



**August 2021**


# Good News

**Mt Zion – St Luke Lutheran**

- August 2021**
- 8-1** Sunday School 10:00  
Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Online option
  - 8-3** Centering Prayer 8:30
  - 8-4** Soup Kitchen at noon  
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
  - 8-8** Council Meeting 8:45a  
Sunday School 10:00  
Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Online option
  - 8-10** Centering Prayer
  - 8-11** Bible Study 7 p.m.
  - 8-15** Sunday School 10:00  
Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Online option  
**Family Day Dinner**  
**Newsletter Deadline**
  - 8-17** Centering Prayer  
8:30 a.m.
  - 8-18** Bible Study 7 p.m.
  - 8-22** Sunday School 10:00  
Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Online option
  - 8-24** Centering Prayer  
8:30 a.m.
  - 8-25** Singing at The Oaks  
10:30 a.m.  
Bible Study 7 p.m.
  - 8-29** Sunday School 10:00  
Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Online option
  - 8-31** Centering Prayer  
8:30 a.m.

*And, Yet...*

It’s raining again, a slow, miserable drizzle that matches my mood. Thunderclouds have developed in my brain, and my outlook is gloomy. The recent death of a dear friend has me numbering my days.



I am missing calls from my mother, who no longer remembers how to use a phone. Other family members all live too far away for spontaneous get-togethers, and my grandchildren are growing up without me. Loneliness has settled in like an unwanted guest, and I feel like Job had nothing on me.

Grumpily, I do what I usually do when the world gets to be too much. I pick up my Bible and play Bible Roulette, letting it fall open with a prayer that a message from God will leap off the page and be just what I need to hear to get me out of the doldrums. It opens to Habakkuk, and I begin to read:

*“Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines, though the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food, though the flock is cut off from the fold and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will exult in the God of my salvation. (3:17-18)*

*Trust and Joy in the Midst of Trouble* is the headline for this passage of Scripture, and once again, I marvel at the way the Spirit always seems to speak to me in my need. Habakkuk’s list of difficulties is long, *and yet*, the prophet finds reason to rejoice. It is the “*yet*” part of the passage that catches my attention. As my Spiritual Formation Bible points out, that one little word – *yet* – turns Habakkuk’s dirge into a dance. His long list of trials is transformed into triumph as he chooses to *exult* in his God rather than *wallow* in life’s catastrophes.

Suddenly, my little problems are put into proper perspective, and I realize how good my life really is. It may rain outside, *yet*, *inside*, the light of God’s love is always there, shining brightly in my soul, if I but notice. I say a prayer of thanks for my life *in spite* of my troubles. The clouds in my brain are lifted, and my outlook is sunny once again.

May you, too, find hope in the midst of your troubles in that one little word - *yet*. **Pastor Barb <><**

***In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.***  
*NKJ 1 Thessalonians 5:18*

## Ministry Opportunities Abound!

*The Evangelism / Social Outreach Committee's* purpose is to help put our faith in action as we share the Good News, by reaching out to the physical, spiritual, and social needs in the community, and to be a light to reach the spiritually slumbering, unchurched, and new residents. Some see each ministry as mutually exclusive, with Evangelism being focused on spiritual concerns, and social ministry seeing to the carnal needs of our neighbors, but they are entwined. Mt. Zion St Luke has been singularly blessed. Some of the ways we have directly ministered in sharing the Gospel in the past is providing Bibles to the Jail, supporting Kairos, devotionals shared at the Bread of Life {when in person meals were provided, but now through scripture verses in every takeout tray}. Ironically, the pandemic that has kept us physically apart, has provided an unprecedented tool for MZSL in allowing folks to be able to watch services virtually, and share them with others. It was St. Francis who said, "Preach always, use words only if you have to". Our outreach lets us be the hands and feet of our Savior to show Christ's love through our actions. Some of the avenues God has used us has been providing meals at the Soup Kitchen, the Foster Children's Christmas party, Nursing Home hymn sings, food drives, toiletries for the women's prison, sharing Bomba socks with shelters and nursing homes, assistance for the victims of natural disasters, and in helping to provide oxygen tanks - the very air a person breathes- for India in the ongoing pandemic. It is shown in every stitch that was sewn in the Quilting Circle. The needs in our community are ongoing, but what a blessing in being able to provide for them, with God's help. "By this we know what love is: Jesus laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down ours for our brothers. If anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, but withholds compassion to him, how does the love of God abide in him? Little children, let us love not in word and speech, but in action and truth. 1 John 3:116-18. Coming up Sept 12th, we have a special opportunity in *God's Work Our Hands Sunday* to celebrate all that we are as Believers and better serve? Please help, and if you have any ministry ideas, or would like to be part of the Evangelism/Social Outreach Committee, please let me know. Karen Hatten khtten@aol.com 478-361-2806

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### [Advocacy Summer School](#)

Get familiar with what advocacy is... and what is distinctive about how Lutheran advocates and the ELCA bring their faith into the public square. With real world examples and time for your questions this Advocacy Summer School session lays a good foundation. Sessions are held via Zoom Webinar, and last 30 minutes.

**Wednesdays, August 11, through September 8, 2021. REGISTER TODAY!**

### **EXCHANGES** [Resources for Economic and Ecological Justice](#)

*Are you a faith leader or clergy person looking for resources on economic and ecological justice to use in your community or congregational work? Connect with the The Wendland-Cook Program in Religion and Justice at Vanderbilt Divinity School to look at some of the online trainings they are developing. Input needed NOW for resources to be launched in Fall 2021.*



### [Seminary Classes for Everyone! \(The Candler Foundry\)](#)

Theological explorations designed to help individuals and congregations grow spiritually, reflect deeply, and engage issues that matter to their communities.

Check out [The Candler Foundry](#) online!

See their [SEMINARY COURSES FOR EVERYONE!](#)

The Candler Foundry is an initiative of [Candler School of Theology](#) at Emory University.

## Serving Our Lord in August

### **Altar Guild**

Duck Koch & Tommy Martin

### **Lectors**

David Haigler & Max Wood

### **Sound Technicians:**

Bobby Martin, Duck Koch, Joy McNutt

### **Acolyte**

Aiden Hobbs

**Family Day:** Dale Godfrey, Ted & Mary Lynn Robinson, and Tommy & Gail Coogle.

### **Coffee Hour:**

08-01 Dale Godfrey

08-22 Angela cannon

08-08 Renee Collier

08-29 Jon Coogle

08-15 Karen Hatten

### **Flowers**

**08-01** Jim and Patricia Trask in honor of their children and grandchildren, Mary Katherine, Maddie, John Henry, Charlie, Ridley and Hunter.

**08-08** Jamey and Mary Ellen Peaster in loving memory of Teresa Childs and Billy Peaster.

**08-15** Jimmy and Mary Kay Watson in loving memory of her parents, Thelma and Maynard Melton.

**08-22** Arthur Jackson in honor of his children, Amanda and Austin.

**08-29** Ted and Mary Lynn Robinson in honor of Jacob and Gavin.

**Soup Kitchen:** *August 4, 2021, at Noon*

**Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. for all ages in the Education Building.**

**Youth:** Upstairs - Katie Felker, Angela Hobbs, Renee Collier

**Adult Classes:** *Conference Room* – Wendi Martin

*Lingle Room:* John Coogle and David Haigler

### August Birthdays and Anniversaries

08-07 Tony & Renee Collier

08-21 Jim Trask

08-09 Jeremy & Susan Martin

08-23 Jennifer Kleckley

08-11 David & Mary Haigler

08-26 Tommy Coogle

08-12 Shane Peaster

08-29 Rainey Elizabeth Collier

08-31 Zach Martin



# AUGUST 2021

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 S.S.10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. <i>Online option</i>	2	3 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.	4 Soup Kitchen at Noon Bible Study 7:00p	5	6	7  Tony & Renee Collier
8 Council meeting 8:45 S.S.10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. <i>Online option</i>	9  Jeremy & Susan Martin	10 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.	11 Bible Study 7:00pm  David & Mary Haigler	12  Shane Peaster	13	14
15  S.S.10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. <i>Online option</i>	16	17 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.	18  Bible Study 7:00p	19	20	21  Jim Trask
22 S.S.10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. <i>Online option</i>  <b>Family Day Dinner to follow</b>  <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	23  Jennifer Kleckley	24 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.	25 The Oaks 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p	26  Tommy Coogle	27	28
29  S.S.10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. <i>Online option</i>  Rainey Elizabeth Collier	30	31 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.  Zach Martin				

**Mt. Zion – St. Luke Lutheran Church**

**P.O. Box 187**

**401 Randolph Street**

**Oglethorpe, Georgia 31068**

### **Stewardship**

Through the many things that are currently happening in the world here are some links for anyone who would like to help out.

- [Asia-Pacific Disaster Response](#)
- [Middle East Crisis](#)
- [COVID-19](#)
- [Middle East and Europe Refugee Crisis](#)

**Please help keep this prayer list current. Contact Tracy Choppla to add or remove names.**

**Pray for members:** Franchelle Arnold, Al Coogle, Mary Jane and Carl Ethridge, Brenden Fitzgerald, Jr, Emily Harvill, Myrtle Joiner, Zack Martin, Joy McNutt, Helen Smith, Angie and Heather Summer, Tony Webb, our college students, and for all the ministries of our church.

**For Friends and Family:** Angie Bledsoe, Susan Brennen, Dan Harvill Jr., Janice Haugabook, Ricky Haugabook, Bob Melvin, Crystal Miller, Buddy Murph, Charlene Oliver, Don Oliver, Leigh Powel, Connie Roland, Rob and Judy Stegall, Karen Weathersbee and family, D.C Williams, Marina's friend Chrystal, our nation, and the world.

**Serving Our Nation:** John Edwards.