

The Rock

May/June 2023



Barely 3 weeks ago, we came together to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On that Easter morning, I read from St. John's gospel, "Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" ³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed" (20:1-8).

Now, as we approach the midpoint of the Easter season, the question is, are our hearts still filled with joy and gratitude for the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ? On Resurrection Sunday, we celebrated God's great love for us and the hope of eternal life that He offers to all of humanity. But how has that fact and celebration impacted our lives?

I must confess, as I write this article, I'm sitting on the beach enjoying all that a beautiful day on the coast has to offer. I also must admit that if it weren't for writing this article, I would be thinking of a hundred different things. And the more I thought about it, the more I realized that this is indeed the challenge of the Easter season.

With Easter comes thoughts of summer, vacations, and the various other things that crowd our summer schedules. In May (5-6), we'll be busy with the Mission Region's convocation and with (May 20) our Flood Bucket build at Advent Lutheran, Kings Mountain. During June (11-16), we'll be busy with the Dallas area churches Vacation Bible School. In July (16-21), we'll be busy with the Mission District's Day camp and then in August (7-11), we'll turn our attention to the NALC convocation in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Before we know it, summer is gone, fall is here, and back to school time is upon us. Maybe this is one of the key reasons that Easter is 7 weeks long. The "week of weeks" give us ample opportunity to address the things that crowd our schedule and still give us time to ponder the love God has shown us in Jesus' resurrection. But there's one more thing we must consider in this Easter season.

Even as we rejoice in the Good News of the Resurrection, we must also remember that our duty as followers of Christ, is to be evangelizers; proclaimers of the Gospel message to all people and inviting them to share in the love and mercy of our Savior. When we look around us and take note of the hurt in our world today, we must understand the urgency of this work of evangelization. Through our proclamation and personal witness, we must take the opportunity to bring others to Christ and to help them experience the peace that comes from a life centered on Jesus in his Church.

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(continued from page 1) In the Scriptures, no one is given an experience of God without being sent on mission. Like the three women upon seeing the empty tomb and hearing of the Resurrection, we should be off and running to share this startlingly Good News with others. As we continue through this Easter season, let us renew our commitment to evangelization. Let us be bold in sharing the truth of the Resurrection with others and let us never hesitate to invite them to encounter the love of God in Christ and His Church. May the joy of the risen Christ fill our hearts and inspire us to be faithful and courageous witnesses to the Gospel.

Pastor Steve

Women of Bethel Mother's Day Dinner



The women of Bethel will have their annual Mother's Day Dinner Saturday, May 6th @ 5:00 pm at Small Town Kitchen in Cherryville. Ladies if you would like someone to pick you up and bring you home from this event, please let Donna Setzer know and we will co-ordinate a car pool. We would like for all our ladies along with their moms, daughters, daughters-in-law, granddaughters, etc. to attend. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex how many will attend with you.

Contact Donna by email @ donnalsetzer@gmail.com or by phone @704.675.8155.

Bethel's Memorial Day Burger Burn Sunday, May 28 directly after Morning Service



Please sign up for the annual Memorial Day Burger Burn to let us know how many burgers and buns to purchase. Also, list the sides, drinks and/or desserts you will bring. This is a wonderful time to enjoy great burgers (are you listening Wade and Tony?) and to enjoy fellowship time with family and fellow members.

Bethel's Prayer Groups Wednesdays in 2023

Women's Prayer Group-Wednesday 9:30-10:30 AM
Men's Prayer Group-Wednesday 6:00-7:00 PM
Both groups will meet in the Educational Building



Widow/Widower's Luncheon Schedule 2023

May 25- House of Pizza, 1108 E. Main St., Lincolnton
June 22- Fatz, 1430 E. Main St. Lincolnton
July 27- Chick-Fil-A, 1904 E. Main St., Lincolnton
August 24- Dino's, 610 Gastonia Hwy. Bessemer City
September 28- Tacos n Tequila, 111 Vandiver Dr. Lincolnton
October 26- Small Town Kitchen, 1011 E Church St., Cherryville
November 16- Pizza Inn, 475 N. Generals Blvd., Lincolnton
December 21- Court Street Grill, 113 Ct. Square, Lincolnton

Father's Day Cook Out Saturday, June 3



The Men's Annual Cook Out at Wade and Diane's Gazebo is set for Saturday, June 3, 2023 @6pm. Please sign up to let them know how much food to purchase.

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 National Day of Prayer	5-6 CMR Convocation	6 5 pm Women's Dinner Small Town Kitchen
7 10 Service	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 10 Service Mother's Day	15	16	17	18	19	20 Disaster Relief Flood Bucket Build @ Advent
21 10 Service 5:30 p Youth/Family Night @ Antioch	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 10 Service 11 Burger Burn	29 Memorial Day	30	31			



May Birthdays

4 Marcus Deaton
8 Kimberly Carpenter
10 Cayden Creed
13 Trendon Cable
15 Ashley Carpenter
15 Paul Raynor
16 Krishna Rana
21 Gerald Chapman
21 Alaina Kiser

May Anniversaries

1 Joe & Donna Setzer
9 Tyler & Amber Carpenter
11 Richard & Jessica Kiser
29 Paul & Krystle Raynor



Dallas High Shoals

Food Ministry

Food collections for May are: Soup, Mac & Cheese and Lima Beans

All food items may be left in the Narthex.

Of course, personal hygiene products and all canned and boxed food items are always welcome.



June 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3 6 pm Men's Dinner
4 10 Service	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 VBS 10 Service 4 Council	12 VBS @ Antioch	13 VBS @ Antioch	14 VBS @ Antioch	15 VBS @ Antioch		17
18 10 Service Father's Day	19	20 Life Line Screening @ Bethel	21	22	23	24
25 10 Service	26	27	28	29	30	



June Birthdays

- 2 Carter Hester
- 3 Donna Setzer
- 4 Jean Harmon
- 6 Don Kiser
- 14 Wanda Huffstetler
- 19 Nathan Hester
- 23 Joe Setzer

Happy Anniversary!

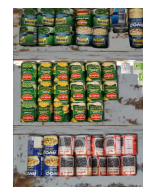
June Anniversaries

- 16 Jeff & Karen Blanton
- 16 Sidney & Gail Carpenter
- 19 Mack & Jeana Harmon
- 20 Wade & Diane Carpenter
- 20 Trent & Amy Cable
- 20 Justin & Jean Engle
- 28 Nathan & Candace Hester
- 29 Hugh & Libby Carpenter

Dallas High Shoals Food Ministry

Food collections for June are: Canned Pinto Beans, Canned Meats and Black-eyed Peas.

Of course, personal hygiene products and all canned and boxed food items are always welcome.



Assisting Minister
Michael Carpenter

May Worship Assistants

Greeters/Ushers
Robert Carpenter, Joe & Helen Rudisill

June Worship Assistants

Assisting Ministers
Elaine Kiser

Greeters/Ushers
Nathan Hester, Bruce Kiser, Trendon Cable

Tithes/Offerings

If you are not able to attend church, you may mail your tithes/offerings check to:
Wand Huffstetler
3535 NC Hwy 27 West
Lincolnton, NC 28092

Mother's Day, May 14

Father's Day, June 18

Exodus 20:12 — "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

Proverbs 1:8-9 — "Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck."

40 Bags in 40 Days for Local Homeless

We're thrilled to report that 14 children and youth along with their parents/grandparents attended last month's Youth & Family night at Bethel. The children assembled 130 bags of supplies generously donated by Antioch as well as our own congregation.

Everyone enjoyed a variety of Pizzas and Salads, a Bible Lesson and Fellowship.

Thank you so much for enabling our children and youth to be a blessing to those in need!

Missing Church Keys

We are trying to locate unaccounted for keys to the main sanctuary. If you have a key, and Pastor Steve has not talked with you personally about the number on the key, please let Pastor know what number you have. The key will have BC to the left and a number stamped on the right. Thank you!



Please add the following changes to your address book:

Mary Frances Carpenter Phone: 704.802.6200

Carolina Care
Room 212
111 Harrelson Road
Cherryville, NC 28021

Patricia Bicknase

Carolina Care
Room 107A
111 Harrelson Road
Cherryville, NC 28021

Phone: 704.802.6227



The Rock Newsletter

Please email any announcements, recipes you would like to share or articles of interests to Donna Setzer at:

donnalsetzer@gmail.com

Also please send all updated b'days/anniversaries and changes in phone numbers, addresses, email address, etc.

I get the birthday and anniversary dates from the last Congregational Photo Directory, please check to be sure your info is correct, if it isn't correct let me know.

Thank you!



Looking Ahead



May 6	5 pm	Bethel Women Dinner @ Small Town Kitchen *****
May 28	11 am	Burger Burn @ Bethel *****
June 3	6 pm	Men's Dinner at Wade & Diane Carpenter's *****
June 11-15		Vacation Bible School @ Antioch *****
July 2	11 am	Burgers and Hot Dogs *****
July 16-21	9-4 pm	Solid Rock Day Camp @ Antioch *****
August 13	12 noon	Homecoming @ Bethel *****
September 10		Rally Day *****
October 8	11 am	Pastor Appreciation Spaghetti Dinner *****
October 22	11 am	Golden Ager's Dinner *****
October 31	5:30 -7:30 pm	Trunk or Treat *****
November 4		Hayride at Frederick's *****
November 22	7 pm	Thanksgiving Eve Service @ Antioch *****
December 2	5 pm	Christmas Dinner @ Small Town Kitchen *****
December 13	5:30 pm	Christmas Caroling *****
December 24	7 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Bethel Homecoming August 13, 2023



Solid Rock Day Camp

July 17-21, 2023: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

For all children ages kindergarten– 6th grade. Cost is \$100.00. Please make checks payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. On-line registration began April 1st. Camp will be held at Antioch Lutheran Church. A \$50.00 deposit is required at the time of registration and siblings receive a \$20 discount.

We invite YOU to participate in this Life-Changing Project!

Please respond to this email or call 704-867-3706 to save us from calling you. Thank You!

Baby Bottle Blessings

Your SILVER change, checks, and GREEN currency help us to help women, men and their families facing crisis pregnancy situations with the truth about LIFE.



Let the Little Children Come to Me!

"But Jesus called the children to Him and said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.'" Luke 18:16

2023

CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER OF GASTON COUNTY

Last year we gave out **6373** Bottles!
Last year **123** Churches and Business Participated!
Last year we collected **\$153,463.69** through Baby Bottle Blessings!

How does filling a Baby Bottle change lives?

- Last year, **20** babies lived, as their Moms changed their minds about aborting their child after visiting our CPC!
- Last year, **227** clients turned their hearts and lives over to Jesus and received His gift of Salvation!
- Last year, **3,795** clients were given free baby supplies!

We hope you will participate this year and help us continue to give freely to all who enter our doors!

We suggest you hand out your empty bottles on **Mother's Day, May 14** and collect them on **Father's Day, June 18**.

Bottles can be picked up at 700 Robinson Road beginning Wednesday, April 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and following Mondays through Thursdays and on Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact Shae Faraday at Shae.Faraday.CPC@gmail.com or 704-867-3706

We appreciate your financial support AND your prayers as we stand on the front lines fighting for LIFE!!

Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church

509 Long Shoals Road

Lincolnton, NC 28092

704.922.5487

Reverend Steven King, Pastor

pastorsteve@kfcloud.com

919.222.9071 cell



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Lincolnton, NC 28092