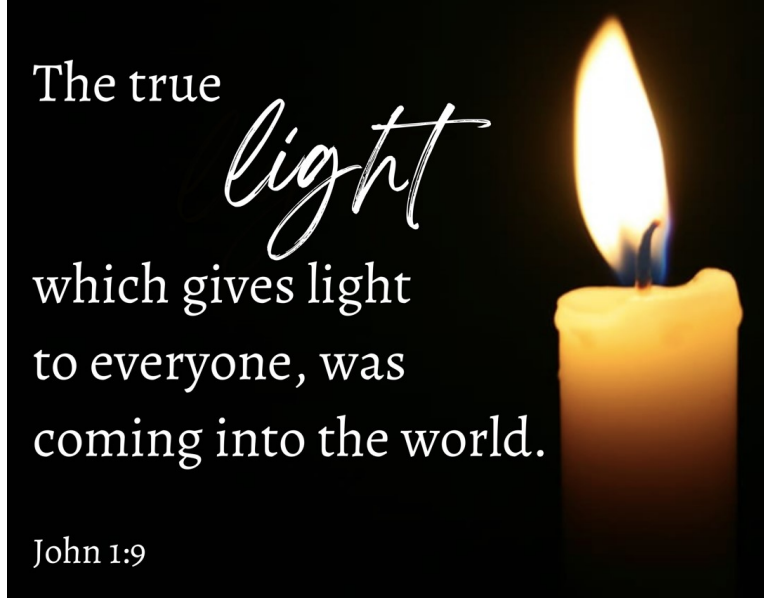


December 2021



# Welcome to Holly Grove Lutheran Church



## ADVENT WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES

As the calendar year nears end, the Church's year begins anew in Advent as we wait for the Christ child and the coming of our Lord. All are welcome to join us this Advent for midweek worship from 6:30-7:00 pm. Although each week we will look at a different focus of John 1:1-18, all of the services will be woven together by simple music, dimmed lights, and candlelight.

We hope you'll join your siblings in Christ for Advent midweek worship this season as we together wait, long, and hope for Jesus to be born among us.

### 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.”*

LOVE GROW SERVE

# The Holly Leaf

• 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, YouTube & Instagram!



**Love. Grow. Serve.**



# Birthday & Anniversaries

| Sunday                                   | Monday                         | Tuesday            | Wednesday                          | Thursday                   | Friday                          | Saturday                                  |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
|  |                                |                    | 1<br>Donnie<br>Parsons             | 2<br>Randall Lomax         | 3                               | 4   |
| 5<br>Susan Lohr                          | 6<br>Brandon/<br>Brandy Conrad | 7                  | 8<br>Glenna Garner<br>Nichole Mize | 9<br>Madison Lohr-<br>Pope | 10                              | 11  |
| 12                                       | 13                             | 14                 | 15                                 | 16<br>Brandon<br>Hedrick   | 17<br>Greg Kepley               | 18<br>Johnny Fritts                       |
| 19<br>Caroline<br>Hedrick<br>Colton Rose | 20                             | 21                 | 22                                 | 23<br>Calvin Carrick       | 24                              | 25<br><i>Happy<br/>Birthday<br/>Jesus</i> |
| 26                                       | 27<br>Gene Queen               | 28<br>Elisa Sommer | 29<br>John Lohr                    | 30                         | 31<br>Frank/Jeanine<br>Hamilton |   |
|  |                                |                    |                                    |                            |                                 |   |



# Holly Grove Lutheran Church

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

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I learned a few years ago that one of my favorite Christmas hymns, “Joy to the World,” is actually an Advent hymn. As I’ve been thinking about what I want my Advent to look like this year, the phrase from verse one, “Let every heart prepare him room,” has come to mind multiple times.

I love Christmas and everything about it...the music, the decorating, baking, time with family and friends, and the list goes on. Sometimes I get so excited for Christmas and I get caught up in preparing for Christmas, that I let Advent fall by the wayside. And if I am being completely honest, I really don’t like waiting. I tend to think of waiting as a waste of time. However, when we wait upon God, nothing is wasted—not even time.

So, I want my Advent this year to be a season of preparing room in my heart for Christ as I wait for Christmas to come. I think of the preparations I make when I have guests coming—I clean, I get my guest room ready, I plan meals and stock my fridge. Or think about parents who are awaiting the birth of a child...they nest and prepare their home and the baby’s room for the babe’s arrival.

I want to spend Advent nesting in my heart, preparing room in my heart for Jesus. This might look like removing some clutter in my heart—things that are taking up space that I want Jesus to occupy. It might mean sweeping away some of the dust and debris that gathers. It might mean letting go of some things I have been holding on to that no longer serve me.

As you think about how you can prepare room in your heart for Jesus this Advent, we have several resources available in the Narthex. Additionally, come to the Wednesday evening worship services to pray and hear God’s word.

The temptation is strong to skip over Advent and jump right into Christmas, but God invites us to slow down and wait. And as we wait, “Let every heart prepare him room.”

Waiting with you,  
Pastor Anna



# Church EVENTS



**December 8:** Finance Committee meeting at 6 pm

**December 13:** Council meeting at 7 pm

**December 15:** Senior's meeting at Mt. Tabor at 10:30 am

**December 19:** Children's Christmas Service and play at 10:30 am

**December 20:** AGAPE meeting at 6:30 pm

**December 24:** Candlelight Service at 10 pm

**December 27:** LMIM meeting at 6:30 pm

**Bible Study:** Join Pastor Anna for Bible Study each Tuesday from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.



# December 2021

**Altar Guild-** Kim Troutman

**Mother's Rose Garden-** Eugene Queen-In memory of Betty Queen

**Blessing Box** – Scott & Judy Black – Ted & Sherry Proctor

**Ushers for December** – Michael Willson, Greg Kepley, Herbert Frank, Eddie Heitman, Jane DiBonaventura

---

## 5<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Assisting Minister:** Micky Conrad

**Altar Flowers:** Open

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

## Holy Communion

**Basket Offering:** Staff Bonuses

**Acolyte:**

---

## 12<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Assisting Minister:** Carol Conrad

**Altar Flowers:** Andy & Kristal Ferguson-In honor of Jessica's Birthday

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

## Holy Communion

**Basket Offering:** Staff Bonuses

**Acolyte:** Gracie Ferguson

---

## 19<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Assisting Minister:** Kim Troutman

**Altar Flowers:** Poinsettias

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

## Holy Communion

**Acolyte:** Madison Lohr-Pope

---

## 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

**Assisting Minister:** Debbie Frank

**Altar Flowers:** Poinsettias

## Holy Communion

**Acolyte:** Isabel Heitman

---

## 26<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

**Assisting Minister:** Toni Chapman

**Altar Flowers:** Micky & Carol, Bob & Kim, Todd & Lori-In memory of John Conrad

**Children's Chat:** Joe Davis

## Holy Communion

**Acolyte:** Roseila Sommer



**Please remember to submit your  
Time & Talent sheet**





On Sunday evening, November 28, several families came together to make Advent Wreaths for their homes.





On Sunday, November 7, we honored the Veterans of Holly Grove Lutheran Church. The Fellowship Committee sponsored the making of red, white, and blue lap blankets which were given to each Veteran.



On Tuesday, November 16, the Agape Circle hosted a Baby Shower for three moms as part of the Teen Parent Program. They were excited to receive their baskets full of gifts.



# All Saints Sunday

On All Saints Sunday, November 7, we remembered 34 saints who have died since All Saints Sunday in 2019. We remembered our members:

Lydia York  
Dwight Everhart  
Barbara Kepley  
Burnette Monteith  
Bill Roberts  
Etta Lee Conrad  
Harold Beck

We also remembered extended family and friends of Holly Grove.







Katherine “Kate” Lalah Cecil was received into the Christian Faith by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism at Holly Grove on All Saints Sunday, November 7, 2021.



# HGLC AUGUST 2021 Council Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2021

Call to Order: President Lynn Dennis with the following present: Pastor Anna Carter, Johnny Fritts, Marie Palmer, David Brown, Robert Napolitano, Norris Feeney, Sherry Proctor, Michael Willson, Eddie Heitman

Chip Blower, Judy Thomason and Neil Clark were unable to attend.

Devotions: Robert led us in devotions and Pastor Anna led us in prayer

## **Business Meeting**

### **Approval of Reports**

Minutes of the June 14, 2021 meeting were read. Norris made the motion to accept, Mike seconded and motion passed. There was no meeting held in July.

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

The Treasurer's Report was presented for June. Norris made the motion to accept, Eddie seconded and motion passed.

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

The Treasurer's Report was presented for July. Norris made the motion to accept, Mike seconded and motion passed.

Building Fund: No report

Pastor's Report was presented. Norris made the motion to accept, Mike seconded and motion passed.

### **Pastor's Report July and August 2021**

Done pastoral care by telephone and some in-person visits

Vacation week – June 21 – 27 Joe Davis preached and presided

Taught Bible Study on Wednesdays 7 – 8 pm

Funeral for former member Dale Eddinger on July 17

Planned and prepared for VBS Day on July 24

Worked on Baby Grand Piano donation from Max and Libby

Had two Mutual Ministry Committee meetings

Worked with Finance, Worship and Music and O'Dell Black Gift Committees

Some things coming up:

8/15 – Blessing of the backpacks/outgoing SILLY & Scholarship recipients recognized

9/12 – Rally Day with pot luck meal

9/19 – God's Work Our Hands (service projects in communities)

10/2 – Possible HGLC yard sale

Trunk or Treat

10/31 – Reformation Sunday

11/7 – All Saints Sunday with pot luck meal

Advent

Constitution updates/ O'Dell Black Gift Committee

Recycling

## Correspondence

No correspondence

## Committee Reports

Pastor Anna would like to meet with the ones currently involved with committees at the church. The discussion would involve the current committee structure, whether changes need to be made and plan for the future

## Old Business

A committee has been established to study options for use of the O'Dell Black gift

The new post and mailbox have been completed and waiting for the new office signage and work is almost complete on the outbuilding

## New Business:

Request has been made that there be a basket offering received every Sunday. Mike made the motion and Eddie seconded that we receive basket offering on the first and third Sunday each month. Motion passed.

There was discussion that we need to recruit more members for the Stream Team. Hopes are to try to simplify the streaming for easier operation. Will discuss further.

Holly Grove has been blessed with a gift of a Baby Grand Piano from Max and Libby Carrick. We are so thankful and grateful for this gift. A plaque will be placed on the piano in recognition of this gift.

There was discussion about repair of the ice machine. At this time we will not be making any repairs.

There was discussion about the property next to the church and ballfield. The owner will be contacted to see if there is an interest in selling some of the property in order to get our property lines in better shape.

We reviewed the N. C. Synod Re-Gathering Guidelines for August. All agreed that we strongly encourage our members to follow safe practices to keep everyone safe and well. A letter will be sent to our members.

There being no further business Norris made the motion to adjourn, Johnny seconded and 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 |

# HGLC OCTOBER 2021 Council Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2021

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

Devotions: Johnny led us in devotions and prayer

## Business Meeting

### **Approval of Reports**

Minutes of the September 13, 2021 meeting were read. Chip made the motion to accept, Mike seconded and motion passed.

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

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

Building Fund: No report

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

### Pastor's Report for October

Since our last Council meeting:

I have done pastoral care- telephone, a few in-person visits

I have taught Bible Study

Holly Grove hosted the first session of Confirmation on October 3

Hosted the Synodically Authorized Leadership Team at Holly Grove

Kim, Lateffa and I have been working in the sacristy cleaning, organizing, and doing inventory

We lost two beloved members, Etta Lee Conrad and Harold Beck. Etta Lee's funeral was October 7.  
Harold's will be on October 13.

Honored Joe Davis for being commissioned as a Lay Preacher

Some things coming up:

I am taking four days off – 10/25 – 10/28

10/31- Reformation Sunday – Kate Cecil will be baptized

11/7 - All Saints Sunday

Advent/Christmastide



Constitution updates/Black Gift Committee/continued Finance Committee work

### **Committee Reports**

The Fellowship Committee is planning a Veterans event in November and placing luminaries in December

### **Old Business**

Still looking for volunteers to join the Stream Team

The Fellowship Committee asked the Council to address the ice machine situation. Norris made the motion and Chip seconded that we get an estimate of the cost of installation of a new ice machine. Motion passed

### **New Business**

Neil made the motion and Chip seconded that undesignated Memorial Fund money be used for dry cleaning of paraments as needed. Motion passed.

Council reviewed the Undesignated Gifts Policy. Several changes were made and the policy will be rewritten and reviewed again at our November meeting.

Eddie made the motion and Sherry seconded that Pastor Anna's insurance policy be renewed for 2022. Motion passed.

Norris made the motion and Eddie seconded that the monthly report of giving and over and under the budget amounts, following approval of the reports by the council, be placed in the Holly Leaf. Motion passed.

There being no further business Mike made the motion to adjourn, Eddie seconded and the meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Dennis, President  
Marie Palmer, Secretary

---

Addendum to October 11, 2021 minutes

Via text on Sunday, October 31, 2021

Neil made the motion and Judy seconded to set the date of Sunday, November 21, 2021 for the Annual Congregational meeting to approve the budget and elect new council members.

Motion passed

## **Holly Grove Media Channels**

If you are not receiving emails regularly from the church,  
please contact the church office.

Connect with us on **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/hollygrovelutheranchurch>

(or search for Holly Grove Lutheran Church)

Connect with us on **YouTube**

<https://www.youtube.com/>

(or search for Holly Grove Lutheran Church)

Connect with us on **Instagram**

<https://www.instagram.com/hglclcx/>

(or search for hglclcx)

Holly Grove Lutheran Church  
212 Holly Grove Lutheran Church Road  
Lexington, NC 27292  
{336-249-2807}  
[www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org](http://www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org)

**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)