



Chapel News

A Publication of Lutheran Chapel Church
702 N. New Hope Road
Gastonia, NC 28054
Pastor Michael C. Comer
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APRIL/MAY 2024

Eastertide 2024

Easter is not just a day but a fifty day season. It is the Feast of Feasts and lasts seven weeks. You may note the Bible is replete with “seven” as a symbolical number representing wholeness and completion.

So how do you feast for fifty days? I mean how do you balance a faithful feasting and celebrating without becoming unhealthy? Isn't it strange how virtues and vices may tumble into one another? I love apple pie. Too much apple pie is bad for me. But the right taste, right time, right is just so right! In excess, the wrong act, the wrong time, wrong is just so wrong! Make sense? Please share some ways you keep the feast in 2024.

Consider the resurrection hope. The One who began life at the very first and gives us our very existence, who sustains us heartbeat by heartbeat, this One has been made known to us and the whole world in Jesus the Christ. Jesus alone is the way, the truth, and the life - eternal life, resurrection life, and He calls all of us to hear and believe. What will the resurrection of the body be like? Early Christians pointed to the caterpillar becoming the butterfly. It is hard to accept that I am a caterpillar! I am not what I should be. My understanding, my reason is limited. My capacity, my personhood is in flux. Yet God is calling us forward to become what He wills for us ultimately to be as His children now and forever.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!...O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the Angels rejoice. **Christ is risen, and life reigns.** Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen (**Paschal Sermon**, St. John Chrysostom).

Let us keep these 50 Days from Easter Day to Holy Humor Sunday to Ascension Day and culminating with Pentecost this May 19. Celebrate!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Michael





Worship Assistants

APRIL



	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Acolyte	Renwick Royston	Cameron Bell	Corbin Brown	Luke Hoffman
Crucifer	Maddie Potter	Ethan Lineberger	Jordan Hoffman	Will Clark
Lector	Adrian Thornburg	Sylvia Fogle	Pam Livingston	T. Ratchford
Assistant Minister			Sylvia Fogle	
First Aid/ AED/CPR	Debra Hoffman	Mark Thornburg	Ervin Hoffman	Peery Linkous

Council Members of the Month: Drew Carpenter & Steve Ritchie

MAY

	May 5	May 12 Mother's Day	May 19 Pentecost	May 26
Acolyte	Bryson Lineberger	Elena Hoffman	Hunter Clark	Renwick Royston
Crucifer	Maddie Potter	Bram Comer	Olivia Berghello	Christian Mull
Lector	Debra Hoffman	Josh Carpenter	Amy Brown	Pam Livingston
Assistant Minister			Nancy Witman	
First Aid/ AED/CPR	Gene Weaver	Matt Hoffman	Steve Clark	Crown Hoffman

Council Members of the Month: Seth Myers & Adrian Thornburg

*** If you have a conflict on your scheduled Sunday, please find a replacement and contact the church office. ***

ALTAR FLOWERS ~ APRIL & MAY

April 7 ~ Given by the Bradley Family in honor of Pauline's 87th birthday.

April 14 ~ Given by Charles & Ann Edwards in honor of the members of Lutheran Chapel.

April 21 ~ Given by Steve & Susan Jackson in honor of their 51st anniversary.

April 28 ~ Given by Dan Jenkins in memory of Bill Anton.

May 5 ~ Given by Roger & Jeanette Myers in honor of Anna Leigh Myers' 1st birthday.

May 12 ~ Given by the Children of the Church in honor of the mothers of the church.

May 19 ~ Given by the Hoffman & Lewis families in memory of Ervin & Helen Hoffman.

May 26 ~ Given by Steve Bell in memory of Ma Bell and all those who gave supreme sacrifice.

Cost of flowers is \$55.00. Please be sure to note your payment is for Altar Flowers



Worship Schedule

Sundays

8:30 am ~ Fellowship

9:00 am ~ Sunday School/Bible Study

10:00 am ~ Worship in Sanctuary

We will continue to stream the Sunday Worship Service live for those unable to attend in person.

Wednesdays

7:00 pm ~ Chapel

Simple Evening Prayer / Holy Communion



Come Worship with Us



WORSHIP AT RANKIN LAKE

June 2, 2024

10:00

All are invited to join us for the *Rankin Lake Worship Service* on Sunday, **June 2 at 10:00**.

A catered meal from Grandma Hoyt will be provided. Please bring chairs and anything needed to enjoy time together at the park.

Coming up June 9 - Mark your calendars!



A celebration is planned on June 9th to commemorate an important milestone for Lutheran Chapel - the **100th anniversary of the church building**. A special worship service is planned with a reception to follow in the Family Life Center. We are reaching out to past members and staff, but if you know of anyone that would benefit from a mailed invitation sharing details of the event, please let Beth Swindler know.



HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

If you or your family are interested in receiving Communion in your home, please contact Pastor Michael at 704-787-6439 to set up an agreeable time for him to visit.

APRIL

MAY

- ⇒ *Esther Circle* will be meeting on Monday, April 8 at 10:00 in the **Fellowship Hall**.
- ⇒ *Rebecca Circle* will gather at the **home of Suzie Ward** on Monday, April 8 at 7pm. Gwen Lewis will provide the program.

- ⇒ *Esther Circle* will be meeting on Monday, May 6 at 10:00 in the **Fellowship Hall**.
- ⇒ *Rebecca Circle* will gather at the **home of Joan Riddle** on Monday, May 6 at 7pm. Jenny Williamson will provide the program.



ATTENTION OWLS!

(Older Wiser LutheranS)

Join us for our next *OWL-standing* time of fellowship!

Strawberry Hill

(Chesnee, SC)

Thursday, April 18

11:00am

The church van will leave at 9:45am.

MAY'S LOCATION — TBD

Clothing Giveaway ~ April 13th

The *Outreach Committee* will be hosting an indoor/outdoor Clothing Giveaway on **Saturday, April 13th** and *could use your help!* Many hands make light work for setting up and breaking down.

We need help with setting up beginning at 8:00 am and breaking down at 1:00 pm. Breakfast biscuits, snacks, water and sodas will be available for all volunteers. Please prayerfully consider helping with this service to our community.

FREE Clothing Giveaway!!!



FROM THE TREASURER...

Lutheran Chapel Income Statement Actual vs Budget for 2 months ending 02/29/24:

	Actual February 2024	Actual YTD	2024 Budget YTD	2024 Budget Over/(Under)
Receipts	\$ 46,866.62	\$ 69,169.06	\$ 62,916.67	\$ 6,252.39
Distributions	\$ 20,791.04	\$ 57,735.23	\$ 62,904.83	\$ (5,169.60)
Net Cash	\$ 20,791.01	\$ 11,433.83		



**Treasurer
Report**

The second month of the year's donations exceeded expenses by over \$20,000, making up the deficit from the first month of \$9,000 for a net total for the year to date of over \$11,000 in the black. A significant amount of the net donations for February have been earmarked for the Courtyard Beautification Project.

If you have any questions, please contact Ken Obenauf, Treasurer or Terry Ratchford, Finance Committee Chair.

LUTHERAN CHAPEL
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES
March 17, 2024

Council made decisions and discussed the following:

- A financial report was presented and overall Lutheran Chapel is in good shape and in the black.
- Courtyard beautification project will begin April 1, 2024. Pavers have been ordered to represent donations and memorial gifts.
- Crown will do a temple talk on Palm Sunday regarding Juan's status. If anyone has questions, they should contact Jason Sanders.
- Kathy Riebe had been given permission by the executive committee to ask Jeannette Myers to fill in on the piano for choir rehearsal and anthems. Jeanette will fill in temporarily.
- A new organist search committee was formed and includes Crown Hoffman as chair, Seth Myers, Mark Thornburg, and Debra Hoffman as secretary only.
- New Administrative Assistant, Rebecca Shaw, has been hired as of April 1. She will be shadowing Kim for training. Kim has agreed to come back in April to train her.
- Pastor Michael reported that the Seminary in Columbia, SC is moving to Lenoir Rhyne College by January 2025. Pastor reviewed the year for 2023. He also advised that Novus Way, the camps at Luther Ridge, Luther Ranch, Luther Rock, and Luther Springs is struggling with a million plus dept. Radical restricting of the budget and selling land from sites such as Luther Ranch in Georgia.
- The next clothing giveaway is scheduled for April 13.
- The Security Committee has put a new MVR in place and signs are being put out about the security.
- The Property Committee reported that the beautification project has started. The work on the flat roof has been completed. A handrail was put in the stairwell on the choir side. Max Baxter will be installing rain guards around the family life center.

The next full council meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2024 at noon.

CAM Food Drive

During the month of April, our church family will participate in our major food collection for Crisis Assistance Ministry. Crisis Assistance Ministry would not be possible without the financial gifts, food donations and volunteer hours that our congregation and other churches provide. Our participation helps ensure that CAM has an adequate food supply and enough money to meet the requests for assistance that they receive each month. Also, CAM provides utility, rent or mortgage and prescription assistance.

Food donations can be brought to church during the month of April or anytime that is convenient for you. Bags can be placed in the blue CAM food box located in back hallway of the Education Building. Also, food can be placed in the assigned basket in the narthex. **Of course, we collect food year-round for CAM, however, April is our assigned month to emphasize the importance of our food donations.** The Social Ministry Committee will deliver the food to Crisis Assistance. We are always proud of the generosity of our church family, and we know that we can count on all of you to make our food drive a successful one.

Current needs are:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Canned Meats | • Spaghetti Sauce & Noodles | • Pancake Mix & Syrup |
| • Canned Soups & Crackers | • Grits & Oatmeal | • Personal Care Items |
| • Canned Fruit | • Cereal | |
| • Rice | • Canned Vegetables | |



Congregational Cookout ~ May 14 @ 6:00 pm

Please plan now to attend a cookout on Tuesday evening, May 14th @ 6:00PM in the picnic shelter sponsored by Men of the Church.

There will be hamburgers, hotdogs, and all the trimmings. If you desire, bring a lawn chair, and come to have a good meal, relaxation, and conversation with our church family. Hope to see you there.

CHURCH
COOKOUT



GRADUATION RECOGNITION



If there are any high school or college graduates that would like to be recognized in the *June newsletter*, please contact the Church Office by **Friday, May 15**. Thank you!

I realize spring just began but summer will be here before you know it and we'll be moving into our summer lifestyle.

So, during the summer months, we will have different musical offerings. The choir will continue to help us worship but they will not be singing special musical offerings until the end of August.

The choir has had quite a year. And we say a heartfelt thank you to each of them for praising God in our presence and helping us worship. We are looking forward to the fall and their return with special choral worship.

This summer we have something Very special planned to help us draw closer to God in our expression of worship. We will be welcoming musicians from our community to share with us during our worship time. We would also like to welcome musicians from the community around us. Some of these musicians have been playing or singing for a long time. Some of them are newer in their musical expressions. We are excited to be able to offer them a venue to praise God through music.

If you have vocal or instrumental skills that you would like to offer to God during our worship, please contact me so we can schedule a day for you to play or sing. No matter your skill level, you are welcome to praise God through your offering. If you know someone who has these skills, please contact me or have them contact me. They are welcome to join us as we offer the gifts God has given to His glory.



Music
Corner

SEND A NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Betty Little
Covenant Village
1351 Robinwood Rd.
Apt. A-205
Gastonia, NC 28054



Helen McCarter
ARP Manor
2900 Union Road
Apt. 114
Gastonia, NC 28054

*"The LORD bless you and keep you;
The LORD make his face shine upon
you and be gracious to you;
The LORD turn his face toward you
and give you peace."*

~Numbers 6:24-26



LOVE OFFERINGS

APRIL ~ *Lutheran Services Carolinas*

Our love offering ministry for April will be Lutheran Services Carolinas. Lutheran Services is an agency of the North and South Carolina Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and is one of the largest non-profit child and family service agency in the Carolinas, serving thousands of people annually through the following services:

- Adoption - regular and special needs
- Adult Residential Services
- Child and Youth Residential Services
- Disaster preparedness and response
- Family and individual counseling
- Foster care - family, therapeutic and medically fragile
- Homelessness prevention
- Refugee and resettlement and immigration
- Veterans' services



LSC serves in **Gaston County** through foster care, services to people with developmental disabilities, its partnership in Senior TLC program and Dallas High School Apartments.

- Lutheran Services Carolinas has purchased the Dallas High School Apartments which provide low-income Gaston citizens with a nice, comfortable, safe place to live.
- LSC is a founding partner of the Senior TLC Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) which serves Gaston, Cleveland, and Lincoln counties. PACE is a Medicare program and Medicaid option for North Carolinians who need skilled nursing but wish to stay in their own home.
- Mountain Ridge group home in Gastonia provides a safe home for six adults with developmental disabilities.

Lutheran Services Carolinas works in partnership with congregations, governmental agencies, and other human service providers to promote healing and wholeness for the Carolinas' most vulnerable people.

Please consider contributing a love offering to support Lutheran Services Carolinas so that they may continue their ministry and strengthen their outreach to people in need.

MAY ~ *Habitat for Humanity*

Our love offering for May will be sent to Habitat for Humanity of Gaston County. Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit Christian based ministry dedicated to eliminating substandard housing. Funds for the construction of homes are obtained through financial contributions from individuals, churches, and businesses. The homes are sold to qualified families at no profit and financed with affordable, no-interest mortgages repaid over 20 years. Mortgage money is then recycled back to build more homes for families in need. Habitat is not a give-away program. Habitat relies heavily on volunteers for construction in all homes. The work is a cooperative effort between volunteers and new home buyers who contribute labor to build their homes.

To date, Habitat for Humanity of Gaston has built more than 126 homes in Gaston and is currently building in a neighborhood in North Belmont on donated land. To date, six Habitat homes have been completed in Dixon Village, with families occupying three homes. Habitat for Humanity also has a home repair program.

Please prayerfully consider giving to this ministry so that Habitat will continue to grow and help even more families so they will have the opportunity to become a homeowner.

Thank you for your support of both these ministries!

Social Ministry Committee

LCC Preschool News

- ◇ Preschool Graduation will be held in the Family Life Center on June 1 at 10:00am.
- ◇ The last day of the Spring Session is May 30.
- ◇ Preschool will be closed from June 3 - June 17.
- ◇ The Summer Session will run from June 18 - August 8 on a three day schedule (Tues-Wed-Thurs).
- ◇ The Fall Session will begin August 26.



LET'S CELEBRATE!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Meredith Andrews	2	Nancy Rankin	16
Hunter Clark	3	Gwen Lewis	18
Robert Andrews	4	Sara McArver Halfhill	19
Amanda Angstadt	4	Nancy Homovich	20
Ben Bryant	5	Isabella Mull	20
Chris Clark	5	Kathy Finch	21
Sue Beutler	8	Laura Lilly	21
Seth Myers	9	Vicki Stokes	21
Suzie Ward	9	Mark Thornburg	21
Hunter Angstadt	10	Pam Thornburg	21
Flay Anthony	10	Madison Potter	23
Craig Behringer	10	Adrian Thornburg	23
Pauline Bradley	10	Ariel Burgoon	24
Zoe Bradley	11	Heather Moretz Elkin	24
Weslee Davis	11	Eula Ritchie	24
Betty Little	11	Jennifer Tamberella	24
Cathy Robinson	12	Adam DeLuca	25
Rick Peak	13	Carolyn Lineberger	26
Trish Ratchford	13	Rhonda Putnam	26
Jake Rhyne	13	Kelly Stokes	26
Dan Lineberger	14	Dana Bird	28
Elliott Anthony	16	Beth Swindler	29

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Chris & Ann Lowe	8
Erin & Katie Potter	10
John & Kathie Riebe	16
Crown & Kate Hoffman	22
Steve & Susan Jackson	27
Scott & Wendy Robinson	30



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the office know so that we can enter it into the database.

LET'S CELEBRATE! (CONT.)

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Erin Williamson.....	2
Abigail Hester.....	4
Rebecca Hester-Salazar.....	4
Clayton Lewis.....	4
Evan Escobedo.....	7
Keith Yarborough.....	9
Josh Carpenter.....	10
Anna Myers.....	10
Zachary Beam.....	12
Marty Lineberger.....	13
Jesse Beam.....	15
Hannah Myers.....	16
Andrew Bell.....	17
Debi Jean Wankel.....	23

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Michael & Star Finch.....	2
Charles & Christa Heilig, III.....	8
Doug & Heather Nigbor.....	15
Carlton & Barbara Peacock.....	19
Jason & Lisa Bradley.....	22
Michael & Ginny Comer.....	22
Ben Bryant & Mark McCauley.....	25
Leon & Kay Moretz.....	27
Blair & Pam Thornburg.....	31



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please let the office know so that we can enter it into the database.



FROM THE MAILBOX...

I want to thank my church family for all the cards, phone calls, and visits over the past months since I received my diagnosis. I especially thank you for all of your prayers. We at Lutheran Chapel are children of God and He hears the prayers of His people. Paul writing to the Philippians in Chapter 4 tells them to be anxious for nothing but in every situation present your requests to God. And the Peace of God WHICH PASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Praise be to God!

Your Sister in Christ,
Myra Weaver

*Thank!
you!*

Dear Lutheran Chapel,

Words cannot express how grateful I was for the generous monetary gift and the lovely reception you held in my honor last month. My family was quite impressed! (The baked goods were delicious...we thoroughly enjoyed the leftovers we brought home!) I was touched by your caring words, well wishes, thoughtful cards and gift cards. Thank you!


It has been a blessing to serve as your Administrative Assistant for the past four and a half years and an honor to be a part of the Lutheran Chapel family. I treasured the warmth, kindness, words of encouragement and love received during my tenure. And all the prayers prayed during Paul's time of need were so much appreciated.

The friendships made and experiences gained at Lutheran Chapel will stay with me forever!



Warmest Regards,

Kim Rundzieher

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  <i>Office Closed</i>	2 NO Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm)	3 NO Preschool	4 NO Preschool	5 9:00 CBS (FH)	6 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
7 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	8 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Esther Circle (FH) 7:00 Rebecca Circle @ Suzie Ward's home	9 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm)	10 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Prayer (Ch)	11 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)	12 9:00 CBS (FH)	13 9:00 Clothing Giveaway (set-up begins @ 8am) 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
14 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:05 Luther Choir 11:35 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	15 8:30 Preschool Newsletter Articles Due	16 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:15 W & M Mtg. (YH) 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm)	17 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Prayer. (Ch)	18 8:30 Preschool 11:00 OWLS @ Strawberry Hill, Chesnee. SC	19 9:00 CBS (FH)	20 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
21 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Confirmation (YR) 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	22 8:30 Preschool	23 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm)	24 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Prayer. (Ch)	25 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L) 5:30 Private Event (FLC)	26 9:00 CBS (FH)	27 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)
28 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:05 Luther Choir 11:35 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)	29 8:30 Preschool	30 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 5:30 CBS (CR/CH/4 CIRm)				

May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>5 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Confirmation (YR) 11:05 Luther Choir 11:35 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)</p>			<p>1 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Prayer (Ch)</p>	<p>2 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)</p>
<p>6 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Esther Circle (FH) 7:00 Rebecca Circle @ Joan Riddles's home</p>	<p>7 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday</p>	<p>8 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Prayer (Ch)</p>	<p>9 8:30 Preschool 10:30 Preschool Luncheon (FLC/Kit) 11:00 Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH) 12:00 Private Event(FLC)</p>	
<p>12 <i>Mother's Day</i> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)</p>	<p>13 8:30 Preschool 6:30 Via de Cristo (FH)</p>	<p>14 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday 6:00 Congregational Cookout (P)</p>	<p>15 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Prayer. (Ch) Newsletter Articles Due</p>	<p>16 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)</p>
<p>19 <i>Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday</i> 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:30 Chancel Choir 12:00 Council Mtg. (CR) 8:00 Faith Group (FH)</p>	<p>20 8:30 Preschool</p>	<p>21 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday</p>	<p>22 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Prayer. (Ch)</p>	<p>23 8:30 Preschool 11:00 Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 9:30 Hungry Peeps (FH)</p>
<p>26 8:30 Fellowship 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:05 Luther Choir 11:35 Chancel Choir 8:00 Faith Group (FH)</p>	<p>27 <i>Memorial Day</i>  <i>Office Closed</i></p>	<p>28 8:30 Preschool 10:00 Clothing Closet Workday</p>	<p>29 8:30 Preschool 5:30 Chapel Ringers 7:00 Evening Prayer. (Ch)</p>	<p>30 8:30 Preschool-Last Day 11:00 Bible Study (L)</p>	<p>31</p>	

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Chapel News

APRIL/MAY 2024

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lutheranchapelchurch.org

www.facebook.com/lccgastonia

MISSION STATEMENT: We at Lutheran Chapel Church are called by God to PROCLAIM Christ as Lord and Savior; to SEEK and INVITE the unchurched into the fellowship of faith; to SERVE God and to NURTURE one another's faith and spiritual growth by being a loving, caring and compassionate community of believers.