



**JULY 2017**

# Good News

Mt Zion – St Luke Lutheran

## July 2017

- 7-2 SS/Worship
- 7-3 Grace Circle 10:00 a.m.
- 7-4 No Centering Prayer
- FOURTH OF JULY  
Office Closed**
- 7-5 Soup Kitchen 12:00  
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 7-6 LLL Bingo 10:00 a.m./  
Oasis
- 7-9 Council Mtg 8:30  
SS/Worship
- 7-11 Centering Prayer 8:30 a  
Quilting 10:00 a.m.
- 7-12 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 7-16 FAMILY DAY
- 7-17 Pastor Barb will be out of  
town from July 17th until  
July 21<sup>st</sup>
- 7-18 No Centering Prayer  
8:30 a.m.
- 7-19 No Bible Study
- 7-20 Oaks Nursing Home  
10:00 a.m.
- 7-23 SS/Worship  
Evangelism Mtg 12:00
- 7-25 Centering Prayer 8:30 a
- 7:26 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 7-30 SS/Worship



*And the truth shall make you free...*John 8:32-36

Freedom is a strange thing. There are people walking around *free as a bird from outward appearances who are miserable captives on the inside. And there are prisoners who are happy as larks, who laugh and sing, even in the darkest dungeons! Strange, this thing called freedom. How is it that the free can be imprisoned, and the imprisoned can be free? It has to do with Spirit.*

Richard Lovelace wrote, “Stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage.” We are inspired by stories of political prisoners whose spirits were not broken, who continued to fight for what is right and just and true from their cells. We admire the Christian martyrs who praised and thanked God even as they died! Yet, how often have we seen the walking dead; those in whom the light has gone out in their eyes though they seem to have everything in the world to live for? What is the difference between these people? It has to do with Spirit.

In this world, there are many things that threaten our freedom and try to enslave us. Some we don’t even recognize as a threat. Things like our stuff, our work, and our leisure activities are clever and subtle freedom-robbers. Busy-ness is another. Addictions or bad relationships can leave us feeling trapped and fearful. Circumstances beyond our control, such as illness, accidents, war, crime, and terrorist attacks can make us captives to fear, if we let them. But, when we feel those prison bars closing in, we need to remind ourselves that we are not alone in our struggle to remain free. We have an Advocate: The Spirit.

Jesus said, “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” The truth is, freedom has less to do with where you *live*, and more to do with *who lives in you!* You are in Christ, and Christ is in you! You are filled with the Holy Spirit! You are a beloved child of God, freed from sin and death! The things of this world that would enslave you have no power over you! In his beloved hymn, *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*, Martin Luther wrote, “Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child or spouse, wrench our life away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom’s ours forever!” Now, *that* is freedom that no one can *ever* take from you, no matter what circumstances you find yourself in!

And that is the secret of this strange thing called freedom. That is how those in prison can sing, those in pain can dance, the dying can live fully each day, the sick can laugh, addicts recover, relationships are healed, things don’t own us and our work doesn’t consume us. For, no matter what happens to us in our earthly lives, our *spirits* are free in Christ! And, if Christ makes us free, we are free indeed!

Come! Celebrate your freedom this 4<sup>th</sup> of July week-end with the good folks at Mt. Zion – St Luke, as we continue to explore what it means to be truly free.

Thank you, Jesus!

*Blessings, Pastor Barb <><*

*Now, the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. II Corinthians 3:17*

## Serving Our Lord in July

<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Karen Hatten
<b>Ushers</b>	Mack McCarty and Karen Hatten
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jon Coogle and Nancy McCarty
<b>Lectors</b>	Bob Koch and Tricia Trask

### **Acolytes:**

7-2 Tracey Choppla, 7-9 Kyrie Godfrey, 7-16 Kyrie Godfrey, 7-23 Kyrie Godfrey, 7-30 Kyrie Godfrey

**Family Day Hosts:** Ted & Mary Lynn Robinson, Julia Snipes, Brenden Fitzgerald, Carl & Mary Jane Etheridge

### **Coffee Hour:**

7-2 Ginny Martin, 7-9 Jon Coogle, 7-16 Arthur Jackson, 7-23 Mary Jane Etheridge, 7-30 Angela Cannon

### **Flowers:**

7-2: George and Helen Smith in honor of their children and grandchildren

7-9: Jon and Karen Coogle in honor of Callie

7-16: Bobby and Sharon Martin in loving memory of Betty Futrell

7-23: Bobby Moretz in loving memory of Jan Moretz and honor of Lelan, Ivy, Andy and grandchild, Scarlet Elizabeth

7-30: Emily Harvill in loving memory of Dan Harvill, Mr. and Mrs. J W Hammock, and Mr. and Mrs. W A Harvill

**Soup Kitchen:** Tricia Trask

### **Children's Sermon:**

7-2 Katie Felker, 7-9 Wendy Martin, 7-16 Renee Collier, 7-23 Mary Haigler, 7-30 Wendi Martin

### **Sunday School Teachers**

4-9 year olds – Angela Cannon

4<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> grade – Katie Felker

Adult Class Lingle Room – Jon Coogle

Adult Class – Wendi Martin

### July Birthdays and Anniversaries

7-1 Sam Choppla

7-12 Tony Collier

7-3 Carla Stuckey

7-15 David Haigler

7-8 Mary Haigler

7-17 Laura Coogle

7-9 Arthur Jackson

7-24 Sharon Martin

7-11 Henry Kleckley

7-24 Bob Koch

## CONFIRMATION DAY, Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2017

*Congratulations* to our 2017 Confirmation Class! On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017, ***Kyrie Godfrey***, ***Alita Godfrey*** and ***Christian Head***, (pictured below) participated in the Rite of Affirmation of Baptism. They are now considered Adult Members of Mt. Zion – St. Luke Lutheran Church, and we celebrated this milestone on their faith journey with a reception following the service. We will continue to hold them in our prayers as they continue to grow in the faith. God bless you all!



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## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2017



Callie A. Coogle graduated from UC Davis on Saturday, June 17, with highest honors in the field of psychology with a minor in English Literature. She was inducted into the Honor Societies of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi and was awarded a special cord for excelling in the top 10 percentile of her graduating class.

We sent a card and journal to Callie in celebration of her achievement with Karen and Jon when they attended the ceremony. We will congratulate her in person in July when she comes home before traveling to Glasgow to begin work on her Master's degree.

Congratulations and God's blessings, Callie! from your church family.

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

**P.O. Box 187**

**401 Randolph Street**

**Oglethorpe, GA 31068**

**Prayer List**

***Please Pray For Members:*** Jim Arnold, Al Coogle (and Debra), Bess Edwards, Brenden Fitzgerald, Jr, Mary Hammock, Myrtle Joiner, Nancy McCarty, Tommy Martin, Zack Martin, Helen Smith, Leigh Powell, Tricia Trask and Lucile Williams.

***For Friends and Family:*** Matthew Anderson, John Arnold, Trey Chapple, Chic Cole, Brian Dietz, Karen Drysdale, Joann Edwards, Allison Greene, Langdon Harp, Freddie & Linda Hartley, Jenny Joiner, Nancy Joyce, Mary Lamberth, Harris Lott, Charlene Oliver, Ron Ricklef, Kim Sangster, Virginia Taylor, Angela Trussell, for our Military and for all the ministries of our church.

***Serving Our Nation:***

John Edwards

Please help us keep this prayer list current. To add or remove someone, contact the church office. Thanks!