



UNILU NEWS & EVENTS

July 22, 2020



FROM PASTOR JON

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' - John 21:15

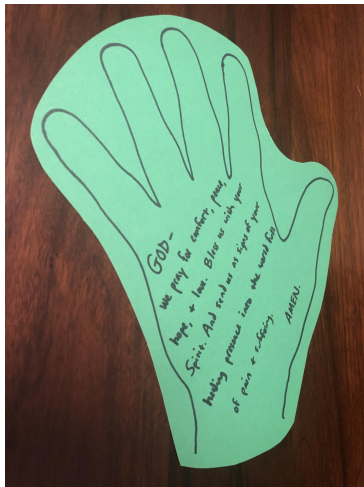
Tabgha, Sea of Galilee

This coming Saturday the South Carolina Synod (<https://scsynod.com/>) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (<https://www.elca.org/>) will be meeting for our Annual Assembly - online. Like many other Synods, there are 65, we will also be electing a new Bishop, as our SC Synod Bishop Herman Yoos is retiring following twelve years of faithful service. Although there will be many other important ministries discussed, this will garner the most attention and demand the most time.

Having an election online involves logistics, legalities and the great unknown of how the Spirit will move in this new way. Logistically, this is the third or fourth plan for this year's assembly. Many thanks to Assistant to the Bishop Pastor Ginny Aebischer for her and her team's reworking of these plans in light of the ever changing landscape of the pandemic. Legally, since congregations and synods are recognized by the state as 501(c)(3) tax exempt

organizations we are called to abide by their provisions for what constitutes a valid election. That box has been checked. So the main, and most important step ahead of us, is discerning who God is calling to serve. So please have University Lutheran's voting members (John Dreher, Marion Fisher, Cheryl Ingram Smith, Pastor Josh and me) in your prayers as we participate in this election process. Please keep in prayer those whom God and the people in the Synod will lift up as candidates to serve in this capacity. And if you'd like, this Saturday you can tune in periodically to follow how the election is evolving <https://scsynod.com/assembly/>.

God's peace & hope,
Pastor Jon



ONLINE SERVICE OF HEALING WEDNESDAY, JULY 29 AT 7:00 PM

Online worship has been a wonderful way to connect with one another during the past few months. On Wednesday, July 29th we'd like to offer an online *Service of Healing*. Many things in our lives may move us to ask God for physical, emotional, and spiritual healing - especially in the middle of this pandemic and continued social isolation. Plan to tune in if you're able.

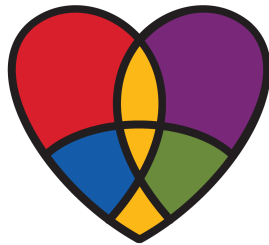
The liturgy for a *Service of Healing* usually includes prayers and readings, as well as some physical elements such as anointing with oil and a laying on of hands. In lieu of an in-person anointing, there will be time during the service for you to make a cross on your forehead with oil or water at home. And instead of laying hands on each other, we'll invite participation in a crafty activity explained below.

We'd like to collect your prayers for one another. To mimic a laying on of hands, trace your hand on a piece of paper and write your prayer in the middle of it. **Paper and materials will be available in the Narthex this afternoon until next Wednesday morning.** You may also write your prayer at

home and drop it off, mail one in, or send a prayer electronically to Pastor Josh (jkestne@g.clemson.edu) for him to write for you.

Hopefully this will be another opportunity for meaningful worship.

Pastor Josh



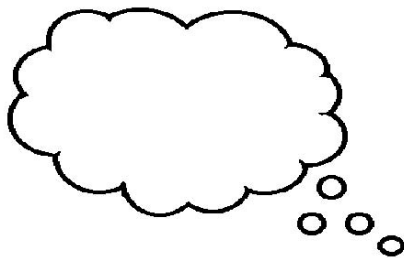
ReconcilingWorks
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION

ReconcilingWorks CORE GROUP

Our *ReconcilingWorks* core group continues its work during the summer and through the pandemic. Our group is looking at ways to make our church openly affirming to welcome all people to our church.

A new virtual discussion will be held on **Wednesdays from 7:00 – 8:00 PM beginning on Aug 5** based on the *ReconcilingWorks* text entitled “Lutheran Introduction To Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, & Gender Expression” (available [here](#)). If you're interested in participating please contact [Marty High](#).

PARISH NEWS & UPDATES



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The psalm from the Lectionary for the first part of last week (July 13 - 15) was Psalm 92.

The first three verses of Psalm 92 are:

It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, Oh Most High, proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night, to the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the harp.

I have always enjoyed music. I grew up with my father playing opera, Burl Ives and Bing Crosby on the radio and record player, and my mother listening to OSU football. Ed knows which song or hymn is the first I hear in the morning because I will be humming or singing it all day long. Christmas isn't

Christmas without Handel's Messiah and Bing Crosby's Christmas album.

During these difficult times hymns and other religious music soothe the soul and remind us of the fact that Jesus is with us. We no longer have the ten-stringed lyre, but we have a wonderful organ and Martha Lee used to play the harp for us.

Our online worship services are greatly enhanced by the music planned by Judi Key, Rebecca Quesada, and the Worship & Music Committee. In addition, I would personally like to thank everyone who has helped provide music for our Sunday services. In addition to Judi and Rebecca, this includes Ken Cothran, Anita Edge, Jan Fritz, Alison Mero, Cece Parker, Cindy Sanders, Gary Smith, and Charlie Smith on the trumpet. (If I have forgotten anyone, I apologize.) Also, thank you to Pastor Josh for providing his technical expertise. You all have added so much to our worship experience!

Two of these people have provided additional music for us on University Lutheran's Facebook page. Judi has provided several collections of hymns sometimes accompanied by Jeff Key and Trelene Metzger. Gary Smith has provided recordings of some of his and my favorite hymns, where, with the power of recording, he is singing all parts. When you need a lift, these recordings will do it!

Thank you God for the gift of music which helps us remain close to you and for giving some people special musical talent. Thanks to those with musical talent for sharing that talent with the rest of us.

**May God's peace be with you this week,
Jean Mehlman**

HUGS FROM ROBERT & ELAINE KNOERR!

And, this from Janet Starr Patterson: Wanted to share that we have had cars pull into our driveway to take pictures of our Hug Sign. It's been such a sweet reminder of our church family!



HUGS FROM JIM & LENA JONES!



HUG SIGNS: If you would like to share a picture or story about your "Hug Sign" in the newsletter, please send the information to Abi at unilusecretary@gmail.com and it will be included in the next newsletter!



WEEDING HELP IS NEEDED EVERYWHERE!

1) Areas needing special attention: Muhly Grass area, the Sloan Street embankment, the Variegated Ophiopogon or Variegated Liriope bed, and the Daffodil beds.

2) The Melampodium volunteers growing beside the sidewalk, as well as other weeds in the Fellowship Hall flower bed, can be pulled.

OTHER NOTES:

3) Because of the virus, it would be a good idea to bring your own tools, weed bucket, hand sanitizer, etc...

4) Do not weed: Violets in the Muhly Grass area and Ebony Spleenwort Fern growing beneath the Chinese Juniper on the

Sloan Street embankment. Both of these plants prevent other weeds from becoming established just by taking up real estate, so let's keep them.

Thanks!

Jean Askew; (Cell) 864-650-0055



FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

To give electronically, look for this icon on the lower right of the University Lutheran webpage at <http://uniluclemson.org/>. Click on "Give an Offering."

Or [CLICK HERE](#) to go directly to the giving page.



FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

"Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. School Kits contain essential supplies to help children – and in some cases, adults – continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities." - Lutheran World Relief

We as a UniLu community usually collect school supplies in July and then gather together at Sunday School hour to pack backpacks for Lutheran World Relief. We will not be able to do that this year. If you would like to be involved in creating school kits for Lutheran World Relief, please follow these guidelines. **I will place backpacks in the Narthex on July 26th. You can shop for the needed items to fill one. Then place the filled Backpack back at the Narthex by August 9th.** Pastor Jon will bless them during service that day.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH SCHOOL KIT:

FOUR 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper.

ONE 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other.

ONE pencil sharpener.

ONE pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well).

FIVE black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band.

ONE box of 16 or 24 crayons.

HOW TO PACK YOUR KIT:

Place ruler between notebooks. Place all items neatly into the bag and draw the drawstring together. Please, do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.

I will also have a box for school supply donations for Clemson Community Care in the narthex, if you want to donate to that.

Thanks for your support,

Mollie Barrow, Education Committee Chair

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND AS WE NAVIGATE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY TOGETHER (Subject to Change as Circumstances Change)

- **All worship services and church meetings will be conducted online until CDC/NIH give a declaration that people can gather in groups of more than 100.** Sunday service livestreamed at 9 AM on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/> later posted to our website www.uniluclemson.org and YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQVMnXOXzFkX65vue_fON0g.
- Council has requested that the pastors not have in-person pastoral visits, except in the case of life-threatening emergency.
- Pastors will use telecare or other methods for the duration of this public health emergency.
- Pastors can be reached via cell phone 24/7. Please **DO NOT CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE.** Pastor Jon: 843-304-5664; Pastor Josh: 919-744-1590.

- Church administrative assistant, Abi Donhauser will work remotely from her home office. She can be reached during normal office hours Monday - Thursday, 7 am to 12 noon & 1 pm to 2:30 pm; Friday 8 am to 12 noon at **864-722-5504 or by email; unilusecretary@gmail.com.**
- LCM meals will be provided as boxed/to-go meals rather than usual group meals. A small number of people will help with meal preparation.
- This public health emergency may leave people feeling isolated. To combat this, Council and others in the congregation, who desire to do so, (volunteers are welcome!) will be asked to contact others regularly to check in (lists will be provided).
- Church facilities remain available to congregation members, but we suggest that this be for **INDIVIDUALS ONLY AND NOT FOR GATHERINGS/MEETINGS. Please thoroughly sanitize after use.**
- Clemson Community Care will continue their regular schedule of operations. Donations can be made at the church (baskets in narthex) or can be brought directly to their facility. Online monetary donations are also greatly appreciated

COMMUNITY MINISTRY



JOIN THE 75,000 - NOW 150,000! FACE MASK CHALLENGE!

A huge Thank You to all the mask makers!!!

Our masks are traveling nationwide!!

If you are personally in need of a mask, please contact me!!!! We have plenty to share!!

Lutheran World Relief's mask challenge has increased to 150,000 masks. 118,475 are pledged as of July 21st. **You have until August 15th to drop them off at the Narthex.** Ellen Reneke will be mailing them then.

Any questions, contact Judy Aikens at **724-831-8104; jbaikens57@gmail.com.**

**OPERATION INASMUCH
ALTERNATIVE**

When: Now Thru End of Physical Distancing

Serve Eagerly!

***Jesus said in essence,
“Inasmuch as you serve the least of these,
you serve me.”***

UNILU’s doors will remain shut through July. However, our hearts remain open to continue to love our neighbors by:

1) Be sure to take care of yourself: get outside and enjoy the beautiful weather, take advantage of the fresh produce. Support your local Farmer's Market! Start your day with other Unilu members at "Jammies with Jesus" each morning, Monday - Saturday at 7:30 am on facebook (link below). We are no good to others if we are depleted.

<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

2) Donate locally: Give to a charity in your community.

3) Keep sending cards! See the list of names of our “LCM Friends,” “shut-ins,” those who are ill, first responders/health care workers by clicking [HERE](#). If we have left anyone off this list, please let us know and we will send out an updated list. We know these are appreciated! Send cards to those impacted by the tornado too!

4) We have many members who work in health care or are first responders. Pray for them during this time. In addition to these, any other folks working in the community (grocery stores, postal workers, etc.) where they are exposed to more people need our prayers. Those being laid off need our prayers. Those with COVID-19 need our prayers. If you have names to be added to the list, let the church know!

5) Hospitals are experiencing a blood shortage right now. If you are healthy and qualify, please donate!!!

6) Continue with all the things you have been doing – attend church online, shop for someone who is high risk, make a phone call, be creative!

Blessings to all during this unique time. Any questions, contact Judy Aikens,
724-831-8104, jbaikens57@gmail.com

UNILU CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

UNILU PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYER CONCERNS for University Lutheran Members, Family and Friends:
Gail Paul; Pat Wagner; Rosalyn Flanigan; George Harris; Tony Quesada; Gene
Copenhaver; Randy Gilchrist; Larry Bock; Joyce Lillehamer; Judy Morrison's
nephew, Christopher Stott; Kristeen Balcombe's brother, Stephen Slice.

UNILU CELEBRATIONS

Celebrating Birthdays this Week: Robert Knoerr; Mark Smith; Logn Barrow.
Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this Week: Edwin & Joan Hicks; Mark &
Sheri Smith; Tony & Rachel Quesada; Kerry & Cheryl Smith.

PARISH INFORMATION

Click [HERE](#) for UniLu Calendar

Click [HERE](#) for Prayer Fellowship List

LINKS

[SC LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)

[UNILU WEBSITE](#) • [LECTIONARY/READINGS](#)

[LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY](#) • [SC SYNOD](#)

[ELCA GOOD GIFTS](#)

Miss a service? The recorded church sermons, audio and video,
are posted weekly to the website: www.uniluclemson.org and to the
University Lutheran Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

Church Office Hours
Monday–Thursday 7 AM–12 PM; 1 PM–2:30 PM

University Lutheran Church Mission Statement

University Lutheran is a family of faith, called by the Holy Spirit to be one ministry serving both our community and university. The Spirit calls us to make known, by word and deed, the story of God's love in Jesus. Our worship together empowers us to grow as disciples as we receive, celebrate, and share God's gifts with all of God's creation and created ones.