

Monthly Newsletter of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

September 2024

#### The Pastor's Pen

#### **HOMECOMING 2024**

Homecoming will be celebrated at New Jerusalem on Sunday, September 29. We will observe Service of the Word at 10:30 am since it is on the Fifth Sunday of the month. Our guest preacher will be The Rev. D. Brent Nichols. Pastor Nichols and his wife Lynne live near Greer, SC. Pastor Nichols is retired after serving St. Paul Lutheran Church, Pomaria, SC for over 30 years. Pomaria is located about 30 miles west of Columbia, SC in the heart of what is called The Dutch Fork. Pastor Nichols and his wife Lynne have raised three children, David (now a pastor), Andrew, and Elizabeth. Pastor Nichols and I were classmates at The Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary located in Columbia, SC back in the 1980's and have remained close friends over the years. Pastor Nichols came to New Jerusalem in 2003 to baptize our sons, Jacob and Luke. We look forward to a festive time, seeing old friends, and of course eating some very good New Jerusalem cooking at the covered-dish meal to be served following the worship. So, make your plans to join us for homecoming on September 29 and invite others to come and celebrate with us!

Sincerely, together in ministry, Pastor Cauble

## Early Services of Holy Communion in September



September 8 8:30 am Outdoor Chapel

September 22 8:30 am Outdoor Chapel

#### INVITE OTHERS TO COME AND WORSHIP WITH US!

If the weather does not permit us to worship outside, we will worship in the sanctuary at 8:30 am.

#### Church Council

### Mark Your Calendars



Sunday, October 20 Lutheran Women's Sunday (Including SOS Recognition and Blessing of the Quilts)

> Sunday, October 27 Reformation Sunday

Sunday, November 3 Daylight Saving Time Ends All Saints Sunday

#### Friday, November 22

Set up for Senior Friends Bake & Craft Sale (5:30 pm – 7:30 pm)

> Saturday, November 23 Senior Friends Bake & Craft Sale (9:00 am – 1:00 pm)

> > Sunday, November 24 Thanksgiving Service (10:30 am

**Tuesday, November 26** Decorate Chrismon Tree & Sanctuary (6:30 pm)

> Thursday, November 28 Thanksgiving Day

**Sunday, December 1** Hanging of the Greens Service (10:30 am)

> Tuesday, December 24 Christmas Eve Service (8:00 pm)



Are you interested in serving on church council? Election for church council is fast approaching. If you would be willing to serve or would like to serve, please put your name on the yellow legal pad located in the Gathering Room (narthex). The election of four new council members will take place in early November, so please give it some thought and prayer.

#### Finance Committee



The Finance Committee will meet in fhe Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, September 24 at 6:00 pm to establish a budget for 2025. If any committee has a financial request, please submit it to the Finance Committee.

#### Choir Rehearsal



Choir rehearsal starts September 11.

Do you know what the happiest, most fun hour of the week at New Jerusalem is? Well of course, it is 6:00 on Wednesday night! Come join us as we sing praises to the Lord and have fun and fellowship with each other! We would love to have you! We hope you join us from 6:00 - 6:50. And then if you are so moved, you can stay and join the handbell choir as well!

#### Homecoming



Homecoming will be held Sunday, September 29. A covered dish meal in the Fellowship Hall will follow the 10:30 am Service of Worship.

#### **Operation Christmas Child**



Our Operation Christmas Child project is beginning this month. The Service committee is partnering with the Learning, Youth, and Family Committee and the

Newton Elks Lodge #2042 for this year's project. Our goal is to fill 150-160 shoeboxes and to send a check to Samaritans Purse for the processing fee for each box. We will collect donations this Sunday, September 1 through Sunday, November 17. National collection week is 11/18/23-11/25/23. A display and collection boxes are located in the Gathering Room. If you would like to make a financial contribution, write "Operation Christmas Child" on your offering envelope.

#### Senior Friends Annual Cookout



#### You are invited to our Senior Friends Annual Cookout

You are invited to our Senior Friends Meeting on Wednesday, September

18<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30. We will have hamburgers and hotdogs with all the fixings. Those not signing up for other food items are asked to provide the desserts. Our program focuses on good food and fellowship as we near the end "of the good ole' summertime!" A brief meeting will follow the meal. Hope to see you in September!

#### Calendar Collection



Each year the Catawba County Council on Aging distributes calendars to senior citizens in our community. If you have 2025 calendars (any size) you would

like to donate, please see Elaine Garner. If your name is on the calendar, please mark it out with a black permanent marker.

#### Life-to-Life Discipleship

A Christian disciple studies and learns from Jesus, following His example and the guidance of His Spirit.

[Jesus] called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." (Mark 8:34) NIV

Together we grow in deepening our relationship with Jesus as we practice denying self, taking up our cross, and following Him.

If you plan to attend the 2024 Fall Session of *Life to Life Discipleship*, but have not yet registered, please call the church office before Wednesday, **September 4<sup>th</sup>** to let Kristy know to prepare materials for you.

- Large group sessions begin Sunday, September 8, 12:30-2:30

   (A light lunch will be served at 12:30 or a few minutes before)
   New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
- Large group meets weekly for 7 weeks, then takes a one week break and begins meeting every other week for 8 sessions. Small groups meet between large group sessions
- All materials are provided and will be available to you on September 8.

Questions or concerns? Call the New Jerusalem church office (828-324-7272), Pastor Cauble (828-228-3061), or Candice Johnson (834-509-9293).

We look forward to seeing you on September 8.



# Highlights

# Wednesday, August 21, 2024

NJLC Senior Friends meeting was held on Wed., Aug. 21 at 11:30 with **31 people present**. Several sign-up sheets were circulated (for Mt. State Fair/Friday, Sept. 13), "My Fair Lady"/Thurs., Oct. 10, and signup sheet for Annual Senior Friends Cookout/Wed., Sept. 18.) The Cookout sign-up will be posted in the Gathering Room by Sunday. If you would still like to bring something, please feel free to do so with a dessert or other things.

Paulette Abernethy presented the devotions. The August birthdays and anniversaries were recognized. Pastor Harwood Smith shared the meal prayer. Following the meal, Betty Orovitz introduced our guest speaker: Gentry Wade, Communications Director at Pregnancy Care Center (PCC) of Catawba Valley. Gentry provided a very informative program highlighting the various programs available at PCC. Appreciation was expressed for all of the gifts donated (based on Wish List distributed at our July meeting).



#### Additional business:

- Reports: Sandra Bollinger reviewed meeting highlights from our July meeting and Glenda Shook shared the Treasury Report. A thank you letter has been received from Salvation Army Food Pantry for our recent donation (from the Congregation Cookout).
- On Fri., July 26, had 14 people went to see the Waldensian play "From This Day Forward." Reported the play was wonderful (even though it ended early because of rain) and everyone is encouraged to go see it.
- Show of hands (i.e. a full bus load!) shared they were interested in returning to Southern Supreme in Bear Creek, NC—known internationally for their fruitcake. We'll investigate possibly going this fall (late Oct. or beginning of Nov.). It has also been requested to have a return trip to the Cornerstone Christian bookstore in Boone.
- Thurs., Oct. 10 is **"My Fair Lady" (Dinner Theatre)**. Reservations and **\$37 due by Aug. 25** to Sandra Bollinger. She will be making reservations on Monday, August 26.
- Mountain State Fair reservations due Sun., Aug. 25. The Fair trip takes place Fri., Sept. 13 with departure from NJLC at 7:30am. We'll stay at the Fair until after lunch then head to the Asheville Farmer's Market.
- Approved donating \$100 for partial payment on the newly purchased Blackstone grill.
- Elaine Garner spoke on calendar collection—which runs from now until Jan. 15. Calendars will be donated to the Council on Aging. Last year she was able to pass along 180 calendars.
- In September we'll make nominations to receive money from our Nov. Bake & Craft sale. Everyone is urged to give advance thought and prayer as you consider who you would like to nominate. Our ministry can be an outreach beyond the community or our congregational budget.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Barbara Hamrick/ Co-Pres. Sandra Bollinger, Secre.

LOOKING AHEAD: September devotions: Kristy Painter September Hostesses: Sandra Bollinger, Kathe Canupp, Linda Lutz, Jeanne Sigmon Next meeting is Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 September Annual Cookout: Fellowship (No program)

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# Church Council Meeting Minutes

#### August 12, 2024

(Motions are in **BOLD** and Actions are Italicized)

The August 2024 Church Council meeting was held August 12, 2024. All members of Church Council were in attendance except Deron Bumgarner. The meeting was called to order by President Ken Temple. Karen Teague led devotions. Ken Temple will lead the devotions in September. BJ Morgan was council designate in July and stated that the air upstairs in the educational building wasn't working one Sunday, but it was fixed really quickly. Everything went well otherwise. The minutes for the council meeting held July 8, 2024, were approved as written.

<u>Treasurer Reports</u> were received as information and show the following month end balances.

Allocations:	Benevolence:	Youth:	Lutheran Men:	Phillips Fund Checking:
\$7 <i>,</i> 958.98	\$ 9,644.90	\$734.95	\$752.50	\$9,511.89
Available:	Current CD:	Women's:	Mauser Fund CD:	Phillips Fund CD:
\$71,705.92	\$63,498.67	\$766.47	\$85,007.08	\$22,170.62
Building:	Building CD:	Cemetery Fund:	Cemetery CD:	
\$158,711.01	\$103,878.87	\$9,342.33	\$16,395.02	

#### Pastor's Report (July 2024):

#### **ACTIVITIES FOR JUNE 2024**

Pastoral Contacts – 50; including: Home Visits – 7 Nursing Home Visits – 5 Hospital Visits – 8 Pastor's Study – 12 Other – 18

Meetings – 20 Services of Worship – 6 One funeral for Ray Teague – June 17, 2024, at Hickory Funeral Home. The burial was at Catawba Memorial Park. Day Camp – June 16-21

#### **ACTIVITIES FOR JULY 2024**

Pastoral Contacts – 27; including: Home Visits – 3 Nursing Home Visits – 2

Pastor's Study – 7 Other – 15

Services of Worship – 3 Meetings – 9

June saw the passing of long-time member Ray Teague. Ray's Service of Christian Burial was held at Hickory Funeral Home on June 17, 2024. Ray was buried at Catawba Memorial Park.

Day Camp was held at New Jerusalem during June. We had at the most 12 campers in attendance. I am doubtful if we will host Day Camp next summer. Most camps have around 20 to 30 campers.

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church • 2120 Startown Rd. • Hickory, NC 28602 Office: 828-324-7272 • Web: www.NJLCHickory.com Of course, much of June and July was spent in the hospital as a patient. I am so very glad to be at home and back at work. Thank you for all the support we have received and continue to receive. I will be on vacation the week of August 19-26. Pastor Steve Johnson will be on standby and will preach and lead worship at both services on August 25.

Together in ministry, The Rev. Randall A. Cauble Pastor

**Update on Pastor Cauble:** He met with his nephrologist. They will do a PET Scan to make sure the cancer is nowhere else in his body. He will also meet with a cardiologist before having surgery to remove the kidney.

#### Congregation $+/\Delta$ :

- Rusty Lutz thanked the ladies on staff for the extra work they have done during Pastor Cauble's absence. Megan has done an excellent job leading the outdoor services.
- Megan's Work Schedule We know Megan works for two congregations plus has a full-time job. We need to make sure that she has off the one Sunday per month that is in her contract.
- Cleaning A request has been made that we have the pew pads cleaned. They have not been professionally cleaned since they were purchased in 2018. Property committee will look into options.
- Janitorial service: After a first review in May, this is our 60-day follow up on janitorial services.
  - We are getting a repeat visit to clean bathrooms again on Fridays, but it seems to be to hit the high spots.
  - The windows, nooks, and crannies are still not being cleaned, and much of the floors are not being swept or cleaned over many weeks (under pews, in SS rooms).
  - The kitchen isn't clean and there are weeks-old spiderwebs and cobwebs in the less traveled areas, behind and under cabinets, behind bathroom doors, for example.
  - Suggest adding a "deep clean once per quarter" to the janitorial job description. Will also add a monthly vacuum of pew seats and pads.

#### Announcements/Petitions and Communications:

- Thank you notes from:
  - Carolina Caring (for gift of \$250)
  - The Corner Table (for donation to the Backpack Program of \$94.00)
  - CRU on behalf of Matt and Sabrina Pursley (for donation of \$1,650)
  - Family Care Center (for donation of \$750)
  - Pregnancy Care Center (for gift of \$1,048)
  - Lutheran Bible Translators (for gift of \$1,650)
  - Catawba County Council on Aging (for gift of \$500)

#### Old Business:

- Outdoor Worship Area Update
  - Dan Shabeldeen is still working on the final design. He said it should be ready next week.
  - $\circ$   $\;$  There has been progress made on the road leading to the outdoor chapel. Shrubs will also be added.
  - It was mentioned that the catch basin may be too close to the road. We may move it two feet off to the side of the road.

#### **New Business:**

- Loose Offering
  - September 1 Youth and Family Ministry of NJLC
  - September 8 Catawba Council on Aging
  - September 15 Catawba Council on Aging
  - September 22 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes
  - September 29 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes
    - The youth may participate in doing the shopping this year.
    - Everett Chevrolet has been a collection point as well. Last year they sent over 6,500 boxes to Samaritan's Purse. They need volunteers to pack the boxes. This could be a volunteer opportunity for us.

#### Ministries: (Pastor is a member of all committees):

Cemetery Committee (John Lutz and Rusty Lutz)

- Donald Barger Sr.'s plaque has been installed.
- Ralph and Linda Preslar want to give up their plots.
- We have 60 open plots. 40 are reserved. 4 are unknown. 11 of the remaining 60 are single plots.

#### Property Committee (Danny Black and John Lutz):

- Robert and John will get quotes for cleaning the pew pads.
- Nursery
  - Drainpipes have been replaced so the ceiling can now be painted. John got a quote to repair and paint the ceiling in the nursery and hallway (\$1,748). The Property Committee made a motion to get the ceiling repaired and painted. Karen Teague seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  - John also got a quote to re-carpet nursery for \$2,087. The Sunday school committee will pick out which carpet to purchase. He will also get quotes for replacing the carpet with carpet squares.
- We received a quote for \$1529 to re-carpet landings and stairway.

#### Fellowship Committee (Karen Teague) -

- No meeting.
- Homecoming
  - Homecoming will be September 29. Pastor Brent Nichols (who baptized Jacob and Luke Cauble) will preach. A covered dish meal will follow the service.
  - We will collect \$5 from each council member at the September Council meeting for the Homecoming flowers.

#### Finance and Stewardship Committee (Deron Bumgarner)

- Committees need to review their 2024 budget amount and make any recommended changes to the Finance Committee by mid-September. Finance will meet in September to plan for 2025.
- Website
  - The calendar is not updated. Alan was keeping it updated, but he wasn't receiving any feedback. We may take the calendar out and just add a note to read the newsletter to view a current calendar.
  - Megan's bio needs to be added.

- We currently do not livestream from the website. With the camera we have, you have to pay a fee to stream to multiple outlets. With our current Facebook settings, you can only view the livestream if you are a friend of the church on Facebook.
- Matthew currently updates and maintains the website for \$200/month. It was suggested that we invite him to a future council meeting to check in with him.
- Alan has a list of the original website committee members if they need to meet to review any changes needed.

Learning, Youth, and Family Committee (Lisa Cook, Robert Hoyle, and Jan Sorrells)

- Met September 12.
  - Over the last month
    - Wednesday night cooking class will be rescheduled soon.
    - VBS was held at St. Martin's.
    - Shopped for school supplies for Catawba County Schools and for children in Loris. We filled 42 backpacks.
  - Looking Forward
    - The New Jerusalem back-to-school event has been rescheduled for Sunday, August 25.
    - We will need volunteers for the new Sunday School rotations format. If you are interested in volunteering, please come to the planning meeting scheduled for Sunday, August 25.
    - There will be a meeting Sunday, September 8 from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm to plan events for next year.
    - Confirmation will be starting in the fall. The schedule will be distributed to the families in the next few weeks.
- We are currently reviewing our Child Safety Guidelines.

Long Range Planning Committee (Rusty Lutz and Danny Sorrells) -

- Met Sunday, August 4 to review the 2021 Strategic Plan with the main focus being on the Property Committee.
  - We discussed whether or not we should look towards building a Family Life Center and/or childcare center. It would be a lot of money, but it may also attract more young couples. There are grants from places like CVCC. There are no motions for council. Right now, we are just discussing possibilities.
  - We have five teams using the ball field. So far, we have not received new members based on ball field usage, but we are glad that the community is able to use our facilities. We should take the opportunity to invite them to youth events.
- A follow-up meeting will be held Sunday, September 15 at 8:30 am.

Service Committee (BJ Morgan and Karen Teague)

- We donated 39 pounds of food this month.
- Meeting soon to discuss Operation Christmas Child and Thanksgiving Box Meals. Our goal is to pack 150-160 shoeboxes and distribute 20-25 boxed meals this year.

#### Witness Committee (Betty Scipione and Ken Temple) –

- No meeting.
- Betty Scipione suggested that we send invitations to members we haven't seen in awhile for homecoming Sunday. Megan volunteered to design the postcard and Kristy will print them. Council members were asked to use their designated list from the yearbook and send the postcards to those we have been missing. They will also be placed in the bulletins for members to send to friends and neighbors.

#### Worship Committee (Pastor Cauble and Betty Scipione) -

• Had a meeting, but there is nothing that needs to be brought to council at this time.

#### P.R.O.M. (Please Remember Outreach Ministry

Dear New Jerusalem... OUR "PLEASE REMEMBER OUTREACH MINISTRY" is still in need of help in our visitation and phone contact ministries. Our congregational "need" is great and continues to grow.

The P.R.O.M. team does its best to live as Matthew chap. 25:31-46 Christian disciples. In Matthew 25:40 Jesus tells us "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it for me." Our shut-ins, homebound, hospitalized, in nursing homes and those just in need of a friend, continue to increase. Can you help? Please let a team member know. Thank you and God bless you! Mike Scipione

P.R.O.M. Summary for July 2024

- (87) Individual Contacts
- (23) Nursing home visits
- (8) Homebound visits
- (87) Cards sent
- (10) Electronic sign changes that reached hundreds of passers-by
- (4) Prayer Vigils
- (9) NJLC Facebook Group posts

P R.O.M. Team: Jennifer Bumgarner,

Barbara Hamrick, Donna Bunton, Wayne Cashion, Carolyn Miller, Betty and Mike Scipione

#### Next Council Meeting: Monday, September 9, 2024, at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Ken Temple, President Lisa Cook, Secretary

September Birthdays	Council Designate	Ken Temple
1 – Salem Shannon, Laura Holland 3 – Jan Sorrells 4 – Linda Preslar, Vicki Adams	Teller Committee	*Ken Temple Alan Bolch Cindy Coulter
<ul> <li>5 – Janet Spinks</li> <li>6 – Emory Lamberth</li> <li>7 – Shirley Poovey, Carolyn Elliott</li> <li>8 – Rusty Huffman, Sadie Hoyle, Bella Hewitt</li> <li>9 – Kay Mundy, Paula White</li> <li>11 – Glenda Mitchell, Leann Barger</li> </ul>	Altar Committee	Julie Temple, Chm. Pat Bolch Jenny Morgan Carolyn Robinson
12 – Carolyn Riggs	Acolyte	Sandra Bollinger
<ul> <li>13 – Rachel Barba</li> <li>14 – David Hefner</li> <li>15 – Robin Hutchins, Hans Robinson, Emilia Barba</li> </ul>	Pastor's Assistant	Candice Johnson
<ul> <li>16 – Billy Young, Jerry Settlemyre</li> <li>17 – Scott Lael</li> <li>18 – Margaret Alice Rader</li> <li>19 – Patty Shull, Pastor Cauble, Allen Cook, Abbey Kate Floyd, Kylee Queen</li> <li>20 – Allison George</li> <li>21 – Donna Bunton</li> </ul>	Flowers in the Church September 1 September 8 September 15 September 22 September 29	Dennis and Cindy Coulter Open Danny and Jan Sorrells Open Church Council
<ul> <li>24 – Shari Abernethy, Ann Kanupp, Katherine Cook, Elara Kanupp</li> <li>25 – Gill Kanupp</li> <li>27 – Trish Scronce</li> <li>28 – Julie Temple, Nick Helms</li> </ul>	Ushers	Dennis Weaver, Chm. Wesley Reid Robert Hoyle Paul Kurzyna
29 – Jennifer Morgan, Rusty Lutz, Ronald Hefner, Andrea L. Young	Tape Ministry	
30 – Redgie Miller	Sept. 1 Sept. 8 & 15 Sept. 22 & 20	Connie Bumgarner Robert Hoyle
Thank You for Serving in September	Sept. 22 & 29	BJ Morgan
New Jerusalem Lutheran Women	Yard Maintenance & M	
	Cant 1	D

Group #1	Tuesday, September 3 6:30 pm – Fellowship Hall
<b>Group #3</b> Prog	Monday, September 9 2:00 pm – Gathering Room ram Leader – Carolyn Robinson
Group #4	Monday, September 9 7:00 pm – Gathering Room Hostess – Glenda Shook Leader – Sandra Bollinger
Quarterly Meeting	Monday, September 30 7:00 pm – Gathering Room Group 1 will host the meeting.

Sept. 1	Danny Sorrells, Dale Lutz
Sept. 8	Deron Bumgarner, Paul Kurzyna
Sept. 15	Danny and Ryan Black
Sept. 22	Danny Sorrells, Hans Robinson
Sept. 29	Wayne Cashion, Danny Black



# September 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 9:30 am – Sunday school 10:30 am – Service of Holy Communion	2 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED **	3 <b>1:00 pm</b> – Piece Makers <b>6:30 pm</b> – Women's Group #1	4 <b>7:00 pm</b> – Handbell Choir Rehearsal	5 <b>6:00 pm</b> – American Heritage Girls	6	7
8 8:30 am – Early Service 9:30 am – Sunday school 10:30 am – Service of Worship 12:30pm – Life to Life Discipleship 12:30 pm – Youth Planning Meeting	9 2:00 pm – Women's Group #3 6:30 pm – Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm – Women's Group #4	10 <b>1:00 pm</b> – Piece Makers	11 <b>6:00 pm</b> – Chancel Choir Rehearsal <b>7:00 pm</b> – Handbell Choir Rehearsal	12 <b>6:00 pm</b> – Bible Journaling Group	13	14
<ul> <li>15</li> <li>9:30 am – Sunday school</li> <li>10:30 am – Service of Holy Communion</li> <li>12:30pm – Life to Life Discipleship</li> <li>2:30 pm – Confirmation Meeting</li> </ul>	16	17 <b>1:00 pm</b> – Piece Makers	18 <b>11:30 am</b> – Senior Friends <b>6:00 pm</b> – Chancel Choir Rehearsal <b>7:00 pm</b> – Handbell Choir Rehearsal	19 <b>6:00 pm</b> – American Heritage Girls	20	21
22 8:30 am – Early Service 9:30 am – Sunday school 10:30 am – Service of Worship 12:30pm – Life to Life Discipleship	23 <b>6:00 pm</b> – Bible Journaling Group	24 <b>1:00 pm</b> – Piece Makers <b>6:30 pm</b> – Finance Committee	25 <b>6:00 pm</b> – Chancel Choir Rehearsal <b>7:00 pm</b> – Handbell Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28
29 (Homecoming) 9:30 am – Sunday school 10:30 am – Service of the Word 12:30pm – Life to Life Discipleship	30 <b>7:00 pm</b> – NJ Lutheran Women Quarterly Meeting (Gathering Room)					Paraments 1 – Green 8 – Green 15 – Green 22 – Green 29 - Green

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