

Becks Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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Pastors: Revs. Ray and Ruth Ann Sipe  
Organist & Choir Director: Stephen Gourley  
Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Pastors' Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
website: [www.beckslutheranchurch.org](http://www.beckslutheranchurch.org)



## *May 2009 Newsletter*

### **Easter People**

Did you know that Easter is not just a one-day celebration? Easter Sunday begins the Week of Weeks – the Great Fifty Days – better known as the season of Easter. We celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord not just on one day, but for fifty days. Fifty days that end with the celebration of Pentecost. For the next several Sundays, we will continue to hear about Jesus and his appearances to his disciples after the resurrection and the deeds of the disciples in those first days.

On May 21, we, along with the other Lutheran churches in our conference, will gather in Asheboro to celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord. (Details on the Ascension worship service are on page 8 of this newsletter.) Then just ten days later, we will gather to celebrate Pentecost, the “birth” of the church; the coming of the Holy Spirit.

So – what does it mean to live in this Great Fifty Days? What does it mean to live in the time after the resurrection, as “Easter People?” It means that we celebrate daily the gift of grace that God has bestowed upon us – the gift of His only Son. It means that we daily remember our baptism – our adoption as a child of God. It means that we daily try to live out the commandment that Jesus gave his disciples – to love one another.

We gather each Sunday not to be seen at church, or even to see friends and family, but to worship God and give thanks for all that He has given us. We gather to worship God, to reflect on the death and resurrection of His only Son Jesus, and to be filled with the Holy Spirit as we are sent out into the world to tell others, to share the peace of Christ, to share the love of God, and to tell that world that Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!!!

*Pastor Ray and Pastor Ruth Ann*

**Are you interested in learning more about what it means to be a Lutheran?** Or even a Christian? Have you wondered what it means to be a member of the body of Christ? Or a member of Becks Lutheran Church? Then we have the class for you. A new members' class will be starting in May. Please contact Pastor Ray or Pastor Ruth Ann if you are interested or if you have questions.

**Nursery Attendants Needed** – Some Sundays in May are still open, as well as several other months. Please sign up on the volunteer charts at the bulletin board between the mailboxes if you can help.



There are also some open slots on the volunteer charts for Communion Assistants, Lectors, Prayer Leaders, and Greeters. Please sign up if you would be willing to help in these ways.



**American Red Cross**

**Blood Drive** – Anyone interested in donating blood is asked to sign up on a Pledge Sheet at either entrance. A date for a blood drive here at Becks can be scheduled after we have at least forty donors.

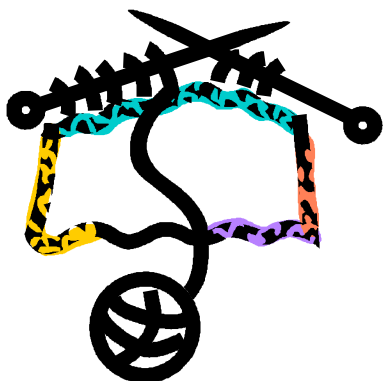
### Young at Heart

The Young at Heart met at Lexington Style Trimmings on April 1. Fifteen members were present. Ophelia Walker had devotions from **Our Daily Bread** entitled “Naomi.”

We discussed a trip to Virginia on August 7. This will be a play/dinner trip. Others are invited to go also. Cost \$39 each if more than 20 attend. **Reservations are due to Ophelia Walker by May 6.**

Lena Beck and Arlene Walker have birthdays this month.

We enjoyed desserts made by Maxine Mull and Janice Warner. Next month, Mary Ann Rachels and Janice Warner will furnish desserts.



### Prayer Shawl Ministry

We have recently completed two more prayer shawls that will be given to members and friends of the congregation with special prayer concerns at this time.

If you knit or crochet – or would like to learn – please join us in the Complex on the first and third Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

If you cannot meet during the workday, but would like to participate in the Prayer Shawl Ministry, please contact Cornelia Briggs or Pastor Ruth Ann.

- May 1** Deadline to register for Gathering at Lenoir-Rhyne
- May 3 at 3:00 pm** **Circle of Faith**  
Hostesses--Mary Cates & Jeanette Holder  
Program--Jeanette Holder
- May 5 at 7:00 pm** **Circle of Love**  
Hostesses--Patricia Fritts & Cindy Fletcher  
Program--Cornelia Briggs
- May 18 at 6:00 pm** **Circle of Hope**  
Hostess—Dell Frey
- May 29-31** **NC Synodical Women's Organization Gathering**  
at Lenoir-Rhyne University



### **COLLECTION FOR LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES**

The Women of the ELCA will be collecting items to be given to Lutheran Family Services at the annual gathering. These needed items are used for the children, families, special needs adults, refugees and homeless veterans served by LFS in the Carolinas. Our circles here at Becks will be giving a monetary gift as well as our "in kind" donations. You may bring any of the following to church and put them in the collection box by the WELCA bulletin board by May 24.

#### **PERSONAL SUPPLIES:**

Toothpaste, toothbrush, dental floss  
Soap, shampoo, & conditioner  
Hairbrush & comb  
Deodorant  
Shaving supplies

#### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES:**

2-inch loose leaf notebook  
Pencils & pens  
Pencil bag  
Markers or colored pencils  
Notebook paper (college ruled)

#### **CLEANING SUPPLIES:**

Dish detergent  
Laundry detergent  
Dishcloths and towels  
All-purpose cleaner  
Glass cleaner

#### **BIBLES**

A favorite version is the CEV (Contemporary English Version) Denim Bible

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF  
LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES OF THE CAROLINAS!**

## Lenten Offering Update

Thanks to all those who contributed toward the Congregational Assistance Fund during Lent. Here is the list of offerings received:

February 25 (Ash Wednesday)	\$ 392.00
March 4	156.00
March 11	118.30
March 18	146.00
March 25	107.50
April 1	79.50
April 9 (Maundy Thursday)	58.50
April 10 (Good Friday)	<u>32.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,089.80

These contributions will allow us to continue helping those in our congregation and community who need our help with food and other urgent needs during these stressful economic times.

## BUILDING FUND

*We have just finished our thirteenth (13th) year of giving to our Fellowship and Education Building Fund. We appreciate your support over the years. Your envelopes for this next year of giving are in your mailbox in the hallway, if you have not already picked them up. Our new year of giving starts on May 2, 2009. If you are behind on giving in the past year, please try to catch up; if you are ahead in giving, God bless you. A yearly report will be furnished in May.*

***Bob Leonard***

### *Memorials & Honorariums*

*Given to the Budget in memory of Arlin Briggs by Sylvia Beck*

*Given to the Budget in memory of Jerry Leonard by Carlene & Bill Rierson*

*Given to the Budget in memory of Robert Jenkins by Barbara Jenkins*

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

The combined Junior, Middle, and Senior Youth groups met after worship on Palm Sunday. Thanks to Chris and Douglas Voncannon for a delicious taco lunch! The combined group prepared Easter cards for our shut-ins and planned activities for the Easter Egg Hunt.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, April 11. Thanks to Michelle Moore for providing the prizes, to the Circle of Love for providing the lunch, and to all those who donated candy or helped with craft activities. We had a great turnout and everyone enjoyed themselves.

**Our next meeting will be Sunday, May 3 following worship.** It has been suggested that everyone who attends should invite a friend (or two) to join us for our lunch and meeting that day! We will be planning for the LYO Spring Rally and other summer activities.

Middle and Senior Youth Group members are invited to attend the **North Central Conference LYO Spring Rally** May 7th and 8th at Emmanuel Lutheran in High Point. The theme for this event is *God's Work...Our Hands...Stand with Africa*. This event is a lock-in, beginning Friday evening and ending with lunch on Saturday. Cost is \$15. This cost includes: a "Save Darfur" tee shirt, breakfast, an authentic Sudanese lunch, snacks, Sudanese music and dancing, snacks, and other activities. Registration is due on May 3rd. This will be a great event! Please see Pastor Ray or Pastor Ruth Ann for more information.

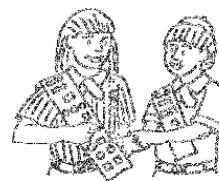
Confirmation students will be going on a retreat to Camp Walter Johnson May 29-30, with youth from other Lutheran congregations in the Lexington area. Details will be distributed at the next confirmation class!

Look for more information coming soon on Summer Activities, including the National Youth Gathering.

The Girl Scout troops will hold their annual yard sale here at Becks on Saturday, May 16.

Donations for the sale will be accepted beginning in early May.

More information will be coming soon!



## Girl Scout News

### Congratulations to:

- + Alexandra Myers, who recently made the honor roll at Davis Townsend Elementary.
- + Greyson Myers, who recently made the honor roll at Central Middle. Greyson is also in the honors band at Central Davidson Middle School which traveled to Hickory on March 26<sup>th</sup> for the State Band contest. They received a Superior rating.
- + Stephen Gourley, who performed his Senior Organ Recital at University of North Carolina School of the Arts on April 24.



*Please share with us celebrations, recognitions, accomplishments for the newsletter. These might include such things as honor roll, county or district band, scholarships, sports recognition, milestone birthdays or anniversaries, birth or baptism of grandchildren, or other special events that you would like to share with your faith community. Please have these to the church office by noon on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.*



**The Lexington Choral Society will present its Spring Concert** on Saturday, May 2nd at 6:00 pm. The concert will be held at First United Methodist Church. This program will contain music spanning four centuries, and will also feature the winners of the LCS competition in voice, as well as two solo organ works. The Choral Society is co-conducted by Phil and Melonie Rector and accompanied by Stephen Gourley. There will be a reception following the concert. Admission is \$5.

*Did you know?*

- + *Kure Beach is the only ocean-front property on the Atlantic Coast owned by the ELCA.*
- + *Over 1,100 campers took part in summer camp programs last summer.*
- + *Camp Agape's environmental education program serves over 6,000 children a year.*
- + *Agapé + Kure Beach Ministries served over 11,000 guests in 2008.*



Camp Agape and Kure Beach Retreat have always been special places for Becks members throughout the years. Now part of the dream is reality... The dedication service for the new Dining Hall and Environmental Education Center and the David L. Castor Chapel will be held at Camp Agape on May 3. The Open House is from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. with the dedication service planned for 3:30 p.m. You are invited to bring the family to camp for an exciting afternoon which will include nature hikes, tours, raffle chances for camperships, camp games, and songs.

Our original campaign goal for the Go Camp! appeal was \$25,000. As of this date, our total pledges have grown to \$37,400! Thus far, \$27,723 has been received, leaving a balance due of approximately \$9,680. Terry and I are so proud to be brothers and sisters in Christ with such a loving and giving congregation. We cannot thank you enough for your continued support of the "Go Camp! Building What the Church Needs! campaign.

Becks was listed among the "Top Ten Giving Churches" and the "Top Five Congregations, Based on Giving per Average Attendance"! This truly demonstrates that the Holy Spirit lives in the hearts and souls of our church family. It's still not too late to contribute if you have not already done so. Please contact either one of us if you need another pledge envelope to complete your commitment or would like to give more or if you have questions or need directions to camp.

To say thank you is not adequate enough, so please come to the dedication on May 3rd to receive the wonderful blessing that comes from meeting the church's needs. As a special tribute, a plaque will be dedicated which will be hung in the Dining Room Service Area. It reads as follows:

**The Briggs, Huddle, Becks Lutheran Men Dining Room Service Area**

This gathering space is given to the glory of Almighty God  
and in thanksgiving for the many years of dedication, service and support  
given to Agape+Kure Beach Ministries by  
Paul T. Briggs,  
the Reverend David K. Huddle,  
and the Becks Lutheran Men in Mission.

In his service,  
*Brenda and Terry Hedrick*  
Go Camp! Campaign Coordinators



The EOG's are coming!  
The EOG's are coming!  
Can you help?!?

NC End of Grade Testing is coming to Davidson County Schools May 13, 14, and 15, 2009. Typically the elementary schools have plenty of proctors - people who help monitor the testing in classrooms - since they have teacher assistants and middle schools do not.

In the past, Becks Lutheran has had folks volunteer to serve as proctors at Central Middle School. Again, we are asking that if any of you would be interested, please let Patti Lovell know or call Greg Collins, Testing Coordinator, at 357-0278. You can ask Roscoe, Ophelia, or Wanda what the job/experience is like; they've helped before.

Thanks for any and all help you can give to the students and teachers in our community!

\* \* \* \* \*

***Greetings from St. John's Lutheran Church in Asheboro:***

St. John's will be hosting the conference-wide Ascension Service on Thursday May 21st at 7:00 pm.

Our schedule will be as follows:

- 5:30pm Dinner
- 6:30pm Choir Practice
- 7:00pm Worship

Dinner will be a baked lasagna/spaghetti dish with salad, drinks and dessert, provided by a Cub Scout pack. A free-will offering will be collected. Reservations are needed by May 10th. ***Please let your pastors know that you plan to attend.***

Organist/Choir Director Joretta Holt is preparing an anthem and some communion hymns to be sung by a joint choir. All who would like to sing in the choir should be prepared to practice by 6:30pm.

St. John's is located at  
505 South Park St.  
Asheboro, NC 27203  
336-625-4263  
[sjlc@embarqmail.com](mailto:sjlc@embarqmail.com)

Directions can be accessed through our website: [www.johnsasheboro.org](http://www.johnsasheboro.org)

Pastor Ralph Kraft

## **News from Crisis Ministry of Davidson County**

### DINE OUT FOR HUNGER

Crisis Ministry is planning to hold their annual "Dine Out for Hunger" on May 7. This is an annual fundraiser, to raise funds for the hungry and homeless residents of Davidson County. The participating restaurants agree to donate 10% of the total day's receipts to Crisis Ministry.

Please mark your calendars for this important date and check with your local restaurants to see if they are participating. A complete list of the restaurants will be published in **The Dispatch**.

From the hungry people that we feed in Davidson Count, THANK YOU in advance!

### STAMP OUT HUNGER

Saturday, May 9 is the National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. The National Association of Letter Carriers in conjunction with the U.S. Postal Service, will be collecting non-perishable food items like canned meats and fish, canned soup, juice, pasta, vegetables, cereal, and rice on Saturday May 9, to help families in need in our community.

You can help by placing your food donation at your mailbox before your letter carrier arrives on May 9. It will be taken to the Post Office and then delivered to local food banks or pantries. Please do not include items that have expired or those in glass containers.

The USPS, Letter Carriers, and Crisis Ministry of Davidson thank each of you in advance for your donation to help "Stamp Out Hunger."

### ADOPT-A-ROOM

Crisis Ministry is looking for groups to adopt a room at Genesis House. The bedrooms and bathrooms are in need of refurbishing. Bedspreads and curtains to match, lamps, rugs, and shower curtains are needed. If you are interested in helping, call Marilyn Daugherty at 336/248-6684.

## A Fresh Start

*“Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed.  
Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.”*  
-Isaiah 1:17

May is National Foster Care Month. Every year, with LFS supervision and support, loving families provide care to more than 500 children across the Carolinas.

When Brian\* first walked into the home of his new foster parents Chris and Trudy Wesson, they recognized immediately that they were going to have their hands full. They already knew Brian’s history: his father had died when he was 12, his mother was an addict, he had a record with the Department of Juvenile Justice and he had issues with truancy. But the biggest issue facing them was that Brian didn’t think this home would be any different than the others he had bounced from.

Due to frustration from his previous circumstances, the first year Brian spent with the Wessons was difficult. He had problems dealing with authority and would not come home for days but Chris and Trudy refused give up on the troubled teen and their unwavering support slowly broke through his barriers. It took some time for Brian to see that the Wessons were truly there for him but once he started to trust them the change in him was exceptional.

Chris, who worked as a wrestling coach at the local school and as a youth director, got Brian involved in the sport. Wrestling gave him something he did not have before – a goal to achieve. Through wrestling he learned teamwork and discipline.

“Wrestling shaped my life,” said Brian “I overcame everything that came in my way.”

Wrestling also gave him motivation to attend school. Although truancy was one of his biggest problems before, he now holds a 3.7 GPA and ranks in the top 100 kids in his class. After graduation, Brian plans to join the military and wants to go to college to attain his Criminal Justice Degree so he can serve children who have had the same hardships he has.

Chris and Trudy got Brian involved in a youth group where he has done several community service projects, including traveling to New Orleans to help in the aftermath of Katrina. They are also making sure he can take care of himself, teaching him to do his own taxes and set up his own doctor’s appointments.

“I wouldn’t be who I am if it wasn’t for Chris. At first, I thought he was just another adult who was going to tell me what to do – but he loves me. Chris and Trudy are 95% responsible for the person I am today,” said Brian.

He knows that like many other youths with similar circumstances, his life could have turned out very different.

“I remember what it was like being unsure if there would be heat, lights and food to eat,” said Brian. “Chris and Trudy gave me a stable environment. Just knowing you have something to come home to makes a big difference.”

\*Some names have been changed for confidentiality.



## **LSA Sunday celebrates the ministry of Lutheran Services for the Aging**

For almost 50 years, Lutheran Services for the Aging has provided a ministry of Christian care to the more than 1,000 seniors served by LSA's nursing homes, retirement communities, assisted living residences, and adult day services. Through its various ministries, LSA strives to express God's love in Christ to older adults by offering compassionate care that takes into account physical as well as spiritual health and well-being. For many residents, one of the LSA ministries is their only home, and in some cases, their only family.

May has been designated by the North Carolina Synod as the month of emphasis for LSA. Many churches choose to celebrate *LSA Sunday* on Mother's Day, which is Sunday, May 10. This is a time not only to honor those who live and those who serve in the LSA ministries, but it is also a perfect time to pay tribute to the older adults in congregations across the state.

It's been a busy few months for the ministries of LSA. In September, LSA broke ground for a new nursing home in Wilmington, which will be the first faith-based nursing home in New Hanover County. More recently, LSA purchased Elms at Tanglewood, an assisted living residence in Clemmons, and received permission from the state to build two new nursing homes in Forsyth County. None of this would be possible without the support of Lutheran churches throughout North Carolina that play such a major role in the LSA ministry.

First and foremost, LSA is a ministry of people, from the two 101-year-old residents who make their homes at Crescent View Retirement Community in Arden to a resident at Lutheran Home at Trinity Oaks in Salisbury who logged in more than 500 volunteer hours last year. It is the 200 supporters who showed up on a sunny Sunday afternoon in Wilmington to help usher in a new LSA nursing home and the 1,000 LSA employees who treat all residents with the compassion and dignity they deserve.

Thank you for your continued support over the years in helping LSA celebrate its ministry and mission. We would not be successful without you!



Acolyte: Greyson Myers

Crucifer: Kristina Lamb




Lector: Martha Leonard

Prayers: Bob Leonard

Greeters: Jerry & Betty Gallimore

Nursery: Lucas Alley & Barbara Callicutt (5/3 & 5/17)

Communion Assistants: Tom Garrett & Holly Dorton

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sunday Schedule: 8:30 a.m. Breakfast 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship</b>					1	2 <i>FEB reserved 1:00-3:00 p.m.</i>
<b>3</b> 4th Sunday of Easter  Buford Blankenship Team  Combined Youth Group Lunch & Mtg after worship 2:00 p.m. Confirmation Class 3:00 p.m. Circle of Faith	4	<b>5</b>  7:00 p.m. Circle of Love meeting	<b>6</b>  10:30 a.m. Young at Heart meeting  12:00 p.m. Responsive Prayer & Bible Study  1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl ministry  7:00 p.m. Choir practice	7	<b>8</b>  LYO Conference Emmanuel/	<b>9</b>  Northwest Gathering at High Point  Feed the shelter
<b>10</b> 5th Sunday of Easter  Terry Hedrick Team  	11	<b>12</b>  7:00 p.m. Bible Study & Night Prayer	<b>13</b>  12:00 p.m. Responsive Prayer & Bible Study  7:00 p.m. Choir practice	<b>14</b>  6:30 p.m. Finance committee meeting  7:00 p.m. Council Supper  7:30 p.m. Council meeting	15	<b>16</b>  GS Yard Sale  <i>Shelter reserved 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.</i>
<b>17</b> 6th Sunday of Easter  Robbie Harrison Team  Youth Board Meeting following worship	<b>18</b>  6:00 p.m. Circle of Hope at Dell Frey's	<b>19</b>  7:00 p.m. Bible Study & Night Prayer	<b>20</b>  12:00 p.m. Responsive Prayer & Bible Study  1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl ministry  5:00 p.m. Worship Board meeting  7:00 p.m. Choir practice	<b>21</b>  6:30 p.m. Lutheran Men's supper  Ascension Worship at St. John's/Asheboro  <b>June Newsletter Information Due</b>	22	<b>23</b>  <i>FEB reserved 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.</i>
<b>24</b> 7th Sunday of Easter  <b>OUTDOOR WORSHIP &amp; POTLUCK PICNIC</b>  Alan Myers Team Men host the shelter	<b>25</b>   <b>Memorial Day</b>	<b>26</b>  7:00 p.m. Bible Study & Night Prayer	<b>27</b>  12:00 p.m. Responsive Prayer & Bible Study  6:00 p.m. Education Board meeting  7:00 p.m. Choir practice	28	<b>29</b>  Confirmation at Camp	<b>30</b>  Retreat Walter Johnson  <i>Complex Reserved 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.</i>
<b>31</b> Pentecost  Sunday Kent Beck Team						