

Cross Connections



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

March 2016

Mid Week Lenten Worship and Suppers

Wednesdays, March 2, 9, and 16

Worship services at 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm; suppers at 6:00 pm

The suppers may be a little lighter fare but healthful and savory with the fellowship we all enjoy. Pastor Anderson will be using the following topics for the Worship devotions (at both noon and 7 pm):

- Feb 17 Open our Eyes, Lord
- Feb 24 Open our Hands, Lord
- Mar 2 Open our Ears, Lord
- Mar 9 Open our Hearts, Lord
- Mar 16 Open our Lives, Lord

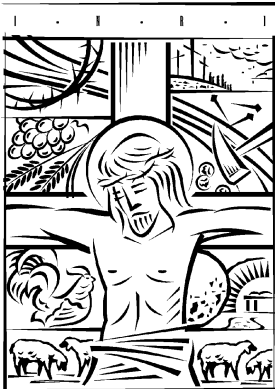
These meditations will help us spend the Lenten season in prayer and discernment for how God is ordering our lives this year at St. Paul's.



Meditations on the Stations of the Cross

Fridays, Mar 4, 11, 18 in sanctuary at 12:00 noon

To assist our Lenten devotions, Rev. Lorrel Strom-Jensen will be offering Friday meditations on the Stations of the Cross. Join her at noon on Fridays during Lent.



Holy Week 2016

- ✙ March 20 - Palm/Passion Sunday – worship at 8:30 and 11:00 am
- ✙ March 24 - Maundy Thursday - worship at 12:00 noon (Holy Communion) and 7:00 pm (Holy Communion and Washing of the Feet)
- ✙ March 25 - Good Friday – worship at 12 noon (Stations of the Cross) and 7:00 pm (Tenebrae)
- ✙ March 26 – Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil at 7:00 pm
- ✙ Sunday, March 27 - Easter! Services at 8:30 and 11:00 am with Easter Breakfast at 9:30 am and Easter Egg Hunt for children at 10:15 am

The Rev. Scott M. Anderson, Pastor

Susan Esposito, Parish Administrator & Editor

Jacqueline Nappi, Minister of Music

Joseph O'Donnell, Vicar

Amanda Stoen, Preschool Director

The Rev. Dr. Charles R. Huggins, Pastor Emeritus

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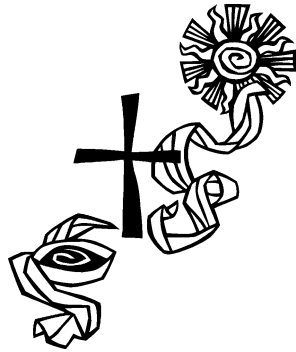
crhugg@charter.net

FROM THE PASTOR...

We are in Lent, a time of preparation and repentance. It is a time to reflect and anticipate the Three Days at the end of Lent and get ready for the great celebration which is Easter.

Many students are gearing up for the end of the academic year and are cramming in lots of course work. This cramming in is sometimes called an intensive. As I was reading for this newsletter article, I found this comment in the ELCA's Sundays and Seasons:

"Every liturgical year, the church gathers for an intensive in Christian identity. The liturgies of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter are intense lessons in hearing, singing, washing, eating, and praying that lead us to be cross and resurrection people."



We are cross and resurrection people. We gather on Maundy Thursday to celebrate and remember our Lord's Supper, to wash feet and remember what it is to be a servant. Our worship continues on Good Friday as we revisit the Stations of the Cross at noon and listen to Jesus' seven last words in the evening. The Three Days concludes with the Great Vigil of Easter in which we are immersed in the Salvation History of God for us and then end with the redressing of the altar and the great Easter Good News.

Then, the last Sunday of this month is Easter and the whole congregation gathers to receive the greatest Good News of all. Jesus lives!

So continue your Lenten journey by being people who hear, see, believe and live their faith. Come and celebrate the Good News and walk all the way with Jesus and one another.

May the God of grace fill you with hope this season.

*Weep no more for it is written
he has defeated death and is risen
every heart needs to open
revealing our trust in Him
enlightening our souls with faith, hope and love.
His coming was foretold long ago
as was His passion before climbing Calvary
sacrifices and scares beyond what man will ever
see.
Hanged by three nails from an old rugged cross*

*endearing even those whose faith was lost.
Giving up His life for all sins of humanity
once He spoke those forgiving words
now everyone came to know of His truth
eternity is forever if we simply touch His Hem.*
Sam Ross Fuller, 2013

Pastor Scott Anderson

From the Vicar...

Crossing Over from Lent to Easter

Lent is nearly over and Easter will be upon us soon. This issue of *Cross Connections* catches us in the space between disciplines of acknowledging who God made us to be along with the prayerful consideration of who that is, and the rebirth and renewal of Easter that calls us into a hope of new life. We might all find that this means different things for our individual lives or for our families. Some of us may find new, healthier habits or practices of discipline that stay with us for a while or even for life. Like New Year's resolutions, many of us will celebrate the end of Lent by returning to things just the way they were before.

Recently, I read an article in *Christian Century* that suggested that pain and difficulty can be a means for growth. The article cited G. K. Chesterton's suggestion that "if you love how a fence post looks and want to preserve it, you must repaint it every year." It seems like an appropriate sentiment for both our spiritual and secular transitions from Lent into Easter – a chance to give ourselves over to God just a little bit more, to receive a new paint job, as well as a time when we paint Easter eggs.

Of course, the reality is that we're talking about both more and less than a new paint job. It's more in the sense that our Lenten journey and re-emergence into Easter is a time for a complete change of character, one that lets go of our sinful selves for the sake of a better, closer relationship to God and neighbor. It's less in the sense that we are Lutherans, and we know that the enormous challenge of casting off our own sin will always be beyond our capacity, and simply painting over the surface only helps to seal in that part of our being.

The good news, however, is that Christ's resurrection points to the possibility of our rebirth and renewal by the power of God, for whom all things are possible. And we're reminded in the baptismal liturgy that our baptism was a rebirth that sets us free, meaning that we can participate in God's work to make us new. But if we are being made new, the next

question is who will we become?

Starting with the understanding that whose we are is God's, we have started to explore these questions during Lent with a new Council, new Stewardship program, Financial Peace University, Duke Campus Call Committee, and further exploration of the Paschall property, not to mention dozens of other considerations about who we are as St. Paul's. And just as the beloved fence post is repainted every year, we are invited to continue to ask and answer the questions of who we are, who we are becoming, and where this will all take us in the future.

Vicar Joseph O'Donnell



by Roberta Lloyd, Librarian

George Herbert was born on April 3, 1593 in Wales to a noble family. He served in the British Parliament at the behest of King James I, was ordained a deacon in the Church of England, and became an Anglican priest in 1630. He died at the age of 39 from consumption in 1633. The Lutheran Church honors him each year on March 1 for his lovely poetry that dealt primarily with religious subjects. His best known work is a collection of 164 poems entitled *The Temple*. These poems, according to Herbert, described "the many spiritual conflicts that have passed betwixt God and my soul." Herbert is also known for the quote "Living well is the best revenge." In addition, some of Herbert's poems were set to music and became hymns including "Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life" which is 816 in our hymnal. Fowler Library owns Herbert's collected poems at 821.3 HER. These short, lyrical gems cover such themes as Lent, baptism, sin, justice, and love. In glancing through this volume you will see that some of the poems are written to form pictures with the words. Fowler has many other poetry books in the 800 section, including The Poets' Jesus, A Treasury of Christian Poetry, Chapter Into Verse, and three volumes of poetry by St. Paul's own Arnie Johanson.



Articles & information for the April Cross Connections will be due March 14 (a week earlier) with mail out on Wednesday, March 23.

Preschool Pitter Patter



by Amanda Stoen, Director

Many, many THANKS to everyone who came to the Preschool Spaghetti Fund-raising Dinner! About 150 church members and preschool families came out to enjoy a delicious

spaghetti dinner and bake sale. Thanks to your generous donations, the preschool received just over \$1,200 which will be put toward financial scholarships for families needing assistance. We also received \$400 from the bake sale which will go toward our playground renovations. Thank you for your support of our preschool and families.

During the month of March, the preschool will be collecting children's books to donate to Book Harvest for families who do not have books at home. Giving a child a book opens up a world of imagination and fun! Books should be for preschool age children as well as chapter books for elementary age children. If you would like to donate gently used or new children's books, please place them in a collection bin: one is located in the foyer upstairs and one located outside the preschool classrooms downstairs.

Enrollment for the fall has begun! Registration forms and enrollment procedures can be picked up downstairs in the preschool space or can be downloaded from the church web site. We will be offering classes for children ages 10 months - 4 years old. Please contact me at the church or email: preschool@stpaulsdurham.org for more information.

Duke Lutherans

by Ashley Acken

Through this season of Lent, some Duke Lutheran students and I will be reading, "I Am With You: The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2016" by Kathryn Greene-McCreight. The theme for this book is the distinction of light in the darkness and that Lent prepares us to see the light that will come on Easter with the Risen Christ. In order to be prepared for this light that is found in God, we should desire to learn more about God. As Duke students, it often feels easy to acknowledge the darkness that exists around us. Because we feel the pressure of doing well and becoming something great the darkness caves in as we struggle to take care of our bodies, minds and spirits. The days often seem endless as the midterms, projects and social events take all of our time. We forget the light that we hold inside of ourselves by being children

of God that are so incredibly loved. It is my hope and prayer that during this Lenten season, Duke Lutherans and all Duke students will hold onto this light to guide them and to explore the ways in which we can find the light of God in our often busy and stressful days. In hopes of creating space for this during Lent, Duke Lutherans will continue to hold weekly worship services, mid-week lunch and Lent discussions and raising awareness and collecting donations for Lauren's Chemo Care Bags. And lastly, we are thankful for all of your prayers for our students and our community at Duke.

Duke Campus Ministry Call Committee

by Amanda Stoen, Chairperson

The Campus Ministry Call Committee continues to interview candidates for the Duke Lutheran Campus Minister position. We plan to finish up with interviews in early March and then narrow the list to a finalist. This candidate will then meet with additional people at "St. Paul's, including Pastor Anderson and the Congregation Council, as well as Duke students and our current Duke campus ministers. Finally, the candidate will be formally introduced to the congregation and the congregation will vote on this candidate. This candidate will be called as a full-time campus minister at Duke for a full five years. St. Paul's graciously received an anonymous donation to fund this position for this time period. Thank you for your continued prayers as the call committee works together to find our new Duke Campus Minister.

Brad Croushorn – Songs from the Flip Side Sunday, April 10, 2016 at St. Paul's



Trained as a classical bass-baritone, equally at home in early music or contemporary songs,

Lieder or Latin, Brad Croushorn (baritone and pianist) will be appearing at St. Paul's Lutheran Church to perform songs from the flip side of his musical personality ... songs in the Americana and Contemporary Faith genres. Drawn from his own life and spiritual experiences as well as his family and friends, he writes songs that arc toward the positive. His music is often infused with messages of hope and layered in overtones of encouragement. Sometimes it is toe-tapping and other times tug-at-the-heart tear-inducing. Joining him are Patty Parrish (soprano and

flutist) and Melissa Shaheen (alto) who will add their own harmonic and musical flair to help create an experience geared to the whole community. This event is free, donations cheerfully accepted, and will be on Sunday, April 10, 2016 at 3:00 pm. For more information, please visit BradCroushorn.net or contact the church at 919-489-3214.

COUNCIL CORNER

by Mike Mauriello, President

Thanks to Susan Esposito and all the Committees for organizing and assembling the annual reports and having the booklet ready weeks before the meeting for members to have and reference! Several members commented at the Congregational Meeting about this!

A special thanks to Doris Tilley for her heartfelt words and encouragement on Sunday as we discussed the upcoming Paschall property purchase.

After the meeting, a question was asked: "Why is there a balance on disaster relief and world hunger in the yearbook?" The answer is: "There is a little lag time until the final monthly report for the account balance before sending out the funds."

We will soon be bringing back the "Time and Talent" board where we ask for volunteers to sign up for different tasks that we need help with. A few that come to mind are: Networking help for our computers; folks to learn and operate the different electronic media systems; Acolytes, Crucifers, Ushers, Assisting Ministers, and Lectors for Worship; Cooks and clean up crews to assist with Wednesday night suppers; Habitat and Community Kitchen volunteers.

George Seiz has graciously agreed to organize an outside property crew. Thanks to many of you who have faithfully kept up with different outside areas over the past few years on your own. We look forward to your continued efforts and hope to be able to provide support in assisting with those jobs as well as tackling some new ones!

Does anyone have any experience with establishing a Mentoring Program either at work or a former church? We are trying to explore what it would take to put a program together that would match existing congregation members with new members. Please contact me if you have experiences that you could share or an interest in participating.

There is a little buzz going on between services with coffee and doughnuts provided by Council! Please join us between services for some friendly company and conversation. Look forward to seeing you there.

Weed it and Reap

by George Seiz

A Saturday morning outdoor work group is being organized to do routine landscape and grounds maintenance during the course of the year on the church property. It is anticipated the group will address areas that could use some additional TLC (e.g., pruning, mulching) and, if requested, provide support to persons already taking care of specific areas. The group will meet on Saturday mornings from roughly 9 till 11 depending on work load and weather. You don't need to be there every Saturday and hours are flexible.



Young and older are welcome. This is a chance to:

- ♦ be a good steward of the earth
- ♦ build community
- ♦ do something with a friend or family member
- ♦ take pride in your accomplishments
- ♦ get some exercise
- ♦ have some fun

If interested or would like more information, please contact George Seiz at geoseiz@aol.com, 919-824-0130, or preferably talk to him in person on Sunday mornings. Looking to start in early March.

Young In Spirit Trip

The March activity for Young In Spirit will be a March 9 trip to Videri Chocolate Factory in Raleigh. We will leave church at 10:30 am, take the self-guided tour at 11:00 and lunch across the street at the Pitt Barbecue Restaurant at noon. Please sign up in the receptionist office by March 7.



Healthy Living Series

The final in the Healthy Living Series will be on Friday, March 11, at 10:00 am in Trinity Hall. The topic will be "Forgetfulness." Please don't forget to join us as the Durham County Health Department presents tips and answers questions about our *Wonder Years* – wonder why I came in here, wonder where I put it, wonder why I said that, wonder if I locked the door, wonder where I parked the car!

Recycle/Repurpose

March tips of the month to Care for Creation:

- ♻️ Running water continuously for just two minutes can waste three gallons of water!
- ♻️ To save water in the shower, turn the water off while you lather up. With water flowing up to five gallons per minute from a non-conserving showerhead, showers can consume about one-fifth of water used indoors.
- ♻️ Turn off the water while brushing your teeth or shaving. Fill a cup with water when brushing your teeth and fill the sink bowl to rinse your razor instead of running the water.
- ♻️ Install water saving devices in the bathroom. Faucet aerators and low-flow regulators for showerheads can reduce water output by 40-50%, while still delivering a satisfactory spray.
- ♻️ Report tap leaks and faulty toilets in a public place to the management.



Wellness Through Caring group has changed its meeting time on the second and fourth Mondays from 1:30-2:30 pm. The days are the same, but the hour is different.

Katherine Circle of the WELCA

The next meeting of the Katherine Circle will take place on Tuesday, March 15 at 10:00 am at the church. A speaker from Durham Crisis Response Center will present information on the role of the women's shelter. Devotions will be led by Lois Kinzie. Hostess will be Diana Dominick. All women of the church are invited.

Changes of Address

Larry and Carole Ostrowski
2101 Schley Rd
Hurdle Mills, NC 27541

Tony and Penni Perotte
712 Millspring Drive
Durham, NC 27705

SPAM Dine Around is BACK!

The SPAM Dine Around is back by popular demand! We will be having our next Dine Around on Friday, March 4th, at the Korean restaurant Min-Ga (recommended by Curtis Chi).

- ▶ **When:** Friday, March 4th at 6:30 pm
- ▶ **Where:** Min-Ga, 116 Old Durham Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27517 <http://min-ga.com/>

We hope you'll be able to join us there! Please RSVP to Brenda (linares7@gmail.com) or Emily (emily.vardell@gmail.com) by Monday, February 29, so that we can make a group reservation. If you have suggestions for future Dine Around locations or other SPAM events, please feel free to let us know! Looking forward to seeing you there!

Honey Magpie Folk Music Concert March 5 at 7 pm in Trinity Hall Free-will Offering

Honey Magpie is a local folk band including St. Paul's member Kati Moore on violin and vocals. The group also includes Rachael Hurwitz on piano, guitar and vocals, Pippa Hoover on cello and vocals, Carl Bernock on lead guitar and banjo and Joe Ristaino on percussion and mandolin. Honey Magpie's music is a sweet blend of three-part vocal harmonies, supported by complex yet catchy string parts and piano riffs. This, layered with warm percussion, banjo and mandolin, creates their unique sound. Though they consider themselves a folk band, each member contributes his or her own unique style and song writing abilities. The band plans to record their debut EP later this year.

Two Opportunities in April

Heidi B. Neumark - April 10th

Heidi will be preaching at both the 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services and at 1:00 pm will be doing a book reading from her new book: **Hidden Inheritance**.

Imagine discovering a secret – that your family has a hidden Jewish heritage. That your grandfather died in a concentration camp and your grandmother was a death-camp survivor. How did you not know? How would it change your spiritual life? Heidi Neumark, a Lutheran pastor, happened upon records that revealed her family's loss and trauma and resulted in the shocking revelation that she was

suddenly and inherently connected to the multi-ethnic, marginalized community she had been ministering to for three decades and to which she felt a deep affinity.

Hidden Inheritance is a combination of compelling personal story and bold call for social justice that links the past with contemporary challenges.

Heidi B. Neumark is an author, speaker, and Lutheran pastor in New York City. She is the author of the highly-acclaimed book, *Breathing Space: A Spiritual Journey in the South Bronx* which won the 2004 Wilbur Award given by the Religion Communicators Council. She has chapters and sermons in numerous other books and writes regularly for *The Christian Century* and other journals. Pastor Neumark also serves as the executive director of a shelter for homeless LGBTQ youth. She holds an honorary doctorate of divinity from Muhlenberg College.

Christian Preismeier, Direct Descendant of Luther

Thursday, April 21 at 7 pm – Dessert and Conversation about Luther and Life

"My name is Christian Priesmeier and I am a direct descendant of Doctor Martin Luther, reformer and founder of the evangelical Lutheran Church. And if you ask yourself why my name is not Luther, then the answer is quite simple. Martin Luther's last descendant in the male line was Johann Martin Luther, died on November 9th 1756, who had besides a daughter no further descendants. At that time; Women always took over the man's name. Therefore now; there is no longer a direct descendant bearing the name Luther.

Besides my part time job as head of quality assurance in a Software Development company, I am a student of "Intercultural Theology, Migration and Congregational Leadership" at the University Hermannsburg, I am a voluntary preacher in the Lutheran Church and I am member and secretary of the Board of "Lutheriden Association" in Zeitz. This association brings together the descendants of the reformer Martin Luther and Katharina von Bora or one of his collateral relatives and altogether we are called "Lutheriden." Currently we have about 200 enrolled members, without the spouses and children of the current estimated 3000 to 4000 still living descendants. The focus is to preserve and maintain the spirit and intention of Dr. Martin Luther in the general public and especially among his descendants."

We pray for:

- ✚ The family of B. H. Grovenstein (uncle of Larry Grovenstein), who died
- ✚ The family of Ruth Carter Bower who died on Jan 28 in Raleigh. Ruth is the mother-in-law of Marjie Whitfield Bower.
- ✚ The family of Ruth Deaton (sister-in-law of Barbara Anderson), who died
- ✚ To Pastor Mark and Caryl Grorud upon the death of their son Chris, at St. Michael Lutheran Church, Omaha, NE
- ✚ The family of Johnnie Grovenstein (father of Larry Grovenstein), who died

**In the mailbag...**

On behalf of Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC), thank you for St. Paul's Lutheran Church's generous contribution of \$100 to LSC child and family services on December 31, 2015. As a result of your compassion, LSC is able to provide a safety net for individuals who often have nowhere else to turn.

Lutheran Services Carolinas is proud to serve veterans; individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities; individuals with mental illness; refugees; children suffering from abuse or neglect; the homeless or near homeless and many more individuals and families with special needs. Your support enables LSC to equip those we serve with the tools they of life. As LSC must stay exceedingly nimble in response to the government's varying funding streams, your consistent and continuing support is most appreciated.

Yours in Christ,

Ted W. Goins, Jr, President

WCPE (89.7 FM) and theclassicalstation.org

For the past few years, FM station WCPE of Wake Forest, NC has mentioned, on the air on Sunday mornings, support given by our St. Paul's Lutheran Church together with four other Triangle Area churches. Such acknowledgment of support by our congregation will continue through June 2016. All of this results from annual requests to our parishioners, who regularly contribute to WCPE, to instead cumulate their contributions within the congregation and give one collective contribution to the station in

the name of the congregation.

Now is the time to request for contributions for continuing mention of our congregation for another year. We will need to collect the necessary \$1,000 of gifts from interested members of our congregation, to continue the relationships with WCPE. Please contact Dick Havill if you are interested in making a gift to WCPE. He can be reached at Sunday services and at 919-929-2755 or dhavill@bellsouth.net. To make a contribution, please make your check payable to WCPE and give it to Dick for delivery to the FM station when we reach the goal.

Reimbursement Envelopes

We appreciate all the hard work that Jayne Baum does to try and get all the bills paid, paychecks scheduled and reimbursements made to everyone who gives her receipts in her mailbox. To try and make it easier on her, we have come up with a Reimbursement Envelope – copies of these envelopes are found on the side of the mailboxes in the reception office. Complete the envelope information, put the receipts in the envelope and drop in Jayne's mailbox. Less chance for items to disappear.

Growing Thru Grief

Support for those who mourn.

We meet every Tuesday, gathering at 4 pm for coffee and cookies, and the meeting runs from 4:30-6:00 pm at St. Paul's. Growing thru Grief is a coalition of area churches and organizations to offer support and education for those who mourn, centered on small group discussion. For more information, email growingthrugrief@gmail.com. All are welcome!

First Communion

If any parents are interested in First Communion training for their children, please contact Pastor Scott Anderson.

Thursday Bible Study Change

The Thursday morning Bible study which meets weekly at 10:30-11:45 am is now beginning the book of Revelation. Grab a bible and join them in the conference room.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, ELCA
1200 West Cornwallis Road
Durham, NC 27705-5731

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CROP Hunger Walk

- ▶ **What?** It is a 8K (4.8 miles) walk which starts in front of Duke University Chapel, goes to East Campus, briefly into Walltown Neighborhood and then back to West Campus.
- ▶ **Our goal** is to increase sponsor dollars from last year's total of \$3,000 to \$3,500. Stop by the table in the foyer and register now to walk or donate to those who are walking.
- ▶ **Walk begins at 2:30 on Sunday, March 20 in front of Duke Chapel.** Tracey Dissel is St. Paul's coordinator for walkers and donations. You may sign up to walk or to sponsor a St. Paul's walker at: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/durhamnc>. If you would like to contribute to the T-shirt fund rather than sponsor a walker – each t-shirt costs about \$3. You may also donate a dozen cookies.
- ▶ **Contact Kaaren Johanson**, Durham CROP Walk Coordinator at 919-451-7203 for more information.



PLAN TO
PARTICIPATE
IN THE SOUP
AND BREADS
COOK-OFF!!!



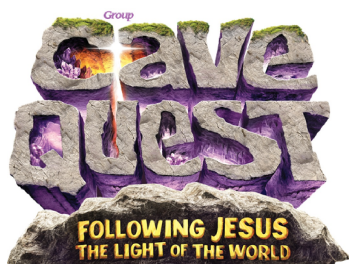
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

HAVE FOOD HERE BY 5:30 PM - SIGN UP TODAY!

Soup can be brought in crock-pots early in the day and we'll stir. No need to bring serving utensils. You will be labeling your soup and/or breads as to main ingredients or style. Soups – any type. Breads – any (yeast, quick, rolls, etc.) Condiments (butter, margarine, crackers, etc.) will be provided as well as salad, desserts, and beverages for the full meal. Get out those favorite recipes! We love variety! Sign up board is in foyer or atrium.

Office Volunteers Needed

We currently have openings for receptionist help on Tuesdays, Wednesdays (some), and Fridays. If you would like to answer phones, do some minor tasks, and get to meet people, give it some thought. If you have questions, contact Lois Kinzie on Mondays in the office or Susan Esposito.



Vacation Bible School

June 20-24, 2016
9:00 am - 12:30 pm
Ages 3 through grade 5
Teen Team Helpers
Plan your summer now!

