

Becks Evangelical Lutheran Church
441 Becks Church Road
Lexington, NC 27292
(336) 249-2056

Pastors: Revs. Ray and Ruth Ann Sipe
Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Email: info@beckslutheranchurch.org
website: www.beckslutheranchurch.org

September 2009 Newsletter

What does it mean to be a people of faith?

For the next five weeks, we will hear lectionary texts from the book of James. While James is not traditionally a popular text for Lutherans, it is part of our Bible and as we read in 2 Timothy 3:16: “All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness...” These are also the texts we will be using for the mid-week Bible studies for the next several weeks.

As we hear and study the texts from James, we will hear questions raised that may not be very comfortable: What does it mean to be a doer of the Word rather than just a hearer of the Word? Why is faith without works dead? In general, what does it mean to be a people of faith, active in the world, grounded in Word and Sacrament?

You are invited to read the Epistle of James; to come to the mid-week Bible study and discuss it with us. More importantly, ponder these questions for yourselves: Do you hear the Word? Does it create in you a desire to do something? If so, what kinds of things might they be?

As we consider the words of James, we should examine our lives, our desires, and our goals. These words remind us that God did not send his only son to die on the cross just so that we could be saved; he did this because he loves us and wants to remind us what we should do when we love someone. As Jesus commanded, “love one another as I have loved you (John 15:12).”

May we show our love for one another, as both hearers and doers of the Word.

Pastor Ray

Pastor Ruth Ann



Becks annual Homecoming Celebration will be held on Sunday, September 13th.

Everyone is asked to bring a dessert to share. The women from the Circles of Faith, Hope, and Love are preparing side dishes, hot dogs, and tea while the Lutheran Men will cook the meats.

Memorials & Honorariums

Given to the Budget in Honor of Maxine Mull's birthday by Roger & Mary Vawter

*Given to the Budget in Honor of Carley Vawter's 5th Birthday
by Roger & Mary Vawter*

CURRENT REPORTS ON GIVING TO THE BUDGET AND THE BUILDING FUND ARE POSTED EACH MONTH ON THE BULLETIN BOARD BETWEEN THE MAILBOXES IN THE FEB HALLWAY.



Thrivent has recently announced a change in the Simply Giving Program, effective January 1, 2010. If you are currently participating in this program, please contact Holly Dorton (249-6135).

COUNCIL NEWS

Recent council action:

- + Named the following members of the Reconciliation Team: Laura Aberg, David Aldridge, Mittie Jo Cushman, Rebecca Garrett, and Keith McKenzie.
- + Accepted the bishop's recommendation of the Rev. Doug Kearney to serve as facilitator for the team
- + Asked Ronald Lamb to serve the remainder of a vacant council position in accordance with election results and procedures
- + Approved the Worship Board's recommendation to hire Carole Gasque as Director of Music, effective September 1st.

September Circle Meetings:

Circle of Love --- September 1

Circle of Faith --- September 6

Circle of Hope --- no meeting this month



Women of Becks,

We (that includes you) are hosting the Central Conference Fall Gathering on Saturday, September 19th here at Becks. We need help on Friday, the 18th at 6:00 pm with “wrapping” our “gifts” for our guests, decorating tables, and beginning the food preparation.... (We’re having baked potatoes, salad bar, and desserts for lunch.)

Please come and enjoy the fellowship that always accompanies getting ready for a party! You know we’ll have a laugh or two, at least. If you can’t come at 6:00, come when you can and stay as long as you are able.

Even though we need your help, we really want to see you on Saturday morning at 9:00 am! If anyone needs a ride let us know and we’ll see that you get to the Fall Gathering.

Please join your Sisters in Christ for this time of fellowship, service, and Bible Study!

Becky & Patti

News from the Circle of Hope

Circle of Hope
Circle of Hope

met at the home of Laura Aberg in August for a potluck dinner and went over the meal we served VBS, discussed future plans and our projects involving the Becks back-to-school hotdog/ice cream social, Homecoming, and the Central Conference Fall Gathering. Since we will be working on these three projects, we will not meet in September. Our next meeting will be on October 5, 2009 at 6pm in the Complex, with Kari Palmer as our hostess. Everyone bring a dish for the potluck supper and your Bible. **HOPE** to see you there!

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF IN NEED OF HEALTH KITS

Lutheran World Relief's supply of health kits remains critically low as requests for assistance across the world increase. The kits, containing basic hygiene supplies to help reduce the spread of germs and disease, are sent around the world to people dealing with the affects of war, disaster, and poverty. LWR needs more than 56,000 health kits to fill planned shipments to Azerbaijan, Mauritania, Tanzania, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Palestine (Gaza), Philippines, Peru and Guatemala by year's end.

Women of the ELCA at Becks will be collecting items for these LWR Health Kits.

Include the following items in each health kit:

- One hand towel, **dark color recommended**
- One washcloth, **dark color recommended**
- One bath-size bar (4-5 oz.) of soap, any brand, **in its original wrapping**
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- One sturdy comb, **remove packaging**
- One metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached, remove packaging
(do not substitute cardboard emery boards for the file)
- Six Band-Aids® (or similar brand), preferably 1/2" to 3/4"; secure together with a rubber band

All items should be new and in good condition.

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.

NOTE: Do not donate toothpaste as that will be added later.

You may choose to make an entire kit OR you may buy any of the individual items and WELCA will assemble the kits.

If you choose to make a kit---

Wrap smaller items in the washcloth; wrap washcloth and remaining items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

You may also donate cash to help buy extra items to fill out the kits.

Give any money to Maxine. The remainder of the money will be sent to LWR to help with mailing expenses.

LWR's approximate cost to handle and ship one LWR health kit overseas is \$2.65 (includes the cost of toothpaste to go with the health kit).

**A gathering box is in the hall by the WELCA bulletin board.
Please put your donations in the box by October 11.**

IT'S TIME ONCE AGAIN TO GATHER AS
WOMEN OF THE ELCA



CENTRAL CONFERENCE FALL GATHERING
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2009
BECKS LUTHERAN CHURCH

9:00-9:45 Registration and Light Breakfast

10:00 Business and Bible Study

Noon Lunch and Social

Cost: \$7 per person to
Sylvia Beck
357-5355

Checks to Becks Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA
Deadline: Sunday, September 13th

Offering goes to Papua, New Guinea Task Force Fund
Pennies go to "Mountain Women Rising"
Please convert coins to cash or check

Rainbow Scholarship Service
In remembrance of our Sisters who have joined the Church Triumphant
(Please bring a small candle for use in this service)

Bible Study
"The Gift of Water: God speaks to us in water stories"



Dear Becks Lutheran Church VBS:

Just a brief note to thank you for all of the hard work you put into the blankets that you donated to Crisis Ministries. What a great encouragement to know that there are young people that think of those that are less fortunate than themselves. The children will love the bright colors and it will feel so good to snuggle up in a warm blanket.

Once again, thank you, and if we can ever be a blessing to you and to your church, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Daugherty
Genesis Manager

Congratulations to Kari Palmer who sang the national anthem for the Kannapolis Intimidators' home game on August 21. Kari will have an encore performance on Friday, September 4!

Congratulations to Roscoe & Ophelia Walker on the birth of their great-granddaughter, Rylee Ophelia, on August 13. Riley's parents are Robert & Jessica Lambeth, and her grandparents are Julie & Dwayne Beasley.



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 20th of each month.

Portals of Prayer Daily Devotionals for October, November, and December will be placed in your mailboxes soon. Several **LARGE PRINT** copies are available.

If you, or someone you know, needs a large print edition, please contact Pastor Ray or Pastor Ruth Ann!



MARTIN'S MUSICIANS

*Do you play an instrument?
Did you play an instrument years ago?*

If your answer is yes, we need you in our band! We don't care how rusty you are or how bad your lip is. The people in band now will lead the way. We have some easy hymn arrangements from the Moravian Publishing House and we would like to have a group play on Reformation Sunday (October 25).

Please let me know if you are interested. I need to know your name, phone number, e-mail address if you have one, and if you are in school or out. You can e-mail (cgasque@triad.rr.com), call me at (238-5324), or leave a message in my mailbox.

Carole

P.S. Is there a drummer in the congregation? Can anyone guess which pastor plays the clarinet?

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN THE CHOIR AND THE HANDBELL CHOIR!

For choir:

1. You should enjoy singing.
2. You do not have to know how to read music.
3. You do not need prior singing experience.
4. You should be willing to rehearse one night a week.

Rehearsals are at 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday - and are open to all from 7th grade through adults. You attend church every Sunday so little or no inconvenience is involved there. Regular attendance and promptness is an obvious necessity.

If you're still unsure, consider joining for a semester. That way, you'll learn about us and be able to sing the Christmas music! Our first regular rehearsal for the fall is September 2 in the FEB. Dessert will be served! **COME AND SEE WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!**

For handbell choir:

1. You do not have to know how to read music.
2. Being able to "count" music is very helpful but not required.

Bells are open to anyone from 6th grade through adult. Bells are a lot of fun! ***Please let me know if you are interested, then keep tuned for the first rehearsal date.***

Carole

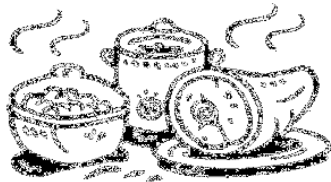


Volunteers are still needed to help in various ways with Sunday worship, especially in the nursery. Sign up sheets are located in the FEB hallway between the mailboxes. Thanks for helping in this way!

If you are interested in volunteering to help out in the church office one or more mornings per week, please contact one of the pastors. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

A new exercise group is underway here at Becks, using a low-impact exercise program based on the video **Walking Down Your Blood Sugar**. This is a walking program designed for adults of all ages.

Meetings are Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Pastors' Classroom. Contact Doris Allen (746-6432) for more information.



Small groups (usually three couples) meet once a month to share a meal and fellowship. The fall schedule for this group is being planned now. If you have questions or would like to join, please contact Holly Dorton.

Supper Club

All Octogenarians in the congregation will be honored at a special luncheon in October. Please help us update this list!

If you know of someone who should be added to the list, please contact the church office.



Octogenarian Luncheon



The State of the Synod - Economically Speaking

The NC Synod is continually thankful and grateful for all the Lord Jesus Christ has blessed us with through the generosity of our congregations. As we head into the latter part of the year, we reflect upon the beginning of the year, its challenges and success, and look hopefully to the future.

The current economic climate has affected us all. Many of us have been touched by unemployment, loss of benefits, and the threat of a financially unsecure future. But, as Lutherans, we have not lost faith, courage or conviction. The Word of God still lives within us.

As we reflect on the financial state of the synod so far this year, it is with grateful hearts and knowledge of God's abundance. The year has had its peaks and valleys, yet we know that this journey, however difficult, is always with Christ.

In July, mission support was short of expectations by 16%. As a result, the synod will be able to fulfill its Level 1 Priorities under the priority plan adopted by synod council and created with input from our agencies, institutions and partners. If you would like the details of this plan, please contact Ray Barnhardt at 704.633.4861 or rbarnhardt@nclutheran.org. Overall, mission support is down 14% for the second quarter of the year, which is a slight improvement over the 17% shortfall in the first quarter.

Many of us do feel the stress of the current economic climate, but Paul reminds us of God's overwhelming generosity. "*We can't round up enough containers to hold everything God generously pours into our lives through the Holy Spirit!*" - Romans 5:3-5

Due to our reduced receipts the past several months, Becks has been unable to pay our full synod apportionment or to provide funds to support some local ministries this year, such as Crisis Ministry or Medical Ministries.

Please consider increasing your giving as you are able, or giving designated gifts to support these ministries.

**Congregational Retreat
October 16-18, 2009
Kure Beach Retreat Center**



**Retreat
Opportunities**

It's time for our annual congregational retreat at Kure Beach!

This event is open to everyone in the congregation – families are encouraged to attend. We will worship, study, eat, and have fun together. Our focus for the weekend will be prayer, looking at why we pray, and experiencing various styles and types of prayer. Plus there will be plenty of free time to spend on the beach or on your own.

Plan to arrive on Friday afternoon or evening; dinner Friday night will be on your own. We will have devotions and a brief study time together Friday evening.

Saturday morning we will have a light breakfast, spend time in prayer and study, then send everyone out for an afternoon of free time. Saturday evening we will eat dinner out, then spend more time in study together.

Sunday morning after breakfast, we will worship together, then depart for home.

Cost for lodging at the retreat center is \$32 per person, per night. There are signup sheets located at both entrances. Please talk with one of the pastors if you have any questions. We have space for 24 to 48 people!

**Career Crossroads
October 16-18, 2009
Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary**

Are you or is someone you know going through a career crisis? Many people are unhappy in their vocation and aren't sure which steps to take to find work that fits their gifts and mission in life. Career Crossroads is a spiritual retreat that can help with these difficult decisions.

Brochures for this event are available through the church office. For questions, please contact Sandra Holland, Associate Director for Ministry, Region 9 at 803-461-3263 or sandrah@ltss.edu. The deadline for registrations is September 17th.

Finding Strength in Community

“It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect.” - 2 Samuel 22:33

At the young age of 15, Richard began his seven years of service in the Marine Corps. He enjoyed life after service working two jobs and soaking up the California sun. He soon met and married his new bride Beth who four years later gave birth to their daughter. Life for Richard and Beth was typical and happy until Beth was killed by a drunk driver.

Richard’s grief quickly transformed into depression and he turned to drugs and alcohol. With time he started to get his life back on track and decided he needed to move home to the east coast. It was here he met his second wife and found a new sense of purpose in a painting career. Still suffering with severe depression, however, the drug and alcohol abuse reemerged and his marriage crumbled. After years of drowning his pain alone and bouncing from job to job he began to consider suicide.

Richard found the strength from deep within his pain to call 911. The paramedics took him to Dorn VA. He was hospitalized and then completed the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. The VA contacted Terry Weeks, Program Director for Kinard Manor to hold a place for Richard. Kinard Manor is a transitional housing facility for homeless male veterans in Greenwood, SC. Terry welcomed Richard into the Kinard family with only the clothes on his back; an old torn pair of sweat pants, a t-shirt, socks and a blown out pair of tennis shoes.

Richard has been sober and drug free for five months. He contributes his success to the safety and community he feels at Kinard. He said, “I function better in an environment like this. I don’t have to try to fight myself and feel alone.” He is grateful to the people of the community and Immanuel Lutheran Church for all the clothes he now has hanging in his closet. “It builds up my self-esteem,” he says as he expresses his gratitude for the program and the people who support its good work.



Experience God's Greatest Gift!

Holly Grove Lutheran Church

September 26 & 27, 2009

Guest Preacher Pastor Ernie Hinojosa

Music by Exit 9

**Holly Grove Lutheran Church
212 Holly Grove Lutheran Church Rd
Lexington, NC 27292
336-249-2807
www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org**

Everything is FREE!

Bring your lawn chair.

All events rain or shine!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, September 26

On the lawn at the Office Complex

5:00PM—6:30PM

FREE! BBQ Chicken Dinner

"Music on the Deck"

6:30PM—8:30PM

Softball Field—"The Holly Dome"
Preaching, Prayer, Music

Sunday, September 27

Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary

8:30AM Continental Breakfast

9:30AM Sunday School

10:30AM Inspiring Worship

Refreshments & Fellowship
after worship

Escape to the South Seas

At New Covenant Lutheran Church,

10445 N. Main Street, Archdale

Fundraiser Lunch/Dinner September 19, 2009

Options available;

- Lunch Seating 1:00pm
- Dinner Seating 6:00 pm
- Take out is also available

Tickets:

Presale Tickets only

\$10.00 per person

Menu:

- Adobo chicken
- Pancit noodles
- Fried Rice
- Egg Roll
- Tea
- A special dessert

Proceeds from this fundraiser go to

World's Apart-One Heart Inc.

DLN: 17053081014017

For Ticket Sales please call
New Covenant Lutheran Church
Phone: 431-7491

For more information please contact
Margaret Solomon 434-3146 or Mimi Young 498-4534

World's Apart One Heart

ROSE'S STORY: Rose's youngest sister in the Philippines needed only 50-cents worth of antibiotics to recover from pneumonia in January, 1999. She was a college student living in Manila, in her fifth year of studying computer engineering. She died at the age of 21. The medicine was not available and she could not afford a trip to the hospital. But her legacy lives on in Rose Hankins, a patient scheduler at Moses Cone Regional Cancer Center.

WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

To provide a healthcare clinic once a year in Carigara, in the province of Leyte, The Philippines. The mission team includes both medical and non-medical volunteers.

WHAT IS OUR GOAL?

To encourage local medical professionals to work toward comprehensive care for people in all parts of the Philippines

HOW DO LOCALS HEAR ABOUT US?

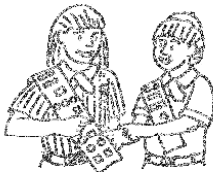
The mission is in the Philippines during the Easter holiday. A banner is hung in the market place to advertise as people prepare for Easter. A parade and other festivities draw people from surrounding areas giving them an opportunity to attend the clinic.

The vice-president of the Holy Cross Alumni Association, Dr. Marian Pami-Montesclaros MD, contacts alumni and holds the clinic as part of the class reunion of Homecoming of Holy Cross Academy.

WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED?

- Women's Clinic
- Simple Surgeries
- Exams and pap smears
- Dental Services
- Cataract Surgery Clinic at the local hospital
- X-rays and Diagnostic Testing
- Local volunteer doctors write prescriptions, as needed
- Mission Team fill the prescriptions at the clinic pharmacy **FREE OF CHARGE!**
- In 2008, we provided care for 1500 patients!

ROSE HANKINS is the driving force behind this mission. Rose is determined to fixing a healthcare system in her home country that she sees as broken. She collects donated medical supplies and then mails them to the Philippines. When Rose is not working, she organizes fund-raisers and recruits people for the yearly mission trip.



Cadette Troop # 1205 is looking for donations of new or used T-shirts – of any size or color, with or without logos or

printing - for their troop projects this year. Contact Cat Hines for more information.

We want to thank everyone for their prayers for our summer program. It was a summer filled with fun and spiritual growth for all who attend.

UP-COMING EVENTS: Call for information.

Golf Outing October 5th At Echo Farms, Wilmington Get a 4-some together and help provide camperships for summer camp.



Vibrant Faith Formation Oct 23-24 at Camp Agape. A conversation with Dr. Paul Hill Executive Director of the Youth & Family Institute. The church is one generation away from extinction!

Fall Work Day October 31st at Camp Agapé. Lodging provided Friday night, breakfast and lunch provided on Saturday. Reservations required contact aceed@agapekurebeach.org or call Mir.

Sixth Annual Hike-A-Thon and basket raffle November 7, 2009 at Camp Agape. Hikers of all ages are welcome. (Benefit Environmental Education at Camp Agape).

Contact Camp Agapé: Telephone: 919-552-9421
E-mail: agape@agapekurebeach.org
Contact Kure Beach Office: Telephone: 910-458-0783
E-mail: kurebeach@agapekurebeach.org
Web site: www.agapekurebeach.org

EDITOR'S NOTE:

We have received notices about many other community and church-related events - far too many to publish in the newsletter! Please check out the community bulletin board in the FEB for information about these events!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>September</h1> <p>Sunday Schedule: 8:30 a.m. Breakfast 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship</p>		1 7:00 p.m. Circle of Love NO Bible Study	2 10:30 a.m. Young at Heart 12:00 p.m. Responsive Prayer & Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	3	4	5
6 14th Sunday after Pentecost Buford Blankenship Team 3:00 p.m. Circle of Faith	7 7:00 p.m. Exercise Group 	8 7:00 p.m. Bible Study & Night Prayer	9 12:00 p.m. Responsive Prayer & Bible Study 4:00 p.m. Worship Board 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	10 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. Council Supper 7:00 p.m. Council Mtg	11	12 Feed the shelter
13 15th Sunday after Pentecost HOMECOMING Terry Hedrick Team Men host the shelter	14 7:00 p.m. Exercise Group	15 7:00 p.m. Bible Study & Night Prayer	16 12:00 p.m. Responsive Prayer & Bible Study 1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 p.m. Education Board 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	17 6:30 p.m. Lutheran Men's supper	18	19 9:00 a.m. WELCA Central Conference Fall Gathering
20 16th Sunday after Pentecost Robbie Harrison Team	21 7:00 p.m. Exercise Group October Newsletter Information Due <i>FEB reserved 8am-5pm</i>	22 7:00 p.m. Bible Study & Night Prayer <i>FEB reserved 8am-5pm</i>	23 12:00 p.m. Responsive Prayer & Bible Study NO CHOIR PRACTICE <i>FEB reserved 8am-5pm</i>	24 <i>FEB reserved 8am-5pm</i>	25 <i>FEB reserved 8am-5pm</i>	26
27 17th Sunday after Pentecost Alan Myers Team	28 7:00 p.m. Exercise Group	29 7:00 p.m. Bible Study & Night Prayer	30 12:00 p.m. Responsive Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	Acolyte: Caitlin Aberg Crucifer: Greeter: Caitlin Aberg, Hannah Frey, Greyson Myers Nursery: Laura Aberg Lector: Brenda Sanders Prayers: Patti Lovell Communion Assistants: Ted & Holly Dorton		