



May 2018

Good News

Mt Zion – St Luke Lutheran

May 2018

- 5-01 Centering Prayer 8:30
- 5-02 Soup Kitchen Noon
- 5-3 LLL Bingo 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
MCMA Prayer Vigil
7:00 p.m, 1st Salem Baptist
- 5-5 MCMA Clergy Mtg.
Lingle Rm. 9:00 a.m.
- 5-6 SS/Worship
- 5-7 Grace Circle 10:00 a.m.
- 5-8 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.
- 5-9 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 5-13 SS/Worship,
Mother's Day
- 5-14 Quilting 10:00 a.m.
- 5-15 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.
- 5-16 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 5-17 Oaks Nursing Home 10:00
- 5-19 Martin Graduation Party in
Lingle Room—Reserved
- 5-20 **Pentecost**
SS/Worship,
Family Day
Mutual Ministry
News Letter Deadline
- 5-22 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.
- 5-23 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 5-27 Council Meeting 8:45 a.
SS/Worship
Evangelism Mtg.
- 5-28 **Memorial Day**
- 5-29 Centering Prayer 8:30 a.m.
- 5-30 Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
- 5-31 **Pastor Barb out of
Town** for Synod Assembly
5-31 through 6-3

Love Offerings...

There was a knock on my door, so faint I nearly missed it. I opened it to find my five-year-old neighbor, looking up at me. "I picked this for you!" she said with a smile, as she handed me an azalea flower from my own bush. Inside the blossom she had stuck a bud from one of my husband's pansy plants. "It's lovely!" I exclaimed. "I've never seen anything like it!" "Nope!" she beamed. "It's one of a kind!" Then, she skipped down the steps, happily moving on to her next adventure. I put her creative offering in a little bud vase, where it lasted for two days - a welcome reminder that I am loved.

In my closet, I have a tub full of such offerings; a leaf pressed between sheets of waxed paper, a turtle carved from a bar of soap, construction paper hearts. When I take them out and look at them, I can still see the tiny hands that created it, still feel the little arms hugging my neck, still see the bright faces with the proud smiles as they offered up their treasures. Is there anything better than being the recipient of a child's love? It doesn't matter how imperfect the gift. In fact, the more lopsided and rickety it is, the more endearing it becomes! The gifts grow with the child and too soon, the spindly, homemade kind are replaced with the more perfect, grown up kind – no less loved, but not quite the same. And, the tub is put away for the days when you need a warm memory.

Does God have a storehouse in heaven for the treasures he has stored up from us? Imperfect creations we have made for him, plucked from his own bush? Does God sit on his great throne in heaven and carefully lift up some small offering we have made and remember the day it was given? Can God see how we have matured in our faith journey by the quality of our gifts? I believe so. Patience, kindness, goodness, love, joy, peace, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control - the gifts of the Spirit. These are the things we offer to our God when we come knocking on heaven's door. And, like any loving parent, I believe God receives our love offerings with great tenderness, and those that are imperfect become perfect in his eyes, simply because God loves us. Each time we are loving or kind or patient with someone, our deeds rise up like incense as a love offering to God. God may forget each mistake we have made, but he *never* forgets the *good* things we have done. A loving act lives on in the Eternal Memory, tucked away in the heart of God like a flower clutched in the hand of a child.

May you be blessed with the knowledge that you are God's precious child, and that he is delighted in you, and the gifts you bring to his door. They are truly, one-of-a-kind!

Happy Mother's Day! Pastor Barb <><

But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal." Matthew 6:20

Serving Our Lord in May

Communion Assistant	Ginny Martin
Ushers	Billy Martin and Bobby Martin
Altar Guild	Bobby Martin and Mary Lynn Robinson
Lectors	Mary Haigler and Tommy Martin
Acolytes:	Alita Godfrey

Family Day Dinner: May 13th

Billy and Ginny Martin; Jimmy and Mary Kay Watson; Brenden Fitzgerald;
Jeremy and Susan Martin

Coffee Hour:

5-6 Renee Collier	5-13 Nancy McCarty
5-20 Jon Coogle	5-27 Arthur Jackson

Flowers:

5-6	Myrtle Joiner in loving memory of Ralph and Josh Joiner
5-13	Kenny Parks in honor of Richard, Brett and Trenton
5-20	Mack and Nancy McCarty in honor of their grandchildren
5-27	Julia Snipes in memory of her mother, Louise Snipes

Soup Kitchen: Soup Kitchen: May 2nd, Noon: Karen Hatten

Sunday School Teachers:

K-5th Grade – Angela Cannon	6th – 12th Grade – Susan Martin
Adult Class Lingle Room – David Haigler	Adult Class Conference Room – Wendi Martin

May Birthdays and Anniversaries

5-2 Dale Godfrey	5-17 Katie Felker
5-3 Tracey Choppla	5-17 Laney Martin
5-13 Trey & Laura Coogle	5-22 Susan Martin

Congratulations 2018 Graduates

5-19 Kelsi Cannon Schley County High School	5-18 Sara Morgan Martin Westfield School
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Macon County Ministerial Association Directory of Services

The Macon County Ministerial Association is preparing a Referral Directory of Services available for Macon County senior citizens and others who may need assistance in caring for their homes, cars, and other things. They are looking for carpenters, mechanics, house keepers, roof repair persons and other service workers who would be willing to donate a few hours of their time to help someone in need. They will make the directory available in the churches, and when someone hears of someone who needs help in a certain area, they can refer. If you have a skill that you would like to volunteer to share to help others, please let Pastor Barb know.

Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE!

This year, we are happy to announce that we will be celebrating 180 years of ministry with a Homecoming/Celebration Service on October 21st, 2018. Festivities begin at 10:00 a.m. with coffee and baked goods at the Mt. Zion Cemetery on HWY 26. When all have gathered, we will hear a brief history of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, then take a Cemetery Walk, where we will meet some of our most illustrious late members as they tell you their life story. We will then proceed to Mt. Zion – St. Luke Lutheran Church for a celebratory worship service with Bishop Julian Gordy of our Southeastern Synod presiding, and former pastor Rev. John Lingle preaching. The worship service will be followed by a BBQ dinner.

We will be sending invitations to former clergy and their families, former members and friends of MZSL soon, and will be sending reminders throughout the year, but wanted to get on your calendar now, because we know you won't want to miss this special milestone on our journey as a community of faith!



Casting Crowns

Casting Crowns will be performing on October 27, 2018, in concert at the Columbus Civic Center in Columbus, Georgia. Special guest is Zach Williams. If you would like to attend, you can go to these Websites: columbusciviccenter.org; [facebook.com/LMGconcerts](https://www.facebook.com/LMGconcerts) or call 1-800-745-3000 for more information. Groups of 10 plus qualify for a group discount. Please let Pastor Barb know if you would like to attend as a group.

Mt. Zion – St. Luke Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 187

401 Randolph Street

Oglethorpe, Georgia 31068

Summary of Kairos #38 Dooly State Prison

Thursday evening of April 5th, as the inmates came in they were asked not to judge the Kairos until its completion. They were to participate 100% in all activities. Sunday, April 8th, after closing the inmates were asked three questions:

(1) **In what spiritual condition were you before Kairos?** – Living in darkness, lost, empty, seeking and thirsty. (2) **What did you find here?** – Love, fellowship, Jesus. We are not alone. (3) **What are you taking away?** – The love of God, the peace of God, a joy we can't explain and God is real.

Go With God!

Arthur Jackson, Chair Person of Dooly State Prison Advisory Council

Prayer List

Please Pray For Members: Jim Arnold, Al Coogle, Bess Edwards, Brenden Fitzgerald, Jr, Mary Hammock, Mack McCarty, Nancy McCarty, Tommy Martin, Zack Martin, Helen Smith, Leigh Powell, Tricia Trask, Tony Webb, the Webb Family, Lucile Williams, all the ministries of our church and for our Military.

For Friends and Family: Matthew Anderson, John Arnold, Donalie Belcher, Trey Chapple, Chic Cole, Brian Dietz, Karen Drysdale, Joann Edwards, Eloise Fagan, Chris Fox, Trey Futrell, Allison Greene, Langdon Harp, Freddie & Linda Hartley, Dale Holloway, Curtis Johnson, Jenny Joiner, Nancy Joyce, Mary Lamberth, Harris Lott, Charlene Oliver, David Peaster, Charles Perry, Ron Ricklef, Kim Sangster, and Virginia Taylor.

Serving Our Nation: John Edwards