

February 2021



*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 & Instagram!





# *The Ordination of Pastor Anna Carter*

All of the clergy present at the ordination



Former Council President Andy Ferguson presenting Anna Carter for ordination



Bishop Tim Smith and Anna Carter during the Rite of Ordination





Bishop Smith and clergy laying hands on Anna



Pastor Anna receiving a blessing from Bishop Smith





Pastor Anna presiding at Communion for the first time



Pastor Anna wearing her ordination stole





Pastor Anna with her mother, Pastor Lori Carter



Pastor Anna with Call Committee Chair Jane DiBonaventura and Andy & Kristal Ferguson





## Holly Grove Lutheran Church

212 Holly Grove Lutheran Church Road, Lexington, NC 27292  
www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org 336-249-2807

Dear Holly Grove Disciples,

As I write this, I am in my second week here at Holly Grove Lutheran Church. I am grateful to be with you and among you in our life of discipleship. The past few Sundays we have heard many call stories in Gospel lessons. The truth is: we are all called to lives of discipleship. When you were baptized, you were marked with the sign of the cross and sealed by the Holy Spirit forever. You were welcomed in to the body of Christ, the whole church, and into the mission we share: “giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God’s creative and redeeming love to all the world” (ELW, Baptismal Liturgy).

The pandemic has limited much of what we can do, but it has not and cannot limit the Holy Spirit. Nor can the pandemic limit our ability to live out lives of discipleship. We are still able to give thanks and praise to God—in prayer, in song, and by attending worship virtually on Sunday mornings. We are still able and are called to bear God’s creative and redeeming love to all the world. What does this look like in your life? In your relationships? In your work and in your home?

I have begun to make plans and preparations for Ash Wednesday on February 17 and for the season of Lent. My hope and prayer is that as we journey with Christ toward the cross, that we would continue to find faithful and creative ways to stay connected to God and one another.

There have been several folks who have worked hard the past few months, cleaning and organizing the church and office complex. They have done a wonderful job! Please join me in thanking especially: Kristal and Andy Ferguson, Lateffa and Lynn Dennis, and James and Marie Palmer. Send them a card or email expressing your gratitude for their time and energy.

Finally, thank you for the warm welcome you have given to me. I am excited to be here and I look forward to meeting you and getting to know you.

Grace and peace to you,  
Pastor Anna





# HGLC DECEMBER 2020 Council Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2020

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

Sherry Proctor was unable to attend.

Also in attendance were new council members, Norris Feeney, David Brown, Robert Napolitano and Neil Clark

Devotions: Andy led us in devotions

## **Business Meeting**

### **Approval of Reports**

Minutes of the November, 2020 meeting were read. Chip made the motion to accept, Mike seconded and motion passed.

The Financial Report was presented. Max made the motion to accept, Eddie seconded and motion passed.

The Treasurers Report was presented. Mike made the motion to accept, Lynn seconded and motion passed.

Building Fund and Helping Hands Reports were presented for September thru November. Lynn made the motion to accept,

Marie seconded and motion passed.

## **Correspondence**

Andy shared information from Agape Kure Beach Camp that the program is still on hold and is exploring other options for 2021 camp.

Received an acknowledgement from Davidson Medical Ministries for the donation from Holly Grove.

## **Committee Reports**

The Fellowship Committee is planning to place luminaries for Christmas Eve beginning around 5:30 in the evening.

## **Old Business**

The Blessing Box is reportedly doing well. Robin and Karen Beck have committed to stocking the box for 6 months

The opportunity for other groups or persons to stock the box is on the Time and Talent sheet. Council will need to make sure the box is kept stocked.

Clean-up has been going on around the church and office complex. There are a few more things that need to be done and Andy will post a list on google if anyone would like to volunteer.





**New Business:**

In regards to clean-up around the office complex, we have old copiers that are no longer working. What to do with them? Chip made the motion, Mike seconded and motion passed that we scrap if unable to give away for parts.

Andy shared that our H-Vac system in the sanctuary has been patched and repaired to the point that there is not a lot more patch and repair that can be done. He has a quote from Davidson Heating and Air to replace the unit at a cost of \$15,450.00 which includes a 5- year warranty on the compressor and parts. This matter has been tabled until we can get another quote.

Andy shared information with the new council on the pastoral candidate. Her name is Anna Carter. We will hold a meet and greet at 2:00 pm Saturday, December 19 at the picnic shelter. There will be a drive-thru vote on Sunday, December 20 from 11:30 to 1:30 to determine whether we will extend the call.

Installation of new council members and officers will be Sunday, January 10.

Bonuses for staff were determined. Chip made the motion to accept, Eddie seconded and motion was approved.

Neil made the motion, Lynn seconded and motion approved that the January basket offering go to the Backpack program.

Devotion assignments for 2021: January – Lynn, February – Chip, March – Eddie, April – Neil, May – Marie, June – Mike, July – Norris, August – Robert, September – David, October – Johnny, November – Judy and December – Sherry

Election of officers for 2021: Norris nominated Lynn Dennis to serve as President, Chip seconded and motion passed Judy nominated Michael Willson to serve as Vice President, Eddie seconded and motion passed. Marie Palmer and Chip Blower agreed to continue serving as Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

Committee liaison assignments for 2021: Cemetery – Mike, Parrish Ed – Judy, Property – Eddie, Scholarship – Sherry, Social Ministry – Robert, Youth – Chip, Worship and Music – Neil, Stewardship – Johnny, Recreation – Norris, Finance – Lynn, Fellowship – Marie and Security - David

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Ferguson, President  
Marie Palmer, Secretary

<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Lindsay Black	Lynn Dennis –Vice President	Chip Blower
Max Carrick	Eddie Heitman	Johnny Fritts
Tim Everhart	Judy Thomason	Marie Palmer-Secretary
Andy Ferguson-President	Michael Wilson	Sherry Proctor

# Announcements and Upcoming Events

Flower charts are now in the hallway for sign-ups for 2021-2022. Drop by to sign up!

**February 7<sup>th</sup>:** Annual Audit

**February 8<sup>th</sup>:** Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm at Office Complex.

An online Time and Talent Form for 2021-2022 has been sent to all those in the HGLC Google Groups email list. If you need the link or prefer a paper copy, please contact the church office. Please take a couple of minutes to complete the form.

**Bible Study:** Pastor Anna would like to begin offering a Bible Study. Please reach out to her at [pastorhollygrove@gmail.com](mailto:pastorhollygrove@gmail.com), send her a text at 336-413-8092, or call the church office to let her know if you are interested and if daytime or evening would work for you.

**Wednesday Evening Lenten Services:** We will be offering Wednesday Evening Lenten Services online. The several Lutheran pastors in Davidson County are putting together services that will be shared on Facebook. Each week a different pastor will share a meditation. The service will be adapted from Holden Evening Prayer. More details will follow.



## **UPDATED SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR OFFICE COMPLEX**

In accordance with current state, synod, and CDC guidelines, the following protocols are required when entering the Office Complex.

1. Masks are required when in the Office Complex.
2. When entering the Office Complex, please wash or sanitize your hands.
3. Sign in at the side door with your name and the time you enter and exit. This is necessary in the event that contact tracing needs to be done.

There is a table at the side door with hand sanitizer, masks, and a sign in sheet.

While the safest practice at this time is to refrain from gathering in-person, the strongest recommendation of the state, synod, and CDC is to refrain from in-person gatherings of more than 10 people indoors and 50 outdoors.





# February Birthday & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 James Palmer	2 Jo Ann Black Meagan Murphy	3	4	5	6
7	8 Karen Beck Kameron Cecil  Dave/Sheila White	9 Myra Beck Herbert Frank	10 Brantley Bunton	11 Carol Conrad Kara Lohr	12 Lincoln Murphy	13 Tina Hedrick David Clark
14 Conrad Sommer	15	16	17 John Michael Fritts Raven Hylton   ASH WEDNESDAY	18 Etta Lee Conrad Lateffa Dennis	19 Taylor Gabriel	20
21  First Sunday of Lent	22 Andy Ferguson	23 Nathan Rose	24	25	26 Bonnie Hedrick  Chip/Ann Blower	27 Jo Ann Turner Tim Everhart  Andy/Kristal Ferguson
28  SECOND Sunday IN LENT						



## Holly Grove Lutheran Church

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The past ten months have been challenging in many ways for us as individuals, as families, as a congregation, and as a country. The uncertainty and stressors we have and continue to experience have affected our hearts, minds, and bodies.

Mental illnesses affect 19% of the adult population, 46% of teenagers, and 13% of children each year. However, only half of those affected receive treatment, often because of the stigma attached to mental health, particularly in minority communities.

The ELCA has offered a faithful perspective and response to mental illness in a social message. “We recognize that the suffering of caregivers and families is profound,” the social message reads. “Once mental illness has emerged, life will never be the same. The ELCA as a church commits to accompanying you as families and caregivers with honest, hopeful yet realistic, and prayerful companionship.” You can read the social message at this link: [https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Mental\\_IllnessSM.pdf](https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Mental_IllnessSM.pdf)

If you are struggling with mental illness or with the challenges of this stressful time, please know you are not alone. God is with you and we, your church, are here for you. Feel free to reach out to me if you need to talk or if you need additional resources.

I offer to you below a litany I found that has been adapted from and patterned after Prayers of the People from the Book of Common Prayer by Rev. Colin Jones, Co-Pastor of Advent United Church of Christ in Columbus, Ohio.

Peace be with you,  
Pastor Anna



Let us pray to the God of our Ancestors, who is the Creator of all Life.

Eternal Divine Spirit, we pray for the Church that you created through your Son, Jesus Christ; that it may provide extravagant welcome and serve those who live with a mental illness.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Guide us, the citizens and leaders of this land, this state, and this city that we may unite to provide for and protect the poor, the homeless, and those who suffer in mind, body, and spirit.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Forgive us as individuals and as a community, when we knowingly or unknowingly ridicule, look in disgust, neglect, or discriminate against those who are mentally ill.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Comfort and receive those who are troubled in mind and spirit. Bring them hope, peace, and the consolation of a loving community.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Grant patience and courage to the family and friends of those who are ill. Increase their perseverance as they face challenges to recovery for their loved one.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Protect and defend those living with mental illness from exploitation, addictions, and abuse.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Oh Lord, increase our awareness, compassion, and sensitivity so that we can embrace our brothers and sisters who wrestle with mental illness.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Because of their intense pain, and at times, their lack of perceived options, we commend to your mercy and defense all who are contemplating suicide today, right now. Bring someone or something to intervene.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

For the families who have lost a loved one to mental illness, bring them comfort in trusting that your grace accepts their loved one, despite the event that brought them into your loving arms.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Empower us to speak up for those who do not have a voice; save us from making peace with the injustices in the social systems that have failed people living with mental illness, especially our black and brown brothers and sisters.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Guide those who do research for the prevention and treatment of mental illnesses; uphold them with your compassion and diligence.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We are living through unprecedented and stressful times. The past months have been tough, but we are in this together, and with your help we will continue to make it through one day at a time. Grant us all strength and peace to endure the pandemic, and guide us as we check in with our friends, family, neighbors, and fellow parishioners to offer encouragement and support.

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Eternal Spirit of Love, we trust that in your time and way, you will dispel all confusion with your order and all fear with your peace. Through Jesus Christ, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.





## **Please pray for:**

### **Our Members:**

- **Burnette Monteith**
- **Gary Hedrick**
- **Aldean Conrad**
- **Teresa Fritts**
- **Gene Kepley**
- **Libby Carrick**
- **Barbara Kepley**
- **Bill Roberts**
- **Harold Beck**
- **Scott Black**
- **Kara Feeney**
- **Michael Willson**
- **Neil Clark**
- **Steve Garner**
- **Keeli, Brent & baby Bryce Aldean McLamb**
- **Pastor Joseph Tallent**
- **Herbert Frank**
- **Bobby & Janna Waitman**

### **Our Friends & Family:**

- **Kenneth Miller-Friend of Joe & Bonnie Hedrick**
- **Lynn Helms-cousin of Gaynell Davis**
- **Eva Rae Clark-(@ Brookdale- Neil Clark's Mother**
- **David Chappell-Friend of Kelly Carrick**
- **Pauline Young-Sister-In-Law of Dottie Curry**
- **Jeff Shytle**
- **Curtis Yarborough**
- **Joanne Conrad Koonts-Gaynell Davis' cousin**
- **Brian & Shelly Baker-Friends of James & Marie Palmer**
- **Bobbie Crotts**
- **Greg Carroll-Meagan Murphy's Dad**
- **The Family of Jack Frank-Herbert Frank's Father**
- **The Family of Brenda Ferguson-Andy Ferguson's Aunt**
- **Our service men and women all over the world**
- **Those unemployed, looking for work**

\*\*\*\*Names are generally rotated off after three weeks but we are happy to add them again if requested. Please send Prayer Requests to: [hglcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hglcoffice@gmail.com) or leave a message at the church office complex (336-249-2708)



**Ash Wednesday:** Pastor Anna will be sharing a brief Ash Wednesday service that will be pre-recorded so you can watch it anytime on Ash Wednesday. We will also be offering Drive Thru Imposition of Ashes on Ash Wednesday between 11:30-12:30 and 5:45-6:15. Please mark your calendar. More details will follow.

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STAFF:  
Rev. Anna E. Carter  
[pastorhollygrove@gmail.com](mailto:pastorhollygrove@gmail.com)

Lateffa Dennis, Office Administrator  
[hglcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hglcoffice@gmail.com)

Judy Black, Director of Music  
[judyblack528@gmail.com](mailto:judyblack528@gmail.com)



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

A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America (ELCA)