

Friendly Messenger

June 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

WELCOME BACK!

This Sunday, May 30, will be our first time back in the sanctuary together for worship. With the rules starting to relax regarding the wearing of masks and social distancing, we are hoping that this is the end of the hardest hit of the pandemic.

Our Re-opening Committee and our Church Council have agreed that the wearing of masks and social distancing are appropriate at this time. The guidelines we are asked to follow are in line with recommendations for churches and are temporary.

This last year, actually 14 months, has been an unprecedented time in our lifetime. Now we are learning to navigate a new world. We need to acknowledge this new experience and how it has challenged us to be flexible and creative.

I'm proud of the members of Sardis for your faithfulness and your generosity during the pandemic. This is the time to accept each new day as a gift newly given.

This Sunday is a celebration, and I'm so excited that we are able to worship together once again.

While it is important to celebrate our upcoming regathering, it's also important to recognize that this last year felt like a lost year. Whenever a loss is experienced, there is the presence of grief. We don't want to dwell on it, but we do need to be aware of its teachings.

We have learned the value of friendship and the value of support during sickness and death. Now we rejoice in Sunday's re-gathering in God's House, and how wonderful it will be to be together again.

Let's be grateful to God for this opportunity, and do our best to do God's work with our hands.

SEE YOU SUNDAY!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Adrienne

2021 Vacation Bible School

Sponsored by Grace Lutheran Church, Newton

Welcome All Pirates Searching for the Treasure of the Gospel!

Announcing VBS 2021 for all neighboring Lutheran Congregations.

This year's theme will be a Treasure Hunt based on Gospel of Matthew



**Dates: Sunday, July 25th, 2021
through Wednesday July 28th**

Kick Off: Sunday the 25th at 5:00 pm -7:00 pm
(registration, hot dogs, Introduction/lesson/games)

Schedule: Monday through Wednesday - Meal each day at 5:30

Lessons/Crafts/Games/Music start at 6:00

***Pre-Registration begins June 1st: You may register by email at:**

gracenalcnwton@aol.com

For further details or call 704-462-1035, M-F 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon

***Note: COVID restrictions and protocols will be observed as**

mandated by state and/or Church Board

A NOTE FROM THE ALTAR COMMITTEE

With Worship Service being held inside now we will no longer be sending out floral reminders. Please check your mail box in the back of the church for your pay envelope and designation of honor or memory. If you are not a regular attender your envelope will be mailed. Thank you.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY, JUNE 3-5

Synod Assembly is going to be held online via Zoom this year. Pastor Adrienne, Nena Babb, and Robin Stuart are our voting members.



Agape Day Camp is coming! July 19-23, 2021

We will be sending camp forms and other information soon. Camp will be held at the St. Paul Lutheran Church Mission Property with all COVID-19 precautions being followed.

The theme this year is:
"ALL CREATION"

Mark 16:15 - "And [Jesus] said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."

Sardis Lutheran
Church Council Minutes
April 13, 2021

Members Present:

Pastor Adrienne, Bruce, Terry, Jon, Gene, Susan
Tim, Ben, Mike, Kathy, Carolyn, Bryan

Members Absent:

April

Bruce called the meeting to order, Gene Biggerstaff had devotions

Reopening Committee: Chairperson Marilyn Teague gave a report on a tentative date for indoor services to begin. June 6th is the date the committee is working toward. They are working through a list of questions and a possible list of requirements depending on Governor Cooper and the ELCA's recommendations.

Council minutes for March were read with a date correction on the March Pastor's report. Jon made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction, Tim seconded and the minutes were accepted

Bruce presented the treasurer's report. The Building Fund has a balance of \$13,007, Cemetery Fund \$1,437 and the General Fund \$10,154. Bryan made a motion to accept the reports, Carolyn seconded, and the motion was approved.

Pastor's Report

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

What glorious (albeit cold!) weather we had early in the morning on the Resurrection of our Lord! It was a new(ish) practice for us, or rather a previous tradition we recovered, to gather outside for a sunrise service. Holy Week blessed us with so many joys this year: beautiful music, refreshed liturgy, new ideas, willing helpers, and even our newest member Frank Griffin! What a joy to welcome him into membership this year. His faithful presence has perhaps helped us feel he was already a member here, so it is wonderful to officially invite him into fellowship! I am grateful for the gifts he shares with us.

I would like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the worship services during Holy Week with all of its moving pieces! With the pandemic, it seems like there are always tweaks and adjustments to make. We had it all planned out, of course, but we may continue to include a level of flexibility as we discover new ideas and tips for online worship. Sometimes that is how the Holy Spirit moves! I was also blessed to receive my second covid19 vaccination shot on Maundy Thursday and was SO grateful that the side effects were minimal!

I am returning from a great week of vacation that allowed me time to rest, reconnect with friends, and spend time with family. I was delighted to see our shiny new steeple greeting me as I drove into the parking lot yesterday! Wow! What a beautiful and refreshing sight to see! It is the icing on top of the cake to our workday on Saturday, March 27 when we cleaned the windows, planted trees, and spread mulch. This is in addition to our new letters on the sign and new curtains in the offices! This year, we have done an exceptional job of improving our grounds and facility!

Cont. Council Minutes;

Despite the pandemic, we have been very active and productive this year. We concluded our Lenten Series on the Greatest Commandment with our guest preacher The Rev. Reggie Longcrier, Executive Director of Exodus Homes. I wish you could have heard him in person! It was a powerful experience to hear him preach. I am grateful to all of our Lenten series speakers for the wisdom and insight they brought. Each message of grace also brought a challenge, should we accept it! Our Lenten series offering was \$125. We will send our donations to each organization. We also concluded our Lenten Study Six Weeks on Money.

Here is a general summary of my activities and happenings this past month:

Continuing Education* Tuesday, March 16th at 12 noon
 Six Weeks on Money, Tuesday, March 16th at 7:30 pm
 Recording fifth Lenten service, Wednesday, March 17th at 2 pm
 Continuing Education* Tuesday, March 23rd at 12 noon
 Six Weeks on Money, Tuesday, March 23rd at 7:30 pm
 Last Lenten Service, Sunday, March 21, Facebook Live, 7 pm
 Outside Workday, Saturday, March 27th

Holy Week

Palm Sunday Drive-in Service cancelled due to rain, March 28th at 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday, April 1, Facebook Live 7 pm ○

Good Friday, April 2, Facebook Live 7 pm ○

Easter “Egged” Hunt, Saturday, April 3

- The Resurrection of our Lord, Sunrise Drive-in Service
- Vacation, April 5 through April 11
- Synod Service for Second Sunday of Easter
- Re-opening Committee, Tuesday, April 13th at 6 pm
- Drive-in Service with Holy Baptism of Clay Smyre, Sunday, April 18th
- Drive-in Service, Sunday May 2
- Drive-in Service, Sunday May 23
- Synod Assembly, Zoom, June 3-5 “Strength for the Journey” (registration deadline May 1)

Respectfully Submitted,
 Pastor Adrienne Martin

Old Business:

New Steeple: Steeple Jack had a cost increase due to the extra cost to them to correctly install and attached the new steeple. A new mounting base was made and then correctly bolted down with 8 bolts and included a shingle saver. The increased cost will come from the Parsonage Fund (\$4000) with the remainder coming from the Building Fund. Tim made a motion to accept the spending of the funds, Kathy seconded, and the motion passed.

Painting Quotes: Bruce presented two quotes to have cleaning and painting done. Quotes from Barry Powell and Eddie Huffman to include washing and painting (doors, windows, and railings). Terry made a motion to accept the quote from Barry Powell of \$1200 to wash and paint. Gene seconded and the motion passed.

Cont. Council Minutes;

New Business:

Pastor Adrienne brought up the upcoming NC Lutheran Synod meeting, it will be online this year June 3-5 and she is asking for volunteers. Robin Stuart has volunteered to be a voting member representative. Gene Biggerstaff also volunteered during the meeting to be a voting member representative. Kathy made a motion to accept the two representatives and Susan seconded and the motion passed.

With no other business, Jon made a motion to adjourn. The meeting ended with Pastor Adrienne praying The Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be held Monday May 10th

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Weaver, Council Secretary

WORSHIP NEWS

Lift Every Voice and Sing!
Weekly Outdoor Hymn Celebration

As we continue our reopening process and take steps toward normalcy, we are planning a *Weekly Outdoor Hymn Celebration* following our indoor worship services. Please join us around the flagpole each Sunday, weather permitting, for a brief time of singing, celebrating God's goodness and faithfulness. This Sunday, May 30th, we will celebrate the Holy Trinity and Country.

RE-OPENING COMMITTEE AND CHURCH COUNCIL GUIDELINES

The Re-Opening Committee has set temporary recommendations for the in-person worship protocols and implementation plan. These guidelines, based on the ELCA, will remain effective until further notice by the congregation Council and Re-Opening Committee. We ask that you please be patient with us as we move forward.

In-person worship will begin on May 30, 2021.

Masks are required at all times and worn throughout the entire service. Masks will also be available if needed.

Hand sanitizers are conveniently located near the entrance doors and hallways and will be used upon entering the narthex.

All doors to the church will be used for entrance and will be opened 30 minutes before worship begins.

No singing will take place other than the planned solos, duets, trios, etc. The organist will arrange these activities according to the ELCA guidelines.

All worship books will be removed from the pews. Bulletins will be provided with the entire service inside.

Holy Communion will be celebrated as the Music and Worship, Altar Committee, and Pastor deems suitable. Sealed cups will be used.

Containers for depositing one's offering will be located near the entrance in the narthex.

If there is a positive case of Covid of someone who attends worship service, please notify the office. On line worship service will then be provided the next two Sundays and return the third Sunday to in-person service provided there are no additional cases. A phone tree call will be sent out.

No meals will be served within the facility.

All doors will be locked for security purposes once worship begins and reopened after service to exit.

The fellowship hall will remain closed during this phase except for committee and council meetings.

All restrooms will be open for use, but no more than two people at a time. Please wash hands, adults go with your children, and disinfectants will be provided.

Please enter the church go directly to your seat and after the service exit the building. Please do not congregate in the Narthex.

The infant nursery will be available for use. There will be no nursery attendant present.

There will be no Sunday School or Children's Church in this phase, but will begin at a later date to be determined by the ELCA.

All committees who meet at this time are ask to social distance and wear masks.

June 2021 Sardis Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Synod Assem- bly—ZOOM	4 Synod Assem- bly—ZOOM	5 Synod Assem- bly—ZOOM
6. 10:30 Worship Ser- vice and FB Live Stream followed with optional short Out- door Hymn Sing.	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 10:30 Worship Ser- vice and FB Live Stream followed with optional short Out- door Hymn Sing.	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 10:30 Drive-in Wor- ship Service and FB Live Stream	21 7:00 Council Meeting	22	23	24	25	26
27 10:30 Worship Ser- vice and FB Live Stream followed with optional short Out- door Hymn Sing. 6:30 LMM	28	29	30			

NOTE

If you have a birthday or anniversary and they are not listed please let the office know. Thank you.

SARDIS LEADERS CONTACTS

Pastor: The Rev. Adrienne E. Martin (C) 469-243-5237 pastor@sardislutheran.com

Organist/Director of Music: Frank Griffin, tfgriffin59@gmail.com

Council Chair: Bruce Sigman (C) 828-310-5851 bruce.camping@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Jane Moretz, (C) 828-302-8458 secretary@sardislutheran.com

June		<u>COUNCIL CONTACT</u>	<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>
6/1	Meredith Gladden	Terry Bledsoe	June 6 Jennifer Whitener
	Margaret Whitener		June 13 Jon Gladden
6/2	Leevada Young Wood		June 20 Kathy Weaver
6/7	Rylan Johnson		June 27 Ben Whitener
6/8	Austin Propst		
6/10	Jamie Shiffman		
6/12	Wayne Jarrett	ALTAR FLOWERS	SECURITY
	Lexi E. Little	June 6	Ferne Baker
	Roger Lutz	June 13	Garry & Leevada Wood
6/13	Kay Whitener	June 20	Rick & Patsy Johnson
	Margaret Ham		Betty Jo Weaver
6/20	Daniel Whitener	June 27	Terry & Jill Bledsoe
	Marshall Whitener		Wayne Jarrett
6/23	Garry Richard		
6/24	Alan Jarrett		
6/25	Betty Nail		
	Kerby W. Smyre	OFFERING COUNTERS	
6/27	Michelle F. Little	June 6	Dwayne Whitener, Tryston Sylvester, Sherry Midgett, Patsy Johnson
	Rita Lutz	June 13	Dwayne Whitener, Tryston Sylvester, Al & Sylvia King
	Bruce Sigman	June 20	Dwayne Whitener, Tryston Sylvester, Mike & Sherrie Midgett
6/30	Phyllis J. Biggerstaff	June 27	Dwayne Whitener, Tryston Sylvester, Sandra, Roseman Nena Babb, Susan Jones
Anniversaries:			
Bryan & Phyllis Hood 6-1			
Joe & Scottie Wyant:6-6			
Mike & Sherrie Midgett 6-10			
Garry & Leevada Wood 6-12			
Mike & Felicia Hollar 6-16			
Bruce & Sharon Sigman 6-16			
Al & Sylvia King 6-19			
Gene & Donna Biggerstaff 6-29			
SATURDAY MEAL DELIVERY			
		June 5	No Meal Delivery
		June 12	Dawn Covington
		June 19	No Meal Delivery
		June 26	Rita Lutz

REMEMBER: you can find this NL, the weekly calendar and Sunday Sermons on the website: <https://sardislutheran.com/> mark it as a favorite and check it out often.

OUR MISSION

Sardis Evangelical Lutheran Church serves together as disciples of Christ, teaches the word to invite people into a life of knowing Jesus, encourages each other in faith and personal mission through reaching out to the needs of the community and individuals.

Methods for Giving

Gifts may be made online by clicking on the green “Give” button on our NEW website www.sardislutheran.com or our Facebook page.

or

Gifts may be mailed to:
Sardis Lutheran Church
6103 W. NC 10 Hwy.
Hickory, NC 28602

or

You may bring your gifts by the church during office hours. Place your gift in the basket out front and ring the bell to alert the office of your gift.

God bless you and keep you in his care.

SARDIS LUTHERAN CHURCH
6103 W NC 10 HWY
HICKORY NC 28602

