The Living Springs Journal

"CELEBRATE...SHARE...SERVE"
ACCORDING TO GOD'S WILL

August 2026

Engage 4 …. Learning, Meaning, Living, Belonging! *(from Pastor Eric)*

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope!
– Romans 15:4

"Listen! God's voice of love is calling you in every wilderness space of life!"
For 6 months, we have been sharing those precious words at the beginning of worship—words given to us by the Holy Spirit for our annual ministry faith focus.

Listen! Listen! Listen! In my CPE chaplaincy training years ago, I remember being introduced to the concept of **"active listening."** Over the years, the concept has taken root in larger spaces – parenting skills, good marriage practices, friendship relationships, workplace behaviors, and more. Genuine listening is truly an **ACTIVE** thing…including our lives of faith!

It's one thing to say, "Listen!" when it comes to God's voice, but what does it mean for us to be ACTIVELY listening for God's voice? Yes, God's voice of love is always there, calling to each of us, no matter how we are listening (or even whether we are listening) - but when we actively listen for God's voice, then we allow that love to take a deeper place in our hearts & minds to truly shape our lives.

Within our overall "listen" ministry theme, we have some sublines, including "**ENGAGE God's voice by learning & growing in faith throughout all of life!"**

At our Rally Day kickoff on Aug. 16, we will be uplifting and embracing this particular subline as our congregation-wide faith formation focus for all ages for 2026-27. In each of our lives, in our families, in our homes, we are invited to ACTIVELY listen for God's voice of love by ENGAGING in learning & growing in faith throughout all of life!

God's voice of love comes to us through our actively engaging God's Word—by

(Continued on page 5)

Calling all people & friends of Living Springs…

LIVING SPRINGS RALLY DAY! Sunday, AUG. 16

10:00 Rally Day "Unity" Worship, ***concluding with…***
Campus/New Bus Blessing! Annual Cong. Photo!
11:30ish Cong. Potluck Lunch w/ Sundae Bar, Bingo
(Stuff-A-Bus Human Chain, Directory Photo Booth)

- Adults, youth, children, come receive your **"Engage4" Clear Bag** (to which we will be adding Engage Scripture items during the year)!
- Blessing of Bibles - bring your Bible to worship!
- Cong. Potluck Lunch!!! Everyone bring a non-dessert dish to share (sundaes provided).
- Annual Cong. Photo + Photo Booth! Update **everyone's photo for LS in**-house directory!
- Stuff-a-Bus Human Chain to unload donated items from our buses!
- During lunch, **joyful "Engage4" Scripture Bingo with Prizes!**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9
8:15 & 10:30—Blessing of School Bags
9:20—Summer Hope Sunday #3
(Sr. Resources & Christian Assistance Bridge)
+ + +
SUNDAY, AUGUST 23
LS Child Development Center Sunday
8:15 & 10:30—Blessing for CDC Students/Staff
9:20—Tours of CDC Classrooms

We ask that everyone please be present for this major event in the life of Living Springs congregation! Spread the word to family, former members, community….

Celebrating the Spirit's Call—Sunday, Aug. 9!
Installation Service for Rev. Laura Swanson as Living Springs Associate Pastor

Holy Communion Worship @ 4pm
Reception to follow (bring finger foods/desserts to share)

**** Service of the Word @ 8:15 & 10:30 (with School Bag Blessing!) ****

Notes from: Pastor Laura

Hello, August! Though it feels like we were just celebrating school being out for Summer and heading off on vacations, we are somehow back to packing backpacks and lunches, school traffic, and heading towards the joys of Fall. If you, like me, find yourself hoping for a time when things feel less busy, surely next month, right!?, the reality is, life's usually not that simple. It can feel as though it is an unending rollercoaster with joys and challenges throwing turns and loops every day.

There are times we get so into the throws life that nurturing our faith does not happen in the ways that we wish it would. We can feel guilty that what should be on the top of the list gets pushed further down. How is it that the things that can be the most life-giving are the first to put off? But in the midst of the twists and turns of life, our hearts crave a place to rest. A place to know we are loved, no matter what. A place to hear that we are declared good before the first item of the to do list makes it to the paper. A place to know that we are a new creation in Christ, always. God gives our hearts rest. God calls us to remember we don't carry burdens alone, and that when we are weary, we can rest in the love of God that never ends.

I want to share with you a blessing from a book entitled, *Ordinary Blessings: Prayers, Poems, and Meditations for Everyday Life*. It is written by Meta Herrick Carlson, an ELCA pastor. It's intended for the morning, but I think can be just as powerful when read at a desk, in carline, or at the dinner table. I invite you to take a breath, wherever you are, and receive this blessing.

> "Don't get up quite yet,
> First blink and breathe
> and believe you are fiercely loved.
> Do not be fooled
> by the list that hunts you down
> each dawn.
> You are called to a few things,
> not all the things.
> Be still until you hear the sacred silence whisper,
> "Underneath the hustle
> and the bundle of nerves
> that thing
> you are desperate to earn
> has already been declared."
> And then rise like the sun, one shade of sky at a time."
> God has already declared, you are loved, you are good, you are called. Life will continue to twist and turn, but the Good News has already been declared. May we continue to listen to God's voice of love that speaks in every rollercoaster, every wilderness space, of life.

One of the gifts of our lives of faith are the worship opportunities we have to step off the rollercoaster for a bit and pause, to stop and give thanks to God and marvel about all that God has done, is, and will do in our lives together! I am especially looking forward to the installation service. A time of celebration for our ministry partnership and the incredible ways the Spirit is always at work! It's not a service about just me, it's about how God is at work in each of us and celebrating formalizing our journey in ministry together.

Women's Bible Group

The Women's Bible Group is having a great time journeying through Season 2 of The Chosen! It has been amazing to see scripture brought to life in a new and powerful way. Watching the characters' moments of struggle, courage, and faith has been so moving! The group is now meeting **ONLINE only** for our study discussions and are planning to gather every so often for dinner together! **August 17** we will gather online at 7pm to discuss Season 2, episode 8 & Season 3, episode 1. If you have questions or would like to join, please let Pastor Laura know. Study guide for Season 2, Episode 8 Study guide here; Season 3, Episode 1 Study guide here

Calling all people & friends of Living Springs...

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11:30ish Cong. Potluck Lunch w/ Sundae Bar, Bingo
(Stuff-A-Bus Human Chain, Directory Photo Booth)

- Adults, youth, children, come receive your **"Engage4" Clear Bag** (to which we will be adding Engage Scripture items throughout the year)!
- Blessing of Bibles—bring your Bible to worship!
- At end of worship, we offer a special Blessing for LS Campus Project & New Bus!
- Join the Stuff-a-Bus Human Chain as we unload & organize all the items from Stuff-a-Bus!
- Cong. Lunch!!! Everyone bring a non-dessert dish to share (ice cream sundaes provided).
- During lunch, we share in our **joyful "Engage4" Scripture Bingo with Prizes!**
- Annual Cong. Photo + Photo Booth! **Update everyone's photo for LS in**-house directory!

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In each of our lives, in our families, in our homes, we are invited to ACTIVELY listen for God's voice of love by ENGAGING in learning & growing in faith throughout all of life!

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Our focus is **ENGAGE4: Engage the Scriptures, Jesus, & God's Voice of Love for… Learning, Meaning, Living, Belonging!**

studying & embracing the life, ministry & teaching of Jesus (God's Word made flesh for us), by reading & studying the Holy Scriptures, by hearing & receiving the Word as proclaimed among us through the Holy Spirit.

On Rally Day, each person will receive a clear Engage4 bag—to which we will be adding different listening / study items during the year. To help uplift this 3-fold aspect of God's voice of love, you will find a sound wave emanating from symbols for Jesus, the Bible, and the Holy Spirit. Our focus is **ENGAGE4: Engage the Scriptures & God's Voice of Love for… Learning, Meaning, Living, Belonging!**

On Rally Day, we invite you to bring your Bible to worship for a special Blessing of the Bibles! Pastor Laura & I are working with all our families to ensure everyone has an age-appropriate Bible and/or a Bible app. During the year, we will focus of familiarity with the Bible and its 66 books, as well as 52 foundational stories of the Scriptures that help shape how we view our lives, others, and the world! We will have intergenerational times gathered around those Bible stories—and other opportunities to engage the God's voice for learning, meaning, living, and belonging!

In addition, **we invite everyone to ENGAGE God's voice through participation in some faith formation group this year.** We have multiple Adult Bible Studies (in-person & online), Jr. Youth, Confirmation, Sr. Youth, Youth & Adult Faith Milestones, Wednesday Online Engage4 postings, and more! Through such groups, we truly find ways to actively listen and engage God's voice of love for us and find the Spirit's path for learning, meaning, living, and belonging!

I give thanks for all who helped make July such a special month, with the overwhelming response to Christmas in July and our Lutheran Services kitchen kits & 150 sandwiches for Keeping It Real homeless ministry. Here in August, we not only have our big Rally Day on Aug. 16 (with Unity Worship at 10am), but we are also looking forward to being together for the hugely important **Installation Worship Service on Aug. 9 at 4pm.**

We have annual **School Bag Blessing on Aug. 9, Rush Hour Ministry, community Beer & Hymns, fall Football Devotion Ministry, MAH JONG fellowship ministry kickoff, LS-CDC Sunday on Aug. 23**—and all our regular monthly ministries which allow us to respond & echo God's voice of unconditional love & grace for all.

I pray for the Spirit's work in each of us in this upcoming faith formation year, as we seek to ENGAGE4 for learning, meaning, living, and belonging! See you on Aug. 9 for School Bag Blessing/Installation Worship & Aug. 16 for Rally Day! With much love & thanksgiving for God's always amazing work in you, Pastor Eric

Mark Your Calendars!

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID - Aug. 4, Sept. 3
***First Day of School* CDC Welcome - Aug. 5**
CDC BUS FUNDRAISER PICKUP - Aug. 7, 9
LS STUFF-A-BUS - Aug. 15
CAMPUS MINISTRY BBQ - Aug. 15
COMMUNITY BEER & HYMNS - Aug. 19
ENGAGE4 PASTOR STUDY - Aug. 19
JUSTICE HOUSE GATHERINGS - Aug. 23, 30
MAH JONG GROUP - Aug. 23
RUSH HOUR MINISTRY - Aug. 25
FOOTBALL DEV. MINISTRY - starts Aug. 27
+ + +
ENGAGE4 ONLINE POSTINGS - Wed. @ 12
PALMETTO PLACE MEAL - 3rd Thurs
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEAL - 4th Thurs
MEALS-ON-WHEELS - Mon & Tue
NA RECOVERY GROUP - Mon & Thurs

Mark Your Calendars….

God's Work. Our Hands.
SUNDAY, SEPT. 13
Special Worship Visit from our SC Bishop Wade Roof!
Worship @ 8:15 & 10:30

2026 LIVING SPRINGS MINISTRY FOCUS

LISTEN!

In every wilderness space of life

GOD'S VOICE OF LOVE IS CALLING YOU…

to bring your burdens to Jesus & find comfort
in deeper connectedness with God & others!

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Blessed by the Holy Spirit and called to be one in God's mission, we **invite & welcome everyone** to …

HEAR GOD'S VOICE through lives of worship & prayer!

ENGAGE GOD'S VOICE by learning & growing in faith throughout all of life!

RESPOND TO GOD'S VOICE with service & active love for our neighbors!

ECHO GOD'S VOICE of unconditional love & grace for all!

Notes from: Living Springs Child Development Center

From Tammy Mancuso, Director

Hello and Happy August,

It's hard to believe we have sailed through Summer, and the school year is already upon us. These past weeks have been filled with soaking up the last bits of sunshine, beating the heat with waterplay and popsicle breaks, and savoring the simple joys that make childhood feel endless.

As educators, we are gifted with a sideline view of the extraordinary — friendships forming in real time, children helping one another through challenges, and those bright "Aha moments" when discovery lights up a face. To bear witness to such wonders is a privilege that never grows old.

I won't pretend I fully embrace this time of year. It always brings mixed emotions: pride in how far our children have come, and a touch of sadness as we send our oldest off to kindergarten or back to school. These transitions remind us how quickly seasons shift, how deeply we grow attached, and how meaningful our work truly is.

This is when we take a deep breath, a long look, and reflect on the moments and opportunities in which we've been fortunate enough to plant seeds — a passion for learning, building the confidence in being loved for exactly as they are. And the assurance that they will always have a place to call home. A place where they are welcomed back with open arms, a place where they are known.

As we step into this new season together, please know that our doors are always open, our hearts remain ready and that there will always be a seat at our family table.

With love and gratitude, Tammy

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Notes from: Emotional - Mental Wellness

LS Emotional-Mental Wellness Team invites you…

FREE ADULT MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID CERTIFICATION

** join others for this wonderful 1-day opportunity **

Adult Mental Health First Aid Certification is a FREE, Virtual, those living in SC funded by Prisma Health, their SAMHSA and presented by their community educator, Robyn Ellison. You must live/work in South Carolina to attend.

All sessions are held **virtually from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM**. You are also welcome to join fellow participants in person at the church to take the class together. We will take a lunch break at 11:30, and 10-minute breaks will be scheduled throughout the day. Upcoming options are **Sept. 3 or Oct. 8.** You can come to church to take the class with other.

Topics covered in this course are depression & mood disorders; anxiety disorders; psychosis; trauma; substance use disorders; and more. Mental Health First Aid teaches about recovery and resiliency – the belief that individuals experiencing these challenges can and do get better, and use their strengths to stay well.

After completion of this course you will receive a MHFA Manual, 3-year certification in Adult Mental Health First Aid, 7.5 hours professional development, CEs, etc. for attendance. Sign-up sheet is at the church, to indicate which day you would be interested. OR use our Living Springs QR code link on the right…

Living Springs Emotional/Mental Wellness Support Fund
For assistance, please see

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text **988** or chat **988lifeline.org**

Notes from: Fellowship & Mutual Care

Hand and Foot Card Group

Looking for a fun way to enjoy fellowship and learn an easy new card game? We are looking to start a group to meet every Wednesday or Thursday from 1:00–3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall!

Whether you're new to card games or already enjoy playing, everyone is welcome. Come laugh, learn, and spend time in Christian fellowship.

If you're interested, please sign up at the Welcome Table and let us know which day you'd prefer. We look forward to seeing you there! Contact Susan Stewart for more info.

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Notes from: Good News Team

Rush Hour Ministry

Tuesday, August 25, 5 - 5:45 PM

There is space for you! Be part of God's growing hope on the sidewalk in front of Living Springs, sharing smiles and blessing gifts to those waiting in rush hour traffic! We will meet around 4:45pm but join us at any time!

Notes from: Hope Ministry

LS Hope Sunday #2

If you missed LS Hope Sunday #2, you can click here to watch

HOPE SUNDAY #3 - SENIOR RESOURCES & CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE BRIDGE

Sunday, August 9, during the Sunday School hour, we have Danielle from Senior Resources and Kate from Christian Assistance Bridge speaking for their organizations. Senior Resources recently had to let go 104 senior clients because of cut-backs and the rising cost of meals. Christian Assistance Bridge continues to help clients with food and other support - we are going into the third year with our partnership to help with that support - we hope you will join us on August 9.

LS STUFF-A-BUS: Sign up to help

Saturday, August 15 from 9 am to 1 pm

The LS buses will be parked outside Kroger's (10136 Two Notch Rd), Food Lion (10508 Two Notch Rd), and KJ's Market 135 Blythewood Rd. If you have 15 minutes, half-hour, hour to spare please consider helping us pass out flyers to customers entering the store. No skills required - except we find joy in being polite and courteous to the supermarket's customers. Rally Day is the next day and we will be unloading the buses - which store will produce the most items?

Our backpack program will start after Labor Day - once again this year, we will provide 80 bags of food items to students in the Richland 2 school district that are in need of food supplement on the weekends. Being hungry is definitely a detriment to the learning process, so it is a blessing to be able to help. The stuff a bus gives us a great start to the year in supplying food items for the backpack program. In addition to backpack program, we support Christian Assistance Bridge by listing items for which they have critical need of. Contact Karen Kranz for info.

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

Sunday, September 13

Our famous old-fashioned meatloaf dinner will be prepared and assembled to go out to Keepin' It Real, Palmetto Place - both The Oaks and Samantha House, Children's Hospital 5th Floor visitors, and our local surrounding first responders. So many opportunities to participate in -- preparing the food (menu: meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, & dessert), contributing a dessert, assembling the meals after the 10:30 worship, making cards of encouragement & love to accompany the meals, helping to deliver to the various locations. Look for the sign-up sheets to help in any of the different ways. See Karen Kranz for information.

Christmas in July

What an amazing Christmas it was! We were able to put together **seven** full kitchen kits - the remaining miscellaneous items that were left were dropped off also. The school supplies were divided up between three elementary schools - Rice Creek, Joseph Keels (our backpack schools) and Killian. All were so excited and surprised at the generosity of Living Springs. One administrator said - "oh, I know exactly where your church is - they are the ones that give out the blessing bags during the year!". Keepin' It Real were very grateful for the sandwiches - they set up a table right next to the pancakes, so everyone going through could grab a sandwich. What a blessing to be able to help the homeless during these hot summer months. Thank you and thank you to the volunteers that helped deliver it all.

Y'all are amazing and we are SO GRATEFUL for these kits!!! We just learned in our staff meeting that we're expecting an uptick in arrivals soon, and we are grateful for your huge help! Thank you for always highlighting us as part of Christmas in July! I loved seeing y'all in person the other week; it is always such a joy to visit Living Springs. 🙂

From Sarah Lewis, Lutheran Services Carolinas New Americans Program

Thank you for your gift to Lutheran Services Carolinas! Together we can empower our neighbors in need to live healthy, safe, and enriching lives.

Last year, LSC cared for 6,400 people through a variety of programs and services. Ensuring o9lder adults have access to vibrant senior living and health care communities, protecting children from abuse and neglect, assisting those with disabilities to reach their highest potential, and welcoming refugees to become new Americans are just a few ways we are w3orking to strengthen local neighborhoods and communities.

Your support allows us to extend hope and healing to others. We are grateful for you partnership in this vital work. Thank you for the ongoing support and partnership!

Yours in Christ,

Ted W. Goins, Jr.

President, Lutheran Services Carolinas

P.S. LSC acknowledges your gift in-kind of seven full kitchen kits [Christmas in July]

RICE ESTATE DINNER

We are looking to do an Octoberfest with our Rice Estate residents - if you would like to participate, contact Gail Buchanan. We usually do about three events a year, it is normally on a Saturday, setting up starts at around 3 pm and the residents are picked up around 5. The food is provided and served by the volunteers, but the best part is fellowshiping and enjoying the activities with the residents - it is always a fun day!

Notes from: Justice Ministry

What is "Justice Ministry"?

Newcomers to our congregation may be curious about Living Springs' "Justice Ministry" since many churches do not have something similar. As we enter our 10th Justice Ministry year, LS gives thanks for the opportunity to serve God and our community through this work.

Justice Ministry is rooted in the scripture. "What does the Lord require of you but to do Justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God." (Micah 6:8) Most churches have active "mercy ministries" where they provide for people's immediate needs through food pantries, backpack ministries, Meals on Wheels, etc. Most churches follow God's command to "walk humbly with God" through engagement in worship, music ministries, Bible study, etc. Justice Ministry is different -- it means that we work together to address systemwide problems so that Columbia becomes a more just and fairer place for all people.

Over the past 9 years, Living Springs has been a part of MORE Justice, an interfaith community of 25+ congregations coming together to listen to and answer God's call to "do Justice." We begin with annual congregational house gatherings where we listen to one another and to God's call to identify community issues that impact us and our neighbors. Then all 25+ congregations come together to vote on which problem to take on that year. Over the past 9 years we have addressed concerns about the lack of affordable housing, food security, neighborhood gun violence, and mental health care needs.

Each spring we then join hundreds of people together at the Nehemiah Action to ask public officials for changes to make the community more just for everyone. God's work through MORE Justice has made a positive difference in our community – law enforcement officers receive Crisis Intervention Training to better deal with those with mental illness; mobile markets now serve areas of the city without access to nearby grocery stores; neighborhood gun violence is being addressed through establishment of a municipal office and shootings are down; funds for affordable housing were increased from $2M to $4M.

In coming weeks, you will be invited to a congregational house gathering as we begin to discern where God is leading us this year in our ministry. All are invited to participate on our Justice journey.

Justice Ministry House Gathering Schedule:

August 23 @ 2 pm - Zieche's
August 30 @ 4 pm - Kannaday/Doerpinghaus'
September 20 @ 4 pm - Davidson's
September 20 @ 4 pm - Buchanan's

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Notes from: Worship & Music Ministry

Guest Musician – James Woodward, Euphonium

Notes from: Lifelong Discipleship

Women's Bible Group

The Women's Bible Group is having a great time journeying through Season 2 of The Chosen! It has been amazing to see scripture brought to life in a new and powerful way. Watching the characters' moments of struggle, courage, and faith has been so moving! The group is now meeting **ONLINE only** for our study discussions and are planning to gather every so often for dinner together! **August 17** we will gather online at 7pm to discuss Season 2, episode 8 & Season 3, episode 1. If you have questions or would like to join, please let Pastor Laura know. Study guide for Season 2, Episode 8 Study guide here; Season 3, Episode 1 Study guide here

Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Meets on Tuesdays at 6pm

Want to join in? Contact Steve Bloss at sbloss1947@gmail.com or at 803-467-8287 to be added to the Google Meet.

Google Meet: meet.google.com/zao-uddc-uhy Or **dial**: 260-227-7312 PIN: 504568319#

Ladies Bible Study

Resumes on September

Facilitator — Beverly Hoppert.

Google Meet: https://meet.google.com/crm-zcgt-bxx Or **dial**: 540-669-0687 PIN: 810783136#

Bibles & Biscuits Men's Bible Study

2nd & 4th Thursdays @ 7am

Men's Bible Study has returned! We plan meet twice a month on the second and fourth Thursday in the fellowship hall. Spread the word. This is a great time of study and fellowship so we can go and share God's word!

LS 2025-26 "God's Limitless Light" Focus of the Month!

Catch this past month's stories in our YouTube "God's Limitless Light" Playlist

Each Wednesday, we'll share a Bible story or reflection from our "God's Limitless Light" focus, followed by discussion with our pastor and congregation readers. You can watch the reading and discussion live on our Facebook page and YouTube channel Catch all stories here in our "God's Limitless Light" YouTube Playlist

Recent: #Ephesians4

✨ Don't forget to like, share, and follow! By sharing, you may reach someone who needs to hear this Good News—maybe for the very first time. Together, we can all be part of shining God's light through our Good News Ministry!

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Opportunities Outside Living Springs

Installation of The Rev. Wade Roof as Bishop of the South Carolina Synod

The installation of The Rev. Wade Roof as Bishop of the South Carolina Synod will take place on **Saturday, October 24, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.** The installation will take place at **St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Lexington** with a reception to follow.

Notes from: *Women's Ministry*

2026 Women's Retreat: Fearfully & Wonderfully Made: Born for this

October 16-18, 2026
(Saturday only option available!)

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am ***fearfully and wonderfully made.*** *Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. Psalm 139:13-14 NRSVUE*

🌟 **Save the Date!** 🌟

Join us for the 2026 Women's Retreat: *Fearfully & Wonderfully Made: Born for this*— a spirit-filled weekend you won't want to miss!

✨ What to Expect:

- Inspiring messages from three amazing women
- Fun and fellowship, including birthday themed projects and events
- A meaningful walk through the Stations of the Cross

It's going to be a truly special time of reflection, celebration, and connection. We hope you'll be part of it!

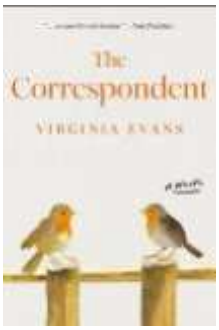
Cost: $170 for two nights (shared room), includes breakfast on Saturday & Sunday, lunch & dinner on Saturday and supplies.
Saturday only options: $30 lunch only; $45 lunch & dinner

Click the QR code to register. You may pay through Givelify or include with your Sunday offerings, indicate for "women's retreat"

For questions, feel free to reach out to Lisa Petty, Jan Berger, or Karen Kranz.

LADIES BOOK CLUB

Monday, September 7 at 6 pm



Our read is *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans which is available at the Richland County Library in several formats. We will meet and discuss the book at Peggy Merrill's, 110 Clay Ridge Rd (off North Springs) on Monday, September 7 at 6 pm. Peggy's phone: 803.727.2640. There will be refreshments, so consider joining us for fellowship and camaraderie. This is not specifically for Living Springs members - all are welcome.

The **2029 WELCA Triennial Gathering** will be held July 22-15, 2029 in Louisville, KY. If you preregister before September 1, 2026 the registration fee is $295. If you are not able to attend and have preregistered, you can transfer the registration to someone else.

Please let Pat George know (scpenguin528@bellsouth.net) if you are preregistering. She is also planning a trip to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum for 2 days after the Gathering.

Start saving because it is going to be a blast! Email or text Pat with any questions.

Www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page

Notes from: *Men's Ministry*

Fireflies Game

Bibles & Biscuits

LS FOOTBALL DEVOTION MINISTRY

Every Thursday Beginning August 27 thru October 29

We can use at least 4-5 helpers for each pre-game meal, usually around 3-4pm (but time varies depending on home/ away game, etc.). Exact time will be posted in each week's enews. Go ahead and check your calendars to see which Thursdays you could help serve food and/or help with meal prep. For each meal, we also need 100-110 pre-packaged cookies. You can bring to church by the morning of game day (or sign-up to make a monetary donation and we will buy cookies for you.) Sign up sheet will be in the admin hallway and Sunday welcome table - or you can contact Bob Turnmire or call the office. **As always, we can use a Thrivent Card for each date, so if you are a Thrivent member, remember you have access to two $250 community care cards every year. Please let Karen Kranz know, as she is our LS Thrivent card coordinator.* Please keep this life-impacting ministry in your prayers - the time we spend fostering relationships with these young men makes a huge difference in breaking down barriers, shaping hearts, and reinforcing the genuineness of our weekly devotional messages!!!! Even if you have to get off work early one Thursday, we encourage everyone to share in this experience at least 1 week during the season. Thanks so much for your witness, men/women are welcome!

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Old Bus Officially Donated to Jubilee Academy

Notes from: Children & Youth Ministry

Camp Week

PICTURES ON

Jr. Youth Gathering

Sunday, August 23

Jr. Youth will gather after the second service on Sunday, August 23! After sharing lunch together, we will serve together by assembling blessing bags for the Rush Hour ministry

Youth Ministry at Living Springs

August 9 - Pastor Laura LS Installation

August 12 - Sr. Youth Gathering (Chick-Fil-A)

August 16 - Rally Day

August 23 - Jr. Youth Faith Formation

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God At Work

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your gift of $2,000.00 received on July 28, 2026 for the Lutheridge 75th Birthday Capital Campaign. We are so grateful that you are helping us light a candle in celebration of 75 years of minsity and pass the faith to new generations of God's people.

Through this campaign we are seeing inspiring generosity from so many peop[le who love campl. To date we have received over $3,000.00 in gifts and commitments! This outpouring of support means that we are making significant progress on updates to our camp families. We know you will be excited to hear about the renewal and renovations that are taking place. You can visist Lutheridge.org for all the lates news.

For 75 years, Lutheridge ahs been a place where faith grows, leaders are formed, and people of all ages experie ce the blessings of Christian community. We are excited to see how this compaign will continue, and enjace, this work of the Lord.

Lutheridge75 LS Appeal: $55,000+

What an incredible response! Our base goal was $25,000 to add a "Living Springs Porch" to one of the new Hill Cabins, with a challenge of additional $15,000 for furnishings. We've surpassed both goals with a total of over $55,000 in gifts & 3-year commitments! We invite each household to participate in some way in this appeal over 2026-29. Cards & brochures are available at the welcome table. **Simply write on your card whatever is possible for you:** one-time gifts, a regular commitment, something later in 2027/28, whatever. Cards can be placed in the offering plate OR the Lutheridge75 basket in the narthex!

Dear Friends at Living Springs,

Thank you for joining us as we celebrated God's faithfulness at Northeast [UMC]. Your presence, prayers, and participation made this milestone ever more meaningful.

Your partnership in ministry is a true blessing! May God continue to bless your church and ministry as we serve Christ together.

In Peace, Rev. Moss

MAIN SUNDAY SCHEDULE
815A WORSHIP (Sanctuary)
920A Adult Faith Formation

1030A WORSHIP (Sanctuary/Online/ Parking Lot) - includes Children's GIFT Faith Experiences (Growing in Faith Together!)

August 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 *8:05 & 10:20 Summer Favorite Hymn-Sings* 920A Pastor Bible Class 330A Rally Day Planning 4P Semi-Annual LS Leader/Calendar Mtg	3 8A CDC Staff Training Day 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Women's Bible Group 7P Recovery Comes First	4 9A Mental Health First Aid 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Adult Bible Study	5 *"1st Day of School" CDC Welcome* 12P **"Limitless Light" Posted** 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 6P Hope Ministry	6 530P CDC Casserole Cooking 630P Recovery Comes First 7P Lifelong Discipleship 7&915P Refugee Arrival	7 4P-530P CDC Bus Casserole Pickup	8 930A Crafty Ladies
9 School Bag Blessing/Installation 8:15&10:30 Service of Word & School Bag Blessing *(CDC Casserole Pickup)* 920A Summer Hope Sunday #3 *(Sr. Resources/Christian Assistance Bridge)* 4P Pastor Laura Installation Communion	10 1030A Meals on Wheels 6P Justice Kickoff (Forest Lake Presbyterian) 7P Recovery Comes First 7P Fellowship & Mutual Care	11 815A Staff Breakfast 1030A Meals on Wheels 3P Finance Committee 330P CDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study	12 10A Preschool Bible Time 12P **"Limitless Light" Posted** 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Sr. Youth (Chick-Fil-A)	13 7A Men's Bible & Biscuits 2P Safety TF 11A Good News Team 630P Recovery Comes First 630P LSCDC Board	14	15 9A - 1P LS Stuff-A-Bus (Kroger, IGA, Food Lion) 530P Campus Min. BBQ (St. Andrews Lutheran)
16 LS Rally Day *See box above 10A Unity Worship with Campus/Bus Blessing & Cong. Photo! 1130A Cong. Lunch with Engage4 Bingo, Stuff-a-Bus Human Chain, Photo Booth	17 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Women's Bible Group 7P Recovery Comes First 8P Exec Team	18 9A Mental Health First Aid 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P CDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	19 10A Preschool Bible Time 1030A Pastor Bible Study 12P "Engage4" Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Sr. Youth (Doko Station) 630P Beer & Hymns (Doko Station)	20 630P Recovery Comes First 7P Council Meeting *Children's Hospital Meal*	21	22 8A Men's Breakfast 930A Crafty Ladies
23 LS-CDC Sunday *See box above 12 Jr. Youth Faith Forrmation 2P Justice Min. House Gathering (Zieche) 4P Mah Jong Kickoff Gathering	24 1030A Meals on Wheels 630P Worship/Music Team 7P Recovery Comes First	25 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P CDC Chapel 5P Rush Hour Ministry 6P Facilities Team 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	26 10A Preschool Bible Time 12P "Engage4" Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Sr. Youth (Mod Pizza)	27 7A Men's Bible & Biscuits TBA Fball Meal Dev. Ministry 630P Recovery Comes First Celebration (FHall) *Palmetto Place Meal*	28	29
30 *See box above 4P Justice Min. House Gathering (Doerpinghaus/Kannaday)	31 1030A Meals on Wheels 7P Recovery Comes First	1 1030A Meals on Wheels 330P CDC Chapel 6P Adult Bible Study 7P Handbells	2 10A Preschool Bible Time 12P "Engage4" Posted 330P Afterschool Bible Time 515P Disciples of Harmony 6P Choir 630P Sr. Youth (LSLC)	3 9A Mental Health First Aid TBA Fball Meal Dev. Ministry 630P Recovery Comes First	4	5 ***Sept. 13—**"God's Work Our Hands" Sunday, with visit** from SC Bishop Wade Roof!*

Birthdays, Wedding and Baptismal Anniversaries

August 1 Barbara Collins
Sophia McCraney
August 5 Trish Davidson
August 6 Dee Glander
August 7 Laurie Drafts
August 8 ♥ Randy & Becky Sides
August 9 Anita Gabbard
♥ Ted & Gail Buchanan
August 12 Ethan Wirth
August 13 Ed Brennan
August 14 Eric Fink
August 18 Dawn Willingham
August 19 Daisy Rivera
August 20 ♥ Bob & Anita Gabbard
August 21 Cindy Day
Kris Fink
♥ Roger & Gina Lapp
August 22 Ginny Devereaux
August 25 Kellee Flores
Eleanor Cool
♥ Scott & Lexanne Graves
August 28 Chris Hagon
August 30 Bob Gabbard
Dallas Holmstrom
August 31 Jeanette Bloss

Celebrate Your Baptism

Don't forget to check the bulletin to see if we will be celebrating your Baptismal Anniversary during this month's Sunday worship services. Immediately below the Gathering Music, there are printed the names of those who are celebrating a baptismal anniversary ***in that week***. When the gathering music begins, individuals can quietly come forward to meet Pastor Eric at the baptismal fountain. There, he will re-trace the cross with the water on your forehead and offer a special prayer of blessing for you (children may be accompanied by parents). There is nothing to be anxious about - everything is done quietly while the music is being played. For those who know only the month of your Baptism, you can join us on the first Sunday of the month (if you prefer some other Sunday, please let us know). **If you do not know your baptismal information, then please pick a month when you would like to celebrate this gift of God's grace in your life – and notify the office**, so that we can add you to the celebration list (we'll simply mark the choice of your month with an asterisk). Even if you don't know the exact date, it's important to celebrate this special gift of God's grace in your life. Again, we encourage everyone to research your Baptismal date and find out as much information as you can – let us know if we can help!

August 1 Trish Davidson
Adam Woodruff
August 2 Dallas Holmstrom
August 11 Cynthia Edney
August 13 Lina Mooney
August 20 Dan Shannon
Cody Shannon
August 22 London Mancuso
Lucas Shannon
August 23 Kathy Brennan
August 25 Courtney Murray

CHURCH STAFF

People of Living Springs - Ministers
Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor
pastoreric@livingspringscolumbia.org
Rev. Laura Swanson—Assoc. Pastor
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Laura Turnmire – Handbell Choir Director
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CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Debbie Zvejnieks - President
Mia Rapport - Vice-President
Becky Flynn - Secretary
Mike Davidson - Treasurer
Bill Ramsey – Financial Secretary
Garrett Flores - Youth Representative
Rev. Eric Fink – Senior Pastor
Steve Bloss
Sue Bradham
Ed Brennan
Bob Gabbard
Ena Hagon
Lorenzo Hampton
Brandi Hayden
Tom Willingham

MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Child Development Center
Deborah DePaoli

Children/Youth Ministries
Leslie Bloss/Jan Berger/Becky Flynn
Debbie Zvejnieks/Garrett Flores

Fellowship & Mutual Care
Trish Davidson/Jeanette Bloss

Good News Team
Lisa Petty

Hope Ministries
Karen Kranz

Justice Ministry
Helen Doerpinghaus

Lifelong Discipleship
Steve Bloss

Lutheran Men in Mission
Bob Turnmire

Women of the ELCA
Jan Berger

Worship & Music
Jim Zieche

Facilities
Ed Brennan

Finance
Karlene Stuart

Pew Bears
Judy Lawrence

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Prayer Requests