

THE MACEDONIAN

421 WEST FRONT STREET, BURLINGTON, NC 336-227-5554

Hello to all of you at Macedonia Lutheran Church,

Let me introduce myself. I am Pastor Louise Hilbert and will be serving as your interim pastor during this time as you go through the process of discernment to find your next called pastor. In retirement I have served four congregations as interim before serving you now. In each of them God has guided the right pastor to the right congregation.

I am retired from active parish ministry after serving three parishes, two in North Carolina and one in South Carolina. Before that I served as a parish worker in Christian Education and Family Ministry in Florida. The church in all its many forms has always been a big part of my life.

I know that Pastor Goeres was well loved and you are grieving his leaving to take another call. I have had several conversations with him and know that he felt the Holy Spirit calling him to go, even while he did not want to leave a church family he had grown to love. It was difficult to go and yet the Spirit clearly called him.

While we are in a time of being apart from each other, life seems even more complicated. Rather than seeing people we love and care about each week, we spend time talking on the phone, seeing each other on Zoom, and sending notes or emails just to stay in touch. It is out of love that we do not gather in person, as hard as that is to do. It is out of love that we provide worship services, devotions, and Bible studies online.

We pray for all those who must go into dangerous situations, for all those who suffer hardships due to financial losses, for all who are separated from loved ones, for all who worry about the future, and for all whose lives have been radically changed during the pandemic. Now is the time to remember that God is still the Lord of all. God's loving arms are wrapped around each of you, embracing you with powerful love.

I look forward to getting to know you in whatever means works best. I will be available by phone, email, text, and when it is safe by personal visits. I am pleased to be working with such a faithful congregation, good staff, and lay leaders as well as congregational members. May God guide us in this interim time.

Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Louise

Inside this issue:

Pastor Louise’s
Message 1

Birthdays..... 2

Calendar/Announcements..... 2

Council Notes 3

Youth News 4

Community Meal, Meals
on Wheels, and
Zoom Update..... 5

Social Ministry..... 6

Community Partners..... 7

Homeboundz..... 8

LEAF..... 9

Contact Information..... 10

Happy Birthday

Kalan	Neal	September 01
Steven	Barnwell	September 03
Jeffrey	Walker	September 06
Alexa	Jacobo	September 07
Ashley	Jacobo	September 07
Thomas	Macklin	September 09
Peggy	Fogleman	September 10
Inez	Honeycutt	September 14
Jay	Mohundro	September 14
Thomas	Meisenbach	September 16
Kyle	Rippenhagen	September 16
Victoria	Sharp	September 16
Adriana	Cantelmo	September 17
Kay	Johnson	September 17
Keira	Lenfert	September 17
Ethan	Russell	September 17
Taylor	Easter	September 19
Timothy	Easter	September 19
Dale	Goodman	September 19
Ryan	Gunyan	September 19
Alice	Long	September 19
Donald	Russell	September 20
Danny	Van Fleet	September 21
Janet	Meisenbach	September 22
Joan	Murphy	September 23
William	Poovey	September 24
Deborah	Gunyan	September 26
Carlos	Pennington	September 28
Julie	Myers	September 29
Constance	Poovey	September 29

September 2020

In light of these extraordinary circumstances, the church and facility calendar is omitted this month. Please attend to email for up-to-date virtual opportunities to stay connected.

Council Notes – August 2020

I hope all are well. Know that we on Council miss seeing each of you and pray for a time when we can return to “normal.” Traditionally August is a slow month for Council / Committee activities, however, even with the Phase II restrictions, several committee and task groups have been meeting and working for the good of the congregation. Thanks to all who are meeting via Zoom and working behind the scenes. Here are some highlights of the past month:

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Jessica Morel has been selected to be our Director of Music. She has been serving in the interim since January. We are glad Dr. Morel will be with us for the foreseeable future.

Congratulations, Congratulations, Congratulations, to Vicar Julie Tonnesen who has been approved of ordination by the NC Synod. It is our hope later in the year we will be able to issue a call to then Pastor Julie to a quarter time position at Macedonia, as she continues in a three quarter position with LEAF Campus Ministry at Elon University. After 3 years of Divinity school and a year of seminary and internship we hope she will get a few days to relax and take a deep breath.

Be on the lookout for a telephone call from a representative of Council. This is a follow-up to previous calls, to see how everyone is doing, if you are getting Macedonia electronic services and mailings and questions about regathering. Please share with us how things are for you.

Along those lines, even though visitation at hospitals and nursing homes are restricted at this time, we would still like to know those who are experiencing health issues, emergencies, hospitalizations, etc. Please contact either the church office, Vicar Julie, or me to insure we can coordinate conversations with Vicar Julie or Pastor Louise and include on the prayer list.

We are pleased to welcome Pastor Louise Hilbert as our interim pastor beginning September 1st. Pastor Louise (as she prefers to be called) is joining us after serving as interim at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Raleigh. We are looking forward to her leadership as we move through this transition period. See her introduction elsewhere in this newsletter.

At the Council meeting on August 10th, we met with Ms. Sandra Cline from the Bishop’s Office who coordinates the call process. Sandra provided the necessary steps leading up to the establishment of a Call Committee, the interview process, and eventual call. She also indicated that the average call takes about 11 months. We have begun the steps outlined by Sandra and will be reporting to you soon.

Take Care, God Bless
Charlie Harris

YOUTH NEWS

I am sure this will come as a surprise to no one but, our youth calendar will look a little different this year. The National Youth Gathering which was supposed to be held in the summer of 2021 will now be held the summer of 2022. LYO which is a Synod youth event led by youth from our Synod at a hotel will hopefully be done as a lock-in at each church in February (there is a back up plan for this if we are unable to gather together then). We will see if our elementary age and middle school youth will be able to gather at Camp Agape for a BYG (Building Youth Groups) weekend. Despite these changes youth will start gathering each Sunday evening via Zoom starting September 13 until we are able to gather in person. Each week will have a different focus. Some weeks we will be doing an activity together, some weeks we will play games. Every week we will have a chance to check in and see how everyone is doing. I can't wait to "see" each of you.

As I write this announcement students are moving back to Elon for a new semester. While so many things are uncertain about what the semester will be like, LEAF (Lutheran, Episcopalians, and Friends) will continue to be a place of refuge for students to gather for worship and fellowship. Traditionally as part of their fellowship time after worship. students have gathered over a meal provided by Macedonia or Holy Comforter. Unfortunately, this year because of Covid restrictions those meals will need to be catered. We all know that catered meals cost more than homecooked. So, instead of requesting help in providing meals, I am asking members to consider making a donation to LEAF with "fall meals" noted on the comment line and mailed to 2960 Campus Box Elon, NC 27244 or dropping a check off at the church.





A special thanks to the ladies of Circles #2 and #6 for providing the meal for our neighbors in July! We appreciate you!

AND...the Adult Handbells and Choir came through with the meal for August! It's because of groups like yours (with big hearts), we can provide a wholesome meal for our surrounding community! Thank you.

For more info on how you can support this worthwhile program, please contact our Community Meal Champions. They are Barbara Lilienthal at 336-266-3738 or Robin Willis at 336-212-1463.



Delivery Week:
September 14 - 18



Mondays at 10 a.m. - Coffee Hour.
Thursdays at 7 p.m. - Happy Hour.

COVID has not stopped us!

The Macedonia Social Ministry committee has a long-standing tradition of extending Christian compassion and helpfulness to persons in need in our community. We would not be successful without the support of our entire congregation.

Thanks to the generosity of many Macedonians, by using funds from our budget, we are prepared to distribute much needed aid to our Core Partners throughout Alamance County. In addition to those Partners, we will also make monetary donations to other organizations very much in need of support. The funds will be distributed in two rounds of giving. The first round adds up to over \$12,000. By the time we have completed the second round of giving, we will have donated over \$28,000 in aid to our community. Thank you, again, for doing your part.

Because you donated food and cash, we can continue to fund our **Hunger Appeals** program, which consists of the **Community Meals** and our **Turrentine Middle School Food Backpacks** program.

We are sending checks to **Family Abuse Services** and the **Benevolence Farm**, two of our MLC Core Partners. The **Piedmont Rescue Services**, **Women's Resource Center**, and **Ralph Scott Life Services** will also receive Social Ministry funding.

Our support will also extend to **Sustainable Alamance**, **The Salvation Army Boy's and Girl's Club**, and **CROP**. And last, but certainly not least, **Allied Churches of Alamance County** will receive \$5,000 to help them further their mission, one we feel very strongly connected to at Macedonia.

Something new this year... Macedonia will be sponsoring two children attending the **Holy Comforter Preschool**, by providing their tuition for the entire school year.

So, as the title states, COVID hasn't stopped us! While we have not been physically (in person) able to support many of our beneficiaries, we are doing what we can to help our partners get through these incredibly tough times we face.

If you would like information regarding any of the organizations, or if you have questions about the information in this article, please don't hesitate to call or email Stephanie Braxton @ 336-269-0240 or itsmeswb@bellsouth.net.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



It's business as usual for us and staff here continues to amaze me with their dedication and innovation when it comes to providing services to the community. We are definitely making an impact during this pandemic.

As many of you are aware, ACAC continued to persevere through the pandemic and with a dedicated staff we never closed our doors. ACAC remained business as usual and continued the pursuit of "Ending Homelessness and Hunger in Alamance County." ACAC has been fortunate to be able to purchase some commercial grade equipment that will help ensure that all areas of the shelter are being sanitized correctly. Safety of the people that we serve and the staff that work here is of utmost importance. To this day, we are one of only a handful of congregate care settings that have not had a positive test in the facility.

The shelter itself has been busy with a steady flow of residents moving in and out of the shelter. Most times, we are able to get residents back on their feet and into their housing in less than 40 days. The residents are participating in intensive case management, budgeting and tenant education classes, career readiness classes in partnership with ACC and my personal favorite, empowerment and enrichment classes. We are so pleased to be able to assist individuals and families to get back to their own house and way of life. We will always be faced with challenges and we truly believe that we are ready for them and with the support from you, we can get things done!!

To keep up with all of the awesome work that is going on, we are encouraging everyone to like, view and share our social media pages. Get social, check in on a friend, call and check on your favorite staff person. We want to hear from you. Follow the life of the shelter on Facebook and Instagram. The content on these sites tell you what we are doing and how to help support our mission. Monetary and product donations will become extremely important over the next several months. This pandemic has brought unsuspected expenditures that must be met in order to deliver top notch services safely.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS(Cont'd)



Lastly, we will be bringing some shifts back to the shelter. We want all the Outreach Leaders, Mission Leaders, Circle and Group Leaders, etc. to contact Sabrina Corbett at scorbett@alliedchurches.org to ensure that your churches contact person is up to date. We are ready for our volunteers to get back in the kitchen for some chopping, slicing and dicing. Of course, we will practice social distancing, wear mask and gloves and use plenty of hand sanitizer, lol. There will be a product donation drive held in the next couple of weeks. Be on the lookout as the flyer and announcement will be coming out soon! Items to be donated will include: 55-gal trash bags, paper towels, cleaning supplies, spices and seasonings and carry-out trays. They can all be found on ACAC's Amazon Wish List! Please continue to donate to ACAC by mail, website, in person or on social media. We need your help to continue to do the Ministry that we do.



Ingeborg Warschcow
 Alyse Tickle
 Violet Patton
 Jane and Don Russell
 Betty Davis
 Eloise Bryan
 Edna McAllister
 Paul Cobb
 Beverly Hiller
 Larry Dettman
 Marge Lebarron
 Barbara Sharpe
 Marinelle Peery
 Jan Woodings
 Billie Booke
 Linda Griffin

**Please remember
 our homebound
 members with
 cards, letters, and
 phone calls.**



Hello LEAF Community,

We are so glad to be back on campus and back to sending you all our updates! After about five months of quarantine, the LEAFlets are making our way back to Elon's campus. Though so grateful to be back, we know that this year will not look the same as in years past. Our plans for gathering will be significantly modified, but nevertheless we will continue to have our weekly worship and coffee hours (outdoors and socially-distanced, of course!).

We already have some exciting plans for our first week back, including a welcome back picnic for our returning LEAFlets, as well as an outdoor iced coffee social for our new first years! On both Friday and Saturday, we hosted an iced coffee event for any first year students who had just moved onto campus and wanted to check us out! Because the Organization Fair will be much more virtually-based this year than in the past, we wanted to be able to have a safe, in-person opportunity for new students to get to meet with us.

Over the summer, LEAF worked on two book clubs (where we read *Jesus Feminist* and *Native*) to promote connection and discussion while we were away from each other. Both of these reads, though stemming from different perspectives, provided us with just the valuable and productive discussions we were needing this summer. In addition to our book clubs, the LEAF student leaders worked to create new t-shirts for our community!



We are so excited to have a new shirt to represent for our group, and we have extras, so let Julie know – they are \$18.

We hope you all are doing well, and we cannot wait to be back with you all and interacting safely again soon- thank you for all you do!

Wylie Watlington, LEAF Student Leader, '22



2020 ALAMANCE COUNTY CROP HUNGER HONOR WALK OCTOBER 3rd, 2020

The 2020 Alamance County CROP Hunger Honor Walk is taking a slightly different approach this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead of a large group walking together on walk day, it will be an individual/immediate family walk event, completed on the “honor” system by all registered participants. A participant’s walk can be of any duration, but we ask that it be completed on or before Saturday, October 3rd, which was to be our original BIG walk day event. Our purpose for the Walk this year is to not only raise funds to combat hunger here in Alamance County and all over the world, but also to honor and recognize all of our first responders and front-line workers – all those who are keeping our community safe and cared for. We salute you and we are walking for you!!!! In 2019 the Walk achieved a total of \$38,000 in monies raised and our goal is to meet and exceed \$40,000 for 2020! Let’s help the Walk meet this goal by signing up to walk, to sponsor a walker, or do both! **PLEASE JOIN** us in this effort – in this unprecedented time, the agencies that benefit from our fundraising need our help now more than ever!!

Agencies benefiting from CROP Hunger Honor Walk funds include:

Alamance County Meals on Wheels
 Family Abuse Services
 Allied Churches Good Shepherd Kitchen
 Alamance County Community Services Food Pantry
 Caring Kitchen
 Residential Treatment Services of Alamance County

For every dollar raised, 25 cents of it stays here in the county – so the more we raise, the more we benefit our community.

Visit <http://www.crophungerwalk.org/> for more information on Church World Service and the work they do and how CROP Walks fit into that mission.

To register as a walker or to just donate, visit <http://www.crophungerwalk.org/burlingtonnc>, which is our Alamance County Walk website, and search for Macedonia Lutheran. The team page is up and running and ready to get walkers registered and on their way for soliciting donations!!! In this time of pandemic, on-line giving is going to be crucial to our success as we are still unable to meet as a church body. For any questions and/or concerns about the Walk, how to get registered, etc., contact Sheila Gibson at 336-558-4951 or sheilawgibson@gmail.com.

AND REMEMBER – WE WALK BECAUSE THEY WALK!!

Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church
421 West Front Street, Burlington, NC 27215
336-227-5554
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Visit our website for more information: www.macedonialutheran.com

A member congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod.

Pastor Louise Hilbert, Interim Pastor.....	pastorlouise@macedonialutheran.com
Vicar Julie Tonnesen, Pastoral Intern.....	jtonnesen@elon.edu
Dr. Jessica Morel, Director of Music.....	jessicamorel85@gmail.com
Charlie Harris, Council President.....	charlesharris365@gmail.com
Penny Pettigrew, Finance Secretary.....	financesec@macedonialutheran.com
Jane Bowman, Building Superintendent.....	bowmanjane885@yahoo.com
Lisa Phillippie, Office/Communications Manager.....	office@macedonialutheran.com

Macedonia Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation.

Email: office@macedonialutheran.com
Church Council President—Charlie Harris
Twin Lakes Community President/CEO—Pam S. Fox



**Deadline for
October 2020 Newsletter 9/15/2020**