

# The Bell Tower

Sunday

May 21, 2017

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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Biggerstaff Christian Retreat 882-3337

## Pastor's Notes

Pastor Bob Schmeelcke's  
contact information:  
rcswing@att.net  
or  
903-9355(cell).



### SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES...Lots going on- use your gifts today!

A special shout-out of thanks to Betty Mantell for beautifying our altar each week with her floral creations. Ms Betty- your "God-given gift" amazes all of us. Thank you for sharing it!



### WELCA Joy Offerings will be collected Today!

WELCA Joy offering boxes should be brought to church Sunday, May 21st. If you are not in church that Sunday, please get your offering to Trisha Sears by May 28th so that the offering can be taken to the June WELCA convention.

VOLUNTEER POT LUCK LUNCH will be held today immediately following worship. This is a time to honor all who volunteer throughout the year and to hear about the impact we made at Lakeview Assisted Living for **INASMUCH**.

LAST CHANCE TO LEAVE YOUR DONATIONS...WELCA Convention is June 9th-10th at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Lexington, SC. This year the theme is "All Anew" and WELCA will be supporting SCCADVASA (SC Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault). St. John's will be collecting Children's Supplies to bring to the convention including school supplies, children's new pajamas and gowns, children's new bedroom slippers, arts & crafts and board games. There is a collection box for these donations at the Spiritual Ops table. All donations must be left no later than Sunday 5/29. Checks should be made payable to SC WELCA.

SAVE THE DATE - More info coming soon:

August 12th- Tour of Tables

September 30th- BBQ event at St. Johns

October- 500th Anniversary Reformation Party

St. John's will host a BBQ event...and more...on Saturday September 30th. Many thanks to Iron Pig BBQ for giving us this incredible opportunity to work together to make the new fellowship floor a reality. It will take an army of us to make this happen. Here are some ways you can help...

Sell a minimum of 10 tickets (\$8.50 each) for Iron Pig BBQ meal- tickets available 9/1

Volunteer to set-up and clean-up

Volunteer to work at the yard sale, bake sale, craft sale or children's event area

Donate items to the yard sale, bake sale, craft sale

SPREAD THE WORD to all your friends, family and work associates

TOUR OF TABLES- St. John's WELCA will host the Tour of Tables on Saturday, August 12th. Please start thinking of your table theme- sign-up sheet located at the Spiritual Opportunities table.

Calling all men...we need you to serve the ladies. Sign-up today!

### ST. LUKE METHODIST CHURCH FOOD PANTRY-

The need for food/cash donations at the pantry continues. It is important that you check the expiration dates on all food you donate. Please continue to pray for and give to this important community outreach.- there is a tremendous need!



This coming week will be Christopher Girardeau's final week as our Youth Director here at St. John's. Please take time to let Christopher and Ellen know what a blessing they have been to St. John's and wish them well on their upcoming endeavors.

We love you both and appreciate your hard work, enthusiasm, and gracious spirits.

### Reminder....

**Knitters-Crocheters meet**

**Wednesday, May 24 at 10 am**

Come enjoy the fellowship and click your needles. Plan to stay for lunch, too....



### Join us for Wednesday Lunch !

Wednesday Lunch is the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. **We gather for lunch at 11:30 am.**

**Wednesday, May 24th is our next lunch!**

Sign up today or speak with Libby McLean at 638-7070 or Cathie Nowell at 638-3284



**We Pray for....**



**7th Sunday of Easter**  
**May 28, 2017**  
**Acts 1:6-14**  
**Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35**  
**1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**  
**John 17:1-11**

- Hap Henry, continued heart condition issues.
- Skip Soderdahl, scheduled for shoulder surgery.
- Carol Anderson, declining health continue prayers.
- Christy Bryson, recovering from surgery.
- Carol Ewald (sister of Jeanne Welch) suffered stroke this past week in Florida.
- Gene Burnside, now home from hospital.
- Mary Alice Waldt, recovering from knee replacement
- Joyce and the entire Shirey family, upon the death of our brother in Christ, Sam Shirey.
- Horace Barrett, now at home and improving.
- Jenine and Dwight Baldus, both are now home and recovering.
- Carole, Marsha Cabbage's sister.
- Jean Pittman, now under hospice care at Park Place.
- Paul Maw, friend of Ann Brackett, cancer diagnosis.
- Johnny Hester, Ann Brackett's cousin's husband, liver cancer.
- Rob Smith, (friend of the Daniels') cancer diagnosis.
- Gary Smith and Donna Parker, cousins of Brenda Safrit, both with serious health concerns
- Dan Fogel, son of Dean and Anne, continued prayers.
- Alan Cochran, brother of Terry Holcombe.
- Carter Gale, 4 yr. old great-nephew of Tina Stephens
- Lauren Hartman, (daughter of the Bowman's) ongoing battle with Lyme disease.
- Bob Harris, continued prayers.
- Gene Campbell (Elaine Wilson's brother).
- Joanne Garland, friend of Betty Sosebee.
- Charles McChesney, recovering from stroke.
- Margaret Penington, Lila Doyle.
- Bonnie Stebing, (Anne Fogel's cousin) continued improvement and recovery.
- Wayne Sears (friend of Harris')
- Peggy Hadley (friend of Carolyn Brandt), cancer treatments.
- Marj Bouse (sister of Betty Mantell) various health issues.
- Alison Williams (Cathy Plowden's sister), beginning treatments for pancreatic cancer.
- Gina Daly, daughter of Bob Johnson, undergoing chemo treatments.
- Lily Sander, granddaughter of Bob and Dolly Johnson.
- Our elected leaders, for wisdom and discernment.
- All deployed military personnel.

**Worship Assistant Schedule for**  
**Next Sunday: May 28, 2017**  
**10:30 am Service**

**Lay Assistant: Cathy Plowden**  
**Lector: Mary Sprouse**  
**Ushers: Chuck (H) and Diane Rawlins**  
**Greeter: Brenda Safrit, Deb Blackmore**  
**Communion Ushers: Michael Gauderer, Scott Sprouse**  
**Acolyte: Joezie White**  
**Nursery: Catherine Lee, Riley Bateman**  
**Altar Guild: B. Bowman/C.Bryson**  
**Children's Sermon: Cathy Plowden**  
**Offering Counters: Sharpe/Yuda/Sims**  
**Kitchen Cleanup: Lucy Klaren Circle**

**Attendance:**  
**May 14, 2017**  
**107**

**Spiritual Opportunities**

**SUNDAY**

Sunday School 9:00 am  
 Ministry Announcements 10:25 am  
 Worship 10:30 am

**MONDAY**

**Bible Conversation 11 am**

**TUESDAY**

**Tour Group/B. Wilson 11:30 am**

**WEDNESDAY**

**Knitters/Crocheters**  
**Handbell Choir 5:15pm**  
**Chancel Choir 6:15 pm**

**THURSDAY**

**SJ Preschool Graduation 6pm**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**

Sunday School 9:00 am  
 Ministry Announcements 10:25 am  
 Worship 10:30 am

**From the Financial Secretary.....**

	Month of April 2017	First Quarter, 2017
Offerings	\$28,584	\$114,115
<u>Rental Income</u>		<u>3,150</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,584</b>	<b>117,265</b>
Total Expenses	19,762	82,142
Excess income over Expenses	8,862	35,163

**YEA! For the first time in five years, St. John's does not have an internal debt. At the end of April, we had a checking account balance of \$5,460. The primary reason for our getting out of debt is the reduced personnel expenses due to having an interim versus a full time Pastor. We all need to continue to give as expenses will increase quite a bit with the call of a new Pastor.**