



Unbinding Your Heart

40 days of Prayer & Faith Sharing

40 Day Prayer Journal: *Pray with scripture, Move closer to God, Grow as a Christian*

Prayer: I arise today, Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me. I arise today through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, through belief in the threeness, through confession of the oneness, of the Creator of Creation.

From St. Patrick's Breastplate—a Celtic prayer from the 7th or 8th century

The Holly Leaf

GROWING TO SERVE!

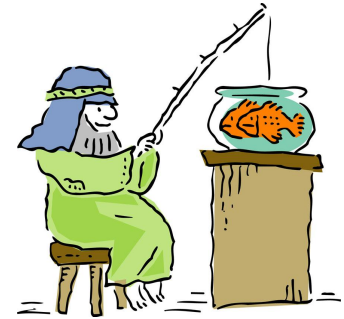
Fishing, Faith, and Fellowship!

ōCatch the Spirit!ö

October 27, 28, 29 at KureøBeach

We are getting ready to pack up and head out!

Next meeting is October 11 in Fellowship Hall. **If you are going, PLEASE come to this final planning meeting!**



ōCatch the Spiritö
Holly Grove Lutheran

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
- **October Basket Offering: Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**
- **Newsletter Team**
Caroline Mocko
Pastor John Mocko, Editor
Contributing: Minnie Conrad

Invite Worship
 Give

Study Encourage
 Pray

Weight Watchers
Thursdays 530PM

October 2011

Choir Practice
Wednesdays
7:30PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9AM Confirmation Every Sunday	<i>Unbinding Leaders every Sunday at 7PM</i>		Choir Practice every Wednesday 730-830			1
2 9AM Unbinding 915AM SS 1030AM Worship 3PM Worship & Music 4P-Hand Bells	3	11 10AM & 7PM Unbinding	5 545 Meal 630-730 Unbinding	6 7PM Mutual Ministry	7	8
9 9AM Unbinding 9:15AM Sun- day School Youth till 2PM	10 7PM Council	11 10AM & 7PM Unbinding 7PM FFF meet Fellow- ship Hall	12 545 Meal 630-730 Unbinding	13	14	15
16 9AM Unbinding Hand Bells rehears 845AM E-vent ends	17 630PM Agape Circle	18 10AM & 7PM Unbinding	19 Holly Leaf Dead- line-Noon 545 Meal 630-730 Unbinding	20 7PM CHT	21	22 Thrivent parks for BBQ Festival Downtown
23 Hand Bell Rehearsal 4PM 5PM Congrega- tional Dinner 30 SS & Worship	24 31 7PM LMIM	25	26 AWE 545 Meal 630-730 Worship	27 Fishing Faith Fellowship Kure' Beach	28 Fishing Faith Fellowship Kure' Beach	29 Fishing Faith Fellowship Kure' Beach

Dear friends in Christ,

Jesus prayed a lot. He went off by himself to pray at critical turns in his life and ministry. He prayed with and for other people. He taught his disciples to pray. Jesus was disciplined in his prayer. He never seemed to feel compelled to pray. Prayer was just a natural way for Jesus to maintain his relationship with his Father in heaven.

We live very busy lives, with lots of things to do. If there is anything that gets pushed aside by our busy-ness, our personal prayer is a prime candidate. If we have a special need for something we will pray, but if not, we tend to get too busy with stuff to take time apart for our relationship with God. When we lose our connected-ness with God, then every other aspect of our relationship with God suffers. Worship can seem dull. We can get burned out because we've lost connection with our source of strength.

I climbed a couple of 14,000 foot mountains while I lived in Colorado. The climbs started in beautiful alpine meadows with amazing, colorful wildflowers. Beauty everywhere! Then there was a long, sloping path upward through various kinds of grasses. The grass thinned out, the ground got rockier and the marmots begin to appear. The climb eventually became steeper, the foliage became duller. There was, in both of my climbs, a scree with large boulders, lots of them, to climb over. There there was a narrow ledge to navigate. Finally the top! A view so fantastic that I thought for a moment that I thought I was on top of the world, both literally and figuratively. Exhilarating!

Prayer is a spiritual discipline that resembles parts of a climb up a 14,000 foot mountain. There are times when we meander through prayer and enjoy what we experience, the beauty of God's grace, the many colors of love that we see in our relationship with God and in answered prayers. There are also times when things thin out and praying gets harder. Prayer can seem like climbing over a boulder field and we can give up trying. Prayer can also include some very narrow, risky ledges when faith is challenged because God doesn't respond the way we would like or when we don't want to do what God wants us to do. Just as it takes discipline and determination to climb a 14'er, so it takes discipline and determination to pray faithfully and fervently. Yet, the rewards of a prayer-filled relationship with God are more exhilarating, more exciting, more empowering, more inspirational than any view from the top of a mountain.

Holy Grove Lutheran Church has been encouraging our membership to pray more passionately during this entire year. We make published devotional materials available. I have written daily devotions and made them available through our Google group and in written form. We are currently facilitating several Unbinding Your Heart groups that use a 40 day prayer journal. We will continue to encourage all members to pray more fervently, more faithfully, not because it is our Christian duty, but because prayer is a joy, a strength, a source of light for a dark world. May God inspire, equip and bless you as you make prayer an important part of your every day life.

In Christ,

Pastor John

**Please plan to attend a
Congregational Dinner
on Sunday, October 23
at 5:00PM in
Fellowship Hall.**

**The Fellowship Committee
will provide the meal and
we will have a Synod
Ambassador as our guest
to talk about what's going
on at the North Carolina
Lutheran Synod!**

HGLC Annual Meetings

Will be held Sunday, December 4 and the
following Sunday, December 11, 2011.

The purpose of these meetings is to
nominate and vote on 3 new
Council Members to serve 2012—2015,
and to review and vote on our
Annual Budget for 2012.



Several of our youth have expressed an interest in having a

Youth Choir!

*If anyone is interested in being part of a choir (ANY AGE)
let us know, as well as when would be a good time to meet!*

We will do our best to work out a time.

Thanks!

See us in church or give us a call!

Judy Black and Debbie Frank

Holly Grove Senior Citizens met Wednesday, September 21, 2011. There were 22 and 2 visitors present. Everyone enjoyed snacks and coffee while visiting with one another.

Carolina Conrad read a scripture from Matthew 17. She read a story entitled "Butterfly" and a prayer from "A Senior Moment is Just a Wrinkle in Time."

Minnie Conrad introduced Jim and Barbara Strickland from Beck's Reformed Church who gave a very interesting program. Barbara told us about first moving to Lexington from Charlotte where she had always lived, and how different it was. Barbara retired from Lexington Furniture and later from Media Matters. Jim is retired from PPG Industries. They care for her mother who is in Pine Ridge Nursing Home. Barbara also volunteers for Hospice and is very active in her church. She said she was worried about what Jim would do when he retired. He found a new passion. Bird Watching. He drove around in his little blue truck watching for birds. He joined a bird watching club in Greensboro and is really enjoying it. They said the most important thing in retirement is attitude. A cheerful and positive attitude can make a world of difference. One thing to remember "Anything under God's control is never out of control."

Virginia White brought us up to date on missing members.

Pastor Sluder returned thanks and we enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by Daisy Crisp.

All seniors of the community, (including men) are invited to attend on the third Wednesday of each month at Mt. Tabor UCC at 10:30AM.

It's BBQ Festival time again!

Thrivent will park cars during the Festival from 7AM to 5PM on Saturday, October 22. We will park in the Medical Ministry Parking Lot. **Volunteers are needed!**

You do not have to be a Thrivent Member to volunteer. All proceeds will go to the Medical Ministries.

Please contact Sharon Everhart with your desire to help on Saturday, October 22.

Call Sharon at 249-7260

Happy Birthday!

Carolina Conrad	1
Doody Hinson	1
Kevin Steward	5
Ethan Hedrick	6
Bobby Clodfelter	8
Annette Conrad	9
Robert Hearn	13
Dean Conrad	15
Tammy Turner	15
Keith Cecil	16
Barbara Conrad	19
Logan Turner	19
Mark Walser	19
Melissa Bayer	20
Wendy Lohr	21
Lee Hodgson	22
Bob Troutman	22
Scott Curry	24
Holly Curry	27
Jeff Everhart	27
Russell Smith	28
Janice Blevins	31

October

Happy Anniversary !

Tim & Sharon Everhart	1
Robin & Karen Beck	6
Todd & Amy Kepley	10
Marty & Chris Varner	12
Greg & Guyla Kepley	14
Dean & Toni Chapman	17
Robert & Mandy Fritts	20
Michael & Kendra Willson	23
Bill & Wonda Frank	24
Harold & Myra Beck	25

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.

Sept 12 2011 Meeting of the Holly Grove Lutheran Church Council

Members not present: Jennifer, Bobbie, Michael, and Sheila

Minutes recorded by Carol Conrad.

Devotions: Pastor John read Psalm 136

Cemetery Committee ó Cornelia Joe and Dwight gave a written and verbal presentation with a revision of the rules and regulations and answered many questions. A discussion of the definition of what an active member is took place. They asked the council to approve a raise in annual dues from \$10.00 to \$20.00. They asked that the head stones and markers conform to a specific size and they wanted a rule to be instated that no presale plots to non members be allowed. For non members the committee requested a \$2800 Fee for a non member to be allowed to buy a plot at time of need. A brochure was shared to all present to be given to family members when a burial is to be in the cemetery. It included the rules of the cemetery óie flowers are to be cleaned off within 2 weeks etc. It was met with approval by the council and committee members. The rules will need to be tweaked a little but all felt would be helpful for grieving families. The committee asked that an answer be given if possible tonight concerning their proposals. Dean said that the council would discuss and vote on it and he would call Cornelia tonight to let her know of the decision.

Minutes and **Committee and Financial Reports** were not given as the discussion and the presentation were lengthy. It was decided to accept reports as written.

Correspondence: The only correspondence was that the Synod wanted to send a speaker like last year to talk to the congregation about their activities. It was decided to do it on Oct 23rd at 5pm. The fellowship committee would provide the meal.

Pastor's report Pastor John wanted to draw attention to his request for his last week of vacation for the year the last week of November. He also said he was to go on another trip for the ELCA but it would be mid week and he would be back for the Awe service on Wednesday. Neil made the motion to approve both request and Bob second it All voted to approve.

Unfinished Business: 1. More discussion took place concerning the Cemetery Committee request. The raises in annual dues as well as the size restriction on markers and head stones were approved. The request to raise non member fees for buying plots was tabled until further research could be done-ie calling Forrest Hills and surrounding churches to see what their fees are. The information gathered will be discussed at the next council meeting.

2. The sound system David had sent a written report on his recommendations for up grading the sound system. It was decided to switch to a computer and download services to a format that would be used on an MP3 player. It was decided to have David purchase 5 MP3 players for the shut-ins to use. All voted to accept the recommendations for the sound system 3. The phone tree system was struck by lightning and was sent back to the company. The surge protector did not work so they have been contacted and are looking at the claim and may pay to fix the system. More information is to come later.

New Business: 1. The Web page was discussed and Pastor John reported that Joel said he would continue to be the main person in charge of the Web but that it was decided at least one other person should have access to it as well. Neil made the motion to appoint Caroline and Pastor John as the 2 other people to have access. Chip seconded it and all voted to accept. Pastor John handed out examples of changes to the web page. It was decided to look over it and discuss the proposed changes at the next meeting.

2. The annual meeting was set for Dec.4th Neil made the motion and Wendi seconded it all voted to accept.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned with the Lordø Prayer.

Dear Holly Grove Lutheran Church Members:

As the new school year quickly takes off, I wanted to take the time to share with you how truly grateful we are to have your help in providing the needs for our students and families in this community. In a time where budget cuts are so profound and employment opportunities are down, it is comforting to know that there is desire and help in your hearts.



Your support throughout the year helps to provide for and to sustain several of our families. Through the Backpack Program, many children and families are being assisted with much needed food. The receipt of the backpacks has a different impact on each person. I have several children that seek me out “when it is that time” because they are low on food at home and they know that they can count on these backpacks to get them through. Several parents have expressed their thanks and gratitude for helping their families during these tough times. The cost of food has gone up so every little bit helps. What they don’t have to pay for in food can be used for bills that are coming. In.

It is my hope that this partnership can continue to grow throughout the year. It has been my pleasure working with you to provide for our area families.

Forever Grateful,

Kim Hendrick

— — — — Notes from the families — see them on bulletin board —

Thanks so much for the food and love you send. Thanks from Cheyenne, Lori, Heather, Levi, Joe

Thank you for helping us
By Familay Sanchez: An-
gel, Erik, Francisco, Berto,
Mom, Carlos. (Pictures of
family drawn by child)

Words cannot express how thankful our family is to you for reaching out to us during a trying time. Your help lifts a little of the burden. May God bless all of you.

Just wanted to say thank you for the food bag you send home with my son every month! It sure does help out a lot since my husband and I are currently out of work. God is surely going to bless you for all that you do in efforts for our children! Thanks again & God Bless you all! Please remember our family in your prayers, that we will find employment. Thanks!
The Wright & Harris Families

My family and I enjoyed getting the food pack. It’s really come in handy on the weekends and have a snack in the evening after school.

Thank you so much, Ms. Cross & kids

You’re the best! Just wanted to let anyone who helped with the food from the back pack know it has really helped our family. I am a single mom of two kids. Their father passed on and, we don’t get death benefits, so you just don’t know how much this has helped and we wanted to let everyone know we are grateful. Thank you so much! Thank you so much! Bless you. The Hernandez Family

BackPack Program

Here's how you can help!

Every month, on the 3rd Sunday, we pack 25 backpacks for 25 children & their families as we work to feed the hungry- *see Thank you's on page 9*

Peanut Butter ó 18 oz	Canned Luncheon Meat ó 12 oz can
Canned Vegetables ó 14 to 15 oz can	Ravioli ó 7 oz Pop-top can
Ramen Noodles w/veg ó 2.25 oz cup	Macaroni & Cheese ó 7.25 oz box
Fruit Bowls ó Pkg of 4 ó 4 oz	Seedless Raisins ó 1.5 oz box
Toaster Tarts (1 pkt per backpack)	Ramen Noodles ó 2-3 oz pkt (2 per backpack)
Fruit & Grain Cereal Bars (1 pkt per backpack)	
Instant Oatmeal ó 1.5 oz pkts (5 pkts per backpack)	
Chocolate Pudding Snacks ó Pkg of 4 ó 3.5 oz cups	
Graham Crackers ó Box of 3 sleeves (1 sleeve per backpack)	
Saltine Crackers ó Box of 4 sleeves (1 sleeve per backpack)	
Beans & Wieners ó 7.5 oz Pop-top can (2 cans per backpack)	

\$ Your donation of money is welcome. Items needed will be purchased by the Social Ministry/ Evangelism Committees & stored in the food pantry in the church basement in preparation of filling the backpacks each month!

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

www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org
email: pastorjohn@hollygrovelutheranchurch.org
office: hglc@hollygrovelutheranchurch.org

Sundays

915AM Sunday School

1030AM Worship

Wednesdays

During our E-Vent, An Unbinding Your Heart group will meet

5:45PM Meal 6:30PM-7:30PM **Unbinding**

September 14—October 19

AWE resumes October 26



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