



UNILU NEWS & EVENTS

July 29, 2020



FROM PASTOR JON

“Oh dear!”

Not the two words you want to hear as your beloved is using an electric trimmer on the back of your head.

Thankfully hair grows back and it can't be as bad as me blindly trying to do it for myself. Plus I used to have a buzz cut as a kid so I know it's quite cool during hot and humid summers.

We are approaching five months in our schizophrenic response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite a few dubious claims otherwise, worldwide health experts agree that the most effective means of combating this new virus are by some age old (I mean, back to the days of fighting the plague old) means: Avoid unnecessary contact with others except out of love or service to our neighbor. Wear a mask. Wipe down surfaces. Wash your hands. I've heard ranges that if the vast majority of us wore masks within 6 – 8 weeks we could squash the spread and regain so many of the things we are currently missing. Since our last in person worship was on March 15 (one week after a few other local congregations) that would have meant having things manageable by May 15. As a society we do not appear to be quick learners.

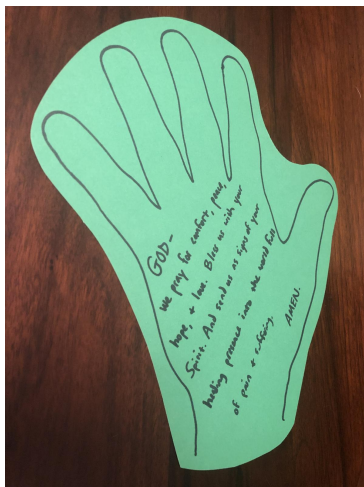
So I am truly grateful for each of you doing your part; not only in helping prevent the spread, but for the online, over the phone, physically distanced,

prayerful ministry you continue to engage in. I appreciate your flexibility in learning new ways of being church, for adhering to the best practices science can teach us, and for keeping the faith. Our four plus months of quarantine certainly puts in perspective forty years in the wilderness.

My prayer on your difficult days is that you are not alone. Please know you can always contact me or Pastor Josh for listening ears and someone who will pray with you. Please stay connected with one another by joining in online worship or periodically checking out our Mon – Sat online devotions. Join one of the book studies being offered, fill a school kids backpack for Lutheran World Relief or make a donation to our local food pantries. Phone a friend. Take a walk. Do something that will nourish your soul.

How close are we to getting the vast majority of us to wear masks? I don't know. But I do believe we are closer than we used to be, so that is hopeful.

God's peace, justice & hope,
Pastor Jon



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

Online worship has been a wonderful way to connect with one another during the past few months. **Tonight, Wednesday, July 29, 7:00 p.m.** 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. Tune in for this brief service (about 20 min.) if you're able. A recording will be available online afterwards.

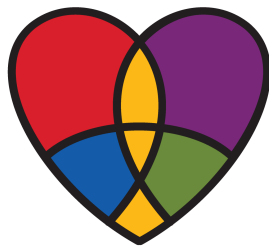
The liturgy for a Service of Healing usually includes prayers and readings, as well as some physical elements such as anointing with oil and a laying on of hands. In lieu of an in-person anointing, there will be time during the service for you to make a cross on your forehead with oil (e.g. olive oil) 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 until 2:00 p.m. this afternoon. You may also write your prayer at home and drop it off, or send a picture to Pastor Josh (919-744-1590, jkestne@g.clemson.edu).**

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

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FROM ROY & JOANNE SANDERS

Cole and Jessica Cooper announce the birth of their first child, Casey Madison Cooper, on July 23, 2020. Jessica is the daughter of JoAnn Adams Sanders and Roy Sanders. This the first grandchild for JoAnn and Roy.

Cole, Jessica and Casey are doing great! They live in Atlanta, GA.



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

I listened to part of the South Carolina Synod Assembly on Saturday as the assembly met via Zoom and elected Ginny Aebischer as our new Bishop. I was particularly moved by the Bible Conversation offered by Pastor Rachel Hoffman of Grace Lutheran Church in Rock Hill, SC. Her text was Matthew 7:7-8.

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Pastor Rachel Hoffman discussed knocking. I will NEVER be a salesman! Cold calls are not something I do. I can procrastinate with the best when it comes to knocking on an unfamiliar door or calling someone I don't know. Saturday, as I listened to Pastor Rachel, I could not stop wondering about the doors that I do not knock on with the thought that I am missing opportunities, resources, or help that God has for me.

This week I am going to try to work harder, listen more intently, trust God more, and make sure that I get more of God's messages by opening the doors he puts on my path. What about you?

It will be interesting to see what God has in store for us this week.

-Jean Mehlman



HUGS FROM GARY & PATTY SMITH!

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!



HUGS FROM JOHN & JACKIE BROADWELL!



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_fONog.
- **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 remain shut. 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: Abby Dedecker; Dwayne Lusk; Jackson Flanigan; Tyler Simpson.

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this Week: Greg & Denise Bauld.

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
Fridays 8 AM - 12 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.