

Holly Grove Lutheran Church

January 2012

Happy New Year!



GROWING TO SERVE!

# The Holly Leaf



Thank you for your leadership!

## Council Officers 2012

President: Mary Ellen Hinson

Vice-President: Bob Troutman

Secretary: Toni Chapman

Treasurer: Janna Waitman

Financial Secretary: Minnie Conrad

### Dates to remember:

*Annual Reports due January 22, 2012*

*Audits on January 29, 2012*

*Annual Meeting—February 12, 2012*

### Wednesday Word & Prayer

Join us....all are welcome!  
to study scripture, enjoy interactive  
discussions, and spend time in prayer.



**Wednesdays from 6:00PM to 6:45PM in Fellowship Hall**

The first Wednesday of each month, bring your favorite dish to share as we fellowship together with a pot luck meal from 5:30PM to 6:00PM

#### Inside:

Upcoming Events  
Calendar  
Worship Servers  
Senior News  
From the Pastor  
Birthdays & Anniversaries

• **Daily Prayers, links, to ELCA , sermons, The Holly Leaf, events & more on our website:**

**[www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org](http://www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org)**

• **January Basket Offering:**

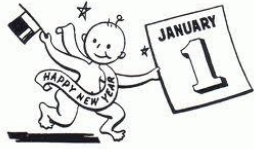
*Davidson Medical Ministries*

• **Newsletter Team**

**Caroline Mocko**

**Pastor John Mocko, Editor**

**Contributing: Minnie Conrad**



# January 2012

9AM  
Confirmation  
Every  
Sunday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> No Sunday School 1030AM Worship	<b>2</b>  630PM CHICK at Mockos	<b>3</b>  10AM Bible Studyô OC	<b>4</b> Potluck 530PM Wednesday Word & Prayer at 6PM	<b>5</b>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Weight Watchers Thursdays 530PM</div>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 915AM Sunday School 1030AM Worship	<b>9</b>  7PM Church Council	<b>10</b>  10AM Bible Studyô OC	<b>11</b>  Wednesday Word & Prayer 6PM	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 915AM Sunday School 1030AM Worship Pack BackPacks W & M 3PM Handbell4PM	<b>16</b>  630PM Agape Circle	<b>17</b>  10AM Bible Study	<b>18</b> 1030AM Seniors @ Mt Tabor Wednesday Word & Prayer 6PM	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 915AM Sunday School 1030AM Worship <b>ANNUAL REPORTS DUE</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  10AM Bible Study	<b>25</b>  Wednesday Word & Prayer 6PM	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 915AM Sunday School 1030AM Worship <b>AUDITS TODAY</b>	<b>30</b>  7PM LMiM	<b>31</b>  10AM Bible Study	<b>Choir Practice every Wednesday at 7:00PM!</b>			
			Annual Meeting Sunday, February 12, 2012			

# Thank you for Serving!



**January 2012**    **Altar Guild** . Janna Waitman  
**Mothers Rose Garden** . Gary Lopp  
in Memory of Roy & Vivian Lopp  
**Basket Offering** - Davidson Medical Ministries

1

**Acolyte**- Ty Heitman            **Assisting Minister** . Caroline Mocko  
**Communion Assistant** . Tina Heitman  
**Ushers** . Harold Beck, Dan Smith, Donnie Parsons, Rex Everhart  
**Altar Flowers**- The Grove Singers in Honor of all members past & present  
**Nursery Attendant**– Debbie Parsons    **Children's Chat** - PJ

---

8    **Acolyte**- Caroline Black            **Assisting Minister** . Micky Conrad  
**Ushers** – Scott Black, Dan Smith, Dean Chapman, Neil Clark  
**Altar Flowers**- Micky & Carol Conrad  
**Nursery Attendant**- Anna Lohr    **Children's Chat** – Tina Heitman

---

15    **Acolyte**- Jay Proctor            **Assisting Minister** . Chip Blower  
**Communion Assistant** . Amy Kepley  
**Ushers** . Rex Everhart, Mary Davis, Joe Davis, Michael Willson  
\*\*\*\*\***Altar Flowers**- OPEN  
**Nursery Attendant**- Holly Curry            **Children's Chat** - PJ

---

22    **Acolyte**- Sarah Grace Davis            **Assisting Minister** . Tracy Everhart  
**Ushers** . Scott Black, Neil Clark, Harold Beck, Dan Smith  
**Altar Flowers**- Ronnie Hamilton in Honor of Pandora Hamilton  
**Nursery Attendant**– Erin Burkhart            **Children's Chat**– Joe Davis

---

29    **Acolyte**- Jay Proctor            **Assisting Minister** . Jennifer Davis  
**Ushers** . Jonathan Hedrick, Mary Davis, Joe Davis, Joel Hartley  
\*\*\*\*\***Altar Flowers**- OPEN  
**Nursery Attendant**– Sharon Everhart    **Children's Chat**– PJ

**Remember....if you are unable to serve, please find someone to take your place! Thank you!**

Dear friends in Christ,

On the fourth Sunday in Advent we heard the story of Gabriel's (the angel) announcement to Mary that she would bear a son who would be the Son of God. The story is found in Luke 1: 26 - 38. The story is a great story to read again and again, a great story to use in your personal meditation about the nature of God and the gift of faith.

The announcement from Gabriel, a messenger of God, to Mary was perplexing, disturbing, down-right life changing. The announcement seemed outrageous, far-fetched and impossible. "How can this be?", Mary asked. Today we might say, "Are you kidding me?" The "good news" hardly seemed like good news to Mary. Mary's whole life would be changed. She likely expected to marry Joseph when the right time came in a nice Jewish wedding ceremony. She likely expected, like all Hebrew women, that she would bear children to her husband, and that there would be a son among them. She likely expected to live a normal life in her small town of Nazareth with the normal, everyday, common swings of life's ups and downs. Mary was just an ordinary girl in an ordinary town living an ordinary life. No wonder she was perplexed when Gabriel told her she was "favored." She obviously didn't feel like she was any different than anyone else, that she was not worthy of being favored. I don't believe Mary was any different from any other human being. I believe Mary was favored because of God's great love and God's great plan to save the world.

I also believe that God favors you. In fact, I tell you the good news about God favoring you every Sunday. Every Sunday, before you leave the house of God and go out into the world, before you go in peace to serve the Lord, just before you sing one last hymn of praise and faith, you are blessed with these words from the scripture, "... the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace."

You are favored by God, so let me say to you, "Greetings favored one. The Lord is with you."

The good news of God's favor may perplex us, as it did Mary. The good news may upset our lives, as it did Mary's. The good news may lead us in directions that we never dreamed we would go, as it did to Mary. The good news may even cause us heartbreak, as it did to Mary. Yet the outcome of God's favor on you will also lead you to wonderful, life-renewing, life-giving, joy-producing, peacemaking, gospel-sharing places you could never have imagined.

After the struggle of being perplexed and doubting the promise, Mary said, "Here I am, a servant of the Lord, let it be with me according to your word." Ultimately, Mary chose faith in God over self-doubt, trust in the Lord over personal concerns.

Mary invites all of us to come to the same kind of surrendering faith in God, no matter what it means to us personally. Martin Luther put it this way in his Small Catechism's explanation to the first commandment: "We are to fear, love and trust God above all things."

A Blessed New Year, full of faith and hope and love to you,

*Pastor John*

Holly Grove Senior Citizens met Wednesday, December 20, 2011 at Mt Tabor. The centerpiece for the meeting was a beautiful Christmas arrangement made by James Tysinger. There were 27 members and friends present. Everyone enjoyed snacks and coffee. Virginia White brought us up to date on the members who weren't able to be there.

The theme for the day was "Remembering Christmas," Virginia read a poem about the Christmas Spirit, The Christmas Beatitudes and a touching story called "The Lights on Highway 69." Then she asked us to tell about our special Christmases. Pastor Darrell told about Christmas at his first Parrish, Jan Watkins shared about her Christmases in California and Pastor Sarah Snell told about Christmas as a Missionary. She has lived in Korea, Guam and Indonesia. She can also speak the language from each area. She is a treat to listen to.

Virginia read a prayer for our blessing and we feasted on ham, potato salad, mac and cheese, green beans, cole slaw, deviled eggs, congealed salad, pickles, rolls, and cake. We wished one another "Merry Christmas"

Seniors meet the Third Wednesday of each month at Mt. Tabor.

### *Important dates in 2012*

*HGLC Annual Meeting—February 12, 2012*

*2011 Annual Reports & 2012 Member Directory presented*

*Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper—February 21, 2012*

*Hosted by CHICK*

*Ash Wednesday—February 22, 2012 Service at 7PM*

*Easter—April 8, 2012*

# Happy New Year!

## Happy Birthday!

Monica Parsons	1
Marty Varner Jr.	2
Kim Payne	4
Hillary Varner	5
Gary Hedrick	6
Bobbie Fritts	8
Nina Welch	9
Amy Fritts	14
Larry Conrad	15
David Yemm	15
Pandora Hamilton	21
Angela Laster	21
Angela Palmer	21
Burnette Monteith	22
Judy Thomason	22
Julie Welch	22
Debbie Batten	23
Jennifer Lohr	25
Betty Sanford	25
Sarah Kepley	26
Michelle McCullough	26
Addair Varner	26
Stephen Everhart	28
Jeanette Mize	28
Mary Ellen Hinson	29
Leighanne Everhart	31

January 2012

## Happy Anniversary !

Freddie & Kevin Fulbright	1
Mark & Melita Bailey	10
Anthony & Susan Varner	14
Bill & Betty Roberts	21
Kevin & Anissa Stewart	24

Fred Lohr  
Effie Burkhart  
Sue Anderson  
Edna Conrad  
Maxine Conrad  
Barbara Conrad  
Larry Vaughn



All are listed in your directory. Please remember them with a call or a card.



From Brier Creek School

Dear Holly Grove Lutheran Church:

You have been AMAZING in your giving to those affected by the tornado.

As the school counselor and school social worker, Mrs. Steffen and I have been both shocked and blessed to have your support—shocked because we never dreamed of receiving such extensive donations.

Your donations made our jobs easier but most importantly they helped repair lives of children and families who were very distraught and misplaced in the world. Immediate needs were met and at this point most families have a plan for the future or are already stable once again.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for making so many things possible!

Blessings for each of you!

Jeanie Minor, School Social Worker

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Alleluia.* At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth. *Alleluia.*

Happy  
New  
Year

## Church Council 2012

President: Mary Ellen Hinson  
Vice-President: Bob Troutman  
Secretary: Toni Chapman  
Treasurer: Janna Waitman  
Financial Secretary: Minnie Conrad  
Pastor: The Reverend John Mocko  
Council Members:  
Chip Blower  
Jane Brown  
Neil Clark  
Carol Conrad  
Wendy Lohr  
Sherry Proctor  
Michael Willson

*The Congregation Council  
shall have general oversight  
of the life and  
activities of this congregation,  
and in particular in worship  
life, to the end that  
everything be done in  
accordance with the Word of  
God and the faith and practice  
of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
in America.*

***Thank you for serving! You are appreciated!***

Holly Grove Lutheran Church  
212 Holly Grove Lutheran Church Rd  
Lexington, NC 27292  
336-249-2807  
The Reverend John Mocko, Pastor

[www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org](http://www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org)  
email: [pastorjohn@hollygrovelutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastorjohn@hollygrovelutheranchurch.org)  
office: [hglc@hollygrovelutheranchurch.org](mailto:hglc@hollygrovelutheranchurch.org)

### **Sundays**

915AM Sunday School

1030AM Worship

### **Wednesdays**

***Wednesday Word & Prayer***

***6:00PM—6:45PM***

***1st Wednesday each month—Pot Luck at 5:30PM***



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.