



# NORTHDALE NEWS

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### Dear friends in our Savior,

In Chapter 3 of Lamentations, Jeremiah exclaimed, *“Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning, great is your faithfulness.”* (Lamentations 3:22-23). After lamenting about the judgment which God brought on Judah because of the idolatrous sin of the people, Jeremiah found his comfort in God’s love and compassion. *“They are new every morning,”* he exclaimed.

Many times, especially around the church, new isn’t necessarily seen as a good thing. There is an old joke that is told: How many Lutherans does it take to change a lightbulb? The punchline is: Change? New things can be difficult and make us uncomfortable. New things can force us to do things differently than we did them before. Yet God reminds us his love and compassions will never fail us but be new for us every day. That also means then that God will cause us to grow through new things which we encounter.

God is bringing some new things to us beginning with this month of July that will be good things for us and help us to grow. We welcome our new principal, Dane Mattes, along with his wife, Joanne, and their children Carolyn and Hailey. What a blessing that God is bringing into our midst an experienced principal and teacher through whom he can grow our school both numerically if that is his will and as an institution as we seek to continue to strengthen our policies and procedures. I am excited to work alongside Dane in this Gospel ministry and can’t wait to see the many blessings God will bring to us through his work and expertise. Our new principal is definitely a display of God’s love and compassion not failing us but being new in his mercies to provide for our ministry needs here at Northdale Lutheran.

This month, we also start a new program entitled, Evenings with Pastor. I outlined this program last month in the lead article of the newsletter. This is a great opportunity to get together with fellow members to study God’s Word together, enjoy fellowship with one another, and learn more about the ministry we are engaging in here at Northdale Lutheran. This new program will allow us to grow together more as a congregation. What a display of God’s love and compassion to bring us into contact with our fellow believers to strengthen us as we carry out his work together.

Whenever we start something new, there will always be some growing pains. New people do things in new ways. New doesn’t necessarily mean bad...it just means different. That can be uncomfortable. It will cause us to grow and be flexible. But it will also expand our ministry as we seek to bring Christ to our world.

What a great and wonderful God we serve who does not cast us away because of our sins or willingly bring affliction on any of his children. Instead, he is faithful in all that he does: his love is not consumed, his compassions never fail and his mercies are always new. May we rejoice in God’s love and mercy for us.

Pastor Vannieuwenhoven

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

### Ideas for Teaching Stewardship to Children

Philanthropic strategist Bruce DeBoskey, in an article titled “Involve kids early in family philanthropy and give them input in giving,” shares, “The passing along of family values cannot place all at once, in a few conversations towards the end of life or in a paragraph buried in a will. Rather, to be effective, it must be an ongoing and integral part of family communications from the children are very young well into their adult years.” He offers the following ideas for passing along stewardship principles to children.



take  
time

- 1) Set an example by your own charitable giving.
- 2) Include children in conversations about giving decisions. Teach them how charities work, the different charities that exist, and how our gifts help.
- 3) Give them three jars for splitting their allowance between giving, spending, and savings. One possible breakdown is putting a tithe into a church jar, half into savings, and the other 40 percent into the spending jar.
- 4) Children can donate their gently used stuff to a local charity. They can come along to make the donation.
- 5) Instead of gifts for special occasions (birthdays, Christmas), children can request donations to a charity.
- 6) Kids can help you with a volunteer project. Volunteering can even be worked into family vacations (perhaps a mission trip).

Certain giving arrangements, including a donor advised fund or a family foundation, allow older children to research causes and advise on family gift distributions. (For more information about a donor advised fund visit [wels.net/foundation](http://wels.net/foundation).)

## MISSIONS HIGHLIGHT—

### The One Thing We Can't Do is Nothing

What do you get when you combine a spread-out church membership, multiple communities, mission zeal, and the eternal gospel?  
Answer: mission opportunity.

That's what the members of Living Savior kept at the forefront of our minds before there was a storefront in a mission field.

A brief history – Living Savior started in Hendersonville, long before “Living Savior” was its name. From a few in a living room to a few more in the local YMCA, to a small church building, to a mission restart and relocation south of Asheville, to a healthy membership of hundreds of souls gathered by God... Living Savior was primed to reach more. In fact, over 40 members still live in and around Hendersonville. Seeing opportunity leads to seizing opportunity.

In February of 2017, Living Savior started a second site in Hendersonville. We are one church with two locations in Asheville and Hendersonville, 25 minutes apart. Since the start, God has blessed us with reaching people we otherwise couldn't – like Lois, “I was searching and searching. And here I found what I was looking for – grace.” Over 80 people were in attendance for our first Christmas Eve service in Hendersonville. We've been blessed to serve homeless people, some neighboring schools, and to get to know the surrounding community through events and canvassing. And as is often the case, small opportunities lead to more opportunities.

With the support of WELS Board for Home Missions, Pastor Paul Zell – who previously served as a professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary for the past 15 years – accepted the call to serve as pastor and missionary in Hendersonville. He was installed on January 21st, and he and his wife Cathy have hit the ground running. (Not without their contagious smiles and encouraging spirit, of course)

With just a “little teaching experience” (sarcasm intended), he has started classes which are drawing several new faces and equipping others to invite more people. He has hit the fast-forward button in getting to know the community, which will serve him and our overall ministry well. Going from former student to teammate in parish ministry and mission work is a blessing to say the least.

It boils down to three simple things: believers, multiple communities, and the eternal gospel. Those three things highlight what Scripture says the eternal gospel is for, “to proclaim to those who live on the earth – to every nation, tribe, language and people” (Revelation 14:6). That presents a great opportunity here and everywhere. Furthermore, since those three things (believers, communities, the gospel) exist wherever you are reading this, isn't it safe to say that you have such opportunities too?

And when we see opportunities, God give us the zeal to seize them. After all, one thing we can't do is nothing.

*Written By: Pastor Caleb Kurbis, Living Savior Lutheran Church – Asheville & Hendersonville, N.C.*

## MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

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The following are highlights from the Ministry Leadership Team meeting on June 25, 2018:

- The meeting began by a devotion by Pastor Vann
- The following were no membership actions reported or approved:
  - Baptism - Jonathan Mosakowski, Veda Flitter
  - Adult Confirmation - Mary Mosakowski
  - Transfer In - Dane and Joanne Mattes, Carolyn and Haley from Trinity Lutheran Church in Brillion, WI
  - Transfer Out - Mark and Jessie Theisfeldt, Annalise, Graham and Mabel to Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Pooler, GA
  - Total Membership = 228 Communicant membership = 170
- Pastor updated the board on his re-election to Circuit Pastor at the recent District Convention. Pastor also informed the board that he has scheduled the first evening with Pastor cottage meeting for July 12th. Pastor is also working on a meeting schedule for next year for the newly formed committees.
- Dane and Pastor for the School Ministry Board. They reported that current enrollment for the 2018/19 year is at 59. All faculty should be back from their vacations by July 1st, and Dane would like to have his first faculty meeting sometime next week.
- Steve Ward reported that there are currently 70 kids signed up for VBS. Steve also reported that the next event scheduled is the 4th of July parade. This year we will have a float with our VBS theme, music playing, and kids riding kayaks on the float. The parade is a great way to reach people for our planned VBS July 16th-20th.
- Chris stated that Bible class continues to work through 1st John. Pastor also stated he is working with one person in BIC. Chris is working on a new ushers schedule. He is also getting ready to order envelopes for next year. Both Chris and Pastor stated that the live streaming seems to be working fine now.
- Rick presented the year end financials. It showed we should come in very close to a balanced budget. Copies of the final report will be emailed to the MLT, the copier was making service folders and unavailable in time for our meeting. Rick also shared that the building fund balance is currently \$211,000. What a blessing God as given us this past year. We will begin to switch members over to the new accounting system from Push Pay. Jeff Berg will contact Push Pay to ask for our \$1,800 credit, as we did not see a 10% increase in our giving as they promised. A motion was made by Steve Ward and seconded by Mike Laurin to authorize that Larry Blaisel be added to our bank records as person able sign bank documents. Motion carried. We will also look into having our books audited on the changing of treasurers, and because one has not been completed in quite awhile.
- Mike Laurin reported that the stucco and soffit repairs are continuing but rain has slowed the progress. Mike also reminded everyone that Mike Corea from Imperial Woodworks will be at our July 30th meeting for a demo on the pews, and chairs.
- Steve reported for the Building Committee. Steve reported that we are still waiting on survey papers from Massmann in order for the architect to continue. We hope they can be located and a new survey not needed.
- We received a check from Church Mutual for \$37,416.35. We paid Altieri Transco American Claims \$3,628.30. We also have a \$1,000 deductible. The Land and Facilities team will begin looking for contractors and look at flooring ideas for the repairs.
- Chris Teeples gave a report from the District Convention. There were a lot of items covered during the three day convention. Some main highlights are combining the Everglades and Cypress Conferences' into one. All current officers were re-elected to their positions, and that NPH will be closing it's store and be going all digital.
- So far \$7,020 has been collected for the principal's moving fund. We aren't sure if this will cover all the cost because we have not received the bill yet. Therefore we will keep it in the service folder until we are sure that all costs have been taken care of.
- Pastor will email all MLT members their Ministry Plan to begin work on for the upcoming budget. Each member should review their section and make any changes by the August meeting to help when we prepare next years budget.
- Pastor gave all MLT members a copy of our current insurance coverage with Church Mutual. He felt it was important that we all know what is covered and how much. Upon review and with recommendations from the Board for Christian Ed a motion was made by Mike Laurin and seconded by Rick Bublitz to add a million dollar umbrella, and \$250,000 liability coverage for teachers and directors to our current policy. The additional coverage is only \$755 more per year. Motion carried.
- The MLT also gave unanimous support and thanks to both Rick Bublitz and Brian Busch for their years of service.
- The next Leadership Team meeting scheduled for July 30, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
- The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

## Mattes Thank You

Dear Members of Northdale Lutheran Church & School,

My family and I are sincerely appreciative of the gift card shower you held for us. Among many generous gift cards, we also received thoughtful “welcome to Florida” gifts. The gift cards enabled us to make a few trips to local grocery stores and begin restocking our kitchen. The Florida gifts are helping us enjoy the bountiful sunshine. We are so glad to be here and to become part of the Northdale family. May God bless our work together!

In Christ,  
Dane & Joanne, Carolyn & Hailey

## FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

We will once again be participating in the Fourth of July Parade in Lutz on July 4th. This is a great way for us to get out into our community and share information about our church and school with our neighbors. We invite everyone, especially families with young kids, to join us for this event. The parade starts at 10 a.m. and lasts only an hour.



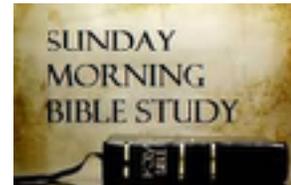
## Camp South

Camp South is a Youth Camp run by our South Atlantic District Commission on Youth. It is held in Covington, GA each year and is open to all students going into grades 4-8. We have 26 people going from our church/school this year. It will be held July 23-27. This year there will be over 400 campers! It is a great time for the kids and a wonderful opportunity for them to join in fellowship with their fellow WELS members throughout the District.



## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

We are currently studying the book of I John in our Sunday morning Bible Class. We'd love to have you join us for this study. We meet at 9:25 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



## Project Timothy Students

Project Timothy is a program with Luther Preparatory School where they send students out on trips to join congregations in doing mission work. We are thankful to have 6 students and 2 chaperones coming to Tampa to help us with our VBS. We already have housing set up for the students. We are now looking for help with providing food for meals. There will be a sign up sheet in the mailbox room this week asking you to sign up to help. One of the first things we need are breakfast foods. We'd like to stock them up with boxes of cereal and other breakfast foods before they arrive here on July 13. So if you can help us by purchasing some cereal and bringing it to worship this Sunday, you can leave it on the table in the mailbox room. If you can't help with providing a lunch or supper, we'll also have the white church out this weekend to take monetary donations to help cover these costs. These 8 will be a big help to us as we serve the children of our community. We thank you in advance for your help in making this a great experience for them.



**LUTHER  
PREPARATORY  
SCHOOL**

## Outreach Opportunities

When the Project Timothy students are here during VBS week, we are planning 2 outreach activities that we would like to have everyone participate in. On Monday, July 16, we will be canvassing houses in Northdale from 6-8 p.m. We will be going door to door to share information with our community about our church and school. It would be good for us to have a large number of people to help that evening. Also, on Wednesday, July 18, we'll be setting up a table in Northdale Park just south of the church/school property to hand out water to those in the park and share with them information about our church/school. We would like to have a large contingent for this also. More information will be coming out in the future, but please put these on your calendar and paid to join us.



## How do I Give the Money I Promised for the Building Project?

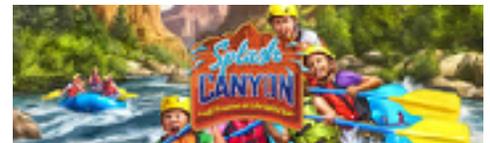
This question has been asked a few times already, so I thought it good to pass along the information. You can do it a couple of different ways. You can use the envelopes that were with the packet you received at the group presentations. You can use the specially marked "Building Fund" envelopes that are part of your regular envelope packed. Or, especially if you are giving a little each week, you can just add that amount to your regular offering and make note of either on your check or on the envelope. For instance, if you normally give \$100 weekly in offering and you promised to add \$25/week for the building fund, you can write a check for \$125 and just note that \$100 is for General offering and \$25 is for the Building Fund. You can also use the electronic giving option through our website. If you have questions about this, please don't hesitate to ask.



***Please note: if you are looking to give a larger gift/offering to Northdale Lutheran, we encourage you to give it in a check through the offering plate rather than through our electronic giving option. We are charged a percentage of each gift that is given and that would be a more significant number with a larger gift. Thank you for considering this.***

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our Vacation Bible School will be held July 16-20, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon. This is a great morning of fun for the children. There will be Bible lessons, a Bible Passage challenge, music, and crafts that the children will enjoy. The price is \$25/child if you register online prior to VBS or \$30 if you register the first day of VBS. If you (or someone you know) are looking to register for VBS, you can do so at our church website: [www.northdalelutheran.org](http://www.northdalelutheran.org). Please don't hesitate to ask with any questions. We are glad to help however we can.



## Ministry Teams

We had a good effort our first year in implementing our new ministry teams. We are thankful for those who stepped forward to serve in these varied capacities. We will be continuing these ministry teams this coming fall and are looking for increased participation from our members. We are asking each member of Northdale Lutheran to consider what gifts, abilities and interests God has granted to you to see if there is a place where you could serve. We will be talking about more of this in the next few months. Please start looking through this to see where you might consider serving.

### **♣ Member Care Team**

The Member Care Team will work with the pastor under the oversight of the Church Ministry Elder to ministry to the spiritual needs of the members of our congregation. This team will give members the privilege and opportunity to care for one another through the difficult challenges of life. They will seek to bring healing to those who hurt, encouragement to those who despair, physical help to those who are sick and friendship to those who are lonely. They will carry out their work by visiting those who are shut-in and can't get to worship, those who are sick and hospitalized, those who have been absent from worship for a period of time and offering support for those who are experiencing challenges or problems in their lives, those who have recently added a baby to their family and those who have recently lost a loved one.

### **♣ New Member Welcome Team**

The New Member Welcome Team will design and manage a process of welcoming and orienting new members to our congregation and help them to assimilate into the ministry of our congregation. This team will give our members the privilege and opportunity to make our new members feel welcomed and appreciated as well as help them to plug into a ministry where they can use their time and talents to serve others. They will carry out their work by developing materials they can use to help new members orient to our congregation as well as to help them learn about the different ministries, meeting with new members to share the materials and identify the ministries where they have desires and talents to serve, and then connecting the new members with the leaders of the ministries so that they can begin serving.

### **♣ Youth Ministry Team**

The Youth Ministry Team will oversee and carry out all the ministry to the youth of our congregation (with the exception being our Lutheran Elementary School). This will include Sunday School, Teen Ministry, and any other programs that can be started to serve and enrich the youth of our congregation. They will develop a program of spiritual growth, service, and fellowship for teens. They will help to promote participation in Teen Bible Class, WELS Youth Rallies, South Atlantic District Rallies, Camp South and Sunday School. They will work to plan fellowship and service activities for our youth to get to know one another better and serve others in our congregation and community.

### **♣ Land and Facilities Team**

This team will work with the Land and Facilities Elder to oversee all the properties and buildings of the congregation. They will help him to take care of the repair and upkeep of all the land and facilities owned by the congregation and ensure the regular maintenance and cleaning of the buildings. They will also help him to oversee any new construction, remodeling or any capital projects undertaken by the congregation and to propose new projects to the congregation to provide the facilities that will facilitate the ministry of the congregation. The Land and Facilities Elder will be the chairman of this team and will lead all meetings.

### **♣ Worship Team**

This team will work with the pastor under the oversight of the Church Ministry Elder to plan and carry out all our worship services. They will promote the enhancement of worship services and pursue appropriate variety in worship styles. They will make recommendations to the Ministry Leadership Team for service times, special services, and any other ways that our worship may be enhanced. They will help to select music and coordinate singing groups that will enhance our worship of our Savior and edify God's people with His Word.

### **♣ Stewardship Promotions Team**

The Stewardship Promotions Team will work under the oversight of the Church Ministry Elder to lead God's people in being good stewards of the time, talents and treasures God has given them. Motivated by God's grace, they will work with the pastor to provide regular stewardship training for our members. They will regularly promote different projects or parts of the budget to make members aware of the needs before us. They will organize efforts to assist members in their desire to remember the Lord's work (local and synodical) in their estate planning and make available to members financial management seminars and materials (e.g. Financial Peace University and Heart in Focus).

### **♣ Fellowship Team**

This team will plan and carry out frequent opportunities for members to meet each other, make friends, and enjoy common interests. They will encourage members to look for opportunities to fellowship with other members.

### **♣ Financial Advice Team**

This team will meet regularly with the Treasurer to advise him in making decisions about the finances of the congregation.

### **♣ Community Outreach Team**

The responsibility of this team is to look for ways that we can help others in our community. Since we know God's love for us in Jesus, we are compelled in Christian love to look for ways that we can help others around us. Motivated in thanks for all that God has done for us, the responsibility of this team is to look for opportunities in our community where the members of our congregation can use their time, talents, and treasures to meet the physical needs of others in our community. Our goal in doing this is not only to meet a need, but more importantly to have the opportunity to share with them the Gospel of Jesus to meet their spiritual needs as well.



July 2018

## **STAY CONNECTED...**

**to your school.**

**to your teachers.**

**to your youth.**

### **ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS**

We are continuing to work hard at developing our prospects into new enrollments for the school. Currently our enrollment stands at 59 students for 18-19, however we have other students whose parents have expressed intent to enroll and others who are very positive leads. Continue to pray that God will lead these and more families to see the importance of the Christian education we provide at Northdale. We expect to have more solid numbers to share next month!

### **SCHOOL YEAR PREPARATION STEPS**

The annual school registration process is once again available online through TADS. This is a great system that allows everyone to complete the registration steps at their convenience. Families that haven't completed the enrollment step yet are reminded to do so as soon as possible. Once enrollment is complete, then we proceed to the tuition agreement, also completed through TADS. Tuition agreements must be established by August 1st. They will be sent out by July 15th. All returning families must be current with past year's payments. Teachers will be making home visits to all families new to their classrooms in late July or early August. Sign up for home visits will take place via email. The final step before school starts is orientation. We will be holding parent orientation on Friday, August 10th at 6:00pm. All families must attend. We are excited for the year that lies ahead.

### **WEBSITE REDESIGN**

The Northdale Lutheran School website got a makeover just about a year ago! In a world that relies on websites as their first exposure to those seeking information, it's important to make sure the information is easy to find, as well as useful to prospects and current families. Most notably, the website is more user friendly for those using mobile browsers. If anyone has suggestions for further improvements, please let Mr. Mattes know.

### **FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM**

At this time of year we often find that there are families who view finances and/or transportation as obstacles to attending NLS. The goal of the Family Support Team is to eliminate those obstacles by contributing to the Tuition Assistance Fund or providing transportation assistance for a school family. As God has blessed you, please consider supporting our school ministry in this way. Your support could make such a difference in the lives of young Christians! Please contact Mr. Mattes if you would like to help.

### **BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE**

Thank you again to everyone for the amazing support for our growing school ministry. The additional classrooms and new parking lot will be great blessings. Plans are progressing for the completion of the building project by the start of the 19-20 school year. God be praised!

**Northdale Lutheran Church and School  
(WELS)  
15709 Mapledale Boulevard  
Tampa, FL 33624**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Northdale Lutheran Church and School (WELS)  
15709 Mapledale Boulevard  
Tampa, FL 33624**

**Office Phone: 813-961-9195 Fax: 813-961-2435  
Web site: [www.northdalelutheran.org](http://www.northdalelutheran.org)  
E-mail: [info@northdalelutheran.org](mailto:info@northdalelutheran.org)**

**Pastor Charles Vannieuwenhoven: 813-787-4854  
Principal: Dane Mattes: 920-588-7599  
Teachers: Chris Haring: 517-202-7283  
Aimee Hardman: 813-464-5113  
Lynn Marggraf: 262-613-3020  
Amy Vannieuwenhoven 813-787-5025**

**Sunday Worship: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
Communion Services: First and Third Sundays of the month  
Sunday School & Teen Bible Class: 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. (September through May)  
Sunday Bible Class: 9:25-10:15 a.m.  
Fellowship: 11:30 p.m.  
School hours: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. M-F**