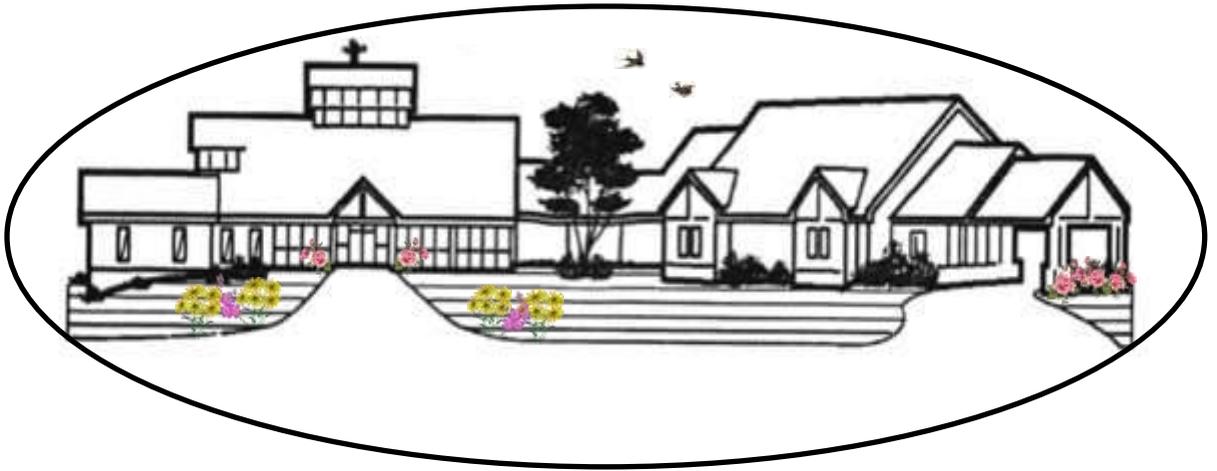

Agapegram

April 2018



ETERNAL SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

220 Carson Road

Seneca, South Carolina 29678

www.eternalshepherd.org

office@eternalshepherd.org

Office: 864-882-3209 or 864-882-5512

Little Lambs Preschool: 864-882-3202



Easter Reflections

"...He commanded our fathers to make it known to their children. Then the next generation would know it, even the children not yet born. They would rise up and tell their children. Then they would put their confidence in God, and they would not forget the deeds of God, but they would keep his commands."

Psalm 78:5-7 EHV

As we look forward to the joys of Easter and the celebration of the salvation that Jesus accomplished for us in his death & resurrection, we remember the Lord's call for the news of all that He has done be passed on to succeeding generations. We are both the ones honored to pass this Good News on and the ones who have received this message from those who have gone before us.

What follows are some Easter quotes from some of the Early Church Fathers. Their words aren't Holy Scripture and shouldn't be taken as such; but, they serve as an encouragement in the faith, give us a glimpse of how believers of old spoke of Easter (aka "Pascha"/Passover), and inspire us to keep the Good News going forward.

"O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep."

St. John Chrysostom - Paschal Sermon

(<http://www.oca.org/FSsermons-details.asp?SID=4&ID=10>)

"Yesterday I was crucified with Him; today I am glorified with Him; yesterday I died with Him; today I am quickened with Him; yesterday I was buried with Him; today I rise with Him. But let us offer to Him Who suffered and rose again for us— you will think perhaps that I am going to say gold, or silver, or woven work or transparent and costly stones, the mere passing material of earth, that remains here below, and is for the most part always possessed by bad men, slaves of the world and of the Prince of the world. Let us offer ourselves, the possession most precious to God, and most fitting; let us give back to the Image what is made after the Image. Let us recognize our Dignity; let us honour our Archetype; let us know the power of the Mystery, and for what Christ died."

St. Gregory the Theologian - Homily on Pascha

(<http://full-of-grace-and-truth.blogspot.com/2010/04/homily-by-st-gregory-theologian-on.html>)

"...Now since you are celebrating the holy Pascha, you should know, brethren, what the Pascha is. Pascha means the crossing-over, and so the Festival is called by this name. For it was on this day that the Children of Israel crossed over out of Egypt, and the Son of God crossed over from this world to His Father. What gain is it to celebrate unless you imitate Him Whom you worship; that is, unless you cross over from Egypt, that is, from the darkness of evildoing to the light of virtue, from the love of this world to the love of your heavenly home?"

St. Ambrose of Milan - "The Sunday of the Resurrection"

continued on next page...

"What is the Pascha?

It obtains its name from its characteristic:
from suffer (*pathein*) comes suffering (*paschein*).
Learn therefore who is the Suffering One,
and who shares the suffering of the Suffering One,
and why the Lord is present on the earth
to clothe Himself with the Suffering One
and carry Him off to the heights of heaven.
It is He that delivered us from slavery to liberty,
from darkness to light,
from death to life,
from tyranny to eternal royalty;
and made us a new priesthood
and an eternal people personal to Him.
He is the Pascha of our salvation."

St. Melito of Sardis - "On Pascha"

<http://www.monachos.net/content/patristics/patristictexts/186>

"As, then, Jonah spent three days and as many nights in the whale's belly, and was delivered up sound again, so shall we all, who have passed through the three stages of our present life on earth - - I mean the beginning, the middle, and the end, of which all this present time consists -- rise again. For there are altogether three intervals of time, the past, the future, and the present. And for this reason the Lord spent so many days in the earth symbolically, thereby teaching clearly that when the fore-mentioned intervals of time have been fulfilled, then shall come our resurrection, which is the beginning of the future age, and the end of this."

St. Methodius of Olympus - "On the Resurrection"

<http://www.monachos.net/content/patristics/patristictexts/187>

Happy Easter – Christ is risen!

"I will open my mouth to share a lesson... things we have heard and known, things our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their descendants. We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders that he has done." Psalm 78:2-4 EHV

Hallelujah

Pastor David



Deaconess Musings

Death is Trampled. Life is Restored.

I hate death.

Death is not something I like. Death makes me angry. Death tears apart things that should remain together.

It's easy to get caught up in, this overwhelming feeling of loss, anger, and emptiness. We see death and decay permeate this world and its creatures, and cry out, "Why?!" We see all of it and know that this is not natural. It was never supposed to be like this, a once perfect creation rotted away by death.

Once, at the very beginning, there was no death. No brokenness. No imperfection. God, our Creator, walked with Man, and Man talked with God. All was well.

But then, humanity listened to a lie and bought it, no questions asked. Trust in the perfect, all-loving God was broken, and thus sin, decay, and death became our prize. Separated from the Creator God, Man was forced out of perfection and into a world now saturated with disease, to face death. Hope seemed forever lost. Death came forward to claim its throne.

Even while carrying out justice against His beloved creation, God loved them, us, more. Promising a future Redeemer that would one day carry upon Himself the sin of all people, becoming the sacrifice of sacrifices with enough blood to cover all sins and wash them away, God promised His Christ, the Messiah – His own Son, Jesus.

Death now had an enemy. This future Promised One soon came, and our Savior appeared. That perfect life of obedience you could not, cannot, keep – He did. That perfect life of love toward others that you cannot dream of ever fully acting out – He did. The perfect, all-loving God did what was (is) unthinkable – He paid the price for our salvation. He exchanged His very life, perfect, spotless, and sinless, for our deaths.

He died so that we might live. Shocking, yes. Unbelievable, yes. Truth? Yes.

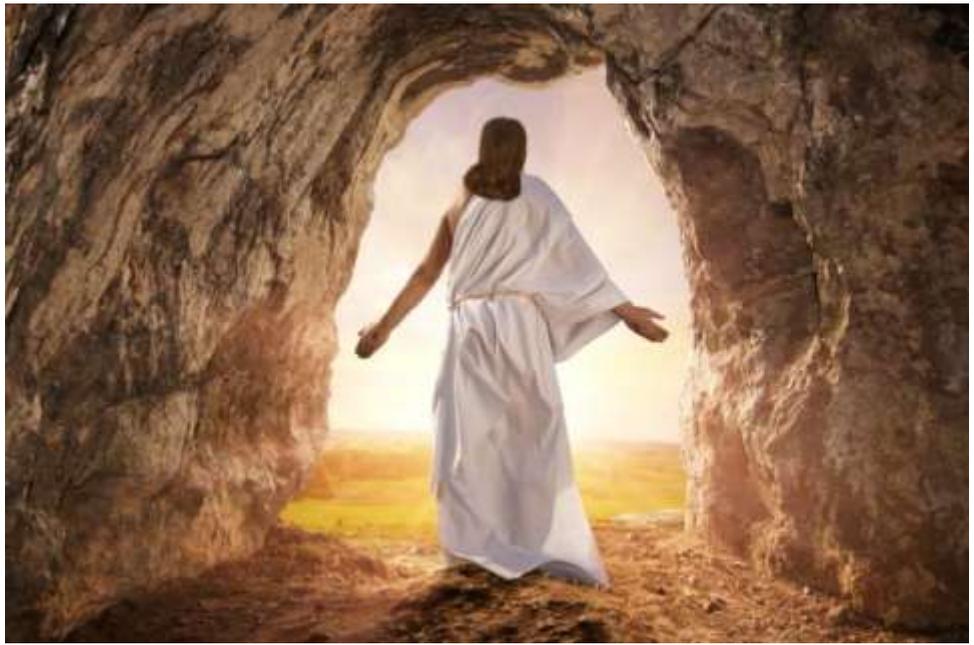
Death, thinking he had won, yelled victory. Our Lord, however, holds the final word. Raising from the dead, Christ Jesus accomplished for us sinners what no sacrifice had fully done – completely and wholly removing the stain of sin upon our lives. Now restored to our Father God, Death cannot have sway over us. No longer does it define us. Found in Christ, we are in return granted life that knows no end.

While the Lord tarries, we will one day die. And while I'm still not the biggest fan of death, I know that because of Christ's death and resurrection it is sanctified. I, and all believers, will be brought through to everlasting, perfected life with the One who loved so much to die for His Creation and to win for them His own perfection. No more to ever face Death alone.

Christ died for sinners to take their death. Christ rose to life to grant sinners life eternal.

Christ is Risen! (For you!) He is Risen, Indeed! (For you!) Alleluia!

~Deaconess Holly



THERE IS BUT ONE
LORD
Jesus Christ...

1 CORINTHIANS 8:6, NIV

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Have you ever had something you already knew, suddenly surprise you? That happened to me when I was asked to speak for a few minutes to the new members joining our church recently. Being a member here for 12 years and spending almost all of those years servicing in some capacity, I know very well how service oriented this church is. But it really hit home when discussing with our new members all the service opportunities we have here at Eternal Shepherd within the church, in the community and the worldwide mission field. I literally could take a few pages to list all the areas that we are involved in, thanks be to God.

As we continue to look to the future and discern where God is leading us, Pastor, myself and a couple of council members will be meeting soon to begin brainstorming ideas for a 5 year vision plan for our church. God only knows where this effort will lead, but I can tell you it will be exciting. Please keep us in prayer as we begin this process. God willing we will look back someday and once again be amazed at how far we have come in serving our Lord and our brothers and sisters in Christ to the glory of God!

I hope you all have a blessed Holy Week and joyful Easter and I look forward to seeing you all at church.



*Rudy Carbone
Council President*

Jesus' Friends

by Kerry Blount

“Six days before the Passover Jesus arrived at Bethany, where Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead, lived.” John 12:1

He had spent some happy days in this comfortable house on the edge of Bethany, just less than two miles from Jerusalem. Hot, scorching days when He took refuge from the blistering sun on a bench against the inner wall where even the warm, dry breeze was a pleasure. Cool, rainy days when His eyes lit up in response to the deep inquisitiveness of Lazarus and his sisters as they huddled around the comfort of a fire and spoke quietly together about the true meaning of the writings of Israel's prophets. They had come to know Him through their hospitality, and now, with all that had transpired since then, they liked to say, “Teacher, our home is Your home whenever You're in Bethany.” They meant it, and He loved them for it. (*Luke 10:39-42; Matthew 21:17*)

But here before Passover, it wasn't quite the same as it had been before. The love and trust cemented among them at Lazarus' tomb remained, and in fact, had grown. The friendship had blossomed and deepened too, but so did the shared knowledge that the enmity and desperation of Jerusalem's elites were coming to a head against Jesus. Mary and Martha were in no doubt about the danger not only to Jesus, but to their brother Lazarus, whose well-witnessed resurrection had so excited seekers of good news, but continued to enrage Jewish political leaders. In spite of all the political turmoil, the door of Lazarus' home was permanently open for the One he and his sisters had come believe was the prophesied Messiah, the Teacher, the Lord, the Christ, the very Son of God. (*John 11:17-44 and 12:1-10*)

Mary and Martha were careful to ensure that the household was in constant readiness to attend to His needs for food, drink, and rest. The timing was uncertain now, as He went in and out of Jerusalem with Peter, James and John and others of the Twelve. But no matter. He would have whatever this household could provide whenever He asked. Since Lazarus had returned to them, there was nothing they would ever withhold from this Friend who held the power of life in His hands. He came and went on His own schedule, into the tense, teeming city by day and into the darkened hills overlooking Jerusalem late into the night, much like they had heard He used to do in Galilee. His path, His time, His purpose. They would be ready when He needed them. (*Matthew 21:17-18 and 26:6; Mark 11:1, 19; Luke 21:37-38*)

It is easy to envy the special relationship between Lazarus, his sisters, and Jesus recorded in the Gospels. Jesus ate, drank, rested, and slept in their home. He talked with them, laughed with them, and wept at their sorrows. He *was* their Friend. He *is* their Friend. He *will always be* their Friend. But there is no reason for envy. He loves you just as much as He loves Lazarus. He has words of life to teach you, just as He taught Mary as she sat at His feet in her home, listening attentively to the Truth. He has reassurance for you just as He had for Martha, weeping on the way to her brother's tomb. He wants to bear *your* sorrows and delight in *your* joys in this life and in the life to come. He wants to be *your* Friend. Forever.

O gracious and loving Father, we thank You for the fellowship that is in Christ Jesus. We thank You for the model of friendship You have given us in our Lord's relationship with Lazarus, Mary and Martha. Fill us with the joys of friendship with Jesus as we open our hearts to His love for us. Guide us, Father, as we spread the news of this eternal relationship to those who need the comfort and strength of a real Friend. We pray this in the name of the One who gave His life for us while we were still His enemies. Amen.

Author's Note: While the details mentioned here are not explicit in Scripture, I believe they are reasonable extrapolations in consonance with the Gospel accounts of the relationship.

Why Bother to Go to Church?

An elderly woman, having lost her hearing and most of her sight, continued to request a ride to church every Sunday morning. A friend asked her why she bothered, since she could not hear the sermon, the prayers, or the music. She replied, “I go to show the Lord and others whose side I am on.”

In a society that is home to people of both no faith and faith in every sort of deity, we stand to be counted, at least once a week, among the congregation of Jesus Christ.

Sometimes we go to church in search of something. We hope for a word of encouragement, a word of healing, some support for our helplessness and our hopelessness. Or we go because our faith is at high tide, and we are brimful of the need to celebrate that faith. We go to be supported by others, or to be a support. Then, in another week or two, when things have shifted, we trade roles. A case can be made for going to worship to support and encourage one another and to “build up” the church.

Many of us worship “to glorify God.” There is something about glorifying and enjoying God that makes us want to share that worship with each other. *“For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body”* 1 Corinthians 12:13. Christianity simply is not a solitary affair.

We gather weekly to worship God and to pray not only for ourselves but for this entire broken world. We pray for those who believe and for those who do not believe; for those who pray for themselves and for those who do not or cannot pray; for those who love God and for those who are indifferent or even hostile to God. We pray for our enemies, for those who have set themselves against us and against Christ’s church.

May your worship be a blessing and joy for your life,

Janet Walker
Board of Stewardship



EASTER BREAKFAST - April 1, 2018

*The Crossing Youth of Eternal Shepherd
cordially invite you to join them for Easter Breakfast!*

This is no "April Fools" - we really are having breakfast, and it's going to be awesome! Every Easter, our church family enjoys breakfast together between services. It is The Crossing's chance to serve our congregation, and thank you for the love and support you show to us all year long. So, come enjoy the fun!

The menu will be as follows:

- ~ Breakfast casseroles (bacon, sausage, or veggie - and all are gluten free!)
- ~ Biscuits and gravy (gluten free varieties of both will be available)
- ~ Fruit platters with yogurt
- ~ Assorted breads and muffins with honey, jams, and jellies
- ~ Drinks (orange juice, apple juice, milk, chocolate milk, coffee, and water)

*Those with gluten and dairy allergies are encouraged to attend. Our breakfast casseroles are gluten free, and there will be a variety of other choices available for your enjoyment!

See you at breakfast!

~ ***The Crossing Youth Group***

Madison, Megan, Kayla, Lauren, Jacob, Abby, Skyler, and Tanisha,

*Leaders: Katie Baumann
& Deaconess Holly*



*He's
Risen!*

ESLC RUMMAGE SALE



Saturday, April 28th

8:30 am –11:30 am

at

Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church

220 Carson Rd. Seneca, SC 29678

(864) 882-3209

In the main Fellowship Hall

Please watch for more details in the
weekly announcements

FELLOW MEMBERS: For various reasons, the number of Tabulators in our Church has dropped rather drastically over the past year. Tabulation of offerings after Sunday services is a very important task and we need to maintain a sufficient number of teams so that the role does not pose undue hardship on our volunteers. We need three to four new teams as soon as possible. The role requires two person teams but if you an individual member are willing to volunteer, we will match you up with a partner. I will train all new teams and will stay with you until you feel confident in the role. Please contact me by phone at 704-603-7092 or email at gstewartjr@reagan.com *Grover Stewart, ESLC Financial Secretary*

Compassion Sunday

One Child at a Time

by Kerry and Susan Blount

Television is a powerful medium for bringing disturbing images into our homes and our hearts. For Sue and me, some of the most heartbreaking are pictures of children across the world in desperate need, enduring terrible conditions often with only the tiniest thread of hope. We know, of course, that we cannot, by ourselves, change those conditions for the staggering number of children suffering in so many ways. But we have also learned that it is possible to make a lasting difference for those children by focusing on one child at a time. And when many compassionate souls do the same, thousands of children can see their own tiny thread of hope grow stronger, and their hope for a future grow more real day by day, all empowered by Christians moved by the grace, love, and mercy of Jesus Christ.

Compassion International gave Sue and me a way to put our faith and the Lord's instructions into action by sponsoring a little boy in a small village in the mountains of Honduras. Saul "graduated" from the Compassion program at eighteen and is in technical school to prepare him for a life of contribution to his society beyond the shackles of poverty. We now sponsor a little girl, Yessica, from the same Honduran village, and were privileged to meet her and her mother when we were serving on the Honduras mission team last year. She loves fried chicken, the zoo, and Jesus. With both Saul and Yessica, we have personally seen the enormous difference that sponsorship makes for the child and for their families. One child at a time, but with rippling consequences in their family, their village, and the Kingdom of God. Praise be to our Lord Jesus Christ!

An opportunity to learn more about the children who so desperately need your love, and about the Compassion International program, will be available in the **Narthex on April 22**. Come see how you can change the world, One Child at a Time.



THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP.

Women of ESLC are knitting and crocheting prayer shawls/lap blankets in all different styles and colors to comfort those who are suffering. While the women make these, they pray for the people who will receive the prayer shawls, hoping that they will bring spiritual comfort (and a closer connection and reliance on our loving Savior) just as they bring physical warm.

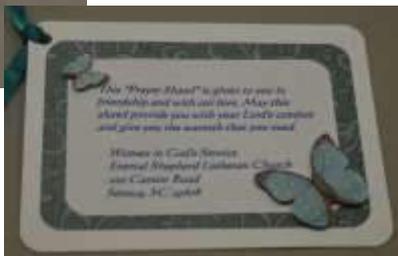
HOW CAN YOU HELP? You are our distribution chain. Anyone in the congregation can give a prayer shawl to any friend or family where you see a need exists. The recipient does not need to be a member of ESLC.

There are now two types of prayer shawls – the regular prayer shawl and now a small pocket size prayer shawl that you can carry in your pocket or purse. You can give either kind; whatever you feel is more appropriate. If you would like a pocket prayer shawl for yourself, please choose one.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is provided through a self- service kiosk which is available in the fellowship hall in plastic bins along the far closet wall. We request that if you select a full size prayer shawl that you enter your name, the date, and the person that you give it to on the sign out sheet. If you select a pocket prayer shawl, no sign out is needed.

We request that if you give the prayer shawl in person, that you pray with them as you give it.

If you are interested in creating these prayer shawls (which can be created at home) or would like to donate yarn, please contact Sue Hauser.



Belk's Charity Sale—Tickets Available

Belk holds a Charity Sale each year to benefit local charities. It is a wonderful opportunity to raise funds for a charity while benefiting the customer by offering them \$5 off of their purchase. **The Comfort Dog team will be selling tickets to the public for this sale in front of their store in Seneca on April 23, 2pm-4pm, April 25, 10am-12pm, April 27, 28, 29, 12pm-2pm.** We will be wearing our green Thrivent shirts and will be standing at either the front or side doors. The tickets are \$5 each and can be redeemed at the Charity Sale held on May 5. All funds received will benefit the Comfort Dog Ministry. We do have tickets on hand for sale already so if you are not planning to visit us at Belk's during those times, you can purchase a ticket from Colleen Wakeman now. Thank you!

~Kyra Carbone, Top Dog



THANK YOU:

To those of you that offered hearing aids to Jewel Foster a gracious thank you and bless you. Jewel is now using a device to assist with her hearing. Monday afternoon Jewel had a wonderful smile on her face as she began using the hearing assist. Again, *Thank you!*

Debbie Cobb with Oconee Senior Solutions is affiliated with a program that offers hearing aids and hearing assistance devices for indigent but deserving seniors in Oconee County. I spoke with her and she would much appreciate any donated hearing aids.

If the caring individuals that offered help to Jewel will kindly donate these hearing aids I will make sure they get to Debbie at Senior Solutions. *Thank you*
~Don Seigler (864) 903-4558

MISSION NEWS

HONDURAS 2018 – “MISSION FULFILLED”

For eight days at the end of February 14 missionaries from ESLC joined with 18 other missionaries from two other churches to bring the love of Christ to the people of Tegucigalpa, Honduras. We came alongside of 20 translators and 30+ collaborators from the two churches where we set up our brigades, to reach out to a people who in essence have nothing of much material value. Houses have tin roofs, boards for walls, very little light, no heat or air, windows that are just openings in the wall, and some still have dirt floors. They are good people who are subjected to the corruption of their government. They come to the church where the brigade is set up to see doctors and nurses, to receive medicine for their ills, have dental procedures done, have their eyes checked and receive glasses. Their children hear the gospel story, sing songs, and have their hair washed and some are treated for lice. Before the adults leave they will sit down with one of the missionaries and share the gospel story. Many know Jesus as Lord and Savior but many others do not have a saving relationship with Jesus or just don't know Him at all and that is where the missionaries come in. By hearing the story of God's grace many come to know Him for the first time in their life and many others will recommit their lives after having walked away into worldly pursuits.

As a gift to the church each team does several service projects to help the people. Normally 2 concrete floors are laid in homes whose floors were previously dirt, two houses are painted, either inside or out, and 4 homes receive water filters to bring good water for cooking and drinking from a compromised water system in the city.

Though most of the team does not speak Spanish, by working side by side we are able to develop relationships with the people we are there to serve. Many know that we come from very far away but cannot really comprehend where the United States is because many have never left the city. They just know that we have come to help them and to make their lives a bit more tolerable and that we do this because of the love of Christ in our hearts. We share that love with beautiful people that will live in our hearts for a very long time.

It is a week that if you pay attention to what is happening around you it can change your life. We are about 2 months away from when we will begin the planning for the next trip. It will be the 9th week of 2019 but in June we will be giving an estimate to the airlines for the number of missionaries we will have for the coming year. Is Christ calling you to “go and make disciples” in Honduras. If so, find a member of this year's team and talk with them and then look for information in future Agapegrams.

Thank you to everyone for the wonderful support of this mission of ESLC.

UPDATE ON OUR MISSION OUTREACH IN SIERRA LEONE:

25 Shalom kids and 4 from another family are enrolled in the Sierra Leone International Academy (SLIA). The Orphans are the result of the Ebola Outbreak leaving many children homeless and without parents. We rejoice that they have good things in store for them as they learn at a level far above anything else in their region. Their reading and speaking of English (the official language of Sierra Leone) continues to improve as does their ability to think.



We continue to look for ways to help the SLIA complete their building so they can offer education beyond Class 5. If you would like more information on this orphanage, please contact Elisabeth Baker. Her son Eric and his wife Becky were instrumental in the start of the orphanage as well as the school and its continued growth.

FEEDING THE HUNGRY OF SENECA, SAT. APRIL 14TH

On **Saturday, April 14th** we'll be serving our hungry friends in Seneca. We'll plan to meet behind the Market Basket in downtown Seneca (or at Our Daily Bread depending on the weather). Please come and join us the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you're planning on helping prepare the food, meet at church at 9:45am. If you just want to serve, arrive at 11am behind the Market Basket in downtown Seneca. Any questions, call my cell at (770) 331-1300. *Thank you all for sharing your love with our neighbors. ~John Cochell*



FOOD BANK NEWS:

Please help us in collecting preferred needed canned, or boxed grocery items each month. These items will help restock the Golden Corner Food Pantry's shelves. Each month we will have a different preferred product featured. **April's** preferred product is **"Spaghetti Sauce"** (Please place items in the **big blue trash can marked Food Bank** down by the main Fellowship Hall). *~Thank you for your generosity and support.*



Greeting Cards— Birthday! Get Well! Encouragement! Praying for You! Sympathy! Thinking of You! Cancer/Difficult Times! Anniversary! Baptism! Thanksgiving! Christmas! Please be sure to check out the cart in the Fellowship Hall. They are still \$.50 a card and \$5.00 for a whole box. Thank you for your support.

SCRIP CARDS

Please remember that **Scrip cards make great gifts and earn money for Eternal Shepherd at the same time.** Please see your scrip ladies today or pick up an order form located by the Scrip box in the narthex. *~Thank you for your support.*





SPECIAL GIFTS/MEMORIALS

In *February* the following gifts were given:

In loving memory of *Fritz Klein*
the General Fund received gifts of \$250.00

In loving memory of *Ben Smith, Jr.*
the Choir Fund received a gift of \$50.00



Other Gifts:

The Capital Campaign Building Fund received gifts of \$335.00

The Comfort Dog Ministry Fund received gifts of \$1,447.00

The Debt Reduction Fund received a gift of \$50.00

The Disaster Relief Trailer Fund received gifts of \$525.00

The Elders Fund received a gift of \$50.00

The Food Bank Fund received a gift of \$25.00

The Haiti Mission Fund received gifts of \$1,290.00

The Honduras Mission Fund received gifts of \$95.00
and the Honduras Helping Hands Fund received gifts of \$36.00

The Little Lambs Preschool Fund received a gift of \$25.00 and the LLPS
Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser received gifts of \$500.00

The Lutheran Witness Fund received gifts of \$35.00

Little Lambs Tales

“As the earth brings forth its shoots, and a garden makes its seeds spring up, so will the Lord God make justice spring up, and praise before all nations” (Isaiah 61:11)

Spring is a wonderful season in which we celebrate birth and new life. It reminds us that winters are temporary, and that cold winds will always give way to warm air and summer breezes. Spring is a time for hope and the promise of new beginnings. We at Little Lambs Preschool feel very blessed that Spring time is here. We had a very cold winter season and we are ready to shed the jackets and spend much of our time outdoors celebrating God’s beautiful creation.

It is hard to believe that April is upon us and we only have two more months of our school year with our students. It has been wonderful watching their growth and development throughout this year.

Our 2’s class didn’t want to share their toys or play with one another at the beginning of the school year. They were not able to sit on the mat during circle time and learn a lesson. Today they not only share with one another and enjoy playing with each other but can sit on the mat for extended periods of time listening to a story read and singing songs. They marvel in hearing Bible stories and understand the messages being delivered. Oh how it is to be a young child trusting in God’s wisdom.

Our 3’s class has grown in so many ways. From expanding their vocabulary to learning their letter sounds through zoo phonics they are more than ready to enter into our prekindergarten program. They have also grown in their kindness and love for one another. They love God and express his goodness and love for Him through their daily prayers.

Our pre-K class loves their chapel time where they have the privilege of being the accolades. They take this job seriously showing reverence and love of God. It is such a blessing watching them begin their school year just knowing their letter sounds and now some of them are actually reading. Wow! It is so amazing watching these little ones absorb every bit of learning that they can! And to learn in such an enriching environment where singing and playing is part of their every day!

None of this would be possible without the dedication and love from all of our staff. From the teachers who come to work filled with the love of God fulfilling their mission as educators to the many volunteers that come weekly enriching our curriculum with Science, Spanish and Reading. And of course a special thank you to Pastor David and Deaconess Holly as they support our school so lovingly.

We are very fortunate to be involved in a Christian ministry where we are able to share God’s gifts with so many. Thank you for your continued prayers for our school and faith community.



*Blessings in Christ,
Gina*

HOT CROSS BUNS

Make this traditional Easter recipe to remember how Christ gave his life for you.

What you need:

- 1 can (12 oz.) evaporated milk
- 1 stick (½ cup) butter, melted
- ½ cup sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 1½ Tablespoons yeast
- 1 egg, beaten
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- 5 cups flour
- Icing
- An adult to help

What you do:

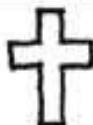
1. In large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients.
2. Stir in flour, one cup at a time, to form soft dough. Knead on a floured surface until smooth and elastic (about five minutes).
3. Place in a greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled (about one hour).
4. Knead out air bubbles. Form six two-inch balls.
5. Place two inches apart on a greased cookie sheet. Cover and let rise until doubled (about 30 minutes).
6. Bake at 375 degrees until golden (13 to 15 minutes). Cool on wire racks.
7. Add icing in a cross shape. Enjoy!



FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection helps us live with gratitude every day.

Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV.



- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Jesus | 5. cross |
| 2. weary | 6. endured |
| 3. endured | 7. scorning |
| 4. opposition | 8. shame |



- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. Jesus | 5. perfecter |
| 2. lose | 6. him |
| 3. pioneer | 7. faith |
| 4. sinners | 8. hand |



- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. eyes | 5. right |
| 2. us | 6. grow |
| 3. joy | 7. God |
| 4. heart | 8. throne |

"... fixing our _____ on _____, the _____ and
 _____ of _____. For the _____ set before _____
 he _____ the _____, its _____, and
 sat down at the _____ of the _____ of _____.
 Consider _____ who _____ such _____
 from _____, so that you will not _____
 and _____." HEBREWS 12:2-3, NIV

Answer: "...fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV

SERVICE TIMES

8:30 a.m. Worship Service
(Communion 2nd & 4th Sundays)

9:45 a.m. Sunday School
& Adult Bible Study

11:00 a.m. Worship Service
(Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays)



THOSE WHO SERVE

Pastor: David Hammer

Deaconess: Holly Lustila

Secretary: Celeste Entrekin

Preschool Director: Gina Cote

Choir Director: Rick Schmidt

Choir Accompanist: Michelle Rowland

Organist: David Phillips

MISSIONARIES

Joanna Johnson, Taiwan

Nate Esala, Lutheran Bible Translators

David & Dr. Arianna Shirk, Kenya

S.E.D. Missionaries to Peru

Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church
220 Carson Rd.
Seneca, SC 29678



“He has risen, just as He said.”
Happy Easter!