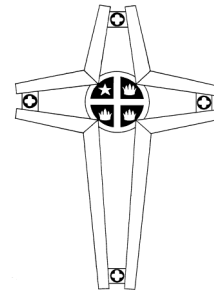


# The Star

The Monthly Newsletter of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Epiphany  
An ELCA Congregation



Volume MMXXIII  
Number 7  
July 2023

God calls us to: "**Grow** our relationship with God,  
**connect** with each other, and **serve** the world."



Dear Epiphany Disciples,

Happy July! Even though we're in the middle of summer, there's still a lot that God is doing through Epiphany. I wanted to share with you a couple of things.

-July 23 we will be saying goodbye to Vicar Christiana. The hardest part of internship is always saying goodbye to our vicars and this year is certainly no exception. Vicar Christina has done a great job of learning and growing in her pastoral identity. I've appreciated her gifts and skills, and I can't wait for her to serve the church as a pastor.

During worship that Sunday, we will bid Farewell and Godspeed to Vicar Christina. After worship, you are invited to bring your favorite dish to share for a potluck in Vicar Christina's honor.

-Vicar Christina will move out of the Pennington House in early August. After that, the Dwellings' intern, Brittany Perry, will be living there. Brittany is studying to be an ordained deacon, concentrating on Word and Service ministries for the church.

Earlier this Spring, Pastor Emily Norris from the Dwelling let me know that their housing for their intern fell through and she was desperately trying to find a suitable and affordable place for their intern to live. Because our congregation wants the Pennington House to be used for mission and we aren't receiving an intern for the 2023-24 school year, the Congregation Council agreed to let Brittany stay there while she is learning and serving at the Dwelling. I'm glad we were able to partner with our friends at the Dwelling in this unique way.

-I wanted to update you on a few things related to the Capital Campaign. Throughout the month of June, there has been a lot of behind-the-scenes work. One of the highlights of the last month was a gathering on June 12 with several leaders in the congregation for an Anchor Storytelling Training. This part of the campaign isn't about directly raising money, although that's coming later. The hope with this training is that we get better at telling our story about the ways God is changing lives through Epiphany long after we've raised funds at Epiphany.

I've been telling more about Epiphany to our consultants, Deacon Mitzie and Pastor Mike, so that they can tailor this campaign to our congregation. As I've thought about the things to tell them, I've found myself thankful for all the ways we've grown, connected, and served throughout the years. I know there are more ways we've grown as a church than I can remember, and I can't wait for others to share their stories.

-One of the most common questions/comments I've received is, "We know the organ is an issue that needs to be addressed, but what things are we going to do to update our facilities?"

Several years ago, our Management Committee came up with a helpful list of "big ticket" items that need to be replaced. We've done a good job over the last several years of getting to some of those. However, we still need to catch up so that our church facility can continue to be a place of dynamic, active ministry that blesses our church family and community.

We're also going to need everyone to be on the lookout for things that need renewal. Vicar (now Pastor) Heather's internship project evaluated Epiphany's strengths and opportunities to improve our handicap accessibility. What would it look like for our facility to be even better at welcoming all people, regardless of physical ability?

When I looked at the very well-done list from Management, I saw some other things that needed to be improved that weren't on the list. I'm sure there are other things that are missing. Because of that, I'd like to have an event for the congregation to gather and look at the entire church property with fresh eyes. My hope is that we can compile a list of items that we see need to be improved. In other words, I don't want this to be a list only from Pastor Russell or the Management Committee. It's going to take all of us to see and dream how our church property could be made even better than it is. More on that event later but know that I'd like for this to happen this fall.

*Continued next page*

*Continued from front page*

We also know that we need to add at least one more bank of niches in our columbarium because we have less than 10 empty niches left. As more people choose to be cremated, having additional niches for sale is a wise investment in our future so that people can have their earthly remains interred at our beloved church.

Finally, I want us to dream about Epiphany's facility.

Here's one thing I've been wondering and dreaming about. We have a large flat roof. Epiphany has been doing a lot with care for creation over the years and I've been wondering if we could use our flat roof for solar panels. Imagine the statement it would make to our community that we are committed to caring for God's creation by using renewable energy. Imagine if we could pay less for our electric bill each month and put the savings to grow our ministries at Epiphany.

What if we took the savings and helped rebuild our youth ministries or strengthen our children's ministries? Or what if we put some intentional effort into developing a vibrant senior's ministry at Epiphany? I wonder if there's something else that we believe God is calling to undertake for the sake of the gospel? Of course, dreaming about our facilities isn't just my dream. We need each other to imagine how God call is calling us to use the church facility as tools for ministry.

On Pentecost Sunday when we approved signing a contract with our consultants, we read a passage in worship from Acts 2 where the Spirit is poured out on God's people so that they can dream dreams. The next step in thinking about our facility renewal is to do exactly that. Dream. I invite you to prayerfully think about what kinds of spaces we need and the improvements that need to happen so that we can continue to use this place where so much ministry happens to bless the world God so loves.

I give God thanks for our past, rejoice in what is happening in the present, and look with hope for what will happen in the future at 5220 Silas Creek Parkway.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Russell*



One of the changes that will occur when Vicar Christina moves on is that we will be needing folks to volunteer to be assisting ministers. Your main role would be to help

with communion. If you would be interested in helping with this, please contact the church office or speak to Pastor Russell.



## W-S Dash Baseball Game and Fireworks + MARVEL COMICS NIGHT

Please join us on Saturday, July 8, at 7:00 pm for a Dash vs. Hickory Crawdads baseball game in the Truist Stadium located at 951

Ballpark Way, Winston-Salem. We are getting a group discount for having 20 people attend so a ticket will be \$11.00. [Click here to purchase our special \\$11.00 tickets for the game.](#)

Please contact Jeanie Saphar at 336-414-2956 if you have questions. I hope to see you at the game!



Thanks to everyone who donated items to the Domestic Violence Shelter during the month of June. Your generosity is much appreciated. During the summer, our circle members will be making plans to gather the items needed to assemble LWR kits and Welcome Kits for LSC in the fall. We will also help with school supplies for CBC when information becomes available. Our general meeting will be held on September 24th after church, and all women of Epiphany are invited to attend. More information about the meeting will be available in the August Star.

### **Dates:**

*July 11- Dorothy Circle- campus ministry room- 6:00 PM*

*July 13- Nora Deal Circle- fellowship hall- 11:30 AM*

*Mary Martha circle does not meet in July.*

*September 24- WELCA general meeting after church*



**Next meeting: July 19, 2023, 1:30 pm  
Fellowship Hall**

Dear Epiphany,

It's hard to believe that my internship is almost over.

These last 11 months have flown by, and I have enjoyed them greatly. As I prepare to leave, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to this community.



Epiphany has been a wonderful place to do my internship. This church is engaged with many different activities which I've been able to plug into, from congregational life to outreach to worship, and beyond. This congregation's love for God and neighbor is expressed across so many different ministries and activities. I've been able to experience so many different facets of ministry and know these experiences will help shape my future ministry.

But internship, and ministry in general, is not simply about accomplishing a to-do list, or having a well-rounded resume. It's about the relationships that God invites and draws us into. Each of the experiences I've had this year have been because of the hospitality and welcome that this congregation has extended to me. I so appreciate the welcome I received in the first couple of months, with repeated introductions and the gift cards during the pounding. I enjoyed our time together in the middle months, once we began to get to know one another, sharing in conversation and reflection, while studying or working together. And, as my time wraps up and I prepare to depart, I have appreciated your warm wishes for this next season of my life.

As many of you know, the end of internship marks the start of several transitions in my life. In August, I will go through the approval process, which is the final stage of the Candidacy process, with a faculty panel and an interview with the NC Synod Candidacy committee. Once I am approved, I will enter the first call process, and hope to find a first call near the Raleigh area. When there is news to share about approval and the call process, I will share that information with Pastor Russell and Mickey so that they can share with you all as well. Shawn and I are looking forward to our wedding in September and the start of our married life together. While these are all big changes, I am excited for each, and look forward to what is to come.

I will always appreciate my time with Epiphany, all that I have learned with and from you, and the relationships that we formed. It has been a blessing and a gift to be your intern, and I give God thanks for all that we have experienced together. Thank you for being a congregation that welcomes interns, it has been a pleasure to worship and serve together with you.

Peace,  
Vicar Christina



## Welcome Liz Miller!

On August 1, we will be welcoming *Liz Miller* as Epiphany's newest staff member. Liz will be our Director of Youth and Campus Ministries, working 20 hours per week at Epiphany.

Liz was previously on staff at Love Out Loud, a local non-profit, as Operations and Partnership Director. This summer she has been a full-time chaplain at a local hospital, fulfilling a requirement for ordination as a pastor in the Lutheran Church. She has worked as a paid youth group leader at another area congregation and has a passion for working with young adults. Liz learned more about Lutheranism while she was in college. Her energy and excitement for this important ministry was very apparent when she met with Epiphany's Congregation Council.

She has a degree in Interpersonal and Organizational Communications from East Carolina University and a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management from UNCG. In addition to her work at Epiphany, Liz is a student in the Master of Divinity program at Wartburg Seminary in Iowa through their distributed learning program.

I invite you to pray for Liz in her work among us and warmly welcome her as a part of Epiphany's staff.

### A Prayer for World Refugee Advocacy Day

God of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar, God of travellers, migrants and refugees.

Thank you for the beauty and uniqueness of this southern land which we share.

Grant your protection and grace to all who shelter here. Forgive the racism and destruction that have been part of our history, and our disregard for the pain and oppression within the Australian community today.

Help us shed our provincial expectations. Take away our cultural tunnel vision.

Open our hearts to be caring neighbours to each other.

Direct our lives to just and peaceful action.

Source Unknown



Hello Epiphany brothers and sisters! These initial weeks of summer have been full of activity for your Church Council. In addition to our regular meetings to monitor and discuss the needs and activities of the congregation, we have been engaging in some of the initial steps of our upcoming congregational capital campaign efforts.

Our earliest engagements have been focused on how we can best tell the story of who we are here at Epiphany – as a worshipping congregation, a community of believers, a home for learning and faith formation, and as a group committed to many external outreach efforts in the name of Jesus. There are so many special things that God has done and is doing in our congregation, and this effort will give us a great chance to celebrate and proclaim many of those things – as well as focus on what may be required to sustain those priorities into the future.

At our council meeting this month, we also recognized the timing of Juneteenth and spent some time in our devotions prayerfully reflecting on the significance of that observance for the life of our nation. As the date in 1865 when the proclamation (and enforcement) of the abolition of slavery in the United States finally reached communities in Texas, it is a day that marks the end of a tragic chapter in American life and urges us to reflect on both the legacy of that time and the possibilities of a more liberating future. We closed with a prayer that is part of the ELCA’s 2019 worship resources on Juneteenth, a portion of which we wanted to share with you below:

*O God... Where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings, and strengthened dreams.*



Summer has arrived, and the EECC is gearing up for a very important part of our calendar year. In July, we will host the NC department of Public Health, Forsyth County Fire Marshall, and the North Carolina Division of Child

Development and Early Education for our annual inspections and reviews. While families and even some staff are planning for some well-needed rest and relaxation, the administrative team is hard at work making sure our classroom environments, indoor and outdoor play spaces, our paperwork, and procedures are all in order.

This past weekend, June 24th, the PALS families, church friends, and many of my staff came together for an extensive workday for the EECC and church grounds. After it rained for so many days in a row, the prospect for the workday was dreary, but the sun came out and the pile of mulch was spread, the new sand was distributed, and the bushes/trees trimmed to a safe and well-manicured height. The bees (yellow-jackets) and poison oak were eradicated, and all six of the picnic tables were freshly re-painted. The summer toys were rotated and the classrooms were refreshed to support the new roster for the summer months. You will see evidence of water play and popsicles in the weeks to come!

Your continued prayers for our early childhood center will be needed to completely bring us back to pre- COVID operations. We currently have need of two more employees to complete our team. The hiring process has been disappointing due to the lack of qualified applicants in this profession. It is hard to keep people when our ten-hour days require attentive and dedicated people to reach above and beyond to help us become the best that we can be. Thank you for your care and concern for the EECC.

In His Service,  
Lisa Nichols, Director



## Celebrating Vicar Christina with a Summer Potluck!!

Join us on Sunday, July 23rd immediately following worship for a potluck in the fellowship hall. We will be honoring Vicar Christina for all her hard work and contributions to the Epiphany Church Family during the last year. Show your summer spirit by bringing your favorite salad or summer dish to share. Drinks and a special sweet treat will be provided! Contact Kathy Pressley if you have any questions.



## Lutheroad Day Camp 2023



The week of June 12-16th, seven counselors came from Lutheridge to lead both Epiphany and Augsburg Lutheran's children in Lutheroad Day Camp. It was an absolute joy to see our congregations' children come together every day to learn more about their identities in Christ. Each day started out with fun songs and dances led by our counselors. Children then went on to do crafts and bible study. The theme of the week was "Beloved: Be Loved" where children learn how much they are loved through the lens of the holy trinity. It wasn't all seriousness though! Campers enjoyed lots of fun games like "Frogger" and "Prince of Paris" as well as having a movie day and a water day complete with a slip n slide!

During quiet time, children had story times and worked on decorating lunch bags that will be filled with a lunch for those in need. On Thursday night, campers showed off all they had learned during the week with songs, dances, and storytelling at a celebratory ice cream social. We ended the week on Friday and we all said a sad goodbye to the counselors and all the new friends we had made that week.

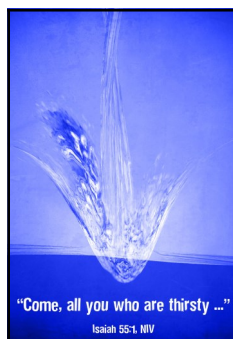
Thank you to all Epiphany members who donated snacks to the children for the week, including the EECC which sponsored a healthy "no picky eaters" snack on Tuesday. Lutheroad Day Camp was a great success and more importantly, the children came away knowing that they will always be loved by God and Jesus! Make sure you check out our pictures from this amazing week in this issue of the Star.

# WATER AND THE WORD

an intergenerational VBS series  
over 5 sessions this summer -  
Come to one or come to all!

4PM SUNDAY JUNE 25 - REMEMBER YOUR BAPTISM  
AFTER WORSHIP SUNDAY JULY 9 - COME, ALL YOU WHO ARE THIRSTY  
4 PM SUNDAY JULY 30 - A CLEAN HEART  
AFTER WORSHIP SUNDAY AUGUST 6 - WATER IN THE WILDERNESS  
SUNDAY AUGUST 13 - CELEBRATION OF LIFE-GIVING WATER  
TIME AND LOCATION TBD

CHECK WEEKLY STAR FOR TIMES/LOCATIONS



### Intergenerational VBS

Our next Intergenerational VBS session will be on **Sunday, July 9th, right after worship.** We will be discussing all the ways that the living water quenches our thirst. For this session we are going to have a drink bar, so please bring a pitcher (or two) of a delicious refreshing non-alcoholic beverage to share (lemonade, fruit infused water, etc.) There will be spicy and salty snacks available. Come, all you who are thirsty!

Our 3rd Intergenerational VBS session will be on **Sunday, July 30th at 4:00.** Come out and hear how The Dwelling "stewards a mobile shower ministry where persons experiencing homelessness are able to be washed and renewed as a reminder of their belovedness." Pastor Joanna Stallings will be sharing about her time working with The Dwelling and the gift and dignity of cleanliness. This is an event for ALL ages, and there will be snacks, so make plans to attend! If you are able, please bring a donation of new t-shirts, new underwear, new socks, oral health products, or shampoo/soap/hygiene products for those who use the mobile shower units.





Campers outside of Augsburg Lutheran

# Lutheroad Day Camp 2023



Morning dance party!



Martha Oldland reading a book at quiet time.



Elinore Imboden and her counselor, Marisol. It was hard to say goodbye at the end of the week.



Enjoying a delicious snack provided by the EECC.



Our Thursday night family program and ice cream social



So many fun songs and dances to learn!



More Water Day fun!



Slip n slide on Water Day



Dallas, our Area Director for the week, getting attacked with water balloons



Parachute play!



Playing "Frogger"

If you have milestones to celebrate, please contact Mickey Miller.



# Our Epiphany Family

Help us keep our prayer list current by letting us know if there are those who need to be included.



Thank you to those of you who have responded to our request for pictures for our updated directory.

If you have not yet responded, please do so by July 2nd.



Congratulations to the new principal of Smith Farm Elementary School in Kernersville, our own Zach Baker!

We're proud of you, Zach!



I would like to thank the whole church staff as well as the congregation (especially the quilting group) for a lovely Graduate Sunday and for the kind gifts. It has been a pleasure reading all of the notes written in the front and back of *Oh the Places You'll Go*. I also appreciate the beautiful quilt and plan on appreciating it even more in the cold winters of Scotland. It has been an honor and joy to spend my first 18 years with so many thoughtful and loving people.



Thanks for everything, Calvin Sherman

### GIFT OF THE MONTH ITEMS FOR JULY

**CRISIS CONTROL MINISTRY** - Peanut butter & jelly, saltine crackers

**SAMARITAN MINISTRIES** - Pasta (any type), canned chicken, deodorant, disposable razors, high efficiency laundry detergent packs/pod

**RONALD McDONALD HOUSE** - Paper towels; 13-gallon trash bags; individual snacks & drinks; <https://rmhcpt.org/make-a-difference/wish-list/>

**TRINITY GLEN** - Deodorant

**TRINITY ELMS** - Fronts of greeting cards, baby lotion, body wash, bath items, deodorant, snacks, note cards

**CBC FOOD PANTRY** - Volunteers to take food donations from church to CBC and to work stocking shelves/distributing food twice a month

**EECC** - Cheerios, raisins, applesauce (individual, plain)

**IBRAHAM FOOD PANTRY** - Diapers/pullups sizes 2-6

**Ministers, All the People of Epiphany**  
**Pastor,** Pastor Russell Peek  
Email: [pastorrussell@epiphanyws.org](mailto:pastorrussell@epiphanyws.org)  
**Vicar,** Christina Nesslage  
Email: [vicar@epiphanyws.org](mailto:vicar@epiphanyws.org)  
**Director of Music,** Patryck Nuss  
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### 2023 Congregation Council

**Officers:**

Chris Schultz, Pres.  
Betty Benardo, VP  
Terry Wiley, Treas.  
Mark Tellefsen, Sec.

**Non-Council Officers:**

Mickey Miller, Fin. Sec.  
Jackie Pierson, Asst. Tr. Payroll

**Members:**

Patti Deal  
Matt Imboden  
Sarah Lischer

Dan Meckley  
Diana Stindt  
Pastor Russell Peek



*"If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."*  
*John 14:14, NRSV*

**LET US PRAY FOR...**

**Leaders of church & state, especially**

<i>Our Congregation Council</i>	<i>Pastor Russell Peek</i>
<i>Christ's Beloved Community</i>	<i>President Joe Biden</i>
<i>Bishop Elizabeth Eaton</i>	<i>Governor Roy Cooper</i>
<i>Bishop Timothy Smith</i>	<i>Mayor Allen Joines</i>

*All victims of war and any form of violence*

**Our sister congregations and our missionary in Mexico**

*Fr. Javier Arias and the people of Christ's Beloved Community*  
*Pr. David Brondos and the Theological Community of Mexico*  
*The people of Mupini Parish, Namibia*

**Active duty military personnel, especially**

*Travis Gerdes*  
*Randal Middleton*  
*David Schultz*

**For those who rejoice, especially**

*Dan & Margaret Brock at the birth of their great-grandson, James Thomas Sowden on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. His parents are Adam and Lauren Sowden, and grandparents are Daniel and Sarah Brock.*

**Family & friends of the congregation in need, especially**

<i>Judy Allison</i>	<i>Robin Hoots</i>	<i>Shelly Saldaña</i>
<i>Thomas &amp; Mary Cannon</i>	<i>Jean Jarvis</i>	<i>Janie Sapen</i>
<i>Clark Family</i>	<i>Katie Lippard</i>	<i>Nora Schweitzer</i>
<i>Rose Debruhl</i>	<i>Chad Marion</i>	<i>Liz Shumate</i>
<i>Sylvia Ann Derrick</i>	<i>Sue Mathis</i>	<i>Sue Slezak</i>
<i>AJ Devan</i>	<i>Linda McKenna</i>	<i>Germaine Smith</i>
<i>Carl Dubose</i>	<i>Terry McKinney</i>	<i>Michele Stanfield</i>
<i>Emily Ferriter</i>	<i>Kendra Miller</i>	<i>Earl Taylor</i>
<i>Howard Flichman</i>	<i>Stacey Morgan</i>	<i>Laura Turlington</i>
<i>Tara-Lynn Flick</i>	<i>Allison Morris</i>	<i>Alan Vestal</i>
<i>Pat &amp; Joanne Gill</i>	<i>Robert &amp; Mary Peak</i>	<i>Emma Wester</i>
<i>Jonathan Gomez</i>	<i>Andy Powless</i>	<i>Nicole Williams</i>
<i>Carolyn Graham</i>	<i>Jane Ritchie</i>	<i>Ruochong Wong</i>
<i>Pam Holcomb</i>	<i>Karen Rose</i>	<i>John Wooding</i>

**Members in need, especially**

<i>The Rev. John Beeg</i>	<i>Harold Landis</i>
<i>Sharen Bond</i>	<i>Jim Lippard</i>
<i>Ann Cannon</i>	<i>Ralph Pritts</i>
<i>Kay Conrad</i>	<i>Wanda Rabb</i>
<i>Chad Kraft</i>	

**Our Christian love and sympathy to the family and friends of**

*Charles Canrobert*



*Elizabeth Horton, Homestead Hills*  
*Bert Joines, Homestead Hills*  
*Doris Kent, Forsyth Court*  
*Sue Muhler, Brookdale Senior Living*  
*Carl Schlager, The Stratford, High Point*



*Bonnie Bryant*  
*Cole Lippard*  
*Polly Rector*

*Virginia Schmitz*  
*Robert Walker*

**July Birthdays**

<i>Patti Kaluzne</i>	<i>7/2</i>
<i>William Matthews</i>	<i>7/5</i>
<i>Logan Nye</i>	<i>7/5</i>
<i>Nancy Stenberg</i>	<i>7/5</i>
<i>Robert Walters</i>	<i>7/5</i>
<i>Julianne Golden</i>	<i>7/8</i>
<i>Katrina Pfitzner</i>	<i>7/8</i>
<i>Rachel Nicholson</i>	<i>7/9</i>
<i>Bailey Artz</i>	<i>7/10</i>
<i>Dave Hinshaw</i>	<i>7/10</i>
<i>Judy Mountjoy</i>	<i>7/11</i>
<i>Becky Alson</i>	<i>7/13</i>
<i>Carter Meckley</i>	<i>7/14</i>
<i>Jackson Meckley</i>	<i>7/14</i>
<i>Sean DuBois</i>	<i>7/15</i>
<i>Marilyn Mullane</i>	<i>7/15</i>
<i>Kathy Pressley</i>	<i>7/15</i>
<i>Mark Tellefsen</i>	<i>7/19</i>
<i>Erica Williams</i>	<i>7/19</i>
<i>Brenna McCormick</i>	<i>7/25</i>
<i>Cole Lippard</i>	<i>7/28</i>
<i>Jeremy Muday</i>	<i>7/28</i>
<i>Wesley Peek</i>	<i>7/30</i>
<i>Cory Phillips</i>	<i>7/31</i>

**July Baptisms**

<i>Wanda Rabb</i>	<i>7/1</i>
<i>Amanda Reich</i>	<i>7/1</i>
<i>Ann Shideler</i>	<i>7/1</i>
<i>Linda Lee Tonnesen</i>	<i>7/1</i>
<i>Lizzie Blank</i>	<i>7/2</i>
<i>Connor Oldland</i>	<i>7/6</i>
<i>Paul Oldland</i>	<i>7/6</i>
<i>Rebekah Spain</i>	<i>7/8</i>
<i>Corey Wilcut</i>	<i>7/8</i>
<i>Ryan Hunter</i>	<i>7/9</i>
<i>Brighton Lapidus</i>	<i>7/10</i>
<i>Emma Peek</i>	<i>7/24</i>
<i>Schuyler Darstein</i>	<i>7/27</i>
<i>Stephen P. Kaluzne</i>	<i>7/27</i>
<i>William Matthews</i>	<i>7/27</i>
<i>Maxwell Saldaña</i>	<i>7/27</i>
<i>Henry Harris</i>	<i>7/29</i>
<i>Bailey Artz</i>	<i>7/30</i>



<i>Steve &amp; Sara Reich</i>	<i>7/4</i>
<i>Robert &amp; Dana Walters</i>	<i>7/9</i>
<i>Jim &amp; Penny Mothershed</i>	<i>7/14</i>
<i>Ardel &amp; Judy Meisinger</i>	<i>7/17</i>
<i>Allen &amp; Connie Siris</i>	<i>7/24</i>
<i>Matt &amp; Lauren Imboden</i>	<i>7/29</i>
<i>Bill &amp; Nancy Phipps</i>	<i>7/31</i>

We wish you many more years of happiness!





**There is something in a name.**

## ***Beloved Community of Christ. Christ's Beloved Community.***

*Comunidad Amada de Cristo* (Christ's Beloved Community) in Winston-Salem is an ecumenical (Lutheran/Episcopal) and bilingual (Spanish/English) ministry that serves as a food distribution hub for hundreds in that community of south Winston. In fact, over 400 families were served by their food pantry in April alone. A beloved community for the community.

They meet in the building paid forward in mission by the hospitality and eventual closing of Christ Lutheran on that site. Under the leadership of Padre Javier Arias, the worshiping community has exploded in less than a year from around 30 to nearly 130 on Sunday afternoons.

In the last five months, Christ's Beloved Community has confirmed nearly 50 people. In a time when many congregations are rebuilding youth groups, two young people from Christ's Beloved Community are seeking training to be youth advisors so they can walk alongside the youth.

On Sunday, May 21, Bishop Tim Smith gathered with the congregation to preach and confirm 23 young people, preside over first communion for six even younger children, and receive over 20 new members. Bishop Smith prayed over each young person in Spanish, stating each young person's name.

*Revive in (Name) the gift of the Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and power, the Spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence now and forever. Amen.*

Pastor Alfredo Oviedo, Assistant to the Bishop, and Pastor Danielle DeNise, Director for Evangelical Mission, were also present. Pastor Danielle said of the occasion, "It was so clear that the Spirit was in that room with us."

On Saturday, June 3, the Holy Spirit was present in another room as Christ's Beloved Community was received as the newest congregation in the North Carolina Synod.

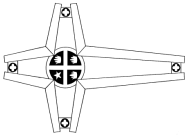
Synod council member and dean of the Yadkin Conference, Pastor Cassie Overcash, presented the motion to receive the congregation as Father Javier and 15 members of Christ's Beloved Community gathered onstage in front of almost 450 synod leaders.

Those leaders experienced just a taste of the fullness of that ministry, as a picture slideshow scrolled on the ballroom screens and Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Alfredo Oviedo, offered Spanish translations.

The motion was accepted with overwhelming support, digital fireworks, standing applause, and Father Javier's commitment to this Christ-centered community. He said, "We have planted a beautiful, beautiful bilingual, multicultural, and bi-denominational community. We are blessed by this synod and we hope to grow in faith and numbers."

The whole of the North Carolina Synod celebrates the belovedness of this community and of this momentous occasion. Thanks be to God.





# July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday 10am Worship						1
2	3	4 Independence Day Office & EECC Closed	5 10 am EECC Chapel 3 pm Staff	6	7	8 7 pm Dash Game
9 After Worship Water & the Word (Come, All You Who Are Thirsty)	10 Pastor Out thru 7/16	11 6 pm Dorothy Circle	12 10 am EECC Chapel 3 pm Staff	13 11:30 am Nora Deal Cir.	14	15 Internship Gathering 10 am Epiphany Quilters
16	17	18	19 10 am EECC Chapel 1:30 pm Widows Might 3 pm Staff	20 6 pm Management	21	22
23	24 6-8 pm CC Storytelling + Council (Zoom)	25	26 10 am EECC Chapel 3 pm Staff	27	28	29
After Worship Potluck Brunch						
30 4 pm Water & the Word (A Clean Heart)	31					