

The Sheaves Of Wheatland

The Monthly Newsletter of Wheatland Lutheran Church

April 2023



WHEATLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH

1560 Wheatland Road

Buchanan, Virginia

E-mail:

wheatlandlutheran@gmail.com

website: [http://](http://www.wheatlandlutheran.org)

www.wheatlandlutheran.org

Pastor: Chuck Miller

Deacon: Phyllis Cox

Organist: Pam Stump

Choir Director:

Members of Church Council:

President: Ron Smith

Vice-President: Kevin Loope

Secretary: (Open)

Treasurer: Misty Wood

Financial Secretary/Teller: Jenna Bill

Members:

Dwight Ayers

Lyndan Simpson

Dameon Dudding, Youth
Representative

Webmaster: Misty Wood

Newsletter Editor: Natalie Haley

**Deadline for the May
newsletter is
April 27!**



*"HE IS NOT HERE; FOR HE HAS
BEEN RAISED, AS HE SAID."*

Matthew 28: 5-6



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 2, Palm Sunday

**10:30 a.m., Worship with Holy Communion
(processing with palms)**

Thursday, April 6, Maundy Thursday

**Stripping of the Altar
7:00 p.m., Worship service**

Friday, April 7, Good Friday

7:00 p.m., Worship service

Sunday, April 9, Easter Sunday

**Resurrection of Our Lord
10:30 a.m., Worship with Holy Communion**



Your God given gifts to serve others

1Peter 4:10

10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

Rediscovering who we are and how we gather and serve after Covid has been a very long and tough thing to do. Although we can say we survived that Pandemic (something many churches did not) we were not un-affected. The last 18/24 plus months have been a time unprecedented by any other time we have experienced in modern history. Although we have done a wonderful job of reinitializing the institution of church and the newest ministries that God has called us into, we still have work to do as a community. I chose the scripture from 1Peter because it confirms the truth: you all are gifted, and faithful stewards and this community needs your gifts. Our committees are still coming back from being disbanded during Covid. Over the next month or so, our council members, who are liaisons for our committees, will be contacting you to talk about your gifts for the service to God. Just like all the other competing priorities we have in our lives, these roles, and opportunities to serve, will be as important as we make them. One item Covid taught us is we can't do it without you. Literally every committee team needs to be filled out and active in service. Our current 2023 council is operating at a reduced capacity, and we have no Church Secretary as of this day. **We need the gift of a Church Secretary.** If you think you can help, please reach out to Ron, or Kevin. This community, this church remains to be one of the most loving places to be a part of. Please invite your friends to come, invite your neighbors to come, come be a part of the real body of Christ. Your abundant gifts are to be shared with God's children and creation. Please consider how this community can benefit from them.

Pastor Chuck

A volunteer commitment form is included in this newsletter on Page 4. Please print a copy and fill it out to indicate your interest in sharing your time and talent for the benefit and growth of Wheatland. You will notice that there are many areas in which you may serve the church AND the community. Give your form to Pastor Chuck, or place it in the Benevolence and Donation plate in the upstairs Gathering Area.



Feeding Ministry

BIG NEWS!!

We have received our first grant from the VA Synod (this is a 2 part grant: one in the first of the year and one the second half of the year). Our distribution for the first half of the year is \$5500. We will begin to figure out how this grant will help insure that the feeding ministry and mission of this church will be sustainable for years to come.

Feeding Fridays

We continue to open as a pantry to the community every other Friday. For March we averaged 63 families, and roughly 260 family members over the two Fridays we served. Please consider how you might be able to support this ministry. We will operate April 14 and 28 from 12-5. We can use help at the event, or help going and getting the food, as well as help collecting plastic bags that we can reuse to hold food. Please contact Pastor Chuck and he can help you get started.

Mini Pantry

Mini pantry is one of the most stable ministries we have. The small box at the picnic shelter continues to be emptied 3 to 4 times each week. Thank you for bringing your extra change for the noisy offerings each first Sunday of the month.

Garden of grace

We will have our community planting day 5/21/23. We will provide lunch for those who come. Please make plans to be here.

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday Worship/Stripping of the altar 7 PM

Good Friday Worship 7 PM

Easter Worship 10:30 AM

Spring Cleaning

We will have a Spring Cleaning of the Church 4/22/23 Please make plans to come and support and many hands make light work.

MINISTRY COMMITMENT

We offer with joy and thanksgiving our lives to the work of our Lord.
Through our congregation, I offer the following Ministry Commitments.
I would be willing to serve my church in the following areas:

Worship and Spiritual Outreach

- Visitors to our worship
- Hospitals and shut-ins
- Members
- Phone visitors
- Write notes to visitors, shut-ins, etc.
- Monthly Worship
- Newsletter
- Webpage
- Adult choir
- Instrumental music
- Altar Guild
- Acolyte
- WELCA
- LuCoM representative
- Crucifer
- Greeter
- Lector (Lay reader)
- Communion Assistant
- Usher
- Nursery during Worship

Community Care Outreach

- Transportation for aged
- Food Pantry
- Garden
- Directory
- Tractor Treat Volunteer
- Feeding Kids
- CAMS Backpack



STEWARDSHIP/SUPPORT

- Support Ministry Team
- Serve on Church Council
- Stewardship for a healthy church

PROPERTY

- Maintenance and repairs
- Carpentry
- Painting
- Snow removal
- Yard work or mowing
- Plumbing
- Electrical work

FAITH FORMATION

- Lead Monthly Intergenerational Event
- Assist with Intergenerational Event
- Vacation Bible School:**
 - Teacher
 - Helper
 - Director
- Youth Group**
 - Youth Group Advisor
 - Youth Group Member



OTHER

I intend to:

- Worship faithfully
- Participate in Sunday School
- Participate in Bible Study
- Share my time, talents, & treasures with my church
- As opportunities arise, share my faith with others

Name:

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____



Many of you have heard Tim Wilson perform several times for our Christmas Eve services throughout the years. I have taught him piano since the age of 4 and now he is a senior at JRHS! On March 11 Tim performed in the National Federation of Music Clubs Festival and was rated by several judges and received his 12th Superior rating in 12 years. This means he will be awarded a 60-point gold cup for such a huge accomplishment! We all congratulate him! He is the son of Ann and Mel Wilson of Fincastle.

From Pam Stump



The altar flowers supplied by Cahoon Florists in Fincastle, cost \$35.00. If you would like to purchase flowers for the altar, there is a sign-up sheet in the second floor gathering area. You may also contact Lily Hill Williamson to purchase. Altar flowers usually serve three worship services.

No Easter Egg Hunt this year, We did not have enough proactive people to make it happen in time.



We extend our deepest sympathy to the friends and family of **Michael Cheney** (brother of Pastor Cecie Haxton), who passed away March 7, 2023. May memories help ease the burden of your sorrow and give you peace.

“Grief, I’ve learned, is really just love. It’s all the love you want to give, but cannot. All of that unspent love gathers in the corners of your eyes, the lump in your throat, and in the hollow part of your chest. Grief is just love with no place to go.”

Jamie Anderson



He did it!!

On March 7 at 7PM **Zeb Grant** made the distinguished level of becoming an Eagle Scout!! Great Job, Zeb, we are so proud of you and so thankful that you decided to create your project as a lasting treasure here at Wheatland. THANK YOU!!

And Zeb, May the Peace of Christ be with you!



The Tradition of the Easter Lily



The Easter Lily is an iconic symbol of Spring with deep roots in American and Christian traditions. In the Christian tradition, the Easter Lilies were traditionally nicknamed "white-robed apostles of hope," and their white color symbolizes the purity of Christ. The trumpet shape of the Easter Lily bloom also symbolizes the message that Christ has risen on Easter Sunday. Their growth cycle also echoes the Christian tradition of the Resurrection.

An Easter Lily begins as a brown, stubby bulb that grows in the ground for three years before emerging with a beautiful white bloom. These three years in the ground echo the three days Christ spent in the tomb before his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. This symbolic tradition associates the Easter Lily with hope, purity, and rebirth.

There are many other Biblical links to the Easter Lily beyond the Resurrection story. For example, many Biblical scholars believe that the Easter Lily was the flower that bloomed in the Garden of Eden where Eve's remorseful tears fell to the ground. There are also many depictions of the Archangel Gabriel handing Mary Easter Lily blooms to symbolize her purity.

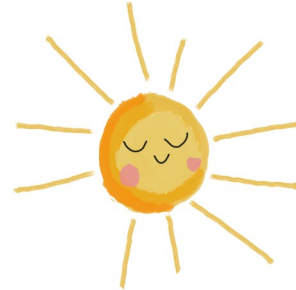


EARTH DAY APRIL 22, 2023

It may be hard to imagine that before 1970, a factory could spew black clouds of toxic smoke into the air or dump tons of toxic waste into a nearby stream, and that was perfectly legal. They could not be taken to court to stop it.

How was that possible? Because there was no EPA, no Clean Air Act, no Clean Water Act. There were no legal or regulatory mechanisms to protect our environment. In spring 1970, Senator Gaylord Nelson created Earth Day as a way to force this issue onto the national agenda. Twenty million Americans demonstrated in different U.S. cities, and it worked! In December 1970, Congress authorized the creation of a new federal agency to tackle environmental issues, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Light



*I came into the world and I could see
The light that was all around me
I had been forming in the night
And suddenly everywhere it was bright
As I grew to walk and then to run
I found myself chasing the sun
Very little good happens under the moon
So I sleep knowing the light is coming soon
There is so much power in a beautiful day
If I don't let the shadows get in the way
I have lived in the world and so I know
That everything needs light to help it grow
Suddenly, God had said let there be light
And everything was beautiful in His sight
Still the earth spins from light to dark
With a contrast both profound and stark
I realize that if I want a happy life
I have to be committed to seeking the light*

Steve Austin

April 2023						
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AT WHEATLAND IN APRIL:

Sunday, April 2
Sunday of the Passion
Palm Sunday

10:30 a.m. **Worship**
Lay Assistant: Joani Sotherden
In-person and Parking Lot

Thursday, April 6
Maundy Thursday
 7:00 p.m., **Worship**

Friday, April 7
Good Friday
 7:00 p.m., **Worship**

Sunday, April 9
Resurrection of Our Lord
Easter Day

10:30 a.m. **Worship with Holy Communion**
Lay Assistant: Susannah Ayers
In-person and Parking Lot

Wednesday, April 12
 6:30 p.m., **Men's Study Group**
In Person or Zoom if needed

Sunday, April 16
Second Sunday of Easter
 10:30 a.m., **Worship**
Lay Assistant: Dan Robb
In-person and Parking Lot

Saturday, April 22
Spring Cleaning of the Church

Sunday, April 23
Third Sunday of Easter
 10:30 a.m. **Worship**
Lay Assistant: Granville Grant
In-person and Parking Lot

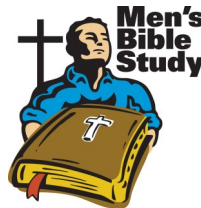
Wednesday, April 26
 6:30 p.m., **Men's Study Group**
In person or Zoom if needed

Sunday, April 30
Fourth Sunday of Easter
 10:30 a.m., **Worship**
Lay Assistant: Sherwood Thoele
In person or Zoom if needed

May 2023						
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AT WHEATLAND IN MAY:

Sunday, May 7
Fifth Sunday of Easter
 10:30 a.m. **Worship**
In-person and Parking Lot



Men's Bible Study

Please come join us for a couple of hours of study, conversation, and yes, Food!

We invite anyone who would like to join us for the following dates:

April 12 @ 6:30 p.m. and April 26 @ 6:30 p.m.

Botetourt Food Pantry
Saturday, April 8th

We need your help volunteering at the Botetourt County Food Bank located at St. Mark's in Fincastle! Our scheduled time to help out is Saturday, April 8


from 9:30am until 12:00.

Please come out for this worthwhile project! Contact Chuck to volunteer.



WHEATLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 2023

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