohns-salisbury.org  
Kindergarten@stjohns-salisbury.org

### Office hours

The office building is closed while church staff members work from home.

Monday-Thursday, 9 am-5 pm; Friday 9-12.  
Telephone 704.636.3431; Fax 704.636.4461

### Sunday Worship During Covid-19 Restrictions

Online worship at 11 am  
9:27 am Worship in the Faith Center

Visit stjohns-salisbury.org and click "listen live,"  
watch on Facebook Live, or search "SJLC" on YouTube

Listen to worship each Sunday morning at 11 am on  
stjohns-salisbury.org, and click Listen Live. Listen to previous  
week's service at 9 am Sunday on WSAT 1280 AM.

### EAGLE'S VIEW (USPS 716—020)

is published once a month by St. John's Lutheran Church  
200 West Innes Street, Salisbury, NC 28144  
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EAGLE'S VIEW, 200 W. Innes Street, Salisbury, NC 28144

**Please deliver by July 7**

### Eagle's View Deadline

The August Eagle's View will be published in July.  
Please email stories and news to  
angel@stjohns-salisbury.org by **July 10!**

### On Call List

If there is a pastoral emergency, please call **704.856.9751**  
to reach the pastor on call.

**Prayer Chain.** Our Prayer Chain is updated daily and  
emailed to interested persons Monday through Friday. To  
add or subtract a name, please contact Deborah Cross at  
deborah@stjohns-salisbury.org. Also let Deborah know if  
you would like to receive the daily Prayer Chain.



Let's connect faith and life. *Together.*