



*June 2021*

# Good News

**Mt Zion – St Luke Lutheran**

## June 2021

**6-1** Centering Prayer 8:30

**6-2** Soup Kitchen- noon  
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

**6-6** Sunday School 10:00  
Worship 11:00 a.m.

**6-8** Centering Prayer 8:30

**6-9** Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

**6-13** Council meeting 8:45  
Sunday School 10:00  
Worship 11:00 a.m.

**Pastor Barb on Vacation  
thru 6-19**

**6-15** No Centering Prayer

**6-16** No Bible Study

**6-20** Sunday School 10:00  
Worship 11:00 a.m.  
*No Family Day Dinner  
Due to Father's Day  
Newsletter Deadline*

**6-22** Centering Prayer  
8:30

**6-23** Bible Study 7:00  
p.m.

**6-27** Sunday School 10:00  
Worship 11:00 a.m.

**6-30** Singing at The Oaks  
10:30 a.m.

## *The Master Gardener...*



The weeds had taken over my flower bed. Before I could plant the seeds for this year's array, I had to get rid of those soil-sucking weeds, or the baby plants would not thrive. So, I began to pull them up mercilessly by the root.

I wasn't paying much attention, just wanting to get the job done, when I realized that one plant, I had pulled up wasn't a weed! I held in my hand a tiny live oak seedling; its long tap root threading out from an acorn. I had never tried to grow a tree from seed before, but I couldn't bear the thought of cutting this little one's brief life short by throwing it on the weed pile. So, I carefully replanted it, saying a prayer that it would take hold and grow. Since then, I've watered, fed and cared for it. So far, so good.

There are times in our lives when *we* will be much like this live oak seedling. We'll be going merrily about our days, enjoying the sun and rain, when all of a sudden, *Life* will come along and pull us by the roots! Being uprooted can take many forms: a death in the family, a chronic illness, job loss, divorce. And it isn't only *bad* things that can uproot us and change our whole lives. *Good* change, like a promotion, graduation, marriage, or the birth of a child is disruptive, too.

Life events like these can leave us hanging out there, roots in the wind, wondering where we will land next. It would be easy to panic, in those times. But, we who love the Lord have the assurance that we are not at the mercy of fate. We are being held in God's hands, and God, who *loves* us, cannot bear to see *us* tossed on the weed heap, *either!* Every time we get torn up, God will tenderly replant us. He will carefully choose a place for us where we can take hold and grow.

Will it be easy? Not always. Often, we will end up in unfamiliar territory. But, God will not leave us there to fend for ourselves. He will water, feed and care for us, wherever he plants us. And, we will find ourselves not just *surviving*, but *thriving* - healthier and happier in the *new* place than we were before, if we but trust in the wisdom of The Master Gardener.

May all your "uprootings" bring you blessings! **Pastor Barb <><**

***Blessed are those who trust in the LORD... They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought, it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. Jeremiah 17:7-8***

## Another Productive Litter Pick Up!

God blessed a group of church members with a **beautiful** spring morning and a **safe** and **productive** litter pick up on May 15, 2021. Thanks to David Haigler for organizing the pick-up and thanks to all that showed up to help.

Don't forget about our aluminum can recycling project! Just bag up any aluminum cans and deposit them in the trash containers behind the storage sheds at the church by the last Wednesday of each month. Someone will get them to the recycling center. Any money made from the cans will be used for bluebird houses to be placed around the church grounds.

May God remind each of us how His creation takes care of us daily without even a thought from us – the air we breathe, the soil that produces food for us and the water that freely flows over the earth, so that we may be good stewards and take care of His creation. Amen!

*Diane Cagle, Stewardship*



Mary Haigler, Jon Coogle, David Haigler, Bobby Martin, Diane Cagle, Henry Kleckly

## [AFFIRM - ONE-DAY Digital Event - June 26](#)



**Calling All 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade Youth!**  
**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!!**

We are going to gather via ZOOM on Saturday, June 26, 2021, for AFFIRM. This premiere youth event will include an opportunity to gather our youth (6th through 12th grade) according to their age group and will give us time to grow closer to God and to one another.

Affirm is a Summer Youth Event of the ELCA Southeastern Synod that nurtures faith, equips youth leaders, and trains youth in discipleship skills. Sign up TODAY for this FREE youth event.

## Faith-filled Summer Camps, Retreats & Hosted Ministries



Whether you're looking for your child's faith-filled summer camp experience, planning a retreat for your community or looking for one of our many Fall & Spring programs, NovusWay Ministries has what you're looking for. Our four unique locations allow you to experience Christ, camp, nature and more, in a new way. They are: Lutheridge and Luther Rock in North Carolina, Luther Springs in Florida and Lutheranch in Georgia.

Follow the link to get more information and to register for camp. <https://www.lutheridge.org>

## *Family Day Dinner a Success!*

The Congregation Council says *Thank You* for allowing us to serve you for our return to Family Day Dinner! It has been too long since we could all be together for food and fellowship. We will not have a dinner in June due to Father's Day on the third Sunday in June. However, on July 18<sup>th</sup>, we will be prepared for our *traditional covered dish meal*. Members scheduled for July are Mary Lynn and Ted Robinson, Julia Snipes, Brenden Fitzgerald, and Mary Kay and Jimmy Watson. Looking forward to seeing you there!

*Julia Snipes for The Fellowship Committee*



## Serving Our Lord in June

**Altar Guild**

Angela Cannon & Bobby Martin

**Lectors**

Arthur Jackson & Wendi Martin

**Sound Technicians:**

Bobby Martin, Duck Koch, Joy McNutt

**Acolyte**

Winn Martin

**Family Day: *No Family Day Meal due to Father's Day.***

*Will resume in July with our traditional covered dish meal.*

**Coffee Hour: *No Coffee Hour until further notice.***

**Flowers**

**6-06** Tommy and Gail Coogle in honor of their children and Grandchildren.

**6-13** Pastor Barb and Duck Koch to the glory of God and thanks for 29 years of marriage.

**6-20** Mary Jane and Carl Ethridge in honor of their sons, Aaron and Brian and their families.

**6-27** George and Helen Smith in loving memory of Linda Rodgers.

**Soup Kitchen: *June 2, 2021 at Noon:*** Mary Lynn Robinson and Dale Godfrey

**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*

### June Birthdays and Anniversaries

6-02 Tommy & Gail Coogle

6-13 Blake Coogle

6-03 Ginny Martin

6-19 Mary Virden

6-06 Duck & Pastor Barb Koch

6-20 Billy Martin

6-09 Diane Cagle

6-22 Julia Snipes

6-11 Billy & Ginny Martin

6-27 Mary Jane Ethridge

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

**P.O. Box 187**

**401 Randolph Street**

**Oglethorpe, Georgia 31068**

**Worship continues with Precautions in Place until Further Notice.**

Your Council continues to assess the data and keep up to date with the recommendations from the CDC as to our response to the Covid 19. At present, we are told that persons who are fully vaccinated need not wear masks outdoors, which doesn't affect our policies. Masks are still recommended at larger indoor gatherings to protect those at risk, such as the unvaccinated and nursing home residents who have strict rules when leaving the facility. We will continue with our current policies in the sanctuary for now, and let you know when we make any changes. Guidelines are in each weekly bulletin.

**Thank You for Helping the People of India Fight Covid 19!**

We received an emergency appeal from Lutheran World Relief for funds to purchase oxygen tanks for India, as they have run out of sufficient oxygen to treat the extreme rise in cases in that country. As of this writing, MZSL has sent \$570.00 to LWR for oxygen tanks along with our prayers for the people of India. We will continue to collect donations through May 31<sup>st</sup>. You may put your donation in the offering plate at the church entrances or give online on the synod **website: [elca-ses.org](http://elca-ses.org)**. Thank you so much for responding to this great need.

**Please help keep this prayer list current. Contact Tracy Choppla to add or remove names. Pray for members:** Franchelle Arnold, Al Coogle, Mary Jane Ethridge, Brenden Fitzgerald, Jr, Emily Harvill, Myrtle Joiner, Zack Martin, Helen Smith, Angie and Heather Summer, Tricia Trask, Tony Webb, our college students, and for all the ministries of our church.

**For Friends and Family:** Susan Brennen, Janice Haugabook, Ricky Haugabook, David and Linda Kizer, Sara Koch, Bob Melvin, Crystal Miller, Buddy Murph, Charlene Oliver, Don Oliver, Leigh Powel, Rob and Judy Stegall, Heather Summer, Karen Weathersbee and family, D.C Williams, Marina's friend Chrystal, our nation, and the world.

**Serving Our Nation:** John Edwards.