



GROWING TO SERVE!

# The Holly Leaf

Invite	Worship
Give	
Study	Encourage
Pray	

## Unbinding Your Heart

40 days of Prayer & Faith Sharing  
Weekly meetings begin September 11th

- ◆ What is and what can be for you and your church
  - ◆ See your church more clearly
  - ◆ Renew a heightened relationship with God
  - ◆ Share the good news that God loves us all

The heart of Evangelism is having an alive relationship with God, being part of a church you love and caring that people outside the church find what you've discovered.

### 40 Day Prayer Journal:

Helps you pray with scripture

Move closer to God

Grow as a Christian

Prayer: God, you are the Holy One of Israel, Creator of the Universe, so majestic we cannot possibly understand you. And Jesus told us to call you "Daddy" because you love us so much. Thank you for my life and for my family and friends and the people you can use me to help. Please let me know you better as I go through these next six weeks. I offer you this time. Amen.

*If you have not signed up. Call Pastor John at 249-2807 to join a group. Groups meet Sundays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.*

Note: The Wednesday AWE Service will be "Unbinding Your Heart."

#### 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)

- September Basket Offering: *Senior Citizens*
- Newsletter Team

Caroline Mocko

Pastor John Mocko, Editor

Contributing: Minnie Conrad

Weight Watchers  
Thursdays 530PM

# September 2011

Choir Practice  
Wednesdays  
7:30PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Choir Practice every Wednesday 730-830	1 6PM Nominating Comm 7PM Mutual Ministry	2	3
4 915AM SS 1030AM Worship 3PM Worship & Music 6PM Unbinding Leaders	5 <b>Labor Day</b> 	6 7PM Stewardship Committee	7 AWE ☐ 545 Meal 630 Worship	8 7PM CHT	9	10
11 9AM Unbinding 9AM Confirmation 9:15AM Sunday School <b>E-Vent</b>	12 7PM <b>Council</b>	13 10AM & 7PM <b>Unbinding</b>	14 545 Meal 630-730 <b>Unbinding</b>	15 <b>Unbinding</b>	16	17
18 9AM <b>Unbinding</b> 9AM Confirmation <b>Byerly Reunion</b>	19 630PM Agape Circle	20 10AM & 7PM <b>Unbinding</b>	21 Holly Leaf Deadline-Noon 545 Meal 630-730 <b>Unbinding</b>	22 <b>Unbinding</b>	23	24
25 9AM <b>Unbinding</b> 9AM Confirmation 915AM SS 1030AM Worship	26 7PM LMiM	27 10AM & 7PM <b>Unbinding</b>	28 545 Meal 630-730 <b>Unbinding</b>	29 <b>Unbinding</b>	30	



Dear friends in Christ,

God is doing some pretty exciting things at Holly Grove Lutheran Church:

Another homecoming is celebrated as we do ministry in our 126th year. Holly Grove is a home where faith has been born in hundreds of people. We are always glad to welcome members and former members back home.

The Lutheran Men in Mission did another Chicken BBQ with help from some women. The men use the proceeds to fund various ministries in our church and beyond. Hard work that bears much good fruit.

We celebrate six baptisms at homecoming, four of them are adults. The Holy Spirit is calling, enlightening, making people holy and keeping them in the faith. For our part, the invitations we make, the Spirit-filled worship we offer, the loving responses we make to people in need are effective ways we partner with God in kingdom-work.

In addition to the six baptisms, we also welcome six members who affirm their baptisms at homecoming. Thanks be to God for the new partnerships we will have to fulfill our mission: worship, learn and respond in loving action to a needy world.

God is calling us to a closer relationship of love toward our Lord. We have been working on passionate spirituality for about a year and that work will peak in our six week E-vent which starts on September 11th. We have more than 50 people signed up for Unbinding Your Heart groups so far, and we expect that number will grow. God has been doing wonderful things already among the people who have taken the preparatory courses for Unbinding. We can only imagine the good things the Lord will do as we turn to God with passion and purpose with forty days of prayer and six weeks of meaningful conversations

Eight young people will be starting confirmation classes at Holly Grove Lutheran in September. Five of the young people are already members of our congregation. We are reaching out to pass on the faith to three other young people. What a blessed opportunity that God has placed before us! What a privilege! What encouragement in our mission!

We will be going on a Fishing, Faith and Fellowship event at the end of October. We will use the fish we catch on the trip and the faith we grow during Unbinding to be a blessing to people with whom we already work. Exciting opportunity.

We have a brand new opportunity to respond in loving action to a needy world through Good360. God wants to grow our love for our neighbors, and a way has been provided. There is room for everyone to get involved in this new ministry. You will be hearing more about it in weeks to come.

Many ongoing ministries will continue. We worship twice a week. Sunday School for adults, youth and children is provided. Several small groups meet regularly. Prayer is a central part of our life together. I could go on and on!!!

Holly Grove may be a small congregation, but we have a big God, a mighty God who gives us everything we need for life and godliness (see 2 Peter 1:3-11). To God be all glory.

In Christ,

*Pastor John*

## Welcome New Members!

**John Michael Fritts** □ 3048 West Old Hwy 64, Lexington, NC 27292. Phone: 336-240-6398  
jFritts612@hotmail.com Son of Johnny Fritts, husband of Teresa. Michael is a father of 3 and loves reading blueprints and constructing buildings! He is employed at Davie Construction. Michael was baptized at HGLC on August 28, 2011.

**Teresa Cook Fritts** □ 3048 West Old Hwy 64, Lexington Phone: 336-247-1169  
Mother of 3, Teresa loves working with her hands □ wood working etc.. She and Michael have been married for 12 years. Both were born and raised in Davidson County.

**Amy Lashell Fritts** □ 3048 West Old Hwy 64 in Lexington, Phone 336-479-2698 □ daughter of Michael & Teresa. Amy is a high school student and works at Subway. She thinks she might want to be a teacher like her sister, Pam. Amy says □ I love my family and I thank God everyday for what I have, and saving my life from when I was little □ Amy was baptized at HGLC on August 28, 2011.

**Pamela Diane Cook** □ 321-A Chapel Dr., Lexington, NC 27295, PO box 543, Linwood, NC 27299, Phone: 336-596-7005, pcook05@hotmail.com., pamelacook@davidson.k12.nc.us. Pam is the daughter of Teresa & Michael Fritts. She is a 2nd grade teacher at Southwood Elementary and is attending Gardner-Webb University to get her master's degree. Pam enjoys spending time with friends and family. Pam was baptized at HGLC on August 28, 2011.

**Carolyn Frances Sink Hunt** □ 1406 Sam Sharp Rd., Linwood, NC 27299, phone 965-2532. Carolyn is joining HGLC through Affirmation of Baptism as an Associate Member. She enjoys crocheting, fishing and sewing.

**Jane DiBonaventura** □ 2895 Old Greensboro Rd., Thomasville, NC 27360. Phone 336-259-9852, mommad@triad.rr.com. Jane is a special education teacher in Davidson County and first came to HGLC with Joyce Shields. Jane's interests include crochet and sewing, hunting, racing, and family which includes 7 grandchildren. Jane joins HGLC through Affirmation of Faith.

**Barry Rogers** □ 341 Stratford Rd., Lexington, NC 27292, Phone 239-2105. Barry likes car racing and was a good friend and neighbor to Ed Bowers. He was born in South Carolina. Barry owns & operates B & R Lawn Care. Barry joins HGLC through Affirmation of Faith.

**\*Walter Blower** □ 187 Koo Leo Farm Rd., Lexington, NC, phone 240-8168, email: walter\_blower@hotmail.com □ Walter is the son of Chip & Ann Blower and brother of Rusty Blower, brother-in-law of Sheila Blower, uncle of Madilyn Blower. His daughter is Jennifer Blower, age 8. Walter was baptized in Cleveland Ohio as an infant and joins HGLC through Affirmation of Faith. He is a 13 year member of the Army National Guard and is a combat veteran having served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. His interests include the appreciation and restoration of military vehicles. Walter also serves as a volunteer at the North Carolina Transport Museum in Spencer where he just completed restoration on an antique fire truck.

*\*will join at a later date due to military commitment*

**\*Melissa Bayer** □ 187 Koo Leo Farm Rd., Lexington, NC, phone 904-347-7669. Melissa will be baptized at HGLC as will her two children, **Trevor**, age 10 and **Skyler**, age 8.

**Jessica Medley** □ 110 Malvern Ct., Winston-Salem, NC 27106, phone: 416-2622, email: jpiosmedley@gmail.com. She is married to Jacob. Jessica is a 5th grade teacher at Piney Grove in Kernersville. She enjoys reading, travel, and hiking. Jessica is Maddy Blower's Godmother.



Holly Grove Senior Citizens met Wednesday, August 17, 2011. There were 23 present. The hall was decorated with a beautiful purple orchid arrangement designed by James Tysinger.

Virginia White brought us up to date on missing members, and then turned the program over to Rev. Sarah Snell who has recently been hired as Associate Pastor at Mt. Tabor. She took us on a "Stroll down Memory Lane." She said, "Grow old with me, the best is yet to be- the last of life for which the first was made". We then sang songs which we remembered from our childhood, teen years, young adult years and some we sing now. We all enjoyed remembering and singing together. She ended, saying "YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE THEIR DREAMS, OLDER PEOPLE CAN STILL DREAM BUT WE ALSO HAVE OUR MEMORIES. LET'S ENJOY THEM!

Pastor Sluder returned thanks and we enjoyed a wonderful meal prepared by Daisy Crisp which included chicken pie, squash casserole, potatoes and corn, green beans, cole slaw, assorted pickles, rolls, pound cake and peaches.

**Confirmation Class of 2012**

*Confirmation classes begin on Sunday, September 11th at 9:00AM, in the back room at the Office Complex.*

*This class includes:*

*Sarah Grace Davis*

*John Payne*

*Jay Proctor*

*Curtis Doerr*

*Andrew Curry*

*Aidan Walser*

*Benjamin Gates*

*William Curry*



Choir rehearses every Wednesday from 7:30PM to 8:30PM. If you have sung in the choir in the past or have thought about singing in the choir, I invite you to come to try it out!

There is a sign-up sheet for Handbells on the bulletin board near the mailboxes. Again, if you have played Handbells in the past or are interested in trying it, please sign up!



Music is a wonderful way to serve the Lord and lead others in worship. I ask that you prayerfully consider either or both options and if you have questions, please come and see me.

Thank you, Bryan McCullough  
Choir Director  
Handbell Director



## Congratulations to our very own Debbie Frank!

Debbie has been named

Communities in Schools **Mentor of the Year**

for Davidson County Schools. Debbie mentors with the Teen Parent Program.

She will be recognized at the September 6 School Board Meeting!

Thank you Debbie....you make us proud!

## Happy Birthday!

Keeli Proctor	4
Donald Kepley	6
Janna Waitman	6
Amy Kepley	7
Barry Burkhart	9
Todd Conrad	9
Archie Turner	9
Fred Lohr	10
Cornelia Conrad	12
Virginia Everhart	12
John Curry	14
Jonathan Hedrick	15
Donna Hilterbrand	15
Clint Sutton	15
Kara Pearson	16
Chris Varner	16
Ann Blower	17
Sheila Blower	17
Dean Chapman	17
Emma Hofer	18
Kay Kepley	19
Sydney Stewart	19
Kelly Davis	21
Anna Clark	22
Wynn Conrad	23
Brandon Smith	23
Jenny Hedrick	26
John Payne	26
Kevin Fulbright	28

## Happy Anniversary !

Bob & Kim Troutman	9
Gene & Barbara Kepley	10
Carl & Etta Lee Conrad	11
Herbert & Wendy Lohr	11
Keith & Lori Cecil	16
Scott & Kara Varner	16
Rex & Tracy Everhart	19

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.

### ***Goods for the greater good***

**Good360 is growing the world's largest online product donation marketplace, where product donations from America's top brands and retailers become goods for the greater good.**

*Holly Grove's Social Ministry Committee has partnered with GOOD360 to provide donations from Bed, Bath, & Beyond to those in need, particularly our Teen Parents and Back Pack Families. We need volunteers to pick up the goods, sort & store, and help when we give them away. See Bob Troutman or call the church office if you would like to be a part of this servant project and help those in need.*

News from Thrivent

submitted by Sharon Everhart

A fund-raiser for the Special Olympics will be on September 10th, First Lutheran Church parking lot from 10:00AM until 2:00PM. We will be selling hot dog plates and drinks. There will be line dancing, face painting, desserts galore, and jewelry to buy! All proceeds will go to Davidson County Special Olymics. If you want to help and volunteer let Sharon Everhart know at 249-7260! Thank you!

**GIVING UPDATE**  
**AS OF AUGUST 21, 2011**

**Budget Receipts:**

We are currently \$5,508.14 below the projected budget needs for the year. On June 5, 2011 we were \$805 above budget needs, so the \$5,500 shortfall has arisen during the summer months as people have traveled.

The good news is that our checking account balance as of July 31st was just \$65 under the checking account balance as of January 1, 2011. We are meeting our budget obligations, and we are doing meaningful ministries beyond the budget.

Giving to the Capital Improvement Fund in 2011 (in addition to budget receipts) so far is \$6,980. The Capital Improvement Fund balance as of January 1, 2011 was \$19,497.60. The July balance in Capital Improvements was \$26,492.60. Receipts of \$890 in August put the balance at \$27,382.60.

Building Fund receipts (in addition to budget receipts) have amounted to \$2,015.01 so far. July balance in the Replacement/remodeling fund was \$7,894.74, versus a 2011 beginning balance of \$9,226.48. The building fund has been used this year to pay for such items as: heating air conditioning repair, appliance service, bleacher repair, paint, new front doors, snow removal and organ repair.

Another major giving item is our backpack program. Giving to backpacks (in addition to budget receipts) has amounted to \$1,694 so far. Keep in mind that some people bring food items instead of money and the value of the food items is not included here. The balance in the backpack fund at the end of 2010 was \$4,669.79. After five months of providing backpacks in 2011, the balance in the fund has grown \$188 to \$4,858.69.

Thank you for your stewardship of time, your talents and gifts, and your financial resources. Lots of wonderful, exciting, faithful and mission-fulfilling things are going on at Holly Grove, far beyond what any financial records show. Thanks be to God.

**No “Unbinding”?**

If you do not want to be in an “Unbinding” group, you are encouraged to:

- ◆ Connect with God daily in prayer & scripture reading
- ◆ Connect with other members of the church
- ◆ Pray about people who do not believe



## Sunday School at Holly Grove Lutheran Church

A key part of the mission of HGLC is to provide Christian education.

Sunday School for people of all ages will resume on September 11th at our regular time, 9:15AM. We will not be having a Rally Day activity to begin the new Sunday School Season, but instead will go straight to our classes.

Confirmation Classes will be held in the Office Complex (back room) at 9:00AM.

There is room for you, and everyone in your family, in one of our classes.

Hope to see you on the 11th!

*Pastor John*

Holly Grove Lutheran Church  
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Lexington, NC 27292  
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The Reverend John Mocko, Pastor

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**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**



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