

March/April
2021



LOVE GROW SERVE

The Holly Leaf

Welcome to Holly Grove Lutheran Church!

Easter Sunday at Holly Grove

This Easter Sunday, April 4, you are invited to join us at Holly Grove to worship together outdoors. While COVID-19 conditions keep us from being able to safely gather in the sanctuary, we are still able to gather in the parking lot.

The worship service will include familiar music, God's Word, and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

The Easter service will take place at 10:30 am. We will have ushers directing people where to park. We will help people and families measure seating 6 feet away from others. You will need to bring your own chairs. Ushers can help you carry your chairs if needed. Masks covering both the nose and mouth are required for the entire service.

The Men's Group will provide individually wrapped biscuits for breakfast starting at 10 am. Please bring your own coffee or juice.

The service will be live-streamed on our Facebook page for those who are unable to attend in person.

Of course, this plan is based on cooperative weather. If the weather does not cooperate, we will only offer a live-streamed service on Facebook and Youtube.

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

Find us on Facebook, YouTube & Instagram!



Love. Grow. Serve.

Palm Sunday Opportunity

While we will not be able to process into the sanctuary waving palms, we can still come together in the spirit of Palm Sunday.

Join us on **Sunday, March 28 from 11:45 am - 12:30 pm** after the worship service for a condensed Palm Sunday Drive Through Processional!

As you enter the parking lot, you will be given palms to wave. Next, you are invited to participate in a call and response as you give offerings of your cloaks* and hear the Word proclaimed.

Crisis Ministry of Davidson County operates an adult homeless shelter for up to 48 men and 16 women, and Genesis House, a family shelter for as many as 7 families. Each have needs for your "cloak" donations.

*Currently needed are new or gently used men and women's clothing and new or gently used children's and infant clothing.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the office. We can't wait to see you waving your palms, and thank you for bringing "cloaks" to help our neighbors in need.





Holly Grove Lutheran Church

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

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I wonder if over the years you have traded out one season's clothes for another in your dressers and closets. And even now, are you looking forward to the spring day when you can put your winter clothes in the back and bring your summer clothes forward?

Not only do we have seasonal clothes, we also have clothes for certain circumstances or occasions. We have exercise clothes, bathing suits, pajamas. Remember when you were growing up: Did you have school clothes, play clothes, and Sunday clothes?

Regardless of what we wear, whether it is seasonal or circumstantial, the one garment we never take off or change out of is our baptism. Martin Luther said, "Let all Christians regard their baptism as the daily garment that they are to wear all the time."

Christian discipleship is firmly rooted in the sacrament of baptism. The sacrament of baptism is a sign of our welcome into the family of God. In our baptism, God claims us and identifies us as God's own. We are children of the Triune God and siblings to all of our brothers and sisters in the Church. Our belonging to God and to the people of God shapes who we are.

In Christ, we are God's beloved children. Indeed, "God destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will" (Ephesians 1:5). With the Word of God and waters of baptism, the pastor announces that we have a different last name. For example, my name is no longer Anna Elisabeth Carter. When I was baptized in the name of the Trinity, I became Anna Elisabeth, child of God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And I must be called by that true name, just as you must be called by your true name "Child of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." First John 3:1 says, "See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are." In a world that constantly tries to call us by other names than that of children of the Triune God, we must hold firm to our truest identity: we are children of God and brothers and sisters of each other. And not just in our community and not just in our church, but throughout the world and throughout time and place in the communion of saints. Baptism shapes who we are and it shapes whose we are. We are God's beloved children.

We tend to think of baptism as a one time event. However, the significance of baptism cannot be limited to the single ceremony that occurs during worship. Luther said, "A Christian life is nothing else than a daily baptism, begun once and continuing ever after."

Our identity as God's children is shaped through our baptism as both sacrament and practice, which is our response to the sacrament. An example to illustrate the distinction between the sacrament and practice of baptism is that of wedding ceremony and marriage. The marriage is the daily living of the vows that were promised in the ceremony. Theologian Martha Ellen Stortz writes that, in baptism, we "enter into a deepening relationship with a new family, with Jesus and his destiny, and with the world....what begins at the font becomes a way of life."

We are to return to our baptism daily. In doing so, we are reminded of our identity and live it. In remembering our baptism, Stortz continues, we are "nourished, comforted, reoriented." God has freely given us a new identity through baptism. We must spend our entire lives growing more fully into that identity and allow it to claim us and to reshape every area of our lives. We must be constantly rehearsed and strengthened in our baptism.

We live in a world that seeks to call us by other names than that of the Triune God. Each morning and each night when I wash my face and the soap is rinsed off, before I turn off the water, I splash my face three times and say, I Anna, am baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. And throughout the day when I wash my hands, wash my dishes, drink water, etc. I try to let that water remind me of my baptism and whose I am.

We are forgetful creatures. We are tempted everyday to forget who we really are. We must live each day by reminding ourselves constantly that we now bear a new name, the name of the Triune God. As Luther proclaimed, "Let everybody regard their baptism as the daily garment which we are to wear all the time."

May we ever and always grow more fully into our identity as God's children and live it.

Your sister in Christ through the gift of baptism,

Pastor Anna



**Holly Grove Lutheran Church
Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting
February 28, 2021**

The Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting of Holly Grove Lutheran Church was called to order by President Lynn Dennis.

The purpose of the meeting was to review and approve the financial reports.

Herbert Frank made the motion to approve the reports and Michael Willson seconded.

A drive-thru vote will be held from 11:45 to 12:45 following the service.

Michael Willson made the motion and Neil Clark seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 12:45 following the drive-thru vote.

Note: Following the drive-thru vote ballots were reviewed and the audit reports were approved

Easter Lily Order Form

Easter Sunday is April 4, 2021

The deadline to order an Easter Lily – **March 25, 2021**

All flowers will be white lilies, 6 inches, one plant, 3 to 5 blooms per plant.

The cost is \$16.05 each

Please make check payable to Holly Grove Lutheran Church.

You can also pay for flowers on Breeze.

Easter Lily bought by: _____

Name – **PLEASE PRINT**

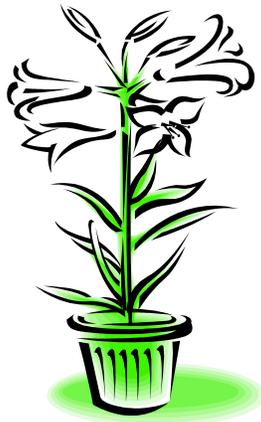
In **HONOR** of: _____

Name – **PLEASE PRINT**

AND/OR

In **MEMORY** of: _____

Name – **PLEASE PRINT**



Announcements and Upcoming Events

March 28th: Palm Sunday—Drive Through Processional

April 1st: Maundy Thursday service live-stream @ 6:30 pm—drive-thru communion to follow until 7:45 pm.

April 2nd: Good Friday service link will be sent out via email and Facebook.

April 4th: Easter Sunday—see front page for details

April 7th: Finance Committee meeting @ 6:00 pm

April 12th: Council meeting @ 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

April 12th: Worship & Music meeting @ 4:00 pm.

April 14th: Bible Study begins Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

Drive Thru Communion: We are having weekly communion. The worship service will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook starting at 10:30 am. Following worship, we invite you to come to drive thru communion in the parking lot from 11:45 am to 12:30 pm. You will remain in your car and Pastor Anna will offer you the elements. We will also have an offering plate for you to place your offering.

Bible Study: Starting on April 14th, Pastor Anna will begin offering a Bible Study each Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. A Zoom link will also be made available.

UPDATED SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR OFFICE COMPLEX & CHURCH

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

1. Masks are required at all times. Mask must cover noses and mouths.
2. When entering the Office Complex or Church, please wash or sanitize your hands.
3. Sign in with your name and the time you enter and exit. This is necessary in the event that contact tracing needs to be done.

There will be hand sanitizer, masks, and a sign in sheet by each door.

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 25 people indoors and 50 outdoors.

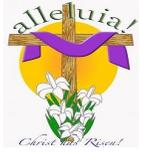


Birthday & Anniversaries

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | 1 Harold Beck | 2 | 3 | 4 Archie/Jo Ann Turner | 5 Cheryl Walser | 6 Denny Dietrich Walter Blower |
| 7  | 8 | 9 | 10 Chloe Gabriel | 11 Michael Willson Lindsay Black | 12 Alex Chapman Carson Rose | 13 Kodi Lomax |
| 14 Terri Clark Finn Lomax  | 15 Ty Heitman Gary/Judy McLain | 16 Gaven Ferguson | 17 | 18 | 19 Mandy Lawrence | 20 Taylor Fritts |
| 21 Rebecca Kepley  | 22 | 23 Tracie Voletto Whitney Lohr Aidan Walser Rusty/Sheila Blower | 24 | 25 Teresa Fritts | 26 | 27 |
| 28 Debbie Frank  | 29 | 30 Kim Troutman | 31 Katherine Varner | | | |
| | | | | | | |



Birthday & Anniversaries

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------|--|---|--|
| | | | | 1  | 2  | 3 Nancy Curry John/Susan Lohr |
| 4 Paula Hedrick  | 5 | 6 Bill/Dottie Curry | 7 Sarah Grace Davis | 8 Corbin Rose | 9 Lori Cecil | 10 |
| 11 | 12 Michael Rose Jim/Amy Horn Doody/Mary Ellen Hinson | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 Marie Palmer | 17 Bill Curry Max Carrick Colton Jones Hunter Hedrick |
| 18 | 19 Gene Kepley Neil Clark | 20 Chip Blower Lynn Dennis Brandon Everhart | 21 Caroline Black | 22 Justin Hedrick | 23 Bobby Waitman Kent Everhart Jill Hunt | 24 Jonathan/ Tina Hedrick |
| 25 | 26 Todd/Lori Conrad | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Debbie Parsons Robbie Hileman | |
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Dear Holly Grove Community,

On March 8 the Holly Grove Congregational Council met for our monthly meeting in the Fellowship Hall. It was a productive meeting in many ways, but always at the forefront of our minds is the question of re-gathering.

We intentionally use the term re-gathering and not re-opening. The church cannot re-open, because it was *never* closed. Yes, when the coronavirus was declared a worldwide pandemic in March 2020 we temporarily (it hasn't seemed temporary, but it is!) stopped gathering together in person, but the church never closed. We are the church. The church is not a building, the church is the body of Christ.

This past year has been difficult for so many on many different levels. In addition to all of the struggles this past year has held, we have all missed gathering together for worship, meals, and fellowship. We are a family at Holly Grove and our church community is important to all of us.

Our primary goal throughout this past year has been the health and well-being of each of you. There are many in our church family whose bodies are vulnerable or at higher-risk for the severe consequences of the coronavirus. We have made each decision with your health and safety in mind.

We are beginning to see a light at the end of the tunnel. But we aren't at the end of the tunnel quite yet. Although many of us are ready for the pandemic to be over—it isn't. We are still living in a pandemic and the threat of the coronavirus is still very real.

We are proud, grateful, and humbled that our efforts this past year have protected us from transmitting the virus at Holly Grove. We knew early on that if one person were to get the coronavirus at church, that would be one person too many. Our hope and prayer is that we will continue to be patient and steadfast in our efforts for just a little while longer, so that when the pandemic is over, we can celebrate knowing we did our very best to keep everyone healthy and safe at Holly Grove.

We are all looking forward to re-gathering soon. Although we don't have a precise date yet, we know the time will come. Thank you for your support of our congregation over the past year. We look with hope to what God has in store in the future!

In God's Peace,

The Holly Grove Lutheran Church Congregational Council

Pastor Anna Carter

HGLC FEBRUARY 2021 Council Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2021

Call to Order: President, Lynn Dennis with the following present: Pastor Anna Carter, Johnny Fritts, Marie Palmer, Chip Blower, David Brown, Robert Napolitano, Neil Clark, Norris Feeney, Sherry Proctor, Judy Thomason and Eddie Heitman

Michael Willson was unable to attend.

Devotions: Chip led us in devotions and Pastor Anna lead us in prayer

Business Meeting

Approval of Reports

Minutes of the January 11, 2021 Council Meeting and January 18, 2021 Call Council meeting were read. Neil made the motion to accept and Norris seconded. Motion passed.

The Financial Report was presented. Neil made the motion to accept and Eddie seconded. Motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report was presented. Neil made the motion to accept and Norris seconded. Motion passed.

The Building Fund and Helping Hands Reports were presented. Marie made the motion to accept and Chip seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report was presented. Neil made the motion to accept and Chip seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report

Meetings with the Worship and Music Committee to plan for Lent and Easter. Collaborating with the group of Davidson County Lutheran Pastors to hold brief Wednesday evening Lenten services. Plan to hold a drive-thru on Ash Wednesday from 11:30 to 12:30 and 5:45 to 6:15 for imposition of ashes and hand out Lenten devotionals. Possible outdoor services for Easter Sunday. Would like to hold a drive-thru communion on Easter Sunday and drive-thru communion on each Sunday from 11:45 to 12:30 thereafter until in person services resume.

Pastoral care visits, primarily over the phone and facetime and two visits in person.

Worked on Rostered Minister's Report and Parochial Report.

Would like to meet with all committees to determine duties and activities and request a financial submission from each committee.

Would like to conduct a Bible Study for interested persons, in person or virtually.



Correspondence

No correspondence

Committee Reports

No committee reports

Old Business

Financial Audit was completed on Sunday, February 7, 2021

The Semi-Annual Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, February 28 for the purpose of reviewing and approving the Financial reports. The vote will be drive-thru and anyone wanting a copy of the report can pick one up.

The new HVAC has been installed.

Pastor Anna’s Installation Service will be held at a later date.

New Business:

Sandra Vaughn has been treasurer for the Building Fund and Helping Hands for about 15 years and has requested that she be replaced. New treasurer for the Building Fund was tabled until the Finance Committee can look into.

Motion was made by Chip and seconded by Eddie that the Helping Hands fund be renamed to the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund. Motion passed.

Action was tabled following discussion concerning the Financial Secretary position.

The following motion was made by Norris, seconded by Eddie and motion passed concerning use of HGLC Google Group. Content: All communications originating from the HGLC Google Group must be relevant to the church’s ministry of Congregational life. Authority: Only the pastor or the church secretary have authority to send messages to the HGLC Google Group. Other members may submit suggested content to the pastor who retains authority to revise and submit on behalf of the member. Only the pastor may add or subtract members.

David made the motion, Eddie seconded and motion passed that thermostat covers be placed on all thermostats at the Church.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Dennis, President
Marie Palmer, Secretary

| 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Lynn Dennis - President | Chip Blower - Treasurer | David Brown |
| Eddie Heitman | Johnny Fritts | Neil Clark |
| Judy Thomason | Marie Palmer - Secretary | Norris Feeney |
| Michael Willson – Vice President | Sherry Proctor | Robert Napolitano |

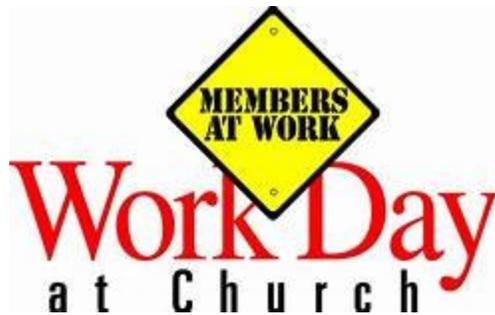
Recreation Committee will be holding a cleanup day at the ball field
Saturday, April 24th @ 8:00 am.

Please bring your weed eaters, rakes, gloves, weed killer, etc. to get the job done.

Will need to drag the field and set all bases.

Remember, the more hands we have the less time it will take.

Rain date: May 8th @ 8:00 am



If you need more information, please contact a member of the Recreation Committee.

Michael Willson-Chairman
Kristal Ferguson-Treasurer
Norris Feeney-Council Rep.
Andy Ferguson
Lynn Dennis
Lateffa Dennis
Jane DiBonaventura



Please pray for:

Our Members:

- **Gary Hedrick**
- **Aldean Conrad**
- **Teresa Fritts**
- **Gene Kepley**
- **Harold Beck**
- **Michael Willson**
- **Neil Clark**
- **Steve Garner**
- **Herbert Frank**
- **Bobby & Janna Waitman**
- **Gary & Judy McLain**

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
- Deane Hedrick-Lateffa Dennis' Brother
- The Family of Billy Crisco
- Sandy Henricken-Friend of Sherry Snider
- Pastor Michael Evans
- 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: hqloffice@gmail.com or leave a message at the church office complex (336-249-2708)

Christ
is
Risen!

Holly Grove Lutheran Church
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{336-249-2807}
www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org

STAFF:
Rev. Anna E. Carter
pastorhollygrove@gmail.com

Lateffa Dennis, Office Administrator
hglcoffice@gmail.com

Judy Black, Director of Music
judyblack528@gmail.com



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

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