

November 2020



*Welcome to Holly Grove Lutheran Church!*



LOVE GROW SERVE

# The Holly Leaf

*Mission Statement of Holly Grove Lutheran Church*

*“As united people of God under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our purpose is to provide worship and Christian education, and respond in a loving action to a needy world.”*

• Daily Prayers, links, to ELCA , sermons, The Holly Leaf, events & more on our website:  
[www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org](http://www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org)

Find us on Facebook!



**Love. Grow. Serve.**



## Holly Grove Lutheran Church

212 Holly Grove Lutheran Church Road, Lexington, NC 27292

[www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org](http://www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org) 336-249-2807

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This last month of the church year is quite busy. Starting with October 31, All Hallows' Eve (or Halloween as we call it) was the day Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door and so ignited the Reformation in 1517. We now celebrate it as Reformation Day in our Lutheran tradition. November first is observed as All Saint's Day when we remember our congregational brothers and sisters who died in the last year, as well as all of those who have gone before us. Our annual congregational meeting will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup> in a unique way required by the pandemic. Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of the church year, is the following week on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thanksgiving Day falls on the 26<sup>th</sup> and for many of us will be quite different from normal, also due to the pandemic. Finally, November 29<sup>th</sup> will begin a new church year as the First Sunday in Advent.

The beautiful and colorful season of autumn is upon us. Every fall I remember the old song *Autumn Leaves* by Nat King Cole. It was the theme song from a good movie about mental illness in 1956 which I saw once on late night TV many years after. While the song is rather melancholy, I always thought it appropriate for the season. It especially seems to fit in this year of 2020. I have heard lots of descriptive phrases about this year, most of which are not appropriate for a church newsletter!

The pandemic has certainly defined 2020. Dealing with it has been like riding a roller-coaster. For most people it is mild but for some extremely serious. And they do not know why in many cases. I recently read that there may also be as many deaths caused by the response as the virus. These include people who were unable to get or afraid to go in for treatment for various other health problems as well as increased deaths from overdoses and suicides due to isolation and inability to contact support systems. 2020 also had other troubles: multiple hurricanes and storms; wildfires; urban riots; and, sadly, incredibly divisive political campaigns intent on turning people against each other.

Amid all these troubles stands the Church of Jesus Christ. It has survived terrible plagues, famines, wars, heresies, divisions, persecution, and so much more over the last 2000 years. Despite the limits and frustrations we face, there are places in the world with challenges far worse. In North Korea, Communist China and many Islamic countries Christian face prison, violence, even death, for following Jesus. There are countries where the extreme poverty and lack of medical care make the pandemic even more dangerous than it is for us. While we are frustrated by empty shelves in our stores there are places where people are facing starvation because of the impact of the virus.

We who are blessed with the good news of our salvation in Christ are called to live in hope, courage, faith, and love, believing in God's mercy and grace. We can share that through our ministries despite the limits imposed by the Covid-19. Whether through prayer shawls, backpack food, support for GLAMA, Lutheran World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran Family Services, or any of the many other ways of helping. And never forget the importance of our offerings and the ministry of prayer for our congregation, our community, our nation, and our world. I look forward to the time we can gather again in worship and praise in our building. But **we are the church**, and our Christian life is not limited to our gathering but set free through our commitment and service.

Trust God, stay safe, live in hope, encourage one another!

Pastor Joseph





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November 2, 2020

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

As you already know this pandemic has caused us to change how we do most everything. That includes our yearly congregational meeting, voting of the budget and council member candidates. The meeting will be Sunday, November 15th via Facebook Live immediately following Worship Service and voting will be via drivethru. Before November 15th, you should have already received an envelope via USPS that includes a letter, a ballot for council member candidates, and a ballot for the 2021 budget.

If you have not received the ballots via USPS by November 11th, contact Lateffa Dennis at the church office Tuesday – Thursday between 8am – 1pm.

Council members will have a drive thru set up from 11:30am-1:30pm outdoors to collect both ballots. All you will need to do is drive up and drop off your ballots.

Communion will be provided at the drive thru.

If you are unsure if you are eligible to vote, please contact the church office.

We regret the inconvenience with having the Congregational meeting in this manner. However, after consulting with the Synod office, this is the safest way to conduct this required meeting.

Gods Peace to All,

Andy Ferguson

Council President



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



# THE HOLLY DOME NEWS

Even though 2020 seems to be a trying time, we have a lot to be thankful for at **The Holly Dome!** We are ONE and it shows!

There has been so much happening at **The Holly Dome** this year! Have you noticed?

There have been numerous updates to the facility. We had a productive workday, numerous volunteers within our congregation mowed the grass and sprayed the weeds, the lights have been repaired, the building has been painted, there are brand new bathroom doors.

The committee has implemented a new & updated Facility Use Guidelines, Liability Waiver & Fee Schedule packet that will be used for any team, group, club, organization that uses **The Holly Dome**. A local artist is planning to paint a mural on the building in the spring.

We are so grateful, thankful, and blessed for all of these upgrades!

Soon, the Recreation Committee will announce and hold a Rededication of Facilities Ceremony!

**Right now, we are announcing a Gas Card Fundraiser! We feel like now would be a perfect time to do this. Tickets can be purchased at the church office Tues, Wed, & Thurs between the hours of 8am-1pm or Sunday mornings at 10:30am.**

**The ticket prices are as follows:**

**\$1 each  
\$5 for 6  
\$10 for 12**

**Drawing: DECEMBER 20th during Announcements**

We are also excited to announce that we have more fundraisers that are already in the works for the upcoming 2021 year that include:

Church T-Shirts  
Cow Bingo  
Concert @ **The Holly Dome**  
Shotgun Raffle  
Cookbook

If you would like to be on our committee to help accomplish our goals and help with these fun events and fundraisers, please reach out to one of us! We would love for you and your family to join!

Holly Grove Lutheran Church Recreation Committee:

Jane DiBonaventure,  
Joe Davis,  
Kristal Ferguson,  
Andy Ferguson,  
Lateffa Dennis,  
Lynn Dennis,  
Chip Blower - Council Liaison

# REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.  
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A  
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM

The deadline for the boxes will be January 4, 2021. They will be donated to The Pastor's Pantry. Please leave filled boxes placed in the Handicap Entrance only.

November 2020



**Altar Guild-** Susan Lohr

**Mother's Rose Garden-**Norris & Kara Feeney-In honor & memory of our Mothers & Grand Mothers

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1<sup>st</sup> *All Saints Sunday*

*Basket Offering:* Helping Hands

**Assisting Minister:** Kim Troutman

**Acolyte:** Madison Lohr-Pope

**Ushers:** Paula Hedrick, Jane DiBonaventura, Susan Lohr, Mary Ellen Hinson

**Altar Flowers:** Lynn & Lateffa Dennis-In memory of Leon Dennis & David Hedrick

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

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8<sup>th</sup> *23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

**Assisting Minister:** Norris Feeney

**Acolyte:** Graven Ferguson

**Ushers:** Ty Heitman, Max Carrick, Andy Ferguson, Herbert Frank

**Altar Flowers:** Robin & Karen Beck-In honor of all US Military Veterans

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

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15<sup>th</sup> *24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

**Assisting Minister:** Toni Chapman

**Acolyte:** Gracie Ferguson

**Ushers:** Michael Willson, Bob Troutman, Johnny Fritts, Lynn Dennis

**Altar Flowers:** OPEN

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

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22<sup>nd</sup> *Christ the King Sunday*

**Assisting Minister:** Andy Ferguson

**Acolyte:** Isabel Heitman

**Ushers:** Matthew Parsons, Dean Chapman, Rex Everhart, Frank Hamilton

**Altar Flowers:** OPEN

**Children's Chat:** Joe Davis

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29<sup>th</sup> *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent*

**Assisting Minister:** Micky Conrad

**Acolyte:** Roseila Sommer

**Ushers:** Paula Hedrick, Jane DiBonaventura, Mary Ellen Hinson, Susan Lohr

**Altar Flowers:** OPEN

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**November 9<sup>th</sup>**: Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm.

**November 15<sup>th</sup>**: Congregational Meeting

**November 22<sup>nd</sup>**: Christ the King Sunday.

**November 29<sup>th</sup>**: First Sunday of Advent.

**December 14<sup>th</sup>**: Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm.

**December 20<sup>th</sup>**: Drawing for Gas Card

- ◇ If you or your child is scheduled to do Acolyte, Assisting Minister, Altar Guild, Altar Flowers and or Children's Chat and you are well and able, you are encouraged to fulfill these duties. If you are unable to do so, please reach out to Andy.
- ◇ You can listen to Sunday services via Facebook! Just go to Holly Grove Lutheran Church Facebook home page; like us and listen to a live service.
- ◇ Don't forget that all Sunday services are recorded and posted on the church web site. They are generally posted the afternoon of the service.
- ◇ Deadline for Reverse Advent Boxes will be **January 4, 2021**. Please leave filled boxes in the Handicap Entrance **only**.



# November

# Birthday & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Barbara Kepley Stephanie Hearn	3 Stacy Gabriel	4 Libby Carrick	5 Janice Queen	6	7
8	9 Gaynell Davis	10	11 Ricky Curry Jeff Voletto 	12	13 Shane/Mandy Lawrence	14 Boyd Queen Chrissy Conrad
15 Ross/Elisa Sommer	16	17 Jennifer Davis	18	19	20 Robin Beck  Steve/Glenna Garner	21
22	23 Jacob Hearn Wilson Hearn Anthony Conrad	24 Kevin Gabriel	25	26 	27	28 Keith Watkins
29 Houston Laster  1ST SUNDAY OF Advent	30					

# SUPPORT OUR VETERANS



## CHRISTMAS 2020



Davidson County Veteran Services  
is sponsoring a gift drive for veterans at the  
NC State Veterans Home in Salisbury.

Donations of new, unwrapped items will be collected  
until December 16, 2020 at the  
Davidson County Veteran Service Office  
913 Greensboro Street, Suite 101, Lexington, NC

Please consider donating some of the following items to  
help our veterans this Christmas season:

### Personal Hygiene Items

Hand Sanitizer (bulk & personal sized)  
Name Brand Disposable Razors  
Electric Razors  
Kleenex  
Shampoo  
Body Wash

### Other Items Needed

Paint By Number  
Velvet Art Poster Boards (coloring)  
Adult Coloring Books  
Crossword Puzzle Books (large print)  
Wallets (men)

\*\*All personal hygiene items, with the exception of hand sanitizer, should be alcohol free\*\*

To learn more about the NC State Veteran's Home in Salisbury  
<http://www.pruithhealth.com/microsite?facilityId=367>

Please call Rick Johnson or Petra Leonard  
at 336-242-2037 for more information.

## Update Info Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Marriage Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

e-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Children: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*If you know of **ANY** changes, (birth, address, marriage, e-mail, etc.) please submit/  
mail these to the church office or place in the offering plate.

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On behalf of Holly Grove Lutheran Church, 100 knitted toboggans were blessed and donated to the Davidson County Homeless Shelter on October 6th, 2020.





# HGLC SEPTEMBER 2020 Council Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2020

Call to Order: President, Andy Ferguson with the following present: Lynn Dennis, Johnny Fritts, Marie Palmer, Chip Blower, Max Carrick, Eddie Heitman and Pastor Tallent, Tim Everhart and Judy Thomason.

Michael Willson, Lindsay Black and Sherry Proctor were unable to attend.

Devotions: Tim Everhart led us in devotions.

## **Business Meeting**

### **Approval of Reports**

Minutes of the August, 2020 meeting were read. Lynn moved to accept, Eddie seconded and motion passed. The Financial Report was presented. Max moved to accept, Lynn seconded and motion passed. The Treasurer Report was presented. Eddie moved to accept, Lynn seconded and motion passed. There was no Building Report.

### **Old Business**

Michael was able to get two filing cabinets for the Music Directors room. Andy will pick up and deliver to the church.

The organ repair supposedly has been completed but Judy discovered (while she was practicing during our meeting) that there are some keys not working. Spearman will be contacted.

Chip reported the Audio-video upgrade is roughly done. Continues to be a work in progress.

Andy reported that the work on the lights at the ballfield have been completed

### **New Business:**

We received notice that Donnie Parsons has resigned as the Chairman of the Recreation Committee. We discussed use of the ballfield for practice or games and agreed that the ballfield should not open until the church opens for services. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the ballfield will be posted at the ballfield concession stand. Lynn made the motion, Eddie seconded and motion passed that we will not have a ball season this year but will try to resume in the Spring. We are in need of volunteers to mow and keep the ballfield in good shape. As council representative for the Recreation Committee, Chip will meet with the committee to reorganize and select a new chairman.



Andy reported that Lateffa and Kristal have been cleaning in the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen. There was evidence of mold in the Kitchen. Cleaning has been done and the thermostat will remain set to prevent further mold. There was also evidence of droppings in some of the cabinets in the Fellowship Hall. Chip will check to see if our Terminix contract covers treatment.

We received a request for a donation to the Eric West Family Dinner Fund. Andy will send out information to the Congregation if anyone would like to make a donation.

There is concern that our internet speed is not sufficient to carry our live stream when it is expanded. Chip assured we have what we need.

It was agreed that the unwanted items (chairs, dishes, vases, books, etc.) in the Fellowship Hall not be discarded until the church has been reopened for several weeks to give people the opportunity to take items they might like to have.

Someone has been putting their personal garbage in our church dumpster. The sides of the dumpster are locked but we will place a lock on the top to prevent this.

Action on the AT&T stock is tabled until our next meeting in order to locate the last statement.

New church signs have been put up. Thanks to Tim and Chip.

Chip will check into filing for non-profit organization sales tax refunds for the church.

Andy participated in a zoom meeting with the N. C. Synod and Council Presidents across the state. We are still trying to follow our State's guidelines for reopening. We are now in phase 2.5 which allows 25 persons at a public indoor gathering. Since it takes 7 to 10 people in the church on Sunday mornings to do our streaming service, that would only allow a very small number to attend. How do we make that decision as to who can come and who can't? Tim made the motion, Chip seconded and motion passed that we hold off opening until phase 3.

We also talked about how we can handle our required Congregational Meeting if the church has not reopened. We will have to vote on the budget and elect 4 new council members. We discussed sending all the information out by mail to our members and then have a drive-by voting. We will nail this down more as the time gets closer.

Next Meeting: October 12, 2020

There being no further business the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Lynn made the motion and Eddie seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Ferguson, President  
Marie Palmer, Secretary

# To All Veterans



**Whether At Home Or Abroad**

**Active Duty ~ Reserves ~ Retired**

**All Americans Say:**

**THANK YOU!**

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**Sundays**

915AM Sunday School  
1030AM Worship



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