

KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

November 5, 2023

All Saints Sunday

8:30 AM

P: Pastor

A: Assisting Minister

C: Congregation

GATHERING MUSIC

Trading My Sorrows

~Darrell Evans

All the People Said

~Matt Maher

WELCOME

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

A Paul Thomas Smith has been instructed in the Christian faith and desires to make public affirmation of his Baptism.

P Dear friend, we rejoice that you now desire to make public profession of your faith and assume greater responsibility in the life of our Christian community and its mission in the world.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P Brother in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you a member of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been nourished at his holy table and called to be witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

P Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: *I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: *I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: *I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

A Let us pray for Paul who is affirming his Baptism, and for all the baptized everywhere:

A That they may be redeemed from all evil and rescued from the way of sin and death: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A That the Holy Spirit may open their hearts to your grace and truth: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A That they may be kept in the faith and communion of your holy Church: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A That they may be sent into the world in witness to your love: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A That they may be brought to the fullness of your peace and glory: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Other prayers may be added.

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

AFFIRMATION

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response: ***I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.***

P People of God, do you promise to support this brother and pray for him in his life in Christ?

C We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made this man your own. You forgave him all his sins and brought him to newness of life. Continue to strengthen him with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in him your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C Amen

The minister may lay both hands on the head of the person and say:

P Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Paul Thomas the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm his faith, guide his life, empower him in his serving, give him patience in suffering, and bring him to everlasting life.

Answer: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LET'S TALK

READING 1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

L Now the reading from 1st John...

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor John Futterer

SONG OF RESPONSE

Neither Death, nor Life

ELW 622

RITE OF REMEMBRANCE

P Today we stand with saints alive and saints from whom their labors rest.

C **We are the communion of all saints.**

P Lord God, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses.

C **We give you thanks for your servants of days past.**

P For Abraham, the father of believers, and for Sarah, his wife.

C **For Moses, the lawgiver, and for Aaron, the priest.**

P For all the Prophets and those who recorded for us your truths.

C **For Peter and Paul and all the Apostles willing to witness to your Word.**

P For Mary and Joseph who cared for your Son as a child.

C **For the Saints and Martyrs in every time and every land.**

P For those we know and those whose faith and acts of faith are unknown to us.

C **For preachers of your truth who were faithful to convictions.**

P For renewers of society; for artists and scientists: for devoted public servants.

C **For those who care for the sick, who defend freedom, who teach.**

P For all who use their gifts to glorify you and do your will among us.

C **We give you thanks for the faith and lives of your people.**

P Rejoicing in that great company of sinners made saints by your grace. O Lord, lift members of the faith community that is Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church, who have, during the past twelve months, inherited the joys you have prepared for all those who love you (as each name is read, the congregation is invited to repeat the names after the pastor as a candle is lighted,

Doris McCarn	January 10, 2023
Shirley Helms	January 18, 2023
Louise Jackson	January 27, 2023
Tom Brown	February 7, 2023
Anna Richter	February 28, 2023
Frances Ollene McCombs	March 1, 2023
John Shaver	March 4, 2023
Eleanor Foil	May 8, 2023
Norris Dearmon	May 22, 2023
Leonard Barlow	June 29, 2023
Jane Ritchie	July 19, 2023
Myrtle Roberts	August 20, 2023

P We also remember others, beloved of those who worship here, who now gather at your throne of light. Keep us in union with them through our faith in your grace. We dedicate this service of worship to your glory, O Lord, and the remembrance of them all. May their examples of faithfulness to your Word and sacrificial service to your Church not be lost on us but compel us to carry on their witness.

C While we live, we live for you, O Lord.

P When we die, we live with you O Lord.

C Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours, O Lord.

P Thanks be to God!

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✚ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C Amen.

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

C you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

We have two options for Communion during this time. You are free to come forward to receive the bread and pre-filled cups of wine from our clergy and lay assistants, returning to your seats after you've deposited the empty cup and following the guidance of our ushers; or you may continue to use the pre-packaged communion elements which are available from the ushers at the entrance to the Sanctuary. However you choose to receive Communion this morning, know that we are glad you're here for this Sacrament!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit let us pray, as Jesus taught.

C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION

P Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

You may receive the Elements as the words are said:

The Body of Christ given for You; The Blood of Christ shed for You.

COMMUNION SONG

Shall We Gather at the River

ELW 423

THE POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His Grace.

C **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

P The God of glory, ✚ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG

Christ is Risen! Alleluia!

LBW 131

THE DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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ALL THE PEOPLE SAID AMEN Matt Maher, Paul Moak, Trevor Morgan CCLI Song# 6518275 2013 Universal Music _Brentwood Benson Publishing (admin by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) Thankyou Music (admin by Capitol CMG Publishing) Valley of Songs Music (admin by Capitol CMG Publishing Trevor Morgan Music

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ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

We remember today all the saints who have gone before us, especially those that have joined the church triumphant during the past year.

Doris McCarn, Shirley Helms, Louise Jackson, Tom Brown, Anna Richter, Frances Ollene McCombs, John Shaver, Eleanor Foil, Norris Dearmon, Leonard Barlow, Jane Ritchie, and Myrtle Roberts.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar today are given to the Glory of God and in honor Debbie Troutman's birthday today. Given by her family.

CONFIRMATION

IT'S WITH GREAT JOY that we confirm Paul Smith this morning. Paul is the son of Kimball Memorial Members Lauren and Craig Nichols, and Brian and Natalie Smith. Maternal grandparents are Kimball Members, Danny and Susan Sloop; paternal grandparents are Don and Alice Smith. We welcome them, and other family members and friends, to our worship service at 8:30.

THIS WEEK AT KIMBALL

Sunday 11/05

- 7:15 am Men's Breakfast
- 8:30 am Contemporary Worship
- 9:45 am Adult Sunday School
- 9:45 am Faith Formation / Young Adult SS
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal

Tuesday 11/07

- 10:00 am Tuesday Morning Book Club
- 6:30 pm Tuesday Evening Book Club

Wednesday 11/08

- 6:30 pm Contemporary Ensemble

Thursday 11/09

- 5:00 pm Samaritan's Table
- 7:00 pm Property Committee

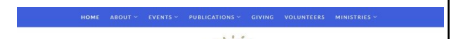
Sunday 11/12

- 8:30 am Contemporary Worship
- 9:45 am Adult Sunday School
- 10:00 am Faith Formation / Young Adult SS
- 11:00 am Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm Handbell Rehearsal

FALL BIBLE STUDY

Pastor John will begin a Fall Bible study on Tuesday, November 14th at 10:30 am. Classes will continue the following two weeks on November 21st and 28th. The Bible study will be on the Gospel of St. Mark (our Gospel for the upcoming Church Year.) Classes will be held in our sanctuary and will be live streamed and posted to our website later that day. This Bible Study is based on the book *A Guide to the Good News of St. Mark*, by Amy-Jill Levine. We hope you can join us!

NEW WEBSITE



Our website has been redesigned and is now live. It is a work in progress and will be updated weekly.



Go to www.kimballchurch.org to check it out.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to Huyla Jackson at the death of her sister, Beth Jennings, this past week. Funeral services were held yesterday at Christ Episcopal Church in Elizabeth City, NC. We remember the Hope and Promise of the Resurrection, made real through Jesus Christ, our Living and Risen Savior.

FLOWER CALENDAR

THE FLOWER CALENDAR FOR 2024 is now up in the narthex for your use. Please use this chart to reserve flowers on Sundays during the upcoming year. Thank you!

WEEKLY PRAYER CONCERNS

All names will remain on the prayer list for only 2 weeks, unless resubmitted.

KIMBALL MEMBERS

Mike and Laura Abernathy
 Sylvia Anderson
 Becky Brantley
 Sharon and Doug Brothers
 Brenda Brown
 Mabel Brown
 Buttner Family
 Florence Calandra
 Jean Davis
 Mary Dorton
 Lisa and Eddie Dunlow
 Teresa Erwin
 Caleb Falls
 Ava Farris
 Shelly Farris
 Judy Ferguson
 Liz Fisher
 Fran and Keith Garver
 Todd Haley
 Judi and Bob Hill
 Tim and Huyla Jackson
 David and Diana Keck, Sr.
 Eric and Jenny Jones
 Steve Lynch
 Ed MacTaggart
 Dianne Marlin
 Margaret McCombs
 Taylor and Kaylee Murph
 Hunter and Holden Patterson
 John Patterson
 Marty and Perriann Payne
 John Pendleton
 Louise Propst
 Andy, Lisa, Grace, and Blake
 Robinson
 Joe Saullo
 Juanene Savage
 Kathy and Cliff Scott
 Betty Shaver
 Roger Sizemore
 Conrad Sloop
 Earlene Snipes
 Mary Jo Snipes
 Gaye St. John
 Sarah Teumer
 Randy Triece
 John Troutman

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Fay Absher / Dana Absher
 Bill Anderson
 Kelly Bamm
 Richard and Peggy Barlowe
 Mable, Ronnie, Price, Teresa Beaver
 Hans and John Bengston
 DeBerry and Judy Blackwelder
 LeaAnn Buckwell
 Mike Burr
 Darrin Carr
 Annie Corriher
 Tim Cox
 Duplisan Family
 Family of Ben Fesperman
 Will Fesperman
 Kellie Furr
 Brandt Goodnight and Family
 Tommy Graves
 Judy Harmon
 Sylvia Harrington
 Jeff Hearn
 Annette Heller
 Mike Hollander
 Helen Holt
 Michael Hunter
 Betty Ingram
 Family of Beth Jennings
 Phyllis Lee
 Suzanne Lent
 Peggy Link
 Mrs. McCombs
 Jim Measmer
 Pam North
 Family of Alice Olenchuk
 Paul Parker
 Sharon Pasniewski
 Daniel Pegram
 Celeste Pierce
 John Poston
 Nancy Quinn
 Gary Ritchie
 Allen Scott
 Seminarians and Candidates
 Jerry Sellers
 Schiterl Family
 David Shippel
 Simpson Family
 Pete Stone
 Katie Topper
 Natalie Valdez
 Gary Walter
 Buck and Judy Wingler
 Joann and Albert Wingler
 Norman, Vicky, Mabel

MILITARY

- Robert Busteed, Jr. (Virginia)
- Andrew Smith (Arizona)
- Chris Kirchner (Missouri)
- Ben Kirchner (Georgia)
- Preston Mays (Maryland)
- Chris Overcash (NC)
- Christopher Bame (California)
- Mike Peterson (Virginia)
- Keith Lee (NC)

DURING THE LONG PENTECOST SEASON

We will be remembering in prayer all of the 195 ELCA Congregations in NC.

We'll also be praying weekly for:

- Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Eaton
- NC Synod Bishop, Timothy Smith
- All Pastors, Deacons and leaders of Lutheran congregations in the NC Synod.

Today, we are praying for:

- ◇ Christ the King Lutheran Church in Whiteville
- ◇ Lutheran Church of Reconciliation in Wilmington
- ◇ St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Wilmington
- ◇ St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Wilmington
- ◇ Water of Life Lutheran Church in Wilmington

PRAYERS-SPECIAL NEEDS

If you know of a member of the congregation who is hospitalized, sick, or has special needs, contact:
 Church Office @ 704-933-4101
 Pastor John Futterer @ 704-699-2547
 Deacon Liz Fisher @ 704-713-1758.

HOSPITALIZED

Judi Hill - Atrium, Cabarrus
Kathy Scott - Atrium, Cabarrus
Roger Sizemore - Rehab at Trinity Oaks, Salisbury

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

November 5, 2023

LECTOR

8:30 am Paula Brandle

11:00 am Pat Tallent

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

8:30 am Jodie Hott

11:00 am Jerrod Smith

ACOLYTE

8:30 am Conner and Gabriel Keith

11:00 am Austin Rigsby

COUNCIL ASSISTANTS

8:30 am Todd Haley / David Sloan

11:00 am Heidi Lee / Kim Kane

COMMUNION PREPARERS

8:30 am Fran and Keith Garver

11:00 am Tony Lippard

HEALING PRAYER MINISTER

8:30 am Peggy Lynch

11:00 am Sherri Matheny

GREETER

8:30 am Jenny Jones

11:00 am Tom Ramseur

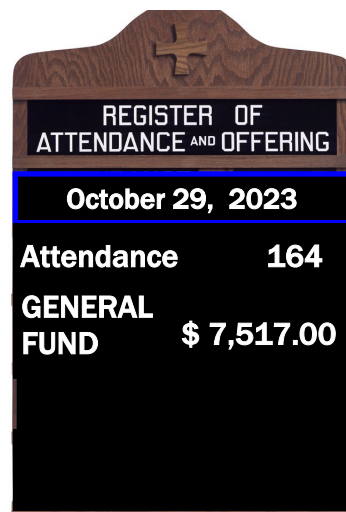
PROJECTION/SOUND

8:30 am Randy Price / Rick Teumer

11:00 am Nathan Carpenter / Abby Carpenter

TELLERS

Judy Sloan / Frankie Bogutsky



KIMBALL'S BOOK CLUB INFORMATION

Tuesday Morning Book Club

Date: November 7th 10:00 am

Location: Church Parlor

Book: *Orphan #8* by Kim van Alkemade

Tuesday Night Book Club

Date: November 7, 6:30 pm

Host: Sally Peterson

Book: *Orphan #8* by Kim van Alkemade

Friday Night Book Club

Date: November 17, 6:30 pm

Host: Tim and Fran Patterson

Book: *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus



ELECTRONIC GIVING OPTIONS

Kimball provides a number of different options for our congregation to electronically present their offerings to the church.

BILL PAY – Most banks today offer a bill payment service with recurring feature. Individuals can set up their offering as a bill, and a check will be issued from that account and mailed to Kimball. The frequency of the check issuance and the amount of the check is determined by the individual and is easily changed.

TITHE.LY (through kimballchurch.org) – By going to our church website, individuals can present offerings through an electronic service provided by Tithe.ly. The offerings can be set up as a one-time event or as recurring. There is a charge for this service and the individual has the option of paying the charge, or the amount will be deducted from the offering when sent to Kimball. Electronic offerings set up by our previous provider, Vanco, will remain in place and the change to Tithe.ly will have no impact on these items. If you would like any more information about any of these options, or assistance in getting one of the options set up, please contact any member of the finance team, or the church office.

BLESSING BOX NEEDS

ITEMS WE ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF:

- Ramen Noodle/Instant Noodle cups and packs
- Assorted single serve chips/Cheetos/Doritos
- Single serve/small jars of peanut butter
- Ketchup packets or small bottles of ketchup
- Combs/Brushes

RUNNING LOW:

- Applesauce
- Feminine products (Tampons)
- Plastic forks/spoons
- Fruit Cups
- Bars of Soap

WE HAVE AN ABUNDANCE OF:

- Oatmeal
- Potted Meat/Vienna Sausages
- Nutri-Grain bars
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste

Thanks!

Kara Hardister / Kathy Hunter

Please place your items in the old Joe Gribble Sunday School Classroom on the first floor of the educational building.



FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS

- Canned chicken
- Macaroni & cheese, pasta (other than spaghetti), rice
- Other canned meats (hash, chili, vienna sausages, etc.)
- Canned peas, carrots, potatoes, and mixed vegetables
- Pasta sauce, peanut butter, cereal, soup, and shelf stable milk
- Any kind of canned beans (baked, chili, kidney, etc.) except pintos
- Any canned fruit (mixed, pears, pineapple, etc.)
- Toilet paper and paper towels

As always, they especially seek low sodium, no sugar-added, and whole grain items.

Currently, they have plenty of: tuna, green beans, corn, canned tomatoes, pinto beans, spaghetti, and canned peaches.

Please place your items in the containers on the ramp. Thank you!

THANKS AND THANKSGIVING November 19 at 10:00 am

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS for Sunday, November 19th for our annual Stewardship Service - one service at 10:00 am with Pastor Delmer Chilton as our guest preacher. Our children and youth will be helping to serve the meal that follows the service - we do hope you'll plan to join us!

You can register for lunch by using the insert in the bulletin or scanning the QR code below.



KIMBALL STAFF

Rev. John Futterer, Senior Pastor
pastor@kimballchurch.org

Deacon Liz Fisher, Minister of Word & Service
youth@kimballchurch.org

Keith Sutton, Parish Administrator
churchoffice@kimballchurch.org

Dr. Don Simmons, DSM, Music Director
(Chancel Choir / Handbells) and Accompanist
musicdon2@yahoo.com

Rev. Dr. David Keck, Pastor Emeritus
Mabel Brown, Parish Worker Emerita

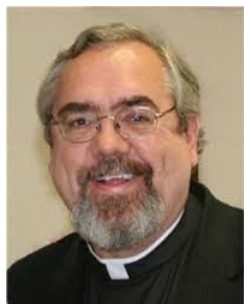
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 19TH ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 AM



Just a reminder that letters and intent cards will be mailed very soon to all our members for our Stewardship Campaign for this year. Our theme is: ***Lasting Legacy – Gifts that Change Lives.*** We're asking that you bring these commitment cards with you for our ONE worship service on November 19th at 10:00.

Please read your letters carefully, as they explain what our focus will be in this new year of Serving and Giving. A Commitment “tool” will be included in the mailing, and we have high hopes that our members will step up a level in their giving for the new year. If you have any questions about our Stewardship goals or needs, please contact Pastor John for more information. We appreciate the strong Stewardship in this congregation – your gifts of Time, Talent, and Treasure. THANK YOU for your faithfulness to the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ...and to Christ's Church in this place!

PASTOR DELMER CHILTON IS OUR STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY GUEST



We're so pleased to welcome the Rev. Dr. Delmer Chilton to our pulpit on November 19th as our Stewardship Preacher for 2023. Pastor John quotes Delmer often in his own sermons...always beginning the quote by saying “My friend, Delmer...” Pastor Chilton – along with his friend Pastor John Fairless – produces a very popular weekly podcast for preachers known as “*Two Bubbas and a Bible!*” He has authored numerous books and articles about the art of preaching, and his sermons are strong, memorable, and – most of all – faithful to the Gospel of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Delmer grew up on a farm near Mount Airy, North Carolina. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, completed his Master of Divinity degree at Duke University Divinity School, and did post-graduate work at our Southern Seminary in Columbia. Having previously served for five years as a United Methodist Minister, Delmer has pastored Lutheran congregations in North Carolina (including Lutheran Chapel in China Grove), Georgia, and Tennessee. He was the Chaplain and Continuing Education Director at the Hinton Rural Life Center in Hayesville, NC, and served as an Assistant to the Bishop in the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Delmer has been married to Deborah since 1974. They have two sons: Lowell is married to Kate and they are Lutheran Pastors serving in Albany, NY; Joseph is married to Crystal and they are attorneys working in Murphy, NC. Joseph and Crystal have one son, 5 year old Luke.