

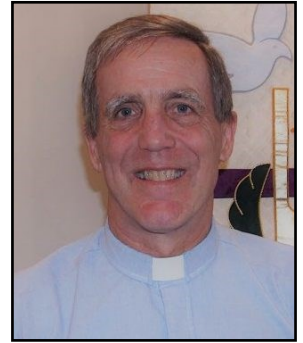
ST. ANDREW'S

Lutheran Church

May 2020

He is
not here,
He has
Risen!
Luke 24:6

A Word from Pastor Trump



We just don't know. How wonderful if we did know what the immediate — let alone the long-range — future held for our church, our communities, for our nation, and for the world. I will share some thoughts about possibilities for the church. Our future is strong and vibrant. What it will look like is not clear. We do not know, as of this writing, when we will be able to gather in person for worship. When we do we may be forced to do so in smaller groups, practicing social distancing. We do not know when we will be able to have Bible study or Sunday school in person again. When those gatherings resume will we continue to offer some of the virtual opportunities? There is nothing good about a virus that takes people's lives and has caused serious economic difficulties for many people. However, we still must ask ourselves what we can learn from this experience? How might we grow as a community? Have we found new ways to care for the weakest among us? Have we cared for one another as a community founded in God's sacrificial love is called to care? What is fascinating to me at least is the way that this has pushed forward some of the tools we were already encouraging. Automatic giving to the church has been a great source of support. We have been discussing for some time ways the church could use technology to further its' ministry. There have been questions about how we can use technology to connect people.

I am thankful to be the pastor with and for a community that longs to be one in Christ even as we are socially distant from one another. Please consider what opportunities God is putting before you at this time to help the ministry of this church. For instance, maybe there are those you know who would love to see our worship in the comfort of their home? Maybe there is someone who would join a virtual Bible study who otherwise would not attend? Maybe there is a neighbor who needs you to reach out to him or her in God's love, someone who does not have a church community? There are many and various ways we can serve at this time. Look for them.

Thank you for all the ways you have been serving and will continue to do so, no matter what the future may hold.

The church encourages electronic automatic giving. When you sign up for this it is a way of showing your trust and faithfulness to the ministry of Christ in this place. It is a way of making your thanksgiving through giving a priority. You can set your giving up electronically.

You simply email Judy at treasurer@salutheran.com to do so. Or, you can contact your financial institution and set it up through them which keeps you in total control. Of course, anyone can also use checks and the postal system to support the church. Remember that if your financial situation is altered by what our country and world is experiencing no one expects your giving to not be affected as well.

This is the time to reach out to those who are the most impacted by the virus. Who are the most vulnerable among us? Who is in need? Is there something you can do, or we can do as a church? God is faithful and as Paul reminds us "nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Let us be faithful too. For the month of April Beth and I will be giving an extra gift to the church to help out in this time of need, especially in light of the reality that others may have had their resources cut. Maybe you can as well?

Your Gifts Matter. MINISTRY in GOD'S NAME happens because of YOUR GIFTS.

Thank you for all that you have done through your giving.

Did you know that this month there were over 527 clicks on our worship service online? Simply put this means that at least that many people watched them and probably many more since people gather as families and friends. Many people who are not formally members of the St. Andrew's community were able to listen to God's word via worship that your gifts provided. There is something special that makes people want to connect with what St. Andrew's offers. Thank you for making it possible.

Gathering Online Through Zoom

Since we are unable to meet in person right now, it's really wonderful to have the technology available through Zoom to be able to gather online.

Deacon Sandra will be sending out a new Zoom Gathering Schedule every Monday morning in an e-news. To access a Zoom meeting you will need to use a laptop computer, tablet, smartphone or a desktop computer that has a camera and microphone added. Please **click on the name of your meeting** to join. You can also access the meeting by dialing in by phone. The phone number and Meeting ID is listed next to each event in the e-news. If asked for a password, enter **Grace**. (That's always a good thing to remember!)

If you have any other questions, please contact Sandra Holland at 803-269-9659 or sholland@salutheran.com who will be happy to help you get connected.

Regular Weekly Zoom Gatherings:

Sunday

9:45 a.m. – **Grace Upon Grace Sunday School** (for those parenting young children).
Taught by Sandra Holland

9:45 a.m. – **Zoom into the Bible** taught by Trent Shealy

6:00 p.m. - **Youth Group Meeting** (*7th-12th graders*)

Monday

6:00 p.m. - **Yoga** Vicky Henderson and Linda Anderson will be leading a weekly yoga class for all levels.

Tuesday

7:15 p.m. - **Pajama Time with Church Friends** (*Toddlers- 6th graders*)

Wednesday

12:15 p.m. – **Prayer Group** (*Formerly Lenten Prayer Group*)

6:00 p.m. – **Bible Study** led by Pastor Trump

8:00 p.m. – **Youth Group Sunday School**

Thursday

4:00 p.m. - **Social Crafting** – (*Join this weekly group to share craft ideas and visit while you create*)

Kasarah Boiter and Melinda Crenshaw are leading this group which is so much more fun than social distancing! Using the Zoom app, they can see what types of crafts other people are working on, share tips, inspire each other, and to do some crafting while being able to socialize with people from church! Everyone is welcome!

Good Stuff Going on at St. Andrew's

- 325 bags of food that you funded and packed in March were delivered to EE Taylor Elementary School to be given out to students in need.
- A group of ladies are making face masks for a Senior Resources group in town
- Families are doing an online Family Sunday School video series put out by Augsburg-Fortress
- Some of the Young at Heart group have learned to use Zoom and are able to access Bible Study, the crafting group and other events at the church.
- The supply room on the Children's Sunday School room has been moved across the hall allowing for the wall to come down between the old supply room and small classroom next to it. So, when we are back in the building, the older kids' Sunday School class will be in the new, big room and not have to meet in the Social Hall.
- We now have TWO adult Sunday School classes meeting on Sunday mornings by Zoom.

Connecting online through Zoom



Share Your God Moments

How have you encountered God during these uncertain times? Was it through the smile or an act of kindness from a neighbor? The grateful store clerk who appreciated your simple "thank you"? The beautiful weather? Please share the God moments you experience during the pandemic. We'll publish them in upcoming newsletters and in the weekly e-news. Please send them to Paul Osmundson at posmundson@aol.com. God's peace to you during these times.



Congratulations!

Cailynn Michele Avinger was born on 4-9-20 to Chelsea Lynch. Mom and baby are doing great and big brother Christopher loves his little sister!

Council Highlights

Opening

- Jay Folk, vice chair, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Council met via Zoom.
- Council approved the minutes of the March 12, 2020, Council meeting.

Pastor's Report and Deacon's Report

- The Pastor's report and Deacon's report were accepted as presented.
- Council approved a motion to postpone the summer Dramarama program for one year because of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Deacon Holland announced that the SC Synod Assembly has been rescheduled for July 25, 2020.

Finance

- Giving for March was \$2,154 **more** than actual expenses and \$5,137 **less** than budgeted expenses.
- At the beginning of the month, the Finance Committee recommended that Council consider securing a loan through the federal Paycheck Protection Program of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. On April 5, Council Chair Curtis Amick motioned that Council authorize the Finance Committee to apply for and secure a PPP loan on behalf of the church, with loan funds to be used to retain all existing staff at current compensation levels and to pay for other eligible expenses as outlined in the legislation, such that, following the eight-week utilization period, the loan will qualify for forgiveness under the provisions of the Act. By email vote, Council approved moving forward with the loan application. Pastor Trump announced at the April 16 meeting that the PPP loan request has been received.

Property Report

- Tom Bane reported that obtaining bids for HVAC work will prove difficult because the pandemic has put contractors and manufacturers at least eight weeks behind on responding to RFPs. He said he believes the best case scenario will be that we receive bids in June, with work not beginning until late summer/early fall. In the meantime, Justin Varco will attempt to obtain additional "opinions of probable cost" from contractors for budgeting purposes.

Education

- Georgia Godfrey reported that the Education Team has provided at-home Sunday school materials for children's classes.

Worship Committee

- Planning for recorded worship services continues without a specific end date. Council briefly commented on high viewership of the worship services posted on YouTube and the possibility that we are reaching many people who aren't in our community through video every week. Viewership during Holy Week was particularly high.
- Tom Bane shared a devotion and Pastor Trump adjourned with prayer concerns.

Finance

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church									
Statement of Income and Expense									
March of Fiscal Year 2020									
Fund: 01 - General									
					March	2020 YTD			
					Actual	Actual			
Current and Benevolence Giving					\$ 39,650.87	\$ 117,566.40			
Expenses					\$ 37,496.85	\$ 123,716.62			
Expenses under (over) Giving					\$ 2,154.02	\$ (6,150.22)			
Current and Benevolence Giving					\$ 39,650.87	\$ 117,566.40			
Budget					\$ 44,787.70	\$ 135,588.10			
Giving (under) over Budget					\$ (5,136.83)	\$ (18,021.70)			
Debt Retirement Fund Balance as of 1/1/2020					\$ 15,103.64				
Funds received in 2020					\$ 8,927.50				
Thrivent Principal Payments in 2020					\$ (7,576.42)				
Thrivent Interest Payments in 2020					\$ (739.58)				
Current Debt Retirement Fund Balance					<u>\$ 15,715.14</u>				
Outstanding Thrivent Loan Balance as of 1/1/20					72,126.44				
Principal Payments in 2020					<u>(7,576.42)</u>				
Current Outstanding Thrivent Loan Balance					<u>64,550.02</u>				
The principal and interest payments on the Thrivent loan are paid from									
the Debt Retirement Fund and are not part of the Budget									

Offering Envelopes

If you give your offering to St. Andrew's regularly by using the online access and are still receiving offering envelopes, please let us know if you'd like to save the church some money by canceling your envelopes. Please contact the church office with this request.

In Our Hearts & Prayers

Friends & Relatives

- ✝ Corbett Anderson, nephew of Amy Vickers and grandchild of Mike and Susan Beeler
- ✝ Petra Blackwell, daughter of Steve and Pat Blackwell
- ✝ Maria Casey, mom of Joe Casey
- ✝ Stephen Finger, friend of Jan Bass
- ✝ Sandra Ouzts, sister of Debra Ouzts
- ✝ Joe Fricker, father of Melissa Ray
- ✝ Keith Ray, brother of Hank Ray
- ✝ Sally Thompson, sister-in-law of Patsy South
- ✝ Janette Gardner, aunt of Vickie Barfield
- ✝ Phil Johnson, cousin of Vickie Barfield
- ✝ Mark Bogard, cousin of Theresa Henry
- ✝ Ernie Davis, friend of Lee Bowling
- ✝ Jimmy Asbill, son of Shirley Swanson
- ✝ Bonnie Seibert, cousin of Jada Mitchell
- ✝ Sharon Hixon, friend of Vern Free
- ✝ Edna Wheeler's mother, and granddaughter Emily Wheeler
- ✝ Jada Johnson, niece of Erin Johnson
- ✝ Mike Chase, cousin of Vicky Henderson

In the Hospital

- ✝ Lib Hartman, Lexington Medical Center, cancer

Homebound

- ✝ Sarah Cook
- ✝ Lib Hartman
- ✝ Jackie Darby
- ✝ Pete Cox
- ✝ Linwood Swittenberg

Members in Extended Care

- ✝ Margie Shealy, Heritage at Lowman
- ✝ Adrian Trexler, The Brian Center
- ✝ Madge Bartsch, Generations of Chapin
- ✝ Martha Ferguson, NHC Parklane
- ✝ Lois Fulmer, Lexington Extended Care
- ✝ Flo Onley, Generations in Irmo



Our prayers are with Audrey Free upon the death of her son-in-law Michael Wilson, husband to Susan, on April 19.

Our prayers are with Jim, Olivia and Emily Tener upon the death of Jim's wife, Cindy, on April 20.



Flora Onley	5/1	Hank Ray	5/10	Linda Althoff	5/21
Thomas Walker	5/1	Reagan Bouknight	5/11	Benjamin Godfrey	5/21
Pat Ceresoli	5/2	M. Ryan Coleman	5/11	Lois Fulmer	5/23
Dicky Hoyt	5/2	Kevin Althoff	5/12	Sarah Potts	5/24
Paul Osmundson	5/2	Madge Bartsch	5/12	Brenda Paschal	5/25
Ruth Penney	5/2	Jessica Land	5/14	Pete Cox	5/26
Robin Semones	5/4	Amy Thomasson	5/14	Joanne Taylor	5/26
Cindy Bane	5/5	Damian Wanek	5/14	Jason Bradley	5/27
Josh Cruse	5/6	Zoey Patel	5/16	Brendon Kelly	5/27
Michelle Bouknight	5/8	Brian Teusink	5/16	Jeanne Thompson	5/31
Elijah Ray	5/9	Caroline Varco	5/16	Sarah Sloan	5/31
Evren Ray	5/9	Sean Glowacki	5/18	Bob Venturella	5/31
Vern Free	5/10	George Metts	5/19		
Alyssa Gagliano	5/10	Joel Lucas	5/20		
Christopher Metts	5/10	Sara Von Schweinitz	5/20		

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
1416 Broad River Rd.
Columbia, SC 29210

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

To Reach Us
Telephone: 803-772-6034
Email: officemgr@salutheran.com
Website: www.salutheran.com

Pastor

The Rev. John P. Trump

Deacon

Sandra Holland

Director of Music Ministries

Jenny Walrath

Choir Director

Nicholas Todd Shumate

Office Manager

Lina Gann

Congregational Council

President: Curtis Amick
Vice President: Jay Folk
Secretary: Deborah Slice
Treasurer: Judy Venturella
Asst. Treasurer: Jason Godfrey
Financial Secretary: Sharon Berger
Tom Bane
Erin Johnson
Phillip Jenkins
Georgia Godfrey
Beth Mullins
Mari Frye
Paul Osmundson
Whanna Bouknight
Tom Henry