



News Journal

Monthly Newsletter of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

May 2025

The Pastor's Pen

AN EASTER CHRISTIAN!

(Reprinted from May 2023 Newsletter)

In the past, to be called a CEP Christian was, while truthful, may have been a little derogatory. It meant that you only worshiped on Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. All other times, you were missing in action. To be an Easter Christian is one who not only worships on Easter Sunday, but lives the Easter life of hope, joy, faith, and new beginnings. It is a life of faith that carries us through every Sunday, every day, of the year. To be an Easter person is a compliment. It means that we look at every situation in life through the lens of Resurrection faith. Jesus overcame death and the grave and we too shall one day do the same. We might say that "God has got this." He can handle all our needs and desires for a happy, faithful life. To be an Easter Christian is to be all that God wants us to be as we interrelate with our fellow Christians and even non-Christians in a society that begs for good news, peace, and hope. In the face of everyday violence, the world hungers for people who will reach out in Christ's loving, holy name practicing forgiveness and love. BE AN EASTER CHRISTIAN!

In the faith of the Resurrection,

Pastor Cauble

Early Worship Returns in May



May 11

8:30 am

Service of Holy Communion
(Outdoor Chapel)

May 25

8:30 am

Service of Holy Communion
(Outdoor Chapel)

*If the weather does not permit us to
worship outside, we will worship in
the Adult Assembly Room.*

Invite others to come and worship
with us!

Chrismon Ministry Make-and-Take



THE CHRISMON MINISTRY is sponsoring a congregational **Make-and-Take Chrismon Workshop** on **Thursday, May 8 at 9:30 am** in the **Fellowship Hall**. Everyone is invited to come and make your own **angel Chrismon**, which is yours to keep. Please let Kathe Canupp or Sandra Bollinger know if you plan to attend by **Sunday, May 4**. We'll then know how many kits to prepare.

Office Hours



Due to the declining health of Kristy's mom, she will be working remotely some days. The following is her new schedule:

In office

Tuesday and Friday
(9:00 am – 1:00 pm)

Remotely

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday
(9:00 am – 1:00 pm)

Outdoor Worship Area

The work in the Outdoor Worship area has been completed! The stream was diverted, the bridge was rebuilt, new trees were planted, and additional handicap parking was added. Thank you to Dan Shabeldeen of Shabeldeen Engineering and to everyone who worked so hard to get this done.



Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Senior Friends Highlights



NJLC Senior Friends monthly meeting was held on Wed., Apr. 9 at 11:30 with **29 people present** (28 members and 1 guest). **Welcomed two new members: Debbie McGee and Paula White.** Following greetings, it was noted that today's meal of pork bar-b-que with all the fixings was prepared by the Senior Friends Executive Committee. Thanks were expressed to Allen Cook for cooking the BBQ and the Executive members who came Saturday to shred and chop the meat. Thanks were also expressed to the members who provided the desserts and our hostesses Brenda Arrowood and Dennis Weaver (filling in for Kay). Audrey Rozzelle presented the devotions. I "Mint" to... cards with an attached mint were distributed to all those present. The card's wording was shared by Doris Lutz and mints were provided by Barbara Hamrick.

It was noted that our guest speaker, Katie Bencken from Pediatric Hospice, was unable to attend today because of a roll-over car accident the day prior. A special card was circulated for all to sign for her. Also unable to attend today was Doris Lutz and Linda Lutz because of the funeral today of Doris' sister. The April birthdays were recognized and included Betty Scipione, Teresa Vanderlinden, Glenda Shook, Linda Lutz, and Kay Weaver. There were no anniversaries. Several additional prayer concerns were also shared. Pastor Orovitz shared the meal prayer. Following our delicious BBQ meal, a brief business meeting was held.

Business:

- Reports: Sandra Bollinger shared highlights from our March meeting. An invitation to Teresa Vanderlinden's 80th Birthday Celebration on Sat., April 12th at 6:00 pm at NJLC (*No gifts please*) was shared. Sandra also invited all ladies present to the Mother's Day Banquet on Mon., May 12 at 6:30 pm. Reservations due by April 27th. Kathe Canupp invited those interested in making an angel chrismon (theirs to keep) to let her know. The Make-and-Take Chrismon Workshop will take place in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, May 8th at 9:30 am.
- Glenda Shook shared the April's treasurer's report. It was noted the cost of the pork (for the BBQ) from Mayes Meat in Taylorsville came to \$129.42. Collected the offering.
- Thanks expressed to the individuals who provided items from Katie Bencken's Wish List. Sandra will make contact with her soon to make arrangements for the delivery of collected items.
- Noted 25 people were able to attend the dinner theater "9 to 5: The Musical!" on March 27. Everyone seemed to really enjoy the meal and program.
- Gift cards for the GALA Fund Raiser at Corner Table were collected. Those that have not donated yet may give their cards to Barbara Hamrick or Glenda Shook and they in turn will be given to Board Member Betty Sheaves. The GALA event takes place May 9th—would encourage to give cards as soon as possible so the raffle baskets may be prepared.
- Need volunteers to do devotions for our August and October meetings. Let Sandra know if you are willing.
- **Planning a trip to Daniel Boone Inn for breakfast & tour of the mountains on Friday, June 13. Sign-up sheet will be available at our May meeting. Bus leaves NJLC at 7:00 AM. Sign-up deadline is May 25.**
- Following the meal, the remaining BBQ was sold at \$10/lb. All money raised is going to the Samaritan's Purse for Western NC Disaster Relief. All of the BBQ was sold and we collected just shy of \$300. Thank you for your support.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Barbara Hamrick, Co-President

Sandra Bollinger, Secretary

LOOKING AHEAD: May devotions: Teresa Vanderlinden
May Hostesses: Connie Bumgarner, Janet Dameron, Betty Sheaves
May Program: Piece Makers (NJLC Quilting Committee)
Next meeting is Wednesday, May 21st at 11:30

Upcoming Trip with Senior Friends

*Are the mountains calling your name?
Does breakfast at Daniel Boone Inn
in Boone sound appealing?*



...and we know you'd probably love to spend some time touring the mountains. Our final stop as we come down the mountain might be Dairi-O in Lenoir (with hotdogs, burgers, wraps, salads, and more, plus over 30 flavors of premium ice cream.)

WHO: Senior Friends and Guests

(Translated: We're open to everybody that can go.)

When: Fri., June 13, 2025. Depart from NJLC @ 7:00!

Cost: Daniel Boone Inn (\$16.95 + tax & tip—pay there!)

Suggestion: You might want to bring cash or a check.
Their website says they don't accept debit or credit cards.

How: Dennis Weaver will be driving us on the **church bus**
(Cost: \$8 per person—pay while you're riding on the bus)
and we'll have some driving their **personal vehicles**.
Several volunteers to drive have already signed up.

Reservation Deadline: If you want on the list to go, we need your name by SUNDAY, MAY 25 so we can make reservations for the Daniel Boone Inn in Boone. Please notify either Sandra Bollinger or Barbara Hamrick if you'd like your name on the Reservation List.

Church Council Meeting Minutes

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

The April 2025 Church Council meeting was held April 14, 2025. All members of Church Council were in attendance except Lisa Cook and Danny Sorrells. The meeting was called to order by President Ken Temple. Robert Hoyle led devotions. Deron Bumgarner will lead the devotions in May. Karen Teague was council designate in March and stated there were trash bags left in random places one Sunday, but everything else went well. Some members of council also shared that various doors have been left unlocked, including the door to the choir room and the Fellowship Hall. Kristy will add notes in the bulletin and newsletter asking that the last person to leave checks the doors to make sure they are locked. The minutes for the council meeting held March 10, 2025, were approved as presented.

Treasurer Reports were received as information and show the following month end balances.

Allocations: \$9,324.46	Benevolence: \$16,887.75	Youth: \$2,584.75	Lutheran Men: \$797.56	Phillips Fund Checking: \$ 31,233.27
Current Available: \$59,236.27	Edward Jones Acct: \$31,806.71	Women's: \$529.50	Mauser Fund CD: \$87,814.79	Building: \$161,856.45
Current CD: \$50,000	Cemetery Fund: \$11,067.32	Cemetery CD: \$15,000	Outdoor Worship Grant: \$81,733.00	

Pastor's Report to Council:

April 14, 2025

- Pastor Johnson described the upcoming Tenebrae service.
- We received the Weaver family on Sunday, March 30 as members. Isaac Weaver was also baptized.
- The Shannon twins will be baptized May 11 at the Outdoor Chapel.
- The healing service was meaningful for those in attendance. It was nice having Miller's Lutheran Church join us and to connect with another sister congregation. We appreciate the assistance of Pastor Todd Cook and his wife Wendy.
- Pastor Johnson presided over the funeral of Anita Huffman Thursday, April 3. Her family is Lutheran, but without current connection to a church. When the funeral home asked him to preside, Pastor Johnson thought it would be a good opportunity to open a door and reconnect them with the church.
- He reminded everyone that the Mission Region Convocation will be held May 2-3. Dennis Bollinger will be our delegate.
- Pastor Johnson has a possible missionary partner in mind, but he would like for this person to be able to speak with Ken Temple first. He works with an outreach ministry to Bosnian Muslims in Florida.

Congregation +/-:

- Cleanliness of the Fellowship Hall
 - Several live silverfish have been found in the kitchen. It may need to be sprayed.
 - Robert talked to John. He will call Dodson Pest Control.
 - Fellowship Hall floor has been sticky and may be contributing to the bugs.
 - All groups are asked to please clean after the use of the Fellowship Hall kitchen and dining area.

Announcements/Petitions and Communications:

- The May council meeting will be held upstairs above Kristy's office due to the Mother's Day Banquet being held in the Fellowship Hall.

Old Business:

- Outdoor Worship Area Update – got the final invoice.
 - The final invoice from Shabeldeen Engineering for \$78,000 has been received. This amount includes paying the contractors who worked for him.
 - To date we have paid a total of \$18,267 (\$8,500 to Max's Digging, \$767 to NCDEQ for permits, and \$9000 to Shabeldeen Engineering). \$3,733 remains from the \$100,000 grant.
 - **Rusty Lutz made a motion to use the balance from the grant to grade and pave an area for handicap parking and to redo the bridge with the remaining money and use the Building Fund for anything over the \$100,000.** Robert Hoyle seconded the motion. *The motion passed unanimously.*
 - Right now, the invoice from Dan Shabeldeen incorrectly shows that the work is 87% complete. He will be asked to change the invoice to reflect that the work is 100% complete.
- We now have a new person maintaining our website. Alan worked with Adam Stafford to set guidelines. Copies of the guidelines were distributed.
- Privacy on our website and social media pages
 - Our current Child Protection policy doesn't state anything about posting pictures.
 - Minors are protected and there can be legal issues even with signed permission, but having permission from parents would help. However, our aim is to protect our children and elderly populations regardless of legal ramifications.
 - That can get copy of what the county uses that were drawn up by lawyers.
 - Forms would need to be signed by parents (or in the case of our elderly members, someone in their family). The forms would need to be re-signed periodically.
 - A few guidelines to consider:
 - Make sure no nametags or identifiable information is shown in the picture.
 - Take pictures showing the backs of their heads, but not their faces.
 - Besides photos, personal information such as addresses and phone numbers shouldn't be posted without written permission regardless of age.
 - Whoever has access to the New Jerusalem sites must be aware of the policies in place and serve as gatekeepers. The problem is that there are seven admins. We may need to limit the number of people who can post.
 - To attract young members, we still need a social media presence.
 - There are steps we can take to continue having a social media presence while still honoring the wishes of parents. For example, we can put a sticker the shirt of children whose parents don't with for their child's picture to be taken.
 - Robert will aim at the camera at cross during children's sermons.

New Business:

- Loose Offering
 - May 2 – Youth and Family Ministry of NJLC
 - Remaining Sundays in May – Pregnancy Care Center

- Vacation for Kristy
 - **Ken Temple made a motion for Kristy to receive two weeks of vacation each year.** Karen Teague seconded the motion. As treasurer, Alan Bolch asked if this was to be paid or unpaid vacation time. Council decided that it would be paid vacation. This will be based on a 20-hour work week for a total of 40 paid vacation hours. *The motion passed unanimously.*
 - The goal is for Kristy to have two weeks of vacation per year where she is not responsible for typing and printing the bulletins. In order for this to occur, we need people to fill in while she is gone. Ken has created a list of potential members and will contact them soon so that Kristy can train them before she goes on vacation July 5-12.
- Kristy's work schedule
 - Due to Kristy being needed to help take care of her parents during this time, she will begin working remotely several days per week.
 - She will work remotely Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. She will be in the office Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Homecoming
 - Homecoming will be Sunday, September 21. Our guest preacher will be Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky.
 - Pastor Johnson is brainstorming themes for that Sunday.

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

Cemetery Committee (Rusty Lutz):

- We would like to thank John Lutz for the work he has been doing to level the grounds at the cemetery. He has added a lot of topsoil and worked to raise the footstones. The Cemetery Committee recommended that he turn in invoices for reimbursement for the topsoil.

Property Committee (Thad Scronce):

- Grounds workday
 - The grounds workday went well. Eight or nine men worked that day in addition to the American Heritage Girls who helped spread pine needles. The Property Committee would like to give a big "Thank you" to the girls for their help.
 - Cindy Coulter stated that the men and girls did a wonderful job and that the grounds look really good.
- Dale Lutz is working on some sounding boards to absorb sound in Fellowship Hall. He is looking to hang 4x8 panels.
- Girders for the bridge at the Outdoor Chapel area will be set Saturday.

Fellowship Committee (Karen Teague):

- Met Sunday, April 6.
- The receptions for Bishop Selbo and the Weaver family went well.
- We are doing something different from the candy bars for Mother's Day and Father's Day.

Finance and Stewardship Committee (Deron Bumgarner) – No meeting.

Learning, Youth, and Family Committee (Lisa Cook and Callie Southers)

- Paul Kurzyna and Paulette Abernethy took the youth to the district retreat at the beach. We had four students and one leader in training to attend.

- The presentation of Confirmation projects went well. Two youth still need to present.
- Thank you to Callie Southers, Paul Kurzyna, Rhonda Kiser, and Ronnie Gwaltney for helping with the Easter egg hunt.
- VBS will be held July 8-10.
- Megan is planning to have the youth go on a local mission trip and a national or international trip on alternating years.
- The storage building has been wired for electricity and now has fans and lighting. Thank you to the Property Committee for this upgrade!

Long Range Planning Committee (Rusty Lutz and Danny Sorrells) – No meeting.

Service Committee (BJ Morgan and Karen Teague)

- We donated 30 pounds of food this month.
- We will meet Tuesday, April 29 at 6:00 pm in the Gathering Room. All are welcome to attend.

Witness Committee (Robert Hoyle and Ken Temple) -- No meeting.

Worship Committee (Pastor Cauble, Cindy Coulter, and Jack Robinson) –

- Pastor Johnson met with staff to discuss Holy Week and Easter Season services.

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

Visitations – 25; Greeting Cards – 86; Phone Contacts – 23; E-sign messages – 24; Facebook Group page – 10; Tuesday night Prayer Vigils – 4; Total Individual Contacts – 134; Total group contacts – countless

Next Council Meeting: Monday, May 12, at 6:30 pm upstairs in the main building.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Ken Temple, President

Lisa Cook, Secretary

May Birthdays

2 – Libby Mauney, Ray Teague, Barbara Hamrick
3 – David Rhodes, Joyce Buffington
5 – Sadie Southers
7 – Jimmy Preslar
9 – Wesley Cline
10 – Connie Bumgarner
12 – George Whitener, Jeff Seitz, Alan Bolch,
Quinton Mitchell
15 – Lee Bumgarner
16 – Michael Seitz
17 – Pat Bolch, Doris Lutz
18 – Camellia Barger
20 – Brianna Cook, Kate Reid
21 – Margot Rollins
23 – Jamie Wright
24 – Betty Orovitz
26 – B.J. Morgan
27 – Deron Bumgarner, Corbyn Spurrier, Janet
Dameron
29 – Alex McNeely
30 – Abbey Lutz
31 – Thad Scronce

Thank You for Serving in May

Lutheran Men	No Meeting
Lutheran Women	
Group #1	Tuesday, May 6 – 6:30 pm
Group #3	Monday, May 5 – 2:00 pm
Group #4	Monday, May 5 - 7:00 pm Hostess/Leader – Cindy Lutz
Council Designate	Deron Bumgarner
Teller Committee	*Deron Bumgarner Billy Young Wayne Cashion
Altar Committee	Dana Hoyle, Chm. Jenny Morgan Julie Temple Kay Weaver
Acolyte	James Helms
Read Lessons	Candice Johnson

Help with Communion Sandra Bollinger

Flowers in the Church

May 4	Open
May 11	New Jerusalem Lutheran Women
May 18	Pat and Alan Bolch
May 25	Frankie Fulbright

Ushers Deron Bumgarner, Chm.
Jimmy Purgeson
Dennis Weaver
Bob Lutz

Tape Ministry

May 4	Connie Bumgarner
May 11	Connie Bumgarner
May 18	Robert Hoyle
May 25	Robert Hoyle

Yard Maintenance & Mowing

May 4	Jacob Hewitt, Doug Owens
May 11	Danny Black, Ryan Black
May 18	Justin Shannon, Nick Lombardi
May 25	Nick Helms, Thomas & James Helms

Looking Ahead

VBS July 8-10

Homecoming September 21, 2025
Bishop Emeritus John Bradosky will be our
guest preacher

Please Note:

Several doors have been left unlocked. If you are the last person to leave, please remember to check to make sure the door is locked.



May 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Paraments 4 – White 11 – White 18 – White 25 – White				1 6:00 pm – American Heritage Girls	2	3
4 9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Service of Holy Communion (Birthday Celebration following the Service) 1:30 pm – Confirmation (NJLC)	5 2:00 pm – Women’s Group #3 7:00 pm – Women’s Group #4	6 10:00 am – Bible Study 1:00 pm – Quilters 6:00 pm – Bible Study 6:30 pm – Women’s Group #1	7 6:00 pm – Chancel Choir 7:00 pm – Handbell Choir	8 9:00 am – 12:00 pm – Chrismon Make & Take 6:00 pm – Bible Journaling Group	9	10
11 8:30 am – Service of Holy Communion (Outdoor Chapel) 9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Service of Holy Communion	12 6:30 pm – Church Council Meeting 6:30 pm – Mother’s Day Banquet	13 10:00 am – Bible Study 1:00 pm – Quilters 6:00 pm – Bible Study	14 6:00 pm – Chancel Choir 7:00 pm – Handbell Choir	15 6:00 pm – AHG Awards (Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall)	16	17
18 9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Service of Holy Communion 1:30 pm – Confirmation (SMLC)	19	20 10:00 am – Bible Study 1:00 pm – Quilters 6:00 pm – Bible Study	21 11:30 – Senior Friends 6:00 pm – Chancel Choir 7:00 pm – Handbell Choir	22	23	24
25 8:30 am – Service of Holy Communion (Outdoor Chapel) 9:30 am – Sunday School 10:30 am – Service of Holy Communion	26	27 10:00 am – Bible Study 12:30 pm – Bible Journaling Group 1:00 pm – Quilters 6:00 pm – Bible Study	28 6:00 pm – Chancel Choir 7:00 pm – Handbell Choir	29	30	31