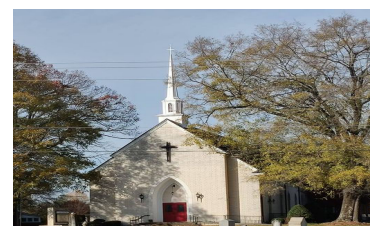


The Beacon
"And we know that all things work together
for good to them that love God."
Romans 8:28



Volume 10

May 2025

Issue 109

St. James Lutheran Church NALC Telephone: (828) 464-1953 Fax: (828) 465-2084

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Rev. Kenneth (Ken) Reed Jr.
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Pastor, St. James Lutheran Church
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Newton, NC 28658
704.796.1764

Sherrie McKean, Secretary
Office Hours: 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Monday-Friday
Gary Reitzel, Custodian

Council Members: Wesley Stinson (Vice Chair), Karen Stewart (Secretary),
Celia Reece (Treasurer), Robert & Darbie Crouch, Robin Sigmon,
Victor Paquin, Christopher Painter, and Kristen Link

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This year, once again, millions of people all over the world will be celebrating what is, without question, the most important event in human history. Nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus of Nazareth was nailed to a cross and left to die, hung out for the entire world to see. But three days later, God raised him from the dead, changing the course of this world and our lives forever.

That's the reality of what Easter accomplished. It's the celebration of God bringing hope out of despair, victory out of defeat, triumph out of tragedy, life out of death. It's God's victory song for us and our victory celebration in Christ.

In his witness to Cornelius, the apostle Peter proclaimed the saving truth that is ours in Jesus: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts those from every nation who fear Him and do what is right ... We are witnesses of everything He did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed Him by hanging Him on a tree, but God raised Him from the dead on the third day ... All the prophets testify about Him that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins through His name" (Acts 10:34-35,39-40,43).

More than anything, I want you to know that you are loved infinitely and eternally by God. No doubt. No question. No second thoughts for even a moment. God loves you more than you can imagine. And God will never stop loving you no matter what.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2 - Fri.	Gary Reitzel’s BBQ Fundraiser (4:00 pm).
May 3 - Sat.	Mother/Daughter Banquet (11:30 am).
May 4 - Sun.	Special Congregational Meeting following Worship Service
May 5 - Mon.	Women’s Meeting (7:00 pm).
May 20 - Tues.	Women’s Craft Day with Lunch (10:00 am).
May 21 - Wed.	Church Council Meeting (7:00 pm).
May 25 - Sun.	Blood pressure checks in the Office following Worship.
May 31 - Sat	Relay for Life - Sign up online. See Page 3



Tuesday Nights @ 7:00pm, Fellowship Building

A weekly study of the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday worship service.

Thursday Mornings @ 10:30am, Sanctuary with Pastor Ken

There will be no weekly Bible Studies on Thursday until further notice.

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Congregational Meeting following worship service on May 4th. The meeting will focus on discussing and potentially deciding on the church council’s recommendations for renovating the Fellowship Building.

Naia Smith Memorial Service: The congregation will gather for Naia’s memorial service on Saturday, May 3rd at St. James in the sanctuary. The service begins at 3:00 pm. Visitation with the family will immediately follow in the Fellowship Building.

Pastor Ken’s Surgery: On April 28th, Pastor Ken will be having knee replacement surgery. During the month of May, Pastor Bob Alle will be preaching, leading worship, and be available for urgent pastoral needs.

Upcoming graduations and/or special events: Please let Susan Hullet know of any graduations, awards, accomplishments, etc that our children have done this past year. There will be a special children’s section in the June newsletter for these.



- 4. Natalie Arndt
- 6. Brian Heavner
- 7. Claire Sipe
- 9. Nancy Alle
- 11. Robert Crouch
- 12. Anthony O'Brien
- 15. Roger Crouch, Rylee Smith
- 17. Tiffany Beal, Randy Cline
- 18. Frances Sigmon, Jay Sipe
- 19. Joe Teague
- 20. Mary Beth Young
- 21. Soundra Huffman
- 23. Chad Deal
- 24. Kathy Hagan, Victor Lineberger II,
Jessica Hatley
- 25. Margorie Moose
- 30. Marie Lingle

- 1. Donovan Painter, Daniel Sipe
- 2. Stephanie Dixon
- 3. Mildred Gilbert, Julia Seitz, Jerry Sipe
- 5. Daniel Clay Sipe
- 10. Ps. Ken Reed, Sue Rogers, Melinda Sipe
- 11. George Young
- 15. Terry Self
- 17. Janice Kelly, Hailee Moose, Jim Sharpe
- 18. Sharon Sipe
- 20. Ruby Sigmon
- 22. Brenda Schlie
- 23. Lori Devine
- 24. Zachery Link, Avalee O'Brien
- 25. Ben Devine
- 27. Lisa Chapman
- 28. Stephanie Heavner
- 29. Kevin Sipe
- 30. Clint Burgess



- 3. Ps. & Mrs. Bob Alle
- 4. Mr. & Mrs. Larry Spriggs
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Valone
- 7. Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Link
Mr. & Mrs. Wrenn Travis
- 29. Mr. & Mrs. Kyle Thompson
- 30. Mr. & Mrs. Clint Burgess

- 2. Mr. & Mrs. Steve Beal
- 9. Mr. & Mrs. David Hawn
- 11. Mr. & Mrs. David Link
- 15. Mr. & Mrs. David Arndt
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Seitz, Jr.
- 19. Mr. & Mrs. Earl Sipe
- 27. Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Stinson
- 29. Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Stikeleather

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THE LAITY TEAM

The Laity Team plans to meet monthly to assess the current status of Church members. Prayers, cards, encouragement, and support to each other is our calling from our Lord. Kristy Painter or Keeley Stikeleather, co-chairs, may be contacted. The committee consists of Robin Burgess, Betty Hawn, Sue Lindley, and Claire Sipe. God's continued blessings and peace to everyone.

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EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

The Evangelism Committee WILL NOT meet in May or June due to the renovation of the Fellowship Building. Just a reminder that Sunday, July 20th, the Cockman Family will be singing for us again. We will have our annual ice cream and cake social during this time. Please mark it on your calendar to attend.

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RELAY FOR LIFE

Relay is fast approaching! We invite anyone who wants to or is able to join us - May the 31st at Crawdad Stadium. Opening ceremony is at 6 pm . We will be selling bar-b-que sandwiches. Also, if anyone wants to make cookies or desserts to sale, let Glenda Verbos or Betty Hawn know. Bring a chair if you want to hang out. We are still selling tickets on the clock donated by David Link. Ticket will be drawn on the night of Relay. *Come join us in our fight against cancer!*

ST. JAMES' WOMENS GROUP

"CRAFTING QUEENS"

Come out and join the new group at the church! We will meet Tuesday, May 20th at 10:00 am to make items to be sold at the Bazaar. A light lunch will be served. Please come out and join us!!

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ITEMS WE NEED FOR THE BAZAAR

This year we are planning to have baskets to raffle off for the Bazaar. Anyone who might have things that they don't need any longer that could be used in either a **Chef's Basket, Spa Basket, Entertainment Basket or a Gardening Basket** we will gladly accept.

Please bring the items and leave on the table by the Secretary's office.

Thanks so much for your help!

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MOTHER/DAUGHTER BANQUET



The American Heritage Girls are hosting a Mother-Daughter Banquet on Saturday, May 3rd at 11:30 in the Fellowship Building. All women of the church are invited. Please let Robin Sigmon or Erica Paquin know how many will be attending.

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SCHEDULE 4th - 12th Grades

- May 4 (Sun) 3 pm: Putt-Putt - meet at church
- May 18 (Sun) 3 pm: Put together flood baskets for NALC Disaster Response

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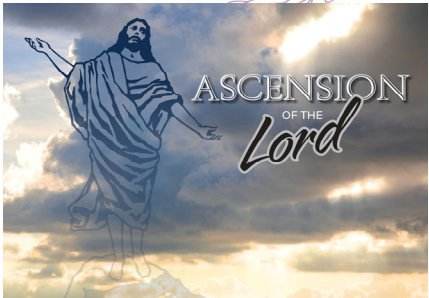
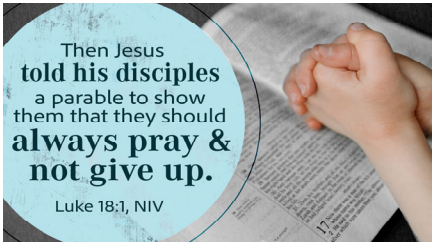


We sincerely appreciate all the cards, prayers and calls during Bob's hospital stay. We have felt the love you have shown us at this time. Thanks to all!

Vicky Lineberger and Family

SPECIAL DATES IN MAY

- May 1 National Day of Prayer
- May 11 Mother’s Day
- May 17 Armed Forces Day
- May 26 Memorial Day
- May 29 Ascension



PALM SUNDAY



Carter with mom



Paition lights the Christ Candle



Tucker holds a palm leaf during Children’s Sermon

EASTER SUNDAY



Sunrise Service

Kurtis, Leslie and Jack sing “In Christ Alone”, a beautiful song

