



# News Journal

Monthly Newsletter of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

June 2026

## From the Pastor's Desk

A disciple is someone who is in a training process led by a teacher or master. A disciple of Jesus learns from Jesus who they are and what it means to live as children of their heavenly Father. Leviticus 19:2 says, "The LORD spoke to Moses saying, 'Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.'"

The word 'holy' comes from a word that means 'weighty,' as in the phrase "He sure carries a lot of weight around here." Or in other words, "He has much influence and power." The word carries with it also a sense of being different, set apart. God is holy because he is unlike anyone else: powerful creator, merciful, loving, forgiving, just and righteous.

For us to be holy as our God is holy means we think and live as he does. We 'see' the world as he sees it. Our attitudes are His attitudes. We should be like Jesus who said, "I and the Father are one," and "If you have seen me you have seen the Father."

Being a part of the gathered faithful, the Church universal, means we walk together, one redeemed sinner with another redeemed sinner, following Jesus, our Master and Lord and Savior. To believe in Jesus and follow him means we live as He lived (and still lives). We love our enemies, pray for those who persecute us, give without expecting in return, share the good news with everyone because everyone

needs the word of hope and forgiveness.

On the morning of June 7 we will witness the public profession of faith of six of our youth. This confession involves a renunciation of the devil and all his ways and a commitment to follow Jesus. These youth have been full members of the Body of Christ since their baptism and will take on adult responsibility in the congregation. That means we who have already made this public profession (one way or another) will mentor and guide these youth as they grow in faith and in their walk with Jesus.

Discipleship is a training process that we will all be in until our dying day. It is a lifelong journey of learning to be like Jesus. May God give his Holy Spirit to us so we may be empowered to walk as children of our heavenly Father.

In His service, I am

Pastor Dave

## Early Services in June



**Sunday, June 14 – 8:30 am**

Service of Holy Communion  
Outdoor Chapel

**Sunday, June 28 – 8:30 am**

Service of Holy Communion  
Outdoor Chapel

Invite others to come worship  
with us!

## Our New Jerusalem Graduates



### High School

**Thomas Helms**, son of Nicholas and Amanda Helms, graduated from Fred T. Foard High School on Thursday, May 21, 2026, where he was recognized as a Cum Laude honor student. This fall, he will attend East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee.

**Kate Reid**, daughter of Wesley and Jennifer Reid, will be graduating from Fred T Foard May 21<sup>st</sup> Summa Cum Laude. She has been taking her classes at CVCC her senior year and has become the president of the science club while there as well a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society. Kate will continue her education at NC State in the university Honors program in the fall where she plans to study environmental science.

### College

**Charlie Hoyle**, son of Robert and Dana Hoyle, graduated from McDaniel College in Westminster, MD. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Cinema-Theatre Arts with a minor in Religious Studies.

**Landon Scronce**, son of Thad and Sarah Scronce, graduated from Appalachian State University with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice.

## Eddie Kanupp Family Fishing Event



**THE ANNUAL EDDIE KANUPP FAMILY FISHING OUTING** will be held Sunday, June 7 at 2:30 pm. It will be held at Carolyn Robinson's house. We will have hotdogs and drinks.

Please plan on this great time.

## VBS

**VBS** is around the corner, and we are ready to illuminate for Jesus. VBS will be July 14<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:45 pm to 8:30 pm with the Water slide and Ice Cream on the evening of the 16<sup>th</sup>. We are looking for volunteers so be on the lookout for ways you can serve.



## Call Committee Update



The Call Committee continues making progress on the congregational profile and hopes to have it completed soon. We are especially grateful to college graduate Charlie Hoyle for assisting with the video and pictorial montage portion of the profile. Thank you, Charlie, for sharing your time and talents with us!

Once the profile is finalized, it will be shared with the congregation before being posted on the NALC site.

## Free Keyboard



**Ron and Betty Orovitz** have a Radio Shack piano keyboard MD1700 with stand and music instruction books. They would like to give it to anyone who could use it. Contact them at 828-261-5337.

## Thank you



Dear Friends at New Jerusalem, Harwood and I want you to know how much we appreciate your thoughts, prayers, and the lovely cards you have sent to us over the past several months. They have meant so much to us. We have missed coming to church more than I can say. May God bless each of you.

Fondly,  
Barbara and Harwood Smith



To my second church family, What would I do without you? Every day when I check the mail, I have at least one card from someone in this congregation. I want to thank you for that and for so much more. Thank you for the prayers, phone calls, texts, emails, Facebook messages, hugs, and words of encouragement. Thank you for the dish garden that you all sent to the funeral and for the donation that you made to my mom's church in her memory. You really know how to make a girl feel loved! I know I've said it before, but I'll say it one more time. Thank you for the support and love you have shown me since my mom was diagnosed in 2019. She had a long battle, but she finally won. She is in the loving arms of our Savior and there is no better place she could be!

With a grateful heart,  
Kristy

## Everyone is Invited

### Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>

On June 7th, our Confirmation students will be confirmed at New Jerusalem during the 10:30 am worship service. Before worship, beginning at 9:30 am, the students will be sharing their personal testimonies and responding to faith-based questions from members of the congregation. This is a meaningful moment where they publicly express their faith and reflect on their Confirmation journey. We would love for EVERYONE to come. Your presence not only supports our students but also welcomes them into the congregation as young adults in the faith.

Following the Confirmation service, we will host a Cake and Punch Reception to celebrate our students. Megan is looking for volunteers to help with setup, serving, and cleanup. If you are able to assist, please contact Megan Gwaltney.

**Calling all students and adults!** Summer is around the corner and we have some big plans. Please sign up no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>; there is a link for the Signup Genius on the youth Facebook page or you may text Megan. Friends are welcome!

- **Mission Trip to Loris, SC - June 22** through June 27/28 - Graduating 5th grade through high school graduates. We will be doing service projects (demolishing playground, painting, community home projects, etc.) and VBS. If you need to pick up early - no problem!
- **NALC Continental Youth Gathering - July 7-10 in Roanoke, VA.** Graduating 5th grade through High School. An adult coordinator will be needed as Megan will not be able to attend.
- **Local Mission and Lunch Week- July 27<sup>th</sup> through July 31<sup>st</sup>.** Rising 4th graders through high school graduates. Each day we will be going to a non-profit to serve alongside of them for the morning and then we will have lunch together. Parent and Adult leader help will be essential for this to happen. Sign up for one day or all 5 days.

## Bible Study Information



Summer is almost here! What a good time to jump into something new! Sharing time in God's Word in the fellowship of other believers might be just what you need! Group Bible study has a way of deepening our faith in amazing ways, and we have several opportunities for you to do that here at New Jerusalem. Each of our Bible studies is open to everyone, at any time - no need to wait for a new session to begin.

### **Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am**

A study on the Miracles of Jesus  
Fellowship Hall

### **Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm**

The Book of Acts  
June 2 – Gathering Room  
June 9 – Fellowship Hall  
June 16, 23, 30 – Gathering Room

### **Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am**

(June 3, 10, 24)  
Basic Christianity  
Bollinger/Yount Room

### **Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm**

Basic Christianity  
Fellowship Hall

We hope to see you there!

## 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.  
We're discussing several additional stops, so be prepared for a full day.*

**WHO:** Senior Friends and Guests

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

**When:** **Fri., June 5, 2026.** Depart from NJLC @ **7:00 AM!**

**Cost:** Daniel Boone Inn (\$16.95 (?) cost of meal+ 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:** We will be using the **church bus** (Those riding on the bus will be asked to help pay for gas fill-up.) We'll have some driving their **personal vehicles**.

**Reservation Deadline:** **If you want on the list to go, we need your name by our Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> Senior Friends Meeting—so we can make reservations for the Daniel Boone Inn in Boone. Please notify Sandra Bollinger if you'd like your name on the Reservation List—whether you plan to ride on the bus or in a car.**

# Senior Friends

## Highlights



## Wednesday, May 20, 2026

NJLC Senior Friends gathered on May 20 with **43 present (34 members, 6 guests, 1 child)**. Greetings were extended by Vice-Pres. Wayne Cashion. Circulated two sign-up clipboards: Cookout on May 31<sup>st</sup> & final sign-up for Daniel Boone Inn for breakfast on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Recognized seven May Birthdays and two anniversaries. Prayer concerns were shared and welcomed Gerald Ferguson back with us today. Sandra Bollinger presented the May devotions. Pastor Orovitz gave the meal prayer.

Following our meal, everyone enjoyed our program, **Faith**, Comfort Dog – presented by Sandy Matthews and Laura Bahlmann. They gave us a glimpse into the training, daily life and positive effects of Faith—a trained Golden Retriever belonging to St. Stephens Lutheran Church and School in Hickory. She is a trained LCC (Lutheran Church Charities) K-9 Comfort Dog. She interacts with people at churches, schools, nursing homes, hospitals, events, and in disaster response situations. There are currently 130 dogs trained across 27 states. Faith is NC's only trained Comfort Dog. For more information, contact the church @ 828-256-9865, visit [www.sslcms.org/comfortdog](http://www.sslcms.org/comfortdog), [comfortdog@sslcms.org](mailto:comfortdog@sslcms.org), or visit Faith's own website at [Faith@K9Comfort.org](http://Faith@K9Comfort.org).

The business session included the following:

- Reports: Sandra Bollinger reviewed highlights from our April meeting. Pastor Dave and Kathy Hefner have officially joined our Senior Friends group. Glenda Shook shared the treasurer's report.
- Wayne expressed our thanks to today's hostesses, for our monthly cards and for table decorations.
- Reminder shared again: Wolfhart Dinner theater in Wytheville, VA is performing the *Church Basement Ladies* in June and July. The phone # is 276-223-0891. Senior Friends is **not** planning a group trip.
- On Friday, April 26, 18 people enjoyed ice cream at the Riverbend Creamery.
- Reminder to sign up to help at the May 31 hot dog/hamburger lunch. Love offering goes to NALC Disaster Relief, Western NC. The sign-up sheet will now be posted on the Gathering Room bulletin board.
- The Worship Committee and some members of the Senior Friends Executive Committee agreed to combine the congregation cookout with a **Patriotic Sing Along**. Connie Bumgarner & Carolyn Miller will make the music selections and copies of the words for songs. We request those attending the cookout to remain for the sing along in celebration of our country's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- Reminder today is the last sign-up day if you plan to go to Daniel Boone for breakfast followed by shopping in the mountains. Takes place on Friday, June 5 and leaving at 7:00 am.
- Handouts were shared inviting all widows and widowers for a free supper meal on 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month (except holidays) at The Rose, 108 South Center St, Hickory.
- Elaine Garner shared briefly about our upcoming June program and encouraged everyone to try and attend.
- A few pictures were taken and will be sent to the Call Committee as they develop a Congregational Profile. If you have any pictures from our activities, email to Barbara or Sandra and we will forward them to the committee.
- **Not shared but MOI:** The HUB in Hudson is presenting the play "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" and dinner prepared by Daniel Boone Inn. Daytime show is June 24 with snacks, but no meal. Dinner theater is June 24-27 - ticket sales started May 19. Call for your tickets at 828-726-8871. Also, US Postal Service has requested a postal rate increase. If approved, the regular postage stamp for letters and bills will go from 78 cents to 82 cents, effective July 12.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Wayne Cashion, Vice-President      Sandra Bollinger, Secretary

---

**LOOKING AHEAD: June devotions:** Betty Scipione  
**June Hostesses:** Carolyn Elliott, Paula White, Betty Sheaves  
**June Program:** Pastor Don Bledsoe & wife Helen  
**Next meeting is Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30**

## June Birthdays

2 – Pete Lutz, Jennifer Bumgarner  
 3 – Carson Kanipe  
 5 – Terry Evans, Sarah Scronce, Leighton Southers  
 6 – George Lutz  
 8 – Sarah Lail, Vivian Bumgarner, Tori Lutz  
 9 – Linzey Marley  
 10 – Pressley Kiser  
 11 – Shay Bollinger, Lauren Bullard, Jennifer Stephens, Donna Barger, Preston Seitz, Betty Purgeson  
 13 – Joshua Riggs  
 14 – Madison Clark  
 16 – Katelyn Rousey  
 17 – Maggie Kanipe  
 19 – Marty Kanupp  
 21 – Emma Davis  
 23 – Theia Kanupp  
 25 – Eli Kanipe, Emma (Temple) Parrish  
 26 – Jamie Yount  
 28 – Judy Hildebran

## Thank You for Serving in June

<b>Council Designate</b>	Callie Southers
<b>Lutheran Men</b>	June 7, 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm Family Fishing Event Carolyn Robinson’s Pond
<b>Lutheran Women</b>	
Women’s Group #1	June 9, 6:30 pm Gathering Room
Women’s Group #3	June 8, 2:00 pm Gathering Room Leader – Doris Lutz
Women’s Group #4	June 1, 7:15 pm Gathering Room Hostess – Debbie McGee Leader – Sandra Bollinger
Quarterly Meeting	Monday, June 29, 7:00 pm Fellowship Hall Group 1 will host and lead devotions.
<b>Acolyte</b>	Rusty Lutz

<b>Teller Committee</b>	*Callie Southers Alan Bolch Cindy Coulter
-------------------------	---

<b>Altar Committee</b>	Carolyn Robinson, Chr. Glenda Shook Karen Teague
------------------------	--

<b>Pastor’s Assistant</b>	Janet Lynch
---------------------------	-------------

<b>Flowers in the Church</b>	
June 7	Paula White
June 14	Open
June 21	Ken and Julie Temple
June 28	Open

<b>Ushers</b>	Robert Hoyle, Chm. Thad Scronce Landon Scronce Nick Helms
---------------	--

<b>Tape Ministry</b>	
June 7	Robert Hoyle
June 14 & 21	BJ Morgan
June 28	Connie Bumgarner

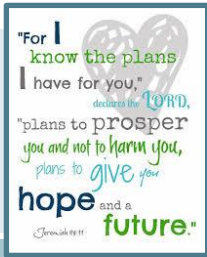
<b>Yard Maintenance &amp; Mowing</b>	
June 7	Allen Cook, Jose Barba
June 14	Doug Owens, Jacob Hewitt
June 21	Don Barger Family
June 28	John Lutz Family

## Looking Ahead

<b>July 14-16</b>	VBS
-------------------	-----

<b>Sept. 13</b>	Back-to-School Community Event
-----------------	--------------------------------

<b>Nov. 7</b>	Fall Festival w/ Trunk or Treat
---------------	---------------------------------



# June 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	<b>1</b> <b>7:15 pm</b> – Women’s Group #4	<b>22</b> <b>10:00 am</b> – Bible Study <b>1:00 pm</b> – Quilters <b>6:00 pm</b> – Bible Study	<b>3</b> <b>10:00 am</b> – Bible Study	<b>4</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> – Bible Study	<b>5</b> <b>7:00 am</b> – Senior Friends trip to Dan’l Boone Inn	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> <b>9:30 am</b> – Sunday School <b>9:30 am</b> – Confirmand Testimonies <b>10:30 am</b> – Service of Holy Communion, Confirmation, and Graduate Recognition <b>Reception after the Service</b> <b>2:30-5:30 pm</b> – Family Fishing Event	<b>8</b> <b>2:00 pm</b> – Women’s Group #3 <b>5:30 pm</b> – Learning, Youth, and Family/VBS Planning Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>10:00 am</b> – Bible Study <b>1:00 pm</b> – Quilters <b>1:00 pm</b> – Bible Journaling Group <b>6:00 pm</b> – Bible Study <b>6:30 pm</b> – Women’s Group #1	<b>10</b> <b>10:00 am</b> – Bible Study	<b>11</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> – Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <b>8:30 am</b> – Early Service <b>9:30 am</b> – Sunday School <b>10:30 am</b> – Service of Worship - Birthday Celebration	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>10:00 am</b> – Bible Study <b>1:00 pm</b> – Quilters <b>6:00 pm</b> – Bible Study	<b>17</b> <b>11:30 am</b> – Senior Friends	<b>18</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> – Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> <b>9:30 am</b> – Sunday School <b>10:30 am</b> – Service of Holy Communion	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>10:00 am</b> – Bible Study <b>1:00 pm</b> – Bible Journaling Group <b>1:00 pm</b> – Quilters <b>6:00 pm</b> – Bible Study	<b>24</b> <b>10:00 am</b> – Bible Study	<b>25</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> – Bible Study	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>8:30 am</b> – Early Service <b>9:30 am</b> – Sunday School <b>10:30 am</b> – Service of Worship	<b>29</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> – Lutheran Women Quarterly Meeting	<b>30</b> <b>10:00 am</b> – Bible Study <b>1:00 pm</b> – Quilters <b>6:00 pm</b> – Bible Study		<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <b>Paraments</b>            7 – Green            14 – Green            21 – Green            28 – Green         </div>		