

# Cross Connections



*St. Paul's Lutheran Church*

*November 2017*

## *From the Pastor...*

You will be getting this issue of *Cross Connections* at the end of October and I want you to remember three important events:

- ❖ **Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm** – Service of Prayer at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Chapel Hill NC. This is an event for Catholics and Lutherans to celebrate the things we hold in common. This will be led by our Bishop Tim Smith and the New Catholic Bishop of the Raleigh Diocese.
- ❖ **Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 5-7 pm** – is Trunk or Treat at St. Paul's – Come with decorated trunks and in costume to share fellowship and offer our younger members a safe environment to Trick or Treat. It begins with a simple hot dog supper, guests are invited to bring side dishes or sweet or salty snacks.
- ❖ **Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> is Reformation Sunday** and we will be celebrating the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. There will be a special setting of the worship service utilizing the hymnody of Martin Luther. We will have a luncheon following the 11 am worship service with Martin Luther Trivia, the chance to take your picture with Martin and Katie Luther, pin the Theses on the door and much more. In addition we will be confirming Mary Margaret McKenzie and Jonathan Maine that day.

November kicks off with **Daniel Locke's Ordination on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm.** Daniel has been called to be the pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Jacksonville, FL. Come and celebrate the ordination of one of our former Vicars.

**All Saints Day is on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>,** we will remember all the Saints from our fellowship that have departed from this life in the past 12 months.

November is also the time that we prepare for the end of the church year and the beginning of the new church year in Advent.

So, come and celebrate with us.

*Pastor Scott*

The Rev. Scott M. Anderson, Pastor

Susan Esposito, Parish Administrator & Editor

Jacqueline Nappi, Minister of Music

Amanda Stoen, Preschool Director

Adam Schultz, Vicar

Rev. Laura Wind, Duke Lutheran Campus Pastor

Ali Tranvik, Vicar, Duke Lutherans

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

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## From the Vicar...

Remember the refrain of the old hymn that goes: "I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love" (ELW 661)?

We are a people firmly rooted in story. God has made God's own self known to us through an epic story in a distant land involving kings and fantastical events from the creation of the world out of nothing, the saga of Noah and the ark, the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, and the anointing of a shepherd boy as king to the birth, ministry, death, and resurrection of God's own Son. In his ministry, Jesus knew the power of a story and often taught his followers using stories called parables. When we fellowship with one another, we make ourselves known by sharing our stories and bear witness to and help carry one other's stories within our community. You may not have thought about it this way before, but evangelism (which is literally just the sharing of the Gospel good news) is all about storytelling - telling God's story and telling our own stories. God's story is both ancient and on-going, and it is our joy to share God's story with each other and our neighbors. I firmly believe that everyone has a story to share, and it is through stories that we know about others and make ourselves known. Traditionally, we Lutherans have not been gifted in talking about our faith or about what we have experienced of God in our lives and in our world.

I'm hoping to empower you to change some of that.

I invite you to join me in exploring the power of the story. In storytelling, we're empowered by telling our own stories, rather than consuming the stories others create about us. We find out we're not alone when we hear about the lives of others. We learn about the on-going work of God in the world when we hear and tell stories from the Body of Christ. Be on the lookout for details. More information will be coming out in the months and weeks ahead, but for now please pencil in the dates of February 8-10, 2018 (Thursday-Saturday) for a storytelling adventure. Please plan on joining in.

Love in Christ,  
Vicar Adam

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## Campus Ministry News

*by Pastor Laura Wind*

500 years ago, Martin Luther nailed 95 complaints against the church to the Church door at Wittenberg.

Duke Lutherans celebrated this historical day with a Reformation party at the Grace House.

Duke Lutherans is having a great year. The addition of Vicar Ali Tranvik has increased our abilities to reach and make contact with more students, faculty, and staff. We have seen a dramatic increase in worship, with 22 people worshipping with us on October 1. Our numbers for Wednesday lunch are increasing and students are bringing friends to share in this meal. Theology on Tap has expanded to include graduate students and other young adults in the area, and we just hosted the Rev. Dr. Ruth Hamilton, the Region 9 Coordinator for Leadership and Candidacy who spent three days with us specifically working with Lutheran students who are enrolled at Duke Divinity school navigating the Candidacy process. I am excited about the new energy and students who are involved with our ministry to the Duke Campus.

Although we are now into the 501<sup>st</sup> year of the Lutheran Reformation, I am highlighting our Reformation celebration as a way to talk about another important movement in Lutheranism. Two years ago, at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, a movement began which is gathering momentum in the Lutheran world. As with many movements in our time, it began as #decolonizelutheranism. As I understand the movement, central to the core message are the following two questions:

1. Who is our neighbor, and who is not at our Table?
2. What are we doing as God's people to make sure that everyone is Seen, Welcomed, and Loved?

Our Reformation roots lie in northern Europe and Germany, however, the face of the Lutheran church is changing. At one time, the Lutheran church in North America grew with the arrival of immigrants from northern Europe who settled in the Midwest and worked the land, which required large families. Immigrants are still coming to America, but from different places.

This movement, #decolonizelutheranism encourages diversity within the Lutheran church by raising up leaders and highlighting the ways that the larger church still falls comfortably back to our Scandinavian and Northern European heritage. However, currently Africa has 10.6 million Lutherans



compared to 3.7 million Lutherans in North America.

Duke Lutherans led by Vicar Ali will be traveling to Philadelphia the first weekend in November to participate in the #decolonizelutheranism17 conference. Although we just celebrated the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, we are part of a church that listens closely to the Spirit and is always reforming. Thanks be to God!

## Meet our 2017-2018 Duke Lutherans Leadership Team!

*by Ali Tranvik*

One of the central theological campaigns of the Lutheran Reformation was the equipping and empowering of the layperson. No longer were popes and priests the only ones with a vocation. No longer were monks and nuns the only ones who could live a life in service to God. Suddenly all Christians – with their own gifts and within their own contexts – could serve God and others. Luther’s “priesthood of all believers” is a theology that Duke Lutherans takes seriously, and one that has shaped the creation of the Duke Lutherans Leadership Team. We are grateful to have three new leaders with us this year, each using their own gifts, experience, and passion to form Duke Lutherans this year and for years to come. Let’s meet ‘em!

**Name:** D.J. Chatelaine

**Year:** Senior

**Major:** Religion and Political Science

**Hometown:** Owatonna, MN

**Role:** President

### Why did you join the Duke Lutherans Leadership Team?

Duke Lutherans has been a core part of my four years at Duke and I felt called to share my experience and gifts with our community.

### What is one thing you are excited to see happen this year with Duke Lutherans?

I’m excited to see Duke Lutherans form meaningful relationships with each other and the wider Duke and Durham communities.

### What do you see as one thing you can offer students as president?

I hope to serve as a listening presence with other students, as someone dedicated to making everyone

feel they are valued, and as a humble example of how to navigate oneself amidst the stressful Duke bubble, all the while rooted in Christ.

### What do you hope for Duke Lutherans in years to come?

I envision Duke Lutherans as a place where we live out the ideal that all are welcome, a place where people can be vulnerable, where we can challenge ourselves, where we can candidly confront injustices, and where we can learn what it means to live out our faith in Duke, Durham, and throughout the world.

### How has this community shaped you over the years?

The small community of Duke Lutherans has been a place where I have learned to question the weight behind my Lutheran heritage. It has provided a team of people who have been there with me in life’s ups and downs, a group that engages with issues of social justice, and an environment that has been a fertile ground for the ongoing maturation of my faith.

**Name:** Julie Tonnesen

**Degree:** MDiv at Duke Divinity School

**Year:** Middler

**Hometown:** Salisbury, NC

**Role:** Divinity School Ambassador

### How do you serve your peers in your role with the Duke Lutherans Leadership Team?

My role with Duke Lutherans is important because it provides a link between Lutherans in the Divinity School and Duke Lutherans Campus Ministry.

### What do you bring to this role?

A love for campus ministry and a desire to make sure that my Lutheran peers in the Divinity School are aware of opportunities in which they can meaningfully connect with Duke Lutherans.

### What is one thing you are excited to see happen this year with Duke Lutherans?

I am so excited to see Theology on Tap happening this year because it provides grad students a meaningful way to engage their faith in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere.

### What do you hope to do after divinity school?

After Divinity School, I hope to work as a campus minister or university chaplain.

**Name:** Alex Miley (“Milo”)  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Major:** Economics  
**Hometown:** Maple Grove, MN  
**Role:** Community Engagement Coordinator

### What inspired you to join the Duke Lutherans Leadership Team?

I joined the Leadership Team because in high school, service was something I really enjoyed, and service among others really helped me discover who I was. Also, God calls us to be servants for others, so I saw this as a great opportunity to bring glory to God.

### What is something the Duke Lutherans community can offer students?

The Duke Lutherans community has many likable attributes, but the one I like the most is how inclusive and welcoming they are all the time. Every time I’m around them they brighten up my day.

### What do you bring to this position?

As the Community Engagement Coordinator, I hope to share the light of the Duke Lutherans and brighten other people’s lives. Also, I hope to share the love we have with those we are serving.

### Why does being a neighbor in our community matter to you?

Mark 10:45 explains it well: “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Being a neighbor is important to me because our Savior selflessly gave his life to service. Who else is better to try to emulate than Jesus Christ?

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## Sharing Abundantly 2018

*“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God.” (1 John 3:1)*



This love is called Agape, which is not romantic or individual, but all-encompassing and universal. We experience God’s love as grace, which elicits an expansive, generous response.

Every year we are invited to respond as people who are loved immeasurably by God. As God’s beloved children, we are invited to return a portion of what God has entrusted to us.

Thank you for your **strong and faithful support**.

Our gifts to St. Paul’s Lutheran Church make a real difference in so many lives in Jesus’ name. We believe that there is a power at work within us, as God’s people, to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or even imagine.

We are a **caring** people, offering healing, comfort, and hope to people from all walks of life. We are **generous**. We are grateful for the blessings that the Lord has given us, and we seek ways to reach out to our neighbors wherever they are. We are **welcoming**. We enjoy meeting new people who visit – whether on Sunday morning or one of our numerous other activities during the week. We are **growing**. We welcome new members frequently and enjoy new ideas that shape new directions for our outreach into our neighborhood and our world. We are **centered** in the Gospel. We have many opportunities to worship, learn about, and serve Jesus.

Now we have new challenges and exciting new opportunities. We have experienced growth, and we have even greater prospects ahead ... new spaces, new ministries to explore. As we chart our course for continued service, as well as future ministries, we need the support of our entire St. Paul’s family.

Listen to what some of our members have said when thinking about Stewardship:

*The people of St. Paul’s have always risen to challenges. When there is a need in our congregation or community, people joyfully give to meet the need.*

*There is an aura about this place ... God is in this place. God is everywhere, but here it’s magnified and intense.*

*When you give of yourself to the Church, it’s not works, but rather it’s a passion to want to give, and it’s giving in hopes that other people find what I have found here.*

*In Genesis, when God calls Abram, God says, “I will bless you, so that you will be a blessing.” As a newcomer, I have been amazed at how the people of St. Paul’s use the many blessings God has given them to bless others.*

*I can’t wait to see where God will lead us next and how God will call us to use all of our blessings to be blessings to each other, our community and the world.*

You will hear and see more during November. What can you do? Would you please...

- Pray for our 2018 appeal
- Consider your commitment for next year so that you can respond generously
- Fill out a Statement of Intent and return it to church on Consecration Sunday, November 12
- Bring or mail your pledge to arrive by that date if you won't be at church on November 12

Our goal is to have 100% participation this year, and hope that everyone completes a Commitment Card (pledge card). If you have never made a commitment before, would you please consider doing it this year?

Between now and Consecration Sunday, November 12, please pray for God's work in the St. Paul's faith community and within your own lives as you discern your own participation in support of St. Paul's ministries.

## Preschool Pitter Patter

*by Amanda Stoen*



Fall is such an exciting time of year for our preschool. The weather has turned cooler and the leaves begin their beautiful transition with amazing colors.

The children have been learning about this season of change and everything that comes with it: pumpkins, apples, colorful leaves and of course Halloween. The classes each visited the Pumpkin Patch and explored all of the different sizes and shapes of pumpkins. We also had a visit from the local fire department during our fire safety week!

In October, our St. Paul's Gives Back service project benefitted our local police and fire departments. The preschoolers made thank you cards and collected stuffed animals that the fire department can give to children after tragedies. In November, we will be painting kindness rocks for the preschoolers to place around the Triangle area and spread a little kindness to our neighbors.

This month, our children will be learning about giving thanks and all we have to be thankful for. Some of the classes will gather with parents and enjoy a meal together. Vicar Adam continues to share the Good News during Chapel Time and share with the children all that God provides for each of us.

***The church office will be closed for  
Thanksgiving Thursday and the Friday  
afterward. Wishing all a Happy  
Thanksgiving!***

## Wildflower Cottage

*by Marcia Redman*



A driving rain and a financial concern created a prayerful connection between St. Paul's and Wildflower Cottage. In 2015, Krissy Snyder

approached Pastor Scott about a prayer that she had as she sat in the parking lot of St. Paul's during a rainstorm. Her heart was heavy as she had made the decision to leave her long connection with another daycare and open and manage her own daycare program. St. Paul's was struggling with the financial concern of eminent ownership of the property (Paschall) adjoining our church parking lot. Two entities praying for answers and God made the connection.

After many council discussions and congregational informational meetings regarding building use/rental of Whitesell Hall, licensing requirements, zoning issues, financial questions, and concern of competition with our present pre-school program, the decision to rent space for the creation of Wildflower Cottage were prayers answered.

And now after more than 1 ½ years of meetings, planning and developing, we are blessed to have a loving, caring, well-organized full-time daycare program running in our building. I had the recent opportunity to sit in on a staff orientation and was amazed at the organization and management of the program! Many great things are happening in that room! The children arrive after 7:30 AM to breakfast. Throughout the day they practice compassion, fairness, and the opportunity to be heard. In a cozy, home-like setting they have the freedom to discover, create, imagine, reflect and problem-solve with everyday materials. The children have the advantage of outdoor experiences to discover and appreciate nature. As stated in the parent handbook "it is a bouquet of hopes and dreams from our delightfully diverse community."

This is not an advertisement for Wildflower Cottage, although, if I had little ones I would be thrilled to send them there, it is more of an article to let the congregation know that after all the meetings and discussions, they were the right decisions and we are blessed!



## Habitat for Humanity

by Morris Casper



Once a month, St. Paul's takes a crew, usually about five people, to a site in Durham to work on a house which is being built by Habitat for Humanity. We normally do this on a Saturday, and we work on a standard 3-hour shift, either in the morning or the afternoon.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit agency that builds houses for low income families. The families buy the houses from Habitat, but at a cost that is always far below market price. They are required to help build the house, and this sweat equity further reduces the price they pay.

Habitat operates worldwide. Several people here at St. Paul's are now involved in Habitat's international projects or have been recently. If you would like to know more about volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, please call or email me, Morris Casper. You will find my contact information listed in St. Paul's member directory.

## Rite of Ordination

Called by God and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Daniel Brady Locke will be ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on Thursday, November 2, at 6:00 pm. Your prayers and presence are requested at a celebration of Holy Communion with the Rite of Ordination at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Durham, NC. The Reverend John Locke will preach and Bishop Timothy Smith of the North Carolina Synod will preside over ordination.

A light reception will follow the service. All rostered ministers are invited to process. Red is the color of the day.

Daniel has accepted a call to serve as Pastor at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Jacksonville, Florida.



## Triangle Area Lutherans

Kick off the next 500 years of reformation by joining Lutherans from around the Triangle at a special showing of PBS's acclaimed documentary, Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World. The Triangle Conference is sponsoring this screening

which will take place on Tues, Nov 7 at 11:30 am at Stone Theatres-Park West 14 in Morrisville. The cost per ticket is \$12 and tickets can be reserved by visiting the Triangle Area Lutherans Facebook page or <http://www.tugg.com/events/martin-luther-the-idea-that-changed-the-world-1v>. Stay up to date on all Triangle conference events by following the Triangle Lutherans Facebook Page.

### Upcoming in the Triangle

- **Tues, Nov 7, 11:30:** Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World movie (*see above paragraph*)
- **Wed, Nov 8, 7 PM:** Informational meeting at Christ the King, Cary for the trip Pastor Wolfgang Herz-Lane will be leading to Germany next July 18-28, 2018).
- **Mon, Nov 13:** Lutheran World Relief pickup for quilts, health kits, etc., at Grace Lutheran, Raleigh.

### This Month's Featured Congregation:

The Church of the Abiding Savior  
1626 S Alston Ave, Durham NC 27712  
919-682-7597

[abidingsaviordurham@gmail.com](mailto:abidingsaviordurham@gmail.com)

[facebook.com/AbidingSaviorDurham](https://www.facebook.com/AbidingSaviorDurham)

Abiding Savior is a caring and welcoming congregation that has served the community in Durham for more than 50 years. Located at 1625 S. Alston Ave, Abiding Savior is a church that serves others, and celebrates God's gracious gifts here in our neighborhood and throughout Durham and the world. Abiding Savior is a congregation in "Redevelopment." That means that we are intentionally rethinking the way that we are church in our community and looking forward to renewed growth as God does a new thing in and through us. At Abiding Savior, we are: 'People of Grace, Growing in Faith, Making God's Love Known.'

## Katherine Circle

The WELCA Katherine Circle will meet the second Tuesday, November 14 at 10:00 am in Trinity Hall. Members are encouraged to bring a Nativity scene/set and share a story about it. Devotions will be led by Nancy Anderson. Martha Dahl will serve as hostess. All women of the church (and friends) are invited to attend.

## Community Café Needs Help in November and December

by Nancy Dewhirst



I am trying to fill the remaining dates open in 2017 for the Community Café and I NEED YOUR HELP!!! This is the time for the congregation to step up and volunteer for a Saturday morning from 11:00 am - 1:30 pm. This is easy, fun work with time to get to know your fellow parishioners. You will also leave with the good feeling that you have helped others. And isn't this the time of year to do that?

Please help me fill the empty slots for working on November 18 and December 16. I really need to fill the November slots first of course so please respond as soon as possible to Nancy Dewhirst either by calling or texting 919-451-8872, or emailing [nancydewhirst@yahoo.com](mailto:nancydewhirst@yahoo.com). Please don't wait too long to do this! Thanks for your help.

## Our Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of **Anita May Johnson**, who died on September 30, 2017. Her funeral was held at St. Paul's on Sunday, October 8 at 3:00 pm with interment in the Memorial Garden immediately following. Memorials may be made to St. Paul's Memorial Fund or the Duke Cancer Institute.

### *Our sympathy also to...*

- ❖ the family and friends of Florence Keller, who died on October 5. Florence is the mother of Gail Colley.
- ❖ The family and friends of Charles Spangler, who died on October 19 in Boca Raton, Florida. Charles is the father of Susan Esposito. Funeral plans are undecided at this time.

## In the mailbag...

*Dear St. Paul's Family,*

*Please accept the warmest thanks of the entire Johnson family for the cards, prayers, food reception food, kitchen help, and other ways that I can't think of right now that have helped all of us through these past few weeks.*

*Anita loved this church, and it and her faith were an integral part of her life to the end. She loved the*

*visits, cards, and again prayers over the past few months. Living in a nursing home, not being able to get out of the bed was hard for her. She tried to make the best of it. You should have heard some of the hymns we sang with her over the days.*

*It gives us great comfort knowing that after death comes eternal life where there is no more suffering. Thank you again for your prayers and support.*

*With love,*

*Betty J. Hinshaw*

*For the family of Anita Johnson*

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*Thank you for your donation!*

*On behalf of Families Moving Forward's residents, staff, and Board of Directors, I would like to express our deepest gratitude for the donation of games, puzzles, and cards. Your support for families experiencing homelessness in our community is sincerely appreciated.*

*If you are interested in learning more about Families Moving Forward, please feel free to call us at 919-683-5878 or visit our website at [fmfnc.org](http://fmfnc.org).*

*Erik Springer*

*Development Associate*

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*Dear St. Paul's Family,*

*I want to thank everyone for their kind words, prayers, cards, and outreach to me and my family, following the death of my father, Charles Spangler, in Boca Raton, FL. Funeral plans will be later this year.*

*Susan Esposito*

## Memorials Received

We have received memorials in memory of those designated. Our many thanks to the donors.

### **In memory of Diane Eaker by**

Gus Holshouser, Durham

### **In memory of Anita Johnson by**

Richard and Nancy Clendaniel, Durham

Gary and Diane Archer, Hillsborough

Dean and Marcia Redman, Chapel Hill

Larry and Phyllis Jenkins, Durham

Gus Holshouser, Durham

Tom and Judith Kraska, Chapel Hill

Rosanne Petraroia, Morrisville

Ida Elliott, Creedmoor

Albert and Elizabeth Harris, Durham

Hubert Lattan, Lake Bluff, IL

Virginia Hinshaw, Hillsborough

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## Nursery Help Needed

It is exciting to see so many young children in our church and they are growing up so quickly!

If you would like to have an opportunity to get to know some of our youngest and most endearing members and their families, please consider volunteering to staff our nursery. We are in sincere need of volunteers to supervise children as they play during the 11:00 am service. You can pick the specific dates and frequency that work with your schedule.

Please contact Signe Offenberg at 919-599-7778 or by email at [signeo@email.com](mailto:signeo@email.com).

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## "Operation Santa Claus" Donations Needed

For the past few years, the Tongue & Thimble group has been sewing Christmas stockings to donate to the mentally handicapped residents at Murdoch Developmental Center in Butner. In preparation for this endeavor, we would appreciate your donating any leftover remnants of cotton Christmas fabrics which are cluttering your closets! Red and green felt pieces at least 12" x 18" would be great too. In addition, we could use thread and rick rack or other decorative tapes in red, green, blue, gold, silver, or tan. These can be dropped off at the receptionist's desk at St. Paul's.

Thank you for helping us recycle your fabrics and notions as we bring joy to others during the holiday season.

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## Plan now for Christmas Pageant!

It's time to put the Christmas Pageant on your calendar and plan for rehearsals! The date and time of the pageant is Sunday, December 17 at 5:00 pm, followed by the traditional lasagna supper; all taking place in Trinity Hall. Children will begin the Saturday rehearsals the week before Thanksgiving. Friends and

family of children are welcome to join us for the fun!

Dates of rehearsal:

- ◆ Sat, Nov 18, 10:00 am
- ◆ Sat, Dec 2, 10:00 am
- ◆ Sat, Dec 9, 10:00 am
- ◆ Sat, Dec 16, 10:00 am

If you have any questions, please contact Jody Timmins.

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## Wednesday Night Supper November 1

The Stephen Ministers will be hosting a congregational supper featuring chicken pot pie, salads, and desserts. We'll once again present a brief skit, called "Steve's Diner" that explores some of the facets of Stephen Ministry. Come join us! Supper begins at 6:00 pm.

## MIX-IT-UP Pot Luck!

Please come join us on **Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>** for our next Mix-It Up meal.

The Continuing Conversation group will provide plenty of chicken and rice and salad. We're asking the congregation to bring dishes from your own family's traditions to share. Maybe we can "travel the world" in food on November 15? Asian, African, Scandinavian, Greek, Mexican, Indian, German, South American, Canadian, old-time country Southern, who knows?

We've invited folks from our neighbors at St. Titus Episcopal and from Abiding Savior and Grace Lutheran to join us. There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Whether or not you can bring food, though, please come and help us make new connections and explore some of the many cultures of food.